

San Angelo Standard-Times

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Bringing up the rear

By ERIN QUINN, equinn@sastandardtimes.com or 659-8260

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Artist Pjae Adams' goal is simple: She wants to help her subjects gain self-confidence by sketching their backsides for a dollar.

"Everybody has a flattering butt," said Adams, 29 (whose first name is pronounced "pee-jay"). "Each one has its own personality. The most attractive butt is a confident butt."

The Atlanta-based artist charcoal-sketched backsides for four hours Wednesday at Angelo State University.

She is one of a troupe of artists who tour the country with "The Original Butt Sketch," created by Dallas-based artist Krandel Lee Newton. The proceeds of the ASU event benefit the University Center Program Council, which paid for Adams' appearance.

From cutesy couples to janitors, the ASU community embraced Adams' work.

"It was nerve-racking at first," ASU senior Mary Hodges said. "But she fixed my hair and made me look skinny."

The tasteful sketches don't take long - the troupe boasts "21/2 minutes per butt" - and they cost \$1. The allure of a quick, cheap butt sketch kept a line at Adams' post in the Houston Harte University Center throughout the afternoon.

Freshman Max Cormack had a good day. He posed with two of his friends - freshman Amy Bullock and sophomore Misty McCullough. He said the sketch will probably go front-and-center in his bedroom.

Hodges said she might mail the sketch to a boy who did her wrong and write "kiss this" on it.

Another student joked he can't give it to his girlfriend because if they get in a fight, she could use it for some sort of painful voodoo.

Whatever they do with their sketches, Adams said, she just wants her subjects to be happy with themselves - and their backsides.

"I hope that people take away a new perception of themselves," she said. "I want people to say, 'I look good. I really do look good.'"

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Standard-Times photos by
Cynthia Esparza

Gloria Nunez, a supervisor at the Angelo State University snack bar, took the time Wednesday to get her backside sketched by artist Pjae Adams. "I had to see what my butt looked like," Nunez said. Some 75 people and 10 groups signed up to have their bottoms drawn.