



Humpin' it

Before taking on the sophomores, the freshmen of Squadron 6, in spotted bonfire hats, run a few plays for practice Sunday afternoon on the field by the Quad.

Photo by Kathy Haveman

ISA promotes sharing culture with global parties, recipes

By Timothy J. Hammons
Staff Writer

On the surface, it looked like just another party. Inside the lobby were two kegs. Decorations sparsely covered the walls, chips and picante sauce were on every table, and a live band was playing the latest Brazilian hits.

The people at the party come from more than 116 countries. They have names like Okan, Alena, Blasker, Diana, and Tom. Tom's name is much longer, but too complicated for the average American to pronounce, he said.

They come from countries like Turkey, Romania, India, Bolivia and Ethiopia.

The party is sponsored by the International Students Association. Club president Gabriel Carranza, who is from Mexico, said about 2000 students are members, with about 1000 when the members bring their families together.

Sandra Burke, who is from Dublin, Ireland, said that the club is

open to anyone who wants to join. She compares the club with the global village that Texas A&M President William Mobley said has arrived at the University.

She said the club is a part of that global village, and promotes a sharing of cultures.

Once a month, Burke said, a host country will give recipes from their homeland for other club members to try. They meet the next month to see how close each person's attempt at the recipe came to the original. The way the food comes out is usually different from that of the host country, because the preparations usually reflect the particular style of food from the preparer's homeland.

The association publishes a newsletter every three weeks with articles written by students about their homelands. The articles are written to help people see the countries as they really are and not the stereotypical viewpoints held by many people.

Carranza said the group tries to have at least two parties a semester, but they also have picnics and other activities to appeal to different groups.

Because the club includes so many people with so many different views, some problems are bound to occur, Carranza said.

"You have to be careful not to offend somebody," Carranza said. "What could be normal for somebody, could be offensive to someone else. I follow very closely to the constitution of ISA."

Carranza said ISA is beneficial because it helps students who have differing ideologies together learn about one another. The people of a particular country do not necessarily hold the same views as their governments, he said.

In the room, the first keg had been floated and the band was well into the second set. The global party continued.

Dukakis more combative after re-hiring former aide

BOSTON (AP) — Michael Dukakis had already begun to fire back at George Bush before former aide John Sasso rejoined his campaign, but Dukakis has become even more combative since (then), his sharpened rhetoric bearing the stamp of the man he likens to a brother.

Exiled from the campaign a year ago, after admitting his role in the videotape that helped drive Sen. Joseph Biden from the presidential race, Sasso returned to Dukakis' side two weeks ago. The friends who adhered to welcome him back ruptured in approval when he made a simple declaration:

"There are contrasts and weaknesses that are issues in this campaign. I will not shy away from pointing these contrasts out."

The return of Dukakis' longtime political alter ego came at a time when the Democratic presidential nominee had lost the momentum he gained from his party's national convention and as he was being criticized for not responding aggressively to attacks from George Bush and his fellow Republicans.

"Garbage," was what Dukakis

quickly had to say about the GOP attacks. Then, seeking to regain the offensive, he took aim at Bush and his running mate, Indiana Sen. Dan Quayle, and audiences seemed to approve.

"George Bush has been around Washington a long time, but if he couldn't stand up to the Ayatollah or say no to Noriega, how will he measure up to Gorbachev?" Dukakis said in a speech in Chicago.

In Dukakis' speeches, tone (of voice) and at his campaign headquarters, Sasso's stamp is obvious.

Dukakis has been more feisty, his staff invigorated and long-overdue channels of communication with Jesse Jackson and key members of Congress established.

"It was an important development that brought our team up to full strength and we're delighted," said Kirk O'Donnell, the former Thomas P. "Tip" O'Neill aide who was brought in as a senior adviser to Dukakis after Sasso resigned a year ago.

"I think first of all his relationship with the governor is very important but also his long experience in campaigns," O'Donnell said. "He's a

well-respected, and deservedly so, political strategist."

Sasso was the architect of Dukakis' presidential bid, turning his eye toward the White House even as Dukakis campaigned for re-election as governor of Massachusetts in 1986.

Sasso assembled the team, but was forced to leave it behind after admitting he had a role in the "attack video" showing Delaware Sen. Biden using the words of a British politician without attributing them. Reports based on the videotape and subsequent stories about plagiarism put Biden out of the race, but then stories about Sasso's involvement forced him from Dukakis' side.

Sasso, whose title is vice chairman, has kept a relatively low profile since returning and declined to be interviewed about his impact.

Other Dukakis aides, some speaking privately, credited him with taking a number of steps to sharpen the campaign's message and focus.

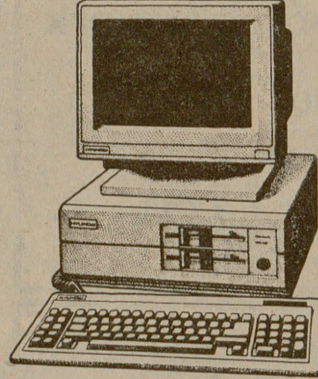
"He's gotten things moving," said one aide who works closely with Sasso.

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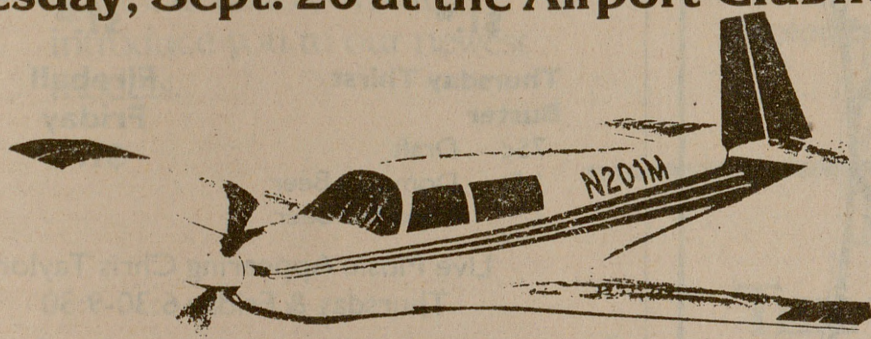
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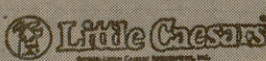
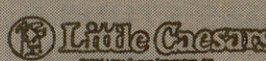
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