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Student Council tries to fill vacancies

BY REHAAM ROMERO
Caravan Reporter

Due to the shortened fall 2005 semester, the majority of the American University in Cairo's (AUC) Student Council elections were delayed, leaving a total of 32 vacancies in the council and forcing the Student Judicial Board (SJB) to hold elections this semester, according to the chairman of the SJB Mohammed El Taweel.

"According to the constitution, the Student Council is supposed to be active at the beginning of the spring semester," said El Taweel, adding that time constraints prevented the majority of students from running last semester.

The Student Council consists of representatives from each major who are elected prior to the end of the fall semester, but because of the unprecedented shortening of last fall, elections were held in only two majors, mechanical engineering and construction engineering.

"The remaining seats should have been filled by the Student Union (SU) president Walid El-Sallab, but he didn't provide a list," said Louai El Sabi, chairman of the Student Council. Currently there are only 13 representatives on the council.

For every 150 students in each major, there is one student representing them in the Student Council. Of the 32 missing seats in the council, 20 majors are not represented, including four vacancies for the journalism and mass communication department, two for political sci-

ence and two for economics.

While the deadline for candidate application is tomorrow, discussions are still continuing about a date for the elections, according to El Taweel.

"Meetings are being held as usual," said El Sabi. "But the vacancies are hindering performance due to the fact that the general assembly is not well-represented."

Mostafa Mousa, the construction engineering representative, confirms the hindrance in performance. "Because of the vacancies, I'm covering more departments than my duty [requires]," he said.

According to the department of Institutional Planning, Research, Assessment and Testing, the mass communication, political science and economics majors are three of the largest in AUC. There were 440 students majoring in mass communication, 222 in political science and 191 in economics during the fall 2005 semester alone.

"By not having representatives in the mass communication department, a huge number of the AUC population is being ignored," said Marian Rizkalla, a mass communication junior, adding that she herself would have wanted to be a representative but "had no idea they were even holding elections."

"Events are always well-advertised, but important things like elections aren't," said Rizkalla.

But there were a "few signs and announcements" that were used to publicize the elections, said El Sabi.

See COUNCIL, 2

Leo Burnett awards ICGE delegates

BY MUSTAFA NAJI
Freelance Reporter

An advertising campaign by nine students at the American University in Cairo won first-place trophies from Leo Burnett Worldwide at the International Conference on Global Economy (ICGE) on Feb. 25.

Dalia Farid, Esraa Samaha, Hebatallah Mohamed, HEND Mohamed, Joumana Sharaf, Maged Shereen, Mohamed Abu Bakr, Mohamed El Shamy and Tarek Saleh won the award for best integrated advertising campaign.

The winning delegates will be given a chance to visit Leo Burnett Worldwide and see what goes on behind the scenes in an international advertising agency. Leo Burnett is a leading agency in Egypt and the official conference and advertising partner of ICGE.

Advertising campaigns were evaluated by Leo Burnett's own criteria, including how creative the ideas were and how interac-



Photo provided by Mustafa Naji

WINNING SMILES: Bottom from left to right: Mohamed Abu Bakr, Mohamed El Shamy, Maged Shereen and Tarek Saleh. Top from left to right: Dalia Farid, Hebatallah Mohamed, HEND Mohamed, Esraa Samaha and Joumana Sharaf.

tive, cooperative and punctual members of each team were during the four-day conference, said Sherif El Danaf, one of the secretariats for the Council on Commercial Production (CCP) in

ICGE. The competition was based on a hypothetical situation on an isolated island whose inhabitants live a life

See LEO, 2

Al Jazeera launches English channel

BY RAYA SHOKATFARD
Caravan Editor

Al Jazeera has no plans to counter repeated attacks by the Bush administration about its allegedly biased newsgathering and reporting, according to John Bayliss, the executive program producer of Al Jazeera International (AJI).

The remarks were made during Bayliss's visit to the Adham Center for Electronic Journalism at the American University in Cairo (AUC) on Feb. 23.

"We are achieving all the things that we are set out to do.

There is nothing else we have to do to counter opinions or perceptions," said Bayliss.

Al Jazeera is an Arabic satellite news channel headquartered in Doha, Qatar and financed by the Qatari ruling family since 1996. Al Jazeera's newest operation, AJI, is a new English language channel which will start airing on satellite in May, but will not be a translation of the Arabic channel.

Similar to the Arabic Al Jazeera channel, AJI will present views from as many angles as possible and from different parts of the

See JAZEERA, 2

Play to become movie

BY SHAHRAZAD ELFAR
Caravan Reporter

Mass communication professor, art professor and first-time playwright Shems Friedlander plans to turn his one-act play, "Dream water does not quench thirst," into a film following its two-night run at the American University in Cairo's Howard Theater.

The 22-minute play was sponsored by the university's Performance and Visual Arts department and premiered on Feb. 27.

"Love is the only illness more agreeable than health," begins Yara Goubran, an AUC alumna and the only actress in the play. Goubran explains that the story is about love, for a man, for one's self and for God.

Almost 70 people attended the play, including faculty, students, staff, and AUC president David Arnold.

"I relate to [this woman] as a person on all levels. Waiting for a phone call from a man is something that I have done before," said Goubran. The woman in the play lives through intense feelings where she talks to herself, to her beloved but absent man and even to God, bargaining with him to fulfill her wish.

But the play is not exclusively targeted at women. "This is a play that, although spoken by a woman, easily touches the hearts and minds of both men and women. The idea of overcoming the obstacles of within their own thought patterns is interesting as an artistic expression," said Friedlander.



Shahrazad Elfar / THE CARAVAN

Lost Love: Goubran awaits for her love to call.

AUC to open new majors

BY CHEREEN ZAKI
Caravan Reporter

The school of sciences and engineering is proposing a new architecture major in March, along with five other engineering programs, for consideration by the university administration, according to Nagwa Sherif, a construction engineering professor.

When the major is to be offered and the types of courses it will include are still to be determined and depend on administration approval, but the new programs will most likely be offered when the university moves to the new campus, said Sherif.

The other programs include petroleum engineering, environmental engineering, computer engineering, biotechnical engineering and mechatronics engineering, which is a combination of both mechanical and electronics engineering.

"The program is prepared to provide a unique kind of information, different [from] other programs in Egypt," said Sherif. "It will

be internationally accredited in both the U.S. and Egypt."

"I wish that these new programs [had been] available before to allow me to pick from a variety instead of the three engineering programs offered now," said Aly Shaheen, a construction engineering senior.

The program will focus on design aspects, trends, theories, and the latest presentation techniques using computer-aided designs. It will also concentrate on the architectural side of construction.

Shaheen wanted to study architecture but since it is not offered at AUC, he had to choose construction because it's the "closest thing to [architecture]."

Architecture is already offered as a minor, and many students say it is about time that it is offered it as a major. "We have a strong engineering department and I don't know why they still don't have architecture as a major," said Raul Bajocchi, a business administration senior

See ARCHITECTURE, 2

Career Mart provides advice to students

BY NADINE EL SAYED
Caravan Reporter

The Career Mart held last Monday on the Main campus at the American University in Cairo, hosted professionals from the fields of marketing, finance, tourism, investment and journalism.

"We attempt to open students' options so that they don't graduate with only one idea [one career option] before them," said Dalia Awad, the advisor of the Career Advising and Placement Services (CAPS).

Career Mart is organized every year by the CAPS office to provide AUC students a chance to meet with professionals from their fields of interest and ask them questions about the field.

Awad said that they offer students the chance to meet up with "top notch" professionals whom they normally would not have a chance to meet. Students can ask about career paths, courses, choices of major, job and internship opportunities or simply about the job market itself.

"I wanted to know about my career options," said Hasnaa Gemei, a business administration senior.

Other students had enquiries about internships or job opportunities. Khadiga Spahi, a psychology senior, said, "The lady I talked to was working in the research center I wanted to tutor at so she gave me an idea about it and she might help me get a job there."

Mirette Mabrouk, publisher of the Daily Star Egypt, said students usually have questions about what they want to do, how to do it and where to go. "It is best to know from a professional what is in demand now," said Mabrouk, who was attending her second Career Mart.

Mabrouk explained that the problem with education is that it does not always provide what the current market needs so it is useful to talk to professionals. She also added that she might help students with job opportunities or internships if there is an opening.

Other professionals were there for consultation only and did not offer job opportunities. Akram Khedr, a marketing consultant, said that because he is a consultant, he is not in a position to offer jobs to students. He is there to tell them all they need to know about what courses to take, how to choose their major and their career advancement.

"It depends really on each student and what he wants to ask but we provide them with real exposure," said Khedr.

Sherihan Amro, an electronics engineering senior, thought that last year's Career Mart was better. "The [electronics] company that came last year and its career advising was more interesting," said Amro.

See CAREER MART, 2

CHICKEN FIGHT



Saleh El-Azab / THE CARAVAN

Hundreds of poultry shop owners gathered last Sunday to protest against the government for closing down their shops after cases of bird flu were found in Egypt.

On The Wire

Suicide bombers set off their explosives at the entrance of an oil facility in Abqaiq near Dammam in Saudi Arabia when security guards opened fire on their car.

Saudi Arabian security consultant, Nawas Obaid, said the explosion killed three guards and wounded 10 before the bombers reached the second security checkpoint, manned by more security guards. The attackers were all reported dead.

Al Qaeda, the Islamic fundamentalist group founded by Osama bin Laden, claimed responsibility for the attack and posted a message on an Islamic website which they have previously used to make announcements. Al Qaeda has also claimed responsibility for previous acts of terrorism such as the murder of the Egyptian ambassador in Iraq and the hotel bombings in Jordan last year.

