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AUC reacts to tragic ferry accident

By FARIDA HELMY
Caravan Reporter

The Al Salam Bocaccio 98 ferry sank in the early morning of Feb. 3 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 Sabri'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 Sabri. "And nobody appreciates how much these people were abused."

According to press reports, fire broke out on the ferry soon after it left the Duba 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 Dessoki. "No one announced it was missing because people were too caught up with the [soccer] 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 Boccaccio 98, has had previous accidents in the past few 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 Husseini. "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



Ethar Shalaby / THE CARAVAN

CHAIN REACTION: Zewail stresses the importance of chemistry and the sciences in everyday life.

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 evolutions 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 we can 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 Nermin El Touny 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 Touny, Zewail replied to the club's invitation for the lecture within 24 hours.

"He is a chemist we 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 Touny.

Students sit in, protest Danish cartoons

By YASMEEN 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 fix this image

and portrayal 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 Mootaz 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's been an offense 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.

Darah 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."

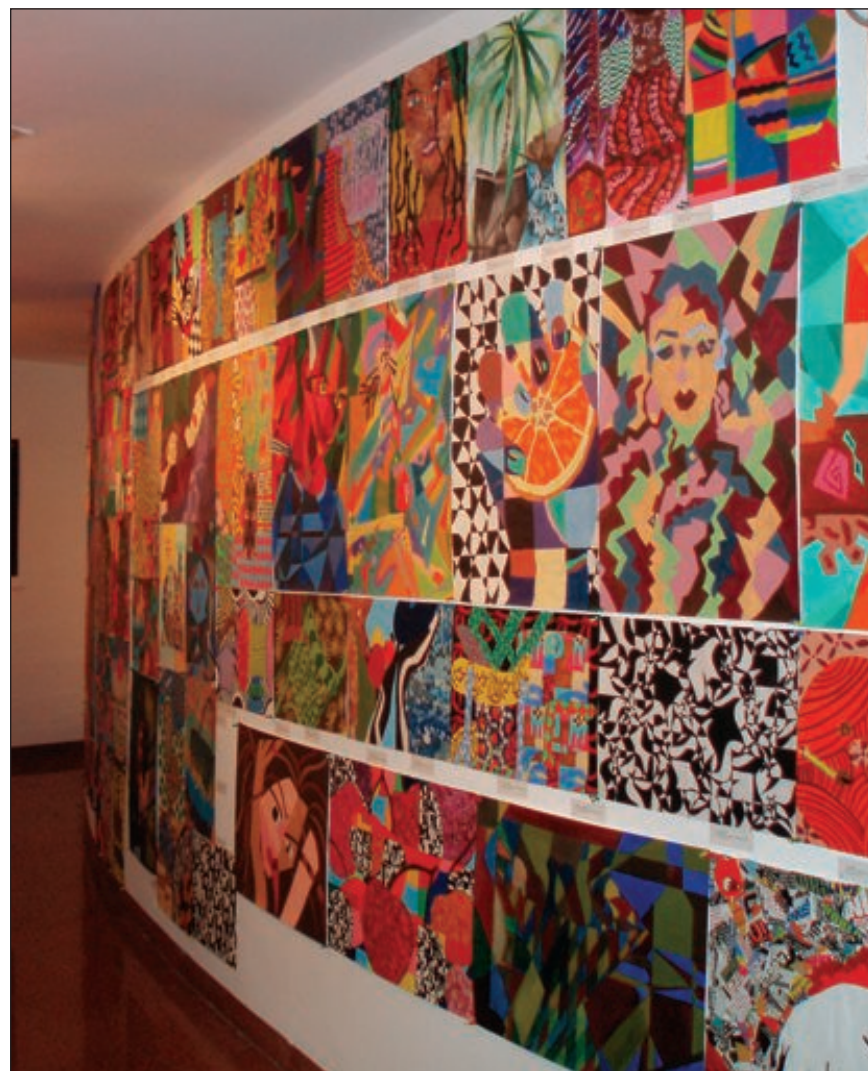
Assistant professor of political science Charles Davidson said, "I am a firm believer in free and open press and for not imposing limits. However, there is a responsibility by the press to not inflame or offend a group of people."



Omar Rohaem / THE CARAVAN

SHOUT OUT LOUD: Hundreds of AUCians participated at last Wednesday's sit-in on the Greek campus against the Danish cartoons of the Prophet Muhammad. Mootaz Danana, a computer science senior, uses a bullhorn to address students.

KALEIDOSCOPIC WALLS



Rehaam Romero / THE CARAVAN

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



REHAAM ROMERO / THE CARAVAN

MESSAGE IN A BOTTLE: Professor Naz Shahrokh's class displayed their bottles and still lifes in one of the many examples of the work on display.

Art students' work draws largest crowd ever

BY REHAAM ROMERO
Caravan Reporter

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 flashing through an overhead projector.

The exhibition was arranged 'salon-style,' according to Naz 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 piercing from the canvas.

The gallery also included work from students in majors other than art. Ahmed Abdel Aziz, an economics senior, had several pieces on display. "I was first inspired to pursue art after seeing the most beautiful girl I'd ever seen," stated Abdel Aziz, "I then realized that not everything can be justified with numbers."

Standing by his vivid painting, comprising of colorful splatters across a wide canvas, Abdel 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 student's work.

"You almost have everything right here," commented 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 CHEREEN ZAKI
Caravan Reporter

Despite the 12 community service clubs the university offers, including Volunteers in Action (VIA) and Help Club, students still find it difficult to join because of poor recruiting by the clubs and the limited time of the students.

According to Ramza Sedky, the community service director in the Office of Student Development (OSD), recruitment in the spring semester is not as successful as it is in the fall semester since not as many students enroll in the university in spring semester.

