

# ISA exhibits on display now

By JANA SIMS  
Campus Reporter

International Week officially began Monday as Texas A&M University Board of Regents Chairman Clyde H. Wells, flanked by Texas A&M President Jarvis Miller and State Rep. Bill Presnal, cut a ceremonial ribbon, clearing the way to an array of cultural exhibits in the Memorial Student Center.

Miller gave the opening address and said he thought this would be "the greatest International Week ever." He said this week affords an opportunity for international students to show their culture, art and talent and enables American students to better understand the backgrounds of the international students.

International Students Association president Reiyadh Chakmakchi then led the way through the displays. Spectators viewed rich tapestries from Arab countries, bright paper parasols from Thailand and gold-trimmed jeweled slippers from Taiwan. A Chinese student sawed melodies from a "gin-hu" cellostyle as onlookers gazed at delicate Hong Kong figurines and Vietnamese plants complete with paper lanterns. Visitors were invited to sample food from El Salvador and to try their musical hand at an Indonesian "angklung," an instrument made of bamboo.

In the MSC lounge, the onlookers then watched a preview of Wednesday night's ISA talent show. It began

with a Latin American group singing a popular Latin song that the surrounding crowd clapping in unison. The performance was followed by three songs sung in Swahili by a student from Kenya, a flamenco dance by an American student clad in a bright green and white polka dot dress with clattering castanets and six girls from Thailand performing a folk dance.

Afterwards, guests and members of the Board of Regents were treated to an international buffet of foods such as grape leaves, chicharron do pollo, almond jelly and cous cous (lamb).

Board of Regents member John Blocker gave a closing note in Spanish.

Miller said he thought the day's events were "tremendous." Chakmakchi has partly credited Miller with an increased responsiveness by the administration toward international student needs. Miller said this was done internationally, as he felt in the past there has been a lack of response not only to international student needs but toward overseas technical projects.

Miller cited last year's establishment of the office of Vice President for International Affairs as an example of Texas A&M's desire to coordinate and promote University involvement abroad and to address the international concerns of the students, faculty and staff at Texas A&M.



Saipin Dereu and Valaiporn Piriyan welcome Texas A&M University President Jarvis Miller, State Rep. Bill Presnal and Vice President for International Affairs T.R. Greathouse (partially hidden) to their exhibit at the opening of International Students Week. The exhibits are at the first floor hallway of the Memorial Student Center.

Photo by Janet E. Golub

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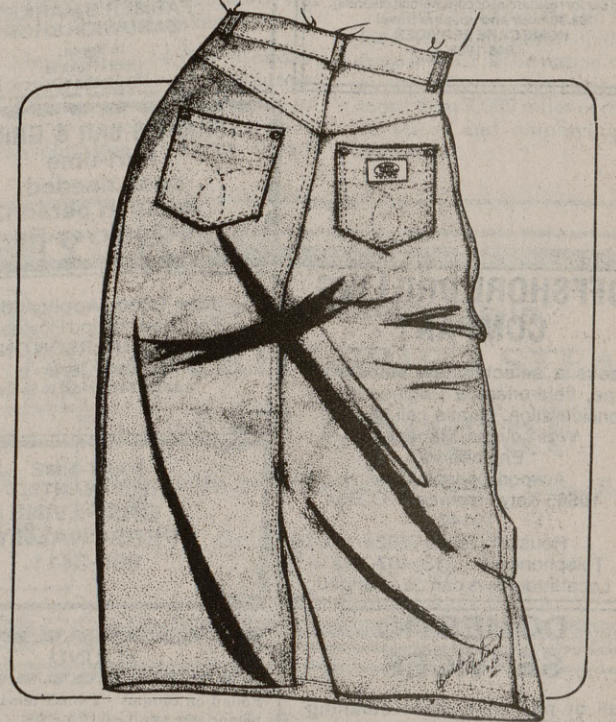


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## Parks

(Continued from page 1)

Five miles west of Bryan, has a lake for fishing, canoeing and sailing, but waterskiing is not allowed. Fifty acres of parkland offer picnic tables, barbeque grills, restrooms, a boat ramp and even a fish cleaning table. There is a \$2 entry fee per car with six people.

Tanglewood Park on Carter Creek Parkway has a picnic shelter which can seat up to 150 people. This can be reserved for a \$10 fee. In addition there is a flower garden, two lighted tennis courts and a wading pool.

Travis Park on Carson Street has a softball complex with three lighted fields and a concession stand which can be rented for invitational tournaments on weekends. The cost is \$40 a day for use of the fields and lights. There is a \$100 clean-up fee which will be returned if the fields are clean after use. Director Jay S. Williams said the fee used to be only \$25, but it was increased as an incentive for people to clean up properly.

The other lighted softball fields, at Haswell Park at East 24th and Nall streets and Thomas Park on Old Kurten Road, can be reserved for \$7 an hour, but Williams said they are booked for league play from now through August. However, organized teams can reserve these during

the day, Williams said.

Reservations can be made at the Bryan Parks and Recreation Department office at 203 E. 29th St. For more information on any Bryan park call 779-5622.

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