

# Texas A&M The Battalion

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## Pill poisonings cause Tylenol capsule recall

**United Press International**  
CHICAGO — Authorities early today said they found cyanide in a capsule of ExtraStrength Tylenol from a lot other than the 93,000-bottle batch already recalled in the deaths of five people in Illinois.

Store owners in 31 states pulled a 93,000-bottle lot of Extra-Strength Tylenol labeled MC2880 off their shelves, fearful they may have some of the cyanide-laced capsules that killed five people in the Chicago area.

Early today, the Du Page County coroner's office confirmed cyanide was also found in a capsule taken from a bottle with the lot number MD1910. The bottle was found in the home of one of the victims.

The discovery of bottles of possibly contaminated ExtraStrength Tylenol at several Texas drugstores prompted health officials across the state today to warn consumers against taking the painkiller.

A Waco pharmacy reported finding some bottles from a 93,000-bottle batch already recalled in the deaths of five people from cyanide-laced capsules in Illinois.

Lou McIntire, manager of Sav-On Drugs, said he did not know how many of the bottles of batch MC2880 had been sold at the Waco store and asked customers to return any bottles they had purchased in the last month.

Police say the capsules were poisoned by a "very sophisticated, very malicious person."

Police considered the deaths possible homicides. Two of the dead men and the critically ill woman were members of the same family.

Larry Foster, a spokesman for New Brunswick, N.J.-based Johnson & Johnson, warned consumers not to buy or take Tylenol with the MC2880 lot marking on the bottle.

"Apparently a very sophisticated, very malicious person is at large who

had to spend a lot of time and a lot of effort to lace these capsules with cyanide," said Winfield Police Chief Carl Sosta.

Consumers in the San Antonio area reported purchasing several bottles from that second batch — MD1910 — at commissaries at Randolph Air Force Base, Fort Sam Houston army base and Lackland Air Force Base.

Although no cyanide contamination was reported in either city, the discovery prompted Bexar County Health Director Courand Rothe to tell consumers not to take the ExtraStrength capsules period.

A spokesman at the Texas Poison Control Center in Galveston said he would "be a little leary of taking any of them (the capsules). At this point I don't think I would take any ExtraStrength Tylenol."

"Flush them down," he said.



staff photo by David Fisher

### Slaves for Sale

McFadden Hall sponsored a slave sale in front of Sbsa Dining Hall Thursday to raise money for charity. Betty Epps (left), and Kathy Gunderson (right), danced for the enthusiastic crowd of mostly males to help

push up the prices bid for them. The slaves will work for their buyer for three hours. Both girls are freshmen from Houston studying business administration. Part of the money went to The United Way.

## Soviet plane crashes and burns, kills 13

**United Press International**  
LUXEMBOURG — A Soviet Aeroflot Ilyushin Il-62 airliner with 77 people aboard crashed and burst into flames on landing at Luxembourg's Findel Airport, killing up to 13 people and injuring 64 others, police said today.

A police spokesman said early Thursday rescuers had found seven bodies but another six people were missing and presumed dead in Wednesday's fiery crash.

All ambulances in the tiny duchy of some 365,000 people were mobilized to rush survivors, some with serious burns, to hospitals. Authorities called on rescue teams in nearby France and West Germany for help.

Some of the 64 injured were flown by helicopter to France, West Germany and Belgium. A police spokesman said 27 people were released after treatment.

Col. Jean-Pierre Wagner, of the Luxembourg Gendarmerie, said the

plane's captain and two co-pilots were "safe and sound." Flight 343 from Moscow, which was to have continued to Lima, Peru, carried 66 passengers and a crew of 11.

Airport sources said 15 of the passengers were headed for Luxembourg with the remainder to have continued to Peru. The nationalities and names of the victims were not released immediately.

An air traffic controller said the plane, a four-engine Ilyushin Il-62

jet, apparently developed brake trouble.

"The aircraft is completely burned up," a spokesman for Luxembourg Airlines said Wednesday.

Radio Luxembourg reported three hours after the accident, members of the Soviet Embassy with megaphones were searching the wooded area where the plane crashed in search of some 20 passengers unaccounted for at the time.

Airport sources said the night skies

were clear Wednesday when the plane came in for a landing, touched the main runway and then suddenly veered to the right.

