

The Battalion

Vol. 92 No. 164 (6 pages)

1893 - A Century of Service to Texas A&M - 1993

Monday, June 28, 1993

Weekend rap-up

Pentagon moves to salvage Seawolf

WASHINGTON — The Pentagon wants to reallocate \$2.2 billion among various military programs, partly to complete work on a Seawolf nuclear submarine, according to congressional sources.

A Defense Department reprogramming request to Congress involves scores of projects funded over the past three fiscal years.

The Pentagon notified Congress that it wants to transfer \$1.8 billion from fiscal 1993 programs, \$161 million from fiscal 1992 and \$200 million from fiscal 1991, sources said Friday, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Among the items is the Pentagon's request to transfer \$122 million to complete the first Seawolf nuclear submarine, the result of cost overruns on the program, the sources said.

House kills collider with 280-150 vote

WASHINGTON — House members eager to prove their resolve to cut the deficit voted overwhelmingly Thursday to kill the \$10 billion superconducting super collider for the second year in a row.

But the 280-150 vote to end the project branded by House opponents as a "boondoggle," "this turkey" and "Jurassic pork" does not necessarily mean it will die.

The Senate last year voted to resuscitate the giant atom smasher after the House voted 232-181 to close it. A House-Senate conference committee dominated by collider advocates proposed \$517 million and that was ultimately enacted.

"I always anticipated that if we were going to save the super collider it would have to come in a conference after the Senate did it," President Clinton said after the vote. "So it's up to the Senate now to decide on the super collider."

Dallas Naval station axed, Kelly spared

WASHINGTON — The presidential base-closing commission voted Saturday to accept the Pentagon's recommendation to close the Dallas Naval Air Station.

The Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission voted unanimously to shutter the Grand Prairie base and shift all of its functions to nearby Carswell Air Force Base in Fort Worth.

On Friday, the commission spared Naval Station Ingleside near Corpus Christi, Corpus Christi Naval Air Station and Kelly Air Force Base in San Antonio.

None of the facilities had been recommended for closure by the Pentagon, but there had been significant concern that Ingleside could be sacrificed to spare Naval Station Charleston.

Clinton converses with half-brother

WASHINGTON — President Clinton finally caught up by phone Friday with the man who contends he's his long lost half-brother. They had a "warm conversation," and the two agreed to get together some time, the White House said.

Clinton reached 55-year-old Henry Leon Ritzenthaler at his home in Paradise, Calif., and they talked for about 15 minutes. It was the first time the two had spoken.

"They had a warm conversation and agreed to get together at some point in the future," Press Secretary Dee Dee Myers said in a statement.

No other details of the conversation were disclosed. A reporter's message left on Ritzenthaler's answering machine was not immediately returned.

—The Associated Press

Iraqis respond to destruction

Tomahawk cruise missiles leave at least eight dead, twelve wounded

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Iraqis dragged away their dead Sunday from the rubble of buildings wrecked by U.S. missiles while President Clinton said the raid was a successful reprisal for an alleged assassination plot against George Bush a success.

Iraq's intelligence headquarters in Baghdad was the target of the 23 Tomahawk cruise missiles fired from two Navy ships in the Red Sea and the Persian Gulf.

"Our preliminary assessment is that we hit the targets we intended and inflicted severe damage," said Gen. Colin Powell, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

But three of the missiles — each armed with 1,000-pound high explosive warheads — went astray and hit near private homes, Pentagon officials said. The Iraqi government said eight people were known dead in the attack. Iraq's news agency put the total number of known wounded at 12, but said teams were still searching for more bodies.

For residents of Baghdad, the attack was all too familiar.

During the 1991 Persian Gulf War, a U.S.-led coalition had rained missiles on the Iraqi capital, striking military headquarters, communications centers, bridges and other targets. Saddam Hussein's troops had expected those attacks and tried to stop them with a hail of anti-aircraft fire.

But this time the attack came out of the night without warning.

Associated Press photographer Jassim Mohammed, who lives near the target site, said he awoke early Sunday to the

noise of the cruise missiles passing overhead.

"It was scary," Mohammed said. "We did not know what was going on, but everybody was rushing to take shelter."

As the missiles exploded in the fashionable Al-Mansour district of Baghdad — where the intelligence complex is located — residents of the capital were jolted from their beds.

"Many families were seen running from their homes and there was a lot of panic in the streets," Angela Frier, an Independent Television News pro-

ducer in Baghdad, told the British Broadcasting Corp.

After sunrise, rescue workers dug through the debris of buildings, looking for survivors and carrying away the dead. The limp body of a man was gently lowered onto a stretcher after being pulled from the debris of his home.

Rescue workers picked through a ruined building that officials said had been the home of Leila Attar, an artist and the director of the

See Iraq/Page 6

U.N. views evidence of plot to kill Bush

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

UNITED NATIONS — The U.N. Security Council on Sunday convened an emergency session to hear the United States present evidence of Iraq's role in an alleged plot to kill former President Bush.

U.S. Ambassador Madeleine K. Albright planned to present photographs, charts and other evidence as the United States sought Sunday to rally international support for its missile attack on Baghdad.

Iraqi Ambassador Nizar Hamdoun, who has called the attack "a breach of internation-

al law," was also to present his government's case at the Security Council meeting Sunday. Iraq has denied a role in the plot.

The emergency session of the 15-nation council was requested by the United States, but no resolution or vote was expected. Albright said the United States was not asking for the council's endorsement.

