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THE BATTALION AGGIELIFE

Tuesday • September 23

Aqua Madre

An Aggie Spanish professor, known as a mother figure to her students, experiences true parenthood.

By SHEA WIGGINS
THE BATTALION

Christina Gonzalez-Boles is a professor, friend and mother figure to Spanish students at Texas A&M. Now she has adopted a baby to be a mother at home.

Gonzalez-Boles, a former student and assistant lecturer of Spanish at Texas A&M, said she is ready to commit herself to raising a child.

"It is something I have wanted for so long, if by natural birth or adoption, so my commitment was already made in my mind," Boles said. "It is the same commitment I make to my students at A&M. The sacrifices were already expected."

Boles and her husband adopted John Jason Jr., or J.J., on Sept. 3, 1996, after months of waiting.

Boles said the adoption was difficult to finalize.

"It was a roller coaster," Boles said. "We first received a call from a lawyer saying a teen-age girl in Bryan wanted to give up her baby. She was weeks away from delivery, and we were able to meet with her and discuss adoption. However, she decided to keep it, and my husband and I were very disappointed. So we turned to an agency, and they helped us to get John Jr."

Boles, Class of '90, has taught Spanish courses since 1993, and this year she had a Fish Camp named after her.

Boles said the camp counselors surprised her with the news.

"I got a tube of Aquafresh in my box one day and I didn't understand the joke," Boles said. "I thought my husband was surprising me with something because it was my birthday."

"The next day there was a bottle of AquaVella, and the following an aqua-colored bandanna," Boles said. "I still didn't make the connection."

Boles said the aqua Fish Camp brought her a Spanish piñata in the shape of a fish the next day and congratulated her.

Christine Rangel, an assistant lecturer in Spanish, works with Boles in the Spanish department.

"She was so excited about the Fish Camp recognition," Rangel said. "It means a lot to her because she did not get to go when she was a freshman here. I think some professors

said. "Not all professors make as much as she does for students, which is why the students voted her name as Camp, even though she is 28."

Boles is active in student programs and participates in the Spanish Honor Society Honors Consortium, where honors students

meet one on one with professors before classes, and a Pizza time building Profs program where students and professors eat pizza and socialize.

Susanah Ince, one of Boles' students and a sophomore, said she sees Boles as more of a mother than a professor.

"Mrs. Boles comes into the classroom and is one of us," Ince said. "She is about 10 years older so she relates to students well."

Ince said Boles offers personal information to small classes and effort to break the ice.

"She came in every day and gave us news about the baby," Ince said. "It is good to hear about a professor's life, to know that people just like you and me."

Boles received her bachelor's in health education, then she introduced a master's in Spanish.

Boles said her immediate plan, address is from Cuba but now lives in the U.S.

"I was born in the United States but my parents raised me in a Cuban environment," Boles said. "I consider myself Cuban-American, and I want

to keep this cultural aspect of my life," Boles said. "I consider myself Cuban-American, and I want

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Christina Gonzalez-Boles, an A&M Spanish professor and new mother, sits with her adopted son, John Jr. Boles is a Fish Camp namesake.

don't fully understand its value, but since Christina is an Aggie, it was very important."

Rangel said students come to visit Boles semesters later.

"She has an open door, open personality and an open relationship with them," Rangel

my students learn," Boles said. "It is only official to be bilingual, for you can communicate and grow with twice as many people."

Boles said she is glad that she has taught Spanish, for she can teach John Jr. my culture and my language much easier."

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An invitation to all students:

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System

invites you to an

Open House

at the Regent's Annex

(located on the West side of the MSC, across from Cain Hall)

6 - 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, September 25, 1996

Refreshments will be served.

House

Continued from Page 3

A problem has arisen for the tenants of the house because the city of College Station has asked them to change their sign proclaiming "The Cock House" to "The Crocker House."

"They say it's vulgar," Solis said.

Although the residents have had to deal with unexpected events such as these, Hale said living together has allowed them to strengthen their friendships and realize how important they are to each other.

The men said they are like a family and would do anything for one another.

A story that hangs on the wall in a room about a soldier with a friend suffering from a mortal wound on the battlefield illustrates how the men of Crocker feel about their brotherhood.

The soldier asks his commander if he can go out into the line of fire and rescue his friend. The commander says, "No, I've already lost him; I can't lose you, too." He goes anyway and returns with a brutal wound. The commander asks, "Why did you go back out there? I've lost one soldier, and now you're wounded." The soldier says, "It was worth it because when I picked him up off the battlefield, he looked up at me and said, 'Thanks, Jim, I knew you'd come.'"

"That's how it is here," Travis Loy, a senior wildlife and fisheries

JOSEPH

Continued from Page 3

very involved."

The crew's professionalism helps make Joseph more energetic, he said.

Cranor said OPAS "jumped" on the chance to bring Joseph to A&M because of its energy, appeal and touring success.

"We've had several Andrew Lloyd Webber productions in the

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sciences major said. "We know that no matter where we were, we were in trouble, someone from Crocker would help us."

"We'd do just about anything, even bail each other out of jail," said. "We wouldn't like it, but we'd do it."



Cock House residents surround the controversial sign in their front yard.

past and they've all been very successful," Cranor said.

Lloyd Webber's *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Evita* and *Requiem* have toured here.

Suzannah Taylor, OPAS chair and a senior speech communications major, said she is dyeing her hair "technicolor" in support of the show.

"We want everyone to know that Joseph is coming here," she

said. "We think the hair will be catching."

OPAS is also handing out colorful balloons and candy to promote the show.

Taylor said she wants to enjoy Joseph as much as she did the first time she saw a musical.

"I was literally dancing in the aisle by the end of the show," she said.

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