The community service program tries to promote the clubs on and off campus and schedule ceremonies and events such as the February 16th annual ceremony of the developmental campaign Alashanek Ya Balady. "Each week we have at least one event," said Sedky.

Yusra Elimam, 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 intimidate their new 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 Elimam.

"Students do not have enough time," said Sedky,

explaining why students are not joining community service clubs. "I have priorities to fulfill first," said Maged Fakh, 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 Fakh.

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 Fikry, 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 Fikry.

As for creating opportunities for new members, Sedky 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 Sedky.

On The Wire

Last September, Jyllands-Posten, a Danish newspaper, published 12 cartoons of the Prophet Mohammed, 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 Mohammed'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 of 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, Seoudi and Carrefour have also stopped selling Danish products.

Do you know about the controversy surrounding the Danish cartoon?

YES | NO
94% | 6%

"It is rude to disrespect any religion no matter what you think of it."

-Mark Magdi,
JRMC 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."

-Amal Mansour,
Actuarial science junior

"They are trying to ruin the prophet's image and portray him as promoting terrorism."

-Ramy Radwa,
JRMC senior

"Why make fun of other people's beliefs?"

-Hani Selem,
BADM Senior



Photo provided by the AUC Press

BOOK SIGNING: Authors, left to right, included Ibrahim Abdel Maguid, Idris Ali, Zahi Hawass, Mark Linz, Hala Badri, Youssef Abou Raya, Saad El Din Ibrahim and Nicholas Hopkins mingle at the event.

Book signing draws authors, trustees

BY KARIM HIGAZY
Caravan Reporter

The AUC Press held a book signing and meet-the-authors reception on Sunday to highlight 19 authors during the annual campus visit by the university's board of trustees.

"It was one of the largest gatherings [we've had]," said R. Neil Hewison, associate director for editorial programs at the AUC Press.

The book signing, which was held at the bookstore at Hill House, gave special discounts to attendees on the authors' books, which were published by AUC Press.

"The AUC Press publishes more than two books every week and it's important that the authors in question are recognized," said Mark Linz, director of the AUC Press.

Egyptologist Zahi Hawass, director of Egypt's

Supreme Council of Antiquities, also attended because three of his numerous books were published by the AUC press. He said he appreciates the discount provided by the AUC bookstore because people who usually wouldn't be able to read his books can now have access to them.

"It's a great opportunity for authors and students to get together and exchange opinions," said Richard Hoath, author of the book "A Field Guide to The Mammals of Egypt"

Various students from the AUC community were in attendance as well as students and individuals from abroad. "I'm just here mostly to see Salwa Bakr [author of 'The Golden Chariot'] and take advantage of authors being here in this part of the world," said Kiley Dunlop, an independent study student from San Francisco.

"It's gone very well," said Hewison. "We had a very good show from our authors and several other authors."

AUCians join in national football frenzy

By YASMEEN EL MALLAH & FOUAD HAMMOUD
Caravan Editors

Cries of olé, olé, olé, olé, 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.

With the renovation of the stadium and its new organization, girls were not hassled there. "For once they [the audience] were not interested in the girls," said Rima Naamani, a psychology junior.

Sherif Ali, an Egyptology junior, added that it was, "the first time for Egyptian matches to have girls in the stadium."

Mechanical engineering senior Mahmoud Abdel Mageed said he was proud of his country: "Egypt

showed no mercy in all of their games."

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 Heliopolis 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 Heliopolis 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. People- and spirit-wise, it's amazing. You feel like everyone in the country is celebrating together," said Mahmoud Assem, an economics senior.



Photo Provided by Mahmoud Assem

CRAZY HAIR DAY: Radwa Mounib and Mahmoud Assem enthusiastically dress up for the game.

Balbaa scores points with Egypt's Team



Photo provided by Mostafa Balbaa

SPORT STAR: Balbaa, left, takes a break from hosting to pose with Egyptian soccer player Ahmad Hossam AKA Mido, right.

By YASMEEN EL MALLAH
Caravan Editor

Control yourselves--or at least turn the ole's down a notch. AUC's Mostafa 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 to. It's a life-changing experience," said Balbaa.



Heba Hassabou / THE CARAVAN

AUC UNITY: Psychology professor Matthew Whoolery, center, cheers along with students Joice Rafla, left, and Amira Wissa, right, at the Egypt vs. Senegal game.

Going solo on Cupid's Day ain't so bad after all

By AMIRA EL-GAWLY
Freelance Reporter

With Valentine's Day arriving in less than 48 hours and bright red and pink stuffed hippos and candy 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 could-

n't celebrate the freedom of being unattached with other singles (and, who knows, maybe find a partner of the opposite sex to celebrate with) on Valentine's Day? Love is not just for couples - it's for everyone.

