

local

International Week begins

Foreign Ags exhibit pride

by Melissa Adair
Battalion Staff
If you have ever wondered what people from Nigeria eat or how they dress, this week's International Week is for you. The first event of International Week, which is sponsored by the International Students Association, is an exhibit of dishes from each country on the floor of the Memorial Student Center. The tables will be decorated with posters, paintings, clothing and art work from students' country. The displays will be in the

MSC from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. today and Tuesday.

The second event planned is an international food fair scheduled for Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. on the second floor of the MSC. More than 132 international dishes will be prepared by students from all over the world. Everything from Nigeria's Moi Moi to Crepes from France will be served.

The third event, the fashion and talent show, will be Thursday at 8 p.m. in Rudder Auditorium. The show will include a parade of traditional folk dress

from more than 50 countries. The talent show will follow the fashion show. Nineteen groups will perform routines ranging from Indian folk dances to Egyptian belly dancing.

Tickets for the food fair, talent show and fashion show are available in the MSC Box Office for \$8. One ticket covers all three events.

International Student Adviser Tina Watkins said there should be a large turnout for all the events this year.

"There is a lot involved in doing this, and it has gone well so far," Watkins said.

The international students take a great deal of pride in presenting international week, she said, and they usually gain some new friendships as well.

"The main thing I've noticed is that after International Week they (the international students) know everyone better," Watkins said. "It's a great way for them to meet people."

The events are genuine, Watkins said, because the students have lived in the countries they represent. Therefore, they know what the culture really is like.

Aggie Blood Drive to begin April 4

by Patrice Koranek
Battalion Staff
Texas A&M students and faculty can give a little of themselves and win by donating to the Aggie Blood Drive scheduled for April 4 through April 7.

The clubs or organizations that have the most people donating blood during the drive can win prizes, said Linda Thomas, Student Government chairman of the blood drive. To be eligible for prizes, organizations must register sometime before April 4.

solve the problem, prizes will be presented in two categories this year: large groups, 100 or more members, and small groups, under 100 members. The size of the group should be designated on the registration form.

At least 20 pints of blood must be donated by an organization to qualify for the contest, Thomas said, and kegs of beer will be given as prizes.

Last semester, the Aggie

Band won first place in the contest, and the Aggie Alliance, a health and physical education club, placed second. Thomas said many of the Corps groups have rivalries among themselves for the contest prizes.

The blood drive is sponsored every semester by Student Government, Wadley Central Blood Bank, and two service organizations, Alpha Phi Omega and Omega Phi Alpha.

Jury investigates deaths

United Press International
GALVESTON — Prosecutors reopened a grand jury investigation into the Autumn Hills nursing home deaths case this testimony from the former administrator of the Texas City facility.

Paul Smith, administrator of the Autumn Hills nursing home in Texas City in June 1978, testified Friday before a Galveston county grand jury for nearly three hours.

Prosecutors said Smith's testimony kicked off a new grand jury investigation into allegations that eight patients died from neglect at the Texas City nursing home between 1977 and 1978.

Autumn Hills Convalescent Center Inc. and eight of its employees were indicted on murder charges in the deaths of at least eight patients, but the indictments were dismissed on technicality in July 1982.

The corporation agreed in December to plead no contest to a lesser charge of involuntary manslaughter but later withdrew the plea after District Attorney Mike Guarino asked that the plea bargain be voided and the Houston-based corporation be found guilty of the charge.

Prosecutors have said new murder indictments will be sought in the case.

Smith, who said he was employed by Autumn Hills for about 16 years until taking another nursing home job last year, said his grand jury appearance was the first time prosecutors had questioned him in the case.

Roy Minton, attorney for Autumn Hills, and two other lawyers conferred with Smith outside the grand jury room throughout Smith's testimony. Lawyers cannot accompany clients before the grand jury. Guarino, special Assistant

Attorney General David Marks — who previously headed the investigation of Autumn Hills — and Jim Vollers, a former Court of Criminal Appeals judge who has been hired by Galveston County to assist in the case, also were present during the grand jury session.

Minton said he expects no action from the grand jury currently in session and further accused prosecutors of grand jury abuse for requiring the panel to meet beyond the last day of its term.

A new grand jury will be empaneled next month, and most of the evidence in the case is expected to be presented to that panel.

Meanwhile, Guarino and Attorney General Jim Mattox confirmed the state can no longer seek to recover \$63,000 in Medicaid funds allegedly obtained by the Autumn Hills nursing home chain through

falsified reports.

A 5-year-old internal report from the Texas Department of Human Resources alleges that from March 1976 to April 1978, the Autumn Hills nursing home in Texas City repeatedly was staffed below the state standard of one licensed or registered nurse for every 15 patients.

For 14 days, there was neither a licensed nor registered nurse at the facility, the report claims.

Most groups should receive letters this week containing contest rules and registration forms, Thomas said. Additional forms are available in 216 MSC or 216 Animal Pavilion. Registration forms should be turned in to one of these two offices by April 4.

Each year, many smaller organizations which have a high percentage of blood donors end up losing the contest to larger groups, Thomas said. To help

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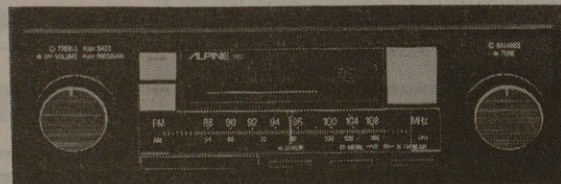
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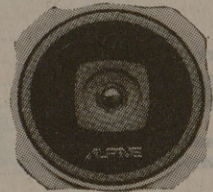
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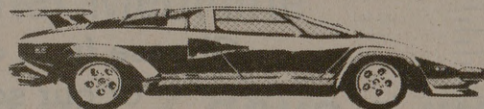
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