



International week features foreign culture and cuisine

By Jay Blinderman
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The Memorial Student Center will be occupied by armies of international students next week but the takeover will be temporary and friendly.

March 3 through 7 will mark a short but busy International Week at Texas A&M, a program sponsored by the International Student Association. It will include cultural displays, a food fair, a fashion show and a talent show.

ISA assistant advisor Jim Lane says on Mar. 3-4, cultural exhibits will be displayed throughout the MSC.

"That's when we (ISA) take over the MSC for two days," Lane says.

After the cultural exhibits, there will be a one-day break before the evening presentations of fashion and talent. Thirty ISA clubs will participate in the cultural exhibit segment of international week, Lane says, doing their best to show the community a part of their culture, displayed within a 3 foot by 6 foot space in the halls of the MSC.

A show featuring talents and fashions from different lands caps off the activities of International Week. The show begins at 8 p.m. in Rudder Auditorium on Friday, March 7.

"They (the clubs) have to be pretty imaginative to come up with something in that small an area, Lane says. "If your country doesn't have anything extravagant, you'll have travel posters as the main part of your display."

The cultural displays have been limited in size so they can fit in the smallest hallway in the MSC. The type of construction is also limited and has to be approved by the ISA according to University limitations.

In a past International Week, one country built small huts and populated their area with mock street vendors, Lane says. The display was good, but exhibits that extravagant take up too much room and make it hard to fit all the exhibits in the MSC.

In addition to the cultural exhibits, students can buy tickets to literally get a taste of other countries.

The food fair, the most popular event during International Week, will start Wednesday, March 5 at 6 p.m. This year the entire second floor of the MSC will be used to serve food from more than 20 countries. Only 1,200 tickets are available this year as the result of overcrowding at last year's gourmet affair.

"Last year we sold as many tickets as we could," Lane says. "But there were too many people to comfortably mingle about the different tables."

Admission will be \$6 and en-

titles the curious to sample 10 international dishes.

"After you get 10 different countries on your plate, that will be all you can handle," Lane says.

The only problem at the food fair will be with people who mix too many different kinds of foods.

"Don't mix too many sweets with too many sour," Lane says.

International Week concludes with a fashion show and a talent show. Although both events occur on the same evening in Rudder Auditorium, they have separate coordinators and different participants, says fashion show chairman Sana Hamade. Hamade, who is a graduate student in biological engineering, has participated in International Week for three years.

Although the theme for the weeks' events is "It's a Small World After All," the theme for the fashion show is set for "Masquerade Ball" in honor of the United Nations 40th anniversary.

Fashions from twenty-five countries worn by more than 100 international students and their children, will be shown, Hamade says. Two student emcees will tell the audience about the clothes being worn.

The idea of the show, like that of the entire week, is to expose people to the history,

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