

State and Local

Moratorium set on destruction of Texas forest

AUSTIN (AP) — The U.S. Forest Service agreed Thursday to a week-long moratorium on destruction of an East Texas forest while Attorney General Jim Mattox determines the environmental impact.

"The U.S. Forest Service agreed to stop crushing the trees, which has been going on seven days a week at about 30 acres a day, and not to napa any of the crushed trees acreage during the moratorium," Mattox said.

Mike Lannan, supervisor for the U.S. forest lands in Texas, said, "We felt it was quite a legitimate request. This will give him an opportunity to look into it."

Mattox told a news conference Thursday that the Forest Service was burning 2,600 acres of timber in the Four-Notch area near Huntsville.

"It reminds me of the old adage about burning down the barn to get rid of the rats," Mattox said. "Now they're burning the forest to get rid of the pine beetles."

Lannan said stopping pine beetle damage was not the reason for the clearing of land in the area.

"The operation is a cleanup behind the pine beetle infestation of several years ago and to prepare for reforestation," Lannan said. "Pine beetles are generally inactive at this time."

Mattox said the Forest Service was destroying hardwood trees along with pines, and as a result destroying wildlife in that part of the Sam Houston National Forest.

"They are using a 52-ton machine to crush the trees, driving out various kinds of wildlife, including a type of woodpecker that is an endangered species in the forest area," Mattox said.

Lannan said the area being destroyed included a "few" hardwood trees.

"All the trees in the area are being removed," Lannan said. "However, we determined that about 30 percent of the area had a potential for producing quality hardwood trees and that area is not being treated at all."



Grease Is The Word

Photo by Alex Luke

A freshman "grease monkey" does a yell after greasing up a perimeter pole on the bonfire site Thursday. The oil is put on the perimeter poles

so that support ropes can be pulled taut around them and keep the centerpole in place until the stack is completed.

OPAS to present music and dance in Festival of India

By Karl Pallmeyer
Staff Writer

The music and dance of India will be presented at Rudder Auditorium Monday at 8 p.m. when the Memorial Student Center's Opera and Performing Arts Society presents Festival of India 1986.

More than 30 performers, including dancers, singers and musicians, will be presenting various folk dances, religious rituals and tribal rites of India's rich and varied cultural heritage. Several classic dances will be performed with the traditional accompaniment of sitar, tabla, bamboo flutes and other exotic instruments.

Most of the dances that will be performed have a deep religious significance in Indian culture. "Odissi," a dance that originated in the Hindu temples of the Eastern Indian state of Orissa, celebrates spiritual eroticism and mystic love.

"Purulia Chhau" features dancers wearing elaborate masks and costumes that represent good and evil. The dance shows the struggle between the opposing forces.

A 12th-century martial art form of Kalaripayattu combines fencing and dance. Kalaripayattu requires total control over mind and body as the dancer performs with spears, swords, knives and daggers. Only masters of the art are allowed to use the "urumi," or belt-sword. The "urumi" is a sharp, double-edged sword four to nine feet long that is flexible enough to be worn as a belt.

One of the songs to be performed is "Qawwali," a devotional song tied to the Sufi cult of Islam. The song dates back to the 13th century and is usually sung to praise Allah or Sufi saints during religious ceremonies.

Tickets are available at the Rudder box office. Prices are \$8.25 and \$10.25 for students and \$9.50 and \$12.50 for non-students.

Before the performance, the MSC Jordan Institute for International Awareness will sponsor a free program on the history of Indian dance and music in 201 MSC at 6:45 p.m.

Speaker says Palestinians favor secular state

By Olivier Uyttebrouck
Staff Writer

The great majority of Palestinians favor the creation of a secular state in which both Israelis and Palestinians live together within the boundaries of present day Israel, a Palestinian-American leader said Thursday at Rudder Tower.

Dr. Mounir Bayoud, who headed the Dallas office of the Arab States League from 1978 to 1982, said most Palestinians consider the Palestinian Liberation Organization and

its leader, Yassir Arafat, to be the only legitimate negotiators for them.

In the program sponsored by the International Students Association, Bayoud presented a history of Arab-Israeli relations from the Palestinian point of view, beginning by tracing the origin of the Palestinian people to a time before the creation of the Hebrew state.

Bayoud was born and raised in Lebanon but moved to Palestine as a young man in 1933, where he lived until the creation of the Israeli state

in 1948. He taught mathematics in Jerusalem and worked for the British government there during World War II.

