



No Collection Plate

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All these unassuming consumers wanted was a latte at Starbucks, but they got a lot more than they'd bargained for (if a \$5 latte can be considered a bargain). In walks a red-faced minister, swaggering like Swaggart. "We don't know how to stop chain stores," he bellows into a microphone. "We don't know how to stop corporate franchise imagery. We don't know how to stop the globalizing economy that makes our local economy swim in this sea of identical details, these endless repetitions, this feeling of emptiness, dullness, where we are all tourists in our own lives." **But we can stop going to Starbucks, and we can watch Dietmar Post's documentary about the performances of activist Billy Talen, Reverend Billy and the Church of Stop Shopping.** 8 p.m. Friday, November 21. Aurora Picture Show, 800 Aurora Street. For information, call 713-868-2101 or visit www.aurorapictureshow.org. \$5. -- Keith Plocek

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Doors at area Starbucks glued shut by protesters

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Employees at as many as 16 area Starbucks were greeted Sunday morning with stores whose doors had been glued shut, police said, in objection to the ubiquitous chain's "corporate coffee."

Protesters placed glue in the locks at several stores in central and western Houston and left behind fliers.

"I bet you are wondering why your local Starbucks is closed this morning," one read, according to Houston Police Department spokesman Alvin Wright. Attempts to reach officials with Starbucks on Sunday were unsuccessful.

"This dispute appears to be part of an ongoing conflict between these individuals and the chain," Wright said.

Employees were able to unseal the locks and opened for business as scheduled, Wright said.