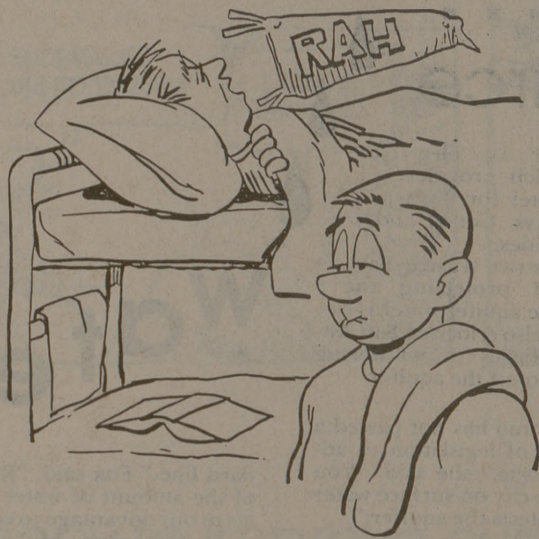


STATE AND LOCAL

Slouch

By Jim Earle



"When you hate to get up and go to class, does that mean you've got the flu?"

A&M offering life drawing

Class uses nude models

By AMY NETTERVILLE
Reporter
Texas A&M environmental design students are drawing more than buildings in class; they're also drawing pictures of nude models.

In Environmental Design 212, a life drawing class offered by the architecture department, models pose nude for students to draw.

Professor Bob Schifthauer says, "The class seems to attract mostly upper level E.D. students. The students seem to be drawn to the course because they've had so much technical drawing that now they want to loosen up and do more free-hand drawing."

Schifthauer, who teaches the class, says the class gives students the sensitivity they need to become architects.

"I don't let them forget what they have learned about drawing a building," he says. "But, all this time they've been designing spaces for people without the sensitivity they need. Figure drawing helps them to gain a feel for human proportions."

So who are the models that environmental design students are drawing?

One model, Sarah Duke, is an applied math major at A&M.

Duke says she started modeling nude for a sculptor in her hometown, Houston.

"My roommate took the life drawing class here at A&M and heard they needed more models, so she told me," Duke says. "I went to talk with the professor, and I've been doing it ever since."

Schifthauer says that's how he gets most of his models for the class.

"It's pretty difficult in a town this size to find nude models," Schifthauer says. "I don't advertise for models in newspapers, I just rely on word of mouth."

Word of mouth also got Chuck Wilson, a wildlife and fisheries major at A&M, interested in nude modeling.

"I went and talked to Bob because I heard about it," Wilson says. "I sat in on a class, liked what I saw, and decided to give it a try."

The models pose twice a week for three hours each class.

"I do different types of poses starting with warm up poses for 45

minutes," Duke says. "I take a 15-minute break and then I do three-minute poses and five-minute poses, working up to longer ones."

"I do a lot of different things while I'm modeling. I stretch out mainly for the first hour and for the longer ones, I sit or lie down. I also read, do homework or write letters."

Wilson says that each model is different and each gives his own type of pose.

"I feel Sarah provides a more soft pose, and I provide more of an active pose," Wilson says.

Wilson says keeping his body in shape for modeling isn't a big concern for him.

"A model doesn't need a good physique, that's not the point," Wilson says. "It's someone who moves well and gives a distinct form."

Duke says, "Someone who is real thin, isn't as good of a model because there's not much to draw. With someone who is fat and has lots of rolls, there's more to draw, lots of shadows and creases."

"I watch my weight some," Duke says. "I'm not skinny by any means of the word, but I do try to exercise and keep an average weight."

The models get paid by the department about \$6 an hour.

"It's a way to make money for me and to take a class without spending money," Wilson says. "But the money Sarah and I make doesn't compare to what other nude models get paid."

Duke and Wilson both agree that money is not the attraction to modeling — art is the main attraction.

"I wanted to see what the experience would be like," Wilson says. "I thought it would help my artistic endeavors."

Duke says she realizes that she is not an artist and that modeling is her contribution to art.

"My hands don't produce something that's nice to look at, so instead of producing art, I become part of the production," she says.

Schifthauer says drawing nude models gives the students something that's useful as an architect as well as an artist.

"I believe every architecture student should take the class," he says. "The sculptor, like the architect, deals with the real object and real space. In the past the sculptors were the architects too."

U.S. Rep. Barton takes political poke at White

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Freshman Republican Joe Barton of Ennis took a political poke at Democratic Gov. Mark White when White testified before the House Interior Committee on Monday.

Former Gov. Bill Clements, a Republican who was defeated by White, announced last week that he will run against White next year. Republican Rep. Tom Loeffler of Hunt says he will announce next month, and former Lubbock Congressman Kent Hance, a GOP newcomer, is watching the race.

"Well, Governor, I certainly ap-

preciate you taking the time to come up to Washington," Barton said when it was his turn to query White after White's testimony about offshore oil revenues. "I know what (with) your future election and the number of opponents you're beginning to generate that it's certainly good that you still take time to come up and exercise your duties before this body."

"That's a jobs program that the (Republican) party is presenting for us down there," White responded.

After the hearing, White said he had no comment about Clements' announcement.

