

**GOOD
LUCK
WITH
EXAMS**

The AUI News

Volume XI - Spring 2003 Issue N° 3

A publication of the students of Al Akhawayn University

May 2003

Editorial

The Weather these days seems to have trouble-breaking up with his lover, winter. In this chaotic relationship, the sun is playing hide and seek, clouds are weeping from time to time, and we students are trying to cope with four seasons in a day as much as we can. You may enjoy a pleasant open-air lecture for a few hours, but then you might as well get caught by a rainy episode, and arrive soaking wet at the following class. Weather really has a significant effect on our mood, and this is particularly unpleasant during the finals period, where anything that can boost your mood for studying is welcome. It is amazing to see how cheerful one may feel at the only thought of sunny days and summer vacation. While waiting for better days, we have to face this hectic phase of the semester where our little neurons are put under "high voltage" activity.

This is the third and last issue of the semester. I hope that you'll enjoy it as much as the previous ones. After all it is made of your contributions and expresses your views and reactions. Indeed, through the opinion section, you will have the opportunity to discover student's perspectives regarding different matters like the integration of exchange students, the hassling phenomenon, and relativism.

Our campus also knew an intense activity in terms of cultural days and events. Many prominent guests came here this semester to share with us their valuable knowledge or views concerning different issues, or to entertain us. Many clubs days were organized to promote a culture, a field or a passion, and finally the semester ends smoothly with the "so awaited for" talent show. Until next time, study hard and good luck for your exams and presentations.

Qods Benjelloun

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THE TALENT SHOW

Brahim Ouzineb



The AUI students have been regaled at the night of May the 7th by so many talents. The Talent Show was an opportunity to stop a little bit and bid farewell to our graduating active

students. It was also an occasion to discover latent talents in our student community. Laila's Choir excelled and the other active members were at their high heels as they were compensated for what is believed to be the most active semester: German, Equestrian, OLS, Drama, Rotaract, HR & the Berber, and many other clubs. Yassine Marjane delighted us with his lightheartedness. We will miss you Yassine!

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FUN RUN: WHOSE FUN IS IT!!!

Mouaad Ibriz

There is no doubt, the Spring 2003 Fun Run was the most fascinating and successful activity organized by "students" of AUI. The Hand in Hand association organizes the Fun Run Day to collect funds for the realization of projects for the population of the region of Ifrane. To illustrate to you how successful the Spring 2003 Fun Run was, the Hand in Hand association collected 340,000 dhs, as announced in the Gala night. This means something around 110,000 dhs more than last year. (By the way what has been done with the 230,000 dhs collected last year?)

For those who didn't have the chance to attend and enjoy the Fun Run event, let me take you back to this amazing and unforgettable day. The famous run started at 10:30 a.m. on a cloudy and windy morning. This year, the organizers decided the run would be less long than the previous editions, less than 5km. People from all ages participated in the event:

ished first (sorry, Mr Sekkah), but the winner is the one who collected the maximum from the sponsors. Next, the fair, if we can call it a real fair, started at the end of the mysterious run in the soccer field where all the people were: participants, guests, and students could savor the tasty meal prepared by our five-star restaurateur.

Everybody was there for fun and enjoyed the various activities offered that ranged from a football match, to the famous Donkey race.

Finally, the Gala night that took place in Auditorium 17 was extremely interesting especially when Hind the dancer showed us what classical and oriental dancing, mixed together, means. (By the way: nice to meet you Hind; are you married? I'm just kidding.) Moreover, and



Deaf Children whose potential excelled in sculpture

very well-known athletes, well-known artists, staff, faculty, students, and even babies in their "poussettes", and the highly appreciated participation of the president of AUI Mr Rachid Benmokhtar.

In this bizarre run, the winner is not the one who fin-

ished first (sorry, Mr Sekkah), but the winner is the one who collected the maximum from the sponsors. Next, the fair, if we can call it a real fair, started at the end of the mysterious run in the soccer field where all the people were: participants, guests, and students could savor the tasty meal prepared by our five-star restaurateur.

great and very interesting in terms of prizes, but some presentators, and I say some, who had the pleasure to present the night Gala should review the French grammar and vocabulary classes and lessons before plunging into this experience.

For those who want to know how money will be spent, I will give a brief idea, but please feel free to contact the association to get exact information. In fact, the association's officers announced during the Gala Night that the funds collected would serve to rebuild Ait Lahsen School, adopt another school, and many other promising projects.

I would finish my article with an observation, that one friend did and asked me to talk about in my article, that concerns the ratio: number of seats in auditorium 17 and the number of Gala tickets sold, because it seemed that people with their tickets in hand could not find a seat, which is inconceivable. I think (and only God and Hand in Hand know) that they sold more Gala tickets than what should be.

The AUI News

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HAMIDOU: TALENT MEETS EXPERIENCE

Kawtar Messat

I guess most of you have enjoyed the show that featured Mr. Hamidou on Wednesday 23rd otherwise you have missed an opportunity to laugh your head off. The show was entitled "Le Piston", and I personally saw this piece more than once and whenever I see it, I laugh again and again. Mr. Hamidou was very smart in the way he presented his show; he was playing with words in order to send the message to his audience. With an experienced man like him, we could feel the ambiance on the stage especially when he was playing different roles by himself. Even though the show was great, there was a big problem with the cordless microphone. People in the back

could not hear clearly and this led them to shout and move freely in the auditorium while the show was on. I think this was a shame



especially when the guest is a famous star like HAMI-DOU. I really appreciated

the way he hid his anger in the course of the show. This shows how good an actor he is. In his performance, he tackled different

subjects dealing with politics, freedom of speech, racism among Moroccans,

class differences, corruption, human rights, to cite a few. It was amazing how he related this latter in only one show. In addition to that, he was very sarcastic and his facial expressions conveyed different meanings. He also doubled the sense of some words like "la police" and "la peau lisse" in order to give to his show a special touch. Finally, Hamidou really entertained us and interacted easily with the audience through the way he managed his characters in the show. I really appreciate the way he ended his show and the words he addressed to us; therefore, we all wish him more success in his career and a peaceful future.

THE TALENTED DIPLOMAT

Mouaad Ibriz

Mr. Pierre Joxe visited AUI on Tuesday, April 22, 2003 to give a few extremely important and interesting lectures, concerning the issue of the French-Maghrebi relations. Mr. Joxe is a former French minister of Interior and of Defense, from which he resigned because of the involvement of France in the War against Iraq in 1990. Mr. Joxe was also president of the French National Audit Office, and he is actually a member of the "conseil consultatif". He started his first speech, which was held in the auditorium of Building 4, by giving an overview on the French-Maghrebi relations that are linked to the Euro-Maghrebi relations. Then, the former minister talked, individually, about each one of the former French colonies in North Africa. First of all, France is considered to be the first economic partner, the first exporter of the Moroccan imports with 20% of the Moroccan

imports, and also the first foreign direct investor in Morocco. The same thing applies to Tunisia in all aspects of its economy, but the difference lies in the obstacle that impedes the building of strong relations, which is the human



rights factor. However, the case of Algeria is different from its neighboring countries. In fact, Mr. Joxe declared that the Franco-Algerian relations are

in a phase of stagnation. According to him the difference in these relations lies in the fact that these three countries experienced different treatments in their pre-colonial, colonial, and post-colonial period, and even in their field

of cooperation; that is why their respective relations with France are so different. The question that puts itself in this context is what kind of relations will exist between the Europe of tomorrow and the Maghreb of tomorrow.

For the second lecture that he gave during the same day, he met with the students of the International Studies and Diplomacy Program and gave a kind of course on the history of the formation of Europe.

Finally, Mr. Joxe had a special dinner with the highly-appreciated presence of the president of AUI, Mr. Rachid Benmokhtar and some students.

IATCO RECRUITS

Brahim Ouzineb

The students enter AUI seeking a high standard education. They end up exhausted, perplexed and confused about their future because they get so much knowledge and few of them know how to adjust that load of information to the market. To put an end to such a plight, the university started a series of career orientation sessions featuring famous and experienced companies. Within this frame, IATCO in Saudi Arabia, looking for qualified

workforce, organized a recruitment day. The representatives, Mr Hicham Abunabaa, the Sales Recruiting, Training and Development Manager, Mr Taha Houssein, the National Sales Manager, and our ex-SGA President Youssef Chaoui, a Unit Manager, started first by introducing their company. In fact it is an offshoot of Procter & Gamble and is operational all over the world and selling over 21,000 brands ranging from

software to appetizers. Mr Houssein emphasized the hunger of their company to win and be the best. They provide the employees with a better working environment and make their customer decide about their brands. The workers of course should be creative and effective in applying the company's catchwords. This the former student ascertained as he gave the students an insight into the environment they are going to join.

The ladies, he stressed, are veiled; thus he insisted on showing slides once and again about veiled Saudi women. He also talked about the impossibility of seeing a gathering of women and men in public places. He also mentioned the closing of all businesses at the time of prayers unlike Morocco. Youssef spoke about the rewards he got especially promotions for working hard and assiduously. He started as a buyer and ended up a unit manager in two years.

