

Happy Halloween!

Page 13 October is National Lupus Awareness Month
Learn about the different forms of lupus, how it affects the body, symptoms of the disease, and possible forms of treatment.

Page 3 Dedication marks start of clinical education
Nursing students take part in a traditional rite of passage which signifies their entrance into the nursing community.



THE SIMMONS VOICE

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BETH MACLIN

Salem residents add spooky decorations in preparation for Halloween.

Symposium offers students advice on career decisions

By Renée Frojo
STAFF WRITER

Entertainment anchor for WBZ-TV and Simmons graduate from the class of 1974, Joyce Kulhawik, will speak at Simmons next Tuesday for the second annual Career Symposium sponsored by the Career Education Center. The event will give students from all majors the opportunity to hear her story and take advice about making meaningful career decisions.

After Kulhawik, eight accomplished women will share their stories of success in six breakout sessions.

"The whole idea is that students get to hear about the successful women role models who share the roads they took to their career success," said Roxanne Jackman, the assistant director of career counseling at the Career Education Center.

The panelists will go beyond just discussing interests in specific career fields. The main objective of the program will be to identify common themes that are woven into the lives of successful women who have graduated from Simmons, according to Jackman. The point is for students to learn from the powerful stories of women role models in fields other than what they are studying.

"Some people are going to look at this and say 'oh, she's a deputy chief information officer and I'm majoring in political science,' but it doesn't matter because these women are very successful and there are some very common threads running through their stories," Jackman said.

The women who will speak in the breakout sessions include Simmons alums who own companies and hold high executive roles. Two of these women are Desirae Simmons, '05, who is now the Jumpstart site manager at Northeastern University and Cheryl A. Hutt, '88, the financial officer at Harvard University's Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology.

They will talk about their experiences at work, share words of advice, and reflect on the dynamics of the workforce today. They will answer questions such as "How do you go about figuring out what you want to do if you just don't know?" and "What are employers really looking for?"

After the panel discussions, students will have the opportunity to meet and chat with the presenters.

Simmons will speak about the process of getting a job after graduation and give advice on how Simmons women can use their strengths in the workplace.

She said the symposium is good for students to see positive examples of how "the real world" works.

"The reality is that being in college is part of the real world in the sense that what you put in is what you get out, so once students get used to this fact, they will be better off in the end," she said.

The best piece of advice Simmons will offer students is to look for a place of employment where they will be happy. "It is easy to find someplace to get a

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Simmons considers possible name change in strategic plan

By Traci Farrell
STAFF WRITER

Simmons Dean for Student Life Sheila Murphy presented the college's proposed strategic plan to the student senate at last week's Student Government Association (SGA) meeting. Murphy said that Simmons College may become Simmons University.

Simmons College would remain an undergraduate college for women, but it would be considered part of a larger university that includes its six graduate programs.

The plan strives to help Simmons become "a highly respected and select university," Murphy said. She added that the plan will be for the next four to five years, and will focus on the "deepening of existing strengths" of the school.

"All the things about being

small and intimate will remain," Murphy said. "We will not let boys in!"

She said that Simmons is unable to attract the desired number of international graduate students because "college" means high school in most countries, which potential international graduate students do not find appealing.

The goal is to provide opportunities for "international students to come to our campus, and for our students to go abroad," Murphy said.

Simmons will strive to "be renowned regionally, nationally, and internationally" for teaching leadership skills, she said. There will also be an emphasis on "diversity in academic and community life."

The plan will allow Simmons to "grow modestly" in Boston, but

there is no plan to open campuses in other countries, Murphy said. Simmons will not expand into new fields but is instead thinking about offering new degrees from existing schools.

Accelerated Master's degrees are offered in some programs already, but the strategic plan calls for more undergraduate programs to do this as well. Accelerated degree programs make an undergraduate student's senior year part of her first year of graduate school. The program "encourages students to stay here at Simmons for further degrees," Murphy said.

There are possibilities for Masters programs in the School for Health Studies, such as a joint degree in healthcare administration.

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JESSICA HAMBLETON

Camp Sunshine hosted their fifth annual pumpkin festival at City Hall Plaza. For more about the festival, see page 11.

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Struggles of an HIV-positive artist

"Getting better" has become a relative term for one woman in Soweto, South Africa.

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Berger drops the f-bomb

Think you are the only one to use four-letter words? Read Professor Sidney Berger's column this week about curses.

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Renowned art critic is coming to Simmons

Donald Kuspit, a New York art critic, will be speaking at Simmons in November. Find out the details inside.

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Professor shares new poems at reading

As part of Latino Heritage Month, Professor Afaa Weaver participated in a poetry reading on Oct. 19 in the Student Activities Conference Room where he read from his new book, *The Plum Flower Dance*. People were encouraged to bring their own poetry or other written work to share at the event. As the guest speaker, Weaver received a Simmons thermos with a leather case which he said is "a solid indicator that poetry is on the move at Simmons." Professor Weaver is profiled in the November/December issue of *Poets & Writers* magazine and is also featured on the cover.

Chemistry/Physics Liaison celebrates National Chemistry Week

The Chemistry/Physics Liaison collected plastic cups and made ice cream at the S table in the lower Fens on Oct. 23 in celebration of National Chemistry Week. The liaison encouraged students to donate their plastic cups from the Fens and Java City because they are 100 percent biodegradable. The cups, made from corn, can be recycled into tile cleaner and soap scum. The cups are made with Polylactic acid (PLA), which is "a benign material that readily degrades in heat or humidity," according to a brochure from the Chemistry/Physics Liaison. Liaison members used liquid nitrogen to freeze ice cream to share with the community.



SGA *continued from page 1*

Such a program would combine the nursing degree and the master's degree. The School of Social Work is looking into similar changes.

Due to the growth of the school, Murphy said the plan also calls for "a big infusion of new faculty." This would reduce class sizes and alleviate the teaching load of the faculty.

"All the things about being small and intimate will remain. We will not let boys in!"

~SHEILA MURPHY,

DEAN FOR STUDENT LIFE

Murphy also talked about the use of space on the academic campus. She said there are opportunities for growth at the Main College Building (MCB), and that no more new buildings will be constructed after the School of Management is completed. She said that some departments have moved to different buildings since the completion of the library construction, and the Office of Advancement has moved from the MCB to the fourth floor of the library.

She said that the plan will also focus on globalization, technological innovation, changing democracy, and the demand for a return on the investment of a higher education.

Murphy stressed the financial strengths that Simmons would see as a result of the strategic plan. Under the plan, the college will become less dependent on tuition through a larger endowment. Baseline philanthropy, which is currently at \$8 million per year, will be doubled to \$16 million each year.

There is a capital campaign "of no less than \$100 million over the next five years," Murphy said. There is currently a study to see if this is a realistic goal for Simmons to achieve.

"The biggest campaign that Simmons ever tried for was \$50 million, and we raised \$68.5 million," Murphy said.

Murphy does not deny that the plan will take a lot of money. "It will take fundraising and grant writing," she said. Expanding the faculty also means the possibility of paid research studies for the college.

The strategic planning committee will solicit comments from the community after the Board of Trustees has reviewed it. Students are encouraged to send comments to the alumni office regarding Simmons' possible change to Simmons University. The strategic plan is available at www.simmons.edu/strategic.

Simmons collects points to donate turkeys

Simmons is collecting Shaws turkey points to donate to the Parker Hill/Fenway Emergency Food Pantry. Shaws shoppers receive one turkey point for every \$25 spent on groceries and can redeem 20 turkey points for a free turkey. Students who do not want their turkey points are asked to bring them to Melissa Kelly or Roslyn Taylor in the College of Arts and Sciences Dean's Office in C-209.

Health Center offers flu vaccines

The Health Center is administering free flu vaccines for all Simmons undergraduate and graduate students. The vaccines are available Mondays through Fridays from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at the walk-in clinic at the Health Center. An announcement from the Health Center says that students at high risk for complications from the flu should make every effort to receive the vaccine. People at high risk include women who are pregnant, and people with immune system problems or heart or metabolic diseases. The exact number of flu-related deaths per year is unknown, but the Associated Press reported that researchers now believe that influenza claims more lives than AIDS each year.

Former Warburg Chair returns for lecture

The Political Science/International Relations department held a Warburg brown bag lecture called, "Afghanistan in 2007: The Other Catastrophe," in the Kotzen Meeting Center on Oct. 15. Ambassador Charles F. Dunbar, a former Warburg Chair, returned to Simmons to talk about the current situation in Afghanistan.

CAREER *continued from page 1*

paycheck, but much harder to find someplace that you will not dread going to day-in and day-out," she said. "Start thinking of things that are important to you and don't be afraid to ask questions to find out whether those things are present."

Hutt will speak about ways to explore career options and decision making. She said she believes that no two career paths are alike, so it is important to have the opportunity to speak with alumnae and gather information.

"It's no different than doing research for a paper," she said. "You are gathering information in order to make the right career decision."

To Hutt, the most important things students should do are network and be open to ideas. "Think about how a prospective position will help me to add to my professional tool kit," she advised. "What can I learn in this position that I can take to my next career challenge?"

The symposium begins at 12:30 p.m. in the Linda K. Paresky Conference Center and the panel breakout sessions will take place from 1:45-2:45 and 3-4 p.m.

"We want to give students the opportunity to hear notable alums who have taken what they've learned at Simmons and how they've built on their careers," Jackman said. "It's a way to be inspired and motivated so that you can make the most of yourself and go after your dreams."

investigate rumors. **create** controversy. **see** both sides. **review** movies. **capture** kodak moments. **explore** the night life. **evaluate** student life. **see** your name in print. **argue** your point. **go** behind the scenes. **meet** politicians. **fight for your rights**. **question** the status quo. **make** new friends. **write**. **draw**. **photograph**. **opine**. **design**.
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Lecture addresses Shakespeare plays, leadership

By Nora Levy
STAFF WRITER

Tina Packer, founder and artistic director of Shakespeare & Company in Lenox, Mass., discussed how Shakespeare plays reflect universal lessons of leadership in a lecture last Monday in the Kotzen room.

Packer's speech focused on her struggles to create a stable non-profit theatre company, and her creative process as an actor and author. "I do think a lot about [how] art is and always has been about business too," Packer said.

"I started seeing that the Shakespeare plays contained almost exactly every situation I found myself in."

The event was highly anticipated and well attended. "I've always been interested in Shakespeare, since I was probably 11, and I've always been interested in what his writings have to teach

flow, building a budget, anything. I knew about Shakespeare plays, and that was it," she said. She began with \$3,500 in the bank. "I was that innocent, that I didn't know this was absolute madness.

