

Searching for a prize lunger can be futile

Fishing through the channels, the cable box mysteriously locks on Home Sports Entertainment. Honey Hole Magazine is being shown and the host is catching fish like it is going out of style.

Every time he casts, a fish is caught and reeled in to the surface. He calmly explains how he caught the fish and on what bait. A thought arises that this looks so easy.

Of course, he wouldn't use an editing machine to make it look like he caught a fish with every cast, would he?

The phone rings, jolting me out of pondering one of life's eternal questions.

"Son, let's go fishing this weekend," a familiar voice says. "I will come down Sunday and we can go out to Gibbons Creek and see what's flopping."

"Fine," comes the reply. "I was just thinking how exciting it would be to catch a bass every time my line hits the water, just like on Honey Hole."

The deal is signed, hermetically sealed and delivered. Plans are carved in stone to have a good time. Nothing can derail the memory train. I will now have some fish stories to tell of my own.

But there is one small problem.

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MICHAEL PLUMER
Assistant Sports Editor

A&M's homestand ends with ISU



DARRIN HILL/The Battalion

A&M's Rob Trimble applies a tag on a baserunner in a game at Olsen Field earlier this season. Trimble, who is in the midst of

an 11-game hitting streak, leads the Aggies into their home series with Illinois State, which starts today at 7 p.m.

'Birds limp into three-game series

By DAVID WINDER

The Battalion

The winless Illinois State Redbirds may just be the answer for Texas A&M to start another elongated winning streak.

After losing their first game against the University of Maine on Saturday, the Aggies quickly rebounded to take the next two from the Black Bears last weekend. The 0-6 Redbirds come to Olsen Field tonight at 7:00, with a double-header scheduled for Wednesday at 5 p.m. Just what the doctor ordered for a team about to embark on an eight game road trip.

"I really don't know anything about Illinois State," A&M coach Mark Johnson said. "They were going to be passing through and they wondered if we wanted some games, so we put them on the schedule."

Illinois State might want to reconsider that thought, because the Aggies' offense

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Slocum discusses Texas A&M's winter of discontent at student meeting

By MICHAEL PLUMER

The Battalion

A report in the March 5th edition of The Houston Post quoted Texas A&M head football coach as saying running back Greg Hill will miss "some games to start the season."

Slocum said Monday night, however, that he was misquoted.

"That is not right," Slocum said after a speech to the 12th Man Student Foundation. "All I said was that a few players would miss a couple of games. I never specifically named players."

Hill, wide receiver Percy Singleton, and offensive linemen James Brooks and

Darius Smith were suspended before the Cotton Bowl because they received money for work not done on a summer job.

Slocum said that he was not sure when the NCAA's report on the players will be released and the questions on their eligibility for the 1993 football season are answered.

"I have not talked to them (the NCAA) about when the findings will be released," Slocum said. "That is handled by our enforcement staff, and they did a thorough job of investigating the matter fully, so our part is done. We are now awaiting the NCAA to handle their end."

"I don't know when that will come about or what the punishments will be."

If the NCAA does not level any pun-

ishments, there will be institutional discipline forthcoming, Slocum said.

"We will take some form of action on those guys, but what it is has not been decided yet," he said. "It is still too early to tell what is going to happen, but right now those guys are eligible to compete in spring practice."

The Dallas Morning News originally broke the story about improper payments to the four players by Warren Gilbert, an A&M alumnus. Gilbert owns 30 apartment complexes in Dallas, which receive federal funds from Housing and Urban Development.

Slocum pointed out that some of the facts of the situation that came under scrutiny because of the article were mis-

interpreted.

"First of all, it seems like the author of the story has had a vendetta against A&M since 1988," Slocum said during his speech. "When he first started investigating, a secretary told him that a coach had told the players to call about jobs. That is totally legal."

"Schools around the country handle their summer job program the same we do. Coach (and recruiting coordinator) Tim Cassidy sets the jobs up, and then he tells the kids who to call when they get home. The problem was the program was handled poorly on Gilbert's end."