I guess that such an occasion is of value and hence to be seized by AUI students as Youssef himself was recruited the same way; i.e. through a recruitment day organized by the company before. The continuing students should start thinking seriously about their careers and attend the numerous sessions organized by the Department of Development and Communication, at least to have an idea about the world outside AUI.



Youssef Chaoui spoke first about the cultural shock he endured as he went to Jeddah. In spite of the fact that the city has got a very modern infrastructure, he had nothing to do but mix with the "Ex p a t s". Therefore, the social life was a bit hard for him.

PLAYSTATION PAVING A WAY

Zakari Mohammed

On Saturday April 19, 2003, at exactly 9:00 a.m., I went to the game room where the competition of Play Station was to be held. There were only two Television sets in the game room, so we were obliged to add a third TV set, the one available in the cafeteria. With the help of two students I moved the TV set to the game room. In addition, I went to the restaurant and asked Mr. Azzedine Redouane (Restaurant Coordinator) to send me three carafes of orange juice. I also

some popcorn for students. At 9:30 a.m. nearly all the participants were present and started choosing their teams. Twenty students were divided into ten pairs and each pair would play ten minutes per round. By 10:00 a.m. everything was ready and the competition successfully started. Each student was determined to get the best

score.

During the competition we witnessed the visit of different guests: parents, some participants in the Fun Run, some staff of the university and so on. But the most interesting one was the visit of our honourable President Mr. Rachid Benmokhtar who appreciated our participation as housing services staff in encouraging students' activities on campus. Through his appreciated words, he encouraged the participants of the Play Station competition. The second visit was that of Morad El Moutawakil from 2M channel. Mr. El Moutawakil is the journalist responsible for "Planete foot Program". He was surprised to see such a competi-

tion held on campus and was also more surprised to see the score that some students were able to achieve. The first part of the competition ended at 1:00 p.m., and the second part started at 2:00 p.m. and finished at 3:50 p.m. All the students were happy about this successful competition which witnessed also the presence of seven girls as spectators. At the end of the competition the result was as follows:

The first winner: Abad M'Hamed from Building 23
The second winner: Alaoui My Omar from Building 20
By the end, all the students insisted on reorganising other competitions and some of them think seriously of creating a "Play Station Club."



STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS: A VERY HECTIC TIME

Taoufiq Elouali



The last month was very busy in terms of clubs' activities. Actually, the newly born clubs took it over the older ones, with the exception of the Japanese club and the now famous Hand in Hand Association.

These activities started with the Japanese days which were characterised by the participation of the Japanese Embassy and a group of Martial Arts professionals who delighted the AUI community with their techniques.

Immediately after, the Women and Development Association, led by three devoted female students,

women's associations representatives from the region of the Middle Atlas, mainly El Hajeb, Azrou, Fez, and Meknes. These associations were not the only participants; there was also the presence of six women parliamentary representatives. What can be said about this debate is that it needed much more time than what was scheduled. To discuss and come up with solutions to such a critical issue as that of women in Morocco needed more than two hours. Another problem raised in the debate was the timing scheduled for the representatives of the women associa-

members of parliament were given much more time than they were supposed to have and the associations did not have the chance to talk about their problems. In general, the activity was a good lesson to the devoted team of the Women and Development Association.

On the following day, the brand new club, Human Resources Club, organized a conference on "Human Resources/ Development in Morocco: Reality and Perspectives". The thing that can be said about this confer-

ence is that it was a well-organized event with the qualities of an international conference. However, the meagre attendance gave it a monotonous air. We are still wondering what should be done to attract the attention of the AUI community to such educational and enriching events, especially when the students majoring in the field, and faculty members teaching the human resources courses, did not attend! To the HR club members: don't get disappointed and keep up the good work. Another big event, which has become a tradition in AUI, was the Fun Run. In fact, our humanitarian association - Hand in Hand - does not stop surprising us every time it organizes this event. The diversity of activities during that day and the importance of the guests made the event a big success. The activities ranged from the run, the Kermesse with so many entertaining activities, soccer and tennis games and finally the Gala Party, which included many surprises, among which was the tombola part.



The German day, organized by a committed group of students led by the energetic Mr. Haddouti, did not disappoint us. The quality of the organization with an exhibition of German products, literature and history was of a high standard. It was thanks to the German Club that the AUI community was able to witness the performance of the greatest orchestra in Morocco, "Orchestre Symphonique de la Gendarmerie Royale".

What can be said about these clubs' activities is that never before had the AUI community witnessed such a richness and diversity of events in such a short period, especially from the clubs and organizations part.



organized a debate evening on the situation of the Middle Atlas Women. This debate took place with the participation of some

tions. In fact, this problem gave rise to a wave of anger from the associations' representatives; their anger was justified by the fact that the

courses, did not attend! To the HR club members: don't get disappointed and keep up the good work. Another big event, which has

EXCHANGE STUDENTS' INTEGRATION WITHIN AUI

Majda El Moutchou

Aaron Martin:

I chose AUI because I am interested in studying Arabic, and AUI was the only university with which my university had an exchange program, which would allow me to study Arabic.

So far, my integration has been pretty good. At first, I would not say I was hesitant to meet Moroccans. However, it is difficult because as a newcomer, especially in the Arab world, it takes time to understand a new culture, and I integrated reasonably well. I probably have 20 Moroccan friends, most of whom I would consider good friends, and most of whom I want to keep contact with after leav-



ing. Initially things are difficult because you are in a new area, you are meeting new exchange students as well as Moroccan students, so it takes time to be a friend of both types of students, but it is easier to be friend of Americans because they share a common

background and understand where you are from. But I have not had any major problems with integration. Sometimes, I have problems with the other sex, since I do not know what is acceptable as far as the approach. I

had initiated conversation, and people and girls are interested to talking to me, but most Moroccan males in general are really open. Contact with Moroccan students has been pretty satisfactory. In classes I have noticed that

most exchange students flock together and I do not know if it is a security thing or just a habit- a bad habit- I suppose. Total integration is almost impossible because I think any type of person will be inclined to associate with someone with whom s/he feels comfortable. If we look at it statistically, I spend 50 per cent of my time with exchange students in the restaurant, in classes and when traveling. I spend pretty much time with my roommate who is Moroccan, and with other Moroccan students throughout the campus, cafeteria, restaurant, playing basketball, or just on the line or between classes.

Linda Smolik:

Anthropology in English:

The reason why I came to AUI is because I wanted to come to Morocco. I know that this is supposedly the best school in the country and has exchange programs with my home school.

For the integration, well, I tend to be pretty independent, and I do not think it is because I am American and here the people are Moroccan; I think it is just a matter of interest. People here are always partying and drinking, and even at my home university I tend to



separate myself. I think I integrate with them academically, in classes; I think they do have really good ideas, in clubs. I like to get involved with what Moroccan stu-

are putting forth any effort to integrate themselves in the culture as a whole. I blame my home university because I do not think they chose

do. However, for extra curricular activities, I do not get involved because I do not like to drink and I do not like to party a lot. I think they (exchange students) are doing a terrible job. I do not think they

to come to Morocco; I think they chose people based on who just wants a new experience. And people did not know what they were getting into when they were coming into Morocco; they thought everything was going to be the same as in America. Overall, I like AUI and I think I m having a new experience. I think I am sociable when people approach me; I think I do not put much effort to be a social butterfly just because it's my personality. Concerning the Iraq question, I think everybody seems to be open-minded.

Yuka Hiramatsu:

From Kansai Gaidai university. Undergraduate. Major: language

In fact, my university chose me to go to AUI. I did not have any idea about Morocco. I do not know why my university chose me but fortunately, I came here. Before coming here, I read about Morocco. I was fascinated by the culture and traditions. Before I did not have



any idea about Morocco; I did not even know that it is in

restaurant food, but not with

Africa. I knew that in AUI I could study French and Arabic. From the very beginning, it was not very hard at all because everybody is kind and so nice and very open-minded. I did not find any difficulties, aside from the

the people. For me, I can easily integrate with Moroccan students. They are very open, open-minded, and very kind. They invite you to their homes very often. This allowed me to know their culture, their real culture. I like their way of talking. I have contact with Moroccan students outside of the classes, and my closest friends are all Moroccan. I love Morocco.

Darlene Proberts:

I'm from Sydney, Australia I came to Morocco because I study French. I wanted to come to a French speaking country. In addition, I wanted to learn something about the Middle East and Arab countries and Muslim people, and Morocco is pretty cool, has a nice reputation, and has beautiful people. The reason why I came here is that I have been interested in doing Women's Studies so I came here to take Women and Politics. I really like Berber history and culture. I love Arabic and I'm doing

Beginning Arabic. The integration in AUI: it happens quiet naturally, it started with the orientation leaders; they were excellent. I really appreciated their work. We were gradually introduced to more and more friends, and sitting and meeting in classes together and participating in discussions, it was easy to make friends. The first night that we were here, we had some fun in the dorms. I love my roommate. She is excellent. The administration at AUI is a little bit frustrating, annoying and very slow. I wish they had more up-to-

date computer systems. Concerning the fact that Moroccan people stare at you; yes they do. We do not do it in our culture but we are getting used to it. I was told that it was normal; it is natural that people stare, and we're going to understand, but it's still awkward and uncomfortable. Actually the worst thing that happened to me in Morocco



is with a guy in the street calling me "tsststss, you there, you there, I have an apartment".