"If I'd have known what it meant to be a businessperson, I would never have done it," Packer said.

Her company began as a creative experiment. "I wanted to see how a classical theater company would deeply affect a community," Packer said. "We wandered around the Berkshires a bit, and came upon Edith Wharton's derelict house."

Packer's group works with actors, businesspeople, and young people to use Shakespeare as a foundation for life. "They actually start being articulate in a whole other way. That gives them a sense of self," she said, "that stays with them."

She also discussed the free-



ALLISON SHAPIRA

President Susan Scrimshaw, Eileen Friars, Tina Packer, and Diane Raymond talked after the lecture.

us, and how even now you can see those situations in real life," first-year Grace Sisti said.

Shakespeare and leadership as lecture topics appealed to both students and faculty. "I'm here for the extra credit points, but it's something I would probably attend anyway, because Shakespeare was really emphasized in my high school career, and it's nice to see how it affects real-world situations," sophomore Katie-Ann DeFilippo said.

The Eileen Friars Leader-in-Residence program, which is funded by Eileen Friars, and the Simmons College class of 1972 sponsored the lecture. "We've had this program since 2002. It's a rich and full program," said Diane Raymond, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. "There couldn't be a better speaker."

The Friars program is a collaboration between the Dean's office and the Career Education Center, which brings women in positions of leadership to Simmons to speak with students.

"Two months ago I became an American citizen," Packer said, reflecting on the past 30 years she has spent in the U.S. with her theater company. The beginning of her journey was difficult, said Packer.

"I knew nothing about cash

dom and expression of Shakespearean language, "whereas now, these days, we use language to suppress ourselves." Packer said, "If we don't start being emotional, we're going to kill ourselves."

"We're not interested in not being who we are," Packer said. "We belong to the world of Dionysus. We don't belong to the world of 'thou shalt not.'"

Packer had some advice for budding entrepreneurs. "Have a passion for the thing you're doing," she said. "Have as much fun as you possibly can. Learn from the mistakes you will inevitably make."

"I don't know that much about Shakespeare, but it was still really meaningful," first-year Allison Pazar said.

Her honesty and passion also impressed some audience members. "She was very inspiring, and her passion for theatre has guided her whole life, and she's very inspiring," said Anne Detwiler, a student at the Simmons Graduate School of Library and Information Sciences.

"She was very honest, spoke from her heart. I loved how she spoke about expressing her emotions."

As Packer said, "Shakespeare, they say, you remember for the rest of your life."

Dedication marks entrance into nursing community

By Carley Caldas
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Simmons College Nursing Dedication Ceremony took place on Oct. 19 in the Linda K. Paresky Conference Center. The class of 2010 nursing students attended the event with friends and family to celebrate the beginning of their clinical education.

Ninety-two nursing students, clothed in their Simmons College navy blue scrubs, participated in the event, which is a right of passage into the nursing community.

The Nursing Dedication is one of the longest standing traditions at Simmons. Soon-to-be nurses were originally given nursing caps at the event, but the students now receive pins that symbolize their invitation to the professional circle of nursing.

Senior Bridget Batchelder received an award in honor of Adrielle Warwick, a Simmons student in the class of 2008 who died earlier this year. After Warwick's death, the award was created so that others could "share in her enthusiasm for leaning," according to Dr. Judy A. Beal, professor and chairperson of nursing and associate dean of the School of Health Studies.

Beal said that the award will be presented annually to a clinical scholar, and each recipient will address the sophomore class about living with a "relentless search for knowledge."

Beal described Warwick as someone with a genuine "love for learning," and someone who had a love for Simmons. She added that Warwick had lived "with true grace and serenity." Several other people, including Warwick's mother, gave testimonials to her earnest desire to enrich her mind. Warwick said that even when faced with a life-threatening illness, Adrielle never gave up her dream.

"She faced her illness bravely and without complaint so not to be separated from her peers," Warwick said.

Dr. Patricia White, assistant



SAMANTHA FURBUSH

Nursing students became official members of the nursing community in a pinning ceremony in the Linda K. Paresky Conference Center.

clinical professor, talked about the various obstacles she has seen and experienced as a nurse over the years. She also talked about the rigorous nursing curriculum at Simmons and said that students have been "working steadfastly for the past year." White said the nursing students will soon experience their first taste of the "pleasure and satisfaction that comes from such a noble profession" in their clinical courses.

White said that the ceremony was a way in which the students dedicate themselves to the nursing profession, and that this dedication is what separates Simmons nurses from others in the field. "Simmons alums are a true testament for excellence in nursing," she said.

Sophomore Maryanne Meadows said that she is confident that Simmons is preparing her for a successful career in nursing. When

asked her feelings about starting her clinical, she said, "I'm very nervous, but I'm also very confident in our clinical instructors."

"Clinical scholars are innovative, always available, confident, comfortable, formal and informal leaders," Beal said. "Clinical scholars show a deep love for nursing and are able to walk in the patient's shoes."

Before the ceremony ended, all of the nursing students recited the Nightingale Pledge. Each student left the ceremony adorned with Simmons College key fobs and white roses, which represented their new status as members of the nursing community.



SAMANTHA FURBUSH

Adrielle Warwick's parents presented senior Bridget Batchelder with the first annual Adrielle Warwick Award in honor of Adrielle, who passed away last year.

Rice wants more security for U.S. diplomats in Iraq

By Matthew Lee and Anne Gearan

(c) 2007 AP

WASHINGTON (AP) – Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice on Tuesday ordered new measures to improve government oversight of private guards who protect U.S. diplomats in Iraq, including cultural awareness training for contractors and a board to investigate any future killings.

The steps, recommended by an independent review panel she created after last month's deadly Baghdad shooting involving Blackwater USA, also would tighten the State Department's rules of engagement and bring them into line with those of the military.

The State Department will set up panels that include security officials and others to look into each shooting or other use of deadly force by private guards and organize rapid response teams to investigate shooting incidents.

The department will also require contractors to have Arabic speakers on hand.

Another step Rice has ordered is the appointment of a senior diplomat to oversee Iraq security operations, State Department officials said. That job, a temporary assignment for now, will be held by Steve Browning, a senior foreign service office who is now U.S. Ambassador to Uganda.

The moves announced Tuesday are among those that Rice opted to make on her own, but further changes are likely after she meets

later this week with Defense Secretary Robert Gates.

Some of the review panel's recommendations would require joint action with the Pentagon, State Department spokesman Sean McCormack said.

Rice was briefed Monday on the panel's findings and the State Department released the document Tuesday.

"Prompt measures should be taken to strengthen the coordination, oversight and accountability aspects of the State Department's security practices in Iraq in order to reduce the likelihood that future incidents will occur," the report said.

Patrick Kennedy, a State Department official who led the review, told reporters that the group focused on management and policy, not possible wrongdoing by Blackwater or others. The shooting in a Baghdad square last month killed 17 Iraqi civilians. Iraqi authorities claim Blackwater guards fired unprovoked, but Blackwater's founder has said his employees were fired on first.

The new review board for deadly incidents would have the power to refer cases to the Justice Department, Kennedy said.

The report also identified a gap that left private guards for diplomats in Iraq outside the direct control of U.S. civilian or military law and outside Iraqi law, a U.S. official said.

"The legal framework for providing proper oversight of personal protective services contractors is inadequate," the report said.

The panel made no specific recommendations about what should happen to Blackwater, whose guards were escorting an official from the U.S. Embassy when the shooting occurred.

The killings have outraged Iraqis and focused attention on the shadowy rules surrounding heavily armed private guards.

The recommendations would apply to management of all private security contractors in Iraq, and recognize that it is impractical to eliminate such protection altogether. The military has resisted assuming responsibility for guarding large numbers of U.S. officials, and the State Department's own security force is too small and already stretched too thin.

Earlier this month, Rice accepted several preliminary suggestions to improve oversight of security contractors, including having federal agents accompany Blackwater-escorted diplomatic convoys, installing video cameras in security vehicles and improving and recording audio communication between diplomats and the military.

Rice said late Monday she wanted to speak with Gates before moving to formalize the unified control recommendation but praised the authors of the review for their work and hinted she would endorse many, if not all, of their findings.

The Iraqi government is demanding that Blackwater be expelled from the country within six months and that its employees be subject to Iraqi law.

NOTEWORTHY NEWS

'Ban on Bhutto' leaving Pakistan

Farhatullah Babar, spokesman for The Pakistan People's Party (PPP) announced that former Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto has been banned from leaving the country.

Although the interior ministry has not commented on the matter, Babar told the BBC that the Pakistani government often bans opponents from leaving the country.

A hundred forty people died last Thursday during an assassination attempt against Bhutto when she returned to the country after years of self-imposed exile.

The BBC's M Ilyas Khan said that the ban may be a move to put pressure on Bhutto in her negotiations with the government.

Bhutto faced a ban from leaving the country years ago, but Musharraf lifted it earlier this month.

Darfur 'a quarrel over a camel'

Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi compared the conflict in Sudan's Darfur region to a "quarrel over a camel" that has become an international issue.

Gaddafi, who is due to host peace talks between Darfuri rebel groups and government representatives this Saturday, said local leaders would have already solved the tribal dispute if it were not for the economic interests of international powers in the region.

Tensions between rebel factions continue to grow as Ahmed Abdel Shafie, leader of the prominent Sudan Liberation Movement that represents the Fur tribe, announced that he will not attend the talks.

Shafie said he would not go since the atmosphere was not "conductive" for success.

The conflict in Darfur has displaced more than 2 million people and over 200,000 people have died.

Chile offers immigrants amnesty

More than 15,000 Peruvians and 2,000 Bolivians will be entitled to full residency permits after the Chilean government announced that it would grant amnesty for about 20,000 illegal immigrants from other Latin American countries currently working in the country's black economy. The illegal immigrants include 3,000 Brazilians, Ecuadorians, and Colombians.

Interior Minister Belisario Velasco urged immigrants to come forward.

He said they should not fear reprisals for joining the program, which he said was intended to normalize immigration in the country.

The large informal sector of Peruvian and Bolivian immigrants will now be provided with legal recourse.

Italy investigates pasta makers

Italy's regulator plans to examine practices of pasta manufacturers to ensure fair competition in the pasta market and investigate possible monopolies.

There has been controversy over the blame for sharp rises in pasta prices, which are expected to go up by 20 percent in the fall. Pasta makers say that the high cost of wheat causes high pasta prices. Consumer groups, however, have blamed pasta makers for behaving like a cartel.

Italian authorities will investigate whether members of the Industrial Union of Pasta Makers, which represents about 85 percent of the market, colluded to fix the price of spaghetti, fettuccine and other favorite pasta dishes.

