AUC reacts to tragic ferry accident

By Farida Helmy
Caravan Reporter

The Al Salam Boccacio 98 ferry sank in the early morning of Feb. 5 killing 1,000 of the 1,400 passengers on board, mostly Egyptians working in Saudi Arabia or returning from the pilgrimage in Mecca.

No AUC students were on the ferry, but many were affected by the tragedy.

The brother of mass communications senior Mohamed Sabih’s driver was one of the passengers on the ferry. Originally identified as one of the survivors, his family found out when they arrived at the Safaga port that his name had been confused with one of the survivors and that he was in fact one of the victims.

“Everything is disorganized,” said Sabih. “And nobody appreciates how much these people were abused.”

According to press reports, fire broke out on the ferry soon after it left the Dهب port in Saudi Arabia, and the ferry disappeared from the radar.

An explosion soon followed and the ferry quickly sank.

Four hundred survivors have been found since Friday, and relatives of the passengers remained in Safaga trying to learn the fate of family members or identify bodies still being pulled from the sea.

Relatives complained about the lack of information given to them and bad treatment received from authorities.

“I can’t believe how long it took for them to notice that the ferry was late in the Safaga port,” said economics senior Eman El Desouki. “No one announced it was missing because people were too caught up with the [screwy] match.”

When the fire broke out, the captain of the ferry allegedly chose to deal with it on his own without calling for help or turning back. The captain still cannot be found.

Al Salam Maritime Transport Co., the owner of Al Salam Boccacio 98, has had previous accidents in the past five years, the most recent being last October when one of its ferries had an accident also in the Red Sea region.

“I heard that this ferry wasn’t allowed to travel in European and American waters because it wasn’t up to safety standards,” said art senior Asma El Hussein. “They shouldn’t still be using a ferry that is nearly 40 years old. There weren’t even enough safety boats for the amount of people on board, and the ones they had had holes in them.”

“I was really affected by the five-year-old boy who survived, against all the odds, when all his family died at sea,” said Natalie Sirkedjian, a mass communication sophomore. “It must have been awful seeing his parents die in front of him.”

Nobel prize winner speaks at AUC

Ahmed Zewail connects science, technology and society for students.

By Ethar Shalaby
Caravan Editor

Scientific revolutions can never reach their peak unless science, technology and society are all connected in one pyramid, said Ahmed Zewail, the renowned Egyptian chemist, in a lecture organized by the Chemistry club last Sunday.

Zewail, a professor of chemistry and physics at the California Institute of Technology (CALTECH) and winner of the 1999 Nobel Prize in Chemistry, also discussed the history of scientific revolutions and his expectations of the future of science.

“The history of the revolutions and revolutions started with the agricultural revolution, the industrial revolution and eventually resulted in the most important revolution, that of information technology,” said Zewail.

According to Zewail, some of the main accomplishments of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries are the discovery of matter and of the universe, therefore creating a scale ranging from the very small to the very big, and the discovery of life as that very scale. He added that seeing the atom at rest and in motion was considered one of the most important scientific revolutions of recent years.

“The language of atoms is full of probabilities, which we can’t define,” said Zewail. “If we defined the motion of atoms that occurs in a very small period of time, only then can we define the exact location of atoms.”

According to Zewail, modern biology is regarded as a complete scientific revolution in the world of science.

“By using modern biology, we will be able to determine the meaning of human intelligence. When it comes to humans, it is the most complicated phase in science,” said Zewail.

Chemistry club president Neron El Tougy said that the club organized the lecture to teach AUC students about the relevance of science to life and to promote the club at the same time.

According to El Tougy, Zewail replied to the club’s invitation for the lecture within 24 hours.

“He is a chemist who really look up to and what he talked about was like a bridge between what we study and what exists in advanced science,” said El Tougy.

Students sit in, protest Danish cartoons

By Yasmine El Mallah
Caravan Editor

Hundreds of students attended a sit-in last Wednesday in the Greek campus to spread awareness about the Danish cartoons controversy. The Student Union (SU) organized the protest.

