

# Texas A&M The Battalion

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## Delta jet crash at D-FW kills 13, injures 94

GRAPEVINE (AP) — Thirteen people were killed Wednesday but 94 others miraculously survived as a Delta Airlines jet crashed and burned while taking off from Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport, officials said.

Flight 1141, which originated early Wednesday in Jackson, Miss., was en route to Salt Lake City with 97 passengers and seven crew members, Delta officials said. A

See related stories throughout paper

few of those aboard the aircraft were babies and not included on the passenger list.

"You heard the thing crumple, so you knew you were going to crash the whole time," said passenger Penn Waugh, a lawyer from Dallas. "You were just looking for a way to get out of the plane. You're hoping you weren't going to die."

"You're not scared. It's getting smoky and you're just trying to get the hell out of the plane."

Sixty-one people were treated and released from at least six area hospitals, Delta spokesman Henry Conley said.

Passengers and witnesses said the Boeing 727 appeared to be in trouble as soon as it began to lift off the runway in hazy sunshine at 9:03 a.m. CDT., about a half-hour later than scheduled.

The accident is the second at DFW involving Delta in three years. On Aug. 2, 1985, Delta Flight 191, an L-1011 jet, crashed as it approached a runway during a thunderstorm, killing 137 people and injuring 25 others.

"For something like this, you're never fully prepared," Conley said when asked if the airline had changed any procedures since the 1985 accident. "You just do the best you can."

Wednesday's accident was at the opposite end of the sprawling airport, the world's fourth-busiest with nearly 42 million passengers last year. At 17,800 acres, the airport is the nation's largest.

A National Transportation Safety Board team was being assembled to investigate the crash.

## Survivors tell tales of horror aboard Flight 1141

Associated Press

Survivors of Delta Flight 1141 recounted their escape from on board the fiery aircraft, saying they knew they were going to crash and simply hoped they wouldn't die.

"You're hoping you weren't going to die," said Penn Waugh, a Dallas attorney who was on the Boeing 727 when it crashed on takeoff from Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport, en route to Salt Lake City. "It's getting smoky and you're just trying to get the hell out of the plane."

"We were just terrified," Mona Thomason, who escaped with scrapes and bruises, said. "We jumped on the wing, but it looked like we were jumping into a pit of fire." She reported seeing a woman with two children: "She got one of them out, but I'm afraid the other one was caught in the fire."

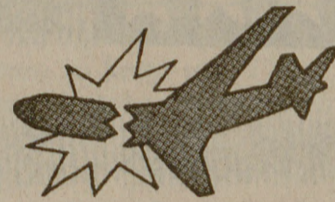
Passenger Peter Wright of Dallas said the aircraft veered to the right on takeoff, and he heard a banging noise under the carriage.

"Then someone said, 'We're not going to make

"We were just terrified," passenger Mona Thomason said. "We jumped on the wing but it looked like we were jumping into a pit of fire. There was a lady with a child

and she got one of them out, but I'm afraid the other one was caught in the fire."

"On takeoff the plane bounced three times and skidded off the



Graphic by Tom Eikel

it!" he said. "After the crash someone kicked the door open."

Wright's traveling companion, Geoff Parkes, said the plane lost power as it took off, and he saw the right wing tip hit the ground. Flames shot past his window, and jet fuel dripped down the windows.

"People were saying, 'Let's get out of here! Let's get out!'" Parkes said. "I jumped on the wing following Peter and got out."

Jane Wood, who is six months pregnant, and her sons, Adam, 2, and Evan, 5, escaped without

serious injury by leaping through a crack near the bulkhead.

"It was a big fire," Evan said. "We jumped out, but we weren't scared."

Jim Hammock of Garland said the plane bounced three times on takeoff and skidded off the runway.

"We didn't make it 50 feet in the air," Hammock said. "We skidded and then the engine exploded. There was pandemonium. People were jumping on the plane's wing and burning themselves on it because it was so red-hot."

