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THE BATTALION

# Dallas area Mosque target of shooting

Wednesday had some Muslims fearful they were targets of retaliation following terrorist attacks on the East Coast.

At least six bullets shattered windows of the Islamic Center of Irving early Wednesday, causing about \$3,000 in damage to the large pane windows fronting the shopping center location, officials said.

A window at the Islamic Center of Carrollton also was broken by a slingshot-type device early Wednesday, police said.

Windows at the Irving mosque were found shattered when workers arrived around 6 a.m. CDT Wednesday. Nobody was at the mosque when the shooting occurred and no injuries were reported.

Police and the FBI were investigating the incidents. It was not immediately clear if they were related to Tuesday's attacks. Danny Defenbaugh, the

to step down early

assured, party officials say.

has changed his mind.

**Republicans pressure Gramm** 

SAN ANTONIO (AP) - Some Republicans are "mov-

ing heaven and earth" to get Sen. Phil Gramm to

resign early so that U.S. Rep. Henry Bonilla can be

appointed and the GOP's hold on the seat can be

Gramm has said he will not step down before his

term ends in January 2003, but at least one con-

gressional source told the San Antonio Express-News

in Wednesday's editions that he believes the senator

Bexar County Republican Chairman Roy Barrera Jr.

says Republicans want Bonilla, a Hispanic, to take

Gramm's seat in order to offset any Democratic

Barrera says Republicans are concerned that

Democrats will benefit from the candidacy of two

popular Hispanics, Democratic gubernatorial candi-

advantage in the upcoming elections.

IRVING (AP) --- Vandalism FBI's special agent-in-charge targeted with at two Dallas area mosques on in Dallas, was critical of the vandalism.

"Quite frankly, I should not have to be wasting my time in doing vandalism-type cases with the national initiative with so many deaths and tragedies we've had over the last day," he said.

But Irving mosque member Jason-Yaseen Black said many Muslims "are afraid for our

"It's obviously misdirected anger," he said. "Luckily no one was here when the shots were fired."

Center president Mohamoud Egal said the mosque will continue holding services five times a day at the location, which is not marked with signs.

"We pray to God," he said. "That's not going to change. We also are going to keep an eye on our women. We've advised them to stay home and be careful if they dress ethnically."

Egal said the center planned to disable its Website, which was

NEWS IN BRIEF

senate seat.

emails Tuesday. The mosque had received no death threats.

About 1,000 people attend services at the center, he said. The mosque also closed its

school operation for two days. and members were to meet with the Irving police chief Wednesday to request additional patrols near the center.

"It's very sad. We're just trying as any Americans, any Muslim-American, to comprehend what happened and why it happened." said project manager Raouf Alkawldeh, his voice trembling. "We called on our community for a blood drive, we set a fund for donations and we made a special prayer last night ... and to come in the morning and find a place of worship like this trashed."

In Carrollton, spokesman Sgt. David Sponhour said his department increased patrols around area Muslim facilities as a precaution. He

date Tony Sanchez and former Texas Attorney

General Dan Morales, who intends to run for the

Texas Attorney General John Cornyn was scheduled

to announce Wednesday that he would seek the

Republican nomination to replace Gramm. But his

statewide swing was postponed because of terrorist

Bonilla and Texas Land Commissioner David

But San Antonio Republicans said Bonilla's candi-

Dewhurst are still mulling whether to get in the race.

dacy could be doomed if Gramm takes too long to

make such a decision. The Republicans are con-

cerned that Cornyn could increase his fund-raising

Bonilla's newly drawn district, which includes a

small part of Bexar County and extends west to

include a piece of El Paso, is one of the new so-called

"Hispanic Republican" districts designed to favor a

advantage while Bonilla waits for an appointment.

attacks in New York City and Washington.

Cornyn. remains unsure Attorney general

Thursday, September 13.

Thursday, S-

not announcing Senate intention. AUSTIN (AP) - Ten

race for U.S. Senate. Cornyn had been exper-

on Wednesday to launch candidacy for the seat be vacated by fellow Republic Cornyn's campaign appeared beca of the terrorist attacks in Ne York and Washington

tragedy the announcement think politics ought to the

seeking a fourth term

ator reiterated he will a

"He confirmed what I has said repeatedly, and resign, and so I think that certainty," Cornyn said.

## Court issues rulings in death penalty case

candidate like Bonilla.

