



THE SIMMONS VOICE

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BETH MACLIN

The Office of Student Leadership and Activities sponsored an apple-picking trip for Simmons students on Saturday.

Two new organizations become official

By Traci Farrell
STAFF WRITER

Two new organizations, Best Buddies and Students for Political Engagement, Awareness, and Knowledge (S.P.E.A.K.), became members of the Student Government Association (SGA) at last week's Senate meeting.

Best Buddies, which strives to enhance the lives of people with intellectual disabilities through one-on-one friendships, was approved in a unanimous vote from the Senate. Best Buddies was previously a member of the Scott/Ross Center, but the center "didn't understand our purpose," said senior Marissa Rouselle, the group's president.

"The vision for Best Buddies on the whole is that one day there will not be a need for Best Buddies. No one will need to make it cool to hang out with someone with an intellectual disability," Rouselle said.

There are Best Buddies chapters in all 50 states, with over 500,000 participants and six branches—middle school, high school, college, citizens, e-buddies, and jobs.

The college program pairs students with adults from group homes. The Simmons chapter will have joint events with Wheelock, Rouselle said.

The Simmons chapter works with Buddies from the Baycove housing system in Dorchester and South Boston. They would also like to see the Buddies come to the Simmons campus.

S.P.E.A.K. was approved with a vote of 18-1. The organization is a non-partisan student organization that works to provide "academically sound information around current social and political issues," according to the group's constitution.

The group wants to "encourage students to be politically engaged on a variety of levels regard-

less of political affiliation," said Grace McDonald, the president of S.P.E.A.K. They will also strive to "create a place where students feel comfortable sharing personal and political opinions."

S.P.E.A.K. will provide information about voter registration, but they will not support a particular candidate. The group "is for everyone no matter where you are on the political spectrum," McDonald said.

The process of becoming an active organization is now easier for organizations than in the past year. The old process used to take 15 weeks, which is nearly an entire semester. Groups that spent the spring semester working towards becoming active were often left without leaders in the fall after seniors graduated.

Katherine Swanson, SGA vice president, found it "so over

SGA see page 3

Fulbright scholar discusses garment industry

By Lucía Córdón
STAFF WRITER

Marginalized throughout history, women have begun demonstrating their importance in the economy of Bangladesh. Visiting Fulbright Scholar Dr. Shahnaz Huq-Hussain discussed women in a lecture, titled "Ready-Made Garment Industry in Bangladesh," last Wednesday.

"Women became visible through activities such as micro-credit and ready-made garment industry. It's a great boost for women. They have started their life. They have become independent. Now they can negotiate," said Hussain.

Hussain is visiting as part of the Direct Access to the Muslim World program. She is a Fulbright Scholar from the University of Dhaka in Bangladesh. She is a professor in the areas of human, economic, gender, and cultural geography.

The focus of Hussain's work includes gender, work, and the environment; women and Islam; migration and development; and urbanization and poverty. Her work includes mapping research and database development, including her publication of the *Gender Atlas of Bangladesh*.

The emphasis of Hussain's argument was the empowerment of women in Bangladesh through their involvement in the labor force. Hussain said women who used to be invisible in their com-

munities became visible due to two big changes in Bangladeshi economy.

First was the introduction of the concept of micro-credit by Bangladeshi economist Muhammad Yunus. Secondly, the establishment of ready-made garment industries justified the migration of women from rural societies into cities.

Through micro-credit, women were able to apply for loans which gave them the opportunity to set up business cooperatives and become wage earners. Resentment from a patriarchal society was minimal due to extreme poverty and family need. This empowered women who had previously been disadvantaged in the labor market, said Hussain.

Women who have become successful through micro-loans "have even started setting up small shops for their husbands to keep them busy," she said.

In her cultural and economic studies in Bangladesh she found that a strict, conservative religious culture limited women through social control and pre-established roles. Men were seen as the decision making members in families, with benefits and power.

"Women had a domestic and reproductive role and they were economically dependent on their husbands. Parents were reluctant to

FULBRIGHT see page 3



CRISTINA BARRAJAS-FLORES

Organizacion Latino Americana held a cake cutting ceremony in recognition of Latino Heritage Month on Monday.

INSIDE THIS WEEK

First day of classes in France

Continue following Shannon Brown's adventures in France as she begins classes in Aix-en-Provence.

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Stuck in smoke at Simmons

Has smoking become a problem on the residence campus? One non-smoker says yes.

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Go Sharks!

Looking for some school spirit? Be sure to see their October sports schedule.

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SIMMONS IN BRIEF

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ASA dim sum outing

The Asian Student Association (ASA) hosted a dim sum outing on Sunday. Dim sum is a selection of small Chinese dumplings served as snacks. The dumplings are fried, steamed, sweet, and savory. The students went to China Pearl, a restaurant in Chinatown, which is "very receptive to the Simmons community," according to ASA co-president Jennifer Tam. The turnout was not as strong as it has been in past years, but the event was "earlier in the semester" this year, Tam said. Students paid \$10, which covered a drink, meal, and tip. It was a "break away from school work" and "a way to network beyond your usual friends," said Tam.

Two women senior executives become vice presidents

Simmons has named Cheryl Howard, a 1971 Simmons alumna, as the new vice president of marketing. Adele Langevin, who previously worked at Babson College, has been named the new vice president of human resources. Howard will lead marketing efforts to drive admissions inquiries and increase alumni support. She will focus on marketing, public relations, publications, and advertising. Langevin will be responsible for managing and implementing human resource programs and policies, in addition to strengthening the recruitment and retention of faculty and staff. She will focus on compensation, benefits, diversity, and communications.

Center for Academic Achievement hosts open house

An open house was co-sponsored by the staff of the Center for Academic Achievement and the Career Education Center. The open house, which was on Sept. 26, allowed the community to see the renovated suite.

BSO hosts Sister Circle event

The Black Student Organization (BSO) hosted their annual Sister Circle event on Sept. 26 in the Kotzen Meeting Center. The event was an opportunity for the BSO to re-introduce themselves to the community, and for students to meet and interact with other students at Simmons. There was food, give-aways, and an outline of the BSO's events for the year. The group also provided information on how interested students can be involved with the organization. This year, part of the group's mission "is to be more inclusive and really reach out to the Simmons community," said BSO president France Belizaire. They want to "really reach out to the Simmons community as a whole to share the black experience on campus," she said.



RENEE FROJO

Seniors have portraits taken

Senior portraits were taken Oct. 2 through Oct. 5 in the Student Activities Conference Room. The portraits will appear in the 2007-08 *Microcosm* yearbook. Seniors registered on a Web site, and were provided with gowns for certain photos. The photos will be available three weeks after being taken.

Professor lectures on students' sleep habits

By Meredith Blake
STAFF WRITER

Professor Richard Millman, M.D. focused on the problems associated with the lack of sleep that most college students experience and gave tips on how to better utilize the nighttime hours at the "Sleep Talk, Sleep Matters" lecture last week.

The hour-long event, which took place in the Special Functions Room, was sponsored by Student

Life, Health Education, the Health Center, and the Ghandour family.

According to Elise Phillips, the director of Health Education, "Sleep Talk is only one part of what is planned to be a year-long campaign to educate students on sleep at Simmons."

As a college professor and the Director of the Sleep Disorders Center of Lifespan Hospitals, Millman researches sleeping habits and trends. He stressed the idea of

setting times to wake up and go to bed each day in order to create a pattern that will allow the body to relax when it is time to sleep.

"Normal bedtime is after you've had your 1 a.m. pizza and gone on the computer," he said to the students and faculty that attended. But "you need to fall asleep to clear the blackboard so you can work the next day."

Even students that are not feeling the burden of all-nighters supplemented with too many energy drinks may be prey to "microsleeps," which occur when a person zones out for a small period of time ranging from seconds to a few minutes.

The person is usually not aware that they are experiencing a "microsleep" because although they are not alert to what is happening around them, they are still taking in enough information so that they are not completely disoriented.

"You have a sleep debt, you have to pay it back," Millman said. He added that it takes two nights of "recovery sleep" to return the mind and body to their full capability after an all-nighter.

The professor emphasized going straight to bed after doing homework or chatting online is not a good idea. "You really need about nine hours of sleep," he said.

The body releases hormones to signal when it is time for bed. "The light on the computer is telling your eyes that it's still light outside," Millman said. This confuses the body and allows it to keep producing the appetite hormone ghrelin that leads to late-night eating.

The professor informed the group that there are four types of sleep-related illnesses: sleep apnea, narcolepsy, insomnia, and id-

iopathic hypersomnia, that occurs when sleepiness is due to more than just a hectic schedule. Anyone that thinks she may be experiencing the symptoms of a sleeping disorder should make an appointment at a health center as soon as possible because serious problems could develop from leaving it untreated.

"Normal bedtime is after you've had your 1 a.m. pizza and gone on the computer [but] you need to fall asleep to clear the blackboard so you can work the next day."

~RICHARD MILLMAN, M.D.,
DIRECTOR OF THE SLEEP DISORDERS CENTER OF LIFESPAN HOSPITALS

Millman is a professor of Medicine at the Warren Alpert Medical School at Brown University and lectures on sleep at different colleges. He is a graduate of Yale University and the University of Pennsylvania.



RENEE FROJO

Sleep-deprived college students often have sleep debts that require "recovery sleep" to bring the body back to full capability.

Warburg professor discusses Sierra Leone's democratic elections

By Jessica Rudis
STAFF WRITER

Ambassador Thomas N. Hull, the new Warburg chair of International Relations, spoke about the recent democratic elections in Sierra Leone last Thursday in the first Warburg lecture of the year.

Hull, the recently-returned American Ambassador to Sierra Leone, discussed the factors of success in the country's recent democratic elections, and the significance of these elections for the country and the international community.

Hull said the 2007 parliamentary and presidential elections gave the people of Sierra Leone an "opportunity to show the world the progress they have made" since the end of their civil war in 2002. Though voting fraud, intimidation, and violence have been issues in the past, Hull said that there were many steps taken to prevent these problems from interfering with the recent elections.

"Democracy worked, despite the doubts of many Sierra Leonians and foreigners," he said.

There were two presidential elections this year in Sierra Leone due to a constitutionally-mandated run-off. This happened because a third party entered the race and earned enough votes to prevent the other candidates from gaining the percentage necessary to win.

Hull said that a run-off election was declared between the two leading parties, the incumbent Sierra Leone People's Party (SLPP) and the All People's Congress (APC). He stayed in Sierra Leone

later than anticipated in order to witness the run-off election, which happened on Sept. 8.

"An election does not guarantee democracy, [but] without a credible election, we cannot have democracy. For Sierra Leone, therefore, this election was a definite step forward."

~AMBASSADOR THOMAS N. HULL,
WARBURG CHAIR OF
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

The APC won the run-off election, despite some evidence of fraud committed by the SLPP. Hull said he saw the APC's victory as an indicator that the ruling party did not successfully change the election results using their political power. "If any evidence was needed that the Sierra Leone election was free and fair, it was simply that the opposition party won," he said.

"An election does not guarantee democracy," Hull said. "[But] without a credible election, we

cannot have democracy. For Sierra Leone, therefore, this election was a definite step forward."

Hull said that there were a number of factors that led to the country's successful democratic elections. These factors included civic organizations and voter education programs, an independent electoral commission, and support from the United Nations (UN) and the international community.

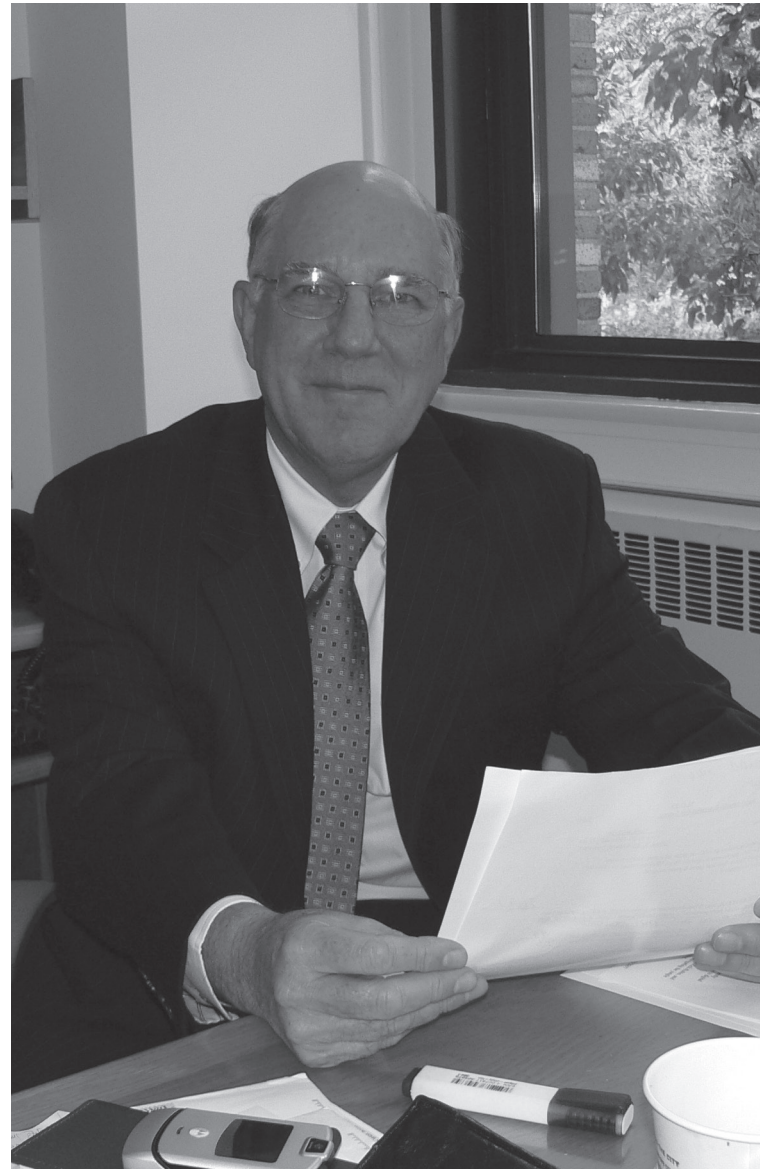
While international actors played a role in the elections, Hull said "they never interfered with local politics nor favored any political party." He added that the elections signaled a victory for UN peace building.

