



Prior
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departments until a national search committee makes recommendations to Gates for a permanent replacement.

While Douglas was in office, he worked as an invaluable member in departing President Dr. Ray M. Bowen's administration.

He also served as acting president when Bowen was out of town or unavailable to make important decisions.

"[Douglas] has an extremely instinctive memory of the University and how it has come along," said Director of University Relations Cynthia Lawson. "He can greatly assist Dr. Gates as he

comes up to speed and learns about the University and understands the inner workings of the faculty and staff."

There has been no word as to who might replace Prior as the dean of geosciences when he assumes his new position.

"This is breaking news for us," Prior said. "I will be talking to the heads of all of the departments, and Dr. Gates and I will be looking into that situation when we get the opportunity."

Gates also announced Monday that current Assistant Provost Rodney McClendon will serve as the chief of staff in the president's office as of Aug. 1.

President-designate Gates was unavailable for comment on the new appointments.

Aggie Moms
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president of the Northwest Harris County Aggie Mom's Club.

During 1999-2000, Grey's sector raised about \$339,379 and about two-thirds of the proceeds went to scholarships to new freshmen and returning students. Another part of the money went to leadership organizations around campus, she said.

"We hope to donate even more money towards student organizations next year," Grey said. "We hope to place an emphasis on student leadership around the university."

The Northwest Harris County club also puts

out a Federation yearbook, which is funded by advertisements from on-campus organizations.

Efforts to raise funds throughout the year range from bake sales and garage sales, to concerts with the Singing Cadets. The Aggie Moms also have an enormous craft sale and boutique each year during Parent's Weekend in April, which generates a majority of the funds raised by each Aggie Mom's Club.

Erikson said their district raises about \$12,000-\$14,000 annually, and they usually give away three \$500 scholarships to new freshmen and 10 \$750 scholarships to returning students.

The Aggie Moms will continue the well-known tradition of goody bags that are sent to students before each set of finals during the year.

Renovation
Continued from page 1

comes together now," Eckhart said.

Some walls were removed in order to use the existing square footage more efficiently.

Anna Cordero, clothing manager of the MSC Bookstore, said the changes are a big improvement.

"In my department we eliminated the Aggie gift counter," Cordero said. "This gave us much more wall and floor space for merchandise. Customers will also be able to move through the store better because the store's new design eliminates congestion."

The former gift counter is now a circular cashier center and service desk in the middle of the sales floor and the clothing

Military report does not determine cause of rescue mission shooting

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — A Philippine military report released Monday said soldiers used extreme caution on a mission to rescue two Americans and a Filipino nurse held hostage by Muslim extremists, but did not say how two of the captives were killed.

Elite Philippine troops ambushed rebels of the Abu Sayyaf group on June 7 in the southern Philippines. Martin Burnham, a missionary from Wichita, Kan., and Ediborah Yap were killed in the ensuing shootout. Burnham's wife, Gracia, was shot in the right thigh but rescued.

The report signed by Maj. Gen. Ernesto Carolina, head of military forces in the south, said soldiers used single-shot fire and refrained from using grenades in hopes of sparing the hostages.

The Abu Sayyaf rebels were

"firing in all directions" on full automatic, the report said. "Enemy bullets continued to rain near the American hostages."

The report said Martin Burnham was shot in the back, but did not say who shot him. It also did not conclude how Yap was killed, but said the rescue team believed she was hacked by a bladed weapon judging from the gaping wound she sustained.

Soldiers had said earlier Yap was apparently shot in the back. Three rebels were killed and seven soldiers were wounded in the fighting. About 20 rebels escaped into the jungle during the shootout.

The Philippine military was to hold a news conference Tuesday to further explain the eight-page report.

The Burnhams were kidnapped May 27, 2001, from a southwestern beach resort,

along with Guillermo Sobro Corona, Calif., and 17 Filipino. Yap was taken hostage five days later during a rebel raid on a southern hospital.

Sobero and some of the hostages were beheaded later. Others escaped or were released, reportedly for ransom.

About 1,000 U.S. troops were involved in a counterterrorism exercise in the southern Philippines to train Filipino soldiers to better fight the Sayyaf.

Philippine military officials have said U.S. surveillance equipment, including spy planes and satellite imagery, was in tracking down the Abu Sayyaf guerrillas holding the Burnhams and Yap.

Philippine troops are still hunting members of the Abu Sayyaf group which has been linked to the international al-Qaida network, on three southern islands.

