

SPORTS

WEDNESDAY
June 26, 1996

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Marooned in Atlanta: Aggies to impact Summer Games

A&M student bus drivers brake for Georgia

Fifty Aggies qualified for the Olympics this summer. But you will not catch them at the track, in the pool or on the court. Instead, they will be behind the wheel, making left turns, right turns and U-turns.

Approximately 50 Texas A&M bus drivers have been selected to work at the Centennial Olympic Games in Atlanta carrying spectators to and from the events next month.

The 50 Aggies are part of a 3600-member crew that will operate the bus system carrying patrons and observers from the surrounding communities of Atlanta to the myriad of Olympic venues. The bus system is designed to reduce traffic congestion in a city that already has a bumper-to-bumper reputation.

The benefits of going to work in Atlanta are excellent for the typical college student. Drivers will be paid approximately \$9 an hour for a 40-hour week, with opportunities for overtime.

In addition to their wages, the drivers will receive free housing while working in Atlanta, a free meal for every eight hours of work and the ability to ride any transportation system in Atlanta for free.

The bus drivers will also be

able to visit the Olympic Village with their employee passes during the Summer Games.

Michael Hutney, assistant manager for Bus Operations at A&M, said the Ranstad Corporation specifically came to A&M this spring to hire bus drivers for two main reasons.

The driver selection process is not as complicated as one might think. Only an application and attendance at an optional informational meeting were needed.

The qualifications call for drivers to have a minimum of 6-months experience driving a bus, a class A or B drivers li-

was the opportunity of a lifetime and I just couldn't pass it up. I have the chance to meet and work with people from all over the nation and all over the world."

Even with the advantages of the job, Williams said the decision to accept the offer was difficult.

"I had to give up two weeks of church camp in order to go," Williams said. "It was the deciding factor that I had to consider if I wanted to go or not. I know I'll be happier in the long run."

There are great benefits of working at the Olympics this summer, but there are a few apprehensions the drivers will carry with them.

Williams said the biggest concern of the drivers while they are working in Atlanta is personal safety at night while they are driving, in light of the city's high crime rate. The amount of traffic is also going to be an issue, but local residents are being encouraged to find other ways of travel once the Games have started.

Some local businesses are even closing for the span of the Olympics, along with some of the non-essential government offices in the Atlanta metropolitan area in order to aid the expected traffic problems.

The group of Aggie bus drivers will be leaving College Station July 13-14, with training beginning July 15 in Atlanta. They will drive for the duration of the Summer Games, ending August 4, and return at their own discretion.

By Ray Hernandez
THE BATTALION

A&M Archery coach targets Olympic Games

By Brandon Marler
THE BATTALION

When Frank Thomas came to Texas A&M as a student in 1979, teaching and coaching archery were the last things on his mind. But he listed the sport as one of his activities when he applied to the A&M master's program in kinesiology.

And a few weeks later he was teaching an undergraduate archery class.

"They gave me a sheet that said to list five activities which I felt that I was good at," Thomas said. "I ran out of ones to list, [but I] had taken a little archery during my undergrad years, so I listed it."

"The coordinator saw this and sent me to the archery coach, who asked if I could teach archery. When I got my schedule, it had me assisting archery at 12 [p.m.] and teaching at 1 [p.m.]. Basically, I just taught whatever I had learned at my 12 o'clock class."

When the archery coach left, Thomas took over the team. Last season, the Aggie coach led the team to a No. 1 national ranking, taking first place in every team competition.

Thomas' experience has helped in establishing coaching contacts and friendships throughout the nation, and as a result he is headed to Atlanta as the assistant manager of the archery competition for the 1996 Summer Olympics.

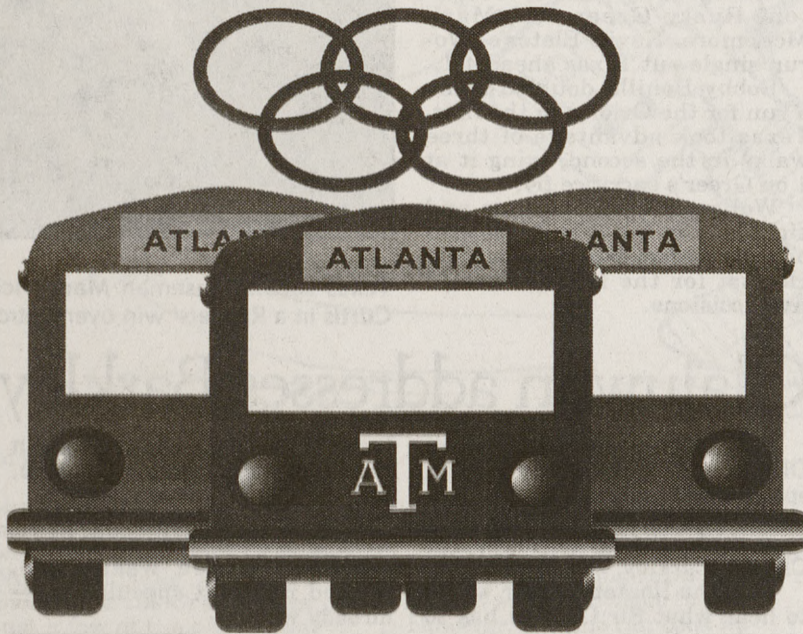
Thomas, currently associ-

ate chairman of A&M's Physical Education Activity Program, said he will basically be in the position of troubleshooter.