Sophie Reuning: the School of Humanities, The School of Humanities I will graduate in 2004. This is my second semester in AUI. I just came to Morocco especially to AUI because I really wanted to learn Arabic in order to understand the culture especially after

September 11. This was the best way for me to understand what happened and to really know why. As to integration, at times it was really hard to integrate because this was very different from home. I have a lot of freedom and independence at home, and AUI was to be my parent. I have not had a parent since I was 17, so far four years ago. Here people come from different backgrounds, and sometimes it

leaves total misunderstanding. Some people do not really understand where you're coming from which leaves total misunderstanding, especially during Ramadan; I have to say that that was the hardest time for me. Ramadan was hard because everything changes in Morocco, every thing shuts down in the middle of the day. A friend of mine asked me to participate in Ramadan, but I could not because it's not that easy. So for me eating during the day was really hard to do; I did not want to insult anybody so I went and hid in the corner and ate. I felt bad hiding in the corner. It was just a very rough time for everyone.

Concerning whether I find myself easily integrated with Moroccan students, I think it's very different because in America, especially with girls, we have a lot of freedom and independence, like my parents do not really care about what I do as long as I am responsible about it. So here a lot of people are expressing freedom for the first time, so it's hard sometimes for me to understand what's going on, like when girls have boyfriends and they don't tell their parents. For me that seems so wrong because I would love to share that with my parents. For me, friendship with boys here is harder than in the United States.



IN CASE YOU DON'T KNOW ...

Ilham Rifai

When a university such as AUI was built, academic excellence, communication and development were important. Learning is definitely the ultimate objective of studying in AUI. However, to the ones who think that reciting their courses and getting A's is the process of learning, I would simply say "No." Learning goes beyond that. Living in a community -I mean on campus- gives even better chances to develop one's skills and learning... But only if we know how. Life is so diverse and complex that specializing in business or in social sciences or engineering cannot be a success if it is not associated with the basic

requirement - or what we would define in our slang as " a pre-requisite"- of learning to react to the environment we are living in. Does any one ask himself or herself why a specialization ? If you don't, I urge everyone to do so? No matter what your answer is, you will find that, after all, we are asked to bring a change, to react and to perform. The university is offering a diversity of events and activities with which we should interact. What is noticed, however, is that the one writing for newspapers is the one who organizes debates, the one who gets elected in the SGA... is the one

caring for bringing a champion or a local star in his/her activity. What about the others? We are a community, and if we don't get used to react with a small environment such as that of AUI, there is even little hope we will do so in an even larger community where opportunities are scarcely offered. The business principles you learn, the engineering skills you acquire, the social sciences you discover cannot bring their fruit if you do not get involved in the communal environment. So, let us get advantage of the opportunities offered here and interact with it to get big chances on a broader environment.

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH AT AUI

Sara Ait l'moudden & Joyce Pisarello



Every year, the world celebrates International Women's Day on the 8th of March. This event is among the most celebrated and important days for women worldwide. In an interview with the organizing committee at AUI we asked faculty what International Women's Day meant to them. Dr. Samira ELAtia stated: "I have mixed feeling about March 8th. It means two things that are contradicting each other. On the one hand, after centuries of struggle and oppression worldwide, finally women get a day where they are recognized. On the other hand, it is sad that women need to be celebrated for one day only; what about the 364 remaining days? Hence

pus, felt that " It is really good to have a specific time where women's accomplishments are celebrated, and in general to call attention to the importance of women in society". March 8th always reminds her of a former Moroccan publication entitled "8 mars" created by "Union Action Femme in 1987".

In Morocco, several efforts are made to empower women. Peoples'consciousness towards women's issues is growing each year, as Moroccans come together to celebrate this day. In fact, the Moroccan government has opened social dialogue to reform the 'Mudawana' to better serve the needs of Moroccan women.

Al Akhawayn University did not



March 8th should be everyday of the year and not only one day of the year. The day itself is only the culmination of the whole year". Dr. Susan Davies, who works in the HRCWEC (Hillary Rodham Clinton Women's Empowerment Center) on cam-

ignore such an important day. In this respect, the committee in charge of planning decided to organize a full month of events to celebrate women in Morocco. This is the first year that such an extensive array of activities was sponsored on campus. It could

not have been possible without the collaboration of the faculty and staff members who made it happen and worked hard in order to offer the AUI community such a moment.

Women's History Month began on campus with two book exhibits that lasted the entire month of March at the library as well as another one at the Hillary Rodham Clinton Women's Empowerment Center. Founded in 2000, the Center serves to research, implement and support various types of actions that lead to the empowerment of women in the Ifrane region. Included in the

women's movies throughout the month. A panel discussion, with six AUI professors, was organized by Dr. El Atia, and focused specifically on "The Situation of Moroccan Women."

Under the direction of Mrs. Malika Benbella, The Azrou Center, a non-profit organization that seeks to provide education, social assistance, health consultations, and aid to local women, also celebrated the month by inviting the local community for a special dinner to commemorate the day. The Azrou Center also organized an exhibition of handicraft from Zawiyat Sidi-Abd-Salam and the



program, were some of the Amazigh day lectures held by 'Tamesmount Al Akhawayn' on the 17th and the 18th of March, which enriched the program and gave it another perspective focusing on Berber women with a presentation by Dr. Fatima Sadiqi from Fez on the issue of "Gender and Language in Morocco". Ms. Rabha Elasri, an AUI staff also presented a paper entitled: "Imazighen and Identity: To be or not to be".

Following these activities the Hillary Rodham Clinton Center sponsored an open house to promote books related to women chosen by faculty, students, and staff. Another workshop headed by Ms. Mounia Hanzazi, a staff member in the Library multi media center, encouraged and taught several AUI women to use the digital cameras available on campus. The Student activities office broadcasted a series of

Azrou region, first at the Center and then on campus. The profits raised from the exhibition went to support local women. Mrs. Benbella also organized a full night of music and theater prepared by patrons of the center. Dr. Khadija Al Arkoubi organized a special poetry reading where two distinguished Moroccan female poets, Mrs. Hafsa Bekri-Lamrani and Mrs. Ouidad Ben Moussa shared their latest inspiring work. Another interesting event was a night for "Voices of Women." In the first part, organized by Dr. Paula Pratt, featured "Women's Words," where students, faculty, and staff came together to share either their own words or the words of their favorite authors on the topic of women. The second portion was an "Improvisation" guided by Mounia Hanzazi, featuring members of the audience.



Another important event, was a showing of the play "The Raped", performed by the talented theater team of Association "Ahdaf" of El Hajeb. The play explored the extremely important topic of women and girls who are at risk of sexual exploitation, as well as the controversial topics of freedom of speech, illegal emigration, and drug use.

At the close of Women's History Month, AUI was privileged to host a panel of Moroccan

Parliament women and members of NGOs that work across Morocco to educate and empower women. This event was organized by the AUI Women and Development Association, an all-female student group on campus. All of these activities served to raise campus awareness about the issues facing Moroccan women, and to remind us of the crucial role women play in society. The events inspired female AUI students to recognize their

potential and the limitless possibilities for achievement.

Hopefully, this tradition will grow stronger each year. One main goal for next year is to increase the participation of the student body. As Dr. ElAtia reminds us, "University education is never completed without the students' participation in extra-curricular activities."

The success of any university activity depends on the interest and motivation of the student

body. Unfortunately, due to midterms and other activities some of these amazing events lacked large audiences. It is clear that in order to have a truly successful campaign the entire campus must come out to support the hard work and dedication of their peers. Hopefully, next year Women's History Month will receive the support of the entire campus, as women's issues affect us all!



THE DIPLOMACY CLUB IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS & COOPERATION

Qods Benjelloun

Friday, March 25th. The parking lot. Most students, members of the AUI diplomacy club, were already on the dot, waiting for more students to come. The limousines were there too. What, Limousines? Of course, limousines come on, it's the diplomacy club first external activity, and we are going to the ministry of foreign affairs and cooperation! The "limousines" were in fact four green "grand taxis." The departure was at 12.30 pm, Moroccan time, meaning people coming half an hour after the time set. After making some arrangements about places distribution and about who will come back or stay, our diplomatic convoy departed.

From time to time, we had to urge the drivers to hurry a bit, and beg them to forget about their planned lunch break at "El Arjat", for we were running late. Once in Rabat, we stopped in front of the Algerian embassy, and walked to the ministry where a group of people were waiting to welcome us. Once inside the ministry, we waited few seconds in a hall before being invited into the "Benhima Room", a vast circular area where negotiations take usually place. I guess everyone felt impressed at that moment to have a sit in the

red leather chair, around the tinted glass tables forming a circle. Among the people who were present, some of us could recognize some fellow alumni students, Amine Chabi, Nacim Tourougui, Charif, and Mouna Makhfi.

