

# State & Local

Page 2

The Battalion

Monday, September 16, 1985

## The Battalion (USPS 045 360)

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### Editorial Policy

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The Battalion is a non-profit, self supporting newspaper operated as a community service to Texas A&M University and Bryan-College Station.

The Battalion news department is managed by students at Texas A&M University in the Division of Student Publications, a unit of the Department of Journalism.

Opinions expressed in The Battalion are those of the editorial board or the author, and do not necessarily represent the opinions of the Texas A&M student body, administrators, faculty or the A&M Board of Regents.

Comments, questions or complaints about any of the editorial content of the newspaper should be directed to either associate editor at 845-3313.

### Subscriptions

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### Advertising

Advertising information can be obtained from the advertising department at 845-2696 Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., or by visiting the office in room 015 Reed McDonald building.

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The Battalion encourages its readers to contribute story ideas and suggestions by calling BATTIPS, The Battalion's phone line designed to improve communication between the newspaper and its readers.

## Continental reassigns employees after crash

EAGLE LAKE (AP) — A dozen Continental Express maintenance employees who worked on a commuter plane the day before it crashed have been temporarily reassigned and will undergo routine drug testing, federal investigators said Saturday.

Crews replaced the de-icer boot, an inflatable attachment made of fiberglass and covered with rubber, used to break ice off the tail, said Jim Kolstad, chairman of the National Transportation Safety Board.

Two maintenance technicians worked on the right side while an inspector removed 43 screws from the left side, he said.

The screws were not replaced before the Embraer 120 Brasilia left Houston Intercontinental Airport Wednesday morning for Laredo, Kolstad said.

On the return flight from Laredo, the twin-engine plane suddenly descended, killing all 14 people on board.

"There is a conflict in testimony between individuals who claim they informed the next shift that work had begun on the left hand side," Kolstad said at a Saturday night news conference near the

scene of the crash.

He added that workers from the second shift claim they had not been told.

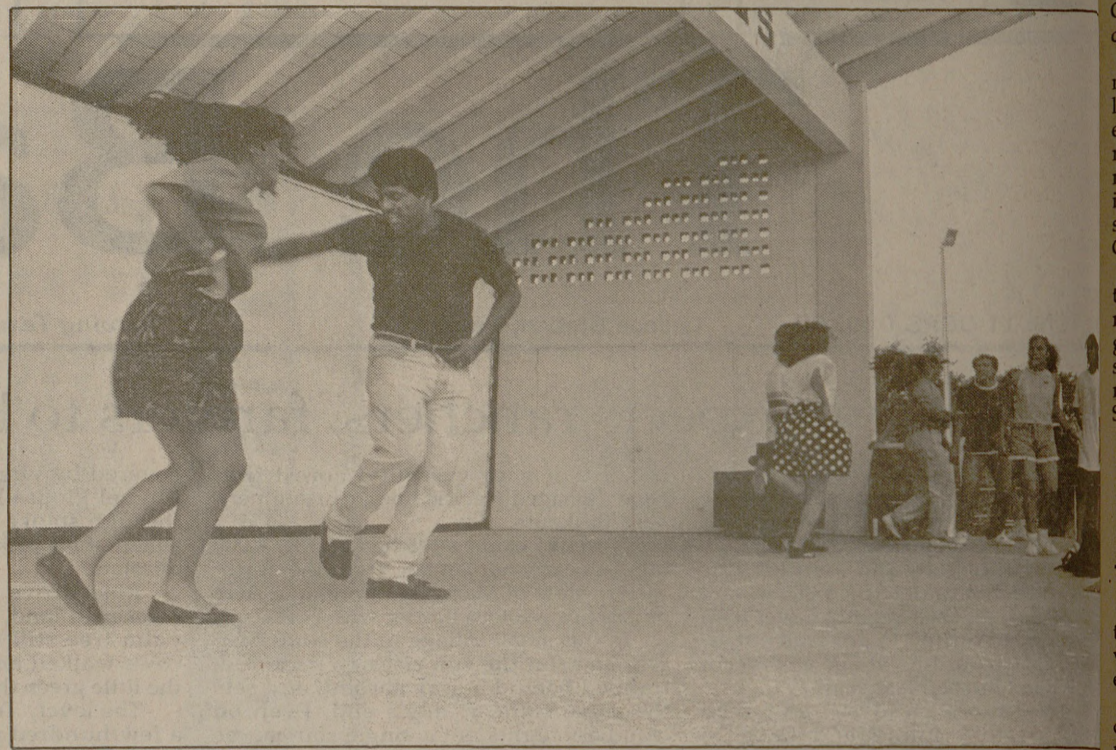
In a prepared statement, officials said, "a portion of the FAA (Federal Aviation Administration)-approved general maintenance manual was not followed with respect the completion of work on the left hand leading edge.

