

International Week allows taste of world cultures



David Birch/The Battalion

Students from area schools perform a Panamanian dance Monday as part of the opening ceremonies for International Week in the MSC Flagroom. This year's theme is "Discover the World at A&M."

By Joseph Greenslade

THE BATTALION

Students at Texas A&M will have a chance to sample other cultures this week during the International Student Association's International Week, which will offer displays of art, food and talent from many student international groups on campus.

Cristian Siebold, ISA president, said ISA tries to internationalize the A&M student body and attempts to represent the interests of A&M's international students.

Siebold, a senior industrial engineering major from Guatemala, said International Week is the manifestation of ISA's goals.

"International Week is a big eye opener for international and American students," Siebold said. "Both groups see how many international students there are here."

Moinul Ahsan, a junior electrical engineering major from Bangladesh and ISA vice president of programs, said international week brings cultures from all over the world to A&M.

According to International Student Services, about 2,500 of the more than 47,000 students enrolled at A&M are from another country.

Siebold said about 600 of those international students will take an active part in International Week, and he said he expects thousands of A&M students and people from the community to attend the programs.

Approximately 2,000 students from local elementary schools are expected to attend the cultural displays in the MSC, Siebold said.

"We all face quite a few problems throughout the year," Siebold said. "There's discrimination and a lot of other little things we have to try to overcome."

But he said he wants to educate American students about international students instead of focusing on discrimination.

"People are different, but so what—that's the beauty of it," Siebold said.

Officer followed procedure, says DPS commander

The Associated Press

AUSTIN — The Texas Department of Public Safety commander in charge of officer training spoke out on Monday for the state trooper who shot a Dallas man in an incident captured on a dramatic videotape.

"Considering all of the elements, you would have feared for your life" in state trooper Bryan Barnhart's place, DPS Training Commander Albert Rodriguez told reporters at a news conference in the wake of the shooting of Lorenzo Colston.

Colston's lawyer, John Heath of Nacogdoches, said, "It would have been Mr. Colston that would have feared for his life, and not the trooper."

Rodriguez — using the videotape filmed by a camera mounted on the trooper's vehicle — said Barnhart and Henderson County sheriff's deputy Jim Langford followed all the proper steps in the state's use-of-force policy in order to control the situation.

DPS spokesman Mike Cox said the news conference was in response to media inquiries.

Rodriguez earlier testified in the Athens, Texas trial in which Colston, 28, was sentenced to two years' probation after being convicted of assaulting Barnhart and Langford.

Colston was a passenger in a car stopped by Barnhart near the East Texas town on Sept. 29 because a headlight was out. Langford later showed up as a backup, Rodriguez said.

Barnhart arrested driver Marcos Fields on outstanding traffic warrants.

Colston, according to the videotape, gave Barnhart his wrong name and age. Rodriguez, stopping the videotape at various points, also showed what he said were suspicious moves by Colston before Barnhart first tried to arrest him.

Heath said the videotape also shows Barnhart "turning his back repeatedly on Mr. Colston" early on, behavior that doesn't comport with the trooper being suspicious of him.

Stalker

Continued from Page 1

She was living in a different place and had a different phone number which was supposed to be unlisted.

Julie was home alone one evening and had the blinds and windows in her apartment open.

"The phone rang," she said. "It was a guy and he told me he missed me and red was definitely my color."

Julie said she looked down and realized she was wearing a red shirt.

"I had a gut feeling it was him," she said. "Thirty minutes later, the phone rang again and I hung up when he said hello. It rang again after another thirty minutes." Julie threatened to have the call traced and to press charges.

Julie stayed with a friend that night, but she went home early the next morning.

It was about 6:30 a.m. and she heard a knock at the door. Julie looked out the peephole and no one was there.

Julie figured it was her roommate bringing her stuff up the stairs, so she opened the door. She found a note outside the door

with the name "Princess" on it.

The note read: "Missed you — What's it been, a year?"

Julie turned to go back in her apartment, but Kevin was standing in her doorway.

"He said, 'Do you remember everything I told you?'" she said. "He said he could take me inside right then and take care of me, but he wasn't going to because he wanted me to think about it."

When Kevin left, Julie said she went into her apartment, closed the door, and fell on the floor crying. Julie decided to go see Mike Balog, an undergraduate counselor for the College of Liberal Arts.

Balog took Julie to the Center for Conflict Resolution where she spoke to Gene Zdziarski, coordinator for the center. Julie then went to the University Police Department and later to the College Station Police Department.

Nothing else happened until the Tuesday before Thanksgiving.

Julie was working in the front booth of The Globe, a local nightclub, when the phone rang and it was Kevin. He told her to turn around so he could see her better.

"He said, 'You have such a pretty face, it will be a shame to have to cut you up,'" Julie said.

Several of the other workers at The Globe ran out to look for him, but Kevin was nowhere to be found. Julie said she thinks he must have been calling from a car phone and drove away when everyone ran outside.

During Christmas break, Julie received several hang-up phone calls at her home in Houston. After the break, she received another call while she was at work one night.

On Jan. 26, 1994, when Julie was driving out of the parking lot at her home, she realized there was a note on her windshield. She pulled over to read it.

The note said: "It's almost time."

"I just turned around and went home," Julie said.

Julie's parents came to College Station and tried to convince her to go back to Houston with them, but Julie said she did not want to leave A&M.

Julie decided to stay at A&M, but she dropped half of her classes.

On Feb. 15, 1994, Julie's situation with Kevin reached a peak.

Julie was driving to a friend's house and stopped at a grocery store to buy a magazine. Before getting out of her car, Julie made sure she was parked in a well-lit area so she would not be in dan-

ger when she came out.

When Julie did come out of the store, someone grabbed her from behind and stuck a sharp object in her back. It was Kevin, and he pulled her into the alley behind the store.

Julie realized she had pepper spray in her hand with her keys, but she was scared to use it. When Kevin realized she had the spray, he called her a bitch and threw the spray in the street.

He became very angry and began threatening Julie.

Julie knew she had to do something and remembered the gun her father had bought her in November. She usually carried the gun in her car, but she realized it was in her purse.

Julie's purse was open and she pulled the gun out.

"I grabbed the gun, pointed it at him, and said I was going to kill him," she said. "I told him, 'Don't ever come around me again.'"

She said Kevin did not take her seriously and told her she could not do it.

"I said, 'If I ever see you again, I'm not going to point it at you, I'm going to shoot you,'" she said.

Kevin took her seriously then and ran away. Julie ran in the opposite direction.

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The summer '94 editor will serve from May 23, 1994, through August 5, 1994.

Qualifications for editor of The Battalion are:

- Be a Texas A&M student with a minimum 2.0 overall and major GPR at the time of appointment and during the term of office;
- Have at least one year experience in a responsible editorial position on The Battalion or comparable student newspaper,
- OR
- Have at least one year editorial experience on a commercial newspaper,
- OR
- Have completed at least 12 hours journalism, including JOUR 203 and 303 (Media Writing I and II), JOUR 301 (Mass Comm Law) and JOUR 304 (Editing for the Mass Media), or equivalent.

Application forms should be picked up and returned to the Student Publications Manager's office, room 230 Reed McDonald Bldg. Deadline for submitting application: 5 p.m. Monday, March 21. Applicants will be interviewed during the Student Publications Board Meeting beginning at 5 p.m. Wednesday, March 23, 1994.

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