

READY AND WAITING

R.C. Slocum says he has wanted this final game with UT for a long time.

Sports, Page 7

HITTING IT HOME

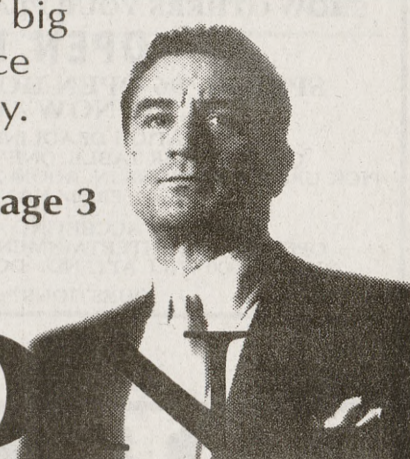
Benson: Parents must rear kids with firm rules and consequences.

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SUCCESSFUL GAMBLE

Swift: Casino pays off big with shocking violence and classic mafia story.

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Clinton makes case on sending troops to Bosnia

In a prime-time address, the president said a small number of troops will be sent to Bosnia next week.

WASHINGTON (AP) — Seeking support for a risky military mission, President Clinton presented his case Monday night for sending 20,000 U.S. troops to enforce a fragile peace treaty in Bosnia. "In the choice between peace and war," Clinton declared, "America must choose peace."

Without American force, "the war will reignite. The slaughter of innocents will begin again," he said.

Despite misgivings, it appeared Con-

gress would give Clinton his way. Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole said he believed in the constitutional authority of the president and added, "No doubt about it, whether Congress agrees or not, troops will go to Bosnia."

In a prime-time address from the Oval Office, Clinton acknowledged American troops will face danger and he assumed "full responsibility" for any casualties. However, he laid down a marker to anyone threatening the peacekeepers: "America protects its own. Anyone — anyone — who takes on our troops will suffer the consequences. We will fight fire with fire and then some."

He said a small number of American troops would go into Bosnia sometime next week to lay the groundwork for

thousands more to come, probably before Christmas.

"Let us lead," Clinton implored in a 20-minute speech delivered in somber tones. "That is our responsibility as Americans."

Clinton pledged that the U.S. mission — expected to last up to a year — would be limited, focused and under the command of an American general.

"America cannot and must not be the world's policemen," he said. "We cannot stop all war for all time but we can stop

some wars. We cannot save all women and all children but we can save many of them. We can't do everything but we must do what we can do."

"My fellow Americans, in this new era, there are still times when America — and America alone — can and should make the difference for peace."

Clinton's prime-time address kicked off an intense administration campaign to break down skepticism to what Pentagon planners regard as the most dangerous U.S. military operation since the Persian Gulf War.

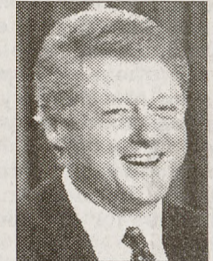
Clinton tried to assuage fears that the operation would evolve into a major conflict, what critics refer to as "mission creep." Four times in the speech he described the operation in narrow terms

— "limited, focused" — and said it would have "realistic goals that can be achieved in a finite period of time."

The American troops would be part of a 60,000-man NATO force enforcing a 600-mile long separation zone between the warring factions. Headquartered in Tuzla in northeast Bosnia, the Americans would be deployed in a mountainous, mine-strewn countryside in harsh winter conditions.

The dangers would be compounded by the bitter ethnic rivalries and suspicions that tore apart Yugoslavia. To some in Bosnia, the NATO troops are more likely to be seen as an unwelcome occupying force than as peacekeeping saviors.

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Clinton

Cadets share holiday spirit with Brazos Valley families

Cadets will give Christmas gifts to area families through the Adopt-A-Family service project.

By Courtney Walker
THE BATTALION

Most students are aware of the Corps of Cadets' participation in Silver Taps, Muster and the nighttime escort service, but cadets said most people are not familiar with several off-campus service traditions.

From community-wide Big Brother and Big Sister programs and reading to elementary children during book fairs, to their largest service project, March To The Brazos, the Corps keeps busy helping the community.

Marc Mulkey, Corps public relations officer and a senior industrial distribution major, said the Corps is misunderstood and people do not know what the Corps represents.

"To change the stereotypical image we, are getting out in the community and helping so people can see the other side of the Corps," Mulkey said.

Cadets will wrap up what they said has been the best semester for off-campus community service with an Adopt-A-Family project for Christmas.