The Associated Press said Al Qaeda has continuously been calling for attacks on Saudi Arabian oil facilities because they believe that the West is consuming oil from the Saudi Arabian government at unacceptably low prices.

The Saudi government denied the attack was successful but Al Qaeda disagrees with their statement. They said that their bombers were able to pass through security and blow up their cars. Al Qaeda promises future attacks to try to stop the alleged exploitation of Muslim wealth.

"I agree with the reason but not with the act itself."

- Mohamed Abu Samra,
BADM senior

"I somewhat accepted what Al Qaeda stood for when fighting those against Islam, but now they [have] lost any form of understanding that I may have given them in the past."

- Hadeel Alaini,
POLs senior

"I don't watch the news at all."

- Heba Moussa,
JRMJ freshmen

"If they are selling oil at low prices, they have the right to object, but not in this way. If it's not true, then its miscommunication between the government and Al Qaeda."

- Amr Abu Bakr,
MENG senior

Do you know about the suicide bombers who attacked a Saudi Arabian oil facility?

YES 31% | NO 69%

AUCians teach English to under-privileged

BY CHEREEN ZAKI
Caravan Reporter

Alashanak Ya Balady (AYB), a community service club at the American University in Cairo (AUC) has organized its annual language development program to teach English in Old Cairo.

The program includes teachers from both AUC and Cairo University. "We have an average of five students teaching from AUC, and another three or four from Cairo University," said Hassan.

"People are really benefiting from the program; they want to improve their career opportunities," he added.

The program was launched in the neighbourhood of Ein El Seera, which hosts six other AYB developmental programs, including literacy classes, computer learning, community service, vocational training, micro-

projects and a youth development program, which focuses on interpersonal development for children.

The English language development program, which began in the summer of 2006, has courses of five levels of difficulty that are given twice a week in the Ein El Seera Youth Club.

According to Ahmed Hassan, the head of the language development program, there is a maximum of 10 to 12 students in each class and their ages range from 19 to 40. "The students are mostly university graduates in their late 20's," said Hassan. "But we [also] have people in their forties."

Residents of Ein El Seera are not the only people who can apply, but the candidates are required to take a placement test to determine their current English level as well as a written and oral exam at the end of the course.

Nour El-Akkad, a business

administration senior, teaches a level-one course in the program that introduces basic grammar rules and simple vocabulary to encourage the students to engage in conversation. "I just gave them their final and not one person failed. It was better than I expected" she said.

Marwa Mahmoud, a lawyer in Ein El Seera and a student in the program, said that not only did she learn but she enjoyed the motivating atmosphere.

Ehab El Shafei, a student of El Akkad's level-one course, expressed his appreciation for AYB and their effort, "We didn't just want to pass the course," he said. "But we wanted to please Nour."

Ahmed Younis, another level-one student, said he "benefited a lot" from the program. El Akkad was not just their teacher, but an inspiration to improve their language skills, he said.

Counseling center promotes workshops and services

BY NADINE EL SAYED
Caravan Reporter

Wellness Awareness Week, which was held last week on the Main campus at the American University in Cairo, highlighted the various services offered by the Student Counseling Center and tried to increase self-awareness among students.

The Wellness Awareness Week "is to promote workshops and, more importantly, services provided by the Student Counseling Center," said Aly Mokhtar, the counseling center manager.

The event is organized by the Student Counseling Center and the Human Resources department in coordination with many other departments, and includes workshops as well as tournaments for students, faculty and staff.

According to Mokhtar, quizzes were offered in the booths set up on the Main campus so students could find out what their problems are and analyze their feelings, and to break the ice between the students and the counselors.

Workshops discussed issues such as how to handle difficult situations, self-management, how to deal with stress and communication skills. The program initially offered many intensive workshops but for those students who do not have the time for it, they offer a shorter version during assembly hours.

"Wellness [refers to] an emotional, mental and physical state," said Mokhtar. "The workshops are

meant to teach students how to maintain control of their lives and the skills needed to solve problems."

"It is a good opportunity for students to know the different services offered and to raise awareness about many issues. The tournaments were also fun," said mass communications senior Ramy Radwan.

"The Counseling Center offers individual counseling on issues such as anxiety and depression. We also provide group therapy based on cognitive behavioral therapy," said Shereen Ramzy, the senior mentoring specialist.

"[The center] provides services for AUC students so that they don't have to go seek it somewhere else," said mass communications junior Dina El Sayed.

The Student Counseling Center receives many students seeking professional help. "Many come to overcome difficulties and to speak confidentially to a professional," said Mokhtar. He added that the majority of students come with relationship problems and difficulties in adapting to Cairo, as some of them are foreigners but others are Egyptians who lived abroad.

One of the booths, "Your Body, Your Temple: Live Healthy," offered general information about bird flu, driving safely, nutrition habits and smoking. It also offered all students and faculty the chance to sign up for aerobics classes in the Howard Theater. "I signed up for the aerobics class. I also learned about the counseling center for the first time and I think it is very beneficial for students," said Fadwa Tobbala, a business administration senior.



Mahmoud Hafiz / THE CARAVAN

FEELING GOOD?: AUCian is awarded a medal by Andrew Snaith, vice-president for finance, as Mushira El-Bardai, executive director of Human Resources and Mohamed Taher, acting director of the sports department, look on.

Career Mart: CONTINUED FROM 1

Some students were disappointed not to find people from the economics field. "I came to talk to someone in economics but I couldn't find anyone," said Mahmoud Fahmy, an economics senior.

Awad said that although there wasn't an economics booth, there were many professionals related to that field and this was the purpose of the event: to open students up to new options in different fields.

COUNCIL: CONTINUED FROM 1

Other students, such as Alia Zakaria, an anthropology senior, said that she feels indifferent towards the lack of representation of her major in the council. "Anthropology as a department is self-sufficient," said Zakaria, "I don't even know what the Student Council does."

However, Mousa suggests that students are partly to blame for the vacancies. "It's important for students to be involved. They have a duty to find out about the council," he said.

ARCHITECTURE: CONTINUED FROM 1

who is minoring in architecture.

According to Sherif, the department has researched architectural engineering programs in the United Arab Emirates, Lebanon, and Saudi Arabia to be not only different but also able to ensure that the students in the program will utilize the most advanced tools, techniques, and trends in architectural engineering.

"I think that it is a great idea," said Nadine Sabry, an economics senior, adding that if an architecture major had been offered at AUC earlier, she would have seriously considered it. She also said she knows a lot of people who want to study in AUC but don't because the university doesn't offer architecture as a major.

"I hope that in the future they will open up more schools and give students a wider choice of majors to choose from," said Shaheen.



Nadine El Sayed / THE CARAVAN

SHOPPING FOR JOBS: Students walk around Career Mart to get a glimpse of possible future occupations.

LEO: CONTINUED FROM 1

without experiencing emotions. These people have emotions but have not yet been aroused. The objective of each team was to stimulate a feeling on this island, including fear, anger, jealousy, sloth, risk and pain, said El Danaf.

Esraa Samaha, a Council on Swaying Minds (CSM) delegate and a member of the award-winning campaign, said that she was extremely happy at having won the trophy and that she looks forward to her visit to Leo Burnett because she is curious to know more about the profession.

Sherif Abdel Khabir, ICGE president, said that Leo Burnett not only contributed to the conference at large but also provided expertise and academic assistance to the delegates through its two advertising councils: CCP and CSM.

ICGE believes in practical hands-on experience and attempts to bring its delegates closer to the marketplace. That's why

the conference approach Leo Burnett, a leading advertising agency with a strong interest in education, said Abdel Khabir.

Amgad Sabry, the managing director of Leo Burnett, said that the mission of ICGE is compatible with that of Leo Burnett: "This is why we felt that this forum is an excellent opportunity to invest in our youth, especially those in the two advertising councils, by educating them about our young industry."

With the assistance of Leo Burnett, delegates got a glimpse of the advertising profession, said Sandra Rashed, a CSM secretariat.

Abdel Khabir said that Leo Burnett provided the secretariats of each council with academic materials for the background papers and preparatory sessions.

"It is imperative that corporations take an active part in the education and the preparation of our youth for the challenges of the business world that awaits them," said Sabry.

JAZEERA: to start broadcasting in May CONTINUED FROM 1

world, so viewers can make their own judgments.

"In some places, people don't like that," said Bayliss. "They have a very rigid idea of the way the world is, the way their country is, the way certain things are, and to have that kind of discussion makes people uncomfortable. People don't like that."

"If they are narrow-minded people, they want to see what they want to see and hear what they want to hear. There is absolutely nothing I can do. I will be regretful about that, but at least I am giving people the opportunity to make a judgment over time on different views," said Bayliss.

Currently, AJI has four production centers: Washington, London, and Kuala Lumpur with the largest in Doha, its headquarters. Each production center produces its own programs, but the majority of them are produced by Al Jazeera staff and freelance producers in the field, in order to add richness and variety for the viewers.

For example, some programs like "Every Woman" are edited in Doha, but reporting comes from other locations to make people aware of the richness of culture and diversity and to give greater numbers of women voice.

Bayliss could not comment about other Al Jazeera programs

because details have not been publicly released. He did say however, that AJI will feature some important figures in the news, particularly on a chat program with Sir David Frost.

The programs and news are delivered by satellite, and in certain areas by cable as well. It is questionable at this time whether AJI will be available via cable in the U.S.

Bayliss emphasized that there are similarities between the Arabic and English Al Jazeera channels in programs, but they are not the same. The nature of the way programs are produced will vary, and the content will not be identical.

When other languages are used on AJI, they will be translated into English.

Sometimes in the process of translation from one language to another, some words may have a different meaning, which "may make us lots of friends and some enemies," Bayliss said.