Bayoud said that at the beginning of the war, Zionist extremists such as Menachem Begin stepped up violent attacks against Palestinians and the British government in an effort to force an Israeli state into existence. The Bureau of Labor was bombed three times while Bayoud was working there, he said.

About a month before the cre-

ation of Israel, a small Palestinian community was massacred by Jewish extremists, he said. He said he remembers trucks driving through the streets of Jerusalem, reminding Palestinians of the attack and warning them to leave the country.

With the founding of Israel in 1948, Bayoud moved back to Lebanon, working as director of a Palestinian refugee camp for orphans. Later he worked for the oil industry, first in Lebanon and then in the Persian Gulf state of Qatar.

Bayoud moved to the United States in 1958. In later visits to Lebanon, he said he was impressed by the social system the Palestinians built for themselves, including the schools and welfare institutions for the blind and the aged.

Bayoud defended the PLO administration, saying the factional conflicts and kidnapping of Americans did not begin in Beirut until after the 1982 Israeli invasion. This is when the PLO was driven out of Lebanon.

Super seats to see the SuperStar!



November 6
Rudder Auditorium/8 p.m.

Jesus Christ Superstar, the sensational opera that rocked the seventies, will open the 1986-87 MSC Town Hall/Broadway Season.

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This season MSC Town Hall/Broadway will present "Romeo and Juliet" February 14, 1987, Cole Porter's "Can-Can" March 1, 1987 and William Windom as "Thurber" April 23, 1987.

Tickets for "Jesus Christ Superstar" are on sale at the MSC Box Office, 845-1234. VISA and MasterCard accepted. Catch this Superstar!

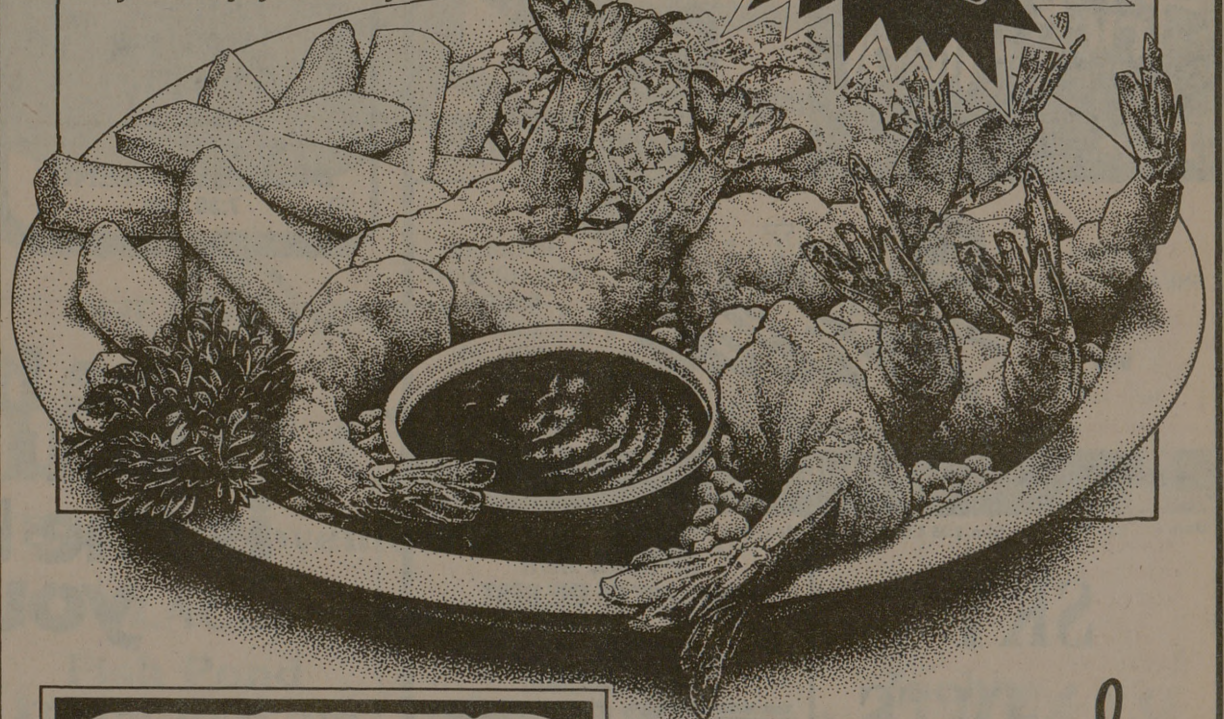
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