



The Bat



MONDAY

June 5, 1999 Volume 105 • Issue 163 • 6 Pages College Station, Texas

sports

• A&M archery coach Frank Thomas will be an assistant at the Pan-American Games.

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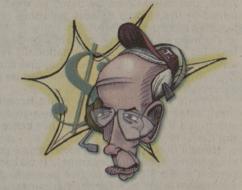
today's issue News

Battalion Radio Tune in to 90.9 KAMU-FM at 1:57 p.m. to hear how a local project is helping Bosnian refugees in Bryan-College Station.

opinion

• R.C. Slocum's new contract is an example of how schools favor athletics over academics.

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University incomes cademic and athletic incomes (in millions

Research Ticket



Aggies to assist with Mexican agriculture plan

"There can be

both sides of

the border."

Market drives Slocum deal

BY CARRIE BENNETT The Battalion

R.C. Slocum's acceptance of a 7-year, \$7 million contract means the Texas A&M's head foot-

ball coach will now earn the same amount per year as the University of Texas' head football coach Mack Brown

SEE RELATED COLUMN ON PAGE 5.

Texas A&M President Dr. Ray M. Bowen said the decision to raise Slocum's salary was similar to the decision to raise the salary of a person in any field. He said Slocum's salary was judged against those of his peers to ensure his salary was comparable to those of other coaches at schools in the Big 12 and Big **10** Conferences

Slocum's income includes a base salary of \$300,000 a year, money from TV and radio appearances, a housing allowance and shoe contract.

Last year the A&M football program generated more revenue than that of the University of Texas and drew in additional funds through advertisements, sponsorships and donations from the 12th Man Foundation.

Don Powell, chair of the Texas A&M Board of Regents, said the decision is based on the coaching market, and the market sees a head coaching position as valuable.

"It is critically important that you have head coaches, whether it be basketball, baseball or any woman's sport, that represent A&M in both wins

Faculty raise promotes teaching

BY CARRIE BENNETT The Battalion

As part of Texas A&M's Vision 2020 goals which stress the importance of teaching, all A&M faculty, excluding associate provosts and anyone of a high rank on the administration scale, have received a 6 percent salary increase and the staff has received a 1-percent increase.

Because of the lack of funds, there were concerns that deans,

administration, and possibly re-searchers would not receive the raise, but Texas A&M President Dr. Ray M. Bowen provided an average 6-percent increase to faculty to promote teaching as well as research.

This salary increase was provided by state funds and the additional \$4 extra per semester credit hour added this year to tuition costs. However, there was not enough money in this pool for all faculty to receive the 6-percent increase,

which applied to every faculty member on payroll by June 1, 1999.

Janis Stout, dean of faculties and associate provost, said the 6-percent pool will provide raises to deans and associate deans and administration un-der them, but will not include administration ranked higher. Stout said provosts and associate provosts will not be included in this salary increase.

SEE FACULTY ON PAGE 2.

and losses, but also in their character and attitude," Powell said.

Wally Groff, athletic director for A&M, said A&M is expected to earn \$10.6 million in revenue from ticket sales for the 1999-2000 A&M football season. He said additional income will come from TV advertisements, sponsorships and \$3.5 million in contributions from the 12th Man Foundation.

For the 1997-1998 fiscal year, The University of Texas brought in almost \$7.8 million in ticket sales. An additional \$473,000 was earned from

"game guarantees," payments made to the visiting team for expenses incurred at away games.

Texas Tech University brought in approximately \$4 million in revenue from ticket sales in the 1997-1998 fiscal year, as well as bowl-game revenue in excess of over \$1 million and television revenue of about \$5 million.

Bowen said A&M's football program brings in 5 percent of the total revenue of the A&M athletic department.

SEE SLOCUM ON PAGE 2.



