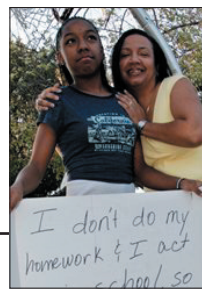


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American college student refusing to take stand

U.S. citizen attending school abroad on trial for plot to kill Bush

Associated Press

ALEXANDRIA, Va. — An American college student accused of joining al-Qaida

and plotting to assassinate President Bush declined to take the stand at his trial Wednesday, and the defense rested its case after putting on just three witnesses.

Ahmed Omar Abu Ali, 24, had testified at a pretrial hearing last month that Saudi authorities tortured a false confession out of

him. But he decided not to tell his story in front of a jury.

"He testified at the pretrial hearing and he spilled his guts and he told the truth, and the judge did not believe him," defense attorney Khurum Wahid said outside court. "He found it to be a very painful experience."

Closing arguments are expected Thursday.

Abu Ali, a U.S. citizen born to a Jordanian father in Houston and raised in Falls Church, Va., could get life in prison if convicted.

Before the trial, Abu Ali's lawyers asked U.S. District Judge Gerald Bruce Lee to dis-

miss the case and throw out a 2003 statement Abu Ali gave to the Saudis, contending it was obtained through torture.

But the judge had doubts about Abu Ali's credibility and allowed the case to go forward.

The jury saw Abu Ali's alleged confession on video. In it, he said he joined al-Qai-

da while attending college in Saudi Arabia because of his hatred of the United States for its support of Israel.

His case rests heavily on the testimony of two doctors who examined him and concluded that he was tortured. Two prosecution doctors reached opposite conclusions.



Michael Bou-Nacklie / Staff Photojournalist (Above) Students practice several Karate skills in the Rickel as part of a Karate forms class where students learn skills, techniques and strategies through the conditioning.

(Left) Students in a dance class learn several dance combinations with emphasis on the fundamentals of movement, body technique, space and rhythm while accompanied by music on a piano and drums. In the future the physical education classes will no longer be required by the university for graduation.

How necessary is required P.E.?

Chairman: Core committee didn't ask for kinesiology department's input

By OLGA BOGRAD
News Editor

The days of required scuba diving, karate or ballet classes are almost over.

This year's freshman class does not need a physical education activity credit to graduate because of a major curriculum change that was implemented this semester. The one-hour requirement was not added to the redesign of the new core that is now the standard for incoming freshmen.

How decision was made

In 2000, former Chancellor Michael Ferrari asked the faculty to devise a new core curriculum. Since then, several committees had worked on the core and revised several versions, finally approving the final version of the core that was implemented in August.

The P.E. class is taught through the Kinesiology department, and according to the chairman, the department was not involved in the deciding-making to cut P.E. from the core.

"We were never asked," said Joel Mitchell, the chairman of the kinesiology department.

He also said he was not a "loud advocate" for the credit because he said he

got the sense there was not a lot of support to keep the credit.

He said he regrets not speaking up for the requirement.

"We weren't as loud as we should've been," he said. "You look at the epidemic of obesity, there is no question our society needs physical activity."

Blaise Ferrandino, a faculty senate member, said the faculty agreed not to include P.E. in the new core because of two reasons. One reason is because P.E. is disappearing from other colleges' curriculums, he said.

"(P.E.) is very out of date," said Ferrandino, an associate professor of music theory and composition.

Another member of the faculty senate, Nadia Lahutsky, agreed, and said there was a feeling P.E. was "old-fashioned" and "no one was doing it anymore."

Another reason for cutting P.E., Ferrandino said, is that TCU offers students many other opportunities to be physically active.

Mitchell said his department was not asked and therefore did not provide the faculty with any studies about the need — or the lack of need — for a P.E.

more on PE, page 4

Limited quantity of vaccine available

Shots available off campus too



By TASHA HAYTON
Staff Reporter

The shipment of flu vaccines was delivered to the TCU Health Center on Wednesday, but the amount received was less than what was ordered, a health center official said.

Marilyn Hallam, assistant to the director of health services, said the shipment was due last week. Hallam said she ordered 400 flu shots but knew to expect between 50 and 200 flu shots because, in the past, the entire order was not always delivered.