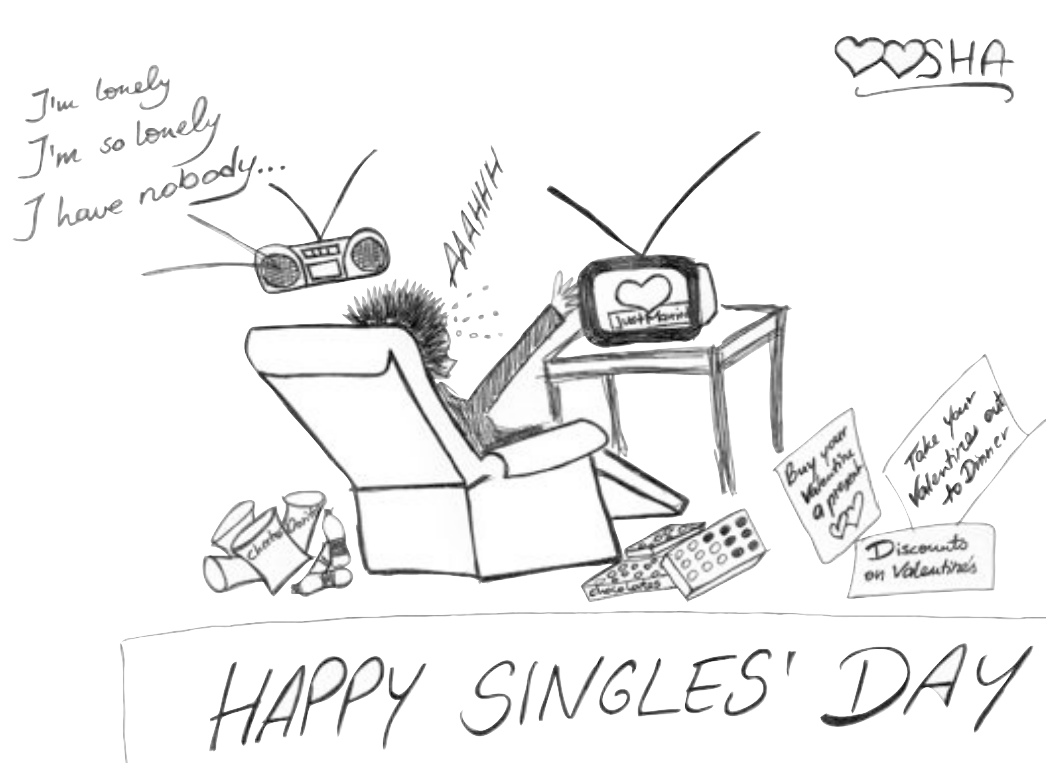
So, don't mope - the day is about celebrating love and it should not preclude love between good friends and family.

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 least 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.

Rumor has it that there will be an Ahly vs. 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 Ahly and Zamalek Clubs.

Alternatively, be selfless 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.

Q & A

QUESTION:

What do you hate most about Valentine's Day?



"I feel so lonely."

- Mohamed El-Shorbagy
BADM freshman



"I hate teddy bears."

- Eman Refaat,
JRCM freshman



"A bad date."

- Chris Scoufaridis,
Biology freshman



"People become so mushy."

- Farah Al-Muhtasib,
Theater sophomore



"I hate expectations."

- Omar Ramadan,
BADM senior



"Excessive showing off about presents."

- Sanaa El-Noamany,
JRCM junior

The Voice

In an attempt to find a solution to growing noise levels at AUC commencements, 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 party in at 7 p.m., but are seated 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 can still cause any amount of ruckus. 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 waiting 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 mistakes? 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 graduating classes.

- CARAVAN STAFF



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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 pieces submitted.

Submit your letter by Sunday at 6 p.m.

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Submit your corrections by Sunday at 6 p.m.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

How I did my duty

Hello, my name is Captain Rubba Dubdub. Some of you may have heard of me; for those who haven't, I am the captain of the Titanic ferry that recently sank in the Red Sea- or should I say, I was the captain. I departed from the Doha Port in Saudi Arabia on a very routine trip to Safaga, Egypt carrying some 1,400 passengers.

On a cold Thursday night on the Feb. 2, I received word from my crew that there was a fire on my ship. I thought to myself, what's a fire going to do to my ship, which was full of trucks and automobiles loaded with gasoline? I decided to just keep going. As the fire kept raging for two hours throughout my boat, I didn't even feel like calling the Safaga Port authorities to inform them of my situation. No, instead I just kept on going. After all, what are 1,400 workers lives really worth?

Gradually, I realized that my ship was slowing down. Then I thought to myself, maybe this is starting to get serious. What do I do? Should I do my job and order an evacuation of my ship? No, how can I do that, there aren't even enough life jackets or boats to get the passengers to safety. I may as well just leave. But wait, should I give a distress signal to the Safaga Port authorities? No, forget about it, I'll just take the speed boat that's on board and get away. Granted, by doing so I now have no leadership skills, no honor, no pride, no morals, no values, and most of all, no common sense. But hey, what can I say? It's not my fault the ship wasn't following international shipping safety regulations, or that I didn't inform any type of authorities of my situation at sea, or that I'm a coward who has no idea of what leadership or duty really means.

So, I just want to say don't blame me or the company that I worked for, El Salam Maritime Transport, or any of the losses that friends and family members have suffered. All right, so this isn't our first accident regarding a sinking ship and loss of life. But in the end, only 1,000 passengers died from drowning, hypothermia, or shark attacks. Essentially, I take no personal blame, and for those who are angry, go and do what you always do best, --- blame the government.

-Ahmed El Mallah

Undeclared freshman

*Note: Names in this letter were changed to highlight the sarcastic nature of the letter.

Lending a helping hand

The reputation of AUC students, most often given by themselves, is often of arrogance, selfishness, or exclusiveness. That is not what I saw this morning. When I arrived on campus, three students approached me for help. They had responded to a woman on campus who was crying loudly and in great distress. When they approached her, she talked of hearing voices and demons "attacking" her. She clearly was in need and suffering.

Since I am a psychologist, it was natural for them to approach me to come talk to this woman to see if she needed help. What I found is that the students themselves had done everything that I could have done to help her. They had showed compassion and sat down with her to talk. She said that she was so grateful that they stopped and sat down with her and that "thanks to them I am feeling much better."

People suffering from schizophrenia are often shunned by others because their behavior and speech can be erratic and strange. But despite these things, this woman found compassion and understanding from three AUC students who were willing to put aside their fears to help someone in need. I was humbled by and impressed with them. Thank you to those students and to all of the students who are dedicated to service in the community in and outside AUC. We need to rethink our stereotype.

