

THE BATTALION

SPRING '03 STAFF APPLICATION

If you can write, edit, design pages, draw, use a camera...
Texas A&M's award-winning newspaper is looking for you.

• gain valuable experience • earn extra cash • make friends in a professional newsroom environment

Name: _____
Phone number: _____
Cellphone or pager: _____
E-mail: _____
Major: _____
Classification: _____
Credit hours you will take in the spring _____
Expected graduation (semester): _____
How many hours per week would you be available for work at *The Battalion*? _____

Applicants

Please type your responses on a separate piece of paper, and attach a résumé and samples of your work (stories you have written for publications or classes, pages you have designed, photos taken, drawings made or other creative samples—just show us what you can do).

- 1) Why do you want to work at *The Battalion*, and what do you hope to accomplish?
- 2) What experience do you have that relates to the position for which you are applying? (include classes, seminars, etc.)
- 3) What changes do you feel would improve the quality of *The Battalion*? Give special attention to the section for which you're applying.

OPENINGS INCLUDE:

Please check the position(s) for which you are interested. If you are interested in more than one position, number them in order of preference with "1" being your top choice.

Staff

- News Reporter
- Sci/Tech Writer
- Feature/Entertainment Writer
- Sports Writer
- Radio Reporter
- Opinion Columnist
- Page Designer
- Copy Editor
- Photographer
- Graphic Artist
- Cartoonist

Turn in applications at 014 (basement) Reed McDonald Building.

THE VINTAGE HOUSE AT *Messina Hof* WINERY & RESORT

INTRODUCES THREE GREAT WEEKDAY EVENINGS

Enjoy three special menus served in the most romantic restaurant in the Brazos Valley.

WEDNESDAYS...

AN EVENING IN TUSCANY

Every Wednesday evening, it's just a short drive to Tuscany and traditional Tuscan cuisine served with a vineyard view. It's four courses for only \$49.95 per couple, plus tax and gratuity.

ROMANTIC THURSDAYS

Every Thursday evening from 5 to 10pm, the Vintage House offers a new, special menu just for couples. You'll love everything, including the price. Enjoy four courses for only \$49.95 per couple plus tax and gratuity.

FRIDAYS: AGGIELAND STRIP & SHRIMP SPECIAL

Every Friday evening, get the perfect 12 oz. strip and the freshest Gulf shrimp...combined to make this four course evening the highlight of your week...just \$59.95 per couple, plus tax and gratuity.

Reservations or more information, please call
778-9463, ext. 31

or check out www.messinahof.com.

THE VINTAGE HOUSE
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so, we changed...
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and under new management
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THURSDAY 01.16.03
Special Guest DJ HO
spinning the latest in hip/hop
techno, dance, and breakbeats
NO COVER for ANYONE
\$1.00 Wells ALL NIGHT
and come try our exclusive
\$2.00 FLAMING FU's
THE CONCEPT NIGHTCLUB
FRIDAY 01.16.03
Ladies Night
ALL Ladies FREE!
\$3.00 Cosmopolitans
\$2.00 Cheesecakes
Sexiest Man Contest!
doors open @ 8

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THE CONCEPT presents...
the winner of the hit VH1 series
"Bands on the Run" ...
flickerstick
\$10 pre-sale \$12 door

Continental reports fourth quarter, 2002 earning losses

By Juan A. Lozano
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Among air carriers battered in the wake of terrorist attacks, Continental Airlines on Wednesday reported earnings losses for the fourth quarter and full year.

The Houston-based carrier lost \$109 million, or \$1.67 per share, a 27 percent improvement when compared with a shortfall of \$149 million for the same period in 2001.

Analysts had expected the airline to lose \$1.97 per share, according to Thomson First Call.

For the full year, Continental's loss was \$451 million, or \$7.02 per share, compared with a loss of \$95 million for all of 2001. The 2002 figure included a \$264 million pretax charge for fleet disposition and impairment.

"In spite of these extraordinarily difficult times, we again demonstrate that not all airlines are alike," Gordon Bethune, Continental chairman and chief executive, said in a prepared statement. "Thanks to a dedicated and focused team of professional employees, we continue to out-

perform our competitors in almost every measure."