Consumer groups asked the public to refrain from buying or eating pasta for one day in protest against the recent price increases.

Information from www.bbc.uk and compiled by Lucia Cordon

Communist reshuffle sends Hu to next 5 year-term

By Charles Hutzler

(c) 2007 AP

BEIJING (AP) – In his characteristically low-key fashion, President Hu Jintao has put his stamp on China's direction, sidelined key rivals, taken over as head of the military and emerged as pre-eminent leader after months of infighting.

In an address Monday after being re-anointed as Communist Party leader, Hu struck a typically humble note, thanking ordinary Chinese for their confidence while never mentioning the bruising effort that brought him the crowning moment.

In the past five years, "Hu was certainly first among equals. Now there are no such clear equals," said Cheng Li, a watcher of elite Chinese politics at Washington's Brookings Institution. "Hu Jintao is doing very well."

Hu's victory was far from unconditional. With the towering figures of the communist revolution long gone, no Chinese leader commands respect across the party, government, military and society at large to rule single-handedly. Rather the party's top ranks must manage collectively, fashioning consensus and coalitions.

As the price of getting a rival power-broker to retire and bringing a favored protege into the leadership at the just-concluded party conclave, Hu was forced to promote another young technocrat a move that could make governing collectively difficult should the potential successors fall to infighting.

Together they face a China transformed by capitalist reforms that have raised standards of living

while unleashing a populace more demanding of its government and a society fracturing across a widening rich-poor gap. Their main source of legitimacy is an economy that has on average grown yearly at double-digit rates for most of the last quarter century.

The turmoil of China's juggernaut economy intruded soon after the new leadership was inaugurated. A fire that killed 37 people broke out Sunday night in an unlicensed shoe factory in an export-manufacturing town one of the first pieces of bad news reported by the state-controlled media since high-level party meetings opened in Beijing nine days ago.

Hu's prescription for dealing with the welter of problems continued fast growth, reforms to make the government more responsive but not democratic, and increased social spending to bolster the urban and rural poor has now become party writ.

Soon after taking office in 2002, Hu and Premier Wen Jiabao paid visits to herders on the bleak Mongolian grasslands and chatted with coal miners. Those encounters, tossed off as symbolic photo opportunities, in fact presaged policy shifts.

Hu and Wen began trying to redirect nearly two decades of policy that favored letting coastal areas flourish while the interior lagged. They loosened rules to make it easier for migrants from the countryside, whose labor has underpinned China's export and construction booms, to move to cities. They improved urban social welfare networks to help pensioners and workers displaced by state industry

restructuring and rolled out pilot programs for rural Chinese.

Resistance arose from officials in coastal areas and the businesses who support them and whose tax revenues have swelled the government treasury. A year ago, Hu sent corruption investigators from Beijing to detain Shanghai's influential party secretary, who criticized the central government's attempts to rein in torrid growth and bring the party in line.

On Sunday, the communist elite adopted Hu's policy program, "the scientific outlook on development," into the party's charter. An associate of the ousted Shanghai party chief, Vice President Zeng Qinghong, retired, depriving the grouping of a potent operator inside the party.

In presenting his vision to congress delegates earlier this month, Hu exhorted them to be more law-abiding and suggested the government needed to invite entrepreneurs and other influential Chinese into the party's big tent, lest they become a nascent opposition. Yet he made it clear the party's control must remain unchallenged.

Hu called on the party's 73 million members to prepare for "unremitting efforts by several, a dozen, or even dozens of generations."

Ultimately, however, Hu may have arranged his own political exit. In getting Zeng to retire, Hu hardened an unwritten rule that senior leaders should step down if they are going to reach their early 70s during the usual five-year terms. Zeng was 68. Hu will be 69 in five years time.

Beating the Boston blues for less than \$15

BY BETSY A. HALSEY
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

You have been in Boston for over a month. The weather is getting increasingly cooler and the leaves are falling rapidly. Course loads are getting heavier and midterms are approaching. You have exhausted the general Boston day-trips: shopping on Newbury St., lunch at Quincy Market, and dinner downtown.

You want to get out and explore more of the city, but you have run out of ideas—not to even mention cash.

Boston, like many cities, is filled with ways of keeping the average college student entertained. “It’s a matter of planning,” says Sydney Flint, a sophomore at MassArt. “I try to keep busy, but it definitely slows down in the winter.”

Getting the ins on the scene is just a matter of research—just pick up any one of the number of free newspapers and magazine guides. “I love all of the options that those magazines provide,” says Flint, “but I don’t often take advantage of them and it’s usually due to money issues.”

While keeping yourself occupied in Boston can be pricey, there are plenty of cheap activities for under \$15. Here are a few suggestions, a few for every personality, to get started and to help beat those Boston blues.

Fancy yourself a starving artist? Take a break from the textbooks and visit the Museum of Fine Arts (MFA) free of charge with your Simmons ID. And if you are 21+, be sure to mark your calendars for the first Friday of the month. MFA Fridays, hosted from 5:30-9:30 p.m. in the Koch Gallery, is a free event with general admission.

For an alternate take on the MFA’s Friday night, head over to the South End to visit the (South of Washington St) SoWa. Artists Guild. During First Fridays, from 5-9 p.m., enjoy the art and hors d’oeuvres while mingling with friends at the open-gallery events.

“It’s a very accessible port-hole into the Boston art scene, since we all know any art scene can seem intimidating or snobbish,” says junior Claire Smith.

Take advantage of Target Free



KRISTIN PITTS

Anna’s Taqueria is one example of many restaurants that offer filling, inexpensive food.

Thursday Nights at the Institute of Contemporary Art (ICA) in South Boston. Regular student admission is usually \$10, but from 5-9 p.m. on Thursdays admission is free. Unable to make it on Thursdays? Visit anyway. The Water Cafe is accessible without admission and offers fresh views of Boston’s waterfront.

America’s next top model?

What better way to beat the blues than to freshen up your hairstyle? Liven up your life by livening up your look: attend a model call at Umi Salon on Newbury St. The stylists will evaluate your hair to determine your eligibility for a free haircut from a training stylist. Lauren Shofield, model coordinator, says they prefer to keep the student-teacher ratio low for their stylists and usually accept four to seven models per night.

If your wardrobe is feeling a bit dull give it some spice and follow the pink plastic bags to the The Garment District, the self-advertised “alternative department store” and hunt for a bargain.

The Garment District offers the “Dollar-A-Pound+” special, which, according to the Web site, originated in the early 1980s and continues to offer dirt-cheap prices on clothing, shoes, bags, belts, household items, and records. The Garment District also features consignment by appointment and different clothing sections that

include: vintage, contemporary, 1980s, and costume.

Outdoor enthusiast trapped in the body of a city slicker?

Take a walk and experience the historical roots this city has to offer- and no, not just the Freedom Trail. Borrow a self-guided walking tour and learn the history of the city that would stump even a true born-and-bred New Englander.

“There were many instances that I passed certain structures or buildings and thought nothing of them,” says Nicholas Starno, a Maine native and Northeastern University student. “The city is very walk-able, making the tours very informative without a full day commitment.” Starno recommends the text used in his History of Boston class, *Boston Foot Notes: A Walking Guide* by Jane Grossman and Felice Yager.

“If someone is interested in where they live or visit, then the walking tours give a good amount of visuals to go along with the facts,” says Starno, who references his visual-learning style.

How about a day-trip just outside of the city? Head to MetroRock, an indoor rock climbing facility easily accessible on the MBTA’s orange line. MetroRock, located in Everett, Mass., is a state-of-the-art climbing center with student rates, according to its Web site. Take the orange line to the Wellington T stop, call for the free

MetroRock shuttle service, and wait near the “Drop Off and Pick-Up Platform.” Once you have arrived, an all-day pass for students with valid ID is \$14.

Get some fresh air, take a walk near the harbor, and check out where Martin Sheen plummeted to his death-in *The Departed*, of course. Download the free MP3 audio walking tour and go on a Boston HarborWalk.

According to the Website, the hour-long tour begins at the Inter-Continental Hotel near South Station and highlights several points of interests to tourists and natives alike, including the filming location of Martin Scorsese’s Oscar-winning movie.

Music junkie?

Warm up to Boston’s Symphony Orchestra, which offers same-day rush tickets on Tuesday and Thursday nights and Friday mornings. Be sure to arrive at the box office by 5 p.m. to score tickets to the 8 p.m. show, while the office opens at 10 a.m for Friday’s 1 p.m. show. Rush tickets cost \$9, can only be paid for in cash, and are limited to one per customer.

Are you more into the rock-and-roll scene? Be sure to keep track of the local venue’s schedules. Many bars and clubs offer access to live music, but do not stress if you are underage: The Paradise Rock Club offers shows for the 18+ crowd and depending on the show,

prices can be as low as \$12.

“We college students are poor, but musicians are poorer, so if we’re going to spend money, might as well spend it on a night of good music,” says Smith. “Everybody wins and your ears get happy.”

Smith says she regularly checks *The Phoenix*, WERS: Emerson College’s radio station, and Pitchfork Media to stay up-to-date on music listings and free events.

Need more ideas?

Check out what is going on with the Campus Activity Board (CAB). According to senior Erika Fields, CAB treasurer, a variety of events are held frequently. “We do movies at least once a week on the residence campus.” Or pick up one of the plethora of magazines and newspapers that specialize in keeping students, tourists, and natives busy during those brutal winter months. It is coming.

It is not just boredom: getting out is good for your health, too

“Sunlight has lots to do with our mood,” says Maruka Rivers, a Clinical Social Work Intern at the Simmons College School of Social Work. “It has a lot of chemicals, including vitamin D that contributes to our sense of well-being.”

Rivers explains that some people can get down during the winter if they are not receiving enough sunlight.

To stay upbeat her suggestion is to get out and get sunlight everyday. “Even when the sun is not shining there are still UV rays stimulating the chemicals in your brain,” she says.

Fresh air is important, too. Rivers says that cold virus can be in your system without you even knowing it. “People tend to close windows and doors in the winter months which restricts air circulation and is a contributing factor to why people get sick,” she says. “Even when a cold is not symptomatic it takes energy, leaving the person feeling down and sluggish.”



KRISTIN PITTS

The Coolidge Corner Theatre offers a variety of films, mostly small independent films. Adult tickets are \$9.75.



KRISTIN PITTS

The Campus Activities Board (CAB) organizes events around campus. For a listing of events, check the student life calendar.

She is Simmons: Lee kicks it up a notch

By Beth Maclin

STAFF WRITER

During the half hour sitting on a couch in a far corner of Java City, senior Cindy Lee begins to sound like a broken record. Her answer to most questions is either “Tae Kwon Do,” or something related to it.

