

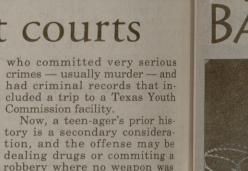
he scored the goal for the United States.

he said. "There has been a case of someone having a heart attack during a sporting event — that's passion.

Shelley Claussen, a junior agriculture economics major, said she still believes too much emphasis is placed on winning in

thing to remember is sports have to do with talent, sportsmanship and team work, not just winning."

"This had to do with money," Angel said. sports. "Even when I played sports in high school, our motto was 'Winning — it is more than just a game," she said. "But the important



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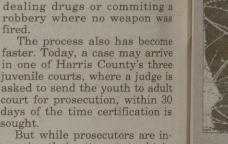
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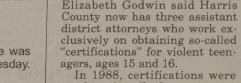


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sought primarily for teen-agers juvenile process.

Angel said Escobar was a respected person and a good athlete. He said the majority of people in Colombia were not outraged that

"This was not a crime of a fan's passion,"



Bart Mitchell/THE BATTALION

injured when she was tackled during rugby practice Wednesday. Both are members of the Texas A&M women's rugby team.

Teen-age offenders face adult courts

HOUSTON (AP) — More Harris County juvenile offenders are finding themselves treated had criminal records that in-

as adult defendants. Statistics from the Harris County District Attorney's Office show the number of requests to certify youths as adults jumped from 10 cases in all of 1988 to 102 in just the first half of 1994.

"They're apt to do things irrationally that adults wouldn't do," said Robert Baum, a state district judge who sits in one of the three juvenile courts. "The public has had it with juvenile offenders.

Chief juvenile prosecutor Elizabeth Godwin said Harris County now has three assistant district attorneys who work exclusively on obtaining so-called "certifications" for violent teen-

robbery where no weapon was fired. The process also has become faster. Today, a case may arrive in one of Harris County's three juvenile courts, where a judge is

asked to send the youth to adult court for prosecution, within 30 days of the time certification is sought.

But while prosecutors are in-creasing their attempts to obtain harsher punishments for violent juveniles, efforts are under way in the Legislature that could bring on major changes in the

mothers shows that some environmental factors trigger birth defects and are more important than experts had suspected.



scored against his own team during Colombi-

a's World Cup match with the United States.

Faye Comingore comforts Andrea Paxton, whose knee was

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BABY'S DAY OUT (PG) (12:15)

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Environment plays role in birth defects

Study shows that home, workplace affect risks

BOSTON (AP) — A study of more than 370,000 mothers provides some of the strongest evidence yet that where people live and work powerfully affects the risk of birth defects.

The study, conducted in Nor-ay, followed women who gave

ronmental hazards that contribute to birth defects. "Moving changes a lot of things in your life," he said.

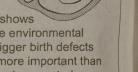
"But it suggests there may be certain factors linked to the household or related to a job change. It can only give us the barest kinds of leads More than 150,000 babies are born with serious birth de-

fects in the United States each year. In about two-thirds of the clusions about the importance of environmental factors," said Kay Johnson, policy director at the March of Dimes.

The study was directed by Dr. Rolv Terje Lie of the University of Bergen in Norway and published in Thursday's issue of the New England Journal of Medicine

It was based on the records of first and second infants delivered by 371,933 women from 1967 through 1989.

Birth defects A study of more than 370,000



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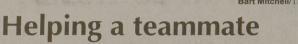
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birth to a defective child.

Not surprisingly, it found that they face a high risk of producing a second child with the same birth defect.

However, the study also discovered that the risk is cut in half if the mother moves to another town.

This suggests some environmental factors are at work in triggering birth defects and are more important than experts had suspected.

Dr. Allen J. Wilcox, a co-author of the study and a researcher at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences in Research Triangle Park, N.C., said the study could not tease out the precise envi-

cases, the causes of the defects are a mystery.

Most of the known causes of birth defects are specific genetic mutations.

Other causes include alcohol abuse, poor diets and some medicines and chemicals, such as mercury.

However, experts have long suspected that genetic tenden-cies and environmental hazards are involved in many more cas-

One leading theory holds that some unidentified environmental substances are harmless to most people but can trigger birth defects in those who have a genetic susceptibility.

For the 9,192 women whose first babies had a birth defect, the researchers determined the risk of defects in the second baby

This was compared with the risk in women whose first babies were normal. Overall, 2.5 percent of the first babies had birth defects.

The study "implies that there may be some agents out there that large numbers of people are exposed to — and maybe not in terribly high doses — that may have an effect on reproductive outcomes," commented Dr. James Hanson, director of the University of Iowa's Institute for Health, Behavior and Environmental Policy.

• Women who had given birth to one defective baby faced nearly seven times the usual risk of producing a second child with the same defect.

 Among women who continued to live in the same town, the risk of a second baby with the same defect was 12 times higher than usual. But if they moved, risk fell to five times higher.

• When these women changed partners after their first defective child, their risk of producing a second baby with a defect fell slightly.

'This clearly leads us to con-THE BATTALION The Executive Council of Health MARK EVANS, Editor in chief **Organizations** WILLIAM HARRISON, Managing editor JAY ROBBINS, Opinion editor ANAS BEN-MUSA, Night News editor STEWART MILNE, Photo editor SUSAN OWEN, Night News editor MARK SMITH, Sports editor would like to send heartfelt thanks to MICHELE BRINKMANN, City editor WILLIAM HARRISON, Aggielife editor Ms. Randee Lyne Nicholas. The Battalion (USPS 045-360) is published daily, Monday through Friday during the fall and spring semesters and Monday through Thursday during the summer sessions (except University holidays and exam periods), at Texas A&M University. Second class postage paid at College Station, TX 77840. We deeply appreciate all of the guidance and POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Battalion, 230 Reed McDonald Building, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 77843. support you have unselfishly given to our News: The Battalion news department is managed by students at Texas A&M University in the Division of Student Publication, a unit of the Department of Journalism. Editorial organization and Texas A&M University. ECHO owes all of its offices are in 013 Reed McDonald Building. Newsroom phone number is 845-3313. Fax: 845-2647 successes and achievements to you. Advertising: Publication of advertising does not imply sponsorship or endorsement by The Battalion. For campus, local and national display advertising, call 845-2696. For classified advertising, call 845-0569. Advertising offices are in 015 Reed McDonald and office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Fax: 845-2678. You are simply the best advisor an organization can ask for. Subscriptions: Mail subscriptions are \$20 per semester, \$40 per school year and \$50 per full year. To charge by VISA or MasterCard, call 845-2611.