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THE HOUSTON CHRONICLE is currently taking applications for spring semester newspaper route. Routes are delivered 3-6 a.m. and require dependable transportation. Salary ranges from \$400-\$700 per month. Call Julian McMurrey, 693-2323. 56t6

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WANTED: Basketball and Outdoor Soccer Officials. Meeting Monday, November 26, 6 p.m. in 267 G. Rollie White. For more information call 845-

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Around town

New ethics course to be offered in Spring

Page 8/The Battalion/Monday, November 19, 1984

Applications for the new course Leadership Ethics in Organizations are available in the Student Activities Office, 208 Pavilion. The class will carry one hour credit and is listed as Mgmt 481C section 507 in the schedule. The ethics class will provide an opportunity for students to question their foundation for decision-making and develop new ways of thinking about ethical dilemmas.

Community Singers present concert

Community Singers, under the direction of Christy Dyer, will present their Fall concert, "Masterworks of the Choral Art," today at 8:15 p.m. at the A&M Presbyterian Church in Bryan. Admission is free; donations will be accepted.

Speakers seminar applications due soon

Speakers seminar applications for the Spring Seminar will be accepted through Nov. 21. This program is open to sophomores and juniors with moderate to heavy leadership experience. Class will meet on Wednesdays from 3 p.m.- 4:30 p.m. Apply in the Student Activities Office, 208 Pavilion. Selections will be posted on the Monday of the Theological Services. day after Thanksgiving.

Texans' ties to land discussed at meeting

By JAMES WALKER Staff Writer

Texans are well known for their affection of the wide open spaces of their diverse state. This love is often expressed in the urbanite's ownership of a weekend ranch and by farmers reluctance to give up their lifestyle for a more profitable pro-fession. Those without land still express a certain pride and indepen-

dence reminiscent of early pioneers. The weekend of Nov. 16 several heavyweights of Texas culture and history presented papers addressing "The Land Myth in Texas Agriculture." The ambiguous title of the symposium failed to do justice to the intense and far reaching implications of the issues discussed.

While the objective was to explain Texan's continuing personal attachment to the land, other subjects such as the plight of the family farm, corporate land exploitation, private property rights and urban expansion crept into the arena of discussion.

The land myth is epitomized by the individualistic vitality on the part of pioneers of Texas to survive in a uncivilized land. To some extent this attitude has been idealized by writers and historians, but more importantly it's still present in the hearts and ambitions of Texans.

An advocate of the land myth concept, John Henry Faulk, said it was the same sense of independence and fear of legislative power that led the founding fathers to ratify the Bill of Rights. He said he thought it was fortunate that even though few Americans are directly tied to the land, they still are enamoured with the sense of freedom land ownership represents.

"Unless we recapture ideas in the document, we will cope with problems of an ever shrinking world," Faulk said

Several speakers said respect for personal freedom had carried over into the corporate sector under the guise of less government interference in private enterprise. This carry over has manifested itself as an open ticket for strip mining, unlimited water use and the deforestation of East Texas timber land.

"We are going to have a major disaster because we have used up the land," Faulk said.

The symposium turned decidedly anti-land myth when Texas A&M history professor Robert Calvert said, "The myth of the country side leads us to shirk our duties in the

Citing the disorganized nature of the state's largest urban areas, he said there was "no psychology for handling cities" which are alien and foreign to Texans.

Following Calvert's indictment of the land myth, Joe B. Frantz, a well-known historian at the Unversity of Texas, called Texans "possibly the most land conscious in the U.S.'

Texans have been "so blessed we thought God was a Texan," Frantz said as he compared Texans blessings to a series of winning "lottery tickers".

The first ticket, he said, was the vast acreage which translated into fortunes from cattle and cotton production. The second ticket was Spindletop and the subsequent oil boom followed by a third, the aerospace industry and defense business.

He concluded that Texans have succeeded without very much collective thought and now will "try to get something by thinking." He pointed to the new emphasis on the electronics industry and the reform of the education system as ways to sustain prosperity in Texas.

John B. McDermott, A&M professor of philosophy and medical ethics, said we "... have been seduced by nature" by always looking towards land as the "script of out sal-

He deplored Texas cities for lacking an atmosphere like New York or Boston saying Texas "cities are iden-tified with ideas and sin." McDermott said the "drive for land is antiintellectual."

Referring to corporate tree farms in East Texas as "cellulose factories," Pete Gunter, a philosopy professor at North Texas State University said 80,000 to 100,000 acres a year of diverse Texas forests are being turned into an impersonal geometric space containing row after row of pine

While such businesses are highly profitable they "symbolize the virtual death of the land myth and the birth of the non-land myth," one that believes man does not need

land, Gunter said. Rick Floyd, Director of the Texas Real Estate Research Center finished off the program saying several other topics should have been addressed. Specifically he stated more attention should have been spent discussing the Texas Homestead law, foreign investment of Texas lands, and urban encroachment on productive farmland.

He also condemned the agricultural experiment stations saying they were originally created out of the land myth, but they have inadvertantly acted to destroy it. He said the promotion of mechanization and innovation caused the displacement of

Subject of miniseries saves life of prisoner

United Press International

BASTROP - Dr. Jeffrey Mac-Donald, subject of the television miniseries "Fatal Vision," helped save the life of a fellow convict who swallowed a toxic substance at a federal prison, sources said Sunday.

Prison spokesman Larry Taylor said a prisoner was found unconscious about 8:40 p.m. Saturday at the Federal Correctional Institute in Bastrop and MacDonald accompanied him to the prison hos-

"Inmates recognized that Dr. Mc-Donald had a medical background, so they called him to the scene," Taylor said. "He (the prisoner) was taken to the hospital, where our staff administered treatment, and he responded almost immediately

A prison source told United Press International, "He (MacDonald) brought the man back to life.

Officials at Brackenridge Hospital in nearby Austin said a prisoner identified as Ira Burkhart was admitted to the hospital Saturday night and released Sunday morning.

Prison sources said Burkhart swal-lowed a toxic substance inside a balloon that burst in his stomach.

MacDonald, a former Army physician, was sentenced to three consecutive life prison terms for the 1970 murders of his pregnant wife and two young daughters. He has been at the Bastrop prison for 21/2

The two-part miniseries concerning MacDonald is based on Joe Mc-Ginniss' book, "Fatal Vision." The former Green Beret claims the book and television show are inaccurate and will impair his chances of get-

ting a new trial.

MacDonald claims he was bound and stabbed by four intruders who invaded his home and attacked his family, chanting "Acid is groovy. Kill the pigs.

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