So many things in her life are linked by one place, and it happens to be about a ten-minute walk on Brookline Avenue toward Kenmore Square. Lee spends around 15 hours per week practicing and teaching Tae Kwon Do at the Jae Hun Kim Tae Kwon Do Institute, and plans to spend more once she graduates.

While Lee will most likely work in Web site design and management after she walks across the stage in her cap and gown this May, she hopes to eventually make a living as a full-time Tae Kwon Do instructor.

“It’s work, but it’s like it’s not work. I just love teaching there,” she says. She currently only works on Sundays from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. because of her busy senior-year schedule.



Senior Cindy Lee holds a starfish.

“I love teaching the kids, and the adults. It’s almost like I’m not working. It’s my dream job, just to work there all day,” she says.

Lee says that she e-mailed Mr. Kim, her mentor and the founder of the Institute, about her interest in becoming an instructor.

“He’s really taken care of me, you know, teaching me things that he wouldn’t necessarily bother saying to other people, because he knows I have the potential to grow as an instructor,” she says.

Jae Hun Kim, a Tae Kwon Do Grand Master, but known by his students as Mr. Kim, also believes Lee has the potential to be an instructor. “Cindy is one of the most promising students we have at the school. She is dedicated, and her attention to technical detail has served her well in her achievements to date,” he says.

“She is one of the people being trained to become an instructor, and I hope to see her teach our system of Taekwon-do someday in various locations we have around

the world.”

Lee says that she would only teach at one of the Institute’s schools, which means either staying in Massachusetts, going to Seattle or moving to one of two locations abroad— Korea and Singapore.

Right now she is planning on staying in the Boston area specifically because of the Institute, but she also plans to travel - a lot. She has only been abroad once to Hong Kong when she was three years old, but she was too young to remember it. Some countries on the top of her list include England and Australia, but her first stop will most likely be Hong Kong, because she “wants to see what it’s like back there.”

Lee is a first-generation American, and while it seems to reflect in her hobbies and interests, she does not think it affected her experience growing up. Her parents are from southern China, which means her first language is Cantonese.

“Cantonese, I spoke at home with my family, and I just started speaking that, and then I went to school and learned English.

the testing, we get all nervous together, so it’s pretty fun,” she says.

When asked if there is any rivalry between them over Tae Kwon Do, she laughs and says no, “he knows I’m better than he is.”

Lee’s older brother, a graduate student in Northeastern’s management of information systems program, also helps her with school work when they have an overlapping computer-related class.

Lee did not intend to be a computer science major. She started as a psychology major, and the switch to computer science will keep her here a semester later than expected. She should have finished this fall.

“I figured that I really liked doing the whole computer stuff. Because we did a lot of that in high school, you know, like building Web sites, and stuff like that. So I went with that,” she says.

“She is one of the people being trained to become an instructor, and I hope to see her teach our system of Taekwon-do someday in various locations we have around the world.”

~JAE HUN KIM
TAE KWON DO GRAND MASTER

She hopes to develop and maintain Web sites after graduation, and has found many opportunities at Simmons to gain experiences that will most likely impress future employers. “This one right now I’m doing for the missions department, and it’s like the guidance counselor Web site. It’s especially for high



COURTESY OF CINDY LEE

Senior Cindy Lee sends a message with her cell phone.

school guidance counselors to recruit new people to Simmons. And I think I might be working on the Computer Science Web site soon,” she says.

“And there’s another Web site for a professor here, a nutrition professor. Her husband has a dental office, so I’m basically building that one from scratch. That one took me a while.”

Web sites is what led her to join the Asian Student Association (ASA) last year, also. “I basically just rebuilt the Web site over the summer, and will maintain it until I graduate. Honestly, I just felt like their Web site needed some work.

“Well, a lot of my friends are in it too, and we’re always talking about it, and I’m like, ‘this Web site...’” she says laughing and shaking her head. “Because they have

stuff like, ‘photos coming soon,’ but the photos are never posted or anything. So I’m like, ‘Alright, I’ll take it over.’”

Tae Kwon Do has helped Lee with her confidence and assertiveness. She says that above all, Tae Kwon Do is about control and accuracy, and she hopes to reflect that in the work she does in the future.

“Well, I feel like it’s taught me a lot of self-confidence, and it, basically, has helped me grow and express myself,” she says. “Usually, when I’m at school or something, I’m very shy, but I think since going to Tae Kwon Do, it has helped me believe in myself.”



COURTESY OF CINDY LEE

Senior Cindy Lee (right) started taking Taekwon-Do five years ago with her mother and older brother (also pictured).

HIV-positive artist struggles, despite popularity

Without monetary aid, “getting better” is a relative term

By Kristin Pitts
STAFF WRITER

On the nights when Flora More is not feeling sad, she falls asleep with glue on her fingers, waiting for inspiration to hit.

When it does, More goes to her workspace, a 6x4 corner of her parents' dimly-lit home. There she pushes aside small medication bottles and tears into a number of limited and unconventional supplies, mostly findings from her neighbors' garbage and occasionally, if the shade of blue is just right, a magazine, which she buys for a few rand.

The result invariably showcases More's now well-known trademarks: bright colors and South African women. But as her collages make their way off her thin walls and onto the walls of hotels, homes, and art galleries, the only thing that keeps up with the popularity of her women-focused work is criticism.

The backlash, she says, stems from a history of sexism and a resistance to let it go. Despite the fact that South Africa's relatively new constitution, which protects women's rights and promotes equal opportunities, More is one of many South African women who find themselves in a battle for employment, and a struggle for respect.

“Women here are being discriminated against by men. They think we only belong in the home, but we are trying to prove them wrong. Nothing is impossible, as long as you have a mind and the hands to do it,” More says.

In this post-apartheid society, where not long ago inequality was not just socially but legally enforced, More is ready for the balance that South Africa has been striving for.

“Men say all the time, ‘Why are you only drawing women?’ And it's a bit of my loathing, I think,” More says.

The loathing stems from what she calls a typical Soweto woman's life. A high school dropout, she married young to a man who abused her. When he died a few years later, her community turned on her, accusing More of being involved in his death.

But it would not be long be-

fore her community would reject her a second time. A few years ago, More discovered that she, like so many other South Africans, was HIV positive. After disclosing her status to her then-employer, More fell victim to both her disease and the ignorance surrounding it.

“Due to discriminations that I faced after I disclosed my status, I was sent away by my employer,” More says. “Apparently they thought I was going to infect them.”

In a country where as much HIV information as misinformation is being spread, stories like More's are all too common.

“Due to discriminations that I faced after I disclosed my status, I was sent away by my employer. Apparently they thought I was going to infect them.”

~FLORA MORE,
SOUTH AFRICAN ARTIST

South African Health Minister Tshabalala-Msimang's assertion that a diet of beetroot and garlic is vital in treating HIV, coupled with former Deputy President Jacob Zuma's claim that a shower after having sex could prevent HIV from being transmitted are just two examples of many that showcase a need for correct information, and give explanation as to why HIV positive South Africans face so much discrimination.

But More considers herself lucky.

“I was fortunate to get a big project doing mosaic work, which sustained me for about a year.” More says.

After her project was completed, More entered the workforce with a positive attitude, and support from the few people who were willing to give it: her professors



DAN CONNELL

Flora More speaks at an event for Funda Community College. More says that her friends and professors at Funda Community College were her main support system as she struggled with finances, sexism and HIV.

and classmates at Funda Community College.

“When I first started school there was no one supporting me. But I stayed here. I persisted,” More says looking around the room where other women sit, their artwork on display.

“I invited my friends and family to my first art exhibition, and that got me a little respect, and a little more when they did a story about me in the paper, but still people were asking ‘Why are you doing this?’

“Finally I brought my work back home and hung it on the walls. That's when people fell in love with it.”

More's work offers hope in a place where it is often hard to come by, where basic needs like housing, water, and electricity are commodities, and wealth is just a taxi ride away. But for her, and the five family members who lean on More for financial support, money for the basics, for now, is in place.

But just how long that money will be there is the question that has been keeping More up late, blocking that anything-but-sad mood she relies on to work. As an independent artist, More knows her next paycheck is not a guarantee. As an HIV-positive artist, that uncertainty is even more real.

Currently, More's CD4 count, which indicates the strength of her immune system, is under

200. Healthy, HIV-negative adults generally have a CD4 count of 500-1,500 cells per cubic millimeter of blood. Preventative treatment and government funding starts when a patient's CD4 count is under 200. Once an HIV-positive patient's CD4 count rises above 200, the patient is deemed well enough to go off government aid—a cut off that terrifies More as she reviews her already-tight budget.

That aid, along with the money she earns from her collages, goes to feed, clothe, and house her son, niece, sister who works part time, and her parents, who receive a small pension. By the time her expenses are paid, she does not have much left over. But she has seen how bad it can get, she says, and considers herself fortunate.

This October, More will take a CD4 test to determine whether or not she will continue receiving aide. She now finds herself in a tug-of-war: hoping for better health, but also hoping for a budget that supports her family.

More worries that getting better will mean that she will not be able to afford luxury items like electricity, or her son's education.

But she is not alone. With unemployment rates skyrocketing, “getting better” has become a relative term.

“I worry a lot,” More says, “but after HIV, you have to be strong.”

More stares into the distance for a while, then snaps back into the moment. Her worries have been getting to her—affecting her work. Sometimes she will find herself up at all hours of the night, adding or taking away from her latest collage, ignoring her commitment to only work when she is happy.

“Sometimes I work without thinking, and I have to stop, but it's hard. When you start tearing and creating it all feels right,” More says.

It is difficult to stop her glue-covered fingers when for so long collages have acted as a kind of therapy for her.

“You know what helps? This,” she says, and points out a collage of four women—More's closest friends, who got her through her husband's death, her education, and now HIV. “This helps. This and my son.”

More leans back in her folding chair. She says she is tired, but does not look it. Her eyes are wide and her skin is radiant. She seems to have found herself, in her successes and her struggles.

“This has changed me in so many ways. My thinking is more matured, and the way people think of me is different,” More says, smiling. “They see a person now instead of just a lady.”



KRISTIN PITTS

Funda Community College, located in Soweto, South Africa, is well-known for its women artists.



DAN CONNELL

Simmons students gather outside of Funda Community College to hear about the history of the college.

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

Nationally renowned art critic Kuspit will visit Simmons

By Catalina Rojo
STAFF WRITER

Renowned art critic Donald Kuspit will present a lecture "The Ethics of Transgression: Is it still Possible?" on the current exhibit in the Trustman Gallery.