The Corps will help 30 families in the Brazos Valley by providing them Christmas gifts to be delivered after final exams.

Alex King, Corps public relations sergeant, said the cadets should get involved outside the University because community service provided by the Corps reflects on A&M.

Along with trying to make someone's Christmas brighter, cadets began an effort to make a difference earlier this semester in the lives of children and teenagers.

Cadets participated in several elementary school mentor programs and volunteered at Still Creek Boys

Ranch throughout the semester. "We started the mentor programs the third and fourth week of school," King said, "and there are freshmen who are still doing it."

Cindi Ericson, a Corps public relations officer and a junior international studies and political science major, said reading to elementary children during book fairs was one of the most rewarding projects for her.

"It was so much fun," Ericson said, "and it exposed the children to a different environment than they were accustomed to."

Another program in which the cadets served as role models for children is Special Children's Day, where outfit members bring a handicapped host child on campus for a day. Cadets show the children around and take them to formations, drills and other Corps activities.

Cadets said they have seen an increase in community service this year from previous years.

"The student leaders have worked incredibly hard this year to create a community where people care about end results and attitudes are better," King said.

Things are not perfect yet, King said, and there is room for further

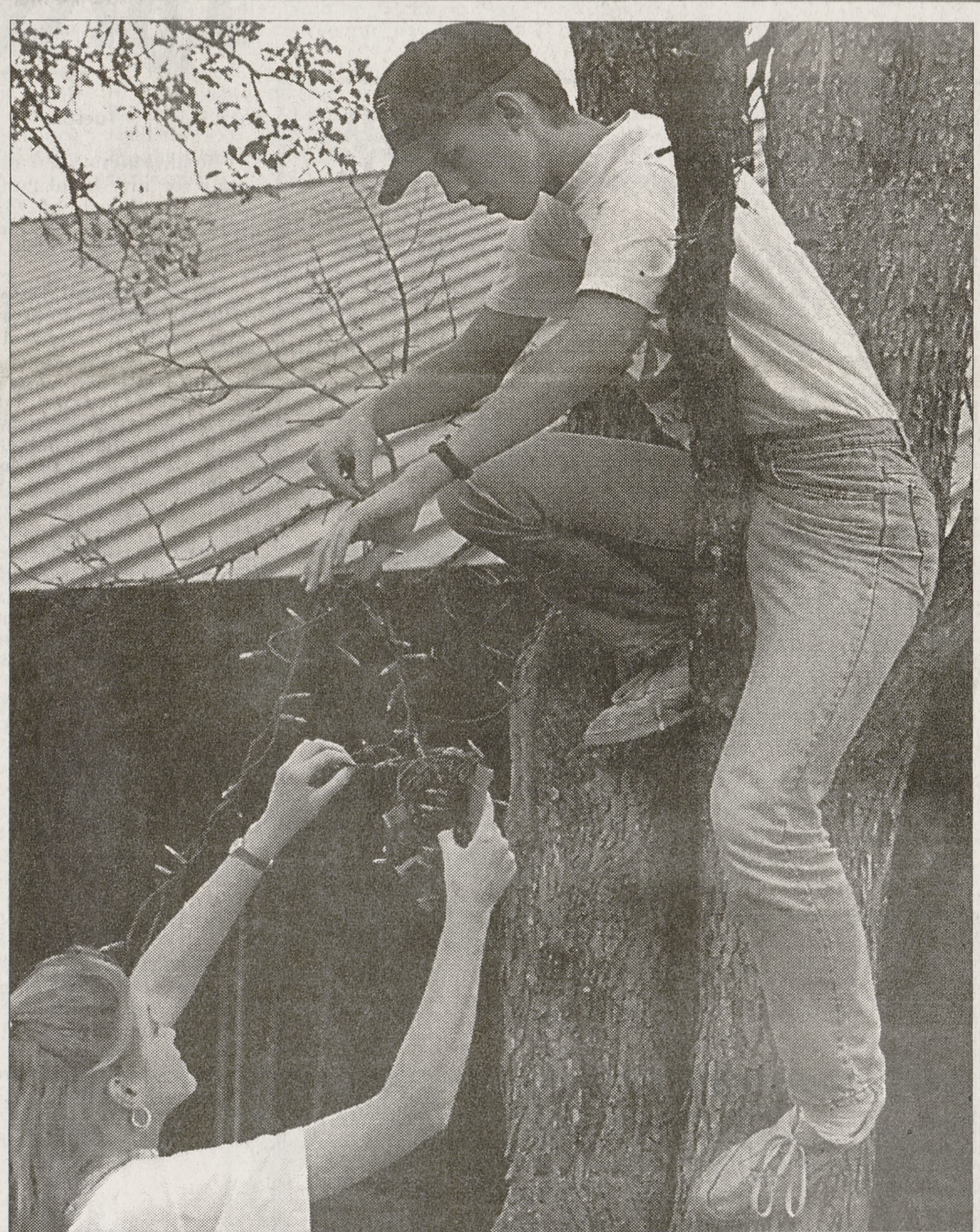
improvement. "For example the Bloody Cross project was at the same time as the Big Event, and other things ran into each other," he said, "so coordination between everyone is a priority this year."