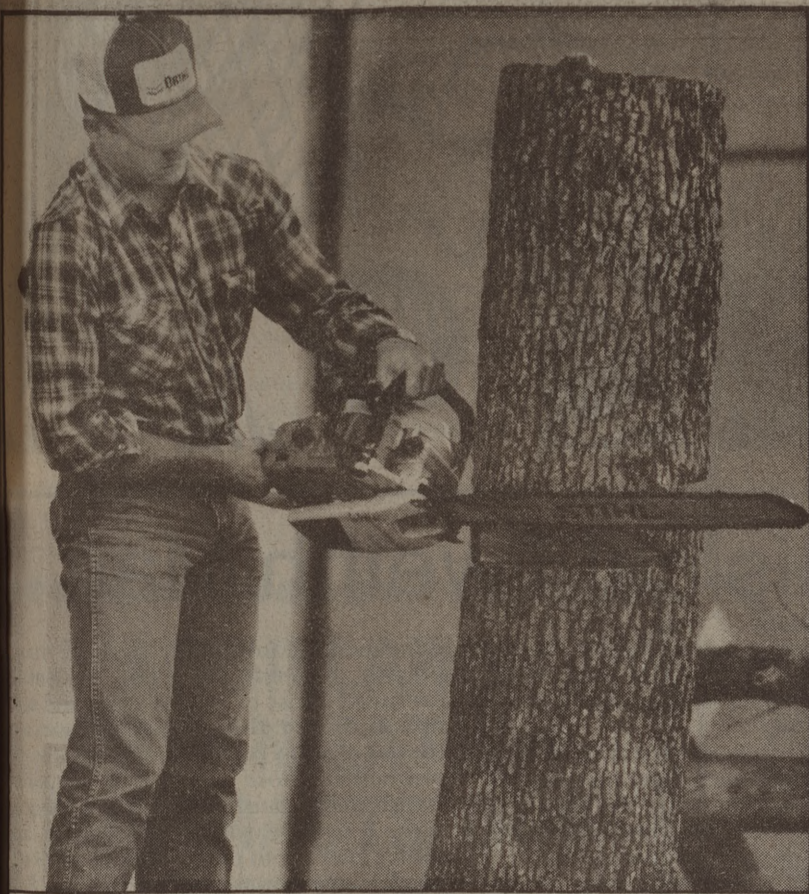
It crashed in a wooded valley, some 1,000 yards away, cutting down dozens of trees and exploding into flames. Many passengers were thrown out of the craft by the blast, the police said.

The airport was closed for all traffic until today. Incoming flights were rerouted to Metz, West Germany.

It was the first serious plane crash in Luxembourg, although a private Danish Piper plane crashed at the airport in a storm two weeks ago, killing its three occupants.

The last reported crash of an Aeroflot plane was in Moscow in July, which authorities reported killed 99 people.

Among other serious Aeroflot accidents was an Aug. 17, 1979, crash that killed 173 people when two Aeroflot TU134 jets collided over the Ukraine.



staff photo by David Fisher

### Cutting times coming

The proper way to cut a tree with a chainsaw is demonstrated by Larry Roberts, a senior animal science major from Koonce, at the cutting demonstrations being held this week. People who want to work at the cutting site have to attend the classes and get a cutting card before they can work at the bonfire cutting site. Roberts is in charge of the centerpole for company C-1.

## Legislature pays for fire damages on uninsured University property

by Hope E. Paasch

**Battalion Staff**  
Recent fire damage at Texas A&M University is not covered by insurance, the director of the insurance and risk management office says.

Director John Honea said only buildings constructed with money from bond sales against the Permanent University Fund are covered by fire insurance. Buildings and property in this category include dormitories and auxiliary enterprise operations.

Campus buildings constructed with money from the Available Fund

are not covered by fire insurance, but damages are paid for by the state, he said. The Texas Legislature decided it was more economical to appropriate funds to pay for fire damage as it occurs rather than insure all buildings.

Associate Director of Business Services Gerald Smith said the Legislature will not pay for damage from the recent fire in the eleventh-floor dining area of Rudder Tower, even though Rudder Tower was built with money from the Available Fund.

The Legislature would appropriate funds for structural damage to Rudder Tower, but the contents of the dining area are covered under the University's fire insurance. The dining area is run by the Department of Food Services and is considered an auxiliary enterprise.

The fire caused no structural damage, so the Legislature will not be asked to appropriate funds for the damages.

Honea said the fire last week at the Agriculture Engineering Research

Lab caused extensive damage and funds for repairs and replacement of equipment must be appropriated by the Legislature.