BY SUZANNE BRABECK The Battalion

In an effort to improve the agricultural conditions in the ross-border region of Mexico and Texas, the faculty of the Universidad Autonoma de Tamaulipas invited Texas A&M University and numerous universities in Mexico to work together to cre-

ate a cooperative project to both veapons preserve natural resources and ecurity² improve livestock conditions.

ities aros În 1992 the Univerisidad Autonoma Agriculture department to surfal and the Texas A&M University

tensified tural Systems to Richards develop a strategy cientist to improve agri-ly March cultural conditions vestigati in the Lower Rio **of the quality of** the contract of the contract of

has not The project in-e and b volves the

a cong

rets to a Tamaulipan Biotic Province, which extends into three states in Mexico De and is dependent

on cattle. In Texas, 30

ause for Coastal Prairies are the site of the flight project.

Wayne Hamilton, director of anch of the Center for Grazinglands and a staken: Ranch Management at A&M, t suffers said the Rio Grande River sepach parts Tates these areas them politicalyears o ly but does not separate re-Hed June sources.

Dr. Manuel Piña, Texas-Mexico -ce's de airrai Initiative project director and a prost the state fessor of agricultural education at A&M, said since the initial meetings, representatives from both _h buffer countries have attended work-R. Est shops on such topics as Manage-rations ment of Grazinglands in South he B-20 Texas and Northern Mexico.

"Overall, collaborative efforts have been extremely good, although they have been relatively uncoordinated and marginally supported with funds earmarked specifically for these purposes, Piña said. "There can be an improvement of the quality of people's lives on both sides of the border.

So far, there have been three conferences which revolved around topics such as beef production systems, reproduction, range animal nutrition, health ranch administration, brush and secrets System collaborated with the strategies and economics of to the ¹⁹ College of Agricul-

ment. The workshops also provide input an improvement which is being compiled to put together a draft people's lives on proposal for longterm funding for the project.

The workshops are offered in both Spanish and Eng-

lish - Dr. Manuel Piña "There is a 150-**Project director** year history of in-

pail million acres of teraction among teraction among the Rio Grande Plains and people in this region.," Hamilton said. "You could almost say they

speak the same language.' Piña said the costs of the workshops are covered by various donors.

"We anticipate that no one donor will be able to support the entire thing, but may be willing to support part of it," he said.

W.K. Kellogg Foundation, the Rockefeller Foundation and the Inter-American Development Bank are a few of the public and private institutions which have shown interest in the goals of these programs.

SEE MEXICO ON PAGE 2.

Spectators view the fireworks display at the George Bush Presidential Library Complex Sunday. Visitors who braved the rains were treated with the display, which was delayed for over an hour.

Community celebrates 4th of July with fireworks display

BY VERONICA SERRANO The Battalion

The College Station Noon Lions Club's 39th Annual "I Love America Celebration" on the grounds of the George Bush Presidential Library Complex was plagued by rains throughout the course of the event, delaying the fireworks display and forcing

some visitors to leave early. However, the occasional rumble of thunder or ribbon of lightning did not deter hundreds from gathering to hear the live music or participating in games.

John Happ, chair of the Noon Lions Club's "I Love America Celebration" committee, said the rain effected the number of people at the celebration, but the event was still a great success judging by concession sales.

Happ said both Bryan and College Station contributed funds for the \$12,000 fireworks display. The display originally was scheduled for 9:40 p.m. but did not begin until 10:30.

He said the celebration usually is held at Olsen Field, but the new tennis courts prohibited the use of fireworks.

The George Bush Presidential Complex provided the organization with a solution when library officials expressed interest in hosting the celebration.

The celebration began at 6 p.m. with a presentation of the American flag by an Army Reserves Color Guard as storm clouds gathered in the distance.

Throughout the day visitors flocked to the George Bush Presidential Library and Museum, which did not charge admission and extended its hours until 8:30 p.m.

The library also provided shelter for drenched revelers when one of the first showers hit at 7:30 p.m. Many hid beneath the roof of the Complex, while others took the opportunity to tour the museum.

Elaine Nelson, an admissions clerk for the museum, said library officials had expected 10,000 visitors to the museum. She said the clerks were not equipped to estimate the number of visitors.

Other "freebies" available at the event included watermelon and small American flags