"Without the UN, the elections most likely would have failed," Hull said. "I am convinced that future textbooks will cite the Sierra Leonian elections as a model for the UN to try to emulate elsewhere."

Despite the importance of international actors in the election process, Hull said that the citizens of Sierra Leone deserve credit for their civic participation that led to successful democratic elections.

"[The people of Sierra Leone] were not dissuaded by past electoral practices," Hull said. "They clearly were dissatisfied with the status quo, but rather than resort to the violence of the past, they put their faith in democracy."

Hull said that only time will tell if the elections signal lasting changes for the people of Sierra Leone, and if the success can be repeated again in the country's next parliamentary and presidential elections.



RENEE FROJO

Thomas N. Hull, Warburg chair of International Relations, spoke about democracy in Sierra Leone at Simmons recently.

"My message to Sierra Leonians as ambassador was, 'You must take responsibility for your own future.' They did that in this

election, but they will have to do much more now to solidify that success," he said.

investigate rumors. create controversy.
see both sides. see shows for free. review
movies. music. books. capture kodak
moments. explore the night life. evaluate
student life. see your name in print.
express yourself. **argue** your point. go
behind the scenes. get the inside scoop.
poke fun at pop culture. meet musicians.
actors. politicians. **fight for your rights**.
make people think. question the status
quo. make new friends. **discover** the
power of your own voice. write. draw.
photograph. opine. design. edit. lay out.
get involved.

join the simmons voice.

the possibilities are endless.

**8 p.m. Sundays.
arnold hall basement.**

FULBRIGHT
continued from page 1

send them to school because they could ruin their reputation," said Hussain.

"They were originally confined to their households. Houses were even built in such a way that there were courtyards where women would spend their days doing household activities such as cooking, taking care of children and the house animals.

The independence of Bangladesh in 1971 attracted new industries, eager to take advantage of investment opportunities in the country. The first wave of garment factories began in the far east, and the second wave introduced east and south Asia.

Although the Ready-Made Garment Industry (RMGI) means minimum pay and long working hours for these women, it has proven to be a source of empowerment for them.

"Women are more independent now. They live in hostels in the cities. They have female leaders in their work groups. They can even select their own spouses," said Hussain.

"Now there are more late marriages than before when women would get married at thirteen or fourteen."

According to Hussain, the Bangladeshi government is en-

couraging women to work in the RMGI. Multinational garment corporations are also eager to hire women since they are not likely to form labor unions and demand better work conditions.

RMGI has become the second earning sector to the Bangladeshi economy following remittance.

During the discussion, a student asked Hussain if she thought poor labor conditions were a misconception in the RMGI.

"In the concept of Bangladesh this is only the beginning. If you sensitize this too much, there is already too much unemployment in the country. So men will take over and women will lose their opportunity, so the time has not come yet to talk about these things. I think that in a couple of years time, things will change and women will be empowered enough to demand a better life for them," Hussain said.

"People from developed countries feel from their perspective and background that women in Bangladesh are not taken care of properly. So [in the future] women will be able to have better conditions," she added.

During her visit from Sept. 17 through Oct. 5, she will be participating in panels and meeting with Multidisciplinary Core Courses (MCC) and other courses. Wednesday's discussion was hosted by Mary Jane Treacy, director of the Honors Program.

SGA *continued from page 1*

whelmingly difficult to become active" under the old process. Swanson, who was the Student Affairs Officer last year, started a major initiative last spring to change the activation process.

As a result of the faster activation process, there are at least five organizations working to become active this semester, including Best Buddies and S.P.E.A.K. Representatives from the library also announced a new addition to the diversion collection. The library has added magazines to the collection, which is intended for pleasure reading but are not allowed to be checked out. The library hopes to expand the magazines "to reflect the entire Simmons community," one library representative said.

The library is taking suggestions from the community about what they would like to see added to the collection. Suggestions can be e-mailed to periodicals@simmons.edu.

High-Tech Revolution Remaking Rural India

By Rama Lakshmi

(c) 2007, THE WASHINGTON POST

NEEMANA, India – A chorus of clanging metal and clunking lumber burst the morning air in this village as farmers reclined on jute cots, smoking water pipes and supervising the construction of fancy mansions with marble floors and spiraling columns. Along narrow dirt tracks, buffaloes and tractors jostled for space with shiny new sport-utility vehicles. A farmer in town noted that he had recently bought a “foreign breed” dog, a German shepherd. He said he calls his new pet “Sweetie.”

The village here in the northern state of Haryana oozes new money. Residents have sold most of their farmland to a private company for the establishment of a special economic zone, one of more than 250 that the Indian government approved last year. Now, the sleepy village of Neemana, known for its wheat and mustard fields, is on the cusp of a field-to-factory shift that is transforming the lives of its people.

“I spent my life looking at the sky for rain. There was no irrigation, the underground water was saline. I farmed because I had no other choice,” said Surender Singh Guliya, 35, who worked his ancestral land in Neemana for years before selling it to a manufacturer.

“The company says they will build factories and airports here. They are showing us a dream. If it comes true, my children will have urban jobs and fine lives,” he said. “Farm work is very hard. You grow old very fast.”

The weekly magazine India Today has called special economic zones like this one “the biggest push for industrial expansion in post-independence India.” By offering businesses tax incentives and

insulating them from government interference, India hopes to boost manufacturing and exports. The businesses will develop their own infrastructure, including power plants and road networks – a testament to the fact that emerging economies are not always able to build the foundations to help businesses flourish.

While India’s economy is growing at an impressive 9 percent annually, that growth has left much of rural India untouched. Two-thirds of the country’s people still struggle on \$1 a day, and more than 40 million are registered as unemployed.

In establishing special economic zones, or SEZs, India is taking its cue from China and Brazil, among other countries, which have used similar zones to kick-start their economies and create millions of jobs.

The SEZ in Neemana and nearby villages is being run by Reliance Industries. The Mumbai-based company is building a gas-fueled power plant and an airport; the zone will serve as home to a host of Indian and foreign companies in the biotech, nanotechnology and information technology industries.

Across 25,000 acres of farmland, Reliance plans to build roads, homes, schools, hospitals, and shopping and entertainment plazas. The company has assured villagers that they will make up half of its workforce and has opened a training institute for village youth.

“What is going to happen in this region is nothing short of an industrial revolution,” said Satyender Duhan, the top government official for the 248 villages in the region that includes Neemana. “Agriculture is overburdened and unproductive. Farmers are buried in debt. The SEZ brings mobility and will fuel

urbanization. We cannot visualize the change. ... This place is going to be unrecognizable in 10 years.”

Unlike in China, where the one-party system meant there was little if any resistance to SEZs in Shenzhen and Xiamen, the prospect of special zones drew fierce opposition in India’s Parliament and on the street. Last year, farmers groups said the SEZs would amount to a land grab for the private sector and would make India vulnerable to food shortages. Trade unions also expressed fears that labor protections would be weakened.

To calm those concerns, the government assured farmers that fertile farmland would not be targeted and told trade unionists that labor laws would be upheld.

Still, critics fear that the focus of SEZs on high-tech industries will leave rural Indians behind. Farm laborers from lower castes in Neemana have no land to sell; their wages have been halved in the past year. Others bemoan the breakdown of the village social structure in the race toward urbanization.

“It was like a ghost had entered the village last year, everybody ran in one direction. They all wanted to sell their ancestral land,” said Omvati Harichand, 70, sitting on a cot. “What are we without our land? We will become cities and lose our culture. Sons are fighting with their fathers over land and money in the past year.”

But it is the younger generation in the villages that is driving the change. Flush with money from land sales, they are building their dream homes, buying fancy cars and throwing lavish wedding parties. Many of them are also buying land elsewhere, opening shops and small businesses. A few have started running fleets of cabs for call centers around New Delhi.

The report paints a troubling picture of bureaucratic tangles that impede drug control efforts: Operation Halcon, a successful, helicopter-based border surveillance program, was canceled in November 2006 because the United States and Mexico could not resolve accident liability issues. Failure to reach an accord allowing U.S. law enforcement officers to board suspicious Mexican-flagged ships has allowed drug traffickers to evade capture by dumping their loads at sea.

Even as drug production soars in Mexico, “a relatively small percentage of the estimated supply” of drugs is seized, the report says. Marijuana production, for instance, rose sharply from 7,000 metric tons in 2000 to 13,500 in 2003, before leveling off at about 10,000 metric tons in 2004 and 2005. But seizures changed little during that period.

Despite the disturbing trend lines, GAO investigators also saw positive signs. They praised Mexico for extraditing a record number of drug suspects to the United States in 2006 and said President Calderon, in office since December, has demonstrated “a new level of commitment to combating drug traffickers.” The report praises Calderon for deploying 27,000 troops and police officers to fight cartels in eight Mexican states and for persuading his country’s Congress to approve a 24 percent increase in the national security budget.

Mexican Drug Cartels Move North

By Manuel Roig-Franzia

(c) 2007, THE WASHINGTON POST

MEXICO CITY – Mexican drug cartels now operate in almost every region of the United States and bring in as much as \$23 billion a year in revenue, according to a Government Accountability Office report to be released Thursday.

U.S. assistance has helped Mexico combat cartels, the report says, but those efforts have been hampered by Mexican government corruption and by the failure of key players in the United States, including the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy, to coordinate better with Mexican law enforcement. The White House drug policy office, the report says, has prepared a counter-narcotics plan but has not discussed portions of the initiative that require Mexican cooperation with authorities in Mexico.

“The Office of National Drug Control Policy has to stop dropping the ball and doing sloppy work,” Sen. Charles E. Grassley, R-Iowa, who requested the report, said in an e-mail Wednesday. “They had plenty of time to forge a working relationship with the Mexican government, but it appears that nothing has been accomplished.”

The agency, Grassley added, “needs to realize that we’re in this fight together, and it’s foolish to think we can implement an effective plan to stop the flow of drugs from Mexico on our own.”

Patrick Ward, assistant deputy director of the White House drug office, said in an interview Wednesday that his office has had extensive contact with Mexican authorities about counter-narcotics plans since the GAO conducted its probe.

“Our cooperation with the Mexican government, especially in the last eight to 10 months since President (Felipe) Calderon took office, has been absolutely phenomenal,” Ward said.

The report, an advance copy of which was obtained by The Washington Post, is the starkest evidence yet of Mexico’s emergence as the main conduit of illegal drugs into the United States. The share of cocaine arriving in the United States through Mexico, for instance, leapt from 66 percent in 2000 to 90 percent in 2005. Other transshipment points include Haiti, the Dominican Republic and Central America.

Combined, Mexican drug cartels generate more revenue than at least 40 percent of Fortune 500 companies, and the U.S. government’s highest estimate of cartel revenue tops that of Merck, Deere and Halliburton.

Congressional aides said the report may lead to increased cooperation between the two countries and give more impetus to already well-advanced talks aimed at developing a massive U.S. aid package to fight drug trafficking in Mexico.

NOTEWORTHY NEWS

Darfur Rebels Kill 10 in Peace Force

A surprise raid by Darfuri rebels on an African Union peacekeeping base left 10 soldiers dead and dozens missing. African Union officials said the weekend ended in bloodshed after a group of rebels from Darfur entered the Haskanita base, which houses more than 100 peacekeepers. This was the deadliest attack on African Union peacekeepers in three years. It has been suggested that a motive for the attack was the United Nation’s campaign to persuade member countries to commit troops to support a greatly expanded Darfur peacekeeping force. As a result, several countries are now hesitant to join the campaign.

New protests on Yangon streets

Hundreds of people gathered to protest in the streets of Myanmar’s (Burma) main city, Yangon (Rangoon), despite three days of crackdowns on pro-democracy protests. Police reacted by beating protestors with batons. Protests took place throughout the country. Monks, followed by thousands of demonstrators, led a peaceful protest in the central town of Pakokku. UN special envoy Ibrahim Gambari arrived in Yangon amidst the protest, and plans to have key talks with the country’s ruling generals. Although thousands of people are still demonstrating in the streets of Yangon, a BBC correspondent said protestors were dispersing and the streets were back to normal.

Musharraf nomination backed

Despite efforts to disqualify current Pakistani president Pervez Musharraf, election officials have approved his nomination for re-election. The election commission approved General Musharraf and two rivals to compete in the poll on Oct. 6. Authorities used batons and tear gas to disperse the hundreds of lawyers and activists who demonstrated against the ruling in Islamabad and Lahore. General Musharraf, who has not yet quit his positions as head of the armed forces, is expected to win the poll. On Friday, the Supreme Court dismissed a number of legal challenges, and the Electoral Commission approved his candidacy on Saturday.

Kenya graft ‘amnesty bill’ halted

Kenyan president Mwai Kibaki rejected a law that would overlook financial crimes committed by public officials before 2003. The bill, passed by the Parliament members this month, was supposed to stop elected officials from having to declare their assets. The Anglo Leasing scams and the Goldenberg cases are among the most notable. Both incidents redirected large amounts from the Exchequer into officials’ pockets. President Kibaki, who is up for re-election this year, won in 2002 on an anti-graft platform. Kibaki had been asked not to sign the bill by the international diplomatic community and other civic groups.

Bush climate plans spark debate

U.S. president George W. Bush was criticized by the international community due to the proposition of a plan for countries to set their own targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Delegates from the world’s top 16 polluters referred to Bush’s comments as a U.S. reluctance to commit to binding action on global warming. The delegates said the only way to legally tackle climate change was to set international targets. Bush said that the U.S. would not commit itself to mandatory CO2 cuts and that there was no reason why climate change should damage the economy. “Each nation must decide for itself the right mix of tools and technology to achieve results that are measurable and environmentally effective,” Bush told delegates in Washington.

