

Arrivals from Canada, Mexico

# SCONA 24 opens here today

By LOUIE ARTHUR  
Battalion Reporter  
National and international student leaders are arriving today to attend the 24th Student Conference

on National Affairs. The 180 SCONA 24 delegates will discuss America's economic environment at round-table sessions after listening to guest speakers in

Rudder Auditorium or the Memorial Student Center. The speeches are free and open to the public.

Other events include a square dance, barbecue, parties and attending the Festival of Russian Dance.

Thirty Texas A&M students will serve as hosts and hostesses for the conference, which ends Saturday morning.

Vice chairman of the host/hostess committee, Rebel Rice, described the job of SCONA hosts and hostesses as "making someone else feel like they belong here."

They were chosen on the basis of their poise and personality, Rice said. Three hosts or hostesses assigned to each round table, but they are not involved in the discussions.

"They tell the delegates about A&M, handle emergencies, answer questions and even teach them how to kicker-dance," Rice said.

Jill Hall, a senior economics major, will be a hostess for the second time. "It's a blast," Hall said. "It's the most fun thing I've ever done."

There are 13 male students serving as hosts this year, more than any previous year, Rice said.

Dom Hartman, a sophomore electrical engineering major, will be a host for the first time. Hartman said he wanted to be "in the hub of everything going on."

A hot air balloon will be tethered in the Rudder Fountain area through Saturday to publicize the conference.

## Campus Names

Starr, Shelby place at Baylor tourney

The Texas A&M University Debate team went to Baylor University's National Debate Tournament Feb. 2-4. Sophomores Michael Shelby and freshman James Starr placed fifth in the overall competition, with wins against the University of Southwestern Louisiana, Texas Tech, Carson-Newman, University of Texas-Arlington and the University of Southern California.

Starr and Shelby were ranked sixth and tenth respectively in the field of over 70 contestants.

The team's next tournament is this weekend at Southwest Texas State University.

Young Texan dinner honors 5 Aggies

The South Central Texas District and the North Texas District Optimist International and Young Texan & Tex-Anne Program held their 1979 Annual Awards Banquet Jan. 27, to honor the Young Texans and Tex-Annes of the Month for 1978. Five of the 24 nominees attended Texas A&M University.

Hellriegel chosen to attend seminar

Dr. Don Hellriegel, head of Texas A&M University's Management Department, is one of five faculty members in the nation to be selected to lead the annual National Seminar of Beta Gamma Sigma, the national honorary fraternity of business administration.

Hellriegel will attend the premier gathering of honor students March 27-29 at the University of Virginia. At the meeting, the Texas A&M professor will conduct a 3.5-hour seminar for 60 of the country's best business administration students.

His topic is "Management of Conflict" and will focus on ways of dealing with conflict situations within organizations. Hellriegel joined the Texas A&M faculty in 1975.

## Divorce may end family, sociology professor says

United Press International  
IOWA CITY, Iowa — A Columbia University sociology professor says the accelerating rate of divorces could mean the end of the family in America by the turn of the century.

"What we have been seeing for the last 13 years is a snowball effect," Amatai Etzioni said Monday during a program at the University of Iowa. "We can no longer consider the total breakdown of the family as inconceivable."

In the future the world can either abandon its traditional family structure or move toward a new set of family commitments, he said.

In any case, we cannot see a society in which the family survives if the ego of the individual becomes the ultimate purpose," he said.

Etzioni said only scattered data exists on troubled families; researchers a "need to give that topic high-powered treatment today," he said.

To even say that we can have an extended family ignores our modern mobile society where we organize

our labor force around the working unit. To have an extended family, we all must go back to the fields," Etzioni said.

Others say that divorce is beneficial to family life, and claim to have found a better sex life and wiser partner, he said.

"For some it might work," he said, "but statistics show that 37 percent of first marriages and 57 percent of the second ones end in divorce."

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