-Matthew Whooley

Assistant Professor of Psychology

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Send your thoughts to:

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yasmeenmallah@gmail.com

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Graduation Issue

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In these times

A sense of nationality

YASMEEN EL MALLAH

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The past couple of weeks have been triumphant for Egypt. It surprises me how something so simple, yet so universal, has been able to unite an entire nation. Soccer has become the language of the rich, the poor and those in between. I've never seen a people so proud to be Egyptian. I've never been more proud to be Egyptian.

Although I've never actually been to any of these matches, I've seen the streets before and after. There's just something about the Dr. Suess-looking hats and face paint that triggers something inside of us and makes us realize that we can come together and act as one.

Our tiny community of AUC became a part of the larger crowd. We were no longer viewed as the rich spoiled kids, but as Egyptian citizens.

While I'm proud of how far along Egypt has been able to come in soccer, I'm disappointed that it took a tournament to unite a country and not the people itself from within. It's funny how it's the small, simple things that bring us together when larger issues (presidential elections, inheritance) drive us apart.

Egypt has always been known as the 'mother of the world' to the rest of the world, but not to its people. It's not something strange when you see someone counting down the hours until they depart for the U.S. to seek a new life in the land of opportunity, but people are dumbstruck when a graduate decides to stay because he has hope that something will become of this country someday.

Every year, millions of tourists bombard Egypt to stare in awe at its wonders, yet most of us have never even gone to the Egyptian Museum across the street.

What I'm trying to say is that we lack national pride and even more so here at AUC, thinking that we're too good for this country.

What we need to realize is that this country is what carries our national identity. It's not everywhere you go that you can find your entire family, friends, their families and their friends just because you had to take out your tonsils. It's not everywhere you can call someone at odd hours of the night to grab some ice cream. It's not everywhere you go where you can find such heartwarming generosity and hospitality from complete strangers. Only here, at home.

It's a fresh new year, a new start, and maybe a new opportunity. Who knows? Maybe all it'll take is a soccer match to spark a new beginning for Egypt. And maybe, just maybe, we'll be heard as one people again.



Shareen says:

Soccer!

SHAREEN NASR-EL-DIN

SENIOR FEATURES EDITOR

It took my breath away, literally. I gasped when I took my first steps in the stadium. I never thought in a million years that I would be able to connect 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 would talk about soccer, I would always roll my eyes and give my notorious lecture 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 look now, people are smiling and, more importantly, people are proud to be Egyptian. It is so ironic that it took the teamwork of a soccer 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.

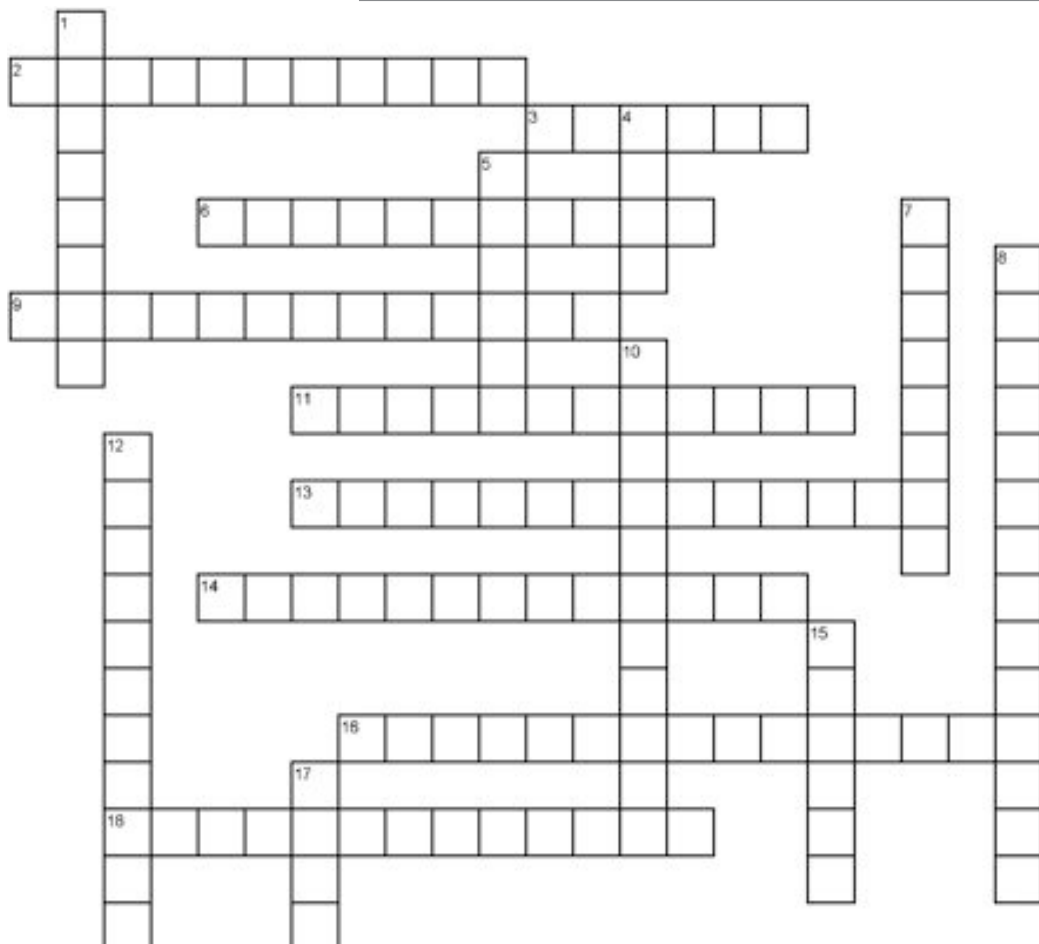
During the seven hours that I was in the stadium, I felt more euphoric and more alive than I can remember. The mystique and energy radiating from the array of red white and black were beautiful. The sounds of drums intertwined with the voices of sheer pride and strength filled the stadium and intimidated 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.





