## Grass fire burns out of control, destroys dozens of homes

☐ At least 49 people were injured Thursday. Ninety buildings were destroyed or damaged.

POOLVILLE, (AP) — Linda Dixon stood ankle deep in the ashes Thursday looking for bits and pieces of her life. She was not having much luck.

'There's nothing left. Nothing," she said, her face ruddy and covered with soot from digging in 90-degree heat.

Dixon's small wood-framed ranch home was one of 65 houses destroyed by raging grass fires that continued to spread Thursday in Parker and Wise counties, fueled by gusty winds and grass so dry from drought that it crackled beneath one's feet.
In all, some 16,000 acres had

burned Thursday afternoon, down from earlier estimates, when firefighters had about 70 percent of the flames contained.

The grass fire near Poolville, 35 miles northwest of Fort Worth, injured at least 49 people, said Joe Clement, a motorists tossing cigarettes or sponse and recovery said. spokesman for the Texas Dematches, and arson. But no decision had been partment of Safety. Another 90 buildings and an equal number of vehicles were also destroyed or damaged, he said.

Unseasonably hot, windy and tinder-dry weather has been feeding fires across Texas. Gov. George W. Bush asked for a federal disaster declaration for the entire state.

Officials instituted a ban on outdoor burning across a fourth of the state. They also warned of automobiles sparking dry grass, matches, and arson.

Bush, who flew over Parker County to assess the damage, made state workers, National Guard helicopters and heavy equipment available to fight the blaze. He also mobilized a newly created fire-fighting task force to battle grass fires.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency gave Texas access to federal manpower and equipment as well as the potential for financial aid, FEMA's regional division director for re-

made on the request for an emergency disaster declaration, which would allow the federal government to pre-position firefighting equipment and crews across the state in preparation for other blazes possible in the dry heat, said Dell Greer, divi-sion director of FEMA's regional office in Denton.

'Our emphasis right now is on the immediate situation" in Poolville, he said.

"I compare this to Vietnam,"

said Dallas firefighter Mike Bar rett, who was among some 20 firefighters battling the blaze Thursday. "Those flames more through and it looks like Nepalm. The fire is going 20 miles per hour."

Firefighters used small tanker trucks called "brush trucks" to maneuver through the stands of trees and to try to

douse the flames. "But those trucks can't go everywhere," Barrett said "You use a shovel. A hoe. broom. Whatever.'

THE BATTALION

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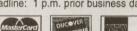
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**Spring Break Employment** 

The Texas Transportation Institute is looking for students from the following cities to survey child safety seat use during Spring Break: Amarillo, Austin, Beaumont, Brownsville, Corpus Christi, Dallas, El Paso, Ft. Worth, Houston, Lubbock, San Antonio, Tyler, & Waco. \$6/hr. plus gas.

Call 845-2736, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. for interview.

Attention! Going to be around over Spring Break & want employment for the Spring semester? Great, Aggle Outreach is accepting applications. Earn \$\$\$, speak with former Ags, & enhance your resume. For more info., come by The Assn. of Former Students, corner of Bush & Houston, or call 845-0425. Flexible evening & weekend work \$5.50/hr. + bonus.

evening & weekend work \$5.50/hr. + bonus. Window System Operator Texas A&M Aggie Outreach Program Job Description - The Systems Operator is responsible of maintaining & supporting a 20 station network used by part-time student employees. This includes training the students, supporting the other program managers & reporting all results to the appropriate managers. The System Operator reports directly to the Program Manager. Please call for more info. at 845-0425

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SPRING BREAK EMPLOYMENT - The Texas Transportation institute is looking for students from the following cities to survey child safety seat use during

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#### TRAVEL

THE BATTALION

#### found money to build it. So 99 corporations and individuals in Amarillo started donating in 1993 to a cause they saw as elevation of the region's prestige and capacity for education.

"It was pretty much a home-grown effort from the folks in the Texas Panhandle who said we'd like to have that pharmacy school, said state Sen. Teel Bivins, R-Amarillo. "It's a great deal for Texas because I just don't know if the money was there for a new capita investment like that.'

Amarillo donations build

Pharmacy, state's fourth

AMARILLO (AP) — Donors in Amarillo injected a large dose cash to build the Texas Tech School of Pharmacy.