Bayliss told the students he hopes to be more involved with AUC students and other talented journalists after the station takes off and things settle down a bit. AJI presently has all the needed staff and many of the programs are already produced or in process, but he said they are planning to add training programs and internships.

Amin represents Rotaract

By MOHAMED IMAM
Caravan Reporter

Hany Amin, a 22-year-old electronics engineering senior, was selected as last year's Rotary Scholar Ambassador to travel and study at Concordia University in Montreal, Canada, an experience that he says, "gave me a wider view of how life is going to be when I graduate."

That won't necessarily be in Canada, however. Amin admires his hosts for their punctuality and practicality, but not for their weather.

"It was freezing," he said, "It's always snowing and there is almost no sun."

Rotary divides the world into districts and Amin was selected as the ambassador of goodwill from district 2450, which includes nine countries: Egypt, Lebanon, Cyprus, Bahrain, Georgia, Armenia, Jordan, Sudan and the UAE.

The Ambassador program consists of two main objectives. The first is to gain the experience of studying abroad and be exposed to new education techniques.

The second objective is to decrease cultural differences and promote the concept of world

peace.

"This can be done through participation in many conferences and giving presentations in Rotary clubs and universities abroad," said Amin.

Amin has made more than 14 presentations in Rotary clubs on selected social and political issues.

He played a big role in enhancing the image of those he represented to Canadians and others he met, who he said asked him if he had his own camel.

He added that he encouraged many of the people he met to visit Egypt and experience the Egyptian culture. "I'm still in contact with many of them," he said.

Amin claims he learned a lot from the experience, including time management skills, and how to handle debates and accept different cultures and opinions.

He advises people who are considering traveling to be open-minded and to never forget that they are the guests in another country, so they shouldn't criticize the way people live.

"I recommend everyone who gets the chance travel and study abroad when he is an undergraduate to go for it," said Amin.



Photo provided by Hany Amin

GOODWILL AMBASSADOR: Amin encourages students to travel abroad and discover new customs.

Evil prevails at the cinema

By KARIM HIGAZY
Caravan Reporter

The elaborate opening sequence of "Lord of War" involves a sweeping shot across an array of used bullets, pulling up to our protagonist, a suit-clad Uri Orlov (Nicolas Cage), smoking a cigar and kick-starting the witty yet brutally honest narration. The story then follows a single bullet from its manufacture to its shipment to its eventual firing from the gun of a combatant. Within the first few minutes, director Andrew Niccol's visual and creative tone is set.

The movie chronicles the life of Orlov, from his upbringing with his brother (Jared Leto) and his father, a Catholic posing as a Jew to evade the Soviets during the Cold War, to his eventual rise to power as one of the most ruthless and successful arms dealers in the world.

From his first humorous experience in arms dealing in a seedy motel to his eventual trading in tanks and helicopters, the pace never slows down. Cage's trademark voice and the script's witty banter ensure that the sheer amount of information (regarding arms dealing) being hurled at the viewer remains light-hearted and interesting.

Despite the array of twisted imagery and dramatic moments, the fast-paced wit and humor used to convey the themes of the movie keep it from being a completely

dark drama.

The saying "evil prevails when the good fail to act" is a theme of the movie and is eventually simplified to "evil prevails."

The entire film, action-packed and humorous, ends with the age-old saying "guns don't kill people; people kill people." Cage's character spews similar rhetoric to justify what he does with his life.

An interesting aspect of "Lord of War" is that the supporting characters all seem to be falling apart emotionally and physically, and while they seem to be failing in life, in the words of Orlov's wife, they continually make sure to "not fail as human beings". Orlov, in contrast, succeeds in every aspect of life but fails miserably from a moral point of view in being human.

While supporting characters like Ethan Hawke's boy scout cop are not as fleshed out, they don't really need to be, as it would detract from Orlov's sheer descent into moral decay. The intensity of just how morally bankrupt humans can be is the dominating and shocking force that constantly hits the audience hard throughout the movie.

Like "Fight Club" and "Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas," the movie's narration takes the audience through a shocking journey into something they know nothing about and refuses to help pick their dropped jaws off the floor.

RECOMMENDED

Eclectic atmosphere at Retro

By FARIDA HELMY
Caravan Reporter

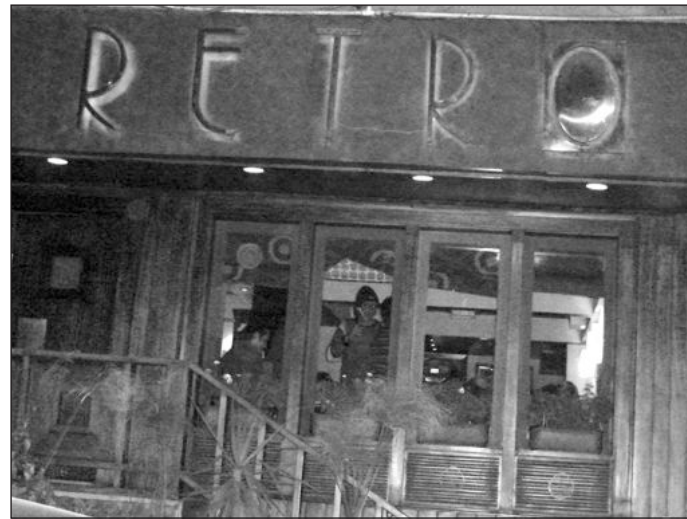
Push open the big wooden door and walk into a haven of candle-lit seating, chill-out music, friendly service and good food: welcome to Retro, a café and restaurant in Mohandiseen.

Retro presents a cozy atmosphere offering an array of food and drink. This hotspot serves a variety of pasta, sandwiches, soup, desserts, smoothies and coffee (including decaffeinated). Famous for its creative breakfasts and memorable brownies, Retro is a place that appeals to many kinds of people.

The dark wooden furniture and soothing colored cushions set a relaxed atmosphere with oldies and chill-out music playing in the background. Tables look out onto the street through pulled-up, French-designed curtains. High tables and sofas fill up the rest of the area. The walls are decorated with modern artwork that further contributes to the laid-back atmosphere.

"Retro was my hangout all last year. It's like a home away from home. They also had people playing violins and harps once a week. I loved it," said Dina Nagiub, a business administration senior.

Menus are designed like newspapers with advertisements on the last page. The ashtrays and salt and



Heba Hassabou / THE CARAVAN

Fabulous: Retro offers its customers a place to work, eat but most importantly chill.

peppershakers are metallic pieces of art that add presence and depth to the tables. "The menus are very interesting and creative. It's a new idea for menus," said Samira Gebriel, a mass communication junior.

Retro allows indoor smoking so that people can work on laptops and study individually or in groups without having to go outside to smoke. The magazine stand offers magazines that don't contain the stereotypical Flash and Campus. It has different newspapers and political and social magazines such as Egypt Today, Newsweek and Insight.

The staff is quick and efficient as well as friendly. "They are very loyal to their customers and they customize their services to those customers," said Fady Hebeish, a mass communication senior.

"I really like the atmosphere, the food and the service. [But] the place needs to be a little bit bigger," said Laila Arafa, a political science junior.

For a good cup of coffee, a delicious brownie and a relaxing atmosphere, Retro has it all.

So push open that big wooden door...and go back to the Retro experience.

Parking difficulties frustrate AUCians

By MOMEN MOHAMED
Caravan Reporter

If a student arrives early, they can take the risk of giving their car to the parking attendants, *sayes*, so they can reach class on time. But students and faculty who arrive later face difficulty finding a place on university grounds to park, leaving them no other choice but to pay the LE 2 an hour at the nearby Al Bostan or the Omar Makram parking lot.

"After 8:00 a.m. the parking starts to be a serious problem around the campus and therefore, one is forced to leave it to the 'sayes' who treat the car so harshly," said mechanical engineering senior Ahmed Ismail.

Ismail said he usually pays between LE 6 to LE 8 daily for his *sayes* parking. In return, he gets his car back with all sorts of scratches on it. The parking attendant always denies responsibility, he said.

May El Badrawy, a mass communication junior, faces the same problem. She usually waits 20 minutes for someone to park her car, which ultimately makes her late for her classes.

In addition, since El Badrawy started using the *sayes*, her parking fines reach approximately LE 2,000 per year for illegal parking.

But Mokhtar Rashad, one of the parking attendants on Youssef El Guindi Street, said, "I, as a parking attendant, try as hard as I can to not harm the students' cars or even let police officers write parking fines."

Rashad added that both professors and students pay the same amount of money for parking their cars, which is LE 140 per month. The amount sometimes reaches LE 150 after tips, he said.

Another *sayes* in front of the Social Science building, Reda Abdelfatah, said that police officers make it difficult for him to do his

job because they often refuse to let him park cars. Abdelfatah added that his parking prices range from LE 2 to LE 3 per day.

On the other hand, mechanical engineering senior, Mohamed Rafiq, said he does not face the parking problem at all. Rafiq lives in Garden City and used to get to the university walking. But this semester he bought a bicycle as his means of transportation.

"It is really funny to see people facing an everyday problem [when] I do not," said Rafiq.

Professors face the same problem. Mass communication professor Naila Hamdy said she used to drive to university until she hired a driver after realizing the money she spent on parking and fixing her car was equivalent to the salary of a driver.

"The car attendants are taking advantage of us as they know that we really need them," said sociology professor Madiha El Safty.



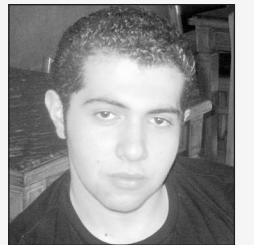
Nerine Ezzeldin / THE CARAVAN

SHACKLED: Parking options for the AUC community are further complicated by lack of cooperation between police and parking attendants.