Woman arrested for disaster

DENVER (AP) — Just last week, veteran U.S. Forest Service worker Terry Barton was explaining how she stumbled upon what would become the largest wildfire in Colorado history.

"I tried to throw dirt on it, but the winds were going crazy and it was just too late," she told The Gazette of Colorado Springs. "I think I know in my heart that there was nothing I could do."

That story didn't add up to investigators who arrested the 38-year-old Barton on Sunday and accused her of igniting the blaze by setting fire to a letter from her estranged husband at a campfire site. They say she didn't notice the fire racing out of control until she was driving away.

The sprawling fire is about halfway contained. Hundreds of firefighters remain on duty and 5,400 residents are still waiting to go home.

Many have been angered by the arrest of an 18-year Forest Service employee for a fire that has destroyed 25 homes, burned 103,000 acres and cost nearly \$10 million to fight.

Barton's colleagues are bewildered.

"It's tough. We still have a job to do," Forest Service spokesman David Steinke said. "A lot of people have called, telling us they are behind us and letting us know they're not blaming us."

"They trust us with their public lands. It feels good that people support us and realize that one person did this unthinkable act," he said.

Federal authorities say Barton confessed over the weekend and have charged her with setting fire

to timber in a national forest, damaging property and making false statements to investigators. If convicted, she faces up to 20 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine.

Barton was ordered held without bail at the request of U.S. Attorney John Suthers.

"She would return to a community in which there is considerable hostility toward her," Suthers said.

Barton appeared in court in handcuffs. Her attorney quavered as she told a magistrate she understood she could be sentenced to prison. Her public defender, Rick Williamson, refused to comment.

The fire began June 8 and quickly roared out of control, burning across the foothills between Colorado Springs and the southwest of Denver. Investigators at first said it had been started at a campfire, then backed off and said it was somehow human-caused.

It was a week's worth of firefighting work that led to the arrest.

Barton initially told investigators she was patrolling the Pike National Forest when she smelled smoke and went to investigate according to affidavits. She said she found a 20-foot fire near a campsite, called for help and vainly attempted to put it out.

But investigators found evidence that the fire was set deliberately to look like an escaped campfire. They looked at the time it started and concluded that the fire spread too quickly to have come from a campfire.

"A lot of people have called, telling us they are behind us and letting us know they're not blaming us."

— David Steinke
Forest Service spokesman

Photos
Continued from page 1

of Student Life Dave Parrott because it was not under his jurisdiction to decide what action should be taken, he said.

"The person who gave [the photographs] to me had some concern and did not know what should be done," Dorsey said. "I didn't know what concerns to have so I turned them over to Student Life."

Dorsey would not comment on where

or who found the photographs first.

Mike Collins, assistant director of Student Life, said they received the photos late on Thursday afternoon. He contacted the UPD on Friday morning and delivered the photos to them Friday afternoon.

"When the pictures were forwarded to us, we decided to give them to UPD to see if any charges would need to be filed," Collins said.

Watt confirmed that he received the photos from the Department of Student Life.

After the UPD completes the investi-

gation, the University will evaluate any violations of student rules, he said.

Collins also said he cannot comment about the contents of the photos under the rules of the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act.

Mills also said neither the University nor the Corps will take action until the UPD completes the investigation.

"We take accusations of hazing seriously and the University is pursuing [the incident]," Mills said. "We won't take any action until they finish the investigation."

look and feel of the bookstore as well.

Krissa Fritsche, a junior history major said the renovations are a welcome change.

"I like the new vibrant colors," Fritsche said. "The store feels a lot more warm and inviting. It also looks bigger and finding customer service help is much easier."

The student workers at the bookstore are enjoying a new work environment, too.

James Holland, a senior psychology major, who works for the software department said, "I like what they've done [to the bookstore]. We now have a more comfortable atmosphere and customers have more accessibility to everything."

"Our staff has increased so we can put the store back

together," Eckhart said. "The student workers are benefiting from more hours and they've been a tremendous help in getting us back in place and re-chandised."

The last remodeling of the bookstore was approximately 10 years ago when Barnes & Noble College Bookstores took over the store from the old system, Cordero said.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Lawyers argue Lindh had right to associate with Taliban

ALEXANDRIA, Va. (AP) — John Walker Lindh's attorneys argued Monday that the American had a constitutional right to befriend the Taliban and the government should not be allowed to proceed with a prosecution of "guilt by association."

Mounting a broad constitutional challenge, defense lawyers said the trial judge to dismiss Lindh's indictment on several grounds, including that he had immunity from prosecution as a captive enemy soldier.

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