The cartoons, originally published in September, depicted the Muslim Prophet Muhammad in an offensive and degrading manner, said organizers. A total of 12 cartoons were published by the Danish newspaper Jyllands-Posten and then published by other European newspapers.

“The solution now is to fit this image and portray that they have of us. As a suggestion, we’re going to collect donations to rebuild the embassy that was burned in Lebanon. We are Muslims and against these kinds of acts,” said Momanent Dinana, a computer science senior and one of the speakers at the sit-in.

SU public relations chair Seif Abou Zaid said that the reason for organizing this sit-in was to raise awareness across campus and create an open forum for students to express themselves freely.

“There has been a problem and there has to be an apology on their [Danish] behalf and a punishment. But this isn’t the problem. The problem lies within the Western perception of Islam, especially now in Denmark,” said Dinana.

Dobah Rateb, a business administration senior and a spectator at the sit-in, said, “I don’t think there should be legislation against blasphemy, religious offense or religious hatred. It is a matter of having some kind of voluntary understanding – one that says that the price one pays for a sort of entertaining bit of journalism is not worth it because there are people who will feel genuinely offended.

Assistant professor of political science Charles Davidson said, “I am a firm believer in free and open press and for not imposing limits. However, there is a responsibility by the press to not inflame or offend a group of people.”

KALEIDOSCOPIC WALLS

The second floor gallery in Falaki is an array of talent and color. Students of assistant professor Touma Souris, who allows creativity to unfold using color and abstract design, had the most colorful wall in the Gallery. Full story on page 2.

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AUC soccer mania

CLUB CONTESTS

INSIDE SCOOP

WIRE
Art students’ work draws largest crowd ever

By Rehaiem Romero

The department of Performing and Visual Arts (PVA) showcased the largest and most diverse collection of student art to date in an exhibit that opened Monday in the Falaki Gallery. Pieces ranged from delicate still lifes to meticulous architectural designs to multi-colored abstracts in the gallery at the American University in Cairo.

“We come from different backgrounds and have different approaches,” said Tarek El-Akkad, affiliate instructor in the PVA Department, pointing out an architectural design by one of his students flushing through an overhead projector.

The exhibition was arranged “salon-style,” according to Niz Shahrokh, assistant PVA professor and director of the Falaki Galleries. Walls were covered top-to-bottom with art, because 11 professors were each assigned a wall to display his or her students’ work.

“It’s more successful than the last, we have a full house,” commented Shahrokh, adding that the exhibition’s success was due to its unprecedented style and the collaboration of professors.

“This exhibition is really for the students,” stated Shahrokh. “Having so much of their work displayed is empowering for them.”

Carol Hammal, an art senior with Egyptian and Lebanese origins, displayed various pieces in the gallery. She draws her artistic inspiration from nature. “I bring back things from Lebanon to use in my art,” said Hammal, pointing to a piece featuring a slice of cedar wood piecing from the canvas.

The gallery also included work from students in majors other than art. Ahmed Abd Aziz, an economics senior, had several pieces on display. “I was fast inspired to pursue art after seeing the most beautiful girl I ever saw,” stated Abd Aziz. “This is then realized that not everything can be justified with numbers.”

Standing by his vivid painting, comprising of colorful splatters across a wide canvas, Abd Aziz explained that the primary motivation for his work comes from music and that a particular piece was stirred by a song from the Broadway musical “Aida.”

Visitors admired the artwork and were captivated by what Shahrokh described as, “the wealth of inspiration.”

Dina Adam, a professional photographer and AUC alumna, stated that she was impressed by the quantity of pieces and saw “a lot of potential” in the students’ work.

“You almost have everything right here,” comment- ed Ernest Wolf-Gazo, professor of philosophy, “the quality [of the artwork] is very good. They should be proud of themselves.”

AUC doesn’t lend a helping hand

By Cheerian Zaki

The department of Social Science’s community service program is trying to promote the clubs on and off campus and schedule ceremonies and events such as the February 16th anniversary celebration for the development of the community service Al-Shabab Yak Balady. “Each week we have at least one event,” said Zaki.