Mr. Rachad Bouhlal, Secretary



General of the Ministry, was there in person to welcome us, and everybody appreciated him shaking hands with each one of us. Mr. Bouhlal, whose son was at AUI, told us about the special relationship he has with our university since he recruits very often from there, and the meeting with our president Dr. Benmokhtar that resulted in a project to create a diplomatic institute in AUI. This institute would provide a continuous training for diplomats, and would offer particular courses in specific fields. Mr. Bouhlal then

gave us some advice about the international studies field, saying that it is not an easy path, and that it doesn't lead necessarily to working for the ministry. He also stressed the importance of keeping in touch with alumni students and with the ministry to establish

useful contacts for the future. Answering a question asked by one of the visiting students regarding recruitment criteria, Mr. Bouhlal told us about the process that usually consists of an informal interview, where feeling about the candidate and the impression left by him is very crucial. The floor was then given to Mr. Redouane Dghoghi (Chef de Cabinet du Secrétaire Général), Mr. Saad Benabdallah, advisor to the Secretary General of the Ministry, Mrs. Souriya Otmani (Chef de Division à la Direction du

Protocole), and Mr. Kadmiri, who all gave us valuable information about their position and activities within the ministry. Mr. Dghoghi gave us an overall presentation of the ministry and its structure that is heavily influenced by the emergence of new concepts, theories, and actors in international relations, as well as by the evolution of the missions. Indeed, the ministry has to adapt continuously to the international context, especially with the current events the world is encountering. The interests of the ministry blend with the interests of the kingdom, thus it is important to keep the country involved in international affairs. Mr. Kadmiri then gave us a pleasant talk about the role of the new diplomat, who is now more present and active than ever. At the end of the visit, we had the opportunity to chat with the alumni students working in the ministry, who were nice enough to patiently answer our questions and to give us their contact numbers. I seize the opportunity on the behalf of the Diplomacy Club to thank all the people who kindly received us in the ministry, with a special thanks to Driss Kaissi, who did a lot to make this visit possible.

THE CALL TO PRAYER IN THE AUI MOSQUE

Souhail Guennouni

Imagine that the call for prayer is made aloud at Al Akhawayn University. Imagine that the mosque was full and every Muslim student went to pray. However, the reality is that the call for prayer is not made out loud. Also, in reality the mosque congregation is very small compared to the number of Muslims on campus. In addition to the fact that the calling for the prayer should be heard clearly, it is permitted in all Moroccan mosques except the one inside AUI. Despite the fact that a very small number of AUI students put the light on this critical issue, we can say that most of them wonder why the adhan is not made out loud.

Prayer is an essential element of Islam and the call for prayer is equally as important. In a predominately Muslim campus the call for prayer is something most students are well acquainted with. At Al Akhawayn University the call for prayer is not pronounced loudly, which has produced several complaints about this procedure. Faculty and students alike have expressed objections to this absence, because of its integral aspect in their daily lives in a Muslim society. Although reasons have been given for not doing this, I believe that the call for prayer should be made out loud in AUI's mosque. In this article I will present the administration or reasons for why the call for the prayer is not made aloud and I will present numerous reasons why the "Adhan" should be made out loud.

The *adhan*, or calling to prayer, is mandatory for Muslims because of the instruction of the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh). "*adhan*" is made five times a day to encourage the remembrance

of the truth of the greatness of Allah. "*adhan*" is also made to reaffirm Tawheed (Oneness of Allah) and the divine message of the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh). Prayer is essential for Muslims because it inculcates in them the consciousness of Allah and keeps them from doing bad things.



Contrary to this teaching, the administration of Al Akhawayn University stipulates that "*adhan*" should be made in a quiet tone. Their argument is based on the premise that it will disturb classes and also the non-Muslim community.

Morocco is a Muslim country and as in all Muslim countries, including most other parts of Morocco, the "*adhan*" is made out loud. However, at Al Akhawayn University this is not the case. The "*adhan*", according to the scholars, is what differentiates a Muslim country from a non-Muslim country. Also, the purpose of the "*adhan*" is to alert people as to the time of prayer, but if it is not made loudly people may not know the right time. In addition, clocks in Al Akhawayn are not prominently displayed in classrooms and are often incorrect. In these instances the "*adhan*" is the only way Muslim faculty and students can be notified for prayer. The times of prayer are also inconsistent, thus making it difficult to continuously memorize the exact time for prayer. "*adhan*" is the only assurance that prayer

will be offered at its proper time. As the Prophet (pbuh) said, anyone who hears the "*adhan*" and does not go to the mosque to pray, the prayer does not count unless there is a good reason.

Administration at Al Akhawayn exerts the idea that "*adhan*" will disturb class.

The "*adhan*" lasts only for a brief amount of time. Therefore, the "disturbance" made by "*adhan*" would not have cataclysmic effects on the focus of classes. In addition, it's well known that many of the universities in Europe and in the U.S. have big clocks that ring each hour and that becomes a normal aspect of the students' life. Also,

there are some aspects in nature that we just get used to, such as the sounds of birds early in the morning, which no longer disturb us. Similarly, the "*adhan*" has become a normal aspect to all Muslims through their life, because all Muslim students are used to hearing "*adhan*" in class time without having any problem with that.

The administration at AUI also states that "*adhan*" may offend or disturb exchange students. This is not a valid point. When exchange students come to Muslim countries they are usually aware that the culture and customs are different from theirs and decide to be exchange students knowing fully well that they must adjust to their environment. Also, exchange students travel abroad to be immersed in a different culture. Al Akhawayn is depriving exchange students of the full cultural exchange experience. The "*adhan*" could also inspire exchange students to further explore Islam in order to understand and appreciate its principles. On the other hand, many of the exchange students that I talked to, espe-

cially the Muslim ones, approve the idea of making "*adhan*" out loud, rather than not being able to hear it. This non-Muslim community does not complain about the presence of the "*adhan*" especially those who live outside campus and who enjoy hearing the "*adhan*" of the outside mosque.

Al Akhawayn University was founded by two Muslim countries, which are Morocco and Saudi Arabia. These two countries have Islam as the official religion. Therefore, both of them are strict in protecting one of the most obvious characteristics of a Muslim country, which is "*adhan*". So, what would the Moroccan authorities, and especially the Ministry of Islamic affairs, say about forbidding the "*adhan*" to be made out loud in the mosque of the university. On the other hand, when a Muslim person goes abroad whether as exchange student or tourist, he would surely notice the bells' ringing as a calling of prayer for Christians. Therefore, if the university wants to keep its identity, they should protect the characteristics of a typical Islamic country, one of which is "*adhan*".

Any critical thinker can conclude that there are many more benefits than disadvantages in allowing the call to prayer loud. Personally, I think that beside the fact that most of the exchange students that I asked wanted to hear "*adhan*" done out loud, there are many reasonable evidences that the university should consider in order to allow this. In fact the reasons that they give to forbid the "*adhan*" aloud are not convincing especially for a person who first comes to AUI. I think that the university officials should take into consideration the evidence given above.

RELATIVISM

Hafid Mekaoui

The majority of teachers face at one stage of their teaching career a serious problem in class. During the interpretation of literary works, most students demand a single and unalterable meaning. This is a whim which unfortunately is impossible to achieve, for a work of art, during its interpretative phase, reverbrates with a multitude of meanings. We can even dare to say that there can be as many meanings as there are readers, for even if two readers arrive at identical conclusions, their respective interaction with the literary text remains an essentially unique experience.

A literary text is a kind of message which establishes a communicative process between author and reader; this message, however, though having only one medium of expression, is essentially and fundamentally ambiguous. It represents, in other words, a plurality of the signified expressed through one single sign. This is how literature works, and this is how it achieves relativism.

A work of art can be construed as being both finished and open. On the one hand, we can consider it finished if we derive the original form of the object as it was conceived by the author, and as this latter wanted it to be understood. This finality or this closure remains in the head and mind of the author. On the other hand, in the quest of deciphering a meaning, each reader exerts a personal sensibility, a definite culture, taste, and prejudice which all correlate to orient his or her appreciation and evaluation towards a perspective which is proper to him or her. As a matter of fact, a work of art is esthetically valid and compelling only as long as it permits itself to be understood according to various perspectives where it can manifest itself in diversity rather than in singularity, without ceasing to be itself.

Moreover, a work of art's lasting existence depends on the possibility of its being inter-

preted differently because each new interpretation endows it with a new life, thus preserving its originality; otherwise, if it persists in its singularity, it will unavoidably fall into destitute and decay.

With the rise and evolution of human sciences or the humanities such as sociology, anthropology, psychology and linguistics, the traditional positivistic view that the aim of a literary work is primarily meant to lead us to a better understanding of the personality and psychology of the author has completely died out, and has been replaced by a more intrinsic and open view where the literary text achieves complete autonomy, and gains substantial priority over the author. As the Russian formalists already asserted during the 1960s, even if a literary text is explicitly autobiographic in revealing certain realities which can be proved as relating to the author's life, this text - the moment it is expressed as fiction - ceases to be a chronicle because it has been transformed and moulded into art; and owing to the universality of art, this text stops being a representation of the experience of one single human being, and becomes the expression of the whole of mankind. It becomes the property of each reader.

