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THE BATTALION



Fowl judge



Dr. W. F. Krueger (right), shows a Rhode Island Red to Cain Cavitt (left), a senior poultry science major. Cain is one of 19 students competing to be selected for a team of four that is to compete in the Southern Collegiate Poultry judging contest at Louisiana State University. Last year's team took first place.

Pageant proceeds benefit women shelter

BY RACHEL HOLLAND
The Battalion

Representatives from 12 Texas A&M sororities will participate in Delta Sigma Phi fraternity's Miss Greek A&M Pageant tonight at 7 in Rudder Auditorium.

Proceeds from the pageant will benefit Phoebe's Home, a shelter in Bryan for battered women. Uri Greva, faculty adviser for Delta Sigma Phi, said Phoebe's Home was selected as the charity so the women in the pageant can help women in the community.

"We wanted a local charity where the money could go directly to the charity and avoid red tape," he said. "It makes a direct impact on the community and is women helping women."

Jeremy Newton, director of the pageant for Delta Sigma Phi and a senior management major, said the women participating are evaluated prior to the pageant. The evaluations are based on the participants' resumes, grade point ratios and the percentage of pageant revenue each sorority contributed.

Newton said the resumes were evaluated on the levels of community involvement, sorority involvement, academic achievement and involvement in other A&M activi-

ties by national level Phi members.

Participants will wear an evening gown competing in the question-and-answer portion of the pageant. Judges include Student Body President Nickle, Corps Commander Tase Bales Presley, a former model.

Chuck Malaise, Delta Sigma Phi and finance major, said each selects one member to represent the sorority.

"All sororities, whether Pan-Hellenic, Pan-Hellenic or service, were invited," Malaise said.

Toni Watjus, a Delta Phi and a senior major, said helping Phoebe's Home is an important involvement in the pageant.

"I'm not the typical kind, but I know the cause," she said. "I remember that and when representing my sorority."

Tickets for the pageant are available today in the MSU.

A post-pageant party Rodeo 2000 will be held at 8 p.m. in the MSU. The cost \$12 in advance and \$15 at the door.

Doctors say smokers, cocaine users suffer from miscarriage

(AP) — Pregnant women who smoke cigarettes or use cocaine have a higher risk of miscarriage, the most common problem of pregnancy, a study has found.

While other studies have suggested a link, this was the first to use hair and urine testing to determine women's drug use and smoking, instead of relying on their own reports.

"One of the things we have learned from this study is that self-reporting is far from perfect," said Dr. Roberta Ness, of the University of Pittsburgh School of Public

Health, lead author of the study reported in Thursday's New England Journal of Medicine.

Smokers are almost twice as likely to miscarry as nonsmokers, and cocaine users are nearly one-and-a-half times as likely to miscarry as nonusers, according to the study.

About 15 percent of pregnancies end in spontaneous abortions treated by doctors, but many women do not seek medical care for early miscarriage.

The researchers looked at 970 women who sought emergency room treatment for miscarriage or

other problems at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia while they were less than 22 weeks pregnant. Most of the women were black, poor, single and had not received prenatal care.

Four hundred suffered a miscarriage, while 570 carried their pregnancies beyond 22 weeks.

Hair sample tests showed nearly 29 percent of the women who miscarried had used cocaine, compared to 20 percent of women with continuing pregnancies. Urine tests showed about 35 percent of the women who miscarried were smok-

ers, compared to 22 percent of women who carried their pregnancies to term.

In interviews, only 10 percent of the women who miscarried admitted smoking.

The researchers' job of isolating the link between cocaine and miscarriage was said Dr. James Mills, of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development.

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Walter Mills, a companying editorial



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