In the lecture, Kuspit will respond to the current trend in contemporary art, centered on found and borrowed objects. Specifically, he will respond to the three-part exhibition at the Trustman Gallery called "Spinning Straw into Gold: The Ethics of Production."

This series is curated by Simmons Professor and Trustman Gallery Director Barbara O'Brien and features artists Chantal Zakari, Two Girls Working: Tiffany Ludwig and Renee Piechocki, Deborah Bohnert, and Rachel Dayson-Levi.

"I am very curious to know what he will say about the work that has been on display at the Trustman this semester," said O'Brien.

She explained that it is not often that students will have seen the work that a renowned critic such as Kuspit will be talking about.

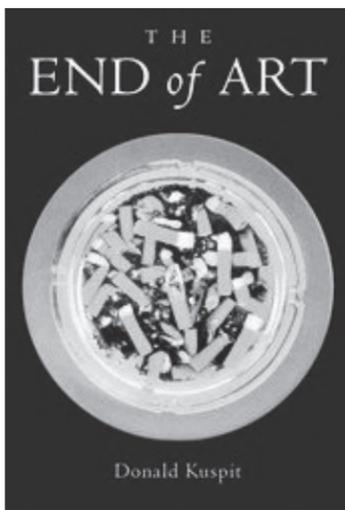
"I am very excited for Donald Kuspit to visit Simmons. He is nationally recognized... It will be a great opportunity to hear his unique point of view in the context of contemporary art, specifically in this exhibit," said Samantha Furbush, junior.

The series focuses on the inspiration for and the production of contemporary art in a post-appropriation age. Most of the art community now bridges over other academic disciplines, such as sociology, journalism, and political science.

Kuspit is a widely published author, essayist, and curator whose work has been featured in top art magazines and books. His recent book *The End of Art*, published in 2004, is a point-of-view assessment

"I am very excited for Donald Kuspit to visit Simmons. He is nationally recognized... It will be a great opportunity to hear his unique point of view in the context of contemporary art, specifically in this exhibit."

~ SAMANTHA FURBUSH,
CLASS OF 2009



PROVIDED BY MARCIA LOMEDICO
Donald Kuspit's book was published 2004.

of contemporary art after a lifetime in the field.

In 2005, Barry Gewen of the *New York Times* called Kuspit, "a New York critic at the red-hot center of the contemporary art scene," according to the press release for the lecture.

Kuspit's book is often considered controversial, partly because "he is often critical of practices within the contemporary art world," according to O'Brien. "A lot of people think that members of the contemporary art community speak with one voice. [Kuspit] is a critic who looks at art and takes a questioning stance."

Kuspit edits a variety of publications including *Art Criticism*, *Artforum*, *Art New England*, and *Artnet*, an online art journal. O'Brien is the former editor-in-chief of *Art New England*.

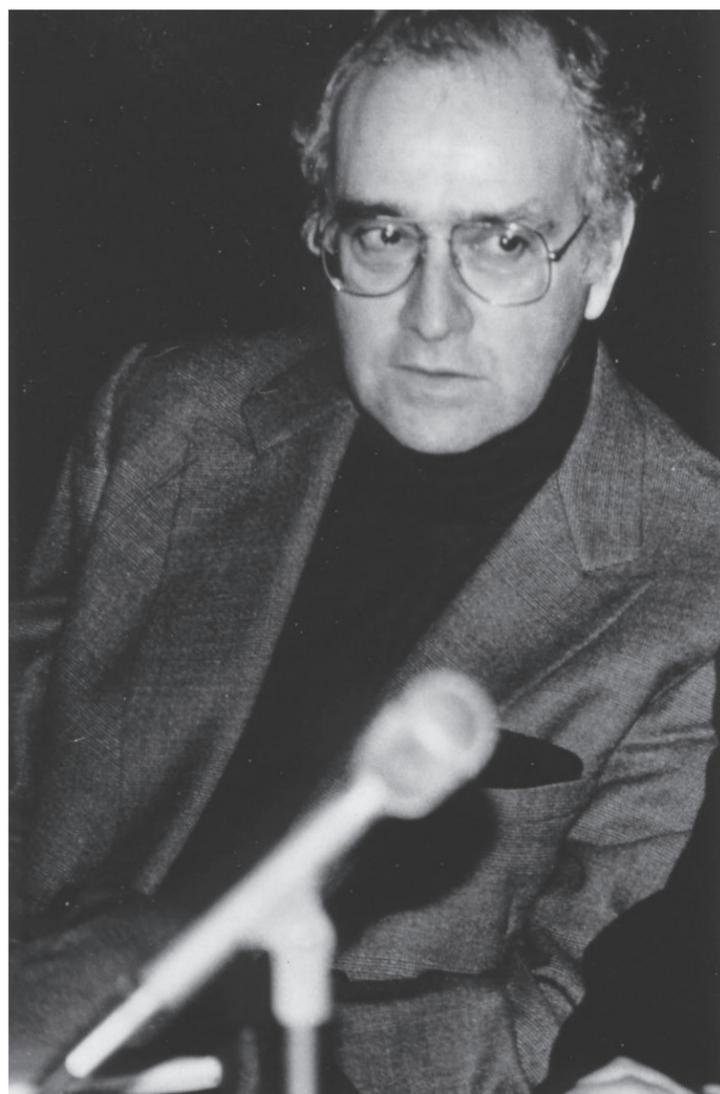
Kuspit is now a professor of art and philosophy at the State University of New York, Stony Brook. After earning a master's in philosophy from Yale, Kuspit went on to earn a second degree in art history from Pennsylvania State University.

He later earned his doctorate in art history from the University of Michigan and his doctorate in philosophy is from the University of Frankfurt in Germany.

One of Kuspit's famous quotes deals with the way art is viewed and admired in today's society.

"In attempting to establish certain art as more legitimate and necessary than other art, history writing implicitly privileges some art as more creative and ideologically correct than other art, however much writing history itself may be a creative interpretive and as such artistic act, and also an ideological act," he said.

He is interested in Simmons, and it is an honor as a curator to



PROVIDED BY MARCIA LOMEDICO

Donald Kuspit will speak about the ethics of transgression in November.

know that he appreciates and directly responds to the works of art, which are on view, said O'Brien.

The lecture is sponsored by Simmons College's Office of the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences as part of the series, "Careers in the Liberal Arts." Also in the series will be Carmen Baez, Joyce Kulhawik, and later in the year, Denise Di Novi, and Ann Fessler.

The series, "Spinning Straw into Gold: The Ethics of Production," was funded by the LEF Foundation and by the Catherine Hannah Behrend Class of '70 Fund.

"The Ethics of Transgression: Is it Still Possible?" will be held in the Linda K. Paresky Center in the Main College Building at Simmons College, on November 14 at 7 p.m. The lecture is free and open to the public, with a reception to follow.

A new twist on an old classic

An all Female cast performs Macbeth at Boston University's School of Fine Arts.

By Caitlin Mazzola
STAFF WRITER

In Shakespeare's time, even a single female actor was unheard of. In fact, all of his productions featured all-male casts. Whether it was "Romeo and Juliet" or "Othello," every part was played by a male.

Shakespeare would probably be very shocked to find that an all-female cast has been performing one of his greatest tragedies, "Macbeth," this fall at Boston University's Studio 102.

Not only is this all-female cast performing a Shakespeare play, but the play is an ironic pick. "Macbeth" is a work that is concerned with gender, especially masculinity.

Lady Macbeth, the play's foremost female, even asks the spirits to "unsex" her and make her

more like a man in order to help her husband perform the grisly duty of murdering King Duncan.

The Actors Shakespeare Company chose to perform "Macbeth" with an all-female cast and the experience was far different than any other performance of Shakespeare I have seen.

I stepped into Studio 102 with the notion that the actors would be disguised and costumed as men. I expected beards, bulky male clothes, and well-disguised ponytails. The actors and the artistic designer went for just the opposite.

All the women playing male characters were plainly women still. Their boots were feminine and their clothes still showed off the female character.

As strange as it sounds, it worked well. After all, what is the point of having an all-female cast

perform a predominantly male play if the women are just disguised as men?

"Macbeth" will be running in Studio 102 at the Boston University School of Fine Arts until November 11.

The cast was extremely talented and superbly believable as men. Mayra Lowry, who played Macbeth, especially stood out.

Junior, Samantha Furbush, was very impressed by Lowry's performance. She caught the guilty paranoia Macbeth feels spectacu-

larly, right down to the facial expressions. "Her eyes were bugging out," said Furbush. "I could never act like that."

Other actors, including Sarah Newhouse (Macduff/Lady Macduff) and Robin JaVonne Smith (Malcolm) were also strong and able to hold their own as these classic male characters who are not usually played by women.

The set was simple. There was no stage, and the seating was arranged around a space in the middle of the studio. "When I first saw the set, I did not know how they were going to work with it," said Furbush. While the color scheme was black and white, the color red was not ignored.

All of the death scenes were characterized by a smattering of blood on whichever character died, which stood out vividly against the

black and white color scheme.

The actors executed their performance space beautifully, using every part of the stage and relying on their own performances and Shakespeare's original words to capture the essence of "Macbeth."

Although I was skeptical at first at the idea of an all-female "Macbeth," the Actors Shakespeare Project executed their idea well.

Shakespeare's masterpiece was not lost in the radical idea of an all-female cast. In fact, the all-female cast drove home the issues of gender identification in the play just as well as a normally cast performance would have done, if not better.

Carving for a cause at annual pumpkin festival

By Jessica Hambleton
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The 5th Annual Camp Sunshine Pumpkin Festival transformed Boston's City Hall Plaza into a sprawling pumpkin patch this past Saturday.

The festival broke the Guinness World Record last year for having the most carved and lit pumpkins in one location.

Each year Boston competes to break the old record while raising money for Camp Sunshine, is a retreat in Maine for kids with life-threatening illnesses and their

families.

This year, festival organizers separated City Hall Plaza into activity areas. The areas included the cauldron café, a Halloween "boutique," carving tents, a pumpkin play land, and a pumpkin tower.

Patrons enjoyed musical performances from Barefoot Truth, Lisa Love Experience, Entrain, and Ultrasonic Rock Orchestra while viewing thousands of cleverly carved pumpkins.

Children could play games and watch a magic show with Peter O'Malley at the pumpkin play land. The games included a milk bottle

toss, a pumpkin maze, football fling, gourd bowling, and pumpkin seed spitting.

The public played a large role in the overall success of the event. A carving tent located in the center of the fest supplied tools for people to create jack-o-lanterns.

Truckloads of pumpkins were distributed in assembly line fashion. Hundreds of volunteers spent the day cutting off pumpkin tops and gutting out the seeds and slime.

