

# Texas A&M The Battalion



## WEATHER

TOMORROW'S FORECAST:  
Partly cloudy and hot.  
HIGH: 90s LOW: 70s

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College Station, Texas

Wednesday, August 6, 1989

## Leland, others remain missing in Ethiopia as of Tuesday night

ADDIS ABABA, Ethiopia (AP) — Police and farmers with flashlights searched a remote mountain area Tuesday night for the missing plane carrying Rep. Mickey Leland and 13 other people.

John Guerra, political officer at the U.S. Embassy in Addis Ababa, said the search was conducted on foot and with the aid of jeeps, trucks and other vehicles. The aerial search was suspended at dusk Tuesday.

Embassy officials said several planes remained on dirt airstrips in the desolate area of southwestern Ethiopia, ready to resume the search at dawn.

The twin-engine plane carrying Leland and the other disappeared Monday on its way to the Fugnido refugee camp near the border with Sudan, 480 miles southwest of Addis Ababa.

The 44-year-old Houston Democrat is chairman of the House Select Committee on Hunger and he has taken a keen interest in Africa's refugee problem.

Aboard the plane with him were eight other Americans and five Ethiopians. His office in

Washington said the Americans included Patrice Johnson, Leland's chief of staff; Hugh Johnson of the Hunger committee staff, and Joyce F. Williams from the staff of Rep. Ron Dellums, D-Calif.

President Bush said he telephoned Leland's wife, Alison, in Houston to express his concern and promise his administration will do "all we can to learn" what has happened.

"She's strong, has a lot of hope, and we all pray that he's safe." But told a meeting of the National Urban League in Washington, where delegates observed a moment of silent prayer for Leland's survival.

"I think it says a lot about Mickey that he was on his sixth humanitarian mission to help feed the hungry in that part of the world," Bush told the meeting.

State Department spokesman Richard Boucher said Ethiopia's government has asked for a "specialized search plane" and that the United States is trying to find one to accommodate them.

"We have offered to assist in every way we can," Boucher said.

Heavy clouds and poor visibility hampered aerial sweeps Tuesday as rescue planes crisscrossed the cold, windswept plateau in Ethiopia until sunset.

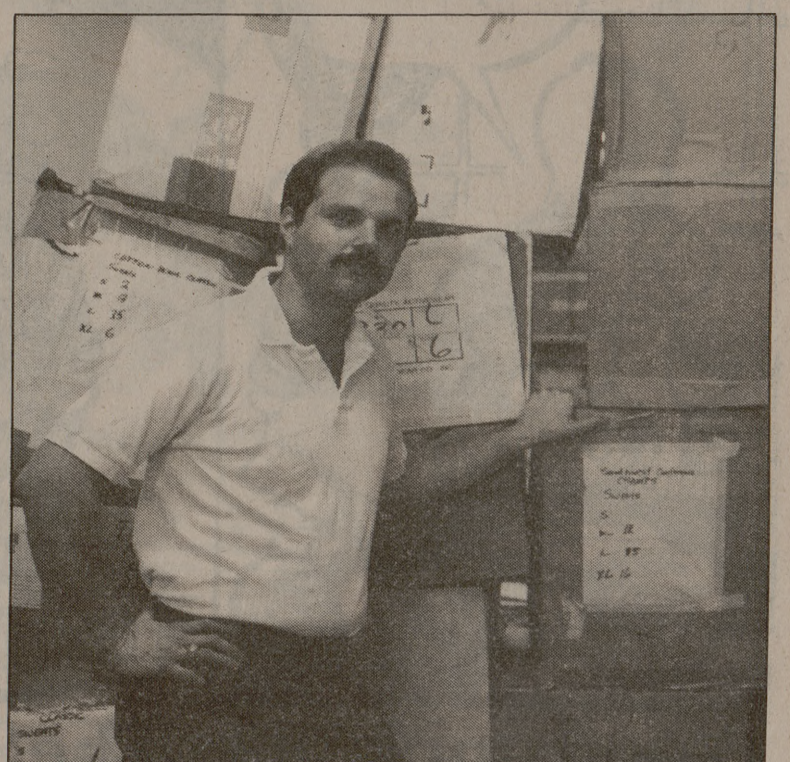
Robert Houdek, U.S. charge d'affaires in Addis Ababa, said searchers were encouraged by reports that a small plane was sighted Monday circling a field at Dembidola, 75 miles from the refugee camp.