Relativism, though relatively recent as it may seem, did certainly not escape the notice of the ancients. Already during the hellenistic times, Plato, in his work *The Sophist*, argued that painters, in the process of painting, did not reproduce their object realistically but rather according to the angle they were viewing it from. If they are facing the profile, the face remains in the shadow; and if they view the face, the opposite happens. During the middle ages, and especially with the rise of allegorism, scripture, and by extension poetry and figurative arts (not the novel for the novel did not exist then) were said to have three levels of interpretation: they could be interpreted liter-

ally, allegorically, and morally.

Indeed, if we take Milton's *Paradise Lost* and consider it under the light of these medieval principles, we will find that:

1- At a literal level, the story is about a war raging in heaven between God and satan who challenges God's power. Satan is defeated and vows himself to evil. He spies Adam and Eve and becomes envious of their simplicity and purity. In hostile intent, he tempts them to eat from the tree of knowledge. In consequence, they are banned from heaven.

2- At an allegorical level, the story is about the abstract idea of the fall. The fall of mankind from its prelapsarian state to its postlapsarian state. Here the story does not concern only Adam and Eve as two characters and two individuals, but concerns the whole of mankind.

3- At a moral level the story is about the conversion of the soul, changing from a state of purity and grace to a state of corruption and sin.

Relativism in literature constitutes in itself the negation of stagnation and limitness. A literary text should not be considered as a beautiful dead object, well founded, and well defined. On the contrary, it is a mystery which we are in quest to disentangle. It is a stimulus for our imagination. As Mallarme the French symbolist says: "nommer un objet c'est supprimer les trois quarts de la jouissance du poeme, qui est faite du bonheur de deviner peu a peu: le suggerer ...voilà le reve". We must avoid that a unique interpretation be imposed on the reader.

The literary text is an amalgam of the said and the non-said. It is a mixture of references, signs, expressions, and blank spaces, and it becomes the role of the reader to fill those blank spaces and to interpret those signs. A literary text always wants somebody to help it to



function. It needs a capable reader who can actualize and realize it.

During an interview, and while testing the microphone, Ronald Reagan once said: "In a moment, I'm going to give the order to bomb Russia." Reagan's bantering assertion certainly intended as a joke, created a tumult within the assembly, because though innocent and harmless as it may have seemed, at least from his own point of view, it gave way to different interpretations. As a matter of fact, if we consider this assertion as a story we will find the following interpretations:

1- This is the story of a man who jokes.

2- This is the story of a man who jokes when he shouldn't.

3- This is the story of a man who jokes, but who implicitly proffers a threat.

We can even change the angle and focus not on Ronald Reagan but on the situation. We would say then:

4- This is the story of a tragic political situation where jokes could easily be taken seriously and lead to disastrous consequences.

The open work can also be seen as a work in motion because it invites the reader to collaborate with the author. It is a work in movement because, though virtually finished, it remains open to a continual germination of internal relations which are there for each reader to discover during his or her own perception of the work, and each of these readings endows the work with a new life and a new revival.

This theory is derived from Umberto Eco's L'Oeuvre Ouverte

OUR AMBASSADORS

Mouaad Ibriz

From April 24th to 27th, 2003 the AUI ambassadors who are majorly members of the Orientation Leaders Club represented AUI in the annual students "fair" of Casablanca. 101 schools of Higher Education and national and international universities were put in the huge hangar of Casa's exhibition place. In this crowded place whereby thousands of students and parents, sometimes, were left without clear guidelines apart from few sign boards showing the location of the schools.

For this important yearly event, the university sent 15 students, 4 staff members from the department of Dev & Com and also from the Outreach service without forgetting the participation of Brahim Ait Ouzineb the Students Publication Coordinator. People from the EEC (Executive Education Center) and the triple A (AUI Alumni Association) actively partook in the event. AUI representation was far successful from what was expected due to the effective and committed AUI ambassadors. To certify this, a parent said that while other schools simply sub-

mitted a sheet of paper that the eligible "customers" have to fill in order to get the pre-registration forms, AUI ambassadors gave the necessary time and attention to anybody willing to enter AUI. The majority of visitors deemed the information given by the AUI Ambassadors substantial. During the second day of our participation we had the pleasure to get the visit of two persons, the Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research and Mr Habib EL MALKI Minister of National Education and Youth who stopped only to visit one stand, guess which one. Mr Khalid ALIOUA stopped by the AUI stand



and our team had the pleasure to meet them. We were delighted at the stay and help of a person who is very important to us; the Dean of Student Affairs Dr Cherif Belfekih.

What was also noted is the filial relationship that was knit, as days went by, between that group of people. Despite their being tired of talking to visitors they had no refreshments except for the second day. Others had to travel to and fro because they did not have a place where to stay in Casa. All this did not stop them from doing a remarkable job. Further, they kept nice souvenirs of this sojourn to Casablanca. "Rose" is a good-looking girl, heu sorry, a beautiful color and so was the AUI stand in "Forum de l'étudiant" as it kept drawing the attention of visitors. Ghita, an AUI ambassador, repeats the funny story -- and there had been many -- of the people asking whether AUI is in Morocco. Another visitor asked about the possibility of sending his kid to the university if she is veiled. That was a sample of the questions that our ambassadors had to face and deal with.

"LLA" MEANS NO, NO MEANS YES, AND ALL THE OTHER THINGS

Angela Avilez

If you've ever met me, you may have noticed that I am not exactly Moroccan. In fact, I am not exactly American either. I've gotten a little taste of many different cultures over the years, but Morocco is truly something else. In preparation for my visit I studied some French, but as I found out, it was altogether the wrong language to know. And I am not referring to Arabic either, but rather to an often overlooked form of communication. Body language; I'm simply not fluent. Two other exchange students put it best one day during a conversation: "I have probably dated people here and don't even know it," mentioned one, while the other elaborated by saying that "a touch on the arm just doesn't mean the same thing." What's more, I have picked up a few words, but have had to distinguish between their



dictionary definition and their actual meaning. For instance the Arabic word "La" means "no" according to the dictionary, but the concept of "no" is perceived as "yes" in ordinary exchange. I'm sure you all know what I'm talking about: "would you like another serving?" "No, thanks I really can't eat anymore" "ok, here you go." And the topic of food, I must say that there is nothing that

could have prepared me for the food at AUI. To me, eating is supposed to be a total sensory experience. In other words, if food does not look good, taste good, smell good, if it has an odd texture, or makes an unusual sound when handled, then it may not be all that appetizing.

When any or many of these conditions are left unsatisfied, then so too are the customers (hint, hint, Sogeres)! Furthermore, it does not help to watch every person ahead of me touch an item of food and basically return it to its display. I see this happen every time that I wait for food. Notice that I used the word "wait," and not the phrase "stand in line;" I find it at times to be overwhelming how people crowd at counters and doors rather than assembling neatly into lines. Sometimes, I begin to get paranoid that the people

around me are conspiring to cheat each other out of their turn at ordering food next; I have become scheming, eye-squinting neurotic as a result! And I am brought to my final point, that of another form of "cutting in line." To be sure that everyone understands, I am talking specifically about academic dishonesty; cheating. Oops, I went and brought it up! I am seeing that information is treated like collective property, so if you have the answer, it is your duty to share it. How about that! I always wonder what it is in particular that foreigners notice about my culture when they are suddenly immersed in it, but I guess it is me who is doing the noticing this time. So there you have it, the top few things that I have had to get used to coming to Morocco and AUI this semester as an exchange student.

HASSLING... A CULTURAL SHAME Qods Benjelloun

Hi girls! It's Sunday afternoon, and Youssra decided to join her friends downtown for a shopping session, followed by a heated discussion about the latest girl stuff in a nice café. Her mom went to visit "khalti Yamna" for a long afternoon of chat about children, cooking and maids. That means she will have to take a taxi, since she cannot take her mother's car. She is now staring at her closet, wondering what to wear. "I am meeting the girls downtown, but since I'm taking a cab, I need to have a 'nice-but-not-too-nice outfit'" she thinks. Does this sound familiar? On her way from her house to the nearest boulevard where she can have a better chance to get a cab, she catches the attention of some guys, who seem enthusiastic about letting her know that she really does. "Mchicha!, man choufouch a zzine?" Youssra decides to leave the pavement and cross the street. A car stops in the middle of the street, and barely misses hitting her. "Hi pretty! Need a ride?" says a guy wearing black glasses, and whose gray hair simply betrays his age. "He is my dad's age" thinks Youssra.

Youssra starts to wonder if there is anything wrong with her outfit or the way she walks. As far as she knows, she is not wearing anything too tight, or something evocative. If she only knew that jeans and a T-shirt would put her in such a situation! "Then what? Should I have opted for a Djellaba instead?" No, Youssra, look at the other side of the road, a lady is walking wearing a Djellaba, and this doesn't prevent a guy from bothering her as well. After a few minutes of stress, a taxi stops. Once she gets in, the driver soon starts to assail her with as many questions as his

tongue allows him to do. "Do you live here? Where do you study? What are your hobbies...?" Naïve Youssra thinking the guy is just being nice and trying to break the silence, answers shortly, ill at ease. Then the flood of question continues: "Here is my mobile number, in case you need a ride; hey...why don't you give me yours, can we meet again...?" To get rid of the sticky driver, she has to take his phone number, and act as if she was willing to contact him.