Continental and other carriers have been offering a wide array of fares aimed at stimulating business. Some carriers have been trying to entice corporate fliers with cheaper tickets.

The strategy has gained momentum and could eventually be critical to any turnaround for the industry, which is expected to report \$2.4 billion in fourth-quarter losses, before special items, in the coming days.

Atlanta-based Delta Air Lines was to report quarterly earnings on Thursday.

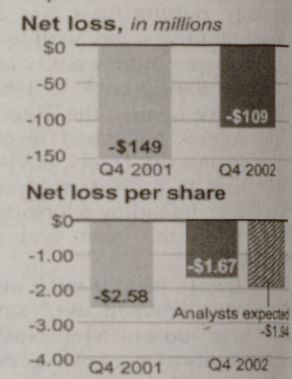
Continental officials said fourth-quarter passenger revenue was \$1.9 billion, up 16.0 percent from the same period last year.

Executives of Continental said fourth-quarter revenue rose 17 percent to \$2 billion from \$1.7 billion in the year-ago period. For the year, revenue was \$8.4 billion, a 6 percent decrease from 2001's figure of \$8.9 billion.

Continental's mechanics and related employee groups last year overwhelmingly ratified a new four-year collective

Smaller loss for Continental

More holiday travelers helped shrink Continental Airlines fourth quarter loss. The company also beat Wall Street expectations.



SOURCE: The company

bargaining agreement between the carrier and the International Brotherhood of Teamsters by a 73 percent majority. Airline officials said the agreement includes competitive wages and benefits while maintaining Continental labor productivity advantages in the marketplace.

Disney wins in Supreme Court copyright protection ruling

By Gina Holland
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mickey Mouse and the Walt Disney Co. scored a big victory Wednesday as the Supreme Court upheld longer copyright protections for cartoon characters, songs, books and other creations worth hundreds of millions of dollars.

Companies like Disney breathed a collective sigh of relief with the 7-2 court ruling giving Congress permission to repeatedly extend copyright protection.

The decision was a blow to Internet publishers and others who wanted to make old books available online and use the likenesses of Mickey Mouse and other old creations without paying royalties.

Hundreds of thousands of books, movies and songs were close to being released into the public domain when Congress extended the copyright by 20 years in 1998.

Justices said the copyright extension, named for the late Rep. Sonny Bono, R-Calif., was neither unconstitutional nor overreaching by Congress, nor a violation of free-speech rights.

"We are not at liberty to second-guess congressional

determinations and policy judgments of this order, however debatable or arguably unwise they may be," Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg wrote for the majority.

In two lengthy dissents, Justices John Paul Stevens and Stephen Breyer said the court was making a huge mistake.

"Everyone is going to pay more for things they would have had for free."

— Erik S. Jaffe
Washington attorney

"The serious public harm and the virtually nonexistent public benefit could not be more clear," Breyer wrote.

Breyer said the limit "threatens to interfere with efforts to preserve our nation's historical and cultural heritage" and to educate children. Stevens said the court was "failing to protect the public interest in free access to the products of inventive and artistic genius."

A contrary ruling would have caused huge losses for

entertainment giants like Disney and AOL Time Warner Inc. AOL Time Warner Inc. said that would threaten copyrights for such movies as "Casablanca," "The Wizard of Oz" and "Gone With the Wind."

Also at risk of expiration was protection for the version of Mickey Mouse portrayed in Disney's earliest films, such as 1928's "Steamboat Willie."

The ruling will affect movie studios and heirs of authors and composers. It will also affect small music publishers, orchestras and church choirs that must pay royalties to perform some pieces.

"The winners are folks who hold valuable copyrights. The losers are everyone else," said Erik S. Jaffe, a Washington attorney who filed arguments in the court challenge.

"Everyone is going to pay more for things they would have had for free."

But Jack Valenti, president and CEO of the Motion Picture Association of America, said that copyrights encourage creation and preservation of works.

The Constitution allows Congress to give authors and inventors the exclusive right to their works for a "limited time."

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