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# Poll shows 100 unable to describe sculptures

By Lori Siewert

Although 15 sculptures make up the sculpture garden outside of Sheldon Art Gallery on the UNL campus, more than half of the students surveyed recently could not describe any of them.

Members of a journalism class asked 200 students on campus to describe their favorite sculpture. Only 47 percent managed to describe at least one, and only 22 percent could describe two or more. "I can't think of any I really know" and "I haven't been by there in years" were common responses.

Of the 93 people who could describe any of the sculptures, 17 picked "Sandy in Defined Space" as their favorite.

"Sandy in Defined Space" is a figure of a woman tucked in a frame. The bronze sculpture by Richard Miller was purchased by Sheldon in 1972, said Jane Anderson, the museum's director of education and extension services.

To Susan Ellis, a junior political science, economics and art history major, "Sandy" represents "what society does to individuals by enclosing them into artificial stereotypes."

Michael Zangari, a senior journalism, English and history major, described "Sandy" as "a woman in a tube" and found the concept of a woman's confinement interesting.

"Pieta" was the favorite sculpture of 15 people. Kirk Norman, a junior in Teacher's College described it as a little girl crying on her dead grandpa's lap. The bronze sculpture by Bruno Lucchesi was purchased in 1972, Anderson said.

Curtis Watkins, a junior art major, said he liked "Pieta" because of its craftsmanship and realism.

"The body really looks dead and the girl's body looks limp from crying," Watkins said.

"Floating Figure," a sculpture of a robust woman sitting in the center of a fountain, was the favorite of 14 people. Anderson said the bronze sculpture was purchased in 1969.

Mary Bender, a senior interior design major, described it as "naked, voluptuous and lying on her side."

Other sculptures described were "Superstructure on Four," a silver bird-like figure, and "Ulysses," a black-and-yellow oblong shape.

"I like it ("Superstructure") because I know what it is. I mean, I know what I like to think it is," David Blendeman, a freshman physics major, said. He said he thought it looked like a rooster.

"Ulysses" looked like "a Shell No-Pest strip" to Tracy Berry, a sophomore English major, and "like a child's toy" to Kevin Eaton.

Eaton, a junior art and advertising major could describe 13 of the 15 sculptures. He rated the collection as "good, for Nebraska," but said people here are traditional and not open to new things.

More than a third of those questioned did not give the sculpture garden an overall rating, mostly because they did not know what the sculptures looked like.

Of the 121 who rated the collection overall, 61 percent said it was "good." It received an "excellent" rating from 10 percent, while 21 percent said it was "fair" and 7 percent said it was "poor." One woman rated the collection as "terrible."

Bob Peterson, a freshman physics major, said he thought the sculptures were "boring" and "cheapen art like Muzak cheapens music."

Brett VanVuren, on the other hand, agreed with the other 73 who thought the sculpture garden was good.

"It's nice and peaceful, and pretty at night when Sheldon's lit up," the sophomore music major said.

# Wind power is researched

UNL researchers are looking for ways to turn wind power into energy for Nebraska agriculture.

C. Wayne Martin of the UNL College of Engineering and Technology currently is

designing low-cost wind turbines. A wind turbine is a modern version of the windmill and charger once common on many Nebraska farms.

Martin said, "It will take a lot of wind turbines to make a significant contribution to the state's energy needs," but he also believes "there's plenty of room for them in Nebraska."

The wind could provide power for a number of functions, Martin said, from home heating and refrigeration to other endeavors, such as fertilizer production.

One drawback to wind systems is the expense, Martin said. But wind-generated power becomes more economical when it is used to operate more than one piece of equipment. This also is a practical solution to dealing

with the variable quantity of power produced by a turbine.

A good wind energy system might include a primary user of power, like irrigation equipment, and a secondary user that could be activated when the turbine produces more power than the irrigation equipment needs.

Martin said he thinks a nitrogen generator, which currently operates at the NU Agricultural Engineering Research Laboratory in Mead, would be beneficial to the system.

The generator uses a type of "controlled lightning to use Mother Nature's process of producing nitrogen from the air," said William Splinter, head of the NU Agricultural Engineering Department.

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