Q & A

QUESTION:

If you could have your own club, what would it be and why?



"Dating club for people to know each other."

- Amr Ezzat
Undeclared freshman



"Cooking club because no girls can cook."

- Nadine El Husseiny
Economics senior



"A massage club because we all need to relax."

- Dina Hanafi
JRCM senior



"Anything that brings money."

- Mohamed El Fouly
Actuarial science senior



"A club that increases the awareness of young Egyptian students about their history, culture and traditions."

- Noha Al Agrab
JRCM senior

The Voice

The school of sciences and engineering has recently announced that it will consider adding six new engineering programs, including an architecture major. This announcement has pleased some students who appreciate the added options, but it has also confused others.

It is puzzling that the administration could consider setting up a new major, complete with added courses, new professors and extra equipment, when it seems to be falling short on so many other things.

Departments such as business administration and mass communication are seriously understaffed for the numbers of students in their courses. Other majors have limited course options and professors with inadequate degrees.

And if the university can afford to open up these new majors, why haven't they tried to help improve some of the existing ones? Aren't we aiming for a "world-class education?"

Expansion is great for any institution, but we need to have the means to improve and maintain the quality of education that we are already receiving. We need to strive to enhance what the university already offers before we start something we can't finish.

- CARAVAN STAFF



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Letter Policy

The Caravan welcomes letters to the editor responding to published material or 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 student's name, ID number, major and year. Subject headings of e-mails must distinguish between e-mails 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 pieces submitted.

Submit your letter by Sunday at 6 p.m.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Campus fire revisited

The fire that occurred on Sunday, Dec. 11 in the Greek campus was not only dealt with badly, it could have been avoided altogether. I work in a natural gas plant and am aware of the basic general and industrial safety techniques. I would like to point out the reasons for my claim:

1. Storing paper and similar material in a wooden kiosk, especially if it is placed in the middle of campus, is against all safety measures.

2. The fire hydrant that was closest to the site of the fire had a missing manual valve and the hose didn't fit in the opening of the fire hydrant. The equipment has not been properly inspected.

3. The supervisor of the Wallace computer lab did not evacuate or close the lab.

4. There was nobody from the clinic present in case one of the students had suffered from suffocation because of the smoke.

5. During the fire, security became very minimal at the Greek campus library gate, because the security officials were trying to put the fire out. However, they should have taken into consideration that somebody may have used this opportunity to enter the university.

6. There were more than 120 students standing on the platform approximately seven meters away from the fire watching the trials to put the fire out. The students who were involved in combating the fire were only endangering themselves and others, since they were not trained to do so.

7. The library officials evacuated the library, which did nothing but increase the number of students crowded on the platform watching the fire.

8. An outside safety professional can also be called in from time to time to revise the safety measures with university officials. When safety precautions are taken, people are trained and there is regular inspection of the equipment available, then the solutions to any anticipated problem can be applied efficiently.

9. The kiosk stands against two walls of concrete and would have eventually burned out. Yet, it took 25 people, including a safety inspector, security officials, students, workers and people from the kitchen more than half an hour to put it out. Either we have no system, or the system we have doesn't work.

I think that university officials owe the student body an explanation of what happened. We don't want to hear things like, "the fire was successfully put out." We want the truth. We don't want to kill anyone or remove anyone from his job. We want to see people admitting to their mistakes and telling us how this will be avoided in the future.

Osama Aly Abu-Hussien
Physics alumnus

Towards accuracy on banned books

Hanan al-Shaykh was a distinguished visiting professor in the Department of English and Comparative Literature from Feb. 16-26, 2006. In an article in the Caravan dated Feb. 26, 2006 written by Raya Shokatfard entitled "Banned Novelist Speaks at AUC," reference was made to her banned novels. I would like to inform your readers that none of the works of Hanan al-Shaykh is banned in Egypt. You can find all her works both in Arabic and translated in English on sale at the Diwan bookshop in Zamalek. The AUC bookshop does not sell her Arabic books but they did have all of Hanan al-Shaykh's works in English until they sold out.

Ferial J. Ghazoul
Professor of English and Comparative Literature

AUC professor reprimands SU president

I was disappointed, embarrassed and angered by Dalia Thamin's letter published in the Feb. 26 issue of the Caravan lamenting Student Union President Walid El-Sallab's comments in Time magazine. In the naive hope that Mr. El-Sallab's oxymoronic pronouncements that Islam is a religion of peace but that "honestly" (thus implying what he had just said was dishonest) he would probably kill the Danish Prime Minister given the chance, were taken out of context, I found the article mentioned. Sadly, context made it worse with Mr. Sallab's homicidal declaration appearing just after a Taliban leader was reported offering gold for the death of the cartoonist.

Where was Mr. El-Sallab when the cartoons, downloaded not from Denmark but a Saudi Web site, were published in Al-Fagr newspaper here in Egypt back in October? And why does he choose to rant against 12 cartoons published four months ago when over 1,000 of his countrymen, indeed of his own faith, have perished in a ferry disaster that smacks of corruption and incompetence? Sadly his comments, and the vitriol and violence of embassy looters and arsonists, merely reinforce the stereotype of Islam in the West.

An apology is clearly needed: that of Mr. El-Sallab to his student constituents, including a substantial non-Muslim minority that he also represents, and to Ms. Thamin and all other AUC alumni living in the West who will doubtless have to explain, somehow, his ill-considered remarks.

Richard Hoath
Writing Program Instructor

Watch out

What men don't know about women

HEBA HASSABOU
English News Editor



It's a known fact that the way men and women deal with relationships differs greatly. For instance, commitment in a woman's dictionary is defined as a future, family, love, security and support. But men seem to define it as stress, loss of freedom and choice and a life geared to make the relationship work.

Guys seem to miss out on a lot of things that actually matter to girls, and that's what starts all the fights. To start with, many of us don't like to be played around with. We are not a new car that you can take around for a test drive, see if it suits you and then return it after you are bored.

Even though we respect the fact that you like to be in control 24/7, that's not a sign of masculinity. Birthdays, anniversaries, Valentine's and special occasions aren't just important days to us that shouldn't be forgotten, but at the same time, be spontaneous and surprise us with wrapped gifts.

Play the "hard-to-get" game but don't push it; everyone likes the chase but it's been used too much and, honestly, it's getting lame. This gets us to the whole "hard to get" attitude that you put on. We already know you are worth it and there is no reason to flaunt it. So instead, try to notice things about us such as our latest haircut, our make-up and losing weight. We do want to hear those tiny little compliments when we change the smallest thing about our appearance.

You might as well understand how we feel. Share with us your experiences and listen carefully. We don't like material things as much as we like to see that you are listening to what we like and what we want. Don't act as though you're listening while actually thinking about the next soccer game.

It doesn't take away from your masculinity to show that you are sensitive. It's good to know that you have feelings but at the same time, don't overdo it and whine continuously about little details that you should learn to let go of.

One of the most important things in a relationship is being honest. But in some cases, if the truth will hurt us, try to avoid it. Trust me, we really don't want to hear that we recently put on weight. Keep those details to yourself!

Although we know that you are Danny from Grease and you're "all that," that doesn't mean we want to know about your ex-girlfriends and past relationships. Being a player is not something that you should be proud of or something you should brag about. That's so 70s. We don't like airheads who are just interested in cars, motorcycles and getting into a girl's pants.

If you think we are pushing for commitment, back up and tell us that you think we're moving too fast instead of freaking out. Complimenting, pampering, spoiling, and caring for us are the four simple keys to get into our heart.

Everyone thinks it...

FOUAD HAMMOUD
Features Editor

It recently occurred to me after a few relationships that going through your college life being single and giving yourself the opportunity to figure yourself out is definitely the way to truly enjoy these years.

Granted, having a relationship from time to time is great. Everyone needs some loving from a partner, but not for too long a time. Having short relationships where you get to know someone is always good because it gives you the opportunity to know who you want in the end, what you want in life and what makes you happy. Yet, through these small relationships, you rarely learn how hard commitment is.

When you're stuck in a serious commitment at an age where you should be experiencing life, you limit that experience and can later regret committing.

After asking several friends what the best things about being single are, most answers included having nobody to have to respond to (and call at least 10 times a day for no reason), nobody to hold you back from doing your thing, and being able to know yourself better. After asking what the good things about being in a relationship that you can't do when you're single were, most people were stumped, not knowing exactly how to answer.

If you think about it, everything you think you gain when in a relationship can be done when you're single, aside from having affectionate feelings towards another, which we all need. If it's having someone to talk to and be there at any time, that's what friends are for. If it's having someone help you make decisions and encourage you, if that's not your friends or family, it better be you. And finally, if it's physical, it goes without saying: it's pretty obvious how you can get around that one.

I'm not targeting this column to any specific gender or person, but rather just for those who have tied themselves down and might be having second thoughts, or those who are considering committing just because it's the new fad all the college kids are doing but don't really know why.

I'm sure most of you believe your ongoing relationship will never end. Yet after seeing friends end engagements in a second over a slight disagreement, or friends deciding two years into a long-term relationship they need a change and wish they were single again, I begin to wonder if serious relationships are really meant during these years.

To me, full-time commitment is something you can only decide once you settle where your life is going and can mentally and financially support yourself (without the help of daddy).

To those who are still single, enjoy it; find yourself and make friends with people down the road and have as much fun as you can. Once you feel satisfied, and believe you've done all you can, double check, then commit, because it'll definitely be worth the wait.

