

THE BATTALION DEBRIEFING

► **Nation**

Superdome death leaves questions

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Volunteers were controlling the cord of the bungee jumper who fatally plunged into the Superdome floor, and may have let out too much line, The Times-Picayune reported Sunday.

The newspaper quoted police sources as saying the rope and pulley used to feed line to Laura Patterson showed no obvious problem, although experts had not been called in to examine it.

Patterson, 43, of Sarasota, Fla., died of head injuries after hitting the ground on her second dive Thursday night during a rehearsal for the Super Bowl's halftime show. A professional aerialist who once performed with the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey's circus, she had never bungee-jumped before being hired for the Super Bowl job.

California-based Branam Enterprises, which set up the stunt, had expected local experts to act as riggers but found only volunteers, the newspaper said. Phones at the company were not answered Sunday and police did not return a call for comment.

Patterson was one of eight jumpers who were to perform acrobatics before being lowered to the ground along the football field's sidelines during the halftime program. The segment was scrapped after her death.

► **This day in history**

Today is Monday, Jan. 27, the 27th day of 1997. There are 338 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: In 1967, astronauts Virgil I. "Gus" Grissom, Edward H. White and Roger B. Chaffee died in a flash fire during a test aboard their Apollo spacecraft at Cape Kennedy, Fla.

In 1756, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart was born in Salzburg, Austria.

In 1880, Thomas Edison received a patent for his electric incandescent lamp.

In 1943, some 50 bombers struck Wilhelmshaven in the first all-American air raid against Germany during World War II.

In 1944, the Soviet Union announced the end of the deadly German siege of Leningrad, which had lasted for more than two years.

In 1945, Soviet troops liberated the Nazi concentra-

Olympic bombing link investigated

SPOKANE, Wash. (AP) — Three men charged with several bombings and bank robberies in the Pacific Northwest also are being investigated for possible links to the Olympic Park bombing in Atlanta, a newspaper reported Sunday.

However, while anonymous Justice Department and FBI officials told The Spokesman-Review that the Spokane bombing suspects are being investigated in the Atlanta case, they cautioned that they have other leads and no solid suspects.

The three men are being held without bail on charges of robbing banks and bombing one of the banks, an abortion clinic and an office of The Spokesman-Review.

They were arrested Oct. 8 near Yakima, Wash., after a military surplus dealer, encouraged by a \$130,000 reward, reported that he recognized a parka worn by a masked gunman in a bank surveillance photo.

The dealer, from Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, told the FBI he sold two of the men a military backpack and spoke with them about time-delay detonators, and also told them how to wash fingerprints off the backpack, the newspaper said.

The Olympic bomb was hidden in a military backpack and triggered by a battery-operated timer.



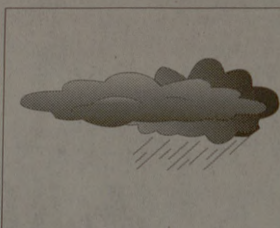
Pat James, THE BATTALION

Big Music

Rock 'n' Roll legend Little Richard sings to the crowd during Saturday night's OPAS Guild Gala at the Hilton.

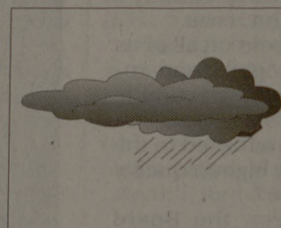
► **Weather**

Today



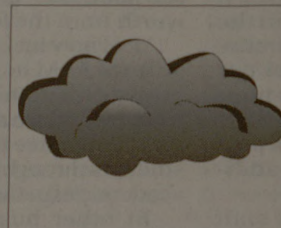
Cloudy with a chance of showers.

Tonight



Cloudy and windy with a chance of showers.

Tomorrow



Mostly cloudy with clouds decreasing.

Highs & Lows

Today's Expected High: 74°F
Tonight's Expected Low: 47°F
Tomorrow's Expected High: 55°F
Tomorrow Night's Expected Low: 44°F

Information courtesy of TAMSC

tion camps Auschwitz and Birkenau in Poland.

In 1951, an era of atomic testing in the Nevada desert began as an Air Force plane dropped a 1-kiloton bomb on Frenchman Flats.

In 1973, the Vietnam peace accords were signed in Paris, formally bringing to an end the longest foreign war in U.S. history.

In 1977, the Vatican reaffirmed the Roman Catholic Church's ban on female priests.

► **Today's birthdays**

Today's Birthdays: Actor Troy Donahue is 61. Singer Bobby "Blue" Bland is 67. Actor James Cromwell is 57. Ballet star Mikhail Baryshnikov is 49. Country singer Cheryl White is 42. Actress Mimi Rogers is 41. Rock singer Margo Timmons (Cowboy Junkies) is 36. Rock musician Gillian Gilbert (New Order) is 36. Actress Bridget Fonda is 33. Country singer Tracy Lawrence is 29.

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The TAMU Buck Weirus Spirit Award 1996-97



Buck Weirus Spirit Award Applications are now available for undergraduate and graduate students in the following locations:

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- The Association of Former Students Reception Desk
- Vice President for Student Affairs 10th Floor Rudder
- Office of the Dean of each College
- Office of Graduate Studies
- Student Activities Office Suite 125 Koldus Building
- Multicultural Services Department Suite 137 MSC
- Commandant's Office Suite 102 Military Sciences
- MSC Student Programs Office 216 & 223 MSC

This Award recognizes students for outstanding contributions to the student quality of life program at A&M and honors Richard "Buck" Weirus '42 Industrial Education. Highlight accomplishments of Mr. Weirus, Executive Director Emeritus of the Association of Former Students: Served as Executive Director of AFS from 1964-80, established the first computerized alumni association in the country, established the Century Club, the initiation of the President's Endowed Scholarship program and the Visitor Information Center, was an active member and past president of the San Antonio A&M Club.

Applications Due by 5:00 p.m. February 3, 1997 at the Clayton Williams Alumni Association Reception Desk. Good Luck!!

ALPHA KAPPA PSI National Professional Business Fraternity Spring Rush 1997

Monday, Jan. 27
Informational Meeting
8:00 - 10:00 p.m.
MSC Room 201
Casual Attire

Wednesday, Jan. 29
Pro. Casual Rush
8:00 - 10:00 p.m.
MSC, Room 201
Professional Casual Attire

Thursday, Jan. 30
Professional Rush
8:30 - 10:00 p.m.
MSC, Room 226
Professional Attire

Friday, Jan. 31
Social Rush
Time & Place TBA
**By Invitation Only

We're Going The Distance.

Questions?? Please call our Rush Directors:

Alisa Finch, Administration.....846-6299
Ellen Lilly, Publicity.....694-8210
Kristen Hardgrove, Pro. Programs.....846-6299

All Business & Economics Majors Welcome

THE BATTALION

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