

SLY KILL

Swift: Chemistry between Stallone and Banderas makes *Assassins* work.

Aggielife, Page 3

OPEN THE DOOR

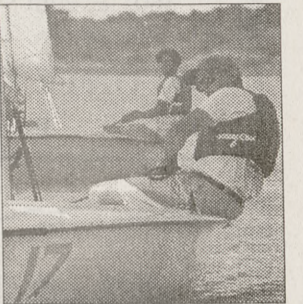
Coming Out Week: Gay, lesbian and bi-sexual students celebrate their true selves.

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SMOOTH SAILING

A&M's Sailing Team is striving to compete with the best teams in the nation.

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THE BATTALION

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Fee oversight group addresses students' issues

Concerns of committee members include Aggie Bucks and the general use fee.

By Kristen Homyk
THE BATTALION

The Student Senate's Fee Oversight Committee discussed future plans involving student fees Monday in its first public meeting. The student-comprised committee heard reports from its sub-

committees on the different fee issues the group is investigating this semester.

Committee Chairman Chris Foster, a junior political science major, said it is necessary to watch the rise of and purposes for the general use fee.

"They are allowed to raise the general use fee until it is equal to tuition," Foster said. "We need to know where the money is going."

The committee also plans to take a close look at Parking, Transit and Traffic Services.

Shelley McKee, committee sub-chairwoman and a graduate poultry science student, is following the activities of the PTTS with

students' questions in mind.

"My goal here is to look into ticketing and everything to find out where all that money goes," McKee said. "I also want to get future plans for garages."

McKee said she intends to question parking officials on whether students will lose parking to faculty members whose parking spaces might be incorporated into construction projects, such as proposed library expansion.

She said she also wants to know why some faculty lots are often empty while students hunt for parking elsewhere.

Committee members Jeff Liv-

ingston, a senior electrical engineering major, and Mike Stewart, a junior mechanical engineering major, introduced the subject of the much-debated multiculturalism proposal.

The proposal would require students to take six hours of classes focusing on U.S. and international cultures.

Livingston said a main concern of the committee is to watch the hidden costs involved in implementing a multiculturalism requirement at Texas A&M.

"There was a report that the Faculty Senate put out covering a number of issues relating to their multiculturalism proposal, includ-

ing the fiscal portion," he said.

Possible costs of the bill may include a \$200,000 "transitional cost," and more than \$184,000 to increase faculty, a final report by the Ad Hoc Committee to evaluate the Faculty Senate U.S. cultures and international requirements proposal said.

Committee members said they are concerned that parts of the report might be misleading, and the costs given do not include extraneous expenses, such as extended classroom use.

The report also claims that only 7 percent of students on campus do not fulfill at least part of the proposal's requirements.

"If it's only 7 percent of the population, why not just make multiculturalism a suggested class?" McKee said.

The Fee Oversight Committee also questioned issues raised about Aggie Bucks, such as purchases of alcohol in off-campus locations. It will attempt to provide understanding to students concerning the legalities and services involved in the program.

Foster said he wants students to understand the committee is intended to provide information on any issue involving student fees.

"We don't make policy, we just provide information for those who do," Foster said.

'Something special'

A&M group aims to bring new statue to campus soon

Matthew Gaines was instrumental in bringing Texas A&M and Prairie View A&M into existence.

By Melissa Keerins
THE BATTALION

The President's Advisory Commission on Art Policies has approved the construction of a Matthew Gaines statue, and fund-raising plans are underway.

Gaines, a former slave who became the first elected minority in Washington County, supported Senate Bill 267 that established the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas and located it in Brazos County.

The 1871 legislation also provided for a separate African-American land grant college, which is Prairie View A&M University.

Dale Baum, an A&M history professor, said everyone at A&M and Prairie View are directly indebted to Gaines and to the record of African-American accomplishment in Texas during Reconstruction.