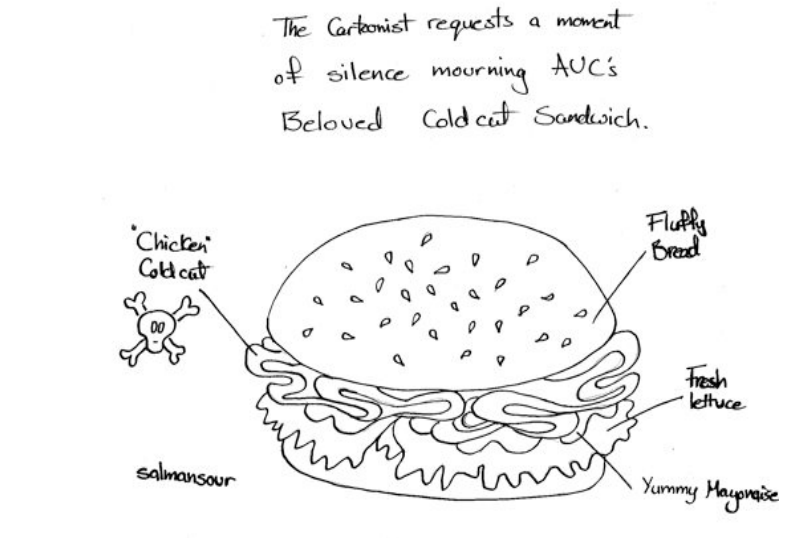
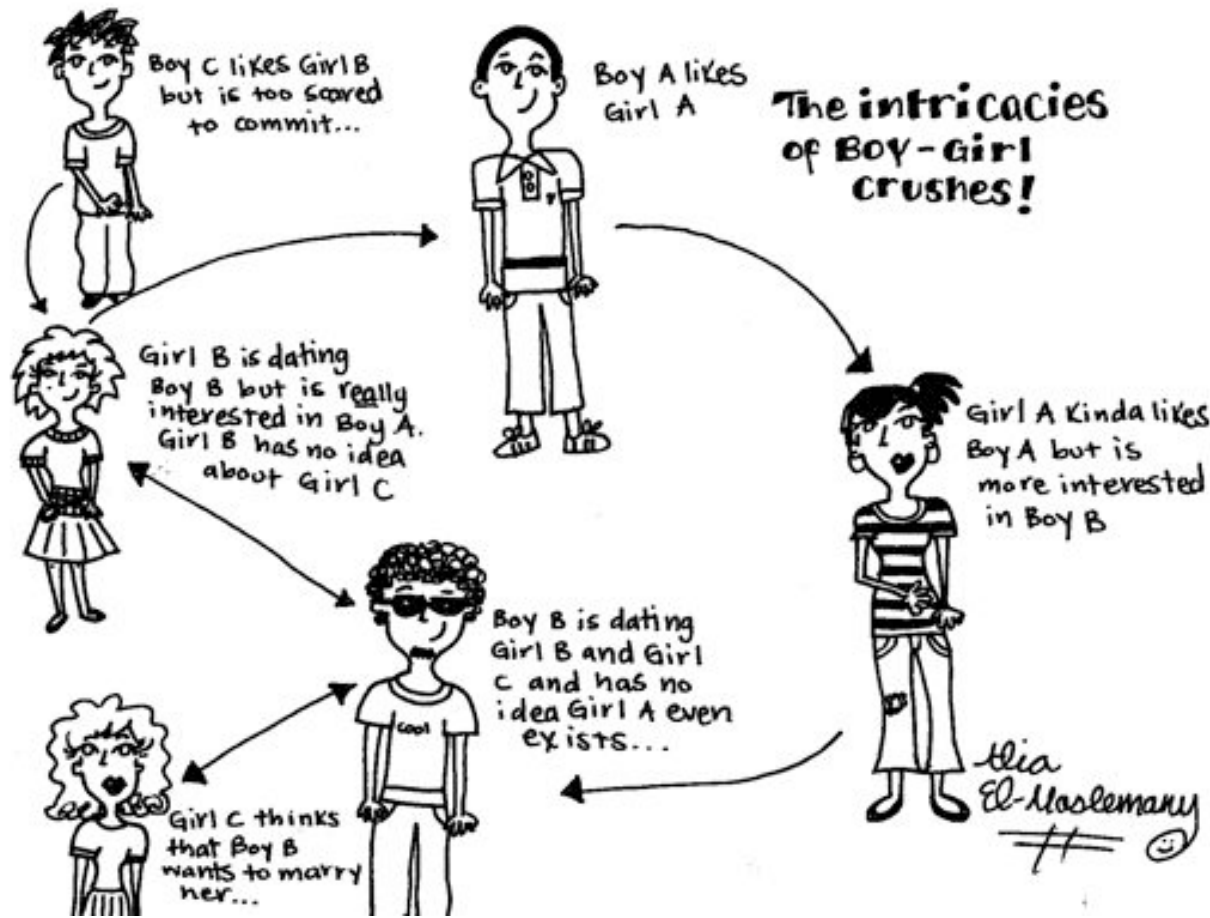
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Word Search: For all the ladies



Angelina	Carolina	Jenny from the block	Mustang Sally
Angie	Daisy Duke	Laura	Oh Carol
Billie Jean	Denise	Layla	Peggy Sue
Black Betty	Hello Dolly	Lucille	Roxanne
Bonnie and Clyde	Iris	Maria	Ruby

Solutions to the word search are posted on the Caravan Web site.



بريد القافلة

لغة الضاد (دلّيت)

تعالى: (قال يا آدم أنبئهم بأسمائهم فلما أنبأهم بأسمائهم قال ألم أقل لكم إني أعلم غيب السموات والأرض وأعلم ما تبدون وما كنتم تكتمون).

في الواقع المؤلم نحن لا نعطي للغتنا حقها ومكانتها ولا نتحدث بقواعدها الصحيحة، ونادراً ما نعرف أصولها، ولهذا السبب ليس لنا الحق في أن ننتهكها بدمج بعض كلمات خارجية في معاجمها، فهي إساءة عظيمة للغتنا. أصبحنا الآن مجردين من التطور، ونادراً ما نتقلد مناصب علياً أو مراكز قوية، ليس لأننا غير أكفاء أو ضعاف الفكر أو التعليم، ولكن للأسف لأننا دائماً ما نحاول التشبه بالغرب وننكر أصلنا العظيم، ذلك الأصل الذي لم يبق منه سوى القليل والمتمركز في اللغة لا في البطولات أو الإنجازات، فذلك من الضروري جداً أن نتشبه بالقليل الذي لدينا قبل أن ننسى لغتنا فتناسى ونقول عنها (دلّيتو).

هاشم لاري

ثالثة إدارة أعمال

دائماً ما يراود تفكيري سؤال هو أين اللغة العربية من حياتنا، وهل هي في طريقها إلى الإنقراض؟ أصبحنا لا نعيها أي اهتمام، بل نستهيء بها في بعض الأحيان، خصوصاً عندما نشوّه بعض كلمات من لغات أجنبية إلى لغتنا الجميلة (وكأنها ينقصها الكلام) الإنجليزية- (وميدتيرمات)- أي امتحانات منتصف الفصل الدراسي- (وشباتر)- أي الفصول بالكتب- وغيرها كثيراً. ولكن ما المشكلة في أن نقول إلغاء أو امتحانات أو فصول، أو ببساطة شديدة أن نتحدث اللغة العربية والإنجليزية بطريقة سليمة. نحن ننسى اللغة العربية العظيمة الرئانة التي تحمل في طياتها أشجان نحوها وطرب معاجمها. إن لغتنا هي لغة الضاد التي تسمح لمحدثيها نطق أصعب الأحرف، وأن إنتقاء معظم الألفاظ من أي لغات أخرى - فهل ذلك يعطنا لنا الحق بأن نتجرّد من لغتنا الأم التي هي أصل اللغات وبداية الكلمات بدليل أن الله سبحانه وتعالى خاطب أبونا آدم أول الخليفة وأبو البشر باللغة العربية في قوله



الحقيقت

لا تقل لهما أف!!

إيثار شلبي
محررة

شيء لي. تذكرت كيف كنت أقنع نفسي أنه لا يجبني ولا يجب الخير لي. وتذكرت كم مرة أشعر بالخوف الشديد في صوته وكأنني إذا قمت بفعل ما لا يرضيه سوف أقوم بإذائه هو وليس أنا. قارنت الموقفين، موقفي وموقف أختي، وقلت لنفسني، ما زلت صغيرة مثلها تماماً. ولكن الفرق يكمن في المرحلة العمرية. ما زلت صغيرة بالرغم من أنني على مشارف العشرين من عمري، فما زالت قدراتي الذهنية والنفسية قاصرة على النظر إلى ما يراه والدي أحياناً، ما زال عقلي محدوداً، لا يستطيع إدراك ما يدركه أبي ولا يستطيع النظر بالبعد الذي يراه أبي. أرادت أختي أن تبعل الدواء، فشبهت الدواء بما كنت أريده و لم يرضى عنه أبي. وبعد أن فكرت في هذا التشابه، أدركت حقاً أن كل ما كان على أن أفعله حينذاك هو ألا أعارض أبي وأترك الدواء. وأجري لأبي فأشكره فقد أنقذ حياتي.