Kids, college students, and even adults carved pumpkins at the festival. Once the pumpkins were

carved, each one was registered and officially tallied.

Students from Art Institute of Boston, Babson College, New England Institute of Art, and University of Southern Maine volunteered their artistic talents at this year's festival.

These students helped carve pumpkins and arrange them into patterns throughout City Hall Plaza.

A silent auction also helped raise money for Camp Sunshine, with items such as a one-night stay at the Boston Harbor Hotel, an adult ski season pass to Shawnee

Peak, and two round trip tickets on jetBlue.

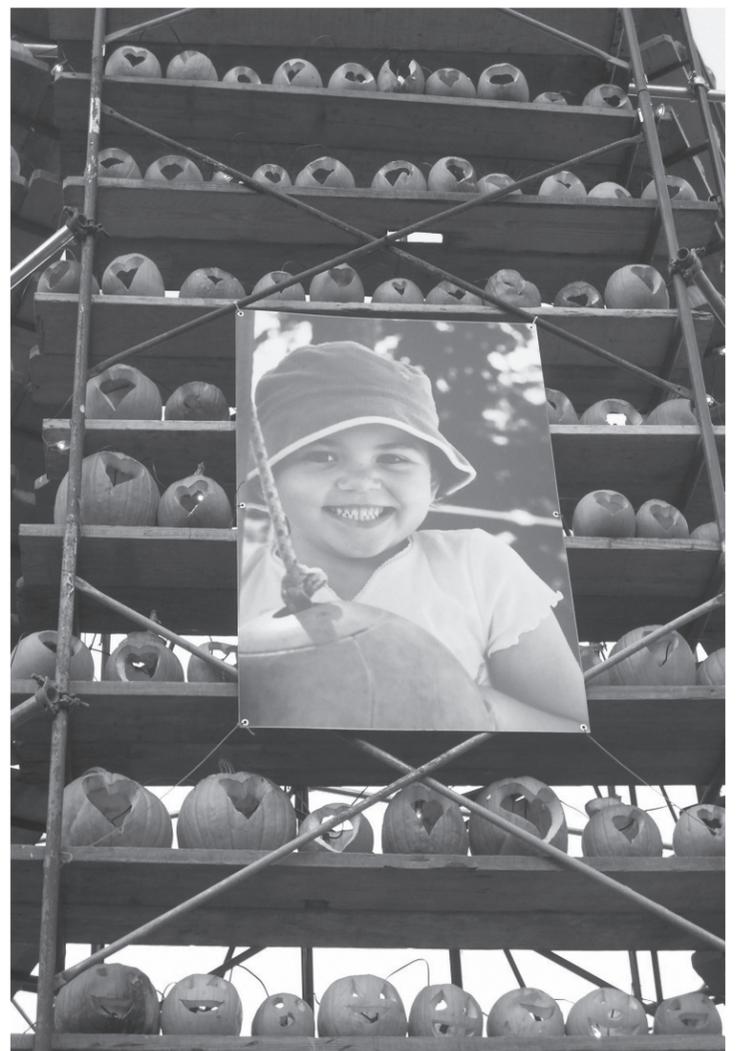
The next event in the Boston area to benefit Camp Sunshine is a polar plunge in January, where participants will take a dive into the bitter cold waters off the South Boston to raise money.

More information on the event is available at the Camp Sunshine Web site.



Camp Sunshine Pumpkin Festival pumpkins.

JESSICA HAMBLETON



A picture of a child from Camp Sunshine is featured in front of carved pumpkins.

JESSICA HAMBLETON



The Camp Sunshine Pumpkin Festival raises money for a retreat.

JESSICA HAMBLETON



Pumpkin Festival volunteers work at Saturday's event.

JESSICA HAMBLETON

investigate rumors. create controversy. see both sides. review movies. capture kodak moments. explore the night life. evaluate student life. see your name in print. **argue** your point. go behind the scenes. meet politicians. **fight for your rights**. question the status quo. make new friends. write. draw. photograph. opine. design. edit. lay out.

get involved.

join the simmons voice.

the possibilities are endless.

8 p.m. Sundays. arnold hall lounge.

Emmanuel shuts down Simmons volleyball

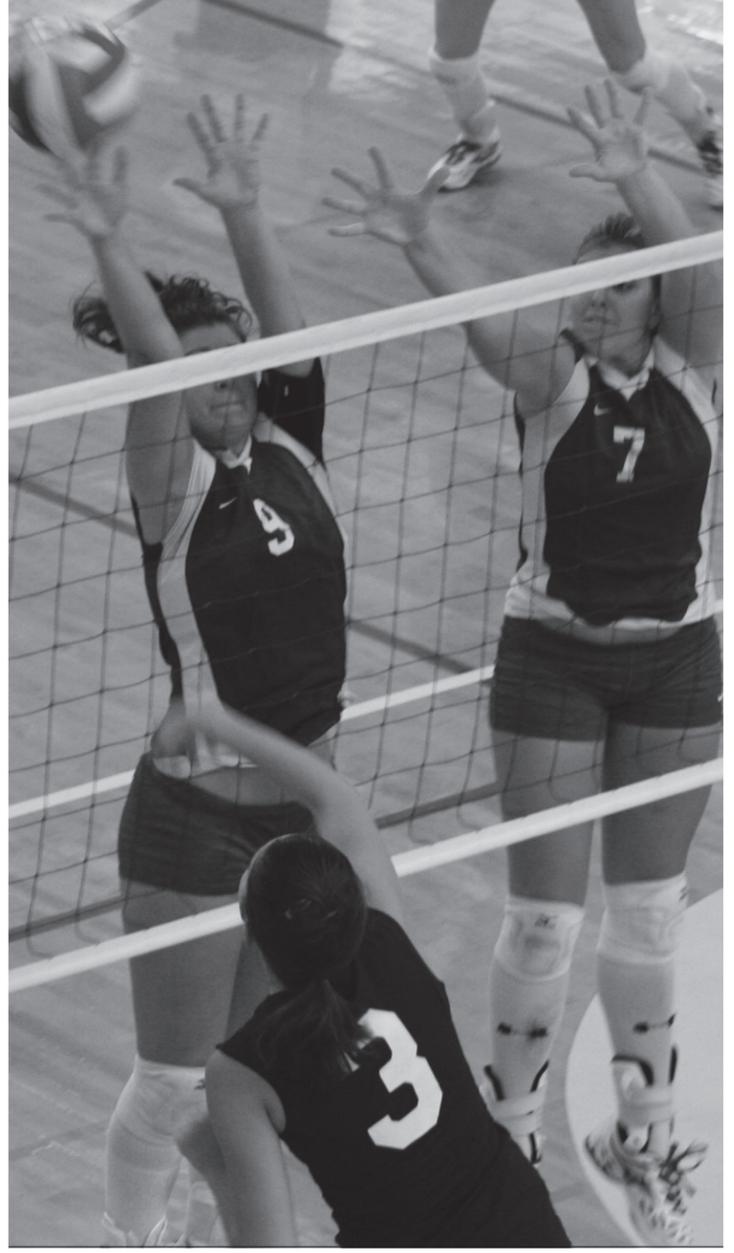


KADY SHEA

Simmons College volleyball lost to Emmanuel 3-0 on Saturday. The first game's was 30-21, the second 30-24, and the last 30-25. Sophomore Jessica Hambleton had eight kills. Sophomore Candyce Arena and senior Alice Liao had six kills apiece. First-years Taylor Pederson had five kills. Setter Dalia Cohen had three service aces and 23 assists. "Liao had a great game. She had the highest hitting percentage from the game and was our go-to person throughout the game. We could count on her to get the ball in when needed," said senior Marissa Rouselle, a defensive specialist.

The team was cheered on by a large crowd, including Dean of Student Life Sheila Murphy, Director of Residence Life Jeanais Brodie, Athletic Director Ali Kantor, and President Susan Scrimshaw and her spouse, Allan Stern.

"The growing support and campus interest in our program is wonderful. Big things will become of Simmons Volleyball and the best part about it is the Simmons community at large is involved in that transition," said Rouselle.



Simmons earns second medal at Charles Regatta



CATALINA ROJO

THE SIMMONS COLLEGE CREW TEAM COMPETED LAST WEEKEND IN THE HEAD OF THE CHARLES, THE LARGEST TWO-DAY REGATTA IN THE WORLD. THIS YEAR'S HEAD OF THE CHARLES REGATTA (HOTC) ATTRACTED OVER 300,000 ONLOOKERS AND 7,000 ROWERS. THE SIMMONS VARSITY 4+ RECEIVED A SILVER MEDAL IN THE COLLEGIATE FOURS WOMEN EVENT ON SATURDAY AGAINST 32 OTHER BOATS WITH A TIME OF 19:27:078, ONLY A FEW SECONDS BEHIND MARQUETTE UNIVERSITY WHO CAME IN FIRST PLACE. COMPETING IN THIS EVENT WERE SENIORS REGINA YOPAK, NICOLE RICHARDS, AND WHITNEY AIRGOOD, JUNIOR ELISABETH SCHWARZ, AND SOPHOMORE NICOLE GALLANT. ALSO COMPETING ON SATURDAY WAS THE SIMMONS COLLEGE CREW TEAM'S HEAD COACH, NIKOLAY KURMAKOV IN THE SENIOR-MASTER EIGHTS MEN'S EVENT. KURMAKOV'S TEAM, TEAM ATTAGER, WON THE GOLD MEDAL WITH A COURSE RECORD TIME OF 15:43:490.

ON SUNDAY, THE SIMMONS COLLEGE CREW TEAM RETURNED TO THE RIVER TO COMPETE IN THE COLLEGIATE EIGHTS WOMEN EVENT AGAINST TOP COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES SUCH AS TRINITY COLLEGE, MOUNT HOLYOKE COLLEGE, TUFTS UNIVERSITY, VASSAR COLLEGE, AND MCGILL UNIVERSITY. THE SIMMONS EIGHT HAD A TIME OF 19:19:222 COMING IN 35 OF 44 CREWS. COMPETING IN THIS EVENT WERE JUNIORS RACHEL FRANCHI, JENNIFER DUBOIS, AND LAUREN SEARLS, SOPHOMORES STEPHANIE RUBINSTEIN, AND CAITLIN URCIUOLI, AND FIRST-YEAR AMANDA MILAD, MELISSA DEROSA, AMANDA DEROSA, AND BEATRIZ DATANGEL.



PROVIDED BY CATALINA ROJO

AIDS vaccine makes significant breakthroughs

By Stephanie Milano

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Since the 1990s, research has been conducted in hopes to find a cure for HIV. And although there is still no vaccine, treatment is available. The treatment is composed of highly active antiretroviral therapy (HAART). The treatment requires a minimum of three drugs consisting of antiretroviral agents.

