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Officials still have no clues to bomb theory

EAST MORICHES, N.Y. (AP) — Divers descended from the Navy's best salvage ship Tuesday and recovered more victims from the wreckage of TWA Flight 800, but officials acknowledged that nothing found so far in the debris or bodies shows traces of explosives.

Also, Pentagon analysts have found no sign on radar tapes or high-altitude photographs of a missile or anything else that might have brought down the jumbo jet, spokesman Kenneth Bacon said.

President Clinton, traveling in California, said that based on regular reports he's receiving, none of the evidence establishes a cause.

"Finding various traces of things may indicate that something happened and it may not but right now, the people we have looking at this have not drawn a firm conclusion that's been relayed to any of us," Clinton said.

Working over target areas mapped out by sonar equipment, scores of divers searched in the silt kicked up

by their own movements Tuesday. To complicate matters, sharks had been seen in the area.

Three more bodies were pulled up Tuesday, and divers believe 60 to 100 more are under the debris, New York Gov. George Pataki said.

"There's a very big chunk of plane on the floor and there are bodies caught within that wreckage," Pataki said.

A portable testing device at the scene initially suggested there might be chemical bomb residues on a piece of wing, but that machine is designed for only the roughest initial screening and is known to display false positives, sources told The Associated Press.

"Nobody would rely on it alone without the full testing," said a federal official in Washington, speaking on condition of anonymity. No traces of explosives have been confirmed in FBI lab tests of the wing fragment, other wreckage or bodies through Tuesday evening.

Ogden: No more money for higher education

By Heather R. Rosenfeld
THE BATTALION

Texas A&M students are likely to face more difficulty in obtaining required liberal arts classes because of budgetary restraints, state officials and A&M administrators said recently.

In an interview with The Battalion, state Rep. Steve Ogden, vice chairman of the Senate Committee on Higher Education, said social issues may be to blame for higher education's budget shortages.

"We would rather put money in higher education, but there is so much put into prisons and welfare [and] monies allocated to cure societal pathologies instead," Ogden said. "If we didn't have to put the money into those matters, more could be redirected into higher education."

Dr. Ray Bowen, Texas A&M president, blamed the financial crunch, at

least in part, on Texans' unwillingness to pay higher taxes in the face of a weak economy.

"The Texas economy has been bad since the late '80s," Bowen said. "As a result, there has been a massive movement against tax increases that could have put money into higher education, and therefore higher education suffers."

Matt Kimbrough, president of the Liberal Arts Student Council and a junior English major, said although he believes money alone is not the solution, he sees the effects of the limited funds.

"I have had trouble getting the classes, and sometimes the only way to get

into a class is if you are a graduating senior," Kimbrough said.

Ogden said although understanding the frustration of unavailable classes, the state cannot simply spend more money to fix the problem.

"Texas, unlike the federal government, must balance its budget," Ogden said. "The state says how much we can spend, and we have to allocate it as efficiently as possible."

Ogden offered a suggestion to students who want an increase in University funding.

"There is good news and bad news regarding adequate funding. ... The University can raise funding substantially, but students will have to pay for it through the General Use Fee," Ogden said. "If students really wanted to see an



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LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

Grad student helps shape space-age communications

By James Fowler
THE BATTALION

Predrag Spasojevic, an electrical engineering graduate student at Texas A&M, has been long separated from home — in both space and time. Spasojevic is originally from Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina but came to Texas A&M in 1990 to work with space-based communications.

He chose A&M because his bachelor's thesis at the University of Sarajevo's School of Engineering involved collaborative work with a Texas A&M professor.

"At that time, especially in Yugoslavia, you did not have the opportunity to find out a great deal about many American universities," Spasojevic said. "You knew about the top schools, but it helps to know someone there. So it came naturally to go to A&M."

Spasojevic, a doctoral candidate, works with Dr. Costas Georghiades, a professor of electrical engineering, to implement modem design features on a new satellite communications network for a small company.

In 1994, the company was working

on spacecraft power concerns with the Texas Engineering Extension Service (TEES) Center for Space Power when questions arose on the communications subsystem. The company's concerns came to a head two years ago when problems plagued their first experimental satellite.

Dr. David Boyle, deputy director of the Center for Space Power, worked with the company as the technical liaison between A&M and Final Analysis Inc. (FAI), the developer of the satellite communications system. He suggested that Georghiades review FAI's communications payload.

"They (FAI) are amazed at the impressive work that Predrag and Dr. Georghiades are doing correcting some problems discovered earlier," Boyle said.

Spasojevic and Georghiades have become key contributors to the design of communications software to compensate for the rapid relative speed between the satellites and their earth-bound terminals.

