

Local / State

A&M international students featured in TV series

By LAURA LARSON
Battalion Reporter
"Beyond Our Borders," a TV program taped at KAMU-TV with the cooperation of the Texas A&M International Student Association will feature several Texas A&M International students.
The 10-week series was created in an attempt to give Americans insight to different cultures.
"Very few Americans know anything about cultures besides

their own," Ruth Bomar, program producer-director, said. "If we understood other cultures and how their people think, I believe it would help international understanding and be reflected in our foreign policy."
Each part of the series features a different country which was selected by the ISA. However, the programs focus on the fact that the individuals are citizens of their

country, rather than students at Texas A&M.
There are between 1700 and 1800 foreign students from about 85 countries attending the University, Geraldo Alves do O, ISA president said. Alves do O is a graduate student in Agricultural Economics from Brazil.
He said the countries featured in the series were chosen because they each have more than 15 students in their organization. Fif-

teen is the minimum number that a group of students from a particular country can have to form a club.
The selection also was based on regional location, he said. The series covers the Americas, Africa, the Middle East and Asia. European countries are not represented because there aren't enough students from a European country to form a club.
Taping for "Beyond the Borders" began in mid-July and was completed the first week of August, Bomar said. About 50 Texas A&M students are featured in the programs.
The format for each country includes a presentation of an art form, a custom, tradition or music, a food dish typical of that country, a discussion on current political trends and a historical review or geographical representa-

tion.
Initial plans for the series included 12 countries, Alves do O said, but two that were chosen dropped from the roster for political reasons.
He said ISA appreciates KAMU-TV for developing the shows because "they help open a window for Americans about other countries and show that there is some understanding between them."

ISA promotes cultural, social and political activities and sponsors seminars to help narrow gaps between foreign students and Americans, Alves do O said.
Featured in order of their appearance will be India, Venezuela, the Republic of China (Taiwan), Palestine, South Korea, Nigeria, Mexico, Lebanon, Tanzania and El Salvador. The programs will air on Wednesdays at 7 p.m. and Saturdays at 3 p.m.

Three-car taxi fleet brings Texas-style travel to Dallas

United Press International
DALLAS — For the out-of-towner, Big D comes on like an amusement park, and now there's a fitting ride to take you from one attraction to another.
Conceived on a typically Texan wild hair by writer Kirk Dooley and banker DeWitt Ray, the Texas Taxi limousine service gives the traveler a taste of the mobile good life — Texas style — in a white Cadillac convertible with longhorns on the hood, Texas flags fluttering from the fenders, and Lone Star longnecks in the fridge.
"It's really a grand sight to see the whole three-car fleet coming down the street at once," said Ray, 26.
But to hear Ray tell it, it's hard to say who has more fun — the driver or the passenger.
Since Texas Taxi opened May 3, Ray and Dooley have chafed Larry Hagman, Linda

Gray, and others from the "Dallas" television show cast, plus such luminaries as Bill Cosby and Joel Grey. But you don't have to be a celebrity.
Ray said there's something about the taxi that invites clients to be as expansive as Texas itself, concocting bizarre displays of affluence of the kind that makes the state famous.
"There was the time we chafed for the Screen Door Open, a golf tournament that brought together 24 people from all over the world," Ray recalled. "We picked them up early Saturday morning and took them to the Reunion Tower, where they took helicopters to the Tenison Memorial Golf Course."
"We were supposed to pick them up at the 18th green, but when they got there they all started loading their golf bags into the cars, and we became the offi-

cial caddys for the rest of the course.
Ray says some of his best times have been when Larry Hagman is in town, ever since the time he took Hagman down to Adair's, an authentic West Texas honky-tonk transplanted in the heart of Dallas' arty Oak Lawn district. Ray says Hagman pronounced the Texas Taxi crew "the craziest people I've met in Texas."
"We worked with him and Linda Gray once, taking them over to Fort Worth to see Joel Grey and Liza Minelli," he recalls. "We wound up taking Joel Grey over to Billy Bob's (billed as the world's biggest honky-tonk)."
"Liza didn't get to go, but as we pulled away she was laughing so hard she was in tears, because this is exactly the kind of thing you'd expect J.R. to do."
The experience aside, Ray said the taxi service — at \$50 an hour

with a two-hour minimum — is on the verge of breaking even, a couple of months ahead of schedule. But it's hard to see Texas Taxi as just another business.

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Port of Houston Authority seeks foreign trade zone

United Press International
HOUSTON — The Port of Houston Authority plans to seek a foreign trade zone for the port which a spokesman said would stimulate local economy, create jobs and increase foreign trade.
Port spokesman Ed Horne said a foreign trade zone — where imported goods can be stored, processed or assembled without bonding fees or time limits and then exported duty free — would be an asset to the Gulf Coast business community.
The authority Monday voted to make an application for the trade zone, but Horne said it would be at least six months before it could be established.

Although outside the jurisdiction of the U.S. Customs Service, a customs officer must be stationed in foreign trade zones, Horne said.
Foreign trade zones are not usually utilized by consumers, but used by manufacturers, Horne said.
The application will be forwarded to the Foreign Trade Zone Board in Washington, D.C., which is made up of the Secretaries of Commerce, Treasury and the Army, Horne said.
Presently, there are about 60 foreign trade zones in the country, although only about half of them are active, Horne said.

