

Professors discuss history of women at Texas A&M

By PAM BARNES
Reporter

From 1916 when women were tolerated as special students to 1971 when women were fully admitted to Texas A&M, change has been the word to describe women's history here.

Two assistant professors of history, both women, spoke of these changes at a luncheon held Wednesday in celebration of National Women's History Week. The luncheon, Pantapans to Prominence, was sponsored by the Texas A&M student chapter of Women in Communications, Inc.

Bonnie S. Ledbetter, Ph.D., spoke to the group of women about the history of women here. Then Sara Alpern, Ph.D., spoke of the present and future of Aggie women. The two women were aided by a slide

show put together by WICI President Kim Schmidt.

Ledbetter spoke of such things as the first woman permitted to attend classes here and of women who were given certificates instead of degrees. While slides of Texas A&M in the old days appeared on the wall behind her, Ledbetter told of women's struggle to attend Texas A&M.

Ledbetter traced the history of women here to 1963 when The Texas A&M Board of Directors approved the admission of wives and family of faculty and students. At that point Alpern took the podium.

With the last slide in Ledbetter's speech still on the wall — the changing of a "men's" room sign to that of a "ladies" room sign — Alpern began to tell of women's existence at Texas A&M to the present.

She told anecdotes of wom-

en's presence here and of such important happenings as the opening of the first women's dorm.

Alpern admitted that women's beginnings and even present at Texas A&M sometimes seem negative but she was positive when she talked of the future.

Honored at the luncheon were Stella Haupt and Sallie Sheppard, two of the first women enrolled at Texas A&M. Haupt received her master's degree in Education and is the longest sustaining member of the campus study group at Texas A&M. Sheppard is a Halliburton professor in computer science here.

South African discussion set

By DAINAH BULLARD
Staff Writer

B.G. Fourie, South African Ambassador to the United States, will present a speech about South African policies at 8 p.m. Thursday in Rudder Theater. The ambassador will discuss both internal and external policies in his speech.

Fourie was appointed ambassador to the United States on June 1, 1982. He began his 50 years of service to

South Africa in 1934, when he enlisted in the civil service. Fourie later worked for South Africa's department of foreign affairs. In 1945, he attended the Organizational Conference of the United Nations, and later he participated in the final session of the League of Nations.

From 1947 until 1952, Fourie was a member of the South African delegation to the United Nations, and in

1958, he was appointed South African ambassador to the United Nations. In 1963, Fourie became South Africa's secretary of information. From 1966 until 1980, Forie served as secretary of foreign affairs for South Africa. In 1980, he was appointed director of foreign affairs and information, where he served until his appointment as ambassador to the United States.

Fourie's presentation is the second part of the MSC Polit-

ical Forum's South African Series 1984. The purpose of the series is to examine different viewpoints about the state of affairs in South Africa, and to promote better understanding of the current situation there. Part one of Political Forum's series featured Donald Wood, a leading segregation critic. Part three of the series will feature Edward Fugit, County Officer for South Africa from the U.S. State Department.

Son named in murder of mother

United Press International
SAN ANTONIO — A high school student was charged with murder Wednesday in the shooting death of his mother, a claims adjuster with the United Services Automobile Association, police said.

Homicide Detective Jack Summey said Paul Parker, 18, was charged with murder in the shooting death of Helen Parker, 35, whose body was found Monday in the bedroom of her north San Antonio home.

Summey said Parker confessed to the slaying of his mother after he was arrested in Dallas on charges of driving a stolen automobile.

Police said Mrs. Parker, a CSAA claims adjuster, often quarreled with her son over the use of her car, a 1980 blue, Pontiac sedan. The Clark High School student was driving the car when he was arrested at 5 p.m. Tuesday by Dallas police.

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