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agle Blake killed by pirates

aded the New Zealand crew that won the nerica's Cup in 1995 and 2000, was shot and lled by pirates during a robbery of his boat on e Amazon River.

Blake was killed late Wednesday during a s to have a winning -1 game, not revens' Idup aboard his 119-foot yacht, the Seamaster, nchored on the Amazon in the jungle state of , TCU has some a napa, some 1,600 miles north of Sao Paulo, ate police chief Rosilene Martins de Sena said. ge has been on offer Three or four assailants approached the s shifted to quarter amaster in a rubber dinghy commonly used by rates on the Amazon and shot Blake, 53, when running back LaDe tried to resist the holdup, Sena said Thursday. is the most dangen Two crew members were treated for minor am," Williams juries in the hospital in the nearby town of same offense just

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lacapa. According to local media, the killers took a ers has thrown for 1 are engine and several watches. downs, but the offer find balance who

Alan Sefton, one of Blake's friends and a okesman for his organization, Blakexpeditions, id the crew spent two months in the upper reaches the Amazon and Rio Negro and had encountered

e finally got reve th 178 yards. hing but "friendly, warm, hospitable people." "And as soon as the boat gets back into sothe offense. They lled civilization, something tragic happens," sm all year," Pate efton told The Associated Press. to run the ball anim

Sefton said Blake's boat was anchored off kapa in the mouth of the Amazon, awaiting stoms clearance to leave Brazil after a two-

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\$AO PAULO, Brazil (AP) — Peter Blake, who month expedition as part of a program to monitor the effects of global warming and pollution.

Seamaster was scheduled to sail up the coast to Venezuela to meet the Blakexpedition jungle team. Brazil's foreign ministry said the "government deeply regrets the tragic death of New Zealand's' renowned explorer, yachtsman and scientist." President Fernando Henrique Cardoso, it added,

"has ordered that the criminals be promptly identified and arrested.' In March 2000, Blake said he had received letters from someone threatening to kill him and

harm his family. "We've always got crank mail, but it has been going beyond that recently," Blake said at the time. "So we have taken all the precautions we

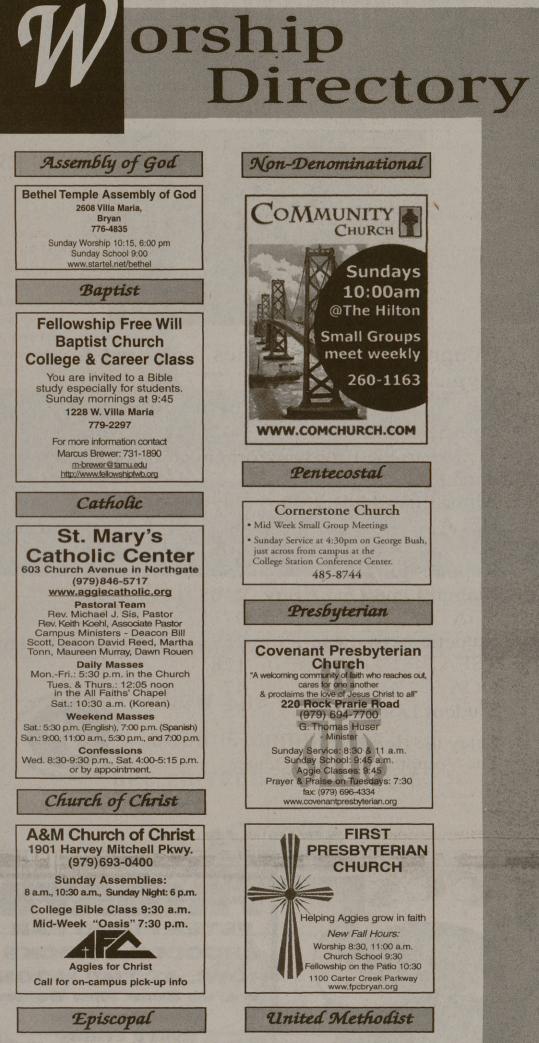
were advised to take.' In November 2000, Blake went on a threemonth study of wildlife in the South Pole region. He then traveled to the Amazon for several months of sailing.

American skipper Dennis Conner, a three-time America's Cup winner who was beaten by Team New Zealand 5-0 in 1995, was impressed with Blake's determination.

"He was a hero and role model for the New Zealand people and obviously a winner that was focused and accomplished his goals, whether it was winning the round-the-world race or the America's Cup," Conner said Thursday.

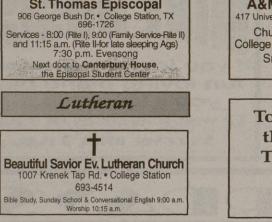
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