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 on the Egyptian team and otherwise known as the playmaker (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 year's Golden Globe awards (7,7)
- 10 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)

بريد القافلة

في ظل حماس المشجعين

حوالي الساعة الواحدة ظهرنا بدأ الطلاب الذهاب إلى الإستاد حاملين أعلامهم لينضموا إلى المشجعين في المدرجات الأولى والثانية والثالثة.

دعونا نخرج من انبهارنا بهذا المنظر الغير متوقع ونسأل أنفسنا أين كان هذا الحماس والانتماء قبل هذه البطولة في حياتنا اليومية؟ وهل هذا الانتماء حقيقي أم هو مجرد زوبعة في فنان؟ لما لانحد هذا الحماس وهذه الغيرة من داخلنا ولم نحتاج إلى محررات خارجية؟ ويبقى السؤال الأهم، هل سيستمر هذه الصحة بعد إنتهاء المباراة النهائية سواء كان النصر لنا أم لا؟

أؤكد لكم أن هذا الإحساس بالحماس موجود في داخل كل مصري بقدرته إبقائها حية طالما أمن بذلك.

عمر الإمام

ثالثة إدارة أعمال

نسيان همومهم ليجمعوا بصوت واحد وقلب واحد ولسان واحد ليعبروا بأعلى صوت عن مصيرتهم التي ترتفع فوق كل شيء. عند عزف النشيد الوطني وقف أكثر من ٧٠ ألف مصري برؤوس شامخة تشاهد علم مصر يرتفع شامخا معلنون بحناجرهم عن حبههم للوطن.

ظاهرة أخرى في أجواء المباريات وهي إنضمام السيدات لصفوف المشجعين، مما يعتبر تغيرا واضحا في العادات والتقاليد الموجودة في الشارع المصري وتطورات في العقلية المصرية المحافظة.

على صعيد جامعتنا، لم يقتصر تأثير البطولة على طبقة معينة من الشباب بل امتد ليشمل طلاب الجامعة الأمريكية الذين طالما أحبطوا بإشاعات مضللة تجعلهم يبدون منعزلين عن عامة الشعب المصري. فني

هناك ظاهرتان جديرتان بالذكر ظهرت في إحتفالات وهنافات المشجعين المصريين الذين شعروا بالسعادة والفخر بعد تأهل المنتخب الوطني إلى الدور النهائي لبطولة الأمم الإفريقية لكرة القدم. جاء المشجعون من كل حي يرفعون علم بلادهم عاليا بفخر واعتزاز وإحساس بالوحدة والانتماء الغير مسبوق. جاءوا بألوان مصر مرسومة على وجوههم ونظرات القلق والإصرار تدهمهم. في تلك اللحظات الحاسمة في المباراة يرى تحت السطح الملطخ بألوان علم الوطن وأعلامها التي لاتعد ولا تحصى ونعمات الطلبة المصرية التي تجلب الحماس وتجري الدم المصري الهائج في عروق المشجعين. إحساس الناس الذين لا يمتنون لبعض بأي صلة بالوحدة لامثيل له. وكأنهم استطاعوا

من خولاطري
شتاء بارد وزمن سريع

أروى النحاس
محررة

حقيقة أن الحياة العملية وما فيها من تحدي لإثبات الذات وتحقيق الطموحات والأحلام حقيقة هي متعة من نوع جديد، ولكن ماذا عن الجامعة وأصدقاء الدراسة؟ ماذا عن أنشطة الجامعة ورحلاتها وحفلاتها وحياتها الاجتماعية؟ بل ماذا عن مناقشات الاساتذة والمناظرات الممتعة؟ إنها حقاً مشاعر متضاربة بين زمن جميل مر بي ومستقبل أمله أجمل.

ولكن لا.. لن أتذكر هذا الزمن الجميل يمر هكذا، لا بد أن أحمله معي، لا بد أن يكون عوني في مواجهة هذه الحياة الجديدة القادمة، فسأواصل مع أساتذتي إن لم يكن كل يوم فسوف يكون على فترات متقاربة جداً، سوف استمر في الاستفادة من أفكارهم ومعارفهم، أما أصدقائي فنحن معاً دائماً لن نتخلى عن بعضنا البعض مهما بعدت المسافات أو اختلفت الجهات، أما الجامعة فإن ما أنا فيه الآن هو دين عليّ تجاهها لا بد أن اتبع كل السبل لرد جميلها..

لست أدري كيف ولكن سوف أجد الوسيلة إن شاء الله. وأخيراً فإنها سنة الحياة لا بد أن نحياها ونمر بمرحلتها المختلفة وكل مرحلة بلا شك لها متعتها الخاصة فلننعمها ولنقبلها كما هي ونحياها بحلوها ومرها. هذه مشاعر متضاربة وياله من شتاء بارد وغائم.



عند وقوفي في صف دفع المصروفات لآخر دورة دراسية لي في الجامعة دار في ذهني أفكار عديدة، فترأى لي حلم التخرج واستلام الشهادة في الحفل السنوي المعتاد وتساءلت...

أحقاً مضت أربع سنوات؟
أحقاً أنا في سنة التخرج الآن؟
أحقاً أنه آخر شتاء لي على مقاعد الدراسة؟

ياله من شتاء بارد ومبلد بالغيوم. مر الزمن سريعاً وهأنذا أستعد للتخرج من الجامعة في أوائل الصيف المقبل، لقد مر الزمن في خيالي كشرير سينمائي سريع وأنا أتذكر حياتي الجامعية بما فيها من لحظات سعيدة مليئة بالكفاح والفرح والنجاح والتحدى.