Iran in \$1 billion Bolivia oil pledge

Iranian president Mahmoud Ahmadinejad recently promised \$1 billion to help Bolivia exploit oil and gas reserves. As part of a mini-tour of Latin American nations, Ahmadinejad met with Bolivian president Evo Morales. Both countries will “work together from this day on” said Morales. During the short meeting in Bolivia, the presidents formally re-established diplomatic relations. They also agreed to design a five-year industrial cooperation accord with a \$1 billion investment. The agreement includes a \$100 million investment on technology, trade, and industrial promotion. “We’ll get rid of the poverty in our lands and give well-being to our peoples, and the people of Bolivia and the people of Iran will emerge victoriously,” Ahmadinejad said.

Information from www.bbc.co.uk and www.nytimes.com, and compiled by Lucia Cordon.

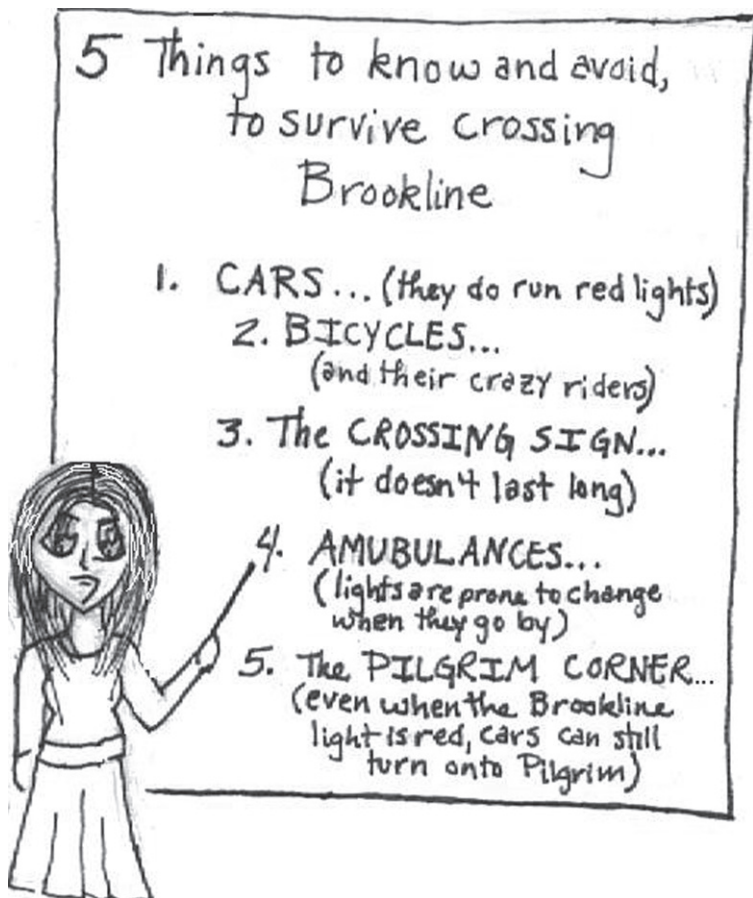
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ANNA DIPIETRO

EDITORIAL

Funding needs to increase

Special education costs for public schools are becoming a larger issue as more children are diagnosed with disorders such as ADHD and autism. Public school administrators are coming under fire for the percentage of school funds used to provide legally-mandated accommodations for students with special needs. Schools are required to provide an adequate level of education for all students, and Congress agreed to provide 40 percent of the funds necessary for special education accommodations, according to The Boston Channel Web site. But in Massachusetts, the federal funding level is at 15 percent, forcing schools to cut programs for all students. Many argue that it is unfair for schools to monetarily favor one group of students over another, yet special-needs students require additional resources and personnel to achieve a similar quality of education.

A significant portion of special education costs come from the need to hire special personnel and send students to outside facilities. Because most schools do not have adequate facilities for separate special education resources, or the ability to maintain an adequate special education staff, they are required to pay for private institutions and instructors. This contributes significantly to the funding problem. A few possible long-term solutions are for school districts to train personnel, maintain a permanent special education staff, and create their own special education facilities. This would decrease costs, since schools would not have to hire outside personnel and pay for students to attend private institutions.

Another solution to this funding problem is for the federal government to provide more money for education, health care, and other domestic needs. Rather than paying for dubious military involvement on foreign soil, our government could increase the budget for domestic programs, and thereby create a more stable and productive society. The U.S. government has a responsibility to its people. We can hardly be an example to others if we cannot even teach our children to read.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To the Editor,

It is with great frustration that I write to you in response to Erika Fox's "Reducing, reusing, and ignoring" article. While I believe Fox wrote said article with the intent of angering and consequently mobilizing the Simmons community about UNICCO's perceived handling of recycled goods, I feel that all good intentions were stifled by the chosen pull quote. Of all of the worthy pieces of information in the article, to emphasize a student's doubts as opposed to the actual facts is irresponsible. Yes, the recycling program and all other steps toward a more sustainable Simmons are still a work in progress. However, we are making considerable "green" strides. As Fox reported, the Simmons community increased our amount of goods recycled by 59% from 2005 to 2006. If UNICCO simply trashed all materials deposited in receptacles designated for recycling as Souza and Taing (among others) believe, it would mean that IRN's records were falsified - which is a pretty sizable accusation. In the tail end of her article, Fox gives credence to the Sustainability Committee and all of our efforts - which raises the question: why can't you? The Simmons College community turns to *The Voice* for socially relevant information, not negative propaganda. Negative pull quotes which contradict the majority of an article perform a disservice, as many readers skim instead of actually reading the articles. Let's work together to educate and inform our community about the important steps toward sustainability such as those being made by Jeff Stone in dining services and Ali Kantor in the Holmes Sports Center. Simmons has been galvanized by the "green" movement, so why not focus on the positive results achieved?

Very truly yours,
Laura Frances Merin
President of the Sustainability Committee

Dear Voice Staffers,

I want to say great job on your 3 issues of the *Voice* so far this semester! I am impressed by the expanded sections, the quality of writing, and the overall feel of the paper. I also enjoy reading about the events and programs happening in our community. I look forward to my very own copy of the *Voice* each week! Congratulations on the changes-they are a step in the right direction.

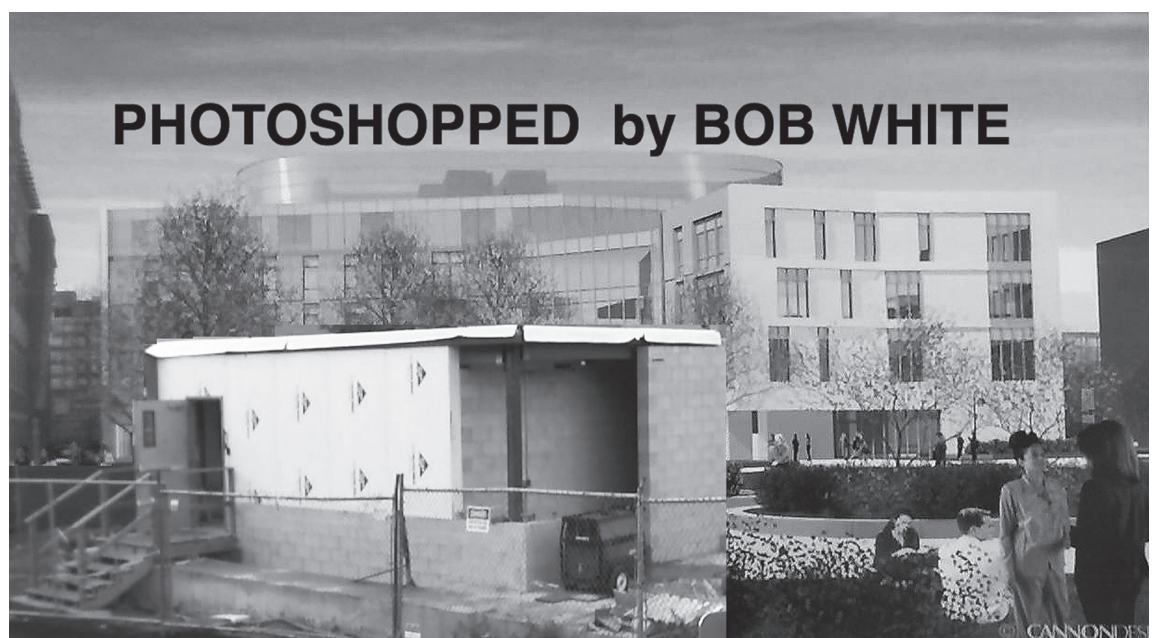
Michelle Vital '00
Assistant Director for Student Leadership and Activities

To the Editor,

For all the effort put in to beautifying the back yard, and the erecting of new signs celebrating the Green of it all to come, where is the visual integrity that allows the creation of that concrete bath-house monstrosity as lovely as the parking garage it leads to?

I wonder what Cannon Design has to say about that.

Sincerely and Sadly,
Bob White
Professor of Communications



Editorial Policy

All opinions expressed in editorials are those of *The Simmons Voice* editorial board and do not represent the views or policies of Simmons College. Send responses as a letter to the editor at voice@simmons.edu.

Letters to the Editor Policy

Letters should be 300 words or fewer and may be edited for grammar and/or space. Letters may be emailed to voice@simmons.edu, and must be signed.

Be kind in the library

Think a little less loudly

By Jessica Rudis
STAFF WRITER

After roaming around in search of an open computer in the Beatley library, I have finally found one. I sit down, log in, and brainstorm for a minute as I prepare to write a paper for class. Just as the perfect idea comes to mind, it is startled away by the obnoxious sound of a ringing cell phone.

The person sitting at the computer next to me slowly pulls the phone out of her backpack. Even though the library is otherwise quiet, she does not silence the ringing. Instead, she brings the phone to her mouth and answers it as if she were shouting to someone across a busy street. "Hey, what's up? I'm just hanging out in the library."

Unfortunately, this is not an isolated incident. Things like this happen all the time in the Beatley library—especially on weekday afternoons. This is a peak time for students, and they often turn the first floor of the library into the unofficial Simmons student lounge.

It is usually impossible to find a computer to use in the library during peak times. Throughout the day, it is not unlikely to see at least five people roaming around, waiting to pounce on an open computer the moment someone leaves. This is particularly frustrating when the people using the computers are only doing so to pass time by clicking around Facebook, or when they dump all of their belongings at a computer station, password-lock the computer, and promptly leave for about an hour to grab a drink at Starbucks. People do things like this even when it is clear that others are waiting to use the computers for schoolwork.

The library recently posted signs urging students to give up their computers for people waiting to use them for schoolwork. While the signs are clearly necessary, I find it sad that undergraduate students, graduate students, and Dix Scholars need to be told to use basic manners.

Simmons students need to save their social networking for non-peak times, but the school should also address the increased need for computer access on campus. While in previous years the computer shortage has only been an issue during midterms and finals, this year it is already a consistent problem.

The school does not need to fund an extra computer lab—it already has two of them. Some professors hold classes in these labs, which otherwise remain empty and locked for most of the day. In order to alleviate the demand for computers in the library, especially during midterms and finals, these labs should remain unlocked and open to students. Staffing the rooms with student lab monitors would also create extra work-study jobs or give work-study students

more hours.

In addition to reminding students to kindly share the computers, someone should make signs to remind students of the cardinal rule of being in a library: be quiet. Of course, Simmons is known for encouraging students to find their voice, but that voice needs to be kept at a reasonable level in the Beatley library.

Being mindful of each other and remembering basic manners will make the library, and the overall Simmons community, a lot more pleasant.

During peak times, the first floor of the library, which is designated for quiet conversation, is filled with people holding noisy conversations, answering cell phones, and listening to their iPods so loudly that others can hear every beat. This happens on the second floor of the library as well, even though that floor is designated for silent studying.

Lunchtime at the library usually sounds just like it does in the Fens and Java City, as people speak loudly without any regard for their surroundings. During these times, the library can even look like the Fens or Java City, since people sometimes bring food to eat at the computer cubicles. There is nothing wrong with people eating in the library, except when they leave their wrappers on the desks and spill crumbs all over the computer keyboards. There are garbage cans and recycling bins in the library, and there is no excuse for people to leave their trash behind.

The newly renovated library is a beautiful place to study, but students need to treat the building, and each other, with a little more respect. Being mindful of each other and remembering basic manners will make the library, and the overall Simmons community, a lot more pleasant.

Boston is smokin'

Second-hand smoke is cheaper than water

By Kate Clavet
STAFF WRITER

There are many reasons to avoid smoking. Health, personal preference, asthma, and the desire to avoid lung cancer can all be deciding factors.

But at Simmons it seems impossible to get away from other people's smoke. South Hall is the Wellness Community on the Simmons Residence Campus. Residents of South Hall choose to be there partly for the holistic lifestyle, which supports caring for one's whole self, and not drinking alcohol, smoking, or using illegal drugs.

Students in other dorms also may choose a healthy life style, but South Hall residents write an essay as part of their housing application, attesting to their values and desire to live in the Wellness Community. It is therefore highly ironic to walk out of South Hall and be assaulted by a billowing cloud of cigarette smoke. Cigarette butts line the campus walkways and lawns. Whole unused cigarettes have been found ground into the cement in front of Bartol Hall's entrance and on the carpet inside South Hall.

This seems to go beyond careless to ridiculous. Cigarettes are quite expensive for the college wallet, ranging from \$5-6, maybe even \$7, depending on the

brand of poison the smoker prefers. What devout smoker would leave whole, expensive cigarettes to be destroyed on the ground? It is not as though by doing so the smoker can avoid the toxins in a cigarette itself. This merges the question of expense with the question of health.