بكاء حاراً وكان أبي قد منع الحياة عنها. ربما يكون هذا الموقف طبيعياً لأي أب لديه ابنة صغيرة تحاول إيذاء نفسها دون أن تشعر، فقد يكون منظر مألوف في معظم البيوت التي يسكنها أطفال صغار، ولكنني أقسم أن هذا الموقف البسيط حرك في داخلي مشاعر غريبة وأثار في ذهني بعض الإعتبارات التي ماكنت أتطرق إليها من قبل. اعتقدت أختي الصغيرة أن أبي منع عنها الفرح لأنه أخذ منها الدواء، أخذت تبكي ولم تتحدث إليه. صغيرة هي أختي فقدرتها العقلية لم تدرك بعد أنه دواء قد يسبب لها ضرراً شديداً كما أن قدرتها النفسية لم تفهم معاني الخوف الفطري الذي يشعر به أبي. وفي غضون هذا الموقف تذكرت موقفاً من المواقف التي كنت أعارض فيها أبي بشدة، كنت أحارب من أجل تحقيق ما أريده، تذكرت كيف استخدمت كل سبل الإقناع بأن ما أريده هو أنسب

في يوم عاصف من تلك الأيام التي عانى منها الكثير الأسبوع الماضي، حدث لي موقف جعلني أعيد التفكير في أشياء كثيرة في حياتي، و لن أخشى الإعتراف بأن والدي كان محور هذا الموقف الذي غير مسار تفكير ذهني تماماً. كنت أجلس أشاهد التلفاز مع والدي وأختي التي لم تستكمل الثلاث سنوات من عمرها. كنا جميعاً منهمكين في مشاهدة أحد برامج التحليل السياسي. وحينذاك، انتهزت الفتاة الصغيرة تلك الفرصة وأخذت تبعت في بعض الأدوية الطبية التي استطاعت الوصول إليها دون ملاحظة أحد منا. وأوشكت أختي الصغيرة على ابتلاع الدواء. وإذ بأبي أراه ينتفض ويندفع بشدة ليأخذه منها، شاهدت المنظر ورأيت الرعب يملأ عينيه حتى احمر وجهه خوفاً عليها. أخذ أبي الدواء منها وصارت تبكي

بصراحة

السلطة المطلقة مفسدة مطلقة

عمار نوح
محرر

سنيتين. أيضاً قانون السلطة القضائية الذي مازال داخل الأدرج. وعند النظر إلى مستوى الرعاية الصحية والتأمين الصحي في البلد فإن أقل ما يوصف به أنه (زي الزفت). هناك أيضاً حالة الطوارئ التي نعيش فيها والتي لا يوجد لها سبب سوى حفظ نظام الحكم. بالإضافة إلى تلك الصلاحيات اللانهائية لرئيس الجمهورية والتي جعلته حاكماً ومالكا ومتحكماً وحولت رئيس الحكومة إلى مجرد موظف مدني يعمل لدى رئيس الجمهورية الذي قام بتعيينه وتحول الوزير والمحافظ ورئيس الجامعة ورؤساء تحرير الصحف القومية إلى مجموعة من خفراء النظام لا هم لهم سوى الدفاع عن هذا النظام الذي هو بالأساس سبب وجودهم.

بالرغم من أن السلطة المطلقة مفسدة مطلقة وبالرغم من أن هذا هو حال البلد إلا ان عجلة الديمقراطية في مصر قد بدأت تتحرك. ولا أظن أنها ستتوقف أو على الأقل أمل ذلك. المهم الآن أن تتحرك منظمات المجتمع المدني بقوة أكبر وذلك من أجل الضغط في المستقبل لتسريع عجلة الديمقراطية وتحديد شكل نظام الحكم هل هو برلماني أم رئاسي بدلاً من عصر الخلافة الذي نعيش فيه حالياً.

٥٤ عاماً) إلا أن كل هذه المشاكل مازالت قائمة حتى الآن وكان عجلة الزمن توقفت خلال الأعوام الماضية. مازال الفساد كما هو بل ازداد قوة وتأسلاً في أعماق مجتمعنا. مازال هناك ذلك الفرق الكبير بين الغني والفقير في هذا البلد بل ازدادت الفجوة بينهما اتساعاً وتدنّت مرتبة المواطن كثيراً داخل بلده وامتدنت كرامته وكان السبب الرئيسي في ذلك يعود للأمن المصري الذي تحول في غالبية الأحيان إلى أمن للنظام أكثر منه أمن للمواطن. مستوى التعليم في بلدنا أسوأ ما يكون حيث لم تستطع أي جامعة من جامعاتنا الحصول على أي مركز من المراكز الـ ٥٠٠ الأوائل على العالم وتحولت الجامعات الحكومية إلى مجموعة من المجمعات الاستهلاكية التي يشرف ويسيطر عليها الأمن بالكامل فلا يمكن بأي حال من الأحوال تعيين أي معيد أو السماح بأي ترقية داخل الجامعة إلا بعد موافقة الأمن وهذا في رأيي أكبر المصائب. سقف الحرية في مصر مازال منخفضاً فحتى الآن لم يخرج إلى النور قانون منع حبس الصحفيين في قضايا النشر طبقاً لوعده الرئيس مبارك منذ

ماذا نريد من حكومتنا الرشيدة و ما هو المطلوب من القيادة السياسية في مصر خصوصاً بعد ما حدث خلال السنتين الماضيتين وأقصد بذلك تلك الحالة من الحراك السياسي كما يحلو للبعض تسميتها. سواء اتفقنا أو اختلفنا على أن تلك الحالة هي نتيجة لضغوط خارجية أو هي نابعة من الداخل المصري أو هي نتاج من هذا وذلك. فإن هناك الكثير من التطلعات لتحريك عجلة الديمقراطية في مصر والتي صدأت بفعل عوامل الزمن منذ بداية ثورتنا المباركة عام ١٩٥٢ والتي قامت بسبب الانتشار الهائل للفساد والرشوة والترف غير المشروع في هذا البلد وعدم وجود مساواة بين الغني والفقير وإنعدام الديمقراطية الحقيقية (طبعا مصر عاشت أحلى عصور الديمقراطية بعد الثورة) وعدم مجانية التعليم (ملحوظة: التعليم في مصر كان مجاناً حتى الثانوية العامة (الكفاءة) في ذلك الوقت وتم مد المجانية إلى التعليم الجامعي سنة ١٩٦٤ أي بعد ١٢ سنة من قيام الثورة) وخلافه من مساوئ الحقبة الملكية والتي صورتها الثورة لنا وكأنها مرحلة من السيات المطلقة التي لا تحتوي على أي حسنات. ورغم مرور كل تلك السنين (حوالي



للنسخة الإلكترونية

زوروا موقعنا

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ميرفت أبوعوف: من الغناء إلى التدريس

كتبت - دينا بسيوني



ميرفت أبوعوف

تصوير - دينا بسيوني

مما يزيد إعجابنا وإحترامنا لها). وافقت في الرأي شريهان عارف حيث قالت (أن ميرفت قريبة جدا من الطلبة وكونها وجه في معروف جعلني أشعر بمتعة في التعامل معها وحماس للتقرب منها أكثر).

وردا على سؤال فيما إذا كانت تشترك للفريق والغناء قالت (أشعر بالإشتياق لوجودنا معا نحن الخمسة، كان الفريق يجمعنا ببعض كثيرا في التمارين والحفلات والسفر، كان وقتا ممتعا). والجدير بالذكر أن شقيقها عزت أبو عوف وشقيقته مها مازالا من النجوم اللامعة في مجال الفن والتلفزيون. وابتعدت النجمتان منى ومنال عن مجال الفن أكدت ميرفت أنها تفضل التدريس عن الغناء لأنها تشعر بالراحة والإستقرار أكثر في التدريس رغم أنها في الحالتين كما

تقول (أنا مؤدية) رغم اختلاف الجمهور. قالت ميرفت أنها تستمتع بتجاوب طلابها معها. وأضافت أنها ما زالت تتلقى عروضاً حتى الآن للعمل كمقدمة برامج ببعض القنوات المعروفة، إلا أنها تشعر بالإستقرار أكثر في التدريس وخاصة بعد تكوين أسرتها مع زوجها وابنها الطالب حاليا بالجامعة بالسنة الثانية. ويرغم تخصص ابنها بعلوم الكمبيوتر في الجامعة، إلا أنها ترى فيه طاقة فنية في التمثيل والعزف على الجيتار قد تؤهله لخوض مجال الفن في المستقبل. قالت النجمة ميرفت أبوعوف التي غابت عن سماء الفن والغناء (أشعر ببيني في الجامعة الأمريكية).

وقفت ميرفت أبوعوف أمام الميكروفون ١١ عاما ثم أمام الكاميرا والمسرح لتمثل وتقف اليوم أمام الطلبة في الجامعة ليتحول مسار حياتها من فنانة إلى أستاذة إعلام. قالت ميرفت أنها بدأت مع فرقة (فور إم) التي تتكون من شقيقاتها منى، ومنال، ومها وشقيقها عزت أبوعوف حيث كانت أصغر عضوات الفريق. أحدثت الفرقة ضجة هائلة ونجاح لكونها أول فريق يتكون من أربع فتيات وشباب. (لم يكن أبي يعلم أو يوافق على تكوين الفريق، ولكن كانت أمي تشجعنا كثيرا). أشارت ميرفت إلى أن نجاح الفريق استمر نحو ١١ عام، إنهالت فيها عروض التمثيل والمسرح على الفريق الذي أثار إعجاب الجميع خاصة الشباب شاركت ميرفت وأخواتها في فيلم "أربع بنات وولد" ومسرحيتان (١٠ على باب الوزير) (و أربعة عجر والخامس جدج). ويرغم نجاح هذه الأعمال إلا أنها وجدت العمل بمجال الفن يتطلب جهدا كبيرا ويستنزف الكثير من الوقت والمجهود. خاصة بعد تأسيسها لأسرتها الصغيرة التي تتكون من زوجها الملحن المعروف نبيل علي ماهر وإبنتها أدهم، وبالتالي لم يكن وقتها كافيا أبدا لرؤية ابنها أو رعايته حيث كانت تعمل من الساعة صباحا حتى الرابعة عصرا وعندها قررت ترك الفريق عام ١٩٩٢.