The Health Center has traditionally ordered only 400 shots because many students do not express a need to have the flu shot, Hallam said.

She said she orders more than she anticipates needing because the Health Center does not always receive

the full order.

The Health Center received 150 of the 400 vaccines ordered because the manufacturing companies did not start production early enough, Hallam said.

Hallam said she will suggest students go to the public health department when the Health Center runs out of flu shots.

Since the Fort Worth Public Health Department is a Medicare provider, it is eligible to receive a large number of flu vaccines unlike the Health Center, Hallam said.

"We do the best we can," Hallam said.

Vanessa Joseph, public information officer for Tarrant County Public Health, said the department ordered approximately 16,000 flu vaccines and has received the entire order.

There are 3,000 flu shots currently available to the public, though it is not peak flu season and there has not yet been any flu activity, Joseph said.

Unlike last year, the health

more on FLU, page 2

EXTRA INFO

Tarrant County Public Health offers flu shots at the following locations and times:

- Arlington Public Health Center, 536 W. Randol Mill Road, Arlington (Monday to Thursday) 7 a.m. to 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., 817-548-3990
- Bagsby-Williams Public Health Center, 3212 Miller Avenue, Fort Worth (Monday to Thursday) 8 a.m. to noon and 2 a.m. to 4 p.m., 817-531-6738
- Northeast Public Health Center, 813 Brown Trail, Bedford (Monday to Thursday) 7 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., 817-285-4155
- Northwest Public Health Center, 3800 Adam Grubb Road, Lake Worth (Monday to Thursday) 7 a.m. to noon and 2 p.m. to 5 p.m., 817-238-4441
- Southwest Public Health Center, 6551 Granbury Road, Fort Worth (Monday to Friday) 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. and 1 a.m. to 4 p.m., 817-370-4530

Alumna encourages students to study abroad

Director: Travel promotes respect for other cultures

By KIM TESAREK
Staff Reporter

After studying in Japan as a college student, accepting a marriage proposal at Machu Picchu in Peru and traveling across the Serengeti Desert, Tracy Williams is back for her fifth year assisting TCU students with their study abroad plans.

Williams, the assistant director of the Center for International Education, said she may have a love for travel, but her greatest passion is to share this love with students.

"My dream for the last 10

years has been to educate people about cultural differences," Williams said. "We can't achieve the next level of humanity—peace and understanding—without respect for other people and cultures."

Williams was born in Kearney, Neb. She took her first chance to go abroad in high school by studying in Belgium for a year.

She graduated from TCU in 1996 with a degree in French and Japanese and a year of studies in Japan under her belt.

After graduation, Williams lived in France for a year, where she said she decided to return to the United States in order to improve the experience of college students studying abroad.

She taught an adult class in 1998 about international travel



Courtesy of Andy Williams

at the University of Missouri in Kansas City. There she met her future husband, Andy Williams, a railroad lobbyist and fellow lover of traveling.

"I attended her lecture and was blown away by her enthusiasm about international affairs and her ability to connect with the people she was lecturing," he said.

While she was teaching the class in Missouri, Williams received calls from the TCU International Education office to see if she was interested in replacing Delia Pitts, the director of the study abroad programs, who was retiring.

"To be honest, at first I was reluctant to fill this position,"

more on WILLIAMS, page 2

Music majors performing for world-renowned baritone

Students get advice, encouragement

By RACHEL COX
Staff Reporter

It's not every day that music students get to have class with Thomas Hampson, a great modern baritone voice known all over the world, but they got their chance to take notes Wednesday when he taught a master class in Ed Landreth Hall Auditorium.

Hampson, an internationally acclaimed baritone singer, is currently leading the tour "Song of America," across 11 cities and performed Tuesday at Bass Hall.

The tour is sponsored by the Library of Congress and

intends to promote creativity across America.

During the master class, students performed for Hampson and were critiqued on styles and given pointers on how to enhance their singing styles.

Ryan McFarland, a junior music major, said Hampson really helped him on the technical matters of his voice.

"I have always looked up to Hampson, and when I found out he was going to be giving a master class, I had to sing for him," McFarland said. "He really concentrated on my jaw movement and showed me that it really can affect the quality of the voice."

more on HAMPSON, page 2