Iraq denies its intelligence agents tried to kill Bush during his visit to Kuwait in April. It says the United States fabricated the plot to justify military aggression against Baghdad.

On Saturday, U.S. forces launched a

See Council/Page 6

F.B.I. cautions against possible mail bombings

By JENNIFER SMITH

The Battalion

Mail bombings at universities around the country have caused concern among Texas A&M officials who warned University employees Friday afternoon not to open suspicious packages or mail.

In a statement issued Friday, FBI Director William Sessions instructed university personnel around the country to be cautious of suspicious packages. A&M University Relations then issued an emergency alert to A&M vice presidents and deans, as well as to the provosts office urging University employees to guard against suspicious mail.

These warnings come after two bombing incidents last week at University of California-San Francisco and Yale University. In the former case, a geneticist lost several fingers when a mailed package bomb exploded at his home. In the latter case, a computer science professor was injured while opening a package in his office.

Bob Wiatt, director of University Police, said people should watch their mail for anything out of the

See Mail/Page 2

BRYAN BALLOON CLASSIC TAKES TO THE AIR



MARY MACMANUS/The Battalion

Balloons take flight for the morning race at the Bryan Balloon Classic held at Lake Bryan this weekend.

Wind surfing, sky diving among activities at Lake Bryan festival

By LISA ELLIOTT

The Battalion

The birds of Bryan-College Station shared the sky with dozens of hot air balloons last weekend during the third annual Bryan Balloon Classic, the largest festival event held in the Brazos Valley.

The festival at the Lake Bryan Park, featured a petting zoo, train rides, a kiddie jump and a variety of foods and crafts. A boat show, a jet ski show and a wind surfing competition were also conducted. The National Guard displayed Desert Storm equipment. Live entertainment was provided by Joe Orsak and the Special F/X Band and the Dealer's Choice Band.

Aggies Over Texas, the Texas A&M skydiving team, parachuted over the crowd during the opening ceremonies Friday and Saturday.

Karen Motolo, a senior biomedical science major and member of Aggies over Texas, said it was one of her best jumps.

"It was so much fun," she said. "I've never jumped over water before, and we could look down and see the balloons and the water. It was really pretty."

Motolo said she looks forward to doing it again next year and any other time she has the opportunity.

Terry Voight, site coordinator for the Balloon Classic, said the highlight of the festival was the "Nighttime Balloon Glow" Friday night when the balloons were filled with lights to glow at night.

"It is absolutely spectacular," he said.

Another feature the crowd enjoyed was the windsurfing competition, he said. "With the windsurfers on the water and the balloons in the sky, it's a photographers dream," Voight said.

During the balloon competition, balloonists competed for cash prizes. Voight said some of the best hot air balloon racers in the nation competed.

"The number one, national champion balloon racer is here this weekend and will be competing," he said.

Dan McGuire, class of '87 and a political science major, is a balloonist with Sunrise Balloon Co. in Bryan. He competed in the race, but said he didn't get into ballooning for the money. Piloting a balloon is the best way to relax and get away from the world, McGuire said.

"All it took was one time up," he said. "It's addictive."

McGuire said one of the funniest parts of ballooning is watching all the spectators stopping their cars, waving and coming out of their houses to watch him. "It's funny watching people come out of their house in their nightclothes. They don't think I can see them."

Voight said the purpose of the Balloon Classic is to increase tourism in Bryan-College Station while providing a colorful festival. In the future the festival would like to hold state and regional balloon championships.

Aggies pick up pace for MCAT

By GENEEN PIPHER

The Battalion

The Medical College Admissions Test (MCAT) scores of Texas A&M students are on the rise, say officials in Texas A&M's Office of Professional School Advising (OPSA).

The MCAT, which has a maximum score of 45, is the mandatory test for students who wish to go to medical school.

In April 1992, Texas A&M's average MCAT score was 24, the same as the national average. In April 1993, A&M students scored over one point higher than the national average of 23.8, said Monica Simpson, A&M premedical adviser.

"Since the office has been instilled at A&M, the (MCAT) average has jumped," Simpson said. "We are very proud of this."

Coordinator of the OPSA, Rande Nicholas said the rise in scores could be a result of increas-

ing numbers of students taking the MCAT and a greater knowledge of the subjects on the test.

"There is an increase in the number of people who are interested in the field of medicine," she said. "Along with this is an increase in the number of people that are really putting in the effort to study because they are aware of how competitive it (getting into medical school) is."

Mary Ann Carter, staff assistant and academic advisor said, "The students have a peer pressure among themselves, and they have caused the average to go up. Students know they have to do better and they have put pressure on themselves to succeed."

Simpson said in order for students to be really competitive, their scores should not fall below the national average.

"At schools like Baylor and Southwestern,

See MCAT/Page 2

Inside

SPORTS

- Off-court activities highlight of lackluster Wimbledon
- Golf: results of Hartford Open, LPGA Classic

Page 3

OPINION

- Editorial: Gov't should keep hands off Open Records Act
- Column: Jones urges help for depressive women

Page 5

WEATHER

- Monday: morning clouds then partly cloudy and hot, high in the 90s

- Forecast for Tuesday: same as Monday - partly cloudy and hot

TEXAS LOTTO

- Winning lottery numbers: 37, 5, 27, 18, 33, 21
- Wednesday's estimated jackpot - \$15 million