بدأت رحلة ميرفت مع الجامعة الأمريكية عندما التحقت بها تاركة جامعة القاهرة قسم الأدب الإنجليزي حيث ثم لم يكن الوضع مناسباً بسبب وجهها المعروف كفنانه مما كان يدفع الشباب إلى اللاتفاف حولها والإشارة نحوها مما سبب لها انزعاجا كبيرا. درست ميرفت علم الاجتماع وتخصص آخر في الأدب الإنجليزي. ثم قررت التدريس بعد تشجيع أستاذ سابق لعلم الاجتماع بالجامعة الذي كانت تعمل كمساعدته فقامت بعمل دبلومة بتعليم اللغة الإنجليزية أولا. وحصلت بعدها على ماجستير لتعليم اللغة الإنجليزية عام ١٩٩٢.

بدأت بعد ذلك بتدريس اللغة الإنجليزية في الجامعة ولكنها وجدت تدريس اللغة الإنجليزية غير ممتع لأنه ثابت وغير متنوع. فقررت التغيير إلى تدريس الإعلام لأنها وجدته معاصر ومتنوع. استكملت دراستها للماجستير والدكتوراه في الإعلام.

قالت ميرفت لم يكن طلابها يصدقون جدتها عند بداية عملها كأستاذة بالجامعة، فقد كانت وجهها معروفا وأصافت (كان تلاميذي يتخيلون أنني أمثل دور الأستاذة كدور سينمائي ولست أستاذة حقا). ولكنها وجدت في التدريس متعة فهي تهوى الإعلام ودراسته وتدرسه وتمتع بعلاقة قوية مع طلابها. قال إسلام زايد -ثالثة إعلام- (إنها ودودة جدا وقريبة من الطلبة

الطلبة يستنكرون لجوء تامر حسني وهيثم شاكر للتزوير

كتبت - نهال صالح

ووفقا لما نشرته صحيفة الأهرام المصرية في عدد سابق لها بعد القبض على حسني أنه أكد في محضر الشرطة إلى أنه لجأ إلى تزوير الشهادة العسكرية نظرا لإرتباطاته الفنية خارج مصر حيث أنه متعاقد على ثلاث حفلات غنائية وقال أنه لا يعلم شيئا عن قيام شاكر بتزوير أوراقه ونفى وجود إتفاق بينهم على التزوير. أوضحت منيرة الدغدي - محامية - في حديث لها مع القافلة أن عقوبة تهمة التزوير والتهرب من الجيش تعد من أخطر الجرائم والتي تمتد عقوبتها من ثلاث إلى خمسة عشر سنة سجن، تحدد حسب تقدير القاضي.

وزاد الجدل حول الطريقة التي يعامل بها الفنانين من قبل رجال الشرطة، فأشارت رنا نزيه - مذبة بقناة روتانا- إلى أنها حاولت لقاء الفنانين وإجراء حوار صحفي معهما ولكنها فشلت بسبب الإجراءات الروتينية في السجن.

ومن ناحية أخرى، قال الفنان عزت أبو عوف - والذي أصبح ضيفا دائما لبرنامج القاهرة اليوم مع المذيع عمرو أديب في قناة أوربت- أنه التقى بالفنانين قبل ترحيلهما لسجن طرة بيوم واحد وأشار إلى أنهما بحالة وصحة جيدة و يعاملان معاملة حسنة. الكثير من الشباب المصري.

أجمع عدد كبير من الطلبة على أن القبض على المطربين تامر حسني وهيثم شاكر الأسبوع الماضي بتهمة تزوير أوراق الأعداء من الجيش يعتبر عقابا عادلا لهما. وكان رجال الشرطة تحفظوا على المطربين لمدة أربعة أيام على ذمة التحقيق ويتم تجديدها تباعا وفقا للقانون وتم القبض أيضا على المصور الذي إشتهر في الوسط الفني بقيامه بمثل هذه العمليات مقابل مبالغ مالية. جدير بالذكر أن تامر حسني زار الجامعة الأمريكية من قبل وكان ضيف لقاء مفتوح مع الطلبة الذي تميز بحضور كبير. قالت سمر فؤاد -رابعة إعلام- أن هذا تصرف غير لائق من أي شاب مصري وأكدت أنهما يستحقان أشد العقاب. غير أن هبة عثمان - رابعة إعلام- قالت أن تامر حسني وهيثم شاكر سيخرجان من السجن قريبا وسيواصلان حياتهما الفنية. وأبدى أحمد فرج -رابعة محاسبة- عن إستيائه لما حدث وقال أنهما كانا مثالا أعلى للشباب المصري. وأوضح أنه يخشى أن يقلدهما الكثير من الشباب المصري.

شريف كامل يسافر إلى تركيا لمناقشة برنامج

كتب - صالح العزب

العلمي. زار العديد من الشركات العالمية العملاقة مثل أينتيل ووينج وميكروسوفت.

قال كامل أنها كانت تجربة غنية بالمعلومات والمعرفة الجديدة ولكن التجربة لم تنته بعد ففي سبتمبر القادم سيقام مؤتمر في تركيا بأسطنبول حيث سيضم المؤتمر كافة المشاركين في البرنامج لمناقشة البرنامج ولتحدث كل مشارك عن تجربته الخاصة.

تعمل مؤسسة أيزنهاور على تشجيع التبادل الثقافي بين الشعوب حيث تقوم بتوفير المناخ الذي يجمع مشاركين من مختلف العالم بمختلف ثقافاتهم المختلفة. وأشار كامل إلى أهمية حضور المؤتمر وقال (يجب أن أذهب وأشارك في فعاليات المؤتمر، فتلك فرصة رائعة ولا نهاية للتعليم).

يستعد شريف كامل الأستاذ بإدارة تكنولوجيا المعلومات بالجامعة الأمريكية إلى السفر إلى تركيا في سبتمبر القادم لمناقشة تجربته في الولايات المتحدة الأمريكية بعد حضوره البرنامج الذي تنظمه منظمة أيزنهاور الذي اختارته ضمن ٢٠ شخصا من جميع أنحاء العالم.

الأستاذ شريف كامل مثل مصر في هذا البرنامج الذي تنظمه منظمة أيزنهاور والتي بدأت نشاطها في عام ١٩٣٥ حيث يعد المشترك برنامجا الخاص فيحدد الشركات العالمية التي يرغب في التعرف عليها عن قرب. اختار كامل زيارة ٢٤ ولاية أمريكية مختلفة ومن خلالها زار شركات مختلفة متعلقة بمجاله

شركة تمويل بناء وتشطيب وحدات الموظفين السكنية بالقرب من المبنى الجديد في القاهرة الجديدة

كتب - عصام بدران

للإجراءات على الجميع. وقبل نهاية الاجتماع، سجل معظم الحاضرين أسمائهم (والتي تجاوزت ٨٠ عضوا) لتأسيس اتحاد العاملين بالجامعة لمباشرة التعامل مع الشركة.

من ناحية أخرى، أشارت ماري إسكندر- المستشار الخاص لرئيس الجامعة- (حجم الإستفادة غير واضح وأحتاج لفهم أعمق ثم أن التقسيط غير مضمون).

سعر الفائدة يتوقف على البنك المركزي لذلك سعر الفائدة غير ثابت ولكنه لا يتجاوز ١٣ في المائة. وأن قيمة القسط طبقا لقانون العقارات الجديد لا تتعدى ٤٠ مفي المائة من دخل الموظف (والذي يشمل مرتبه والمصادر التي تدر عليه دخل ثابت). اقترح بعض الحاضرين أن يتم التعامل مع الشركة بشكل جماعي بدلا من القيام بذلك بصورة فردية، واستخراج تراخيص البناء لكل مرة واحدة والإتفاق مع مقاول واحد وذلك تسهلا

خبير معتمد. أضاف فهمي أن الحد الأقصى لمدة سداد التمويل هي عشرون عاما بالنسبة للبناء وعشرة أعوام بالنسبة للتشطيب، ويشترط ألا يتجاوز تاريخ سداد آخر قسط بلوغ الموظف ٦٥ عاما، وذلك لكي يضمن سداد باقي مبلغ التمويل بدلا من مطالبة الورثة في حالة وفاة الموظف وللحيلولة دون ذلك يتم أخذ ضمانات أخرى لضمان تسديد مبلغ التمويل. أوضح فهمي أن سعر الفائدة من بينما القسط ثابت، وأن

قدمت إحدى شركات التعمير للتمويل العقاري يوم الأحد الماضي عرضا لتمويل بناء وتشطيب الوحدات السكنية لموظفي الجامعة التي ستقام بالقرب من الحرم الجامعي الجديد. وأوضح مدير الشركة ناجي فهمي أن الشركة تمويل بحد أقصى ٨٠ في المائة من قيمة الوحدة المطلوب شرائها ويتم تقديرها بواسطة

رأيك إيه : في كفاءة المعامل في الجامعة ؟



كريم حازم
رابعة هندسة إلكترونية

المعامل معظمها على كفاءة ولكن تحتاج إلى متابعة وإهتمام بالصيانة.



رضوى المصري
رابعة إدارة أعمال

مشكلة المعامل تنحصر في الطابعات.



عبد الله رشدي
رابعة إدارة أعمال

أعداد الأجهزة لا تكفي عدد الطلبة.



نورهان طارق
أولى إدارة أعمال

كفاءة جيدة وأقترح تغيير الفارات.



شادي إسكندر
أولى هندسة إنشائية

المعامل على كفاءة عالية ولكن أقتراح زيادة أعداد أجهزة الحاسب الألي.



أحمد علي
خامسة هندسة

المعامل تحتاج إلى أجهزة جديدة.