"There are currently on the A&M campus no streets or buildings named after, or monuments or statues erected in honor of any individual who had more to do with the establishment of Texas A&M University than

Matthew Gaines," Baum said.

Richard Stadelmann, an A&M philosophy and humanities professor, has been working to get this statue approved and said he hopes the state Republican Party, which he is affiliated with, will contribute to the statue's funding.

Jim Reynolds, MSC director, is involved in helping the Matthew Gaines Subcommittee and said it will be a complex undertaking.

"I am very excited about this project because students will be involved in every step in leadership roles," Reynolds said.

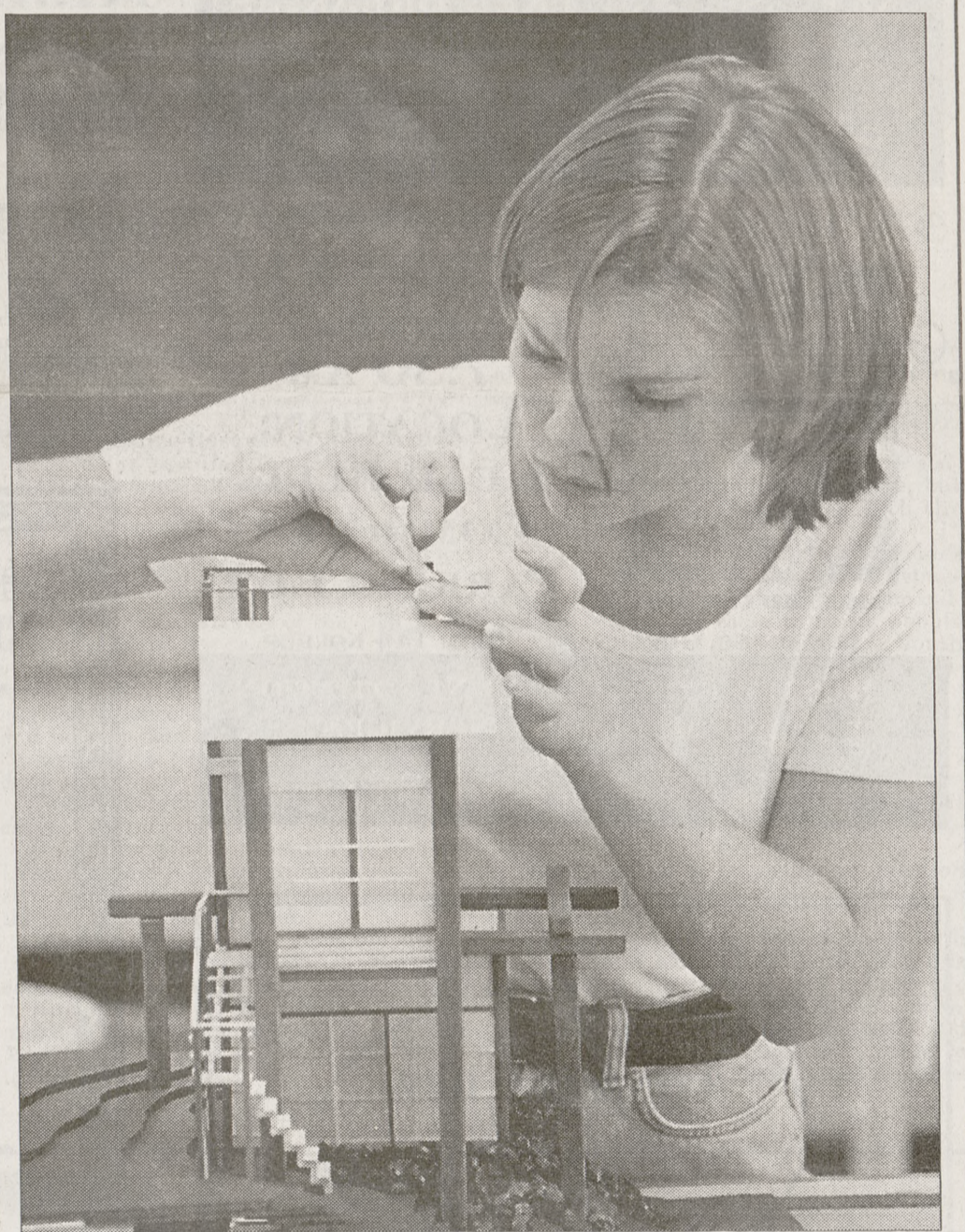
Reynolds, Stadelmann and Baum have spent a great deal of time researching Gaines, and with the professors' help, the statue will become a reality.

