

## Crossing international boundaries

### ISA sets out to showcase diversity

By Paul Neale

THE BATTALION

While planning Texas A&M's 15th Annual International Week, organizers had more to contend with than students' busy class schedules.

Just putting together Friday's International Talent Show and Fashion Parade included variables such as religious beliefs and differing concepts of time, said International Student Association advisor Suzanne Droleskey. Two religious holidays, Ramadan and Lent, also came into play while scheduling rehearsals.

Cultural diversities such as these epitomize the ISA's International Week.

But when international student groups work together, the resultant teamwork gives new meaning to the old adage "strength through diversity."

Harsh Jaggi, an industrial engineering major and member of the India Club, oversees the cultural displays in the MSC, said International Week is a free ticket to visit 40 countries, hear new languages and see new people. Jaggi, who oversees the cultural displays in the MSC, said friendships are the main benefit to such "travel" through the halls of the MSC, however.

Students meet friends as they



Kyle Burnett/The Battalion

Harsh Jaggi, a sophomore industrial engineering major and member of the India Club, oversees the cultural exhibits that line the halls of the MSC behind him.

wander through the cultural displays, Jaggi said, that they might not meet under different circumstances.

"The world is a much smaller place than we think it is," he said.

In addition to introducing students to each other, International Week introduces students to the way things really are in other countries.

Caribbean Club president Rowland Mackenzie said International Week breaks misconceptions students have about other countries.

"Most people don't even know that we speak English in Trinidad," he said.

International Week provides the international student organizations with a chance to showcase

their cultural backgrounds.

Many countries want to participate because they want to make sure that their country is represented, Droleskey said.

"These students have a tremendous pride in who they are and where they're from and love to share it," she said.

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### Student's life abroad sparks global interest

By Traci Travis

THE BATTALION

Not every family adventure results in a "lousy t-shirt."

Kingsley Ross, a junior journalism major from New Orleans, prides herself in being a world traveler minus the tacky hats, naive criticisms and Kodak moments.

By living abroad, Ross has discovered more than cultures and souvenirs galore; she has discovered a desire for a career in international government.

Because of her father's job with Exxon, Ross has called such countries as Canada, Scotland and Malaysia home.

"For an international student, home is wherever you are at the moment," Ross said.

Important U.S. issues such as multiculturalism, she said, are a given to an individual who has grown up internationally.

Ross considers the issue of multiculturalism to be something that should be understood in every country.

"Many times I was the only American student in my classes," Ross said. "At my school alone, there were 106 different nationalities."

Ross said she spent a majority of her childhood in

Malaysia, and because of this, was able to learn the values that she holds today.

Each international student at her school was required to take a course in Malaysian cultures. This course taught children Malaysian games as well as traditional holidays.

The country is composed of a number of different races, Ross said.

Besides learning Malaysian traditions, students were also required to study the Chinese and Indian cultures.

"There was always a school holiday," Ross said. "They observed every culture's traditions."

After returning to America, Ross said she and her brother felt somewhat "un-American." It was hard to get used to things like chili cheese Fritos after nine years of getting excited over stale Ruffles in Malaysia, Ross said.

"People would wait in long lines just to get a Pop Tart," Ross said. "We were eating cereal with weevils in it, but it didn't matter. We were just lucky to get it."

The greatest culture shock, Ross said, was at the central market in Malaysia. This is where citizens would go to get

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## ENERGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT

CURRENT ISSUES AND FUTURE TRENDS

March 2, 1994 - Rudder Theatre

- 1-2 p.m. Current Issues and Future Trends**  
Dr. Margaret N. Maxey, director, Clint W. Murchison, Sr., Chair of Free Enterprise and professor of bioethics, University of Texas at Austin
- 2:30-4 p.m. Energy Development vs. the Environment**  
Moderator: Dr. Ronald L. McMahan, president, Resource Data International  
Panelists: Mr. Thomas Baker, TU Electric  
Ms. Barbara Grannell, founder, Western States Public Land Coalition  
Dr. John F. Griffiths, professor of meteorology, Texas A&M, and Texas state climatologist  
Dr. Ken Kramer, director, Lone Star Chapter, Sierra Club
- 4:15-5:15 p.m. Energy Security and U.S. Dependence on Foreign Energy Sources**  
Mr. Richard L. Lawson, president, National Coal Association
- 7:30-8:30 p.m. The Challenges**  
Mr. Michel T. Halbouty, CEO and chairman of the board, Halbouty Energy Company



Reception follows



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Successful Interviewing Workshop, 3:30 p.m., 110 Koldus Bldg.

**March 2, 1994**  
2nd Interview-Company Visit Seminar, 2:00 p.m., 110 Koldus Bldg.

**March 3, 1994**  
Placement Orientation, 2:00 p.m., 410 Rudder  
Reality 101 Seminar, 5:00 p.m., 110 & 111 Koldus Bldg.

**March 4, 1994**  
Co-op Orientation, 2:00 p.m., 510 Rudder

**March 7, 1994**  
Job Preparation for Juniors Seminar, 5:30 p.m., 144 Koldus Bldg.

Career Education Office, John J. Koldus Building, Suite 209, Phone 845-5139, Fax 845-2979

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