College students today are young enough that they have lived all or most of their lives with an awareness of the dangers of smoking. They have seen many people suffering at the hands of cigarettes. Grandparents and other relatives have died of emphysema or lung cancer because they did not know better, because they were unaware of the dangers of smoking. But today, these dangers are well-publicized. One example is the television commercial featuring a woman known as Pamela, gasping for breath in a hospital at the ripe old age of thirty-three, dying slowly, unable to watch her young daughter reach middle school.

People walk around toting oxygen tanks, due to lung cancer, and really dedicated nicotine addicts smoke through holes drilled in their throats so they can breathe. Numerous health campaigns are featured on televisions, posters, and billboards in an attempt to deter children from smoking. But no one seems to listen. The tobacco industry is a multi-million dol-

lar industry today, in 2007, even though most Americans are highly educated about smoking risks. The Surgeon General labels each package of cigarettes with a warning to consumers, a warning that goes unheeded by many.

Arsenic is a chemical used to kill rats because it causes death. Arsenic is also used in bombs to prevent the resulting injuries from clotting, so that people will bleed to death. Arsenic is also an ingredient in cigarettes. Tobacco makes up part of the cigarette, but the rest is the filter, hundreds of chemicals, and the rolling paper.

Despite warnings, education, and the threat of fatal illnesses, it seems impossible to escape cigarette smoke in Boston. People smoke while walking baby carriages on the street, sitting in front of dorms, and in their cars with the windows rolled down. The elderly smoke, school-age children smoke, and collegiate scholars smoke. Some local governments are pushing smokers out of restaurants, and giving buildings a 50-foot buffer from the smoke, but what good is that doing? People still make the conscious choice to smoke. It seems that nonsmokers simply need to put on painters' masks and deal with it.

President's comments spark debate

By Carley Caldas
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Iranian president Mahmoud Ahmadinejad sparked controversy last week in a forum at Columbia University. In his speech, he questioned the existence of the Holocaust and made several other questionable remarks, but the most outrageous was his insistence that homosexuality does not exist in Iran.

Americans were initially shocked when the president of Columbia University extended an invitation to Ahmadinejad to speak at the forum. They were then horrified by his reception at Columbia, but nothing was more shocking than the comments that he made at the forum.

"In Iran we don't have homosexuals like you do in your country. In Iran, we do not have this phenomenon. I do not know who has told you that we have it," Ahmadinejad said. This remark elicited laughter from the audience until jeering boos chorused throughout the room. Simmons students likely would have been booing too.

Ahmadinejad implied that homosexuality is not natural, but rather the product of a morally bankrupt society. In Iran, homosexuality is not only socially unacceptable, but it is also illegal and punishable by death.

One might wonder, if the homosexual "phenomenon" does not exist in Iran, then why are there laws against it? Ahmadinejad's unforgettable quote was in response

to the public hanging of two teenagers because of their sexual preference. If homosexuality does not exist in Iran, then there should be no laws against it.

Public feeling toward Ahmadinejad has become increasingly negative in the days following his speech at Columbia University. Some Simmons students agree that his comments about homosexuality were ridiculous, and many others agree, as demonstrated by the protests outside Columbia Univer-

sity on the day of his speech.

One would assume that a president, as a highly influential public figure, would put thought into his comments and speech for a highly publicized event to that his words accurately reflect his opinion. Then again, he probably did and that is what makes it more upsetting.

Class of 2010 speaks out

**Alma Barnes,
Class of 2010:
"It's just ignorant of him to say that. Despite what he thinks homosexuality is not a cultural 'phenomenon.'"**

**Jessie Guest,
Class of 2010:
"[Homosexuality is] a matter of life or death [in Iran]."**

**Anna Meuse,
Class of 2010:
"It's just different, cultural acceptance in the U.S. as opposed to other countries."**

**Rachel Elliott,
Class of 2010:
"It exists, it's just not accepted."**

Against the grain: being conservative at Simmons

By Kristin Pitts
Staff Writer

Despite Simmons's efforts toward diversity, according to the Princeton Review, the average Simmons woman is not hard to peg.

Students fall under one of two categories, either the "gender bending punk," or the "moneyed Cape Cod stock." And while the hallway clash of Coach bags and spiked hair have become, if anything, more expected than eyebrow-raising, it is the students who do not fall into either category that have it rough.

Or, at least that is what the "Students Say" section of the Princeton Review Web site claims. "Republicans or Yankees fans may want to tread carefully," one student wrote.

Although the College claims in its "College Says" section that there is no one "type" of Simmons student, women who identify themselves as conservative or religious, for the most part, feel that if there is a "type," they are not quite it.

Sophomore Lauren Hassett, who identifies herself as conservative, has found adjusting to Simmons difficult in that respect. But she claims she has found a way around it, saying: "You just have to get used to it and not take offense when no one is on your side."

Hassett, who says she has tried bringing her ideas into classroom discussions, often finds them quickly shut down.

"This school pushes diversity, and I'm cool with it, and I agree

with it, but there are areas of diversity that are blocked off. Bring up regular Christianity and they completely shut it off. You don't get punished, but they do brush it off," Hassett says.

But not everyone echoes Hassett's feelings. First-year Daria Buracheck, who identifies as conservative, feels that Simmons is extremely politically diverse.

"Bring up regular Christianity and they completely shut it off. You don't get punished, but they do brush it off."

~LAUREN HASSETT,
CLASS OF 2010

"At Simmons there's a balance. It's maybe like 50 percent of people are liberal and 50 percent of people are conservative," Buracheck says.

Despite Buracheck's sense of balance, most research proves otherwise. A Facebook search for conservative Simmons students found 99 profiles. A search for liberal students found more than 500.

But that political slant does not necessarily take away from or even damage the college experi-

ence. Buracheck says that she has found Simmons students to be open minded to all views, not just the ones that are commonly held.

"Everyone here is just as accepting as I am," Buracheck says. Buracheck says that her strong religious beliefs both set her apart and help her as she interacts with the Simmons community. While other students are surprised to see her leave her dorm bed for church every Sunday, she says that the acceptance and non-judgmental attitudes she receives from her religion help her when heated discussions arise.

Sophomore Jessica Esposito shares Buracheck's sentiments, but not without a little unease. She says she was nervous last year when her Multidisciplinary Core Course (MCC) class called for each student to share her opinion. She found, though, that "if you listen to other people, they'll listen to you." She says she has honed that skill partly by growing up in Massachusetts and being accustomed to being the political minority.

"For the most part, everyone is willing to listen to everyone," Buracheck says. "I think that shows the maturity of Simmons students."

But Hassett's experience differs. Last year, she did a paper and presentation about prayer in schools, and why she thinks it should be allowed. She took her paper to the writing center, and says she researched it thoroughly. But when she got it back, the grade she received fell short of expectations.

Hassett feels that the lower grade was a result of her belief being graded, not her work.

This came as a shock to Hassett, who was homeschooled and took a few classes at a community college in high school, and always felt comfortable expressing her opinions. Now she says that while she does express herself with professors she trusts, she sometimes finds herself worrying as she writes her papers.

"Simmons needs to teach teachers to be more open, or lay down the rules for teachers to not discriminate against students for their beliefs. They should still grade for grammatical or comprehension errors, but not beliefs," Hassett says.

Simmons's Diversity Action Plan, according to the Simmons Web site, claims it will assess itself off "Improved internal and external perception of Simmons as a welcoming, diverse community, as demonstrated in student and employee satisfaction surveys, success of recruitment and retention, alumnae/i giving, surveys of alumnae/i and employers."

The 2005-2006 Diversity Inventory lists 30 organizations and more than 210 events on campus relating to diversity.

Despite these efforts, judging by Hassett's experience, Simmons has a long way to go, and perhaps not in the direction it had previously planned.

Students say:

Simmons women see themselves as open-minded, overachieving feminists who are "just as engaging at a party as [they are] in the classroom." Students routinely take on crazy class hours, club leadership positions, and multiple majors. Recently, the vibe of the school has started to shift "from being all about grades to being more about community." The small, liberal student body accepts lesbianism readily—"You become very accustomed to same-sex relationships"—but "Republicans or Yankees fans might want to tread carefully." Many student activists organize around political issues of gender, race, and class. They note a divide between students "on a first-name basis with every Financial Aid Officer and those whose parents can afford a small island in the Pacific." They are also sensitive to the fact that diversity is lacking. However, a junior points out, "With each incoming class, Simmons becomes more and more diverse." Ultimately, students cultivate "solidarity around being a woman," whether that woman is moneyed Cape Cod stock or a gender-bending punk.

~ Information taken from the Princeton Review Web site.

Fill a mode without killing your G.P.A.

By Renee Frojo
Staff Writer

Every college and university has them—required core courses. At Simmons, these are called "modes." From nursing to education majors, all students must fulfill her requirements for each of the six categories, whether they like it or not.

Contrary to popular opinion, modes are not meant to serve as punishments. They are intended to ensure that every undergraduate can experience a small portion of the College's curricular offerings. According to the undergraduate course catalog, by fulfilling the modes, "students will have an opportunity to challenge their intellectual capacities and to explore their interaction within their own culture, their natural environment, and their world."

For a nursing major "language, literature, and culture" may not be comforting terms. And the scientific inquiry mode has been known to send chills down communications students' bodies.

But there are courses that the not-so-scientifically-inclined can take and language-impaired can enjoy. Chances are, there is a course in each of the modes that most students can appreciate and learn something from.

One course must be chosen from each the following categories: creative and performing arts; language, literature, and culture; quantitative analysis and reasoning; scientific inquiry; social and historical perspectives; and psy-

chological and ethical development.

Mode 1 - Creative and Performing Arts

These courses are required for students to explore artistic forms of expression or ways of communication. They can also serve to learn about the history of different arts and the role that arts play in society, according to the undergraduate course catalog. There are 46 courses to choose from, ranging from introductory to advanced levels.

For someone who believes she has no artistic talents, COMM 120-Communications Media, is a good intro course to explore the different aspects of old and recent communications art and theory, and requires no background knowledge. Students get to create movies, make comic strips, and watch video clips. As an added bonus, students get to listen to Professor Bob White tell jokes.

Courses to avoid for these students include introduction to art history classes, any introduction to drawing or painting classes, and photography. These classes are extremely time-consuming and would not be beneficial to students who have no interests in the arts.

Mode 2 - Language, Literature, and Culture

In this category, the courses focus on allowing students to explore ideas, thoughts, and cultures through language and literature. There are 37 courses offered, most of which are advanced language acquisition at the 202 level or above.

Since every student must fulfill a separate language requirement, this is one of the easier modes to complete. If a student is completing her language requirement in Spanish, then one of the 200 level Spanish courses would be the best choice to fill the mode.

For students who have somehow by-passed their language requirement, ENGL 195-Art of Film is a great course for students who want to take an interesting and fun course. The class serves as an introduction to film analysis and includes a variety of movies from directors such as Hitchcock, Scorsese, Godard, and Denis.

Mode 3 - Quantitative Analysis and Reasoning

The objective for this mode is to enhance students' abilities to think logically and develop skills in problem solving, according to the course catalog. Courses are supposed to enable students to gain tools beyond the basic level of math competency. This is considered by some students as the most dreaded mode of all.

For any major, CS 101-www.computing.you and CS 112-Introduction to Programming Java, are both recommended courses to gain basic computer skills, such as programming html and java.

For students who scored low on the math portion of their SATs or even for students who simply despise math, MGMT 112-Your Money and Your Life: Personal Finance, only requires the most basic math skills. Also, the information learned could be useful for life af-

ter college.

Mode 4 - Scientific Inquiry

This category encourages students to explore the natural and physical world through application of the scientific method. Only 16 courses are offered, which makes it more difficult to choose. For nursing, nutrition, science, and physics majors, these courses are all within their realm of studies. For everyone else, these courses could be a chance to learn something new.

For students who say they would rather drop out of school than take a science course, BIOL 109-Biology of Women and NUT 111-Fundamentals of Nutritional Science, are the most helpful and easiest courses to take. Biology of women explores the biological factors that contribute to sex identification and the role that women play in society. Scientific-lingo is minimal and students learn a lot about themselves. Nutritional Science is a great course to take that involves little science knowledge and provides a lot of information on how to maintain a healthy body.

Mode 5 - Social and Historical Perspectives

These courses explore the historical, economic, political, or social factors that affect individuals and societies. With 54 courses offered, there is something that appeals to everyone.

Courses in this category have more to do with personal preferences. There are language, communications, history, women's studies courses, and more.

If a student is looking for an easier course that requires little work, HIST 100-World Civilizations I: Pre-Modern Societies, should fit what she is looking for. It offers an overview of the rise of the West during the Renaissance era. It requires little outside work and easy reading.

For students who would like something more challenging, WST 200-Women, Nation, Culture is an interesting course to take. The class is required for sociology, economics, and international relations students, so students can experience an interesting variance of opinions from students with different backgrounds.

Mode 6 - Psychological and Ethical Development

Through these courses, students are required to analyze the formation of human development by studying different identities, beliefs, and values. They explore the underlying functions of the human mind and different systems of thought.

PHIL 130-Ethics is a good course for students who enjoy discussion. Students get to discuss issues of racism, animal rights, world hunger, and more. For students who would rather sit back and listen, PHIL/POLS 232-Theories of Justice, provides exploration and discussion of the same kind of issues, but students are not required to join in on the conversation.

She is Simmons: Centrella sees medicine from all angles

By Beth Maclin
Staff Writer

It is hard to believe that someone who looks so natural walking through the large, glass double doors into Java City was so against applying to Simmons a little more than three years ago.

Senior Katie Centrella places her backpack on the ground next to her chair and lays her hands on the table, her fingers interlocked.

Not only was she against applying to Simmons when decision time came to choose a school, it was by accident that Simmons was her choice.