Early in 2003, a biotechnology company called GeoVax, Inc. came up with a possible vaccine. GeoVax's AIDS vaccine focuses on increasing the cellular immune responses and the number of antibodies. By increasing these two things, AIDS is prevented and the HIV virus is controlled. The vaccine was tested on monkeys before humans. The company took twenty-three monkeys infected with HIV and gave them the vaccine. Out of the 23 monkeys, 22 had positive results, which is a 96 percent success rate. After testing it on humans, GeoVax continued with a three-phase process involving human trials.

Phase One started in early 2003 and ended in 2004. The trial was performed by the HIV Trial Network from three different locations in the United States. The Phase One trials were safety trials that determined whether or not the vaccine was safe to continue with. Phase Two is will begin in 2008, which will consist of a larger group of people. During these trials, the safety of the vaccine will be further tested. Additional stud-

ies on different immune responses caused by the vaccine will also be conducted. It will be during Phase Three when the actual effectiveness of the vaccine will be determined.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), HIV, the virus that causes AIDS, was popularized in the early 1980s. Since then, over 25 million people have died of HIV/AIDS.

HIV attacks and kills CD4 cells, which are a type of white blood cell. The main responsibility of these cells is to fight disease in order to maintain immune defenses. When a person's CD4 count falls below 200, they are believed to have AIDS. Most people die because they get another virus, disease, or infection, which their immune system is too weak to fight.

HIV is transmitted through blood, semen, vaginal fluid, and breast milk. According to the WebMD web site, some of the most common means of transmission is through having unprotected sex, sharing dirty needles, and breast-feeding.

Some ways to prevent the transmission of HIV/AIDS are to have safe sex or to practice abstinence. Also, talk to your partner(s), do not come in contact with other people's blood, always wear gloves when or if handling blood, do not share dirty needles, and get tested. A simple blood test is all that is needed to get tested.

October is Lupus awareness month

By Kimberly Tran

STAFF WRITER

Lupus is an autoimmune disease, which means the immune system fails to recognize its own organs or cells and, as a result, inflicts damage upon itself. According to the WebMD Web site, it can affect every organ and tissue in the body and symptoms can range from mild to severe. Although the direct causes of lupus are unknown, research shows that environmental factors can trigger the development of the disease. These factors include stress, unsuccessful recovery from infections, antibiotics, and exposure to the sun.

Types of lupus

* Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (SLE), the most common form of lupus, affects all parts of the body

* Discoid Lupus Erythematosus mainly affects the skin and causes raised rashes to appear on places such as the face or scalp. This condition may last from a few days to a few years and can reappear.

* Drug-induced lupus is developed by certain medications. Symptoms similar to lupus appear, but eventually go away as the person discontinues the medication.

* Neonatal lupus is an extremely rare condition that occurs in newborn babies of mothers who also have lupus.

Symptoms

According to the Medline Plus Web site, lupus predominantly occurs in

people between the ages of 15 and 45. Symptoms of lupus are similar to that of other diseases, which can make it difficult to diagnose. Common symptoms of lupus are:

- * Extreme fatigue
- * Painful or swollen joints (arthritis)
- * High fever
- * Skin rashes

Symptoms certain organs:

* People with arthritis may experience problems with muscles and bones. Joint pains are common in the hands, knees, and wrists. Muscles in the body may become swollen and irritated. It is very painful and results in fatigue.

* According to the WebMD Web site, skin is affected in 90 percent of people with lupus. Lupus rashes occur on the cheeks and develop from exposure to the sun. In discoid lupus, which involves the skin, rashes occur on the face and scalp, leading to hair loss.

* More than 50 percent of people with lupus will have complications with their kidneys. Those that were recently diagnosed with SLE should check their urine for blood, because kidney inflammation may go unnoticed in the early stages of lupus.

* Inflammation of the membrane that holds the heart is known as pericarditis. It is the most common heart problem in people with lupus. The chest pains that accompany pericarditis may mimic a heart attack. The blood flowing to the hand may experience complications due to spasms, causing Reynaud syndrome. The fingers may take on a white-blue color and is a result of emotional events, pain, or cold temperature.

* 15 percent of people with lupus will experience brain and nerve problems as well as acute psychiatric syndromes. According to the WebMD web site, people with these complications will experience seizures, nerve paralysis, severe depression, psychosis, and strokes. Depression is common and may be triggered as a result of difficulty coping with lupus or the medication used to treat it.

* More than 50 percent of people with lupus have a lung disease. The lining of the lungs swell and cause chest pains and shortness of breath in the person with lupus. It is often confused with pneumonia, which can also occur in people with lupus if they are on immunosuppressive medications.

Treatment

According to the WebMD Web site, people with lupus may use steroids, immune-suppressing medication, and ibuprofen to ease the pain caused by lupus. Those that react negatively to ibuprofen may choose to take antimalarial drugs (i.e. hydroxychloroquine). Not only does it relieve the pain, but also significantly reduces rashes, fatigue, and joint and muscle pains. It also decreases flares, which is a period of occurring symptoms in people with SLE. Immune-suppressing medication may cause the body to be more vulnerable to infections. People with sensitivity to the sun should use sunscreens with high SPF as well as protective clothing. As for treating seizures and severe depression, therapy is recommended along with anticonvulsants and antidepressants.

Coolidge Corner Theatre presents a pulse pounding event

By Kimberly Tran

STAFF WRITER

Speaker Alan Lightman, a physicist, novelist, and professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) will be introducing Kiyoshi Kurosawa's "Pulse" on Oct. 29 at 7p.m. The movie will be played in Japanese with English subtitles.

At first glance, it may seem to resemble other Japanese horror films, such as "The Grudge" and "The Ring." But Kurosawa neglects to use supplementary scare-tactics in order to trigger the audience's fear, and instead portrays society's increasing preoccupation with the technological world—eventually isolating itself.

"Pulse" is a story of a group of friends that experience the horrific suicide of one of their own. They discover a floppy disk that, upon activation, triggers a chain of events that affects all of Tokyo. It seems as if society has become so entirely disconnected to life that they literally cease to exist.

Beneath the Japanese horror façade, Kurosawa and Science on Screen attempt to relay an important message to the viewers. These movies are not chosen based on popularity, but rather on what kind of scientific impact they could have on society. For this reason, adrenaline-addicted moviegoers may feel that the movie is bland and slow to start.

The Coolidge Corner Theatre

combines education and entertainment by showing feature films introduced by experts associated with the theme of the program. Previous films that were shown at the theatre include "Donnie Darko," "A Clockwork Orange," and "Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan."

According to Science on Screen's marketing consultant, Cheryl White, "the Coolidge Corner Theatre believes that an appreciation of science is essential to an understanding of science, and that both are important to building the next generation of researchers, inventors, and innovators."

"There are many great films that have scientific themes; sometimes those themes are overt, sometimes they are less so. The Coolidge Corner Theatre's programming experts work with Richard Anders, the creator of the Science on Screen series, to select films that are both thought-provoking and entertaining," White said.

Lightman will also be signing copies of his new book, "Ghost," which tells the story about an ordinary man who attempts to make sense of the world that no science can explain.

Science on Screen is co-presented by The Museum of Science and New Scientist magazine. Tickets to the Oct. 29 program are \$9.75 for general admission, and \$7.75 for students, seniors, and Museum of Science members. Coolidge Corner Theatre members may attend the event for free.

CAREER SYMPOSIUM "DARE TO SUCCEED: VOICES OF STRONG WOMEN"

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



Keynote:

Joyce Kulhawik, '74, '02HD

Arts and Entertainment Anchor
for WBZ-TV

12:30-1:30 p.m.

Linda K. Paresky Conference Center

**Hear the stories of successful women
role models, who will share the roads
they took that led to career success.**

BREAKOUT SESSIONS:

Debi Greenberg, '78, President and Owner, Louis Boston.

C.A. Webb, '06SM, Marketing Director, Recycline, Co-owner, The Careerists

Lindsay Hyde, President and Boston Executive Director, Strong Women, Strong Girls

Desirae Simmons, '05, '06GS, Jumpstart Site Manager, Northeastern University

Mary Finlay, '90SM, Deputy Chief Information Officer Partners HealthCare System

Dianne M. Savastiano, '99SM, President and Founder, Healthassist

Cheryl A. Hutt, '88, '97SM, Financial Officer, Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology, Harvard University

Allison Cheney, '04, Supervisor, Select Underwriting & Underwriting Support, Liberty Life Assurance Company of Boston, Group Market UW and Customer Administration.

SIMMONS

CAREER EDUCATION CENTER

And Then There Was the Word

A column about our language: *To Graduate, Students Must Take Many Curses*

By Sidney Berger, Ph.D.

PROFESSOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

We all use imprecations, though most people do not know what that word means. An imprecation is a curse, a malediction. You use it to call down wrath upon someone or something. Though I must admit, cursing at an inanimate thing is pretty much useless. (I do it all the time: bang my foot against a desk, and the desk is going to Hades, if my curse has any efficacy.)

And the word “malediction” should speak for itself: “mal” means “bad” and “diction” mean “diction,” words. To hurl a malediction at someone is to send that person an evil wish.

These things come in all shapes and sizes, colors, forms, and intensities. Some are acceptable in public, others are not. But the acceptable ones usually are watered down versions of the unacceptable ones. Someone once said, “Anyone who says ‘darn’ is going to wind up in heck.” That is to say, anyone who says “damn” (for many people this is an unacceptable imprecation) will wind up in hell (another taboo one).

What is it about these things that make them unacceptable? For starters, they usually come from one of three realms of taboo areas: religion, death, and bodily functions. Others come from certain kinds of family relationships which are taboo in most cultures. About a year ago I wrote a column for this paper on “bad words,” that is, the so-called “dirty words.” Imprecations overlap with these, but they are different because imprecations are aimed at a clear object, person, or situation.

When someone drops something and breaks it, one’s first impulse is to let one of these maledictions fly. Sometimes one curses one’s deity for allowing (or causing) such a thing to happen. The old “GDI” is useful and is always on hand.

I just said “useful.” And these things do serve a function: they help us get out of our systems the frustration, instant anger, or bitterness we feel at a moment of mental or physical pain. In fact, there are two types: the one that come out like projectiles that we have no control over, and the ones we compose carefully for specific purposes.