Youssra finally meets her friends. Nora says: "Girl, you're late. We had to face many hassling guys while waiting for you!" Youssra replies: "Don't tell me about



it, let's go shopping!"

Unfortunately the hassling is not over yet. Even some male shop workers show some exaggerated enthusiasm, and allow themselves to make some teasing comments and show too much familiarity. Cheerful after buying a few items, the girls decide to chat around a hot chocolate. Nora and Manal go to the restroom, leaving Youssra waiting for the waiter to come get the orders. A man sitting in the table in front of her stands up and comes to sit next to her. Astonished, she stares at the man, without a word.

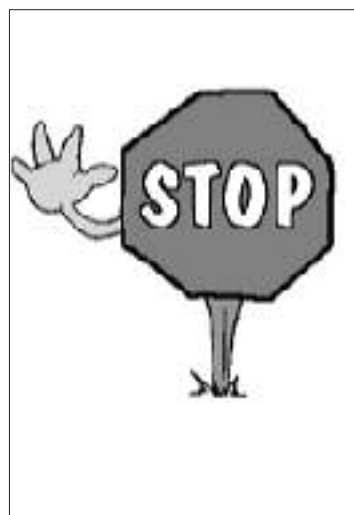
"I'm Hamid, may I sit next to you and talk to you for a second?"

In her mind, Youssra is laughing sarcastically, thinking: "Hellooo! You are already sitting, and already talking to me for 5 seconds in case you didn't notice, why ask then?"

Youssra finally tells the guy: "Listen, I am sitting here with my friends and sorry, I can't talk to you."

"It's ok, I can wait with you for your friends, and we can all chat together!". Irritated, Youssra stands up, and begins to shout, for it is too much in one day.

"Who the hell do you think you are? Do you think that my sitting alone here makes



it your duty to come talk to me and allow yourself to sit? Did the streets, coffee shops and cabs become a 'private property' for males only? Can't you guys just leave us alone?"

Youssra's friends finally show up, wondering what's going on.

"You know what? You are all invited to my house. I'm going to make you the best hot chocolate ever! At least we can be sure that no one is going to step in 'our private property'!"

How many of you recognize yourselves in this situation? It really seems that the public space is really becoming a property "strictly for men," where every female stepping into it, is thought to be undoubtedly looking for something, if you see what I mean. To my surprise, this phenomenon happens to be growing greater than ever, although you might think that it's paradoxical with the evolution of mentalities. Even with an increasing number of women in the job market and political arena, it seems that mentalities are evolving backward. Reacting to what I've said, some boys and men came up with the classical arguments: "A good girl doesn't go out alone, or sit in a coffee shop," or "Girls are looking for it! Look at the way they dress." A friend even said to me, "It's the only way you can make a girl feel valued."

First of all, going out is the right of anyone no matter where he or she is going. Males are never questioned about the reasons they are walking in the street. Sitting in a coffee shop to relax and have a drink doesn't make anyone a "bad girl". For the outfit, let me tell you that girls and ladies get hassled no matter how. If they are wearing a mini skirt, sportswear, a Djellaba or even a veil. As for the last statement, there are many delicate ways to make someone feel appreciated and esteemed: niceness, humility, respect and self-respect.

Even with an increasing number of women in the job market and political arena, it seems that mentalities are evolving backward.

FREE ZONE

HAFID MEKAOUI

Having served in AUI since it opened its doors, having sadly witnessed the departure of many students and gladly welcomed the coming of others, and having marvelled at the intellectual and cultural diversity of our alumni, a diversity that thrills my heart and makes me stand in awe at the rich and colourful rainbow that makes up the Moroccan identity, I sadly realize that if Arabs have agreed to disagree, they have firmly stood in unison at one single behaviour that they have "sacredly" adopted, namely their behaviour during performances, which was, is, and hopefully will stop being disappointing. Often times have I walked nonchalantly towards building seventeen with the hope of pleasing my ears with the splendid sounds of classical music. I would nestle in one of the comfortable chairs in a discrete corner of the auditorium, and would wait impatiently for the artists to appear on stage. All is there: the musicians, their instruments, the light effects, the natural and good acoustics of the building, in short all the elements that would guarantee a suc-

cessful show, except for the unavoidable element of the audience, a flagrant cacophony. The atmosphere gets worse when it is a play. We would think we are in the Ifrane souk during a Sunday afternoon rather than in one of the most prestigious Moroccan universities. It is true that conformity leads to lack of initiative. I have myself been intrigued and amused by an unorthodox spectator who would behave in a disrespectful way, thus defying protocol and breaking, with his originality, the farcical rigidity of decent behaviour, but when the entire audience adopts such an attitude, this stops being initiative, it just becomes crude anarchy, and loses the charm of original individuality. I have, myself, given many concerts in the auditorium of building seventeen and I definitely understand the courage that it takes to stand there and be the focus of a demanding - yet undisci-

plined - audience. Many unpleasant glitches can occur during a performance. One of the buttons of the sound system can get stuck and won't respond properly, or a string of the guitar can get out of tune while the artist is singing, and can't stop in the middle of a song to retune. These are only two examples of the one thousand and one things that can accidentally occur that would put the performer under tortuous stress. In such circumstances, the last thing an artist needs is the cruel booing and mocking of the audience. I have always been favourably impressed by Egyptian audiences who tend to encourage, give confidence to, and ultimately inspire the artist on stage, while I have wondered in amazement at the sadistic tendency of our public to enjoy dispiriting and depressing the performer. I hope our students could learn a lesson from the wise Arabic saying :
 "نريح بـ اي شـألا يـأر نم
 ،انم دمبـس ا ميظـعتلا
 يـأر نمو ،ام يظـع طلا دنـع نـالكو
 ريقـحتلا نـريح بـ اي شـألا
 طلا دنـع نـالكو ،نم تدمبـسا
 "اريقـح".
 It goes without saying that

there is no accounting for taste, and I CAN understand that students sometimes do not understand, and, therefore, do not enjoy a classical music concert, which they find too far fetched; an exotic Hindu dance, which seems to them too bizarre; or a sublime soprano voice, which they find too ludicrous. But then again, nobody forces them to attend, and if they do attend and happen not to enjoy the show, they can gentlemanly, and in a civilised way, leave the place quietly, instead of embarrassing the poor artists and egotistically ruining the pleasure of those who would like to enjoy the performance. To end my article, I intended to write: "Dear students - no offence - but please grow up!!!
 HOWEVER, I have been informed of the recent exemplary display of student behaviour at the Gendarmerie Royal Orchestra classical concert of Tuesday, April 22nd. This has pleased me beyond measure, and the least I can do is applaud. I sincerely hope that Tuesday's behaviour will serve as the setting of a pleasant, mature trend.

I have always been favourably impressed by Egyptian audiences who tend to encourage, give confidence to, and ultimately inspire the artist on stage



The book Whisperer



Is it the translator's voice or the issue of women?

MANAGING TIME

Rajae Berjal

Fail to plan, plan to fail. Generally, we take it for granted that there is plenty of time. Due to this we are involved in some activities that are a wholesale waste of time. However, I am convinced that managing time effectively is potentially the major factor that can lead to success, reduce daily pressures of life and allow people to enjoy all the things that they appreciate.

Time is clearly our most precious resource that determines how successful we are. Since we all have the same amount of time, it is clear that how we choose to use that time is important to our success. In addition, the control of our life

and the feelings of satisfaction with our life can be enhanced when we manage our time wisely. By managing time efficiently we can do everything better and achieve success in any area faster and easier.

"Poor time management is a major stress factor in our lives," says Daniel S. Cochran, who has taught management skills workshops for twenty years. We usually clutter our minds with vague promises about what we should do and what we could do. But there is always more to do than there is time in which to do it. Most of the stress that people feel doesn't come from having too much to do. It comes from not organizing their time.

In a stressful society, proper time management may be the key to keeping your life running smoothly and your health problems to a minimum.

They are only so many hours in a day. However, by managing time all of us can make the most of them and gain extra hours. Managing that valuable resource is just as important as managing money or a business. Those who do this well can have more time for things they really want to do. If they do it poorly, their environment will control them. Managing time shows us how to make space for all the important things in our lives.

Each of us has only twenty-four hours a day and no one else can

live our lives for us. To know how to manage our time will teach us how to succeed in our lives. Furthermore, a person who manages time will never say, "I wish I were three people because of all the wonderful things I could do if I had time". Learn to effectively plan and prioritize each day, week, and month. Making lists, focusing on steps to reach a goal, and rewarding yourself upon completion are the skills necessary to manage your time and to achieve success in all facets of your life.