"There are four elements we need to discuss in the subcommittee now," Reynolds said. "Fund raising for the project, which will cost around \$200,000, a location for the statue, a process to select an artist and beginning to make the University aware of the project and who Matthew Gaines was."

Steve Pryor, a junior political science major and finance chairman for the Matthew Gaines Subcommittee, said he is excited because this is something that will make a difference at A&M.

"There are no minority statues on campus," Pryor said, "and this statue represents an important part of

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Shane Elkins, THE BATTALION

THE FINISHING TOUCHES

Junior environmental design major Tressa Caulkins works on a lighthouse design project for her ENDS 205 class.

Rudder statue sent off for repairs

The Brasso that students used to clean it and others on campus caused damage to the bronze finish.

By Leslie New
THE BATTALION

Gen. James Earl Rudder has gone to the doctors.

The statue of Rudder is in storage, awaiting transfer to the Shadony Foundry, a local sandblasting company. Two technicians from the foundry and Larry Ludtke, the sculptor of the statue, will replace the statue's protective finish.

Jim Reynolds, Memorial Student Center director and a member of the President's Art Advisory Council, said that the statue should be remounted late Friday or early Saturday.

The damage to the statue dedicated last spring and others on campus results from improper cleaning of the statues with Brasso, an abrasive polish.

"The appropriate care for a bronze statue is to periodically wash it with mild soap and water, rinse and let dry," Reynolds said. "Then apply a light coat of a high quality, non-abrasive automobile polish and buff."

Several campus statues are routinely cleaned by members of

the Corps of Cadets and Walton Hall residents.

Reynolds said that when the statue is returned, the tradition is expected to continue.

"At this point there is no attempt to change the tradition (of cleaning the statues), but I hope they will talk with [University Center Galleries Curator] Catherine Hastedt," he said. "She will explain the procedure to the people interested."

Reynolds said Hastedt is in the process of contracting a professional

conservator to evaluate the statue, causing faster deterioration of the statue.

Hastedt said she is searching for an objects conservator, a specialist in sculptures, to examine the statue this fall.

"The conservator will be able to tell us if it is possible to restore the statue," Hastedt said. "If restoration isn't possible, they will be able

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RUDDER STATUE REMOVED FOR REPAIR TO SURFACE



Sterling Hayman, THE BATTALION

The Rudder statue is being repaired and should be returned this weekend.

Financial aid department offers boost to students

Institutional grants were awarded to 8,600 Aggies to help ease financial pressure caused by the increase of the general use fee.

By Courtney Walker
THE BATTALION

To help alleviate the cost of the general use fee increases, Texas A&M's Department of Student Financial Aid has awarded institutional grants to students on financial aid for the 1995-96 school year.

The Board of Regents increased the general use fee in August by \$8 per semester hour. The fee will be increased by another \$4 per semester hour in the spring.

Don Engelage, Student Financial Aid director, said the administration wanted to help the most needy students. For students using financial aid, the fee increase could mean the difference between continuing their education and putting it on hold, Engelage said.

"Students not on financial aid usually have sufficient funds or resources to

pay for their education," he said. "They are usually on scholarships, have family assistance or work their way through college."

Grants were awarded to 8,600 students and paid up to half of the additional cost.

Toby Boenig, student body president and a senior agricultural development major, said it is essential that the administration utilize some of the money raised from the general use fee increase to help students.

"I'm really glad that the administration did this,

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