"When I went to Stone Mountain [the site about 30 miles outside of Atlanta where the competition will actually take place] back in April for the trials, I spent the whole time learning and preparing for the different jobs that I will encounter," Thomas said. "I learned the setup of the field and different crews, and the things we have to do to accommodate the TV crews."

The competition is set up

See Thomas, Page 4



"The Netherlands-based company, which has offices in Atlanta as well as other cities in the U.S., came to A&M because of the size of our transit system and the number of passengers that we carry per day," Hutney said.

cense and a good overall driving record.

Teresa Williams, a senior marketing major, is thrilled about having the opportunity to go to Atlanta.

"I was very excited to get chosen," Williams said. "It



Pat James, THE BATTALION

Frank Thomas led the Aggie Archery Team to a No. 1 ranking in 1995.

Loose Diamonds

Marquise Cut

Carat	Color	Clarity	Price
.31	I	SI1	\$475 ⁰⁰
.49	F	SI1	1,579 ⁰⁰
.49	J	SI2	1,050 ⁰⁰
.68	J	VS2	1,900 ⁰⁰
.69	K	VVS2	1,750 ⁰⁰
.71	H	VS2	3,100 ⁰⁰ UGA CERT.
.83	H	SI1	3,150 ⁰⁰
.94	K	SI1	2,650 ⁰⁰
1.21	K	SI3	3,750 ⁰⁰

Round Diamond

Carat	Color	Clarity	Price
.91	J	SI2	\$2960 ⁰⁰
.95	I	SI1	2,275 ⁰⁰
1.00	G	SI1	2,600 ⁰⁰
1.16	J	SI1	3,950 ⁰⁰

Pear Shape

Carat	Color	Clarity	Price
.49	H	SI1	\$1,253 ⁰⁰
.59	E	SI1	995 ⁰⁰
.79	K	SI1	1,675 ⁰⁰
.92	K	VS2	2,300 ⁰⁰
1.02	J	SI1	3,250 ⁰⁰

Emerald Cut

Carat	Color	Clarity	Price
.71	H	SI2	\$1,675 ⁰⁰
.74	H	SI3	1,500 ⁰⁰
.83	H	SI3	1,575 ⁰⁰
.88	G	SI2	1,750 ⁰⁰
.93	G	SI3	1,950 ⁰⁰
1.28	I	VS2	4,650 ⁰⁰

Princess

Carat	Color	Clarity	Price
.49	K	SI1	\$ 875 ⁰⁰
.53	K	VS1	975 ⁰⁰
.92	H	VVS2	3,500 ⁰⁰
.93	H	VS2	3,200 ⁰⁰

Round Diamond

Carat	Color	Clarity	Price
.23	H	VVS1	\$400 ⁰⁰ IDG CERT.
.27	H	VVS1	475 ⁰⁰ IDG CERT.
.31	H	VVS2	745 ⁰⁰ IGL CERT.
.33	H	VVS2	790 ⁰⁰ IDG CERT.
.34	G	VVS2	895 ⁰⁰ IDG CERT.
.37	G	I1	350 ⁰⁰
.70	I	SI1	2100 ⁰⁰
.71	H	SI1	2,200 ⁰⁰
.71	H	VVS2	2985 ⁰⁰ IGL Cert.

Oval

Carat	Color	Clarity	Price
.32	H	SI1	\$ 550 ⁰⁰
.40	J	VS1	675 ⁰⁰
.56	K	VVS2	1,075 ⁰⁰
.66	K	VVS2	1,252 ⁰⁰
.81	I	VS2	3,225 ⁰⁰ UGA CERT.
.93	I	SI2	2,860 ⁰⁰ UGA CERT.
1.00	G	SI1	2,700 ⁰⁰
1.12	I	SI1	3,950 ⁰⁰

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Fri. June 7 - Thurs. June 13 Schedule

"THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME" (G)
(on two screens)
1. 10:30 1:30 4:15 7:00 9:45
2. 11:30 2:05 4:45 7:30 10:30

MYSTERY SCIENCE THEATER (PG-13)
11:30 1:35 4:10 7:10 9:40

"THE CABLE GUY" (PG-13)
(on two screens)
1. 11:35 2:00 4:30 7:00 9:45
2. 11:45 2:30 4:50 7:25 10:15

THE ROCK (R)
(on three screens)
1. 10:20 1:15 4:15 7:45 10:45
2. 10:15 1:00 4:00 7:20 10:30

MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE (PG-13)
(on two screens)
1. 11:15 1:45 5:05 7:30 10:30
2. 10:35 1:15 3:40 7:05 10:05

TWISTER (PG-13)
(on two screens)
1. 10:50 1:30 4:10 7:15 10:25
2. 11:10 2:00 5:00 7:40 10:40

DRAGONHEART (PG-13)
10:40 1:10 4:00 7:05 10:00

EDDIE (PG-13)
11:40 2:40 5:00 7:35 10:25

THE ARRIVAL (PG-13)
10:35 1:00 3:45 6:55 10:00

THE CRAFT (R)
11:20 2:15 5:05 8:00 10:20

TRUTH ABOUT CATS & DOGS (PG-13)
11:20 1:40 4:15 6:50 9:30

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