Sources:

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BREAST CANCER : A SERIOUS CONCERN

Imane El Fechtani

Breast cancer is the second leading cause of death after lung cancer among women in the United States, according to the National Cancer Institute (NCI). Breasts are mainly composed of lobes, lobules, and bulbs

connected by ducts. Other components of the breast are blood and lymph vessels. The latter constitute a structure that is called lymph nodes. The Clusters of lymph nodes are located, in the chest, above the collarbone, under the arm, and in other parts of the body. The lymph vessels and lymph nodes circulate fluid called lymph in the body, which helps fight infections and diseases.

Many treatments have been invented and developed. Doctors may even make use of surgery in hopeless cases. The sooner the breast cancer is detected the higher chance the women will recover from it. There are many ways to detect the breast cancer at an early stage: mammography, clinical breast exam by your health professional, or the breast self-exam may also help detect cancer early. Breast-self exam is an effective way and an easy and efficient way to detect it.

*Time of the self-exam: 3 to 5 days after your menstrual period ends.

*Here after are 11 steps, taken from WebMD Health, to follow to perform the breast self-

exam:

In the mirror

1. Stand undressed from the waist up in front of a mirror in a well-lit room. Look at your breasts.

Don't be alarmed if they do not look equal in size or shape. Most women's breasts aren't. With your arms relaxed by your sides, look for any changes in size, shape, texture or skin. Look for skin puckering, dimpling, sores or discoloration. Inspect your nipples and look for any sores, peeling or change in the direction of the nipples.

2. Next, place your hands on your hips and press down firmly to tighten the chest muscles beneath your breasts. Turn from side to side so you can inspect the outer part of your breasts.

3. Then bend forward toward the mirror. Roll your shoulders and elbows forward to tighten your chest muscles. Your breasts will fall forward. Look for any changes in the shape or contour of your breasts.

4. Now, clasp your hands behind your head and press your hands forward. Again, turn from side to side to inspect your breasts' outer portions. Remember to inspect the border underneath your breasts. You may need to lift your breasts with your hand to see this area.

5. Check your nipples for discharge (fluid). Place your thumb and forefinger on the tissue surrounding the nipple and pull outward toward

the end of the nipple. Look for any discharge. Repeat on your other breast.

In the shower

6. Now it's time to feel for changes. It is helpful to have your hands slippery with soap and water. Check for any lumps or thickening in your underarm area. Place your left hand on your hip and reach with your right hand to feel in the left armpit. Repeat on the other side.

7. Check both sides for lumps or thickenings above and below your collarbone.

8. With hands soapy, support the breast with one hand while using the other hand to feel the tissue. Use the flat part of your fingers to press gently into the breast. Follow an up-and-down pattern along the breast, moving from bra line to collarbone. Continue the pattern until you have covered the entire breast. Repeat on the other side.

Lying down

9. Next, lie down and place a small pillow or folded towel under your right shoulder. Put your right hand behind your head. Place your left hand on the upper portion of your right breast with fingers together and flat. Body lotion may help to make this part of the exam easier.

10. Think of your breast as a face on a clock. Start at 12 o'clock and move toward 1 o'clock in small circular motions. Continue around the entire circle until you reach 12 o'clock again. Keep your fingers flat and in constant contact with your breast. When the circle is complete, move in one inch toward the nipple and complete another circle around the clock. Continue in this pattern until you've felt the entire breast. Make sure to feel the upper outer areas that extend into your armpit.

Scientists have known of a connection between breastfeeding and reduced rates of breast cancer since the 1920s



THE UNJUST KING AND THE PILGRIM PRINCE

Taoufiq El Ouali

Once upon a time (and a good time it was), there was a king who exceeded in his rule, a tyrant, violent and over-severe, who had no respect for the welfare of his lieges nor for those who entered his realm. From everyone who came within his kingdom, his offices took four-fifths of his monies, leaving him one fifth and no more. Almighty Allah (God) gave him a son who didn't approve of his father's deeds, and renounced everything in his youth, rejecting the world and that which is therein and put all his life at the services of the Most High. He wandered pilgrim-wise over the lands and wastes, and by times entered cities and towns.

One day, he entered his father's capital and the guards laid hands on him and searched him but found nothing save two gowns on him, one new and the other old. They stripped the new one from him and left him the old. He decided to put his complaint to the king, but was denied to meet him. When the guards announced the king's coming out, he threw himself on his way and after blessing him and wishing him well, he made his complaint to him, informing him how badly he'd been

treated by the guards. The poor man gave the king to know that he was a man of the people of Allah, who had



rejected everything seeking the acceptance of the Almighty and who had gone wandering over lands entering cities and towns where he was treated decently. "I entered your city hoping that the folks would deal kindly and graciously with me. But, they stripped me of one of my two gowns and loaded me with blows. So I am here at your hands asking justice. I ask that the gown be restored to me and I will not stay another hour in your city." The king asked, "Who

directed you to enter this city, not knowing the customs of its king?" "Give me my gown and do whatever you like with me," was the pilgrim's reply. The answer did not please the king and he got very angry; he said, "You fool, we stripped you of your gown so that you can humble yourself to us; and since you made this clamor, I will strip your soul from you." Then he commanded to put him in jail, where he began to regret having answered the king and reproached himself for not having left the king the gown and saved his life.

In the middle of his first night in jail, he prayed long and prayerfully, saying, "O Mighty Allah, you are the Righteous Judge; you know my case and that which had befallen me with this tyrannical King, and I, your

oppressed servant, beseech you to deliver me from the hands of this oppressor. Wherefore, if you know that he has wronged me, loose on him your vengeance this night and send on him your punishment. You are the helper of every oppressed, O You to whom belongs the power and the glory to the end of time!"

When the jailor heard the prayer of the poor prisoner, he trembled in every limb, and behold, a fire suddenly broke out in the king's palace and consumed it and all that was within, even to the door of the prison, and none was spared but the pilgrim and the jailor. When the jailor saw this, he knew that it had not befallen save because of the pilgrim's prayer, so he released him and fled with him to another city.

So was the unjust king consumed along with his city by reason of his injustice, and he lost the goods of this world and the next world.

.....
 Story chosen from *The One Thousand Nights and one Night*

Dear Readers,
 Please send us back your comments and suggestions. They are valuable to us. Remember
 The AUI News is for and by you, students

A Way of Communication
 The telephone is like an aspirin
 That makes you forget loneliness,
 As if it was the only way
 The telephone is like a slave
 That obeys its master
 And gives the full information
 The telephone is like an imaginary friend
 That makes you closer
 to your real companions
 As if it was the only way of communication
Kawtar Messat

The hope
 Sometimes, it is worst than all the guilt of a sin
 Unhopeful, there is nothing left to believe in
 Tears are streaming down, injuring your cheek

Betrayal is rendering you discouraged and weak
 Tearing out your heart, remorse is making your sigh
 The truth figured out, the joy is just a damned lie
 Despair is killing you leaving you alone
 Your heart is so upset till it becomes a stone
 Still young with an awful old feeling that you cannot take out of your mind
 You feel as weird as an elderly man covering up a crime
 So worried to be trapped in an act you have never denied
 So concerned to be punished for an unfortunate wine you have never tried
 What a loss to despise and reject the best part

of your life
 It's just like forgetting the taste of an aged woman who has been your wife
 So even from a nebulous, dark sky
 Whose ill luck had been hunted down
 Appears an offhand light whose burst blinds
 And takes you away on hope's wings to the crown
 The ignoble fate had buried you in frantic melancholies
 But despite this deep darkness,
 There are still magnificent memories
 To which only heart is unfortunately the witness
 You can suffer but hope will always triumph
 And I'm sure it will never stop
Mounia Chahboun

- Across**
1. Hit the mall
 5. Try to steal a scene
 10. Campus bigwig, for short
 14. Role for Hatcher
 15. Big name in copiers
 16. Molten discharge
 17. Single piece
 18. Softly, to Serkin
 19. Warrior who fought against Troy
 20. Tough-talking radiotalk show host
 23. It may be sheer
 24. Ace-showing calls, in bridge
 28. Hosp. areas
 29. Golf holes
 32. Asserts
 33. Henner of "Evening Shade"
 35. Truck stop sign
 36. "SpaceCamp" star
 39. Copied
 41. Tot's tender
 42. Doctrines
 45. "Sleepless in Seattle"
 46. Wet behind the ears
 49. An alkali metal
 51. The Parthenon's goddess
 53. She married William Shakespeare
 56. Harleys, in bikers' slan
 59. Singer Frankie
 60. Costa ____
 61. throw in the towel
 62. Lapel label
 63. "____ go bragh!"
 64. Building lot
 65. Snappish
 66. ____ wear department

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

LABYRINTH

- Down**
1. Nancy's friend
 2. Closet contrivance
 3. Bloomin' bulbs
 4. Microorganism-growing dish
 5. Cause of frostbite or suntan
 6. Lo follower
 7. Dental exam
 8. Bracer
 9. Book of Moses
 10. Improvise, in a way
 11. Colonial British rule in India
 12. Eggs, to a biologist
 13. Transmit, in a manner
 21. Admission ticket, slangily
 22. Narc's org.
 25. "____ three ships a-sailing..."
 26. "Spring ahead" syst.
 27. "Mayday!" signal
 30. Snaps
 31. Bumped off
 33. Acted hurriedly
 34. ____ no good
 36. Lane's co-worker
 37. Game plan
 38. Shrubby wasteland
 39. It's west of Afr.
 40. Louvre pyramid architect
 43. A base metal
 44. Bright in daytime
 46. upgrade, as a house's
 47. Tylenol alternative
 48. Damon of "Mo' Money"
 50. Victorious Gettysburg commander
 52. Sultan's palace area
 54. Google returns
 55. Premed sci.
 56. Command ctrs.
 57. Aye, in Versailles
 58. "Skedaddle!"