The acquisition of funds from the Legislature is a lengthy process, he said. The University must prepare a detailed list of damages and seek competitive bids for replacements and repairs.

The University will request the appropriation from the Legislature when it convenes in January, Honea said.

## League poll says Mark White has slim lead in Texas gubernatorial race

**United Press International**  
AUSTIN — A poll released by the League of Women Voters Thursday ruled out any appearances by minor party candidates in upcoming gubernatorial debates and also indicated Mark White has a slight lead in his bid to unseat Gov. Bill Clements.

The league, which is sponsoring a series of televised debates on the governor's race, said it would allow minor party candidates to appear if the poll indicated they had 15 percent voter support.

David Hutzelman, the Libertarian Party candidate, had been trying to

get on the debates but the league's poll indicated he had less than 1 percent voter support. Bob Poteet, the Citizen Party candidate, also received less than 1 percent.

The poll was based on 925 telephone interviews, resulting in a 3 percent margin of error. Respondents first were asked to identify which of the four parties they would vote for in the governor's race.

A second question asked a preference again but gave both the party and the name of the candidate.

The results, compiled by Shipley and Associates of Austin, showed

White leading Clements 41.6 percent to 38.4 percent. However, if the 3 percent margin of error is considered, the race could almost be deadlocked.

White was predictably pleased by the poll results, but a Clements campaign spokesman said the poll rendered stilted results.

Tony Garrett of the Clements campaign said that by asking for a party preference the survey was "politicized" and guaranteed a higher showing for the Democratic candidate. He said Clements' polls still show the incumbent with a "comfortable lead."

"If you first ask someone for a party

affiliation you lock them in to that party's candidate," Garrett said. "It goes against human nature to contradict yourself."

But White said the polls demonstrates Clements' loss of support.

"Not only does it show that we're ahead in the race, but it also shows that Clements has been misleading the public with his statements that he's 'comfortably ahead' in the race," White said. "It also demonstrates that the people of Texas are repudiating Bill Clements' mudslinging and dirty campaign tactics."

## Economic index takes downward swing after showing signs of better times

**United Press International**  
WASHINGTON — The government's sensitive index of leading economic indicators dropped 0.9 percent in August, the first downswing in five months, the Commerce Department said today.

The four previous months had shown improvement that was repeatedly cited by administration officials as signs of approaching better times.

An accompanying index of coincident indicators, measuring current economic activity, dropped 0.6 percent, showing August was the worst month so far of the 13-month-old recession.

The negative direction of the figures had been publicly estimated several days beforehand by Commerce Secretary Malcolm Baldrige and other department officials, "to soften the impact of the news," one of the officials said.

Questioned on NBC's "Today" program prior to release of the economic indicators, Treasury Secretary Donald Regan said a one-month decline after four consecutive months of improvements does not derail recovery.

"I would suggest, combining five months, we're in the up phase," Regan said.

A separate report by the Labor De-

partment today showed the latest weekly unemployment claims reached a recession high, a seasonally adjusted total of 703,000 new unemployment claims for the week ending Sept. 18, the highest since the claims were first adjusted for routine layoff trends in 1963.

Commerce Department officials today said historical data show that the August decrease in the leading indicators does not necessarily rule out a recovery beginning by the end of the year.

Spokesman for the department's Bureau of Economic Analysis, Larry Moran, said that "of the last four recessions, twice we've had situations

where leading indicators were going up followed by a month or two of decline, followed by a recovery."

From April through July the indicators climbed 3.8 percent. "We've never had a situation where the leading indicators increased 2 percent or more which was not immediately followed by a recovery," Moran said.

Five of the 10 indicators available for August declined, led downward by a drop in building permits. Also negative were August claims for unemployment insurance, new orders for consumer goods adjusted for inflation, raw materials prices and the length of the average workweek.

Increases were led by an expansion

in the money supply, adjusted for inflation last month. The pace of deliveries and orders for new equipment contributed some slight improvement. Also partially offsetting the declines were stock prices and a change in total liquid assets.

Another leading indicator, the rate at which new businesses are formed, has not been included in the leading indicators report since December because of what the department says are "missing components." In the latest release, the department announced the business formation indicator may be permanently dropped.

The composite index of all the leading indicators was 128.6 in August the department said.

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### forecast



Today's Forecast: High in the low 90s, low in the mid 70s. Partly cloudy skies.