"If it was our plane, what we find encouraging is that it would have traversed a lot of the more treacherous terrain to Fugnido," Houdek said. He said Dembidola is in an inaccessible region far from communications points, "which could provide a benign explanation for why we haven't heard anything."

"They could be sitting in the bush with the plane not capable of taking off but in good shape waiting for search and rescue," Houdek said.

At a briefing in Washington, Leland press secretary Alma Newsom also was hopeful.

"At this point no news is good news," she said, recalling being on similar trips with the congressman where air travel and communications were disrupted.



John Tate, Class of '85 and owner of Hullabaloo Custom Screen Printing in College Station, stands next to the T-shirts he intended to sell at the 1987 Cotton Bowl game.

## 'Never give in' spirit keeps student alive in memories of friends, faculty

By Kelly S. Brown

SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Many students and faculty will remember John Stone, Class of '84, for the "never give in" attitude which he used to fight a rare enzyme deficiency that cost him three livers, his spleen, and eventually his life.

Stone, a former Corps of Cadets member, died July 29 at Baylor University Medical Center in Dallas, where he had been hospitalized since receiving the first of three liver transplants in December 1987.

In the months before Stone's

transplant, money was raised on campus and around the community for his surgery. Those who couldn't contribute in monetary terms gave of themselves; more than 900 units of blood were donated by Aggies to the Baylor Medical Center in Dallas.

In a May 1988 issue of *The Battalion*, John's mother, Marion Stone, spoke of the devout love her son had for Texas A&M and for practicing medicine.

Stone, who completed the 1986-87 school year at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston, wanted to set up a medical practice

in Bryan-College Station when he finished school.

Ironically, Stone wanted his health to stabilize so he could go on to save lives. He knew his own battle was going to be long, but he was willing to fight.

Stone had Alpha-1-Antitrypsin Deficiency, a disease that kept his body from controlling digestive enzymes and resulted in cirrhosis of the liver. After his original liver was destroyed, the medical battle began.

In December 1987, his first transplanted liver became infected and was replaced with a second liver 37

days later. After 11 days, the second liver was replaced because it was bleeding. His third liver was received on Jan. 17, 1988. His spleen was removed after the last transplant to increase his white blood cell count.

Stone remained in the hospital with complications from the transplants until his death.

Donations may be made to the John T. Stone Memorial Fund for Genetic Research. Checks may be sent in care of Dr. Alice O'Donnell at the UT Medical Branch, 415 Texas Ave., Galveston, TX 77550.

## Sam Houston official gives A&M group tips to limit spread of AIDS

By Richard Tijerina

STAFF WRITER

Texas A&M is no different from any other college — it has a killer on its campus waiting to strike at unsuspecting students.

That "killer" is acquired immune deficiency syndrome, and it's a disease that can be prevented only through education and protection, Director of Medical Services for Sam Houston State University Joe Burt said Tuesday.

Burt, Class of '61, told a group of the A&M System Association of Professional Support Staff that the only sure protection from contracting the AIDS virus is abstinence from sex. Unfortunately, he said, few college students are willing to practice that.

What makes the disease so dangerous, Burt said, is the time of dormancy of the virus varies according to the immune systems of those infected.

"The bad thing about AIDS is that until you go full-blown, there are no signals or symptoms," Burt said. "You don't know if you have AIDS. The hospital doesn't know if you have AIDS. No one knows you have AIDS. Yet every person you have sexual contact with, you expose to the virus."

He said some of the symptoms of full-blown AIDS are glandular sweating, heavy sweating at night, and massive weight and hair loss.