Wearing a blue-and-white-striped button down shirt tucked into her black dress-pants, she looks all business. The sunlight shining through the window reflects off of the edge of her dark, plastic glasses frames.

Centrella was set on attending Boston University (BU) and was not interested in Simmons. It was her mom who made her apply.

"I wanted to go to BU, and my mom brought me here for an open house and she literally had to drag me from the car because I refused to get out of the car. I absolutely hated Simmons, wanted nothing to do with it," she says, laughing.

Either by accident, her mom's trickery, or fate, Centrella's BU application was never mailed by her guidance counselor. Simmons was the only other school she applied to, and therefore, her only choice. She says that she told her mom that she would transfer anyway, but that has not happened yet.

"I came here the first day, and I've loved it ever since," Centrella says. "I think it's awesome to see women leaders every day and especially, as a science major, to be around all women every day."

Despite her apprehension about attending Simmons, Centrella has been clear on her education track since day one. She is pre-med—heading toward pediatric oncol-

ogy—and has taken every opportunity possible to be as prepared as possible when it comes time to do the job.

For Centrella, this has resulted in a triple major in physics, chemistry, and biology. She says that she just started taking as many science classes as possible, in the hope that they would better prepare her for the medical school entrance exam.

At the end of last year, Centrella had yet to declare a major, and that is when she figured out that she only needed one more class for each major to be complete. This semester, though, she is taking a break and filling all of her modes, which is presenting her with her hardest class: drawing.

"I'm very drawingly-challenged," she says, laughing. "So that was different and it's weird to switch focus from one [class] of quantum mechanics and physics to drawing a leaf or something like that. It's hard for me, but it's fun to learn something new."

Centrella says she knew from a young age that she wanted to be a doctor. She attributes this positive experiences with all of her doctors growing up, and hopes to provide the same experience for others.

Centrella already feels like she has helped some patients while volunteering and working at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. She started volunteering her first year, and has been there since.

"Because I think I started so early, my boss took a liking to me over there and he kind of served as a mentor to me as well. Mostly pre-meds start volunteering their sophomore or junior years, so I stood out to him for getting involved before all that," Centrella says.

"So over the course of volunteering there, he's referred me to other jobs there, so I've done pretty much everything Dana-Farber, including my last."

Her first job was as a resource specialist in the care coordination

department. This meant that she served as a liaison between the patients and any outside organizations they might need. She helped patients with issues pertaining to housing and transportation, but also more unique situations. One man called saying that his wife's last wish was to hold a monkey, so Centrella got them a monkey.

"I came here the first day, and I've loved it ever since. I think it's awesome to see women leaders every day and especially, as a science major, to be around all women every day."

~KATIE CENTRELLA,
CLASS OF 2008

Now, she is working on psychosocial needs of pediatric brain tumor patients in the Jimmy Fund Clinic. "The division that I'm in really works to counteract that and work on survivorship.

"They work with improving social skills. Sometimes it's having events after treatment. Sometimes it's going on duck tours, stuff like that. And it's fun to see the kids," she says.

This experience at Dana-Farber has opened her eyes to other side of medicine, and other possible career paths.

She says that after graduation she will take a two-year break before medical school because of loans, and is open to new experiences. She has sent out her resume to local research labs and is considering teaching high school.

She is a qualified candidate for either role.

Centrella worked in the Merck undergraduate science research program last year examining dynamic light scattering of beta amalooid aggregates. This means that she examined how a protein, found in Alzheimer's patients, reflected a laser, which allowed her to see how the protein's size changed over three days.

"I worked with Dr. Johnson and Dr. Gray. They were awesome. They really let me independently research, and they were there for support if I needed it, but they let me come up with the problem and the way to solve it," she explains.

What Centrella fails to include is that she came onto the project as an expert on dynamic light scattering, according to Dr. Bruce Gray of the biology and psychobiology departments.

"She is amazing. She picks up project very quickly and is very gifted in terms of working with machines and analyzing data," Gray says.

Centrella presented the research to the American Chemical Society in Chicago, an organization she calls "a bunch of nerds."

Centrella also shows off her nerd side while working as the co-director of Strong Women, Strong Girls (SWSG). She got involved with the organization from almost



Danielle Zuber

Senior Katie Centrella interacts with teens at a Strong Women, Strong Girls event.

her first day at Simmons.

Her mentor, a senior pre-med major, encouraged Centrella to join her first year, which was also the organization's first year.

"It started off with like five people meeting in South Hall every Sunday night, and there were only two schools we went to. As I've gone through Simmons, I've seen the chapter really evolve," she explains, a wide smile on her face.

the medicine behind the patients, granted I've seen the patients progress and decline and go up and all that stuff," she says.

"But it was really cool to see the whole other side of medicine to see how it affects the family and how it affects the money and how it affects everything else."

Either way, she thinks she will go back to medicine in the end.



DANIELLE ZUBER

Senior Katie Centrella (second from left) and another Strong Women, Strong Girls mentor show off their art with some mentees.

"Now we're up to 20 mentors and depending on what they tell us this year, five sites around the city. So the chapter has really grown, and we're establishing an executive board and really taking the steps to make sure our chapter has the depth that it needs to survive long term," she says.

Junior Danielle Zuber, Centrella's co-director for SWSG, says that working with her has been amazing.

"She's awesome," Zuber says. "We are each other's other half. We call each other the other's wife. We spend a lot of time together. She remembers what I forget, and I remember what she forgets."

"She is an extremely smart and committed individual to pretty much all aspects of her life."

Her latest job from the summer as a resource specialist has opened her mind to other possibilities for her future.

"I really loved my position this past summer," she says. "It shifted my mindset because I've always really thought about

"I'll probably will deviate back to science, but it's really awesome to see the whole other side and now as a physician, if I was crossed with a patient who has these needs, I would know, well MassHealth does this, Medicare D would have this until this woman passes, and just the other resources that patients have and how patients really need to advocate for themselves so that they can obtain resources because they're all out there."

Based on all Zuber knows of Centrella, "She will go to med school, and she wants to work with kids with cancer, and she will be discovering cures, saving lives, and all those fabulous things."



DANIELLE ZUBER

Senior Katie Centrella in a tacky sweater at a Strong Women, Strong Girls Halloween party.

Separate but “equal” education

By Sheenan Ashley Price
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Eleven adults gather in a small, crowded room for instruction, silently, patiently waiting for their names to be called.

Attendance is taken. One student is reprimanded for not following instructions.

“Get your hand up,” the teacher shouts. “I don’t care if you are tired. Get that hand up above your head.”

The instructor is Malande Ntozini. She is 10 years old.

Her home is nestled in the middle of the bustling Site C section of Khayelitsha, the largest black township on the outskirts of Cape Town, a jumbled mix of modest brick and mortar houses and improvised wood, tin, and plastic shacks.

Malande lives with her mother, Vicky Ntozini, a pioneer of township bed-and-breakfast establishments. Vicky’s three-bedroom B& B is the smallest hotel in Cape Town, but it is almost always full.

Malande is a born leader in a country in the beginning stages of a profound transition from one of the world’s most extreme forms of racial domination-apartheid—to a democracy with a Constitution that promises not only political but also social, economic and cultural equality.

And it is children like Malande who say they will ensure its future. “I am going to first teach the children. Then go study in New York. Then come back home and teach more children,” she exclaims with certainty.

On this particular day, however, none of the children prepare for school. A public sector strike has cancelled it for the next two days. But this does not slow her down or dampen her enthusiasm—it only shifts her focus of attention to her visitors.

The strike affects many government facilities and services including schools, hospitals, airports, border control, correctional services, police operations and courts, according to the global media service allAfrica.com.

“My teacher told me the strike is about more money—better wages,” Malande says.

The Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU), South Africa’s largest trade union federation, with more than 2 million members, is leading the public sector demand for increased wages.

COSATU, a strategic ally of the ruling African National Congress, played a vital role in the fight against apartheid in the 1980s and early 1990s.

Today, however, it is chal-

lenging its long-standing political partner in the streets over basic bread-and-butter issues, a sign that the legacy of inequality from the apartheid era is far from resolved.

those who attend private schools, most of whose students are white. “It depends on how much you have or invest for your kids’ educations,” she says.



KRISTIN PITTS

In a township, preschoolers sing and dance. They sing a song called “My body is my body.”

A week into the strike, COSATU leaders say they are prepared to extend the strike for the long haul until the government either accepts its proposal for a 10 percent increase—down from an original demand of 12 percent—or makes a better offer than what has been presented so far, according to published reports.

But with the government only upping its counter-offer from six to 7.25 percent, the outlook for a quick resolution is slim, which leaves Malande and thousands like her with no school to go to for the foreseeable future. But that is not the only problem she faces in trying to secure an education.

Even when they are open, schools for black South African children lack basic resources, as young children like Malande are acutely aware. “We have 40 children in one class. How can one teacher help everyone?” she asks.

But she is also aware that some black children are more privileged than others. “The government children have seven in one class,” she says.

“It is mostly black schools that are affected—children whose parents cannot afford to take their children to private schools,” says Bongzi Mkhize, an artist and teacher in Johannesburg. “It means the poor suffer.”

Mkhize is a resident of Soweto, a group of black townships southwest of Johannesburg, South Africa’s largest city. She teaches in the Johannesburg suburbs.

Mkhize says the education system is different for the black children who attend government schools in the townships than for

The fact that such racial injustice is also a prominent feature of American history is not lost on most South Africans, as is illustrated by an exhibit on the twin struggles for racial equality at Cape Town’s historic Slave Lodge, a site frequented by many South African students on field trips.

Although all schools in a given district were often characterized by the authorities as “equal” in mid-20th century America, most

black schools were far inferior to their white counterparts.

A lack of resources, overcrowding, and enormous travel distances were common factors for black students in both the U.S. and South Africa, according to the exhibit, titled “Separate is Not Equal: The Struggle Against Separate Schooling in America.”

The exhibit is sponsored by the U.S. Consulate, much to the surprise of many visitors.

The multimedia exhibit starts with the subjugation and domination of blacks by European conquerors in South Africa and moves seamlessly into a pictorial presentation of the experience of African Americans at a time when legal racial segregation in public facilities, including schools, was the norm across America.

Upon entering the museum a turn to the left takes one on a journey through the history of slavery in the Cape, with an in-depth look at the role it played in the Indian Ocean slave trade.

Slaves were brought from four principle areas: India-Ceylon, Indonesia, Mozambique, and Madagascar. This influx, coupled with the conquest and decimation of the indigenous San and Khoi peoples by the mainly male European colonists, who took wives and concubines from among the conquered peoples, formed the basis for the large “colored” or mixed race population of contemporary Cape Town and its environs, estimated today at four million people.

Next, one walks through a long hall with huge quotations on its walls, written in a flowing cursive style by influential South Africans. At the end of the walkway is the entrance to the American civil rights exhibit.

A timeline from the 1950s into the late 1960s is displayed on one panel. Martin Luther King’s “I have a dream” speech plays.

A soulful smoky song plays in the last room, where a visitor is greeted by the sight of two black men hanging from a tree in a larger than life-size mural painted on a back wall. A white porcelain mannequin stands in a corner draped in the white hooded attire of a Ku Klux Klan member. On a small television a black-and-white news report from the period plays. Meanwhile, Billie Holiday belts out “Strange Fruit.”

Throughout the museum, the exhibit draws clear parallels between the struggle for democracy waged in South Africa during the apartheid era and that fought by blacks for their rights in America. It also insists to visitors that what they are viewing is not just a slice of history to be filed away and forgotten.

On a cream wall at the end of the exhibit written in dark brown, old English lettering just large enough to make out are the words: “For too long, fear of confronting the shame associated with slavery has played a huge part in the almost collective loss of memory about slavery.”

OCTOBER 2007

LATINO HERITAGE MONTH

PRESENTED BY SIMMONS COLLEGE

&

OLA ORGANIZACIÓN LATINO AMERICANA

TIME: 11:00 A.M.-1:00 P.M. LOCATION: S TABLE/FENS EVENT: CAKE CUTTING	TIME: 7:00 P.M. LOCATION: QUADSIDE EVENT: CAB MOVIE, LIKE WATER FOR CHOCOLATE	TIME: 7:00 P.M. LOCATION: HOLMES SPORTS CENTER EVENT: SALSA LESSONS
TIME: 10:00 A.M.-2:00 P.M. LOCATION: OFF-CAMPUS EVENT: COMMUNITY SERVICE DAY	TIME: 7:00 P.M. LOCATION: SMITH HALL LOUNGE EVENT: TOPICA UNICA SERIES	TIME: 7:00 P.M. LOCATION: QUADSIDE EVENT: CAB MOVIE, TIME OF THE BUTTERFLIES
TIME: 4:30 P.M.-8:30 P.M. LOCATION: BAROTOL DINING HALL EVENT: NOCHE LATINA DINNER	TIME: 12:00 P.M. LOCATION: SPECIAL FUNCTIONS ROOM EVENT: POETRY BROWN BAG LUNCH DISCUSSION	
TIME: 5:00 P.M. LOCATION: LINDA K. PARESKY CONFERENCE CENTER EVENT: LATINO NIGHT OF THE ARTS	TIME: 11:00 A.M.-1:00 P.M. LOCATION: S TABLE/FENS EVENT: PAINT YOUR OWN MARACA	TIME: 7:00 P.M. LOCATION: SMITH HALL LOUNGE EVENT: TOPICA UNICA SERIES
TIME: 7:00 P.M. LOCATION: QUADSIDE EVENT: CAB MOVIE, ZOOT SUIT	TIME: 11:00 A.M.-1:00 P.M. LOCATION: S TABLE/FENS EVENT: BAKE SALE	
TIME: 7:00 P.M. LOCATION: SMITH HALL LOUNGE EVENT: TOPICA UNICA SERIES	TIME: 5:00 P.M. LOCATION: SPECIAL FUNCTIONS ROOM EVENT: LATINOS IN FINANCE	November TIME: 11:00 A.M.-2:00 P.M. LOCATION: S TABLE/FENS EVENT: CELEBRATION OF THE DEAD

This article is the third in a series of articles about human rights in South Africa. The series is the outcome of COMM-328 Human Rights in South Africa, which Professor Dan Connell led for the second time last Spring. For more articles on South Africa, look for weekly installments in The Simmons Voice.

