Paintings

Stephen Smalley
Bridgewater State College

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"As a devotee of the playing fields and popular culture, particularly baseball and rock music luminaries, I continue to develop imagery which evokes associations with “jock” or “rock” subcultures. My interest in art might be traced to the long-ago when as a young boy I would copy images found on baseball cards. Rainy days encouraged me to render in pencil the likenesses of Ted Kluszewski and Bill Bruton, seasoned performers on the diamonds around the National League. I still remain most enthusiastic about the ’53 Topps series— painted images, not high tech photos, somehow nicer, somehow richer. Baseball cards, as do Persian and Indian miniatures, ignite the creative spark; I look for such joys to continue."
Clockwise from Left:

Rock Hair Salon
1997, acrylic on canvas 68" x 78"

For Thine Especial Safety
1991, acrylic on canvas 50" x 50" (detail)

Cannes Coo
1999, gouache on board 5 1/2" x 4"
When I’m Sixty-Four
A Farewell Exhibition by Stephen Smalley
21 March–15 April 2005
(Reception date will be announced)
Wallace L. Anderson Gallery, BSC

After 33 years at BSC, Professor Smalley is retiring from full-time teaching at the close of the Spring ’05 semester. His newest work focuses on favorite themes of baseball, rock stars, boyhood nostalgia, the cinema and a spirit of place.

The size of the painting, My First School, depicted on the Bridgewater Review cover—his first major work after he began at BSC in 1972—matches precisely the dimensions (54” x 66”) of his last major painting at the College, his last school.

Pollyannie
2005, acrylic on canvas 11” x 13” (in progress)