

BLIND PIRATE STUDIO



- 32-trk Eusoniq PARIS
- 24 bit
- HUGE Main Room
- 2 Iso booths
- Scenic, most beautiful place to record in Eugene
- 10% student discount

Call 710-4862

<http://blindpirate.50megs.com>

Christian Coalition to 'energize' supporters for Bush, GOP victory

By Eun-Kyung Kim
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — Don't discount the impact the once-mighty Christian Coalition could play on the elections. While the organization of conservatives may have faded from public view, their tenacious core of ground troops could help deliver states to Republican George W. Bush.

The organization's source of power lies in its 70 million voter guides. Coalition members also have been key in establishing voter registration drives and mobilizing churches to get involved.

"We plan to play a big role this year," Roberta Combs, the executive director of the Christian Coalition, said Thursday.

While Democratic presidential nominee Al Gore relies on a vast network of union workers to help get out the vote across the country, Republicans in recent years have counted on the Christian Coalition.



Still, Texas Gov. Bush, who has focused on appealing to moderate Republicans, hasn't aggressively wooed the organization, which was pushed into the background at the Republican National Convention this summer.

Bush also has turned down a chance this weekend to address several thousand Christian Coalition members at the group's annual convention.

Earlier this week, Christian Coalition founder Pat Robertson called the decision by Bush to skip the convention "very risky," but Combs said she's confident "our people really know where he (Bush) stands on the issues. He's very conservative."

Bush aides said the candidate would be too busy preparing for the first presidential debate Tuesday.

Political analysts figure Bush doesn't need to attend.

"Where else are these people going to go?" said John Kenneth White, a politics professor at Catholic University of America.

"If there are to be three straight presidential losses, that would be very frustrating for the Christian Coalition," he said. "They (Republicans) lost two to Clinton and they want the presidency back."

The Christian Coalition has been plagued in recent years by leader-

ship changes and internal strife has hurt the group's ability to raise money.

Despite its lower profile, it would be a mistake to write off the Christian Coalition, said John Green, a specialist in religion and politics and director of the University of Akron's Bliss Institute. The group's membership — estimated at more than 1.2 million — could generate enough votes in Florida and other battleground states to deliver Bush the presidency, he said.

"If the election ends up being as close as people think it will, the Christian Coalition, even in its weakened state, can probably have some influence," Green said. "I would caution people to not write the Christian Coalition off just because they haven't been making headlines."

A recent Pew poll taken earlier this month found that about 22 percent of registered voters consider themselves "evangelical Christians." The same survey reported about 63 percent of voters said they had a favorable view of evangelical Christians. That's up from 41 percent who had a favorable view in 1996. Six in 10 Democrats and independents had a favorable view, while three-fourths of Republicans had a favorable view.

BACK TO SCHOOL SPECIAL
75¢ WASH!

7 am-6 pm
WEEKDAYS
Thru Oct. 13th

- Close to Campus
- Clean
- Handicap Accessible Machines
- Serving the Area for 25 years

MR. CLEAN JEAN'S
COIN-OP
LAUNDRY

240 E. 17th
(between High & Pearl)

Attendants possibly provoked man who attacked fellow passengers

By L. Anne Newell
Associated Press Writer

SALT LAKE CITY — A 19-year-old Las Vegas man who flew into a rage during a Southwest Airlines flight to Salt Lake City and died after being subdued by passengers was partially provoked by the flight crew, some passengers told police.

The Salt Lake City Airport police incident report, obtained Thursday by The Associated Press, said when police boarded the airplane Aug. 11, they found Jonathan Burton unconscious in the center aisle, one passenger's foot placed on his neck, another on his head and two more on his arms.

He was unconscious and bleeding from the mouth with a "huge knot" and "discoloration" on his forehead, the report said. Police handcuffed him and two officers carried him off the plane, hitting Burton's head as they placed him on the ground.

The report said Burton became combative about 20 minutes before the flight was scheduled to land, hitting some of the 120 passengers aboard the 737 and pounding a hole in the locked cockpit door.

"Several passengers stated that the flight crew antagonized the young man and that intensified his anger," the report said. Names of the passengers police interviewed were removed from the copy of the report.

One passenger contacted Thursday agreed that flight attendants may have provoked the man after his initial outburst.

Anne Crawford, 41, of Barstow, Calif., said that after Burton attacked the cockpit door, passengers succeeded in getting him back to his seat and calming him. Then the flight attendant loudly announced another passenger, an off-duty police officer, would take care of the situation, Crawford recalled.

"She was standing next to me when she was making the announcement and I was just cringing in my seat because they had pretty much calmed him down," said Crawford, who was seated two rows behind Burton.

Burton punched the officer in the face, Crawford said.

"He was calm, he seemed like he was going to relax, but then he went into this fit again," she said. "I was just wondering how much training Southwest gives to help deal with these situations."

He was calm — he seemed like he was going to relax — but then he went into this fit again.

Anne Crawford
passenger, Southwest Airlines

Linda Rutherford, a Southwest spokeswoman, said flight attendants are not trained for specific situations such as the Burton incident, but are trained to deal with general emergencies.

"We feel our flight crew did exactly what they needed to do get that plane on the ground, and that the passengers who were restraining Mr. Burton did what they thought they had to do to keep him from moving again," she said.

Burton died at LDS Hospital in Salt Lake City about an hour after being taken off the plane. An autopsy by the Utah state medical examiner's office concluded the actions of the passengers killed him, but the U.S. attorney's office has declined to file criminal charges, saying the death was an act of self-defense.

An FBI spokesman said the re-

port was unlikely to affect the agency's investigation unless the U.S. attorney decided to press charges.

"I don't think we're going to pursue it much further," said Bill Matthews, special agent for the FBI's Salt Lake City division.

The report says the pilot reported the man pushed his upper body through the hole he made in the cockpit door and muttered, "... fly this plane ..." It also cites passengers as saying Burton was pacing back and forth and screaming obscenities before he attacked the door, making comments such as, "Someone needs to fly this plane," "The drugs aren't mine" and "It's not the drugs."

The autopsy showed small levels of cocaine and THC, the active ingredient in marijuana, in Burton's blood, but not enough to have affected his actions.

Burton's family has hired an attorney for possible legal action. That attorney and Burton's family did not immediately return phone calls Thursday.

Crawford denied passengers used excessive force to restrain Burton.

"Was there force? You bet. He was strong, he had the strength of a madman. Under normal circumstances he wouldn't have been able to fight them, but he was fighting off a dozen men," she said.

"They did what they had to do. I honestly wish that I could thank each of them individually for what they've done. They got hurt too."

The police report said two passengers suffered minor injuries, including the off-duty police officer, who had to have stitches to his face, while others were splattered with blood. The flight attendants asked to speak to a chaplain after being questioned by the FBI.



KIRIUM
Chronograph

By TAG Heuer



Since 1922 • Member American Gem Society
1027 Willamette St. • 345-0354
Valley River Center • 342-4496

An authorized TAG Heuer dealer.