Convicted murderer freed after accepting plea bargain

Associated Press

HOUSTON — A man, whose 199-year sentence for the murder of a grocer almost 25 years ago was reversed on a technicality, accepted a prosecutor's plea bargain and walked out of the courtroom a free man.

James C. Oglesby pleaded guilty to a charge of murdering grocer Thomas Binford on July 18, 1961 and received a 15-year sentence. He was given credit for the 20 years he already spent behind bars.

Prosecutor Brian Rains had of-

fered to recommend a 40-year sentence in exchange for a guilty plea. But Rains said he took 25 years off the sentence after two witnesses refused to confirm sworn statements they made to police shortly after the slaying.

State District Judge Frank Price accepted the plea Monday, the day Oglesby was to be retried.

Oglesby, 47, said he pleaded guilty to save his elderly mother, his sister and his brother-in-law from the ordeal of another trial. But he

steadfastly maintained his innocence.

Oglesby said he plans to return to his mother's home in Pensacola, Fla., where he will marry and start a house-painting business.

Oglesby was convicted and sentenced to 199 years in prison during a 1962 trial, which attracted widespread publicity because the victim was the son of T.A. Binford, a popular Harris County sheriff.

He was released from prison in 1983 after the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals in Austin reversed the

conviction. The court ruled that Oglesby had been wrongly convicted by the same jury that also determined he was mentally competent to stand trial.

Oglesby said he paid another inmate "\$40 in commissary" privileges to prepare a writ for the appeals court.

He mailed it and "about five or six weeks later, some guy came running up to me and said, 'They reversed your case,'" Oglesby said.

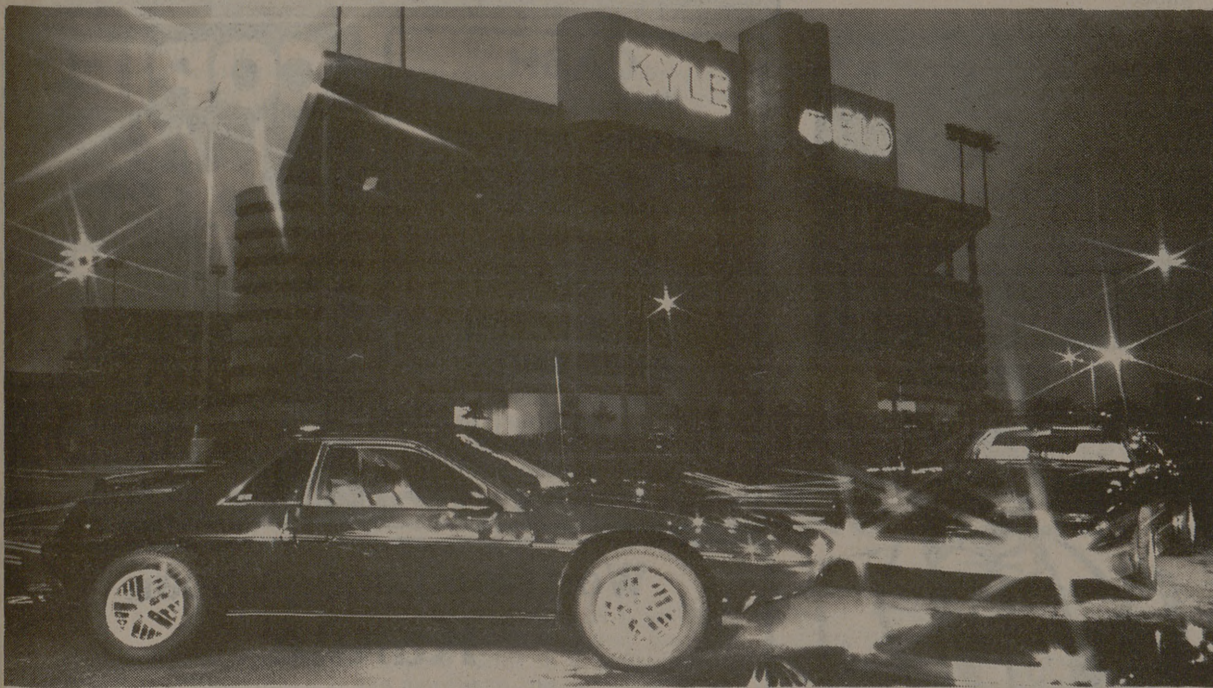
Rains faced a host of difficulties in proving the state's case again.

Claude C. Baggett, Oglesby's brother-in-law, made a written statement in 1961 that he saw Oglesby board a bus to Florida shortly after Binford was shot to death.

In the statement, Baggett said Oglesby "admitted he had shot somebody that night in an argument at a bar," Rains said. But the prosecutor said Baggett told him Monday he could not remember making or signing a statement.

Mary Elizabeth Baggett, Oglesby's sister, also denied she ever gave a statement to police, Rains said.

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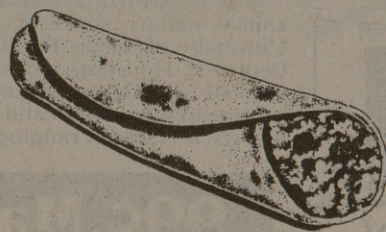
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