Melissa Jane Lewis of Tupelo, Miss., said she remembers praying out loud and saying, "Oh God, here we go" as the jet went down.

"I felt the engines losing power and noises like tires blowing out on takeoff," Lewis, who suffered only a bruise on her leg, said. "The fuselage filled with smoke and there was a lot of noise."

"I hung on until the emergency door next to me opened, then I climbed out on the wing and hit the ground running."

feet in the air. We skidded and then the engine exploded."

Hammock described the scene as pandemonium.

## Magazine holds promotion in CS for models who posed from A&M A&M model posed on a dare from a friend

By Alan Sembera  
Staff Writer

Heather Marion, one of two models representing Texas A&M who appear in Playboy magazine's newly released "Girls of the Southwest Conference" pictorial, said Wednesday that she has enjoyed having her picture published.

Marion, who was at a local bookstore promoting Playboy's newly released October issue, said she had gone to the first interview with Playboy photographers last spring on a dare.

"A friend of mine didn't think I'd do the interview, so I did it," she said. "I was really casual about it."

"I didn't think I had a chance. Once I was selected, it just really occurred to me."

The publicity surrounding the pictorial hasn't affected her much, she said, because she has been living in Austin during the summer.

"It's really remote," she said, "because this all got a big buildup around here, but I don't live in town anymore so I felt really closed off from it."

Marion said she will stay in Austin to work this semester so that she can earn enough money to return to A&M in the spring.



Photo by Phelan M. Ebenhack

Heather Marion, a Playboy model, signs autographs Wednesday at Hastings Record store.

Posing for Playboy has sparked an interest in modeling, she said, so she will try working as a model in the Austin area.

When she returns, she said, she will probably continue singing with the band "Behind the Times," and will continue her studies in the area

of theater arts. The 18-year-old has been studying theater arts at A&M for one year.

On her return she will get an unlisted phone number, she said, but she added that she doesn't expect any problems because of her posing for Playboy.

When an autograph seeker asked her if she already had encountered any problems with "guys, jerks or anything like that," she replied, "Yeah, but I had that before."

The San Antonio native said posing hasn't caused any problems with her family.

"They're not real happy, but they all know about it," she said.

Leigh Sternbaum, the other Aggie who appears in the Playboy pictorial, was not at the promotion.

Don Donovan, the southern division manager for Playboy, said he was unable to reach Sternbaum because she had been out of town this summer.

Playboy held similar promotions at the eight other SWC schools, Donovan said.

A&M, along with Texas Christian University and Rice University, only had two students appear in the pictorial.

The University of Texas had the most students appearing, with six.



Photo by Jay Janner

### Walk this way

George Walter, a Catholic from Glanshaw, Pennsylvania, makes a pilgrimage from his hometown to Mexico City to meet 1,000,000 people at the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe. He travels with his donkey Unita and plans to arrive in Mexico May 1.

### Enrollment up slightly over fall '87

First-day Texas A&M enrollment figures remained stable this semester with 38,440 students registered, an increase of just 22 students from the first day of fall classes in 1987.

Official enrollment figures will not be compiled until Sept. 13, the 12th day of class.

Although preliminary figures show a slight increase in registered graduate and minority students, only about 6,000 freshmen have registered — 11 percent fewer than last year. A freshman registration cap of 6,600 was set after last year's record-breaking enrollment of 7,433.

A&M Registrar Donald Carter predicts that several hundred more students will enroll before registration closes on Sept. 13, but the previously-estimated enrollment figure of 40,000 still may be slightly high, he said.

An earlier application deadline for freshmen and transfer students and changes in admission requirements made predicting enrollment figures difficult, he said.

"We may not reach 40,000 students," Carter said, "but it will be close."

Although about 1,000 preregistered students have withdrawn or have been dropped for not paying their fees, Carter said many have re-registered.

"Everything is positive from where we stand," Carter said. "It has been a fairly routine opening of a new semester."