نعم لقد مر الزمن سريعاً جداً ولكنه كان مشمراً جداً أيضاً فهذه الفتاة المدرسية الساذجة البريئة قد أصبحت الآن -بفضل الله والديها وأساتذتها ومعهداتها التعليمي الراقي وكفاحها ومثابرتها- الفتاة الواعية المحيطة بما يدور حولها، أصبحت الفتاة الناضجة ذات الشخصية المستقلة. لقد آن الوقت لحياة أشمل وأوسع، لقد حان الوقت لمواجهة معترك الحياة بما تسلمت به من علم وثقافة وتدريب وشخصية واثقة من قدراتها.

لهجات سريعة
الطريق إلى القمة

عصام بدران
محرر



البدء على الفور في تنفيذ خطتك والتي قد قمت برسمها. بالطبع، ستواجهك مصاعب في تحقيق خطتك ومن ثم هدفك. فإذا كنت مؤمناً بهدفك فلا تدع هذه المصاعب تقف في طريقك بل عليك بالمثابرة من أجل الوصول إلى هدفك. وللأسف على الرغم من أن معظمنا لديه أفكار جيدة فأنا نتوقف عن المحاولة في تحقيق أهدافنا عند أول مشكلة تواجهنا أو عقدة نصادفها في طريقنا. فغاندي تم اعتقاله أكثر من مرة ولكنه أصر على مقاومة الإستعمار وتحرير بلاده. والعالم أديسون قام بأكثر من ٩٠٠ محاولة من أجل إختراع المصباح الكهربائي حيث أشار إلى أنه في كل محاولة يفشل بها يقرب أكثر مما يريد.

فلا تعترف بالفشل ولكن تعلم منه، ففي كل مرة تفشل يتوافر لديك خبرة أعمق وفهم أفضل. لذلك قم بتعديل خطتك حتى تتلاءم مع المتغيرات الجديدة التي تطرأ من أن لآخر. فعلىنا أن نلتفت إلى عدة أمور أخرى لاتقل أهمية مما سبق مثل أن نكون متفائلين وأن نغير معتقداتنا السلبية. لذلك فلن نسير طويلاً في تحقيق أحلامنا إذا كان يراودنا الإعتقاد بأن الناجحين هم من توافرت لديهم ظروف إجتماعية ومادية ساعدتهم للوصول لأهدافهم. فإذا نظرت حولك ملياً فستجد أن هنالك العديد من النجوم حولنا قد بدأوا من الصفر بل أحياناً من تحت الصفر. فأحمد زويل بدأ بطريقة من إحدى القرى الصغيرة ووصل في النهاية إلى جائزة نوبل. فكل منا لديه ملكة أو موهبة عليه أن يكتشفها قبل أن يملأها الغبار وتضيع ملامحها. وفي النهاية أتمنى أن تفكر في مستقبلك وفي حياتك القادمة، فأنت الوحيد الذي تملك القرار في تغيير دفة حياتك.

منذ فترة تدور في ذهني عدة تساؤلات حول النجاح، ولماذا يوجد بعض الأفراد ناجحين دون البعض الآخر؟ وهل هذا يرجع إلى توافر ظروف جيدة ساعدتهم في تحقيق أهدافهم والوصول إلى القمة؟ وما هي الخطوات التي قد تقود الإنسان إلى تحقيق أحلامه؟ لذلك عكفت على قراءة عدة كتب حتى أصل إلى إجابة عن هذه التساؤلات، حتى توصلت إلى عدة نتائج هامة.

في البداية الناجحون لديهم حلم يسعون على الدوام من أجل تحقيقه. فمعظمنا يعيش الحياة بغير هدف معين، نعيش حياة عادية نتوقف على ما قد تأوول إليه الظروف. بينما الناجحون يعرفون من البداية طريقهم ويضعون أهدافهم نصب أعينهم. ويحاولون سلك أيسر الطرق من أجل الوصول إليه. وإذا لم يكن لديك الآن هدف معين. فالتجلس مع نفسك وتفكر ماذا تريد أن تكون في المستقبل. تخيل نفسك بعد عشر سنوات من الآن، تخيل هيأتك وتخيّل وضعك الإجتماعي والمالي والنفسي. إجعل أحلامك كبيرة ولا تجعلها محدودة. بعد الخطوة السابقة، وبعد أن تكون قد كونت صورة واضحة لما تريد أن تكون في المستقبل. وبهذا تكون قد عرفت هدفك. وبذلك نصل إلى الخطوة الثانية وهي التخطيط للوصول لهدفك. قم بوضع خطة لتحقيق هدفك، حيث تتكون هذه الخطة من أهداف مرحلية صغيرة توصلك في النهاية إلى هدفك. قم بوضع هذه الأهداف في إطار زمني لتحقيقها. فمثلاً قم بتحديد الأهداف التي يجب أن تحققها خلال هذا العام والتي تخدم في تحقيق حلمك. والآن بعد أن توفر لديك الهدف والخطة ليس عليك سوى

ترحب القافلة بإسهاماتكم وأرائكم في حدود ٣٠٠ كلمة والتي سننشرها

تباعاً أرسل الرسائل إلى :

caravan@aucegypt.edu





تصوير: عمر رحيم / الغافلة

عدد من الطلبة في أثناء الإحتجاج ضد الرسوم المسيئة للرسول الكريم.

دنمارك: إتحاد الطلبة يطالب ...