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Pat James, THE BATTALION

Predrag Spasojevic, an electrical engineering graduate student, is helping design features on a satellite communications network.

A&M/B-CS Council helps bridge gap between university, community

By Ann Marie Hauser and Melissa Nunnery
THE BATTALION

The Texas A&M/Bryan-College Station Council held their summer meeting last night at the Sam Houston Sanders Corps of Cadets Center Museum.

The purpose of the Council is to develop communication and cooperation between Bryan-College Station, Texas A&M University and the Texas A&M University System.

The Council toured the Corps Center Museum before being updated by Texas A&M University System Chancellor Barry B. Thompson and Texas A&M President Ray Bowen.

To continue the University and community link, two faculty members presented their roles as professors to the Council.

Dr. Marilyn Kern-Foxworth, an associate professor in the Department of Journalism, said she was invited to clear up any misconceptions the community might have about professors.

"I am speaking to give a better understanding of what we as a faculty do," Kern-Foxworth said.

She explained even though professors do not teach every day, they are busy with research and plans for the semester.

Kern-Foxworth is a known for her book, "Aunt Memima, Uncle Ben and Rastus: Blacks in Advertising, Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow."

"As professors, you need to carve out a niche, be an expert in something," Kern-Foxworth said.

Dr. Pam Matthews, an associate professor in the Department of English and director of the Women's Studies Program, said there is an important connection between the community and the University.

"I think it's high time that universities and the communities they are a part of have much more important and varied and frequent connections to each other," Matthews said. "Universities and communities can't be separate."

Matthews emphasized the importance of teaching humanities in relation to family values and everyday life.

"We talk, for example, about family values and various other social problems," Matthews said. "At the same time, we're saying we don't really need the humanities; we need something practical. I think that's a major contradiction. Those are the very things we talk about, so there is a kind of practical side to what goes on in a literature class."

Dr. Barry B. Thompson, chancellor of the Texas A&M University System, said the following about the growth of the A&M system at the Council summer meeting:

- Regents will have more authority over tuition and fees.
- Administrators will create an understandable code for the tuition and fees. For example, an index system regarding who pays for what.
- Faculty recruiting will be made a priority since 28 percent of the faculty will be eligible for retirement in six years.



Gwendolyn Struve, THE BATTALION

Dr. Pam Matthews and Dr. Kern-Foxworth, A&M professors, spoke at the Texas A&M/Bryan-College Station Council meeting last night.



Pat James, THE BATTALION

POTTERY PASSION

Susana Bernadi, an exchange student from Barcelona, Spain, works on a pottery project as part of a University Plus class Tuesday.

Atlanta '96

Women's U.S. gymnastics team captures Olympic gold

ATLANTA (AP) — Make way for the Dream Teens.

The U.S. women's gymnastics squad, with no member over the age of 19, captured its first team Olympic gold medal after a dramatic vault by 18-year-old Kerri Strug. She collapsed in pain with a badly sprained ankle within seconds of landing.

The victory highlighted kids' day for the Americans in Atlanta, with 14-year-old Amanda Beard winning her second silver of the games in the 200-meter breaststroke and a 17-year-old Californian capturing a trap-shooting gold.

There was room for some veterans, too: 29-year-old Ruthie Bolton led the women's hoops team to another win, and Barcelona medalist Angel Martino captured her second bronze of the Atlanta Games. Martino's medal was one of five won Tuesday by the swim team, including three golds, that raised its Olympic haul to 17.

"Oh my God! It's so awesome!" said Amy van Dyken, 23, a first-time Olympian who won the 100-meter butterfly. "It doesn't get any better than this."

The ground-breaking gymnastics gold belonged to the young, the work of Strug and her tiny teammates — 19-year-olds Shannon Miller and Dominique Dawes, and 14-year-old pixie Dominique Moceanu.

Strug, before a wildly cheering crowd of

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1996 OLYMPIC TELEVISION SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY JULY 24

09 a.m. — noon

- Swimming—Qualifying heats
- Rowing
- Cycling—Final

6:30 p.m. — 11:00 p.m.

- Gymnastics—Men's individual all-around final
- Swimming—Finals
 - Men's 200m breaststroke
 - Women's 200m individual medley
 - Men's 100m butterfly
 - Women's 4x100m medley relay
- Basketball—U.S. men vs. Lithuania
- Equestrian—Three-day jumping, team

11:41 a.m. — 1:11 a.m.

- Volleyball—U.S. women's game
- Cycling
- Boxing
- Water polo—U.S. vs. Croatia
- Wrestling—Middleweight final