AT A GLANCE, WHO AM I COMPATIBLE WITH?

Page prepared by *Imane El Fechtani*

ARIES goes with Leo, Sagittarius, Gemini and Aquarius.
 TAURUS goes with Virgo, Capricorn, Cancer and Pisces.
 GEMINI goes with Libra, Aquarius, Aries and Leo.
 CANCER goes with Scorpio, Pisces, Taurus and Virgo.
 LEO goes with Aries, Sagittarius, Gemini and Libra.
 VIRGO goes with Taurus, Capricorn, Cancer and Scorpio.
 LIBRA goes with Gemini, Aquarius, Leo and Sagittarius.
 SCORPIO goes with Cancer, Pisces, Virgo and Capricorn.
 SAGITTARIUS goes with Leo, Aries, Libra and Aquarius.
 CAPRICORN goes with Virgo, Taurus, Scorpio and Pisces.
 AQUARIUS goes with Libra, Gemini, Sagittarius and Aries.
 PISCES goes with Scorpio, Cancer, Capricorn and Taurus.

Sign	planet	color
Aries - March 21 - April 20	MARS	RED
Taurus - April 21 - May 21	VENUS	PINK
Gemini - May 22 - June 21	Mercury	GREEN
Cancer - June 22 - July 22	Moon	SILVER
Leo - July 23 - August 21	SUN	GOLD

Virgo - August 22 - September 23 MERCURY GREEN
 AND DARK BROWN
 Libra - September 24 - October 23 VENUS Blue
 Scorpio - October 24 - November 22 PLUTO
 DARK RED TO MAROON
 Sagittarius - November 23 - December 22 JUPITER RICH
 PURPLE
 Capricorn - December 23 - January 20 SATURN
 BROWN and most dark colors
 Aquarius - January 21 - February 19 URANUS
 TURQUOISE
 Pisces - February 20 - March 20 NEPTUNE Soft Sea
 green

The AUI News editorial Team wants to wish good luck to the new appointed staff: Nadia Tahraoui, Rachid Gerdaoui, Abdellaoui Nabila, Ghizlane Tbeur and Aziza Boumahdi, in their new positions. Congratulations all.

SPORT ADDICTS

Taufiq El Ouali

**Abdelbary Abeliouny:
Football Team Player**

I cannot imagine a university without sport activities, and this semester like the previous ones: our university provided many sport activities. I feel the need to practice soccer at least three times a week, and that is because of my background as a Wydadi player. As an AUI Lions player, I had the chance to participate with my teammates in the Dubai Tournament, which was an unforgettable experience. We really improved our technical abilities in that tournament. Sport activities this semester provided bigger opportunities to meet new friends and to improve personal skills. I want to seize this opportunity to thank our coach, Adel Kamane, for the big efforts he is making with the team; it was thanks to him that we could participate in the Dubai international tournament. I also want to thank Khalil our captain for leading us to a place in the semi final. I want to add that besides soccer, AUI gave me the chance to practice other sports like tennis. Finally, I would like to advise AUI students to join the sport activities on campus and take advantage of the facilities that the sport section provides.

**This is Badr Molato:
Table Tennis Player**

Hello Aui community, I am glad to introduce myself to you through this article and I would like to share with you some precious moments that I had the privilege to experience during this semester. First of all, I congratulate all the AUI sport players who performed well in some important events since they honored our university in prestigious competitions. Then, I am writing this article in order to inform you about outstanding per-



formances of our Table tennis players (sorry for my modesty, but I am also concerned!!). We have won



important cups in the Moroccan University championship, and were able to participate in tournaments



against prestigious Moroccan official teams (CODM) like in "le tournoi régional". Maybe we have



lost against some of them but still, we are improving our level and aiming to do better in the future. We are also

participating in the "Crown Cup" and we wish to go as far as possible in it. Thank you for giving me this opportunity to let people know about this exciting sport and our performances.

N.B.: We often consider this activity as a second rank sport but just try it and you will see how you can enjoy it.

**Salwa Jmila
Ping Pong Team**

Even though it became popular this year, Table-Tennis (Ping-Pong) has never gained great interest. This is increased by the fact that its different techniques and plays are not easily recognized.

This semester, many new members have joined the AUI team and a new trainer has been preparing and guiding the players through competitions. After participating in the national championship, the next challenging competition was the AUI universities national championship. It has been an opportunity for us to confront other players with a higher level, and get the output of all our hard training. It happened in an atmosphere charged concurrently by stress, mutual motivation and fun.

For me, it was a particular event since I've been able for the first time to get to an advanced stage of the competition. I take the opportunity to thank all the members of the team that supported me till the final for their worthy advice:

Zakaria (the trainer) for his efforts and concern, without forgetting the organizing team.

**KENZA Oulahboub :
Women Basketball Team Player.**

This semester sport activities were somehow limited. They were mostly related to Moroccan universities championship. Since most of the AUI official Teams did not qualify to the finals, sport activities stopped earlier than usual. We only had few friendly games (2 at most for the women basketball team). We always play with the same teams. We need to diversity and variety. The consequence is an unmotivated team, bored and sometimes angry team members. They lost faith in the team and the coach. But we must not deny the fact that the members of the team are in a big part responsible due to their passive contribution; the players are most of the time lacking combativeness, perseverance, and ambition, and this despite the presence of good players whom we should congratulate.

This semester, sport activities needed to be more expanded. Personally, this semester was not good. The training sessions were very poor and not constructive. We won two games, but they were enough to make me proud. I was disappointed because I feel that we could have done better; we have good members who need support and constructive training. Most of the players left the team due to their loss of faith.

I love basketball and I will never stop playing it. And I feel sad and sorry when I see unmotivated and passive. My wish is to see a strong come back of the team next semester, with new horizon and new motivation tools: necessary practice will make us improve and maybe participate in the next Dubai Championship, Incha Allah.

OUR TABLE TENNIS: NEVER SAY DIE

The end of the semester was marked by the organization of the National Universities Table Tennis Championship at AUI. The universities that participated in this event were (in addition to AUI) Ibn Zohr University in Agadir, Med V University in Rabat (with two faculties, Souissi and Agdal), Ibn Tofail University in Kenitra, Mly Ismail University in Meknes, Hassan II University in Casablanca (Ain Choq), Sidi Med Benabdellah University

in Fes, and Abdelmalek Essaidi University in Tetouan. The competition was very tight and our stars managed to go through the semi-finals, in all categories, double and single, males and females. In single category, our star Hachimi Alaoui missed his chance to be crowned champion due to a lack of concentration, and the same can be said about Salwa Jmila who lost in the final against a good Fassi player, Oudiyi Rokia.

However, the AUI double team managed to be crowned National Universities champion in the men's category thanks to the duo Hicham Alaoui and Badr Molato, whereas the women category lost the same chance after a heartbreaking match. The results were as follows:
Semi Finals:
Single category:
Men: Hicham Alaoui (AUI) vs Zakaria Laghzaoui (AUI) 3 sets to 0.
Boulaamouz (Souissi) vs

Belmokhtar (Souissi) 3 sets to 1.

Women: Salwa Jmila (AUI) vs Shakir Hada (Ibn Tofail) 3 sets to 1.

Oudiyi Rokia (Fes) vs Achfar Assia (Ain Choq) 3 sets to 0.

Double category:
Men: AUI team A vs Ibn Zohr 3 sets to 0.
Med V Souissi vs AUI team B 3 sets to 2.

Women: AUI vs Abdelmalek Essaidi 3 sets to 0.
Med Benabdellah vs Ibn Tofail 3 sets to 2.

Finals:

Single category:
Men: Boulaamouz vs Hicham Alaoui 3sets to 0.

Women: Oudiyi Rokia vs Salwa Jmila 3 sets to 1.

Double category:
Men: AUI Team A vs Med V Souissi 3 sets to 1.

Women: Med Benabdellah Fes vs AUI 3 sets to 1.

The AUI News Editorial Team wish to congratulate the AUI stars for the pleasure and joy they gave the AUI Community during this event. Keep on working, you are great!



PICTURES SPEAK LOUDER THAN WORDS; SOMETIMES



1- Nizar : Essaouira Festival is close by!? 2- Orientation Leaders: our good ambassadors. 3- FUN RUN = Volunteers take the foreground 4- Jil Jilala did not stir students 5- The "Days phobia" targets students...but where are they?! 6- Finance Club elbowing the way 7- "The Raped" old issues are always up-to-date in our backward society. 8- Symphony : a rendez-vous to abide by.