Burt, who has been involved in AIDS research and is the health education director for AIDS at Sam Houston, said a person can transmit the disease twelve hours after they are infected.

However, sometimes a person who has the virus will be tested negative for AIDS because the antibodies are not yet present. It takes six to 12 weeks for the presence of AIDS antibodies to appear in AIDS testing.

A positive test indicates the presence of AIDS antibodies, which means the person tested has been exposed to the virus. However, it doesn't mean the person has the disease. They are carriers and can transmit the disease to others.

Burt said Houston, which is approximately 80 miles from Bryan-College Station, ranks fourth nationally in the number of AIDS patients behind New York City, San Fran-

cisco and Washington D.C.

"There are more AIDS patients in Houston today than in 45 of our states combined. Every 12 hours a person there is tested for HIV positive. Every 17 hours, there's a death."

AIDS, an affliction in which a virus attacks the body's immune system and destroys the body's white blood T-cells, leaves victims susceptible to a variety of infections and cancers. Burt said AIDS patients most often die of pneumonia.

The disease can only be transmitted through sexual intercourse, transfusions of blood or blood products and the sharing of contaminated hypodermic needles or syringes. It can also be passed from mother to child at or before birth.

See AIDS/Page 6



Photo by Phelan M. Ebenhack

## Just do it

Running back David Drapela, a freshman from Kerrville, leads a group of players through a drill Tuesday afternoon at Kyle Field. Tuesday was the first day of workouts for freshmen and walk-ons. Veterans start practice Monday.

## Space shuttle Columbia blasts into orbit to launch spy satellite

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP)

— Columbia rejoined NASA's fleet of active space shuttles Tuesday, blasting into orbit with five astronauts to put a 10-ton spy satellite on a path over the Soviet Union, China and the Middle East.

Columbia, the oldest shuttle, had been grounded for 3.5 years while it was stripped and overhauled from its toilet system to its outer skin. Its performance during the countdown

and at liftoff was as trouble-free as any of the previous 29 shuttle flights.

"As good as new," Bob Sieck, the launch director, said. "It's going to be a gem of a vehicle."

The Air Force, which booked the entire five-day flight from the civilian space agency, said nothing about the cargo in the shuttle's 60-foot-long hold. Neither did NASA, which shut down its public announcement network, except for periodic "all's well" reports.

The mission is expected to end Sunday with a landing at Edwards Air Force Base in California about 9:30 a.m. CDT.

The shuttle's path, almost perpendicular from its seaside launch pad, was a confirmation of pre-launch reports that it would travel on a north-northeast course instead of heading eastward.

The resulting high-latitude orbit takes it over Poland, the Soviet Union, Mongolia, China, and parts of the Middle East not normally covered by eastward-bound shuttles. The satellite is designed to take highly detailed photographs of

troop movements, military installations and other targets of interest.

Sources close to the program said the satellite can make small adjustments to its orbit, a flexibility that would enable it to respond to changing conditions on the ground.

The cargo bay reportedly holds a package of scientific instruments for military research, possibly for the "Star Wars" missile defense project.

Columbia, a veteran of seven flights, ended its last mission in January 1986, 10 days before the Challenger exploded with a loss of seven lives.

"Any time a vehicle is down for a long period of time it's a little worrisome," said J.R. Thompson, deputy administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. "There were really no problems any significance. The weather was good to us."

Columbia's return restored shuttle fleet to three ships. Atlantis scheduled next for launch on 12, carrying the Galileo probe, and Discovery is scheduled for another military mission later.

## Finals Schedule

The following is the final exam schedule:

- Classes meeting 8-9:35 a.m.:  
Thursday from 6-8 p.m.
- Classes meeting 10-11:35 a.m.:  
Friday from 8-10 a.m.
- Classes meeting 12-1:35 p.m.:  
Friday from 11 a.m.- 1 p.m.
- Classes meeting 2-3:35 p.m.:  
Friday from 2-4 p.m.