AUSTIN (AP) - The Texas Court of Criminal Appeals on Wednesday upheld the conviction of Danny Dean Thomas, who was sentenced to death for the 1981 kidnapping and murder of a 19-year-old woman.

Thomas and a friend helped Sylvia

The court wrote there is no court record ophrenia has gone into remission and to indicate the allegations.

"The sheriff's detectives who obtained his confession had actually done a great job and treated him very well," said Harris County Assistant District Attorney Bill Delmore.

result, the jury did not have the opportun to observe the full effects of the illness

The court wrote that the delay between trials did not prevent Thomas from p senting evidence concerning his me state at the time of the offense and sa

the back seat," Comyn s "We ought to be abui dealing with this terrible," Gramm has said he is a

he does not plan to resp although some Republic

say that could give the 60 the advantage of incumber with an appointed success Cornyn said he spokewi Gramm Monday and these

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Elaine Harrison after she had car trouble, according to evidence. They later abducted her from her home, and Thomas shot her in the head as she begged for her life.

Among the 54 points of error that Thomas raised in his appeal include allegations that Thomas' written confession was coerced and that he did not waive his rights before making the written statement.

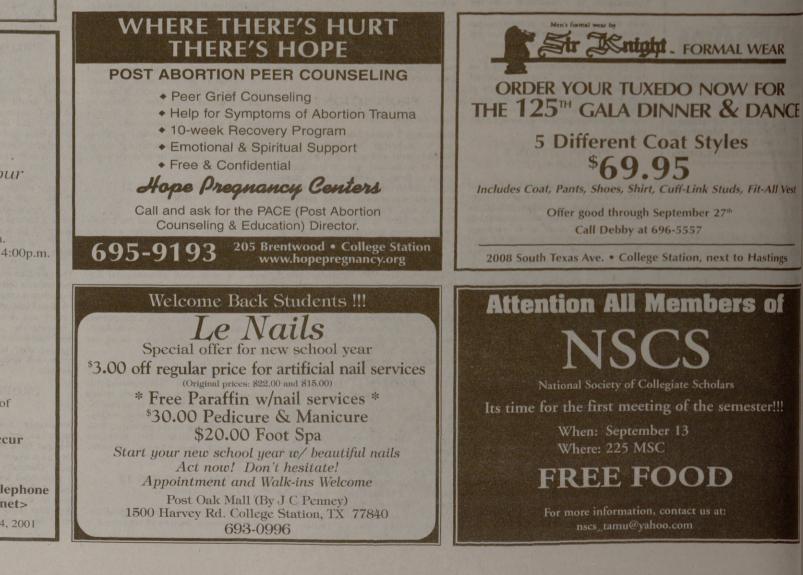
Thomas, also known as Shozdijiji Shisinday, was tried twice for the crime. His demeanor at the trial to his presentation first conviction, which was overturned, was in March 1982. His latest conviction was in November 1998.

Thomas also alleged in his appeal that the passage of time since his original trial prevented him from presenting an effective insanity defense at his new trial. Thomas contended that since his first trial, his schiz-

sees no relevancy between Thor an insanity defense.

Thomas' attorney could not be reach Wednesday.

The court also affirmed the conviction Johnny Ray Conner, who was sentenced death for the 1998 killing of Kathyan Nguyen, a convenience store owner w was shot in the head during a robbery.





Texas A&M Hillel Services for Rosh Ha'Shanah and Yom Kippur Monday Night, Sept. 17, 2001 Erev Rosh Ha'Shanah Services at 8:00p.m.

Tuesday and Wednesday, Sept. 18-19, 2001 Rosh Ha'Shanah Morning Services at 10:00a.m. Taschlich Services at CS Police Dept. Pond, Sunday at 4:00p.m.



Wednesday, Sept. 26, 2001 Kol Nidre Services at 8:00p.m.

Thursday, Sept. 27, 2001 Yom Kippur Services start at 10:00 a.m. Yizcor about 5:00 p.m. Break-the-Fast after sundown at the conclusion of the Neilah and Havdalah.

All holiday events are free of charge and occur at Hillel, located across from campus at 800 George Bush, CS

Please contact Hillel for more information at telephone # 696-7313 or e-mail us at: <Hillel@startel.net>

Names for Yizcor must be received in the office by Sept. 24, 2001