

SEC WEEK

NATIONAL ENGINEERS' WEEK: FEBRUARY 15 -22

Saturday, February 15th

8:00am SWE Fun Run Research Park

Monday, February 17th

10:00am - 4:00 pm Kickoff Celebration Academic Plaza

Play Games & Win Prizes @ Raffle: XBOX*PALM*DVD PLAYER*MORE

5:00pm - 9:00pm AICHe Basketball Tournament Rollie 351

Tuesday, February 18th

10:00am - 2:00pm Engineering Projects Day Zachry Lobby

11:00am - 1:00pm FREE Pizza Lunch Zachry Lobby

7:30pm **Dr. Bennett: Dean of Engineering** Zachry Rm. 102

" 9 DAYS AT GROUND ZERO "

Wednesday, February 19th

10:00am - 2:00pm Students Interests Gallery Zachry Lobby

7:00pm - 10:00pm AIAA Bowling Tournament Triangle Bowl

Thursday, February 20th

10:00am - 2:00pm Photo Scavenger Hunt starts @ Zachry Lobby

7:00pm - finished LIFE Pool/42 Tournament Alfred T. Hornbacks

for more information visit: <http://sec.tamu.edu>

Tough decision



ALISSA HOLLIMON • THE BATTALION

Freshman business major **Barrett Lesher** debates about which bear to buy for his girlfriend for Valentine's Day.

Enron

Continued from page 1

leader Tom Daschle called the report "a call to action and we will act."

Democrats have pushed legislation to deny tax benefits on sham transactions, but the Bush administration "has continued to oppose it even after the collapse of Enron," said Daschle, D-S.D. "I call on the administration to stand up for honest taxpayers instead of continuing to resist efforts to crack down on corporate tax shelters."

Big accounting firms, investment banks and law firms — including Bankers Trust, Chase Manhattan, Deloitte & Touche and fallen Arthur Andersen — that gave Enron tax advice pushing legal boundaries did not escape blame from senators and congressional investigators.

The outside advisers, who received some \$88 million in fees from Enron, colluded, said Sen. Max Baucus of Montana, the Finance Committee's senior Democrat. "Enron and its advisers conspired to mine the tax code for tax schemes. ... They ensured that no one — particularly the IRS

— would ever discover what they were up to." Enron's failure in late 2001 destroyed the retirement savings of thousands of employees and hurt individual investors and pension funds nationwide. The joint taxation committee's inquiry was among more than a dozen congressional investigations last year into Enron's collapse.

The Houston-based company paid no federal income tax at all from 1996 through 1999, \$63.2 million in 2000 and nothing again in 2001.

Enron's tax deals "pushed the concept of business purpose to the limit (and perhaps beyond) the panel's report says. "Enron's behavior illustrates that a motivated corporation can manipulate highly technical provisions of the law." By using advice from sophisticated lawyers, investment bankers and accountants, "corporations like Enron have an inherent advantage over the IRS," it says.

Lindy Paull, the joint panel's chief of staff, stopped short of saying Enron violated the tax laws, telling senators that Enron gained "inappropriate benefits" from its use of the schemes. "This result should not happen under the tax code," she testified.

Shuttle

Continued from page 1

wing indicated that super-hot plasma had penetrated the shuttle.

"I think there was a substantial hole in the wing," said Steven P. Schneider, an associate professor at Purdue University's Aerospace Sciences Laboratory. "That would not be at all surprising. All the sensors in the wing failed or gave bad readings" by the time ground controllers lost contact with Columbia, he said.

The board dismissed suggestions Columbia's left landing gear was improperly lowered as it raced through Earth's atmosphere at more than 12,000 miles per hour. NASA disclosed earlier Thursday that a sensor indicated the gear was down just 26 seconds before Columbia's destruction.

If Columbia's gear was lowered at that speed — and in those searing temperatures as the shuttle descended over Texas from about 40 miles up — the heat and rushing air would have sheared off Columbia's tires and led quickly to the spacecraft's tumbling destruction, experts said.

Officials said they were confident that unusual sensor reading was wrong. Tires are supposed to remain raised until the shuttle is about 200 feet over the runway and flying 345 miles per hour. Two other sensors in the same wheel compartment indicated the gear was still properly raised, they said.

While Columbia's piloting computers began almost simultaneously firing thrusters struggling to keep wings level, officials said, a mysterious disruption in the air flowing near the left wing was not serious enough to suggest the shuttle's

gear might be down. The investigating board concluded that its research "does not support the scenario of an early deployment of the left gear."

NASA also confirmed that searchers near Hemphill, Texas, about 140 miles northeast of Houston, recovered what is believed to be one of Columbia's radial tires. A spokesman was not immediately sure which of the shuttle's tires was found.

The tire was blackened and sustained a massive split across its tread, but it was impossible to know whether the tire was damaged aboard Columbia or when it struck the ground.

The board's announcement came one day after NASA released e-mails showing middle-level safety engineers in Virginia and Houston considered the risks of tires bursting inside Columbia's belly from heat damage.

PAPA JOHN'S
Better Ingredients • Better Pizza

Friday Special

Pick Your Size **\$12.78**

LARGE 2-Topping & 1 side

SIDES: Breadsticks • Cheesesticks • Chicken Strips • Cinnapie

pu/delivery

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
1 LARGE 1-TOPPING \$5.99 pu/only	2 LARGE 1-TOPPING \$12.99 pu/delivery	1 EX-LARGE 1-TOPPING \$8.99 pu/delivery	1 LARGE 2-TOPPING & 2 liter drink \$11.99 pu/delivery	PICK YOUR SIDE LARGE 2-TOPPING AND 1 SIDE \$12.78 pu/delivery	LATE NIGHT LARGE 1-TOPPING \$6.99 after 10pm pu/delivery	LATE NIGHT LARGE 1-TOPPING \$6.99 after 10pm pu/delivery

Northgate 601 University Dr. 979-846-3600

Post Oak Square Center 100 Harvey Rd., Suite D 979-764-7272

Rock Prairie 1700 Rock Prairie 979-680-0508

Sunday: 11 a.m. - midnight
Monday - Wednesday: 11 a.m. - 1 a.m.
Thursday: 11 a.m. - 2 a.m.
Friday & Saturday: 11 a.m. - 3 a.m.

OPEN LATE

The place to be this Friday for

MSC Film Society's Aggie Cinema Presents:

7:30pm & 10:00pm in the Theater

Only \$1 with wristband

jackass the movie

midnight drawing for \$250
must be present to win

Don't be alone on Valentine's Day
Get Singled Out!!!

Win a date to Robert Earl Keen and Cowboy Mouth

Remember the old Mtv show Singled Out?
Well, come play with your fellow Ags on Friday February 14th!

6 lucky couples will be set up with fabulous dates for Saturday, February 15th including flowers, dinner and concert tickets.

Contests will start at 10pm in the flagroom, come early to be a contestant

FREE ITALIAN FOOD
in the 12th Man starting at 9pm

For more information contact 845-1515

FRIDAY NIGHT FEBRUARY 14 IN THE MSC

IN THE BASEMENT
9PM TILL 1AM

Free Bowling

Free Billiards

Free Dance
Dance Revolution

Free Popcorn & Soda

Arts & Crafts

Must Show A&M ID at Check-in locations around the MSC

HEY AGS!!

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DEADLINE TO APPLY: FEBRUARY 16, 2003 (MIDNIGHT)

GO TO: [HTTP://FINANCIALAID.TAMU.EDU/AEAIINTRO.CFM](http://financialaid.tamu.edu/aeaiintro.cfm)

Department of Student Financial Aid
Texas A&M University

Volume 11

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