تتمه ص ١

وأجمعت آراء الطلبة على ضرورة مواجهة هذه الإساءات بصورة ايجابية فأبدى على منسى رابعة إقتصاد- إعجابه بما قيل أثناء الإحتجاج متمنيا أن يستجيب الطلبة له. كما أشار باسل الجندى-ثالثة إدارة أعمال- إلى أن الدنمارك أهانت أمة الإسلام إهانة بالغة بتلك الرسوم التي نشرت. وأكد خالد الزمر- ثالثة إقتصاد- أنه لا بد أن يشعر الغرب أن العرب لديهم إحساس بقيمة الدين وأضاف أنه بدأ في مقاطعة كافة السلع الدنماركية. أما سيف أبو زيد رئيس العلاقات العامة بالإتحاد- فقال أنه فور علم أعضاء الإتحاد بهذه المشكلة بدأوا بالإتصال بأعضاء نادي المساعدة ونموذج الأمم المتحدة ونموذج جامعة الدول العربية ونموذج البرلمان المصري حتى يتسنى لهم العمل كفريق عمل واحد لمواجهة هذه الكارثة. وأبدى أبو زيد سعادته لأن الطلبة إستجابات لنداء حملة التوعية والتي هدفت إلى إيجاد حلول لمواجهة هذه الإساءة. وأشار أبو زيد إلى بعض الخطوات الإيجابية التي يمكن أن تحدث تغيرا في صورة المسلمين لدى الغرب قائلا أن هناك إتصالات بقتوات أفكار الغرب عن الإسلام.



تصوير: هبة حسبو / الغافلة

عدد من طلبة الجامعة في استاد القاهرة في مباراة مصر و السنغال التي انتهت بفوز مصر ٢-١ .

الإتحاد يلغي تنظيم حفل الترحيب في فصل الربيع الحالي

كتبت-نادين السيد

حفلة (بليزارد) في ديسمبر الماضي. وأوضح علاء أن الموارد البشرية للجنة بالإتحاد لا تسمح بإقامة الحفل حيث أن جميع الأعضاء منشغلون بالأنشطة الأخرى وترتيب الحفلات. واختلفت ردود أفعال الطلبة الجدد هذا الفصل الدراسي حول عدم إقامة الحفل في فصل الربيع. فاشتملت ردود الفعل اللامبالاه وعدم الدراية والإستكار لعدم إتاحة هذه الفرصة للتعرف والتكيف علي البيئة الجامعية الجديدة. وقالت يارة فريد- أولي إعلام وإدارة أعمال- ان بيئة الجامعة بيئة جديدة تماماً وأن الطلبة الجدد في حاجة إلي شع يجمعهم ويقرب المسافات بينهم خاصة وأن الحياة الجامعية ربما تكون آخر تجربة إجتماعية لهم قبل مواجهة الحياة الحقيقية. وأضافت أن إقامة هذه الحفلة كانت سوف تشعرها بالدفء والترحيب في الجامعة - بيتها الجديد. أوضحت روشان سداغ- أولي إدارة أعمال- أن الحفلة كانت ستكون فرصة للتعرف علي أصدقاء جدد وطلبة الجدد. وعلى سعيد آخر، أكدت رضوي محمود - أولي جامعة- على عدم إهتمامها بالحفل قائلة أن هذا الأمر لا يعني لها شيئا علي الإطلاق. وأضاف علاء أن حفل الترحيب يشمل برنامج ترفيهي للطلبة وعادة ما تقدم مطربين وأحيانا المواهب الشابة بالجامعة. وقال أن حفل الخريف الماضي قدم المطربين تامر حسني ويوري مرقدوي (الذي جي) سياستين. وأشار إلى أن دعاوي الحفل مجانية وتضم طلبة الجامعة فقط.

قرر إتحاد الطلبة عدم تنظيم حفل الترحيب الذي يقام كل فصل دراسي في هذا الربيع نظرا لانشغال أعضاء الإتحاد بالأنشطة الأخرى وعدم توفير موارد بشرية كافية لإقامة الحفل. ببر حاتم علاء -رئيس لجنة الأنشطة بالإتحاد- عدم تنظيم الحفل بفصل الربيع قائلا أن السبب الرئيسي هو عدم وجود وقت كاف في فصل الربيع لان الأعضاء عادة يكونون منشغلين بالترتيب لإقامة المهرجان (الكارنيفال) والتحضير لسينما الجامعة. وأضاف أن جدول إتحاد الطلبة كان مليئا هذا العام بالأنشطة مثل تنظيم رحلة نصف العام إلي أسبانيا، وإقامة

الجامعة تتابع دوريا تطورات أنفلونزا الطيور

كتبت- منى عابدين

صحية تتضمن تحذيرات وإجراءات لحماية مجتمع الجامعة والتي يتم إرسالها على موقع الجامعة. أفادت منظمة الصحة العالمية ومركز مراقبة الأمراض في المنشور عن إمكانية إنتقال الفيروس من الطيور إلى الإنسان نتيجة التعامل المباشر مع الدواجن، وبسهولة إنتقال المرض من شخص مصاب إلى آخر. وتؤكد هذه المعلومات زيادة خطورة الفيروس عند التعامل مع الطيور الحية المصابة أو ذبحها. والموقع الذي حددته الجامعة هو: (www.cdc.gov/flu/avian).

أوضح منشور في موقع الجامعة أنها تقوم بمتابعة دورية لتطورات أنفلونزا الطيور في مصر والعالم. تستمر الجامعة بأفاعة الطلبة والأساتذة عن آخر تطورات أنفلونزا الطيور والتي تصدر عن منظمة الصحة العالمية، والتي أكدت عدم وجود حالات معروفة مصابة بالمرض حتى الآن في مصر. ويتم توفير نشرات

للنسخة الإلكترونية زوروا موقعنا!

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رأيك إيه : ما هو أكثر شئ تنفق فيه مصروفك؟

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تصدر عن طلبة قسم الصحافة والإعلام بالجامعة الأمريكية في القاهرة

الأحد ١٣ محرم ١٤٢٦هـ - ١٢ فبراير ٢٠٠٦م

العدد رقم ١٤ - المجلد ٨٦

أحمد زويل يقول أبحاثه قد تؤدي إلى قفزة علمية في الطب



تصوير: إيثار شلبي / القافلة

أحمد زويل يتحدث في الجامعة وإلى جواره نيرمين التوني رئيس نادي الكيمياء.