Community service project ideas this year have stemmed from brainstorming sessions with Corps public relation officers. Many ideas come from people who call the Corps for help.

Once an idea has been presented, it is taken to the Corps commander, then approved by the commandants in the Corps Center. Then a memo is distributed to all Corps units.

Ericson said it is never a problem finding cadets to volunteer for projects because most are willing to give their time.

"A lot of times a cadet will come tell us about an idea," she said, "and we go from there."



Shane Elkins, THE BATTALION

IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN

Erik Peterson, a freshman biomedical science major, and Melanie Bauml, a sophomore general studies major, hang Christmas lights on trees outside All Faiths Chapel Monday afternoon for the Student Y. The lighting ceremony will take place Wednesday at 8:30 p.m.

Representatives stress need for U.N. support in Bosnian conflict

Bosnian and Croatian representatives said the communities will need the help of other nations to preserve peace.

By Kristen Homyk
THE BATTALION

United Nations involvement in the current Bosnian conflict is instrumental to the peace process now underway, Bosnian and Croatian representatives said.

During "A People Divided," a presentation of the MSC Wiley Lecture Series, Dr. Jelena Polic, consular in charge of Croatian congressional affairs, and Malik Skaljic, consular of economic affairs in Bosnia-Herzegovina, stressed the importance of international involvement to continue peace in the area of former Yugoslavia.

Skaljic, who called previous attempts by the international community to stop the fighting in the region

"absurd," said that while the inhabitants of the different communities are now willing to work for peace, they will need help.

"Bosnia-Herzegovina still needs help for the implementation and preservation of peace," he said. "There is also a big reconstruction in front of us."

Polic said the international support for Croatia has thus far been insufficient. Croatia is currently providing for 200,000 Bosnian refugees and 200,000 Croatian refugees at a cost of \$528 million.

"Support from the international community covers only about 17 percent of that," she said.

The peace is dependent upon the United Nations and its allied forces, Polic said.

"It would require a major commitment by the implementation force for this peace to work," she said.

The involvement of the United States in the peace talks has been positive, Polic said, and the peace accords are expected to be



Gwendolyn Struve, THE BATTALION

Malik Skaljic, consular of economic affairs in Bosnia-Herzegovina, stressed the importance of international involvement to continue peace in the area.

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Aggie Democrats plan Kickoff

Cecile Richards, daughter of former governor Ann Richards and founder of the Texas Freedom Alliance, will address the issue of Texas education.

By Michelle Lyons
THE BATTALION

The Aggie Democrats, in conjunction with the Brazos County Democratic Party and the Texas Democratic Women of the Brazos Valley, is sponsoring a Fall Kickoff Nov. 28 at 6 p.m. in the Brazos Center.

Kristi Perez, Aggie Democrats president, said the event is an excellent opportunity for area Democrats to get together before election season actually begins.

"It's sort of a kickoff for the Brazos County

Democrats, and it's our end of the semester event," Perez said. "Anyone can go; it's in the local paper, and we've sent out postcards to area residents."

Perez said she hopes the event will draw a few hundred people from the Brazos area, as well as from surrounding counties.

"We're hoping at least 150 to 200, possibly more, will attend," she said. "We've spoken with surrounding county parties, so it could actually end up being a lot bigger than we are expecting."

"I think it's going to be wonderful — local Democrats are excited about it."

Perez said because members of Aggie Democrats have been so active this year, students are thrilled to be taking a role in the kickoff.

"We are actually going to be running some of the tables there, so we're really excited about that," she said.

Linda Parrish, Texas Democratic Women of

See DEMOCRATS, Page 2