"Because these procedures were not followed, individuals involved have been suspended by the company from their maintenance duties pending the completion of the investigation and have been temporarily reassigned to non-maintenance administrative duties at another company facility."

Continental Express has not commented other than to say it was premature to speculate on the cause of the crash.

"We want to know what's up more than anyone," spokesman Art Kent said Friday.

The 9-foot-long rubber boot has not been recovered and was the object of a massive search that included the use of all-terrain vehicles and a helicopter.



Karl A. Stolleis/The Battalion

### Celebrating independence

Dancers rehearse Sunday afternoon in The Grove for their performance in the Mexican Independence Day festivities held Sunday from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. Activities continuing today in the Academic Plaza from 10 a.m. to 11 p.m.

## B-CS lives up to No. 3 ranking, local official says

By Troy D. Hall  
The Battalion

Area residents might have been surprised to learn that Bryan-College Station was named third in Money Magazine's "Top 300 Places to Live" in the United States, but this news was no surprise for the newly appointed director of the local chamber of commerce.

People often take for granted all the things the Bryan-College Station area has to offer to its citizens and visitors, says Dick Forester, who took over the directorship Sept. 2.

"The truly wonderful thing

about this community is that it has so much to offer its visitors," he says. "I have been here for a week and a half and am amazed at the amount of things to do that many people, even local residents, are not aware of."

Forester toured the Messina Hof Wine Cellar in Bryan recently and was impressed with the winery's operations and entertainment value.

He said this is just an example of what the area has to offer tourists.

Tourism ranks third as the largest industry in Texas and ranks number one in the world.

Forester says the Bryan-College Station area's tourism and

business conference industry has steadily grown in the last several years and likely will continue to grow.

"There is the potential for significant growth in the tourism and conference industry in the Bryan-College Station area," he says.

The chamber of commerce sponsors the Housing Bureau. Visitors planning a trip to the area can call a number and staff members will assist visitors in finding hotel rooms for A&M events, conferences or any other reason.

The chamber keeps an accurate record of hotel-motel occupancy in Bryan-College Station and even the surrounding cities.

Forester says the telephone is

always ringing and the bureau is a great success.

"This is an example of the kind of response that will further develop our economy," he says.

During A&M home football games all of the approximately 2,200 hotel rooms are booked.

This estimate means that between 4,500 and 5,000 people are spending the night in the area and each person is spending an average of \$80 each day while in the B-CS area, he says.

As a result, the area receives more than \$800,000 in revenues each home football game weekend. He added that this is a conservative estimate and does not even include visitors who stay

with friends or relatives or stay in the area only for the day.

Forester says what is even more significant about Bryan-College Station is it brings "big money" into the area and additional city services are needed to facilitate the tourist industry.

Taxpayer money is not used to develop the tourism industry, says. Attracting more tourists to conferences to the area is funded solely from the local hotel-motel tax.

"The more tourism dollars receive means the more we can do to attract more tourism and conferences into the Bryan-College Station area," he says.

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Interest Group Meeting

Wednesday, Sept. 18

9 p.m.

Rudder Tower, Room 404

Anyone interested in becoming a part of a new tradition of excellence is invited to attend.

If you have questions please call  
Jason Binyon - 764-7325  
Brad Beckworth-774-4481 or  
Scott Thomas-696-2580.

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12 lectures explaining basic doctrines of the Church of Christ of Latter-day Saints.

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Instructor: Thomas D. McMullin, Director  
For more information, phone 696-8202

*Sponsored by the Texas A&M Latter-day Saints Assoc.*

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