At least 24 local companies had expressed an interest in a foreign trade zone operated by the Port of Houston. Horne said the board has not determined a site for the trade zone, but it will be somewhere in Harris County.

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Mariachi band to perform today

A Houston mariachi band presented by the MSC Committee for Awareness of Mexican-American Culture will play at Rudder Fountain today in honor of Mexican Independence Day.
The band, Los Crystales, will play the traditional Mexican folk music from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. In case of rain, the band will play in the MSC Main Lounge.
Mexican Independence Day celebrates the beginning of Mexico's fight for independence from Spain. The Spanish monarchy had ruled Mexico since the Conquest

in 1521, when it set up a feudal system of land ownership and social hierarchy under which Indians and peasants were oppressed. Only Spaniards were allowed in the upper classes.
On Sept. 16, 1810, Father Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla led a group of peasants and Indians in a revolt against the Spanish government. Within days, other revolutionary groups appeared throughout the country. The war lasted 11 years, until the Mexicans won their independence in 1821.

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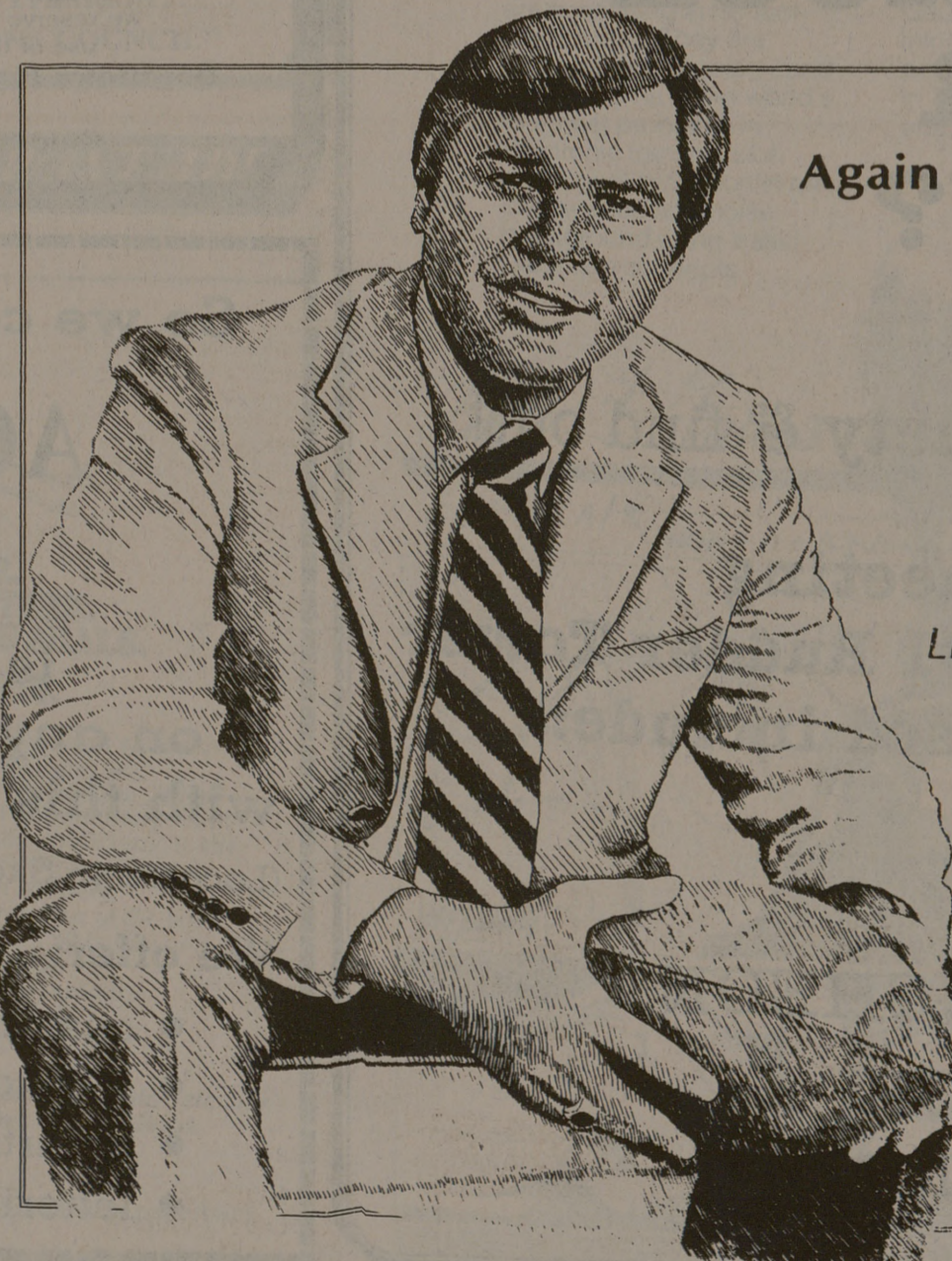
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