معروض التوظيف يحدد مجالات العمل للخريجين بدء أسبوع الصحة النفسية والبدنية في الجامعة



من اليمين: كابتن طاهر رجب مدير قسم الرياضة المفوض، مشيرة البرادعي مديرة الموارد البشرية وأندروسميث نائب رئيس الجامعة للشئون المالية في أثناء تسليم الجوائز للفائزين في المسابقات الرياضية. تصوير محمود حافظ

بالنسبة للجانب الرياضي والبدني فقد بدأت إدارة الرياضة منذ الأسبوع الذي سبق بداية البرنامج الإعلان عن جداول المباريات التي أقيمت الأسبوع الماضي وشملت ألعاب عديدة منها كرة القدم، كرة السلة، تنس الطاولة والكرة الطائرة. قال كابتن طاهر رجب - مدير الرياضة المفوض بالجامعة - أن الهدف من هذا الأسبوع الرياضي النفسي هو تنمية اللياقة البدنية والصحة العامة لكل المنتمين للجامعة من أعضاء هيئة التدريس وطلاب وعاملين وتميز هذا الأسبوع بأنه وجه أنظار كل فئات الجامعة نحو أهمية هدف التوعية الصحية في إطار المباريات والمنافسة المختلفة.

وأعلنت نتائج الفائزين في المسابقات الرياضية يوم الأربعاء الماضي وسلم الجوائز والميداليات أندرو سميث -نائب رئيس الجامعة للشئون المالية- للفائزين. فازت فرقة الكليات الأدبية بمجموع ١٥ نقطة في جميع الألعاب و يليها فرقة مسانكن الطلبة ب١٢ نقطة وجاء في المركز الثالث الفرقة العلمية. قال حسن أبو هيف - لاعب في الفرقة العلمية- أنه تحمس للفكرة وأنه سعيد بالمشاركة في هذا الأسبوع الرياضي.

كتب- محمود حافظ

نظم مركز إرشاد الطلبة وإدارة الموارد البشرية بالتعاون مع إدارة الرياضة الأسبوع الماضي أول برنامج صحي وبدني متكامل في الجامعة يهدف إلى توجيه الطلبة وأعضاء هيئة التدريس وجميع العاملين بالجامعة الأمريكية إلى الاهتمام بالناحية النفسية والبدنية. نظم المركز مجموعة من ورش العمل والمحاضرات في هذا الشأن وتستمر حتى نهاية الفصل الدراسي.

قالت عبير بربري - المسؤولة عن مركز إرشاد الطلاب- أن هدف المركز في هذا الأسبوع هو تعريف الطلبة بالدور الأساسي الذي يتبناه في مساعدة مجتمع الجامعة والطلبة على وجه الخصوص للتغلب على أي مصاعب تواجههم أو توقعهم عن أداء واجبهم الدراسي أو أي مشاكل نفسية يواجهونها تحول دون إنخراطهم في العمل الاجتماعي في الجامعة. تبدأ في هذا الأسبوع ورشة عمل تعالج مشكلة العنف وإحداث المشاكل ويليها ثلاث ندوات تستكمل تباعا.

متخصصين من مجالات مختلفة لمعرفة متطلبات سوق العمل بعد التخرج وأعرب عن سعادته لوجود مجال جديد متعلق بسوق الأوراق المالية.

أضاف سمير أن المعرض إشمتم على نقاط سلبية ومنها عدم وجود بطاقات التعارف ورفض بعض المتخصصين اعطائه بطاقة التعارف الخاصة به. أبدى أحمد ماجد ثالثة إدارة أعمال- عن إعجابه بهذا المعرض وذلك لتعدد المجالات التي يوفرها المعرض، للتعرف على الشركات ومعرفة كيفية العمل بها. وقال مايكل يوسف-رابعة هندسة إلكترونيات- أن المعرض كان يركز على الطلاب المستجدين فقط ولم يقدم على معلومات جديدة. بينما قالت مريهام جرجس-رابعة أحياء- أن المعرض ساعدها على تجميع بعض الأفكار عن إمكانية العمل في الشركات والأبحاث المتعلقة بمجال دراستها.

ولقد شهد جناح علوم الحاسب الآلي إزدحاماً شديداً من قبل الطلبة حيث أوضحت شيما بكر- رابعة هندسة إلكترونيات- أنها تقوم بمشاريع عملاقة ملائمة لتخصصها لكنها لاترغب في العمل في هذه الشركة بعد التخرج لأنها شركة عالمية والعمل بها يحمل الموظف العديد من المسؤوليات والأعباء. قالت نردين وفيق- رابعة إدارة أعمال- أنها حضرت إلى المعرض للتعرف على مجالات العمل المختلفة والتعرض للشركات بطريقة مباشرة وقالت أنها ذهبت إلى قسم المبيعات وقسم الاستثمار.



ميرت مبارك ناشرة صحيفة الديلي ستار تصوير نادين السيد

كتب- نانسي كمال

الطلبة. وقالت أميرة رزق - مرشدة في مكتب التوظيف- أن هذا المعرض يتيح الفرصة للطلبة للإستفسار من المتخصصين عن التساؤلات الخاصة بسوق العمل ومعرفة مدى تلائم تخصصاتهم مع مجالات العمل. أشار محمد الدسوقي-مستشار إداري في مجال الهندسة الإنشائية- أن ٢٩ طالب زاروا الجناح العرض الخاص بالهندسة الإنشائية للإستفسار عن بعض المعلومات بمجال الهندسة الإنشائية. وأضاف دسوقي أنه يوجد عدة فرص عمل لخريجي الجامعة الأمريكية نظرا لمهاراتهم العالية وما يتمتع به طلبة الجامعة من مستوى تعليم مرتفع ومعرفة جيدة باللغة الإنجليزية. قال بشوي سمير رابعة محاسبة- أنه جلس مع ثلاث

تباينت آراء الطلبة بشأن معرض التوظيف الذي عقد يوم الإثنين الماضي بهدف تعريفهم بمتطلبات السوق والمهارات التي تحتاجها. أشارت إيفت خير - كبيرة موظفي مكتب التوظيف- إلى أن هذا المعرض مفيد للطلبة لأنه يعد أحد الوسائل لمعرفة مجالات العمل المختلفة وتشجيع الطلبة على إستكشاف سوق العمل. وأضافت إيفت (أن المعرض لا يهدف إلى توظيف الطلاب ولكنه يهدف إلى توعيتهم بفرص العمل المتعددة في المستقبل). وقالت أنه يتم اختيار المجالات الموجودة في المعرض بناء على العرض والطلب لدى

روبرت عزي يعبر عن علاقته بمصر بطريقة شاعرية

القاهرة في الماضي والحاضر وهو بذلك يفند كل الآراء السلبية عن الإسلام والشرق الأوسط أو حتى العرب بصورة عامة. عندما جاء عزي إلى القاهرة لأول مرة حضر حفلا غنائيا لكوكب الشرق أم كلثوم فوقع في حب مصر من خلال صوتها فطلب أن يستمع زوار المعرض لأغنية (إنت عمري) طوال تواجدهم في القاعة. وظهر حبه لمصر واضحا في صورته التي كانت ممتلئة بالملامح المصرية من النيل وقهوة الفيشاوي في خان الخليلي إلى الأزهر ورجال الدين الأقباط وغيرها من الملامح التي تتميز بها مصر عن غيرها.

وقالت نهى أبو خطوة- خريجة من الجامعة وحاصله على ماجستير في الفن الإسلامي- أن الصور تجسد روح القاهرة لأن عزي يعرض مقتطفات سريعة من الحياة المصرية بإختلافاتها الفنية وذلك على مستوى عالي الجودة. وأضافت أن تركيزه على التفاصيل في الصور الفوتوغرافية التي تحتوي على مناظر واسعة يبقّي الجمال نفسه. وأوضح نورة بهجت- مسؤولة عن المعرض- إن من يقرأ عنوان المعرض وهو (صور فوتوغرافية للقاهرة) لا يستطيع أن يتوقع أن هذه الصور تعبر عن مزايا أخرى خفية للقاهرة، أو زوايا لا تزال نراها حتى الآن أو حتى زوايا إختفت مع الزمن.

كتب- شهرزاد الفار

نظم الفنان روبرت عزي معرضا لصوره الفوتوغرافية بمعرض (سوني) بالمبنى الرئيسي يوم الأحد الماضي عاكسا لقطات لملامح مصر خلال الأعوام ١٩٦٩ إلى ٢٠٠٥ على أنغام أغاني أم كلثوم. أعترز عزي اللبناني الأصل عن عدم تمكنه من الحضور بسبب المرض، إلا أنه اتصل ليشكر الحاضرين علي قدومهم وتشريفهم.

اتسمت الصور الفوتوغرافية بتصويرها للقاهرة من خلال زيارته المتقطعة على مدى ٦٣ عاماً الماضية. قال شمس فريدلاندر -وهو أستاذ محاضر في الجامعة في قسمي الصحافة والإعلام والفنون المسرحية- أن الصور تعبر عن عين حساسة ومتعاطفة مع مصر، وهو يعبر نظرياً عن علاقته مع جذوره العربي والإسلامية وما هو موجود هنا ليس إلا مجموعة من الصور التي التقطت بهذه الروح. وأضاف فريدلاندر أن عزي اشتهر بالصور المعروفة بـ"صور الحج"، إلا أنه لم يرد أن يعرضها هذه المرة، ففي رأيه أنها أخذت حقيقتها من الشهرة وهو لا يريد المبالغة في ذلك.

وقال فريدلاندر أن ما يعبر عنه عزي في هذا المعرض هو حب العدسة للقاهرة كمصور موسمي محترف عالمياً حيث أظهر جمال



تصوير شهرزاد الفار