THIS COLLABORATIVE LATINO HERITAGE MONTH PROGRAM IS COORDINATED BY MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS/STUDENT LIFE OFFICE AND IS SPONSORED BY THE ORGANIZATION LATINO AMERICANA (OLA), CAMPUS ACTIVITIES BOARD (CAB), MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS, AND THE OFFICE OF STUDENT LEADERSHIP & ACTIVITIES. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT LISA SMITH-MCQUEENIE, ASSISTANT DEAN FOR STUDENT LIFE & DIRECTOR OF MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS AT 617-521-2124 OR EMAIL MULTICULTURAL@SIMMONS.EDU. OLA CAN ALSO BE REACHED DIRECTLY BY E-MAILING OLA@SIMMONS.EDU.

Rocky Horror Picture Show causes a scene in Harvard Square

By Catalina Rojo

STAFF WRITER

Every Saturday night there is a line stretching down Church Street. People are getting into the hottest spot in town, the *Rocky Horror Picture Show*. The show starts at midnight, but if looking for a good seat, line up early because people start to show up as soon as 10 p.m. on some special nights.

The *Rocky Horror Picture Show* originally began as a movie starring Susan Sarandon and Tim Curry, among lesser known actors. What began as a flop soon turned into a cult classic, and "The Show" was born.

It is rumored that when writer Richard O'Brien, who also plays a part in the movie, saw the film he shouted at the screen. This action started a chain reaction for cult fans all over America.

Soon the public began to scream at the screen too, and that progressed to throwing objects at it as well.

Now with the help of The Full Body Cast, as they call themselves at 11 Church Street in Cambridge, audience members are invited to throw things and scream as much as they want.

In fact, they are even encouraged, if not forced, to come dressed in *Rocky Horror* attire, which is typically naughty lingerie.

The synopsis of this movie, according to the Internet Movie Database, is that the plot revolves

around a newly engaged couple who "are stranded when their car breaks down, so they are forced to seek refuge in the castle of the bizarre Dr. Frankenfurter (Tim Curry), who is having a gathering of some kind. What ensues is an unforgettable night of music and madness where, like a circus act, you never know what's going to come next.

"When you are in school you have to dress up and the weirdo is the one who gets made fun of. At Rocky, it is the opposite, and the ones wearing J.Crew are made fun of."

~ MEREDITH WISH,
CLASS OF 2011

"Of course, there are pre-designed spots for audience participation, from being doused with spray bottles to throwing popcorn at the screen to getting up from your seat and dancing along to the incomparable "Time Warp."

First-year Meredith Wish has worked at The Full Body Cast since last year. She describes the experience as "opposite day." She explains that those who come dressed "appropriately" in lingerie and fishnets are let off the hook, while those dressed "normally" are ridiculed.

She says, "When you are in school you have to dress up and the weirdo is the one who gets made fun of. At *Rocky* it is the opposite, and the ones wearing J.Crew are made fun of."

Newbies to the *Rocky Horror Picture Show* who decide to go and see the performance on stage are humiliated in various ways, much like the local favorite restaurant, Dick's Last Resort.

First, they are drawn and written on and classified as either a "virgin," someone who has never seen the performance itself, or a "bloody virgin," someone who has never seen the movie.

So how has this become such a cult phenomenon? Wish says it is because the night of mayhem and madness offers "any type of person at any age to express their sexuality and just have fun."

Such is the theme of the movie, in which the young lovers become wrapped up in a love triangle between many of the odd members of the castle household.

After taking the question to the streets, many different responses about the *Rocky Horror Picture Show* were exposed. Senior



WIKIPEDIA.ORG

Kaitlyn Cavanaugh says that going to The Full Body Cast in Harvard Square was a "once in a lifetime experience, which everyone should go to."

First-year Elaine Barr, says the movie "requires a certain mindset to be able to watch it," partly because, "the musical numbers are just so out there."

Blue Man Group makes waves at Charles Playhouse Theater

By Caitlin Mazzola

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The lights dim. Music blasts from the stage. Three men, completely covered in blue paint, step on to the stage, gazing intensely at the audience. The show begins.

Students had the chance to become part of The Blue Man Group's tour in Boston on Wednesday, September 26. The visual and musical tour-de-force was playing at the Charles Playhouse on Warrenton Street and discounted tickets were available through the student box office.



BLUEMAN.COM

The Blue Man Group performing at the Charles Playhouse.

"It was soul-grabbing," said first-year student Anna Lifvergreen. "The show created rhythm in my life."

Some students have seen the Blue Man Group before. First-year Katherine Brooks and her friend Ida Habibi, a sophomore at Boston University, saw the show once before in Chicago.

Habibi, however, got a lot more out of this performance than the last time. At the show in Chicago, the Blue Man Group stepped off the stage and headed into the audience, scoping out a volunteer to be a part of their dinner date sketch.

They grabbed Habibi, headed back to the stage, and sat her down at a table where they gave her a dinner of Twinkies and mashed bananas.

"It was a once-in-a-lifetime experience," said Habibi. "I was completely and totally excited."

According to Blueman.com, the Blue Man Group started nearly two decades ago as an idea between three old friends. In 1987, Matt Goldman, Phil Stanton, and Chris Wink held a few "happenings," as they called them, featuring their characters, the Blue Man Group.

Out of those happenings a show was born. In 1991, the Blue

Man Group held their first large public performance at the Astor Place Theater in New York.

The show soon generated much critical acclaim and opened in Boston and Chicago. Goldman, Stanton, and Wink performed the show in New York without understudies for three years.

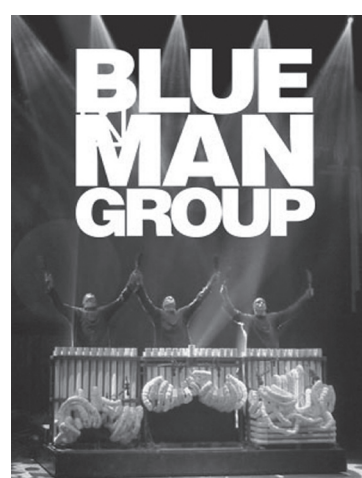
Now, sixteen years later, the Blue Man group is part of a 500 person organization, including about sixty Blue Men and over fifty musicians.

The Group has released three albums so far. In December 1999, the Blue Man Group released *Audio*, followed by *The Complex* in 2003. *The Complex* is a full-fledged rock 'n' roll album that launched The Complex Rock Tour shortly after its release.

The tour gave way to a successful rock concert DVD, aptly named "The Complex Rock Tour Live." The most recent album is entitled *Live at the Venetian-Las Vegas*.

The Blue Man Group uses music, comedy, and different venues of theatrical multimedia to create a party atmosphere at every show.

This atmosphere has become the Group's trademark. Their popularity has skyrocketed in the past decade, and in 2001 they per-



BLUEMAN.COM

formed in collaboration with Moby and soul artist Jill Scott at the Grammys. They played a sold-out show at the Luxor Theater in Las Vegas.

Since their first performance, the Blue Man Group has launched a toy line (anyone can now purchase a set of Percussion Tubes and rock-on while listening to one of the Group's albums), and launched a children's museum exhibit entitled Making Waves.

The group has also worked on the score of several television shows, including FOX's "The Jury," and has appeared on several others, including "Scrubs" and "Arrested Development."

After the events of September 11, 2001, the Blue Man Group made a short film called *Exhibit 13*. Like all of their performances, the film allows viewers to think about and reflect upon what they are seeing, rather than just sit back and watch.

As far as live performances go, however, the Blue Man Group was certainly at its best at The Charles Playhouse.

Emerson first-year Vinny Mraz, who recently experienced his first Blue Man Group performance, said, "I was expecting to get covered in paint, and who knows what else." Although a lot of plaint splattered out of the Group's drums during the show, the audience remained relatively dry.

"It was an extraordinary performance," said Mraz. "It was a great mix of theater, comedy, and music."

Hopefully more Bostonians will be able to see the group at their current venue at the Charles Playhouse. If not, then it is not too hard to find a performance.

After all, the extremely successful organization has opened venues in many major cities the world over, including Las Vegas, Berlin, Amsterdam, Oberhausen, and Orlando.

Put *Not on Our Watch* on to-read list

By **Beth Maclin**
STAFF WRITER

Early in President George W. Bush's time in the White House, he wrote in the margins of a memo on the Rwandan genocide, "not on my watch." But genocide is happening again in western Sudan, and the United States and the world have been slow to respond.

Actor Don Cheadle, star of *Hotel Rwanda*, and John Prendergast, senior advisor to the International Crisis Group, have written a book with tools to speed up the response.

Not on Our Watch: The Mission to End Genocide in Darfur and Beyond provides substantial background on the conflict and many examples of how individuals can do something about it.

It is written in a chatty style accessible to those who know nothing about Darfur and have no experience with activism, but it can hold your attention if you do.

The authors propose six action steps to make a difference: 1. Raise Awareness; 2. Raise Funds; 3. Write a Letter; 4. Call for Divestment; 5. Join an Organization; 6. Lobby the Government. And they give examples of how to do each, making this a how-to for would-be activists.

However, Cheadle's and Prendergast's personal stories do not always add to our understanding of the issues. Some are moving, like Cheadle marching with students from the University of California Los Angeles to the University of California Regents to demand divestment.

Some are inspiring, like Prendergast fleeing Sudan in fear for his life after criticizing the government there. Others offer a break from the huge amount of information coming at the reader, especially the conflict's complex history.

The authors bring the message back to the reader with personal stories of "ordinary" people and how they are making an impact.

Overall, though, many of these diary-style entries could have been left out, or at least edited to remove the unnecessary details. For example, the entry on when Cheadle and Prendergast got the idea to write the book. This comes off as hokey and detracts from the seriousness of the subject.

Some entries break up the flow of the text. The switch between the first and third persons, both between the text and the diary entries and within the text itself, is confusing as the reader tries to figure out who is speaking.

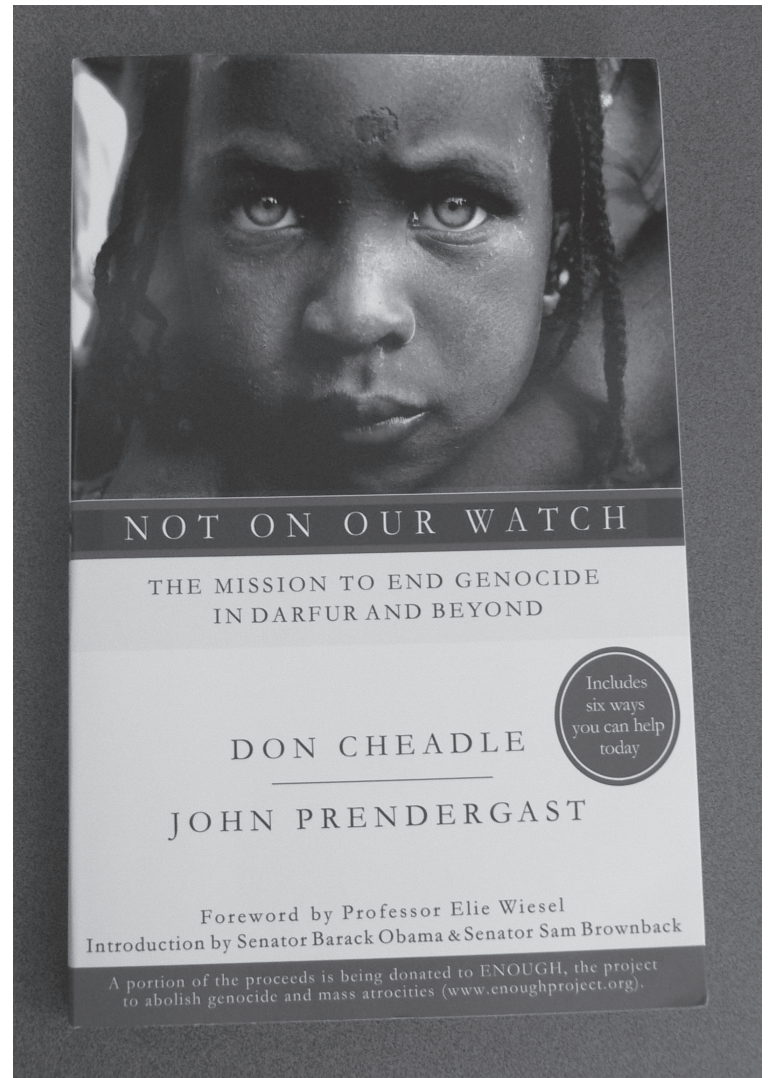
Some entries can be distancing, too, because the stories are so far removed from the experience of most readers. Few, for example, will get the opportunity to meet with representatives of the Chinese and Egyptian governments to talk about Darfur or to speak to 50,000 people at a rally on the National Mall with former Clinton administration Africa advisor Gayle Smith or Pulitzer-prize winning author Samantha Power.

But the authors bring the message back to the reader with personal stories of "ordinary" people and how they are making an impact.

For example, one 10-year-old girl has been raising awareness about Darfur since the conflict began by writing school papers about it and reading it to her class; she has raised money for Darfuran refugees by holding garage sales and selling her Barbie collection.

Other unexpected allies include Harry Potter fans, one of whom created the Harry Potter Alliance "to motivate Harry Potter fans to take a stand against tyranny, genocide, global warming, and more, using parallels to the book series." It has more than 6,000 members and raises money through events like concerts and comedy shows.

The accounts of how students at UCLA and Harvard, among others, urged their administrations to divest from Sudan will put a smile on most Simmons students' faces after last year's successful student-faculty divestment movement, here which resulted in a Trustees' decision to divest.



