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FAMILIES

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said. "I lost a lot of work to be with my wife and attend funerals and such, so we asked for \$50,000. It is not a sum someone is going to retire off of or get rich from, and it was coldly turned down the very next day they received the request.

Other families are concerned about the expenses caused by the collapse. Nancy Braus' son Dominic, who was injured in the collapse, has already had several surgeries and probably will need more to repair his arm. She said that although the University told her to keep her bills so she could be reimbursed, she has received nothing in writing. Braus said she received \$20,000 from the Uni-

versity for medical expenses but can barely pay for her son's tuition and is concerned about long-term medical expenses. She has not decided whether to sue the University.

Heard questioned the University's decision to provide the University of Texas with a \$50,000 scholarship for its support following the Bonfire collapse before helping the families of students who were injured or killed.

Although he is not actively planning to pursue le-gal action against the University, Heard said, the possibility remains.

"No legal action is preordained, but a year has passed and what has the administration done other than hide behind their Bonfire Relief Fund as their only means of helping these families?" he asked.

MILITARY

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intervention should take place. The final panel addressed the consequences of overseas military intervention.

Former President George Bush was on hand for the opening luncheon and delivered the opening address. The two scheduled keynote speakers were former National Security Adviser Gen. Brent Scowcroft and former NATO Supreme Allied Commander Gen. Wesley Clark.

For each panel, papers were pre-pared by some of the leading national security analysts and political professors in the nation. Commentators from the Brookings Institute, U.S.

"Has the administration gone forth with any effort to approach legislation that says this Bonfire Relief Fund is not going to be enough and is there any way we can appropriate legislation to help these families on a one-time basis? Has the administration done any

CAMPUS

"No legal action is preordained, but a year has passed and what has the administration done other than hide behind their Bonfire Relief Fund as their only means of helping these families?"

— Les Heard Christopher Heard's father

proactive actions at all? I think you will find the answer is no.

Heard said the Bonfire collapse could have been prevented by the University, but that he believes the University was motivated to continue the tradition for financial reasons.

"Red pots have been telling me that Bonfire has become a fund-raiser for the University, and [following the collapse] the University wanted to take the stance that Bonfire was strictly a student

Naval Academy, Stanford University and other institutions addressed each paper and answered questions from conference attendees

"Military intervention is the perfect topic for the Bush School to host," Clark said. "We really are at a critical time in our nation's history."

One of the most important issues addressed at the conference was when U.S. forces should intervene in an overseas conflict. Michael Brown, director of national security studies at Georgetown University, wrote that, with the end of the Cold War and the breakup of the Soviet Union, many believe the need for U.S. intervention in international security affairs has largely disappeared.

operation, and they didn't have any sup control over it," Heard said. "That's and ing school, and they built a monster on the lawn while everybody drove by it every thing wasn't a one-time accident. The emerged over months and years to do wh That took passive negligenve

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On Nov. 17, the Heards sent letters to the of other victims saying they intend tourgel to grant them an exemption from the state limits judgments against state insitutions according to a Houston Chronice article. R strong, a Harlingen attorney, and Sen. Eddie have shown support for them in this cause

The Breen family, whose son Chi killed in the collapse, filed a compaint i ber with the Texas Board of Professonal Er against the University, University President M. Bowen, Southerland and assistantdired Memorial Student Center Rusty Thonpson Virginia lating state engineering laws.

"It was certainly a very difficult decsion family to make to do this," Sean Bree. pher's brother, told the Austin American-ta "The issue as we saw it was, there had be time for the University to come forward ad responsibility ... and they didn't.'

The board has not decided whether totake Last month, the board found that those w Bonfire had broken the law because they have an engineering license. The board did pose any penalties.

"I don't think it is right for the United States to impose on other countries," said Leslie Scheuermann, a freshman political science major who agreed with that rationale.

However, Brown wrote that others think U.S. decisions about force should be based largely on American values and moral and humanitarian obligations, with an intent to promote international peace security and justice.

In his keynote address, Clark said decision makers and the American public have continually been underinformed, which has led to a misunderstanding of military intervention. 'We need more reliance on broad

sources of information and better work with the elected representatives of the

American people," Clark said have to understand and see it or Participants in the conferen the new age of conflicts in countries and terrorist threat. pled with a new nuclear thread

other nations, makes it essen lay. consider all possible avenuesc intervention. "Europe is the centerpe America's influence in the w Clark said, "and our allies exa

to lead.' Nonetheless, both sides a military intervention argum agree that whoever become next president, he will facen

challenges in redefining the tion's foreign policy.



In 1960, Texas A&M was still an all-male campus.

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