## A&M president answers questions about plans for University's future

(Editor's note: The following is the first part of a two part series which gives Texas A&M president William H. Mobley's views about issues, problems and challenges facing A&M during his presidency and beyond. The interviews for this story were conducted on Aug. 18 and Aug. 31.)

By Stephen Masters  
Senior Staff Writer

After former Texas A&M president Frank E. Vandiver's announcement that he would step down, the Board of Regents began a search for the next president.

The search was officially closed July 18 when former Senior Fulbright Scholar William H. Mobley was named the 20th president of A&M.

Mobley took office on Aug. 1.

Q: What are your goals for your first year in office?

A: One, we're expecting over 40,000 students in the fall, which is an opportunity and a challenge. We want to ensure that as we grow, we really work hard to preserve the quality of life on the campus. By quality of student life I mean both the academic quality of the institution as well as all the other things that make this a great institution: the Corps, student activities, parking (laughs). Just a full range of things that make this a positive place to go to school. So one of my goals is not only to protect, but to enhance the quality of the experience for the students.

Second, we're clearly a major research institution and we want to



Photo by Jay Janner

Frank E. Vandiver and William H. Mobley

continue to develop our research programs. We have a number of really exciting opportunities: biotechnology, energy, materials, marine and ocean sciences. I could just go on and on.

We have top-notch people, faculty and students. We can really make a difference in those areas. I'm committed to seeing that in the coming year and beyond we continue to develop our research programs.

In doing that, we've got to ensure that we continue to emphasize the instructional side of our University. I suggested to the Board of Regents when I was appointed that teaching and research are not mutually exclusive; they are not argumentatives. It

takes attention to make sure that they are both done well. It can be done well. It is to students' advantage to have faculty who are cutting-edge people in their field. We want to continue to encourage the development of our research programs but at the same time continue to develop our instructional programs.

Third, the phrase "global village" gets used frequently. It is not a trite phrase and it is not a futuristic comment. The global village has arrived. We see it all around us. Transportation and communications are such that you can be in another part of the world later today and you can certainly know what's going on in any part of the world right now.

## Walesa wants settlement of labor strife

The economy is increasingly a global economy. The problems of political and economic challenges are global in nature. I believe that we need to help all of our students, no matter what their major, discipline or career goals, while they are in college, to become well-prepared to be enlightened citizens and leaders and decisions makers in this global environment.

We need to know more about what's going on in the world to appreciate and understand different cultures and to know more about geography. It's appalling to see some of these surveys where people have no idea where Nicaragua is, or (think) the Contras are associated with Europe. In a democracy where elected officials help matters through this complicated maze, we need to know more about it.

I think an increasing number of us in our careers, students in school now, students who are just graduating, henceforth, no matter what their career path, may never leave the United States, but are likely to be involved in professional work activities that in some way are related to international activities. So we've taken action to infuse more into our curriculum, to create opportunities for students to get abroad while they're students, to make it affordable or have sufficient resources to allow students to profit from international experiences.

We as an institution need to be-

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GDANSK, Poland (AP) — Solidarity leader Lech Walesa called on Poland's striking workers Wednesday to settle their local grievances and end the country's worst labor unrest in seven years.

Walesa made the appeal hours after meeting with government leaders on the wave of strikes that began Aug. 16 calling for higher wages and the legalization of Solidarity.

He said the national issues of guaranteeing trade union pluralism and legalizing his outlawed trade federation would be taken up in round-table discussions promised by the government in the near future, according to a statement read by an aide, Piotr Konopka.

Walesa said he raised the importance of Solidarity in his three-hour meeting with Poland's interior minister, Gen. Czeslaw Kiszczak — his first with government leaders in six years.

"The participants in the discussion recognize that all affairs related to trade union movement would be discussed by the round-table," Walesa said.

"I propose therefore that we suspend the current strikes," Walesa's statement said. "I accepted further talks with central authorities and turn to the strike committees for the actual ending of the negotiation of other postulates and the suspension of the strikes."

After giving the Walesa statement, Konopka added: "I hope that it will appear as a historical day."