كتب- عصام بدران

علمية في مجال الطب تؤدي إلى إكتشاف الفيروسات المسببة للسرطان والعديد من الأمراض المزمنة والقضاء عليها. أشار زويل إلي أن أبحاثه الجديدة والتي أطلق عليها (الأبعاد الأربعة) تهدف إلى تحديد مسار الإلكترونات الفائقة السرعة وتحديد المواقع الفعلية للذرات المختلفة أثناء حدوث التفاعل وسيؤدي ذلك إلى نتائج بعيدة المدى وبالذات في الدراسات المتعلقة بالتغيرات في الأنظمة الكيميائية والبيولوجية المعقدة. الجدير بالذكر، أن هذه المحاضرة جاءت ضمن سلسلة من المحاضرات يقوم زويل بإلقائها، حيث قدم محاضرة غير علمية بدار الأوبرا المصرية. أجمع الطلبة على أن هذه المحاضرة

أكد أحمد زويل عالم الكيمياء المصري أنه إذا استطعنا تحديد مستوى العلم الآن يمكن أن تنبأ بمكانه في المستقبل. جاد ذلك في المحاضرة التي نظمها نادي الكيمياء يوم الأحد الماضي تحت عنوان (مستقبل العلم). وأضاف زويل الحائز على جائزة نوبل في الكيمياء عام ١٩٩٩ والعضو بمجلس أمناء الجامعة. أنه يأمل أن تؤدي أبحاثه إلى اكتشاف الفيروسات المسببة للسرطان والعديد من الأمراض المزمنة. أوضح زويل أن أبحاثه ساهمت في أن يكون تصوير الذرات ممكننا بالإضافة إلى التحكم فيها الأمر الذي قد يحدث ثورة

الإتحاد يطالب بمقاطعة بضائع الدنمارك

كتب- مؤمن ناجي ونيرين عز الدين من هذه الرسومات. كما تضمنت المقترحات جمع تبرعات لإعادة بناء السفارة الدنماركية التي قد أحرقت بلبنان حتى نوضح الحكومة الدنماركية بأن الإسلام دين التسامح. قال معتر دنانه -رابعة حاسب ألي- أنه سيتم وضع صناديق للتبرع في جميع مباني الجامعة حتى يتمكن الطلبة من المساهمة والتبرع لإعادة بناء السفارة في أي وقت كما اقترح البعض ذهاب الطلبة للإستاد لتشجيع الفريق الوطني، يحملون لافتات تشير إلى إعتراضهم على الإساءات حتى يتسنى للغرب معرفة أن هذه القضية لن تمر مر الكرام. وخلال الإحتجاج، تم توزيع منشورات توضح سبب المشكلة التي حدثت وإمكانية معالجتها وذلك عن طريق مقاطعة المنتجات الدنماركية سواء كانت ألبان أو عصائر أو مأكولات أومنتجات أخرى. وضمت المنشورات قائمة المنتجات الدنماركية التي توجد في الأسواق المحلية والعربية.

دنمارك، تمة ص ٢



جمع الطلبة في المبنى اليوناني أثناء الإحتجاج على الرسومات المسيئة للرسول. تصوير: عمر رحيم / القافلة

رابطة المتطوعين في العمل تزف أربعة من أيتام ميت عقبة



تصوير: مريم نصر / القافلة

عدد من الأيتام ليلة زفافهم التي نظمتها رابطة المتطوعين في العمل بمركز ميت عقبة.

كتبت- نيرين عز الدين ومريم نصر

ميت عقبة بدلا من إقامته في الجامعة، كما حدث في العام السابق، حيث أن تكلفة الزينة والفراشة وشادر الفرح في ميت عقبة أرخص بكثير؛ وقد تم إستغلال هذا المال لتجهيز أزواج أكثر. كما أوضحت هبة قرة رئيس لجنة العلاقات العامة- أن توفير أسلأمن في الحفل كان من أشد الصعوبات حيث تم الإستعانة بعشرين رجل أمن منهم خمس من رجال الجامعة وذلك للطمأنينة على سلامة الفرح والمدعوين وأعضاء النادي. وبالنسبة لرأي الحضور في حفل الزفاف، أعرب أحمد عبدالمحسن دعيبس -صاحب مدارس النور الإسلامية وعضو مجلس إدارة سابق بمركز شباب ميت عقبة- عن إعجابه بالفرح والذي يقام لأول مرة بالمركز وقال أنه سعيد بمساعدة طلبة الجامعة للأيتام من خلال إقامة الفرح لهم. ووافق في الرأي سيد جوهر -عضو مجلس الشعب

نظمت رابطة المتطوعين في العمل حفلا جماعيا لزفاف أربع أزواج أيتام بمركز شباب ميت عقبة يوم الجمعة الموافق الثالث من الشهر الجاري. قالت آلاء موسى -عضو بلجنة العلاقات العامة بالرابطة- أن هذا الفرح يعد الثاني على التوالي والذي تنظمه الرابطة من خلال التبرعات التي قد تم جمعها في حفل الموسيقى عام خيرت السنوي التي تنظمها الرابطة. وعن اختيار الأزواج قالت هديل رئيس لجنة الإسكان والتموين- أنه كان يوجد ٢٥ زوجا من العاجزين وبعد البحث الدقيق تم إختيار ١٧ زوجا أيتام تم تجهيزهم ومنهم الأربعة الذين أقيم لهم حفل الزفاف. وأضافت هديل أننا فضلنا هذا العام توفير المال بإقامة الفرح في