The city's economic development group, hospital district and private citizens combined to give \$13 million toward a facility that will

open in August for 55 students. The state will pay operating costs.

one outside of Austin and Houston - comes 23 years after state

leaders first gave their approval. Legislatures since 1973 had never

Construction of the pharmacy school - Texas' fourth, the only

**Texas Tech School of** 

People who keep up with pharmaceutical trends say a new training site is long overdue. Dr. Arthur A. Nelson, dean of the new Tech pharmacy school, said Texas currently has three: at the University of Texas, University ty of Houston and Texas Southern. Baylor University operated a

pharmacy school in Dallas until 1931. A 1993 report by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board noted that the three schools graduate 360 baccalaureate-trained pharmacists each year. The Texas Employment Commission, meanwhile, predicts 705 annual pharmacist job openings in the state through the year 2000.

"The shortage is a result of a lack of school out here" in West Texas, Nelson said. "Everybody has had to be imported. That's difficult to do.' And sources said the demand for pharmacists will continue to

mount as Texas' population increases and grows more elderly. Nelson said the school in Amarillo will focus on rural areas in

## Baylor

**Continued from Page 1** 

newspaper, Singletary's appearance in the magazine went nearly unnoticed. "I don't have a comment as to

how that may have happened, but I want to emphasize the fact that it's not only the posing, but it's the entire philosophy of Playboy. It's the entire antimonogamy, anti-women, anti-family outlook they portray,"

"I certainly want Baylor University and all of our faculty, staff and students to be as completely istant from everything that Playboy represents as we can possibly encourage.

Although the 1980 pictorial

caused the biggest controversy,

other Baylor students have posed

the following fall semester. In 1989, a male Baylor student was disciplined for appearing in Playgirl. The student, who ap peared wearing a bikini-style swimsuit, said he did not know

Two Baylor women posed for the 1988 Southwest Conference

pictorial, but neither re-enrolled

since then.

the magazine would mention him as a Baylor student. At the time, neither the student nor university officials would release details of the sanc-

tions, but the student said they involved community service. Playboy Sports Editor Gary Cole said very few players decline

Playboy's invitation to the team. "There have been a few incidents where a player will object usually on religious grounds, Cole said. "We've had a few in stances where coaches have said 'I don't believe in it, so I don't

## Lecturer

**Continued from Page 1** Religious issues surfaced at the program when Grundy told students that they should not form the habit of looking for God and spirituality in church.

An A&M student panel, who commented on campus events and attitudes, contributed comments to Grundy's speech.

Octavia Evangelista, a panel

member and junior political science major, said the key to progress is educating with books and healthy discussion. Evangelista challenged students to become more aware of

what is happening in the world around them. Students, such as Quinton Haskins, a sophomore general

studies major, were asked by Grundy to articulate why they came to Texas A&M.

want my players to come."

along with a variety of people and to get an education," Haskins said. The program closed with Grundy's prediction that racism

"I came here to learn to get

"Racism is breathing its last breath," she said. Students continued discussing the issues Grundy presented af-

would end in the 21st Century.

ter the program ended. Jemia Midget, a junior journalism major, said the program gave insight into the history and future of African-Americans. "I honestly think we were edu-

cated on important issues that African-Americans deal with in day-to-day life, as well as on this campus," Midget said. "She has given us tools in which to combat racism and other situations.

## Statue

#### **Continued from Page 1**

of Texas," he said. "The next step is an aggressive fundraising effort.

The Gaines statue could cost \$200,000 and take nearly two years to erect.

Tina Harrison, chairwoman of the Black Awareness Committee, said that because of the positive symbolic message the University would send to African-American students by erecting a statue of Gaines. money contributed to the project would be spent well.

"Providing an accurate account of history and paying proper homage to all A&M leaders represents a change for the better," Harrison said. "This statue won't make students honor others any less. It should serve as an acknowledgement that there are some unsung heroes that are equally as deserving of tributes."

Harrison said the proposed Gaines memorial inspires a renewed sense of Aggie Spirit within her. 'It makes me feel part of

the University more, knowing that a black man took part in establishing all land grant in stitutions in Texas," she said. "It shows that all races have a stake in this institution.

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