

**PARTHENON**  
**ΤΙΑΡΟΣΕΝΩΝΑΣ**



**THURSDAY**

**Free Coronas 8-10**  
764-8575 815 Harvey Rd.

**sizzling hot**

## Smoke, weather hinder firefighters' work in We

Thick smoke and changing weather hindered efforts Wednesday to contain the last big forest fires still burning in the West, where more than 1,000 square miles are charred and some fires were spreading again.

"It's sad to see Mother Nature doing this," California National Guardsman Dennis Berry lamented. California fire information officer Steve Smith said a layer of cool, humid air that had been holding dense smoke close to the ground and not fanning the flames in northern California and southern Oregon appeared to be lifting, with temperatures climbing.

In Washington, steep terrain allowed burning logs to roll past fire breaks on the Olympic Peninsula.

Art Wirtz at the Sacramento fire command center said in California that 76 firefighters have been in-

jured, dozens suffering from smoke inhalation. An additional 30 firefighters had been injured in Oregon. Three have died in vehicle accidents, two blamed on the dense smoke.

Fire spokesman Ron DeHart said smoke continued to prevent the use of aircraft to drop water and fire retardant in Oregon. Fog grounded water-dumping aircraft Wednesday in Washington.

Art Wirtz of the Sacramento Fire Command Information Center said the smoke was so bad in some parts of northern California that doctors equated breathing to smoking more than three packs of cigarettes a day.

George M. Leonard, associate chief of the Forest Service, said the force of nearly 22,000 firefighters on duty is "the greatest mobilization of firefighters that we have ever had in this country."

Since lightning began hundreds of fires on Aug. 28, 112,500 acres have been burned in Oregon.

Idaho had 30,800 acres and smaller fires in Washington, South Dakota, Wyoming, and Montana contributed to a total of 682,540 acres, or 1,060 miles.

Outside the region, 100,000 acres of grass and trees had been burned in Volcano National Park and firefighting crews were working from California.

State fire information officer Steve Smith said two major blazes totaling 70,000 acres in Mendocino National Forest north of San Francisco contained late Tuesday burned an additional 20,000 acres.

## Census Bureau says number of single people in 30s rising

WASHINGTON (AP) — The percentage of Americans in their early 30s who have never married has more than doubled since 1970, increasing the prospects that a growing minority will stay single all their lives, the Census Bureau reported Wednesday.

Among men between the ages of 30 and 34, those who had never married totaled 23.1 percent, according to estimates made last March.

That was up from 9.4 percent in a 1970 Census Bureau report.

Among women in the 30-34 age group, 14.6 percent had never been married, according to the 1987 report, compared with 6.2 percent in 1970.

In other age groups, 61 percent of women aged 20 to 24 had not married in 1987, compared with 36 percent in 1970. For women aged 25 to 29, the figure was 29 percent in 1987 against 11 percent in 1970.

For men, 78 percent aged 20 to 24 had not married this year, compared with 55 percent in 1970.

Among men in the 25-29 age group, 42 percent were not married, compared with 19 percent in 1970.

"The percentage that remains single throughout their lifetime is likely to be higher than in the past in view of the increases in never-marrieds among today's young adults," the re-

port said. "The vast majority, however, eventually are likely to marry."

Steve Rawlings of the Census Bureau said that historically all but 5 percent of Americans have been married at least once by the time they reach age 50. He said that figure is likely to double to 10 percent, based on the trends on delayed marriages observed over the past two decades.

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— Census Bureau report

In 1987, the median age for an American bride was 23.6 years, compared with 20.3 years in 1950. The median age means that half the women have married by this age. The 1987 figure was the highest age

since recordkeeping began.

For men, the median age at first marriage climbed to 26.1 this year, the highest it was since 1900, when it was 23.

The median age at first marriage had been declining for a century until the 1960s, started to rise as the post-World War II Boom generation chose higher educations and careers, postponed marriage and family obligations.

The statistics on marriage contained in the Census Bureau study "Marital Status and Divorce: March 1987."

Among other findings reported:

- There were 89.5 million households in March 1987, an increase of 8.7 million since 1980.

- Married-couple families under the age of 18 declined to 27.5 percent of all households in 1987, compared with 29 percent of all households in 1980. The report attributed this to postponement of marriage and child-bearing and increasing divorce rates.

- The number of Americans living alone accounted for 21 percent of American households in 1987, up from 17.1 percent in 1980, but the increase in this category slowed dramatically during the 1980s.

## Ford recalls 4.3 million vehicles to correct potential fire hazards

WASHINGTON (AP) — Ford Motor Co. on Wednesday announced a voluntary recall of 4.3 million 1986-88 cars, trucks and vans to correct problems that potentially could cause engine or fuel system fires.

The recall is the auto industry's largest since 1981. It covers 2.3 million cars and 1.8 million light trucks with fuel-injected engines across Ford's product line, including the popular Mercury Sable and Ford Taurus models as well as Aerostar vans, company officials said.

Another 200,000 Econoline vans were recalled in a separate action so that a heat shield can be installed to prevent the fuel tank from overheating, causing gasoline to spurt out when opened.

The company said the recall follows 222 reports of engine fires caused by a failure of couplings used to connect fuel lines. The government said it also has received nearly 100 complaints, including 16 fires, stemming from the tank overheating problem in the Econoline vans.

"We're glad Ford is recalling the cars," said Clarence Ditlow, executive director of the Center for Auto Safety. "They're definitely a hazard on the road."

The Washington-based consumer group had raised concern about engine fires in some of the vehicles. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration began

a formal investigation into the fuel line coupler problem last May after receiving numerous complaints about fires from Ford and Mercury owners.

One agency source, speaking on condition of anonymity, said NHTSA officials had identified by name, said NHTSA officials had Ford privately to recall the cars although no recall request had yet been sent.

According to Ford, the action involving the couplers covers the 1986-88 Ford Escort, Mustang, Thunderbird and LTD Crown Victoria, Mercury Lynx, Sable, Capri, Cougar and Grand Marquis and the Lincoln Continental, Mark VII and Town Car.

Other vehicles covered by the recall are the Bronco and Ranger trucks, the Bronco and the Econoline vans.

Ford officials said the owners of these cars can turn them to their dealers so that a plastic shield can be installed over the coupler for protection.

John King, a Ford official, said, "The recall is designed to provide an extra latching mechanism to prevent the couplings from separating even if they are latched properly." He said priority will be given to owners who have had service during which the couplers were likely to have been disconnected.

## Dillard's is pleased to announce the formation of the Fall '87 College Advisory Board



The Dillard's College Advisory Board is being formed with the intention of developing a direct communication link with the Texas A&M University student body. Our goal is to use this feedback in a constructive manner to better serve the student customer. Participants will serve on a rotating basis, attending monthly luncheons, working in the store on rotating basis, (6-8 paid hours every two weeks) and will be eligible for a special discount.

Applications are available for college men and women at Customer Service and are due Sept. 18. Contact Pam Johnsen at 764-0014

# Dillard's

POST OAK MALL, HARVEY ROAD AT HIGHWAY 6 BYPASS, COLLEGE STATION

## Pi Sigma Epsilon

professional business fraternity open to all majors.

New Member Rush

Rush Party Thursday, Sept. 10, 7:00 p.m.

206 MSC

Casual Attire

Orientation Information Meeting

Monday, Sept. 14, 7:00 p.m.

212 MSC

Business Attire

For more information contact Lori Finfer, 776-0577