Yusra Eliman, an Anti-Cancer Team (ACT) member who takes part in the weekly visits to cancer hospitals, said that the problem could be that some clubs might not include these recruits by turning activities into an obligation and defeating the club’s purpose. “I joined because I want to go, not because I have to,” said Eliman.

“Students do not have enough time,” said Seky, explaining why students are not joining community service clubs. “I have priorities to fulfill first,” said Nagid Fahie, an economics junior. “Other students might have the time but not the motivation.”

The students need motivation to take part in something important. “The students themselves aren’t really bothering; the person has to be willing to join,” said Fahie.

But for others, the motivation is present, they just need the proper publicity, said Heba El Kayal, undeclared and in her second semester at AUC. She said that she hasn’t heard about the clubs and feel like students must seek out the clubs and not vice versa. “They should put pamphlets all over college,” suggested Al Kayal.

Hassan Bikai, an economics major, said that they just need to advertise more for new recruits. “They are trying their best but in the wrong way. A good poster can be better than someone nagging,” said Bikai.

As for creating opportunities for new members, Seky said that each semester there are recruitment booths for one week, at the start of each semester, where clubs advertise and recruit. That way each student can sign up for whichever club “suits his interest,” said Seky.

On The Wire

Last September, Jyllands-Posten, a Danish newspaper, published 12 cartoons of the Prophet Mohammad, sparking immediate controversy in the Muslim world. One cartoon, for example, portrayed him as a terrorist with a turban shaped like a bomb strapped to his head. Although the editors apologized for the insult, they insisted that they did not break any laws and that freedom of expression should not be tampered with.

Many protests were held in Egypt, Iraq, Kuwait and other Arab countries as a reaction to Prophet Mohammad’s portrayal as a terrorist. Danish flags were burned in many of the protests to denounce the Danish government’s reaction to these cartoons. Although it opposed the publication of the cartoons, the government declared that it could not interfere with the freedom of the press.

The situation worsened when other newspapers in Italy and France published the cartoons, also defending the freedom of the press and expression. In Damascus a mob burned the Danish consulate.

Danish companies have been hard-hit by the boycott of Danish products by Muslim countries. For example, Al-Othaim Holding, a Saudi Arabian company, which owns 60 stores, will not be selling any more Danish products, a decision that could affect some 346 million dollars worth of imports from Denmark. Major supermarket chains in Egypt such as Metro, Sesouli and Carefour have also stopped selling Danish products.

“They are trying to ruin the prophet’s image and portray him as promoting terrorism.”

-Mark Magdi, RMC senior

-Even Mannon, Actuarial science junior

-Amar Mansour, ADM senior

-Abdel Wahab, BAdm senior

“You think of it.”

-Mark Magdi, RMC senior

“People are thinking of boycotting, which is very effective, but they are leaving out the most important thing, which is to know and follow the prophet.”

-Even Mannon, Actuarial science junior

“They are trying to ruin the prophet’s image and portray him as promoting terrorism.”

-

-Ramy Radha, RMC senior

-Abdel Wahab, BAdm senior

-Youth Selem, BAdm senior

If you know about the controversy surrounding the Danish cartoon?

YES

94% | NO

6%
BY YASMEE EN EL MALLAH \& FOUAD HAMMOUD

Crisis of old, old, old, could be heard across the Cairo Stadium as more than 70,000 soccer fans cheered on the Egyptian team during the African Cup of Nations that took place in Cairo from Jan. 27-Feb. 10.

AUC students weren’t immune to the soccer fever and joined the sea of red, white and black at the stadium in the last three games of the cup: Egypt vs. Congo, Egypt vs. Senegal and Egypt vs. Côte d’Ivoire.

Students as well as faculty mobbed the stadium to show off their national pride. In order to get good seats, though, many had to be at the stadium at noon even though the game didn’t start until 7 p.m.

AUC students were surprised to see something like this could be pulled off by Egypt.

Omar El Imam, a business administration junior said, “During the games, you could see the Egyptian population unite from first class to third class.”

After the game was over, people in the stadium and those watching the game elsewhere streamed into the streets for a night of horn honking, fireworks, flag waving and flame-throwing.