BETH MACLIN

Cheadle and Prendergast make a moving case for more such action based on the continuing number killed, raped, and displaced, and the seeming indifference of the media and the government, and they provide readers with the means to change this.

They include information for raising awareness, ideas for raising money, templates for writing letters to political leaders, arguments for divestment, organizations to join, and a game plan for making our government pay attention.

No one will read this book and not feel empowered to do something for Darfur.

investigate rumors. create controversy. see both sides. see shows for free. review movies. music. theater. books. capture kodak moments. enjoy late-night moments. explore the night life. evaluate student life. meet amazing students. impress professors. impress your mom. see your name in print. express yourself. **argue** your point. go behind the scenes. know before your neighbors. get the inside scoop. poke fun at pop culture. meet musicians. actors. politicians. experts. make a difference. **fight for your rights**. make people think. make people laugh. tell a story in pictures. create an image in words. question the status quo. keep people on their toes. win awards. give out awards. be part of something larger than yourself. make new friends. learn new skills. share your skills with others. understand other perspectives. **discover** the power of your own voice. get a reaction. write. draw. photograph. opine. design. edit. lay out. **get involved.**

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Red Sox nation welcomes new fans

By Kate Clavet
STAFF WRITER

The scent of spilled beer and the pungent odor of sweaty bodies do not begin to describe the atmosphere on Yawkey Way preceding a Red Sox game. A band plays in the distance to fire up the crowd, and ticket scalpers skulk around muttering, "Tickets, selling tickets," under their breath so the police do not hear.

The seats are five rows up from the Red Sox dugout. Members of the Red Sox are being "stretched" by their trainers. Seeing a full-grown baseball legend aided by another full-grown man to stretch is quite an interesting sight, and almost as humorous as seeing a football player perform the *Nutcracker* ballet in a tutu. Despite the humor, the stretching is necessary, since Kevin Youkilis and Manny Ramirez are back after suffering injuries.

It has been said that baseball games are much more interesting when the supporting team has a lot of hits. The Red Sox surely did not disappoint on Wednesday. Dustin Pedroia, Ramirez, David Ortiz, and Mike Lowell contributed 10 runs and 12 hits to start the game.

Whenever Youkilis stepped up to bat, the crowd sounded if they were hollering "Boo," but instead they were cheering "Youk,"

to encourage him after returning from suffering a wrist injury in September. Ramirez was also back after his reprieve for a pulled left oblique, and has been out of the active roster since the end of August.

While he seemed to be making a strong comeback, toward the middle of the game Ramirez injured himself while running to first base. A coworker ran to his aid, and after a few moments of discussion, he insisted that he was set to play. The crowd cheered and gave Ramirez a standing ovation while screaming, "Manny."

Two brothers on opposing teams had a chance to compete. Ruddy Lugo from the Oakland team pitched to his brother Julio Lugo. The latter Lugo connected his bat to the ball with a loud crack and managed to get to first base. Ortiz kept the game interesting by hitting a pair of doubles.

Pedroia is impressive competition considering he is at the ripe age of 24 and started his Major League Season in 2006. In June, he was named American Major League Baseball Rookie of the Month. Pedroia hit a pair of doubles, a run and a solo, scoring four times.

The vibrant, green grass was almost as impressive as the players on the field, and the clay sand was so pristine it seemed painted on. The crew responsible for the



TRACI FARRELL

The Red Sox take on the Texas Rangers at Fenway Park over the summer.

upkeep has a lot of pressure on their shoulders because they have to whip the field into shape within five minutes.

The only downside to a baseball game is people who stand

up and seem to forget to sit back down, especially for the shorter spectators.

As a current Boston resident, the Red Sox are unavoidable. Red Sox Nation is an engaging and

friendly host as long as you are not a Yankees fan.

October Schedule

Oct. 4:
Volleyball vs. Emerson @ Emerson, 6 p.m.
Field Hockey vs. Western News England @ Western New England, 4 p.m.

Oct. 6:
Soccer vs. Emerson @ Winsor Field, 12 p.m.
Field Hockey vs. Castleton State @ Castleton State, 1 p.m.

Oct. 7:
Volleyball vs. Rivier/Norwich @ TBA, 12 p.m./2 p.m.
Tennis vs. New York University @ Winsor Tennis Courts, 11 a.m.
Crew vs. Textile Regatta @ Lowell, MA

Oct. 8:
Tennis vs. Emerson @ Weymouth Club, TBA
Soccer vs. Johnson and Wales @ Johnson and Wales, 4 p.m.

Oct. 9:
Tennis vs. Mount Holyoke @ Winsor Tennis Courts, 11 a.m.
Field Hockey vs. Wheelock @ Winsor Field, 7 p.m.

Oct. 10:
Volleyball vs. Newbury @ Holmes Sports Center, 7 p.m.

Oct. 11:
Field Hockey vs. Framingham State @ Framingham State, 3:30 p.m.

Oct. 13:
Volleyball vs. Suffolk/Mt. Ida @ TBA, 12:30 p.m./2 p.m.
Tennis vs. Suffolk @ Suffolk, TBA
Field Hockey vs. Becker College @ Becker College, 1 p.m.
Crew vs. NH Champions @ Manchester, NH

Oct. 15:
Tennis vs. Rhode Island College @ Winsor Tennis Courts, 4 p.m.

Oct. 16:
Field Hockey vs. Elms College @ Elms College, 4 p.m.

Oct. 17:
Soccer vs. Albertus Magnus @ Albertus Magnus, TBA

Oct. 18:
Field Hockey vs. Salve Regina University @ Pierce Field, 7 p.m.

Oct. 20:
Volleyball vs. Emmanuel @ Emmanuel, 12 p.m.
Tennis vs. NEWITT @ NEWITT, TBA
Soccer vs. Lasell @ Lasell, 12 p.m.
Field Hockey vs. Maine-Farmingham @ Winsor Field, 12 p.m.
Crew vs. Head of the Charles @ Cambridge, MA

Oct. 21:
Volleyball vs. St. Joseph's (Maine)/LaSelle @ TBA, 1 p.m./3 p.m.
Crew vs. Head of the Charles @ Cambridge, MA

Oct. 23:
Soccer vs. Suffolk @ Suffolk, TBA


Oct. 27:
Volleyball vs. Johnson and Wales/Pine Manor @ TBA, 12:30 p.m./2 p.m.

Oct. 28:
Crew vs. Seven Sisters @ Philadelphia, PA

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Saturday, October 20th
Begins at 8:30am

- ▶ Learn about our vast array of academic programs
- ▶ Tour the campus on beautiful Boston Harbor
- ▶ Meet professors and students
- ▶ Visit apartments just steps from the university



For more info or to reserve your spot, go to
www.umb.edu/openhouse or call 617.287.6000

College women are sought for egg donations

By Leslie Reyes

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The ad on Craigslist.org reads, "Premier Agency Seeks Egg Donors - \$5500/donation!" The practice may be unheard of for some people, but it has become popular in the last few years. More and more young women are donating their eggs, either for the good cause of wanting to help out an infertile couple, or to earn money.

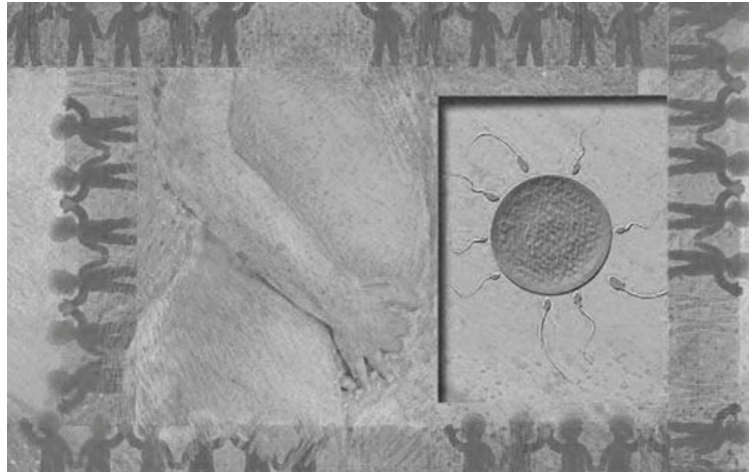
According to American Fertility Services, the first successful impregnation from a donated egg was in 1984. The process of egg donation involves in vitro fertilization, where the eggs are removed from the donor, fertilized with sperm, and then placed in an incubator.

When a couple wishes for a donation, the fertilized eggs are removed and placed in the receiver's uterus. Throughout the years, science and technology has improved, providing infertile couples with an

86 percent chance of giving birth. A couple may also have the option of asking for specific features of their future child, such as the same brown hair the mother has or the father's bright freckles.

One controversy about egg donation arose a couple of years ago due to an infertile couple's demand for tall, white women with high SAT scores attending Ivy League schools, according to Egg Inc., an egg clinic located in California. Egg Donation, Inc. is also specifically looking for "tall, attractive donors with Master's or Doctorate degrees. Career-oriented professionals, women with unique artistic and/or creative talents and repeat donors." Women have proven willing to donate their eggs in order to get paid the amount a couple is offering.

When egg donation first began, it was rather difficult to find donors who would volunteer to have some of their eggs removed. Now, infertile couples are will-



WWW.GETTYIMAGES.COM

ing to spend thousands, targeting women between the ages of 21 and 30, most of whom are in college. And many women are willing. It would seem that selling eggs is a quick and easy way to help with college debt.

According to the Center for Assisted Reproduction, women who have undergone in-vitro fertilization usually experience mi-

nor discomfort before and after surgery. Before the actual surgery, the donor has to inject herself with medication and fertility drugs for three to five weeks.

The medication, which contains Lupron, prevents eggs from escaping the ovaries while producing more eggs in the process. The menstruation cycle may be halted, but not the discomfort that comes

with it. After the eggs are extracted though a needle inserted into the vagina and into the ovaries, the donor is allowed to go home after less than half an hour of recovery.

Then, if all goes well, a donor will start work or attend classes after 24 hours of recovery and have no fertility complications.

According to American Fertility Services, less than three percent of donors will experience ovarian hyperstimulation syndrome. When this occurs, ovaries enlarge and fluid can gather in the abdominal cavity, which will cause bloating, or severe pelvic discomfort or pain.

Many who have undergone the egg donation surgery, however, usually felt a sense of relief at the success of the procedure and pleased that they were able to contribute to the future of infertile couples.

Rare disease thrives on residence campuses

College students at risk for contracting meningitis

By Kimberly Tran

STAFF WRITER

Background Check

According to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, meningococcal meningitis is an infection of the tissue that surrounds the brain and spinal cord. Septicemia, when a bacterium infects the blood and organs, may also occur as a result. The bacteria *Neisseria meningitidis* is a leading cause of meningococcal meningitis and septicemia.

The American College Health Association (ACHA) states that up to 3,000 Americans are infected with meningitis each year and 300 die from it. College students are at an increased risk of contracting this disease. One hundred to 125 cases occur annually on college campuses and result in up to 15 percent of deaths.

Although it is a rare disease, its results can be fatal. If medical attention is not immediately sought, possible consequences may include death, permanent brain damage, kidney failure, learning disability, hearing loss, blindness, and/or the amputation of limb(s).

Common symptoms

- * High fever
- * Rash or purple patches on skin
- * Light sensitivity
- * Confusion and lethargy
- * Severe headache
- * Vomiting
- * Stiff neck
- * Nausea
- * Seizures

Symptoms of meningitis can develop within 12 hours and rapid treatment is suggested. The more symptoms that appear, the higher the risk is of developing long-term health problems. These symptoms are often mistaken for the cold or flu and are thus treated with over-the-counter medications, which increase the risks for long-term damages.

How is it passed on?

According to ACHA, up to 11 percent of people carry the meningococcal bacteria. They do not experience any symptoms and oftentimes just develop natural antibodies. Meningococcal bacteria are transmitted through respiratory secretions such as coughing or sneezing and direct contact. Direct contact may include sharing of drinks, cigarettes, toothbrushes, and exchange of saliva.

In order to reduce the risk of meningococcal meningitis, students should cut back on smoking and consuming alcoholic beverages because it encourages sharing. It is also important to receive the proper amount of sleep and maintain a healthy diet.

in the arm and helps the body develop immunity in 7 to 10 days. It lasts up to five years and mild side effects, which include some swelling at the site of injection, may occur. Although the vaccine will not protect against all types of meningitis, it is effective against 70

percent of disease in the U.S. that is caused by four of the five most common bacterial types.

The Massachusetts Department of Health requires all full-time first-year college students to receive the meningococcal vaccine unless they have a justifiable

medical reason why they cannot, or if it is against their religious beliefs. The student may also sign a waiver stating that they have been informed of the dangers of the disease and choose not to receive the vaccine.

*"Up to 3,000
Americans are infected with meningitis each year and 300 die from it."*

~THE AMERICAN COLLEGE
HEALTH ASSOCIATION

Treatment/Vaccine

If meningococcal meningitis is diagnosed early, antibiotic treatment can be used. However, long-term damages or death may still occur.

On September 30, 1997, the American College Health Association (ACHA) recommended that students entering college should be educated and advised about meningitis and the vaccine, which is a meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MCV4) called Menactra. Menactra is administered through a shot

WORKSHOPS

Get a Grip on Graduate School

Thursday, October 11, 12:30-2:00 p.m., Room P-304E

We'll walk you through the graduate school planning process, taking a look at resources that will help you choose the right program, prepare for admission tests, strengthen your application, and find financial aid.

Strategies for Finding a Great Internship

Wednesday, October 17, 2:00-3:30 p.m., Room P-304E

Be prepared to find a great internship or create your own. Learn about the best targeted online and in-print resources that will streamline your search.

