

'Pretty Place' saved from fire



PATRICK COLLARD / Staff

A firefighter stands watch over a wildfire at "Pretty Place."

Battle to continue today

■ Boy Scouts discovered blaze. Page 2A

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JONES GAP STATE PARK— One of the Greenville area's best-known mountain overlooks came perilously close Sunday to being consumed in a 110-acre wildfire, but firefighters saved the chapel before wind-whipped flames could so much as char its

stonary exterior, authorities said.

Fire surrounded Fred W. Symmes Chapel, better known as "Pretty Place," before Cedar Mountain, N.C. firefighters dug breaks and hosed down the area, said Charles "Hub" Smith, a supervisor for the state Forestry Commission.

Countless people have met, married and found Christ at the chapel, which is on North Carolina property owned by

YMCA Camp Greenville, said YMCA president Bill Barringer.

"I think the real tribute goes out to that Cedar Mountain fire department," Barringer said. "They're a little, small fire department, but they did very well."

About 30 firefighters from various agencies expect to continue battling the flames today and hope to have them contained by noon, Smith said.