In fact, streets and tunnels were closed off by cars in Mohandiseen and Helopolis after the Egypt vs. Congo game until 2:30 a.m. by fans celebrating their victory.

The people were going insane partying and closing off the Al Thawra tunnel in Helopolis pulling car tricks and screaming at the top of their lungs,” said El Imam, who joined the crowds in the tunnel along with some of his other friends.

When it came to the overall organization of the cup, many students were surprised that something like this could be pulled off by Egypt.

“Organization-wise, I felt that it was extremely organized. Everyone’s saying that it’s a world-class event,” said Mahmoud Assen, an economics senior.

Mechanical engineering senior Mahmoud Abdel Magied said he was proud of his country. “Egypt showed no mercy in all of their games.”

Balbaa scores points with Egypt’s Team

BY YASMEE EN EL MALLAH

Control yourself—or at least turn the ol’ ‘down a notch’ AUC’s Mostfa Balbaa, a computer science senior, had the dream job during the African Cup of Nations here. He was picked from 300 applicants to be the official media spokesman of the Egyptian National Team during the games.

“I applied to work for any team and they chose me to be with Egypt,” he said.

Balbaa’s position required him to announce the team’s training times and organize press conferences. He also wrote a daily report on the team’s activities and took pictures that are uploaded on the official Web site, http://www.egypt2006.com.eg.

“I got to sit with them on the bench at all times and during the games as well,” he said.

Balbaa said his most memorable moments came at the first match with Egypt vs. Libya when he got to sit with the team on the bench for the first time and dealing with the international press.

“I got to hang out with the team and we’re all friends now. I got to see what’s going on behind the scenes in a soccer tournament. I recommend that everybody do this if they get a chance.”

“We’re a life-changing experience,” said Balbaa.

BY AMIRA EL-GAWLY

Freelance Reporter

Will Valentine’s Day arriving in less than 48 hours and bright red and pink stuffed hippo and honey hearts blinding your eyes, it’s understandable that you’re anxious about the long-awaited “day of love,” especially if you are single. But, to tell you the truth, there should be no need for concern.

‘Don’t mope - the day is about celebrating love and it should not preclude love between good friends and family.

Who commanded that this day, when a person’s happiness is measured by how many Dutch roses and Belgian chocolates they received, should be celebrated by couples only? Who said that independent, in-control singles couldn’t celebrate the freedom of being unmatched with other singles and, who knows, maybe find a partner of the opposite sex to celebrate with on Valentine’s Day?

So, don’t mope – the day is about celebrating love and it should not preclude love between good friends and family.

After much discussion and deliberation with the singles of AUC, here are some possible ways to help you face Valentine’s Day head on, with as much conviction and love as you can muster.

The most popular plan is to gather at a friend’s house, order as much food as possible and watch the latest romantic new movie release.

Organize a fondue night. Each person can bring something (eg. fruit, bread, crackers, marshmallows) to dip into the rich chocolate or cheese dip.

Dress up and have a dinner party. You could also go out and do the same, but avoid any romantic, dimly lit restaurants around town.

Finally, you can have it all. If you have an Ably or Zamalek soccer match at the stadium on the same night and after the African Cup, it could be an unusually fun way to spend Valentine’s Day with your friends.

Tickets can be bought in front of both the Ably and Zamalek Clubs. Alternatively, be selfish on this day. Take your little brother or sister for ice cream or to pick out a toy at one of the million gift shops that have sprung up around Cairo. Send flowers to a friend that you know is feeling especially down and lonely this year because of a recent breakup, and sign it anonymously.

The most important thing is to face Valentine’s Day. Don’t ignore its existence; it’s virtually impossible anyway, with at least 15 booths set up on Greek campus tempting you to buy ridiculously expensive but beautiful chocolates and flowers. Enjoy it, and even if it means spending a little extra money, take the chance and show your loved ones how you feel with a handwritten card or a fresh bouquet of flowers.
The Voice

In an attempt to find a solution to growing noise levels at AUC commences, the administration has decided to divide the tickets into two groups. Two invitations allow two people to attend the commencement from the beginning at 6 p.m. The other two invitations let the remaining 3,900 in at 7 p.m., but are seat-ed upstairs.

