



Courtesy photo

Members of the International Student Association celebrate the richness of culture.

## ISA picks up steam with varied events

■ The International Student Association will sponsor weekly coffee hours and an upcoming Halloween dance

By Jayoung Park  
for the Emerald

Did you know that 10 percent of the University's student body is involved with the International Student Association? From sponsoring social events, including a Halloween dance and International Coffee Hour, to several days of activities during International Week, the ISA is active in promoting cultural awareness on campus.

For more than 37 years the ISA has been a source for the University in building diversity. The ISA exists as the main resource on campus for international students attending the University.

Representing 1600 international students from 90 countries around the world, ISA gives its members the opportunity to meet and socialize, cook a variety of different exotic foods during International Week and discover more about each others' cultures.

"ISA is a very good outlet to interact and learn about different cultures," ISA member Corrine Erceg said.

With a multitude of different events throughout the school year — including International Week and various cultural events — and a continuing enthusiasm to work toward international education, ISA is one of the University's most recognized student organizations.

International Week — held April 25-27 — is an opportunity to pro-

mote cultural awareness throughout the campus and the community through activities including international speakers and samplings of foreign foods, said Yu Bai, a sophomore economics major and co-director of ISA. International Night, held April 29, wraps up the week with a medley of performances from different facets of the international community.

"International Night is where all different cultures meet together to perform [during a talent show] and celebrate diversity," Bai said. "International Week and the International Night are our biggest events. We need a lot of volunteers."

Other ISA events include a Halloween Dance Party at Riley Hall on Oct. 28 and International Coffee Hour every Friday from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. in the EMU International Lounge.

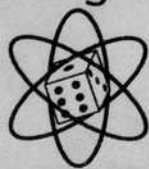
Involvement with ISA requires only a willingness to help fellow members and to respect the different cultures that are prevalent in the organization, but provides a multitude of volunteer and learning opportunities. Duties for a volunteer include assisting with International Week, setting up for International Night and other ISA-planned events.

Former director Alberto De Albuquerque said that the ISA is one of the best organizations he has been involved with.

"It allowed me to break the stereotypes of different cultures," he said. The opportunity also helped him to develop respect for other cultures.

For more information, contact the ISA at 346-4387 or check out its Web site at <http://gladstone.uoregon.edu/~asuoisal/>.

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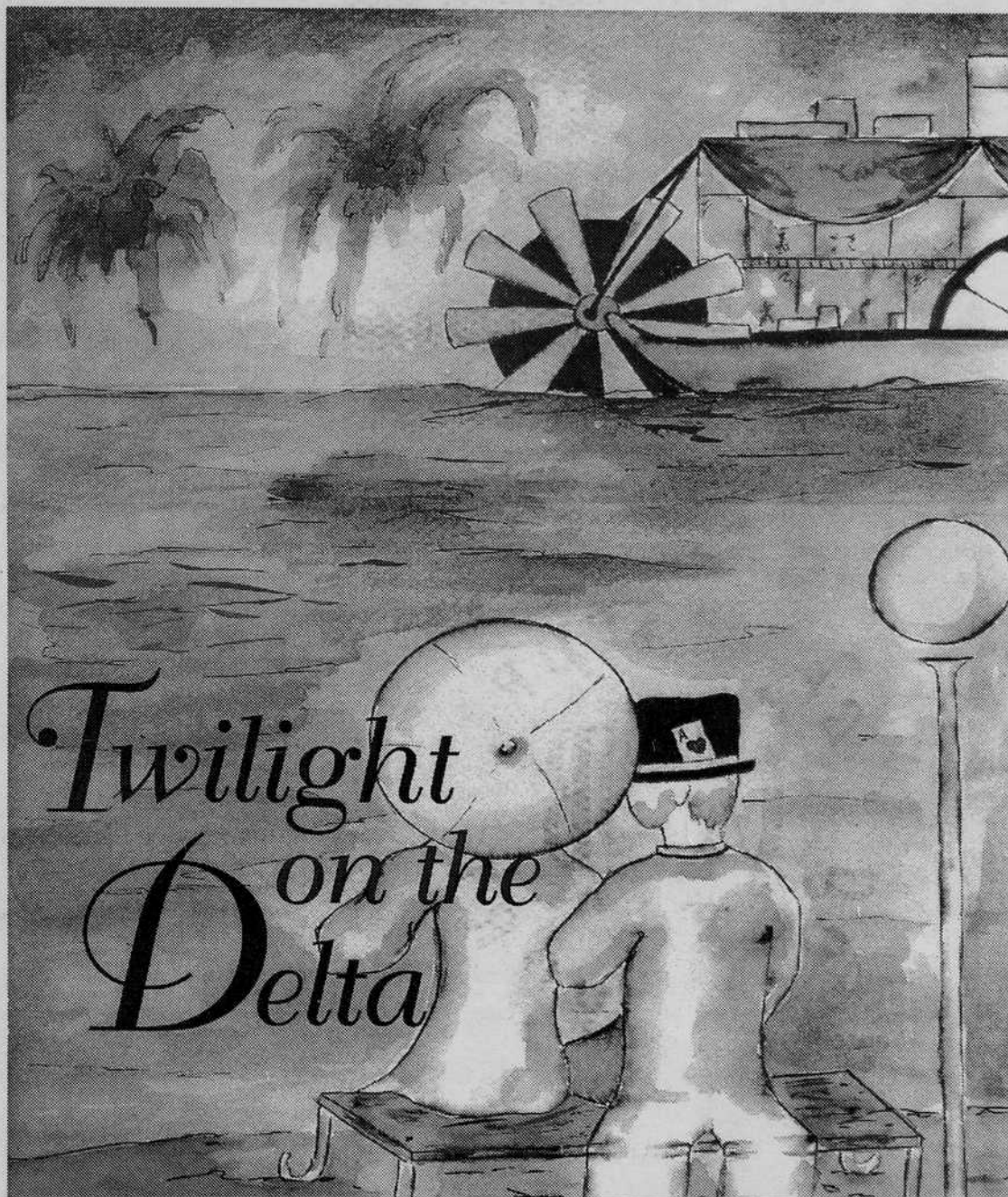


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