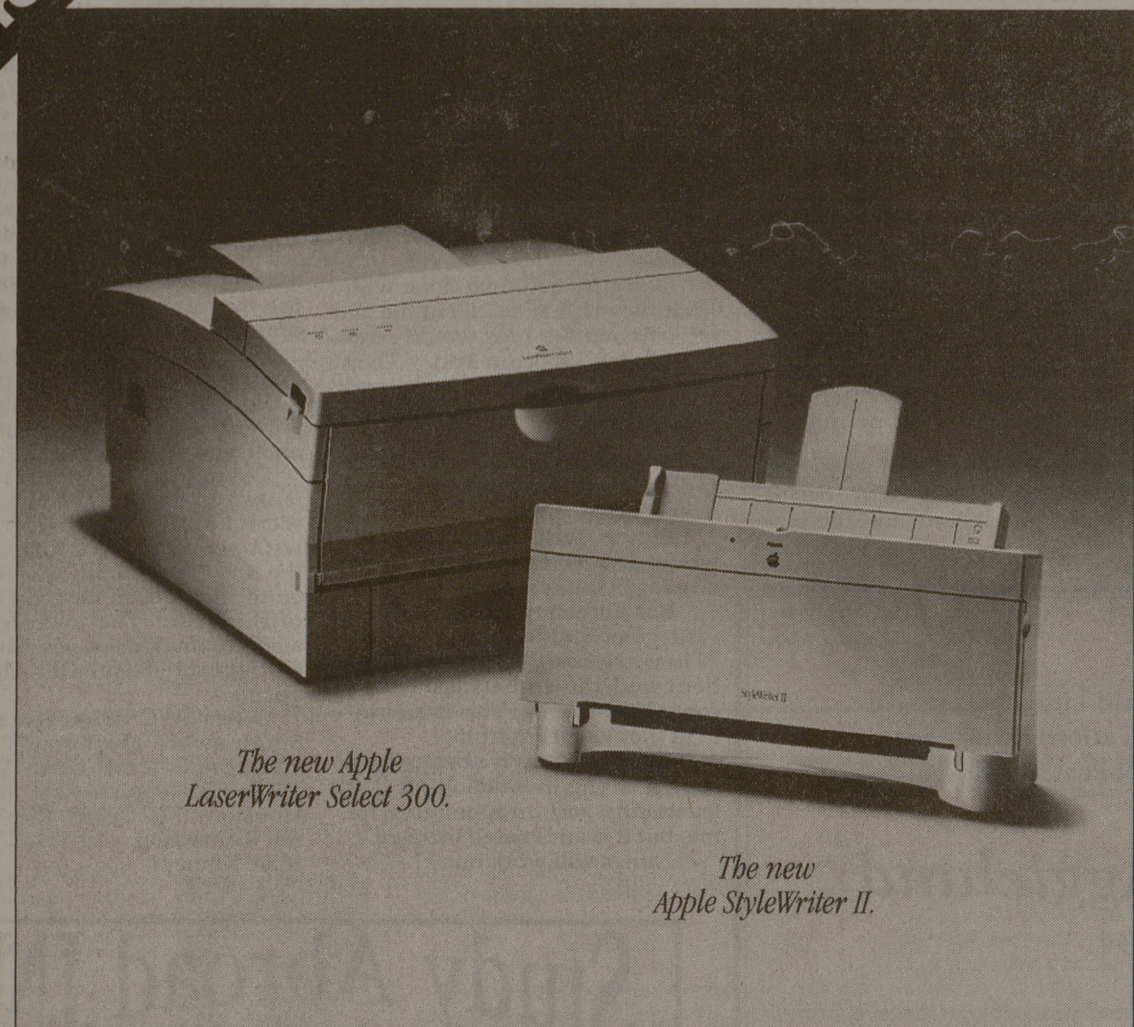
"It was a lack of judgment on his part."

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