On a day when celebration is key, almost half of those invited will not be allowed to witness the entire event.

This is not a solution. While the noise levels are a problem, it is not one that will be resolved with this kind of separation. AUC students can still attend the ceremony at 6 p.m. and still can cause any amount of racket. Frustrated with this system, it is most likely that they will. Those waiting outside will be able to do nothing but cause some form of disturbance when they’re finally allowed to join the commencement.

Family members will also be forced to wait outside. Why should an aunt, grandmother or sibling be forced to wait? Families are there to celebrate and wait is not what they deserve.

While it is the fault of those who have misbehaved, should the families of graduates be forced to pay the price of those misbehaved? Should the people who deserve to be sitting front row and center with the rest of their family for the entire commencement pay the price for disorganization and lack of control? These are the questions that should be addressed when solutions are proposed for coming graduation classes.

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The Caravan welcomes letters to the editor responding to published material and commenting on subjects that are of interest to the general community. Only e-mailed letters (caravan@aucegypt.edu) not exceeding 400 words will be accepted. All letters must be signed with the writer’s name, ID number and major and subject. Subject headings of e-mails must distinguish between emails that are personal comments to the newspaper and publishable letters to the editor.

We reserve the right to edit any submission to the Op-Ed section for libel, grammar, punctuation, clarity and space. The Caravan is under no obligation to print all submitted pieces.

Submit your letter by Sunday at 6 p.m.

Op-Ed

February 12, 2006

To these times

A sense of nationality

Yasmeen El Mallah

Editor-in-chief

The past couple of weeks have been triumphant for Egypt, Arab world and for me. The media has been full of love and celebrations because of the Nobel Prize for Egyptian writer Naguib Mahfouz. It has been a time for us to cherish our culture, language, the rich, the poor and those in between. It has been a time for us to realize our fluid identity and not to be so parochial and hold the opinion that we are so proud to be Egyptian. I’ve never been more proud to be Egyptian.

It shows how our culture and language of the past and present are being cherished and we are no longer afraid to show it to the world. I was overwhelmed by the love and support that our people have shown to our fellow Egyptians. It has inspired me to write this letter to you, my fellow Egyptians, to express to you how proud I am to be one of you.

The past couple of weeks have been for Egypt and Egyptian people to come together and live in harmony with ourselves and our neighbors. It has been a time for us to be proud of our roots and to be proud of who we are.

I am proud to be Egyptian. I am proud to be Arab. I am proud to be human. I am proud to be yourself.

Shareen says: Soccer!

Shireen Nasr-El-Din

Senior Features Editor

It took my breath away, literally. It gasped when I took my first steps in the stadium. I never thought in a mil-lion years that I would be able to con-nect with more than 75,000 people in one instant because of a sport that I used to think was stupid.

Ask anyone who knows me, whenever people around me talk about soccer, I would usually roll my eyes and give my notable lec-ture about how the sport was an excuse for men to run around in shorts and jump on each other. The Egypt versus Congo match proved that I was very wrong.

The African Cup is more than a prize that is given to the winner. It, along with soccer, is a mentality that blanketed this country and united a nation. Ever since this tournament, I have spoken to more people and made more friends than I have during the four years I have lived here.

Everywhere I go, people say “salam” and, more important, people are proud to be Egyptian. It is so ironic that it took the teamwork of a soc-cer team to remind us all that, together, everyone achieves more. What we’ve achieved in the past few weeks is more than we’ve achieved in the past few decades. Egypt now has a face; it has 70 million of them, and they’re all smiling.

During the seven hours that I was in the stadium, I felt more empathic and more alive than I can remember. The mystique and energy radiating from the sea of white that was in Cairo is something that can’t be explained. The sounds of drums intertwined with the voices of sheer pride and strength filled the stadium and intimidated all competition before it even appeared. When the game started we all understood, trusted, and supported each other. It seemed that all the love that was being oppressed in everyone came out in one wave, and it was simply overwhelming.

