

American

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Meanwhile, the more powerful Allied Pilots Association was voting whether to join the flight attendants, a move that would likely ground the airline. The flight attendants strike was the largest against an airline since Machinists struck the now-defunct Eastern Airlines in 1989.

The pilots union estimated only 10 to 15 percent of American's passenger flights operated Thursday. Pilot union president Rich LaVoy said the flight attendants "have effectively shut

down the passenger revenue capability of American Airlines."

Thousands of passengers at American's main hubs in Chicago and Dallas-Fort Worth were shuffled to other airlines, particularly United and Delta, or put on later American flights. United handled about 8,000 displaced American passengers on Thursday in Chicago, where both airlines operate hubs.

The strike ended years of relative labor peace at the nation's biggest airlines. Executives at American and United airlines have been pushing for labor cost reductions, while unions say the airlines' troubles are in how managers operate the systems.

NAFTA

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which intensely lobbied for NAFTA.

Wolff and the city's powerful business community lobbied for the free trade agreement for three years in speeches, letter-writing and trips to Washington.

The San Antonio Chamber of Commerce says there are 190 local businesses — employing 65,000 local workers — that already do some type of business in Mexico. There are an estimated 35 Mexican companies operating in

San Antonio.

Chamber chairman Al Martinez-Fonts Jr. predicts those numbers will grow.

NAFTA supporters contend San Antonio, a city of 1 million people, is uniquely positioned to benefit from the trade agreement because of its location near the center of the continent and 150 miles from the Mexican border, the convergence here of two interstate highways and the city's close ties with Mexico.

"We've had this long, long history of strong relations with Mexico — cultural relationships, business relationships, family relationships," Wolff said.



WEATHER

Friday: decreasing clouds and windy. Highs in the 60s.

Saturday: fair and cooler, lows in the 40s.

Your Battalion extended forecast: mostly fair — not so cold, not so cloudy.

Tubularman

By Boomer Cardinale

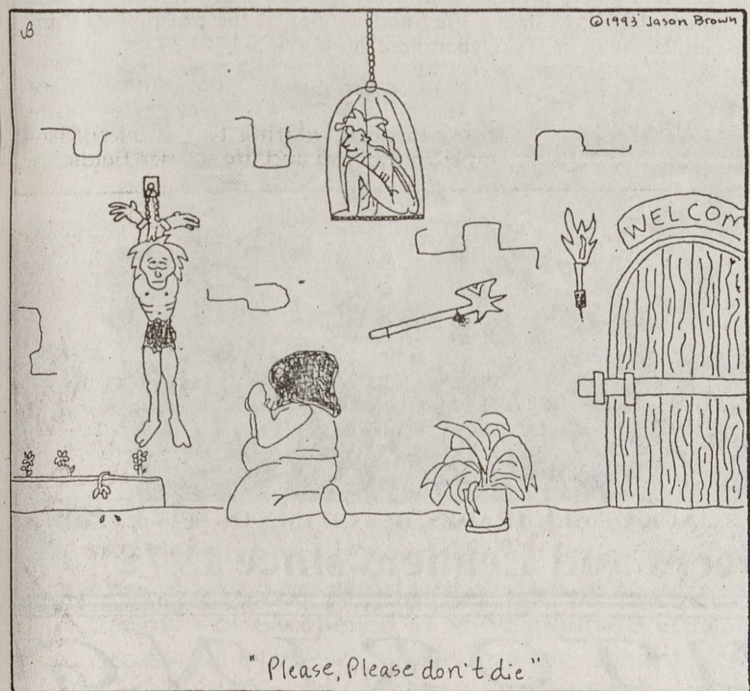


Fritch

By Critch



JUST THE BEGINNING



"Please, Please don't die"

By Jason Brown

Correction

On Thursday, Nov. 18., The Battalion reported that Tad Davis was the president of the Association of International Students in Economics and Commerce (AIESEC). Cindy Sammy is AIESEC's president and Davis is actually the organizing committee president. The Battalion regrets the error.

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