

STATE & LOCAL

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The Battalion

Wednesday, March 10, 1993

Baylor receives criticism over plans to have art class with nude models

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WACO — Art has made a small dent in convention at Baylor University.

The 148-year-old Baptist school, which allows no dancing on campus and once kept a woman out of graduation ceremonies because she had posed in Playboy magazine, this fall will offer for the first time an art class featuring nude models.

"We expect some criticism, and have had a few calls about it. But we've looked over it carefully for many months and think it's a necessary course," university spokesman Mike Bishop said Monday.

Baylor maintains strong Southern Baptist ties although it no longer is controlled by the Baptist General Convention of Texas, the denomination's governing body in the state.

It was 1980 when Baylor prohibited a student from participating in graduation ceremonies because she had posed topless in Playboy. In 1988, the university refused to allow the magazine to advertise on campus for undergraduates to appear in its "women of the Southwest Conference" issue.

None of the models in the nude figure-drawing class will be Baylor students or associated with the university in any way, said Bishop, the school's vice president for communications.

Female models will pose completely nude, while male models will wear athletic supporters. All models will be paid less than \$10 an hour.

Bishop said Baylor's eight-member academic affairs committee of regents, after several months of

study, approved the advanced class with nude models as a necessary part of the art curriculum.

"It's an accredited course necessary for some art students to complete their education," Bishop said. He noted that such a course is already being offered at two other nearby church schools, Texas Christian University and Southern Methodist University.

Bishop added that although Baylor no longer is under the control of state Baptist leaders, the school wants to maintain its strong ties to the denomination, which established the school in 1845.

"The last thing we want to do is offend our Baptist constituency," Bishop said.

Between 15 and 18 students who have completed other figure drawing courses will be allowed in the class.

John McClanahan, chairman of the Baylor art department, said Baylor has been offering classes in figure drawing with models posing in bikinis. Drawing nudes will give students a better chance of getting into graduate schools, he said.

"For people who are involved in this discipline, if they go on to graduate school, it is significant for them to have nude figure drawing in their portfolio for acceptance in these institutions," McClanahan said.

Last year, Baylor regents considered lifting the school's ban on on-campus dances, finally putting the decision in the hands of Baylor President Herbert Reynolds who then decided to leave the ban intact, but can eliminate the ban at his discretion. In a tradition that dates back to frontier days, Baptist leaders have frowned on dancing, on grounds it could lead to immorality.

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—Mike Bishop, Baylor spokesperson

Correction

A student's name was misspelled in a story about students taking foreign language classes in Tuesday's edition of The Battalion.

The correct spelling of the student's name is Christophe Marcks.

The Battalion regrets the error.

'Key entry' crimes

Continued from Page 1

necessary."

Wade said better methods of keeping track of keys would help in the fight against keyed-entry thefts.

"The keys are available if you just know where to get them," he said. "Wait your turn and somebody will leave them unattended

and you can snatch them and run.

"Key control isn't worth a darn on this campus," he said.

Mizer, who is responsible for the keys in all civilian residence halls, said several safeguards exist to prevent keyed entries. He said all residence hall keys are inventoried once a week and put on a database which also keeps track of master keys.

However, he said, the system isn't the problem.

"The only weak spot is honesty," Mizer said. "We feel we have an honest staff, but the locks are only as good as the people."

UPD Lt. Bert Kretzschmar said although dealing with crooks who have their own key makes investigations more difficult, the police aren't helpless.

"We need to just heighten our awareness," he said. "It's just a matter of tracing down who had the key."

Police Beat

The following incidents were reported to the University Police Department between Feb. 26 and March 5.

Assault/Harassment

Sterling C. Evans Library — A telephone located on the first floor of the library was damaged by an individual who appeared to be upset. This same individual was later identified as the person who yelled profanity and pushed a subject in the chest with her fingers.

Hullabaloo Food Court — The victim was harassed by an individual he met through a computer network. After agreeing to meet, the victim was not comfortable with the physical contact initiated by the new acquaintance. Now the victim is receiving annoying and repetitive phone calls.

Rudder Tower — An investigation led to the identification of a person responsible for mailing an obscene letter to a Texas A&M University administrator.

G. Rollie White Coliseum — A College Station juvenile was assaulted by another while attending a basketball game. The victim was held by two other individuals while the suspect poked him in the chest and stomach with his finger.

Criminal Mischief

Parking Area 73 — Someone damaged the victim's 1986 blue Mercury station wagon by splashing red metallic paint on the rear door.

Parking Area 30 — The victim's vehicle was entered and the steering column damaged by someone who tried to steal the vehicle.

Parking Area 51 — Someone pried the driver's side door lock out of its mount in an apparent attempt to steal the vehicle.

Public Intoxication/Driving While Intoxicated

Puryear Hall — Two individuals were found passed out on the sidewalk near Puryear Hall. They were transported to the Brazos County Jail and incarcerated.

Joe Routt Boulevard — An intoxicated pedestrian was observed standing in the roadway attempting to direct traffic.

Joe Routt Boulevard — The erratic operation of a motor vehicle led to the arrest of an intoxicated motorist.

Credit Card Abuse/Theft of Service

McKenzie Terminal — By fraudulent use of a credit card, a subject leased a 1993 Lincoln

Town car from a local car rental company.

Possession of a Controlled Substance/Possession of a Prohibited Weapon

F&B Road — Following a traffic stop, four individuals were arrested for the possession of psilocybin mushrooms in violation of the Texas Controlled Substance Act. An additional charge was filed against one of the subjects for possession of an illegal knife. The four were transported to the Brazos County Jail.

Burglary of Habitation

Dormitory Two — The victim reported the theft of a Gibson SG electric guitar and a Memphis electric guitar from his second floor room. The victim called later to inform the investigating officer a friend was playing a practical joke on him and had taken the guitars.

Attempted Aggravated Robbery

MSC — The victim reported that, while taking out the trash, he was confronted by a subject with a knife who demanded his money. The victim turned and shouted to his co-workers for help. This action startled the subject, and he fled the area.

"We feel we have an honest staff, but the locks are only as good as the people."

— Dan Mizer

Mizer said a new lock system where doors are opened using a computer card may be the answer. This system would allow offi-

icals to render all student card keys unusable during holiday periods. The computer locks could also keep records of card usage and the people who use the card to guard against unauthorized entries.

Kretzschmar said the best way for students to avoid becoming theft victims is to lock up their valuables and engrave everything with their drivers license number. He also advised students to take valuables home over school holidays.

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The Battalion (USPS 045-360) is published daily, Monday through Friday during the fall and spring semesters and Monday through Thursday during the summer session (except University holidays and exam periods), at Texas A&M University. Second class postage paid at College Station, TX 77840.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Battalion, 230 Reed McDonald Building, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 77843.

News: The Battalion news department is managed by students at Texas A&M University in the Division of Student Publications, a unit of the Department of Journalism. Editorial offices are in 013 Reed McDonald Building. Newsroom phone number is 845-3313. Fax: 845-2647.

Advertising: For campus, local and national display advertising, call 845-2696. For classified advertising, call 845-0569. Advertising offices are in 015 Reed McDonald and office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Fax: 845-5408.

Subscriptions: Mail subscriptions are \$20 per semester, \$40 per school year and \$50 per full year. To charge by VISA or MasterCard, call 845-2611.