Call it soccer, call it football, it really doesn’t matter. The truth is that it is the language of the people and it does unite us all.

Submit your corrections by Sunday at 6 a.m.
CROSSWORD: CURRENT EVENTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

ACROSS
2. The bad judge on American Idol (5,6)
3. Country that saw a recent outbreak of bird flu (6)
6. A television series set in the White House starring Martin Sheen (3,4,4)
9. Celebrity who has two adopted children and a third baby on the way (8,5)
11. The oldest soccer player in the Egyptian team and otherwise known as the playwright (6,6)
13. The theme song for this series begins, "Thank you for being a friend..." (3,6,5)
14. This chick believes that the sky is falling (7,6)
16. The first woman to ever undergo a face transplant (8,7)
18. Indian stand-up comedian

DOWN
1. A remake of hit Hollywood movie, starring an ape and Jack Black (4,4)
4. Latest movie remake of a Broadway musical (4)
5. Name of new perfume by daughter of renowned Beatles singer (6)
7. Supermodel recently admitted to rehab for her addiction to cocaine (4,4)
8. Won the best actor in a musical or comedy award at this years Golden Globe awards (7,7)
9. Bruce Springsteen and Sting recently paid tribute to this country singer (5,6)
12. Prime Minister who is in a coma as a result of a brain hemorrhage (5,5)
15. Embassy that was burned down in Syria and Lebanon due to religious controversy (6)
17. "_ me up, Scotty." (4)

Solutions to the crossword puzzle are posted on the Caravan website.
من خواطري
شاطىء بارد زمن سريع

لا يوجد نص يمكن قراءته بشكل طبيعي من الصورة المقدمة. من الممكن أن تكون الصورة خ矫ط أو غير واضحة، أو قد لا تحتوي على النص المطلوب. في حال وجود نص يمكن قراءته بشكل طبيعي، يمكنك طلب المساعدة في قراءة النص بشكل طبيعي.
للسنن:e الالكترونية

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أرامغ يه، ما هو أكثر شئ تتفق فيه مصريه؟

 Fremont – الحدث الثامن

Axia College

The أهلاً وسهلاً!

Wael El-Malak

CLOSED 13 MARCH 2006

28

استعدادات الأحياء العلمية

الموضوع: احترام والأمة بالطعام

iel تقدم 1

دلمارمة: احترام الطبقية يطالب...

للتلفظ بالدبلوم في اللغة العربية ورفع شعاع.png
أحمد زويل يقول أبحاثه قد تؤدي إلى قفزة علمية في الطب

رابطة المتطوعين في العمل تزف أربعة من أيام ميت غمرة

الإيجابيات بالمقاطة ضعف النمط

نافذة حوارية ورياضة وإبداعية

هيئة متابعة للدعاية والتعليم

التقليد الأدبي وثقافة الفن

التعارضات بين التقاليد والحداثة

العاديات والتقاليد

الأعمال والأفكار

فترة زمنية من الفن

الثقافة والتعليم

ال المشترك في النسخة الأولى

ال Truyềnات والأفكار

التعاونات بين التقاليد والحداثة

الحوار والتعليم

الثقافة والتعليم

التحديات والفرص

الإيجابيات بالمقاطة ضعف النمط

نافذة حوارية ورياضة وإبداعية

هيئة متابعة للدعاية والتعليم

التقليد الأدبي وثقافة الفن

العاديات والتقاليد

الأعمال والأفكار

فترة زمنية من الفن

الثقافة والتعليم

الكشف عن مخبأ phê السخيفة 

تهتى وينى دونر الينين

Namaste

الإيجابيات بالمقاطة ضعف النمط

نافذة حوارية ورياضة وإبداعية

هيئة متابعة للدعاية والتعليم

التقليد الأدبي وثقافة الفن

العاديات والتقاليد

الأعمال والأفكار

فترة زمنية من الفن

الثقافة والتعليم

الكشف عن مخبأ phê السخيفة 

تهتى وينى دونر الينين

Namaste