In the Middle Ages, people who borrowed books and did not return them were visited upon by curses of various kinds. Here is a famous one: “For him that stealeth, or borroweth and returneth not, this book from its owner, let it change into a serpent in his hand and rend him. Let him be struck with palsy, and all his members blasted. Let him languish in pain crying out for mercy, & let there be no surcease to his agony till he sing in dissolution. Let bookworms gnaw his entrails. . . . [And] when at last he goeth to his final punishment, let the flames of Hell consume him forever.”

Now, that is a serious imprecation.

Other book curses call for book borrowers to suffer miserable deaths, and their corpses having worms eating their eyes and . . .

well, you get the point. A good imprecation can carry mighty power.

But let us look back at the different kinds of curses I mentioned: religion, death, and bodily functions. Under religious, we often wish for a deity to send a curse to the thing that makes you call up the imprecation in the first place. The “go to hell” thing is a combination of death and religion. And the bodily function form usually calls for people to do things to themselves or to their intimate relatives. These are areas of great taboo, and to call these things upon people is to hit them where they are most sensitive and vulnerable.

His immediate response was the S word, immediately followed by the F-bomb over and over. I think he said that about fifty times before he realized that that word wouldn't do any good, and before he knew what he was spewing out to the world.

As I said, the instantaneous reaction to something that is painful is embedded in us all, and we need some kind of release. It comes out unpremeditatedly, and if it works (that is, if it serves its function the way it should), it makes the curser feel better, if only for a second or two.

Sometimes the pain goes on and so does the maledicting. I once saw someone drop a valuable piece of porcelain. It was like slow motion. It slipped from his hands and seemed to take a minute or three to make it to the floor, at which point it became several thousand pieces of porcelain. His immediate response was the S word, immediately followed by the F-bomb over and over. I think he said that about fifty times before he realized that that word would not do any good, and before he knew what he was spewing out to the world.

Does letting loose like this mean we are bad? Not at all. It’s human nature. But if you do not want to reveal your vulgar side, practice “nice” imprecations like “drat,” “fudge,” “phooey,” “rats,” “yikes,” or “gol darn.” If you look at these closely enough, you will see where they came from. “Drat” from “Damn.” “Gol darn” from “God damn.” “Fudge” and “phooey” from . . . well, you get the point.

I should add that these things do not even have to be words, they can be gestures, but that is the subject of another kind of column.

I am done. Hot dog!

Bonjour, mes amies

An art history class comes to life

By Shannon Brown

STAFF WRITER

How does someone go about choosing the perfect colors to describe a mountain when there are so many all at once? This is the dilemma that artists throughout history have dealt with. And last week as I stood in front of my easel with paint brush in hand on the southern French hillside, so did I.

As an arts administration major, I should have been thrilled to have such an incredible opportunity. However, I mostly felt confused and intimidated.

The intimidation came from the fact that the little French hillside I was standing on was the same exact spot where Paul Cézanne stood when he painted his countless interpretations of Aix-en-Provence’s famous Mt. Saint Victoire—my multicolored mountain.

For those of you who are not art majors or are not familiar with Cézanne, he painted during the 19th century, and his works are the transition from impressionism (think Monet) to Cubism (think Picasso).

Cézanne is also Aix-en-Provence’s favorite son. He was born here. He died here. And the city is the subject for many of his works.

Aix’s way of thanking the great artist for giving them all of the publicity has been to name everything after him. From hostels and retirement homes to cafes and streets, it is difficult to be in Aix and not be constantly reminded that he was here. Hence the intimidation.

However, I quickly reminded myself that the painting class I am taking here is my first painting class ever, and I picked up the nearest tube of paint I found. The result, I’m happy to say, was not half bad. I think Cézanne would be proud.

Three days after my triumph of Mt. Saint Victoire, all of the students in my program, the art professor, and I went on a tour of the places in Southern France where Van Gogh lived. It was incredible.

First, we visited Arles. Al-



PROVIDED BY SHANNON BROWN

Shannon Brown standing in front of a Van Gogh statue.

though Van Gogh only lived here for about a year, he painted his most famous works, including the painting of the room where he stayed, and a café in the city’s center.

Unfortunately, the room and the house it was in were bombed in World War II. Where the famous yellow house once stood, there is now a newsstand and bakery. However, the café is still there. And just in case you cannot tell by looking at it, its name has been changed to the Van Gogh Café.

Another interesting site in the city is the hospital where Van Gogh was taken after he cut off part of his ear. Although it is no longer a hospital, the courtyard in the center, which was also a subject of one of Van Gogh’s works, is open to the public.

The next stop on the Van Gogh tour was St. Remy. In this small Provençal town is the mental institution where Van Gogh stayed for a year. In this refuge he painted one of his most famous works,

“Starry Night.”

However, reading about his life at this time and even looking at the works he painted is nothing like going to the actual institution and standing in the Van Gogh’s bedroom.

The walls in his room are white and cracked. There is a small steel-frame bed and a chair in the corner. The most memorable part of the room for me was how thick the air felt. I am really not into the whole “spirits are all around us” thing, but there was heaviness in that room that I cannot describe.

Although I did not have the intention of studying art when I came to France, its such a huge part of the history For me, every new thing that I learn adds much more to the experience. I would not change it for the world.

Maybe one day I will even learn my colors.



SHANNON BROWN

The Van Gogh Café in Arles, France was named after the artist after his house was bombed in WWII

Attention: Management Majors and Business Metrics Minors

BA/MBA Information Session

Wednesday, October 31st
12:30 – 1:30 pm
Kotzen Meeting Room
Lunch will be available!

RSVP darla.pires-degrace@simmons.edu or 617-521-3839

Simmons Classifieds

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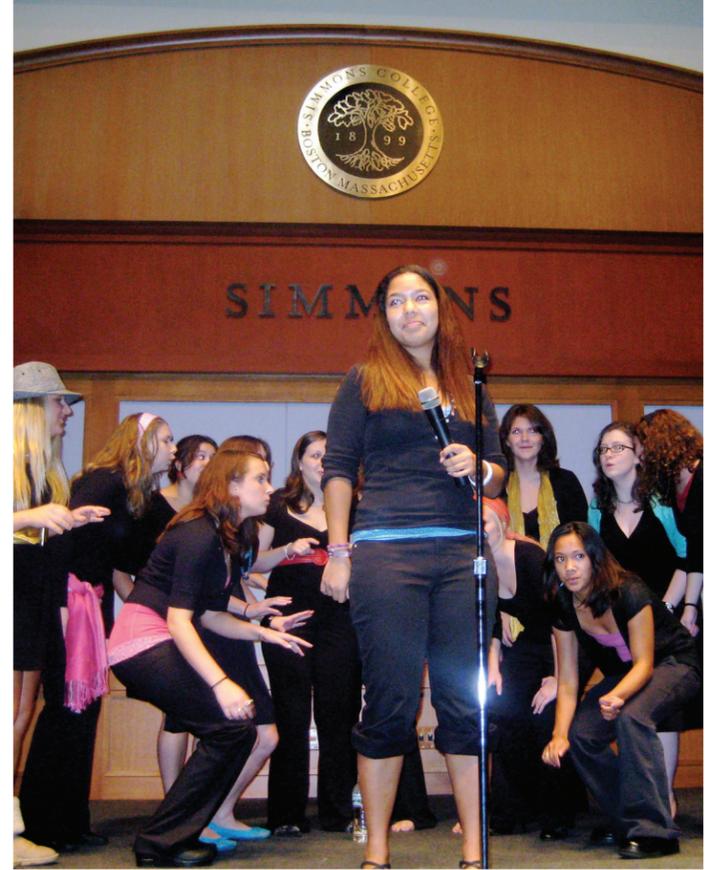
Answers to Last Week's Sudoku:

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

Make sure to check next week's issue for a new puzzle!

Calendar Listing: October 28 - November 3			
Sunday 10/28	Saluting the Spirit: 108 Sun Salutations Event: A Yogathon 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. Location: The Sports Club L/A - Boston This fundraiser will raise money for Pathways to Wellness' AIDS Care Project and yogaHOPE's yogaoutreach programs for underserved women	Halloween Rock Show 5-11 p.m. Admission: \$15 or \$20 at the door Location: The Roxy For more information, email info@anthemevents.com	Movie: Alfred Hitchcock's thriller "Rear Window" 7 p.m. Pizza served and costumes optional Location: Trinity Church- Copley Square Contact Mike Dangelo at 617-536-0944 or email him at mdangelo@trinitychurchboston.org for more information
Monday 10/29	Simmons Celebrates Latino Heritage Month 7 p.m. Topica Unica Series Smith Hall Lounge	What's with the Weather? Lecture on New England Weather by Brian Rogan from the Museum of Science 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.	Tones of Terror II - Live Halloween Radio Plays 7:30 p.m. Student Admission: \$10 Location: Theatre at First For more information, visit www.pmrp.org
Tuesday 10/30	Dare to Succeed: Voices of Strong Women 12:30 - 4 p.m. Linda K. Paresky Conference Center To register visit: http://careerlink.simmons.edu For more information email roxanne.jackman@simmons.edu	Simmons Celebrates Latino Heritage Month Latino in Finance 5 p.m. Special Functions Room	28 Weeks OLA Sponsored Movie 7 p.m. Quadside Cafe
Wednesday 10/31	Understanding Money and Credit 12 - 1 p.m. Location: MASCO, 375 Longwood Ave, in the fifth floor conference room Event description: Lecture cosponsored by MASCO and MAFCU Don't forget your lunch. RSVP to mclark@masco.harvard.edu .	Student Government Association Meetings Open to undergraduates, held every Wednesday 3:30-5 p.m.	Class of 2009 Fall Fest 6:30-9:30 p.m. Quadside For more information contact Jessica Kowalski
Thursday 11/1	Simmons Celebrates Native American Indian Heritage Month Look for campus announcements for specific event information	Irish Writers Series: Colum McCann Award-winning author Colum McCann reads from his recent work 7:30 p.m. Boston College Admission: Free Visit http://www.bc.edu/centers/irish/studies/writers.html for more information	From Boston Collections 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Part of the Boston Athenæum's Bicentennial celebration Works by 19th and 20th century American artists in Bostonians' collections Admission: Free Go to http://www.bostonathenaeum.org for more information
Friday 11/2	Simmons Celebrates Latino Heritage Month 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Celebration of the Dead "S" Table in the Fens	Undoing the Silence: Bringing New Writers to Powerful Voice A Writing Workshop 9:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. Linda K. Paresky Conference Center Pre-registration is required, please contact: welearn@litwomen.org	A Closer Look: An Introduction to the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum Admission: Free with regular museum admission Visit http://www.gardnermuseum.org for more information
Saturday 11/3	Movie Event: The Island 10:30 a.m. Museum of Fine Arts Student Admission: \$6	Painting with Fire!: Saggur Firing 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Harