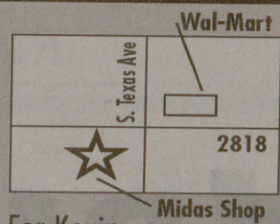


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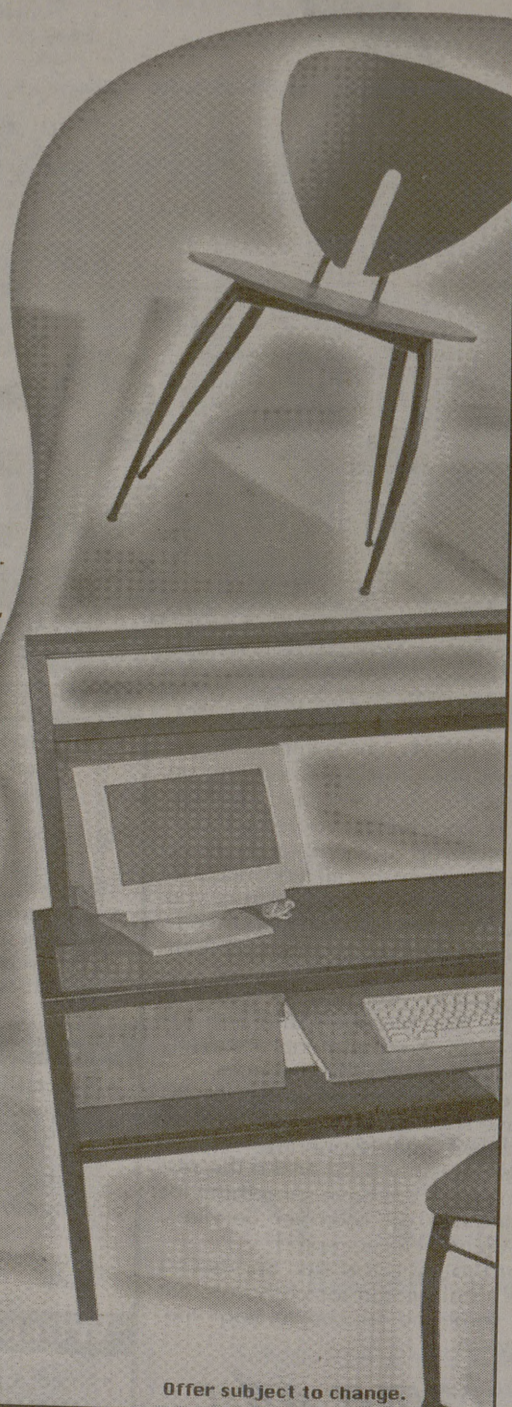
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**Battalion honored for
 journalistic excellence**

Editor, Uncartoonist take top individual awards

By Sommer Bunce
 THE BATTALION

The Battalion was ranked second overall among 4-year daily newspapers at the Texas Intercollegiate Press Association Saturday, winning first place awards in opinion columns, editorial cartoons and special sections.



CASTILLO

The student-run newspaper at Texas A&M received top honors for its Sept. 12 special edition of the newspaper entitled "Evil Acts," which incorporated local reaction to the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon alongside the national news.

Battalion Editor in Chief Mariano Castillo said he remembered how hard his staff worked on gathering photos, stories and information for "Evil Acts" on Sept. 11 and how impressed he was with the teamwork.

"It shows the talent and dedication the staff of The Battalion has," he said. "It's great to have The Battalion recognized as one of the best newspapers in the state."

Castillo was recognized for his opinion columns published in the past year. He placed first in general columns for his criticism of the then-top 25 percent plan.

Chad Mallam, a senior architecture major and Art Director who once published cartoons under the pseudonym The Uncartoonist, took first and third place for two editorial cartoons.

The first-place winning cartoon shows an Uncle Sam caricature with an airplane surprising him from the rear. In Mallam's third-place editorial cartoon, a view of the American flag is obscured as bombs take the place of the stars on Old Glory.

Mallam resigned from cartooning in February after an editorial cartoon published on Jan. 12 led to a storm of protest and bad publicity for A&M's newspaper.

"What I had done was legitimate in the right, but it made The Uncartoonist into a joke. I wasn't. I felt threatened creatively," Mallam said, explaining his reasons for ending Cartoon of the Day. "My cartooning was into something destructive, and I've chosen constructive and go down a different path. Winning these (awards) shows there are other sides to what I do as well as bad."

Mallam's cartoons, though no longer published in the newspaper, can be accessed at www.uncartoonist.com. But Mallam said students looking to see his more controversial cartoons; he said he removed the Jan. 14 cartoon and a few others that have received negative feedback over the years because he didn't want to perpetuate negative reactions to his work.



MALLAM

Sports Editor True Bales placed second for a sports column that affirmed decisions made by the NCAA and NFL to postpone games in the wake of Sept. 11. Cayla Carr placed second for opinion page design, and Jonathan Jones received honorable mention for another opinion page design.

In picture page design, former Editor Jennifer Bales placed second for a Sept. 11 spread featuring pictures and a time line of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

Photo Editor Guy Rogers was awarded first place and an honorable mention for two photos in the news photography competition.

Mallam, Rogers and former photographer Cody Wages received honorable mention in picture page design for a special tab on Bonfire traditions.

Former Design Director Rhonda Weinberg was awarded honorable mention in news page design.

Graphics artist Adrian Calcano received honorable mention in the illustration category.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Flight makes emergency landing in N.C.

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) — A Delta Airlines flight made an emergency landing Sunday night at Charlotte-Douglas International Airport after the pilot suspected a mechanical problem with an engine.

The MD-11 jet with 231 passengers aboard was flying from Atlanta to London when it landed in Charlotte around 7:45 p.m., said Delta spokesman Anthony Black in Atlanta.

The flight crew reported smoke on board, said Jerry Orr, the head of airport operations.

Nine people suffered minor injuries while evacuating the plane, Orr said. He said one passenger was taken to Carolinas Medical Center due to a pre-existing medical condition.

Five ACU students killed in car crash

ABILENE, Texas (AP) — A sport utility vehicle carrying five college students from Nigeria ran off a highway bridge early Sunday and fell 30 feet to a concrete embankment, killing all five.

The two men and three women were students at Abilene Christian University, located about 110 miles west of the crash, school spokesperson Wendy Kilmer said.

"These were some of the best and brightest, and they always had a desire to study in America," said Abilene Christian University Provost

Dwayne D. VanRheenen. "This is a great loss for our school."

Trooper Gary M. Rozzell with the Texas Department of Public Safety said the truck went off Interstate 20 near Weatherford, about 50 miles west of Fort Worth, and landed on its roof shortly after 6:30 a.m.

Kilmer said officials at the school of 4,700 students were deciding what kind of memorial to hold and when.

Rozzell said an investigation was under way to determine the cause of the crash.

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SPORTS
Aggies rebound from C

The Texas A&M team scored 34 hits and doubleheader 10-4 and Stadium in afternoon.

In the first afternoon, Aggies scored seven runs past the Georgia Tech.

David Evans and Neal S. had a home run and a single run was his and Stephen seventh.

Ty Garner had three hits and drove in four runs.

Matt Alex Travis Wardinsky earned the second A&M offer three of Alex doubles.

David Evans had a home run of

Women beat So

the top of the Texas A&M team beat Sooners, 5-2, Friday.

Aggies rebounded from a 1-0 loss to Oklahoma State.

A&M took an after taking two doubles.

Aggies are not season when doubles point.

Highlighting action for A&M more Jessica beat OU's And 6-4, at No. 1.

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