

# Airports' holiday seizures 15,983 knives and a brick

WASHINGTON (AP) — Some passengers still haven't gotten the word about what they can and can't take on planes. Seized at airports during the Thanksgiving crush: 15,982 pocket knives, 98 boxcutters, six guns and a brick.

Still, transportation officials said the airport chaos predicted by many never occurred. Passengers waited less than 10 minutes on average at security checkpoints during the first holiday travel season since an all-federal work force took over screening.

Michael Wascom, spokesman for a group representing the major airlines, said operations were generally smooth even with bad weather in some places. "Passengers moved efficiently through the airports, and customer service standards were upheld," said Wascom, spokesman for the Air Transport Association.

Since the Sept. 11 attacks, the government has tightened restrictions on what can be taken on board a plane.

Robert Johnson, spokesman for the Transportation Security Administration, said many holiday travelers are inexperienced fliers and don't realize they can't take knives, scissors, fireworks or ammunition onto planes. If they try to, the prohibited items will be

confiscated. Passengers also could be prosecuted, a decision made by law enforcement officials depending on the item and the circumstances.

Between Tuesday and Sunday, six people who tried to carry guns onto planes were arrested: two at Hartsfield Atlanta International Airport and one each at New York's LaGuardia Airport, Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky Airport, Salt Lake City International Airport and Dulles International Airport outside Washington.

The TSA says that at the 38 busiest U.S. airports over the Thanksgiving holiday, 1,072 clubs or bats were confiscated, 3,242 banned tools and 2,384 flammable items, including a welding gun in Boise, Idaho. Another 20,581 sharp objects — such as scissors, ice picks and meat cleavers — also were stopped at the checkpoints. Someone tried to bring a toy cannon made of live ammunition onto a plane at Chicago O'Hare International Airport.

A man tried to carry a brick onto a plane at Ronald Reagan National Airport in Washington.

"I don't know why he would carry a brick," Johnson said.

Though TSA can't make year-to-year comparisons because the data collection method has changed, the six guns taken from

## Not a carry-on

Some passengers still do not know what they can and cannot take on planes.

Confiscated items at the 38 busiest airports from Tuesday through Sunday

Six guns	15,982 pocket knives	20,581 sharp objects (including scissors, knives)
98 boxcutters	1,072 clubs or bats	2,384 flammables (including aerosol cans)
		3,242 prohibited tools (including saws, screwdrivers, hammers)

SOURCE: Transportation Security Administration

38 airports in six days compared with 813 firearms taken from 429 airports in the eight months from February to September. During that same period, 783,670 knives and 31,064 boxcutters were seized, compared with 15,982 pocketknives and 98 boxcutters taken during Thanksgiving.

The prohibited items are turned over to local police, Johnson said.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Companies settle charges for using fake Web site scheme

WASHINGTON (AP) — Four companies agreed to repay customers a total of \$300,000 to settle federal charges that they sold fake Internet addresses ending in ".usa" with an advertising campaign pegged to the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

The Federal Trade Commission said Tuesday

that the companies — TLD Network LLC, Quantum Management Ltd., TBS Industries LLC and Quantum Management U.S. Inc. — last year jointly sold Internet domain names ending with ".brit" and ".scot." After Sept. 11, the companies began an e-mail campaign advertising ".usa" domain names, with statements such as, "Patriotic! Register .USA Domains!"

The FTC said the ".usa" domain names are not usable over the Internet and probably never will be.

Class of 2003

**14 days**

to get your free SENIOR PORTRAIT made for the 2003 AggieLand yearbook.

Visit AR Photography 404 University Dr. E., Ste. F (near TC BY), 9-11:30 A.M. & 1:30-4 P.M. Monday-Thursday, or call 693-8183.

AggieLand 2003

WHEN THE GIRL OF YOUR DREAMS BECOMES THE LOVE OF YOUR LIFE

THE DIAMOND ENGAGEMENT RING. HOW ELSE CAN TWO MONTHS SALARY LAST FOREVER?

John D. Huntley  
Class of '79

313 B. South College Avenue • College Station (979) 846-8916  
Since 1972

**FAN FUN FEST** Dec. 4, 6pm-7pm  
Before the A&M vs. Tennessee Game  
IN THE REED ARENA PARKING LOT

FREE FOOD FROM FREEBIRDS FOR THE FIRST 300 FANS  
FREE COKES  
LIVE BROADCAST ON AGGIE 96

SPONSORED BY: FULL HOUSE, ROCK REED, REED ROWDIES

**A Reminder...**

Sell your books back at **LOUPOT'S BOOKSTORES**  
"A Tradition of Friendly Service Since 1932"

and reserve books early for spring semester.

**www.loupots.com**

<b>NORTHGATE</b> 335 University Dr. College Station, TX 77840 (979) 846-6312 FAX: (979) 846-0748	<b>WOLF PEN PLAZA</b> 1907 Texas Ave. S. College Station, TX 77840 (979) 693-0838 FAX: (979) 764-7355	<b>SOUTHGATE</b> 308 George Bush Dr. College Station, TX 77840 (979) 693-2278 FAX: (979) 764-7273
--	---	---

**GradeSummit™**  
A Service of Education

**Don't waste your time studying... make the most of it!**

A diagnostic self-assessment tool for students that identifies weaknesses and turns them into strengths

More than online quizzing! GradeSummit can

- tell you how much you know before you take an exam - not after
- pinpoint your strengths and weaknesses so you focus study time on the areas that need it most
- allow you to get the most out of your study time

**Try the first 3 chapters FREE!**

"When I began taking this course I was worried about getting a C. As it stands now, I'm going to get a strong A, and I feel that GradeSummit had everything to do with [this success]. If I had used GradeSummit in all three of my courses, I would have saved 3-4 hours a week studying"  
Nikki Rogers, student  
The University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee

"I love the instant feedback and I feel I learn better with this system."  
Carmen Michaels, student  
Fontbonne University

GradeSummit available for these courses:  
American History • Anatomy & Physiology • Financial Accounting • General Chemistry  
Intro to Psychology • Macroeconomics • Managerial Accounting • Microeconomics  
Principles of Accounting • Principles of Economics

Purchase online at **www.gradesummit.com**