Marketing Yourself Professionally:

The Two-Minute Infomercial

Wednesday, October 24, 4:30-6:30 p.m., Room P-304E

It takes more to get a job than a resume! Learn to communicate your strengths, accomplishments, and career goals in a powerful and concise manner by creating a verbal marketing piece. This technique works when networking, exploring career options and interviewing.

EVENTS

SAVE THE DATE: Tuesday, October 30, 12:30-4:00 p.m.

"Dare to Succeed: Voices of Strong Women" Career

Symposium. Keynote: Joyce Kulhawik, '74, '02HD

Arts and Entertainment Anchor for WBZ TV

Hear the stories of successful women role models who will share the roads they took that led to career success, including Lindsey Hyde, Strong Woman, Strong Girls; Allison Cheney, '04, Liberty Life Insurance Co. and C.A. Webb, '06, Recycline/The Careerists; Debra Greenberg, '78, Louis Boston; Dianne M. Savastiano, Healthassist.

U.S. State Department Visit

Tuesday, November 2, 4:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m., BU, GSU Conference Auditorium

A representative from the State Department's Foreign Service will speak with students about State Department Careers.

Weekly Drop-In Hours:

Have a brief question? Need your resumé reviewed? Meet with a career counselor.
Mondays and Tuesdays, 3:00-4:30 p.m.
Wednesdays and Thursdays, 1:30-3:00 p.m.

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And Then There Was the Word

A column about our language: *A-Pun My word!: Paronomasia*

By Sidney Berger, Ph.D.
PROFESSOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

In 1943 Evan Esar published the first edition of his *Comic Dictionary*. It contained thousands of quips, many of them based on what scholars call paronomasia. That is, puns. This may be the most used pun dictionary of the twentieth century. Much of the humor in this book comes from paronomasia-puns in which the sound of a sentence can be taken in more than one way.

Some people say that the pun is the lowest form of wit. (I once heard a man say that the bun is the lowest form of wheat.) And most of them are pretty bad humor, eliciting groans of disgust or impatience with such mindless humor. But a good pun is nowhere near mindless. In fact, a really good one will elicit loud groans, but it will reveal a clever duality in meaning that took some kind of brains to produce.

Since I wear the puns in my family, I am famous for them. Below are some from Evan Esar, from me, or from other sources.

A howling success is what a marriage turns out to be after a baby is born. A horse is a strange animal because he eats best when he doesn't have a bit in his mouth. Cheap hosiery will give you a run for your money.

Two hydrogen atoms meet. One says, "I've lost my electron." The other says, "Are you sure?" The first replies, "Yes, I'm positive." (Groan.) Charles Dickens was moaning to his bartender that he didn't have an idea for his next book. He said, "I can't even come up with a title or the name of a character. Give me a martini." The bartender asked, "Olive or twist?" (Yuk.)

Sometimes a good pun takes a good long set-up. Here's one:

The bass players in the orchestra knew that at the end of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony they had a good ten-minute slot in which they didn't need to play. So they skipped out during the performance to get some drinks. After about eight minutes, one of them said, "We better get back," but another said, "I tied the last pages of the conductor's score up with string. It'll take him an extra few minutes to get into it. As it was, they got sloshed and got back too late to play their parts, and the performance was ruined. Well what do you expect when it's the bottom of the ninth, the score is tied, and

the basses are loaded. (Red Sox fans can really identify with this one.)

A goods pun can be the reversal of words, as in: Success is thoroughly planning your work and then working your plan. Another kind of word reversal can be seen in the punning answer to the riddle: What is the difference between a jeweler and a jailor? One sells watches; the other watches cells.

I'm sure you have seen the proverb and its follow-up: Time flies like an arrow. Fruit flies like a banana. Note that in these two statements, the word "like" is two different parts of speech.

There is an old saying: Half a loaf is better than no loaf at all. I have heard someone say, "Avalanche is better than no lanche at all." And another person said, "Avocado is better than no cado at all." Now, these really are horrible ones.

Another cliché that has yielded some bad puns is: Absence makes the heart grow fonder. Someone added: "Abstinence makes the heart grow fonder."

What about: Two antennas met on a roof, fell in love, and got married. The ceremony terrible, but the reception was excellent.

He was only a lumberjack, but he got the ax. He was only a tailor, but his work was only so-so. She was only a stableman's daughter, and all the horsemen knew her. (Listen to that one.) He stood in the dark wondering where the sun was; and then it dawned on him.

The church advertised for a new bell-ringer. The only candidate for the job had no arms, but the bishop took him up to the belfry, and the man rang the bells with his face. Wonderful sound. When got the job he leapt up for joy and fell out of the belfry. The priest ran down to the body and a passing farmer asked, "Father, who is this man?" The priest says, "I don't know his name, but his face rings a bell."

The next day the man's brother comes by and tries out for the job. He's even better than his dead brother. He's told he has the job, so he too jumps for joy, falls out of the belfry, and dies. The priest runs down again, only to be met by the farmer, who asks: "Who is this one, Father?" The priest answers, "I don't know his name, but he's a dead ringer for his brother."

Enough of this punishment.

Bonjour, mes amies

"It is kind of like Simmons," in France

By Shannon Brown
STAFF WRITER

It was first day at my new school. I was about to make my first impression on all of my new professors for the semester and, if not more importantly, all of the new people who would hopefully become my friends. And I was late.

Not only was I late, but I had realized the inevitable early on, and had power-walked the 30 minute route in new shoes. So I was late, sweaty, and limping.

When I finally arrived at The American Center, the more commonly used name for the American University Center of Provence, I was surprised and impressed that all of the professors already knew my name along with the names of all my fellow classmates. They also commented on how much we all look like the passport photos we sent in with our applications.

Although I had sent the required pictures, I never thought about how important they would be. If so, I probably would not have taken them on a rainy day, considering I walked for about 45 minutes to the Walgreen's by Wentworth to have them taken. However, the frizzy-haired person in the photo probably did match how I looked that Monday morning.

Once I settled in and caught my breath, I saw what a great study abroad program I was in and how lucky I am to be here. Aix-en-Provence is a beautiful, bustling little city. The American Center seems to be right in the middle of all of it. There is always something going on and it is only a 5 minute walk to the most popular street in the city, the Cours Mirabeau.

However, it is a small study abroad program. There are only 27

students and of those, only two are men. It is kind of like Simmons in France.

We all kind of struggle with French, but are here to really learn it and maybe even become fluent. There is also a fellow Simmons student in the program with me, which is really comforting.

Also like Simmons, everything is basically in the same place. Once you enter the American Center, it is almost impossible to get lost, which is great for me. There are only two buildings in the whole Center. They are beautiful and their look is quintessential of the Provence—orange/yellow walls and red tile roofs on the exterior and small rooms with old thick walls in the interior.

For the most part, the other students and I are all in the same boat. We all kind of struggle with French, but are here to really learn it and maybe even become fluent. There is also a fellow Simmons

student in the program with me, which is really comforting.

From having talked with cousins and friends who have already studied abroad, I have a feeling that this program is a little different from the norm, but so far it is perfect for me. Every student signed a contract saying that he or she will only speak French while in the program. There are also classes that go until 7:30 p.m. on Friday nights, so weekend trips around the continent are highly discouraged. This is not your average study abroad that equals a semester-long European vacation affair.

But I really believe it is what I need to finally get the French language. I have been studying French since way before my first French kiss, but was put into the 101 level when I took the placement exam back during the June orientation at Simmons. This did not surprise me. French has always been the C+ on my report card. When I began with the French program at Simmons, I had the intention of just filling my language requirement and being done with French forever.

However, those of you that are lucky enough to be enrolled in French know that it is the school's best kept secret. Each professor has helped me learn more than I ever thought possible to the point where I actually like French, and it is one of my majors. It was thanks to the terrific program at Simmons that I was able to muster up the courage to do the best thing for anyone who really wants to not just learn but understand a language: study abroad.

Now I just have to make sure I am on time for the classes.

Last week's Sudoku answers:

5	9	4	7	6	1	3	2	8
6	3	1	9	2	8	5	4	7
2	7	8	5	4	3	6	9	1
9	5	7	8	1	4	2	6	3
1	8	2	6	3	9	7	5	4
4	6	3	2	7	5	1	8	9
8	2	9	3	5	7	4	1	6
3	1	6	4	8	2	9	7	5
7	4	5	1	9	6	8	3	2

Simmons Classifieds



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Calendar Listing: October 7-20

Sunday 10/7	Columbus Day Parade 1 p.m. City Hall Plaza	Dream for Darfur Torch Ceremony (rally) Government Center Rally to pressure China to intervene in Darfur 3:30 p.m. Find more information at www.madream-fordarfur.org	"The Next Iron Chef" Viewing Party 9 p.m. Free Food Network aprons, Iron Chef board games, and refreshments
Monday 10/8	Simmons Tennis vs. Emerson Time: TBA At Weymouth Club (Weymouth, MA)	"Art of Movement" 10 a.m. - 4:45 p.m. Museum of Fine Arts Admission: Free	Holgen Gjoni Cello Recital 7 p.m. Concert Room, Boston Conservatory Admission: Free
Tuesday 10/9	"Formulaic Scenes in Xenophon" Lecture by Vivienne Gray (The University of Auckland) 4:00 p.m. Harvard University, Humanities Center, Barker Center, Room 114,	Marine Biologist Jack Grove Lecture 7 p.m. New England Aquarium Admission: Free	Breakfast with the Gardens Curator 9 - 11 a.m. Find more information at www.massshort.org Admission: Free
Wednesday 10/10	Student Government Association Meetings Open to undergraduates, held every Wednesday. 3:30-5 p.m.	1st Annual Pumpkin Patch Purchase pumpkins grown on a Navajo Indian Reservation and fall decorations. For more information visit www.upanewtonma.org	Simmons Volleyball vs. Newbury 7:00 p.m. Holmes Sports Center
Thursday 10/11	Speaker on Medical Issues in Darfur Premed Liaison 6-9 p.m. LKP Email bethany.walkins@simmons.edu for more information.	National Coming Out Day Sponsored by the Alliance. Stop by the table in the MCB Lobby for information between 10 a.m.- 4 p.m. E-mail alliance@simmons.edu for more information	Simmons Field Hockey vs. Framingham State 3:30 p.m. At Framingham State
Friday 10/12	Young Turks Two 8 p.m. Exhibition featuring art and artists "taking a walk on the wild side." Admission: Free For more information visit www.ARTSomer-ville.org	Arts Central 2007 6 - 8:30 p.m. Central Square Tickets: \$5-10	Warren Hill Jazz Concert 10:30 p.m. Scullers Jazz Club Tickets: \$25
Saturday 10/13	Simmons Celebrates Latino Heritage Month Community Service Day 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.	Project Yum 3-6 p.m. Includes exotic food tasting, a community cookbook, and more. Union Square Plaza	CAB Saturday Afternoon Movie 1-3 p.m. Quadside Email cab@simmons.edu for more information
Sunday 10/14	Towards A New Homeland, 1922: From Asia Minor to Greece Photography Exhibition 9 a.m. Admission: Free For more information at www.maliotis.org	Donald Berman presents Pioneers & Premieres—Piano Recital 3 p.m. Granoff Music Center- Tufts University Admission: Free	The Annual Psychic Fair and Witchcraft Expo 10 a.m. - 10 p.m. Museum Place Mall- Salem, MA Admission: Free
Monday 10/15	"The Greek Century - The Rediscovery and Re-Invention of the Greek Legacy in the 19th Century." Lecture By Thomas Bruno (Librarian, Harvard University) 7 p.m. The Greek Institute- Cambridge, MA Find more information at www.thegreekinstitute.org	Fractured View: Digital Mosaics by Megumi Naitoh 10 a.m.- 6 p.m. Carol Scholsberg Alumni Gallery Beverly, MA Admission: Free Find more information at www.montserrat.org	To Fly: Contemporary Aerial Photography 10 a.m. Boston University Art Gallery At the Stone Gallery Admission: Free Find more information at www.bu.edu/art
Tuesday 10/16	Jay Wright Poetry Reading 7 p.m. Suffolk University Poetry Center Admission: Free	An Evening With Author Cullen Muphy 7:30 - 9 p.m. Boston College- Yawkey Center (Murray Room) Admission: Free	Modern American Music Series 8 p.m. Longy School of Music- Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall Admission: Free
Wednesday 10/17	Student Government Association Meetings Open to undergraduates, held every Wednesday 3:30-5 p.m.	Comedy TV Night 8-10 p.m. 610 Lobby Wentworth Institute of Technology	Who Was Edgar Allan? 8:30 p.m. Museum of Fine Arts Student Admission: \$8
Thursday 10/18	Orozco: Man of Fire 2:45 p.m. Museum of Fine Arts Admission: Free	Ghost Hunter Christopher Moon 7 p.m. Quadside Cafe Sponsored by the Campus Activities Board	"Herodotus and Aesop, or the Sociopolitics of Greek Prose" Leslie Kurke (University of California at Berkeley) 4:30 p.m. Wellesley College, Library Lecture Room, 106 Central Street, Wellesley, MA

OMG, let's get some shoes



“Walk This Way” is a new shoe exhibit at the Museum of Fine Arts. The brochure describes the exhibit as, “Highlighting the MFA’s rich, but usually hidden, collection of shoes, ‘Walk This Way’ pairs shoes with works of art in other media to explore aspects of design, materials, history, and culture.”

For the most part the shoes are categorized into “man’s shoes” and “women’s shoes” with a few miscellaneous types in-between, including miniature shoes and doll’s boots. However, as far as the appearance and the different styles of shoes, there is definitely an eclectic mix. There are Run DMC Adidas sneakers, made in 2005 by adidas originals); jeweled-pointe shoes, made in 2006 by Russian Pointe; moccasins, made in the Iroquois Nation in the late-18th and early 19th centuries; and Red Sox player Daisuke Matsuzak’s baseball cleats (made in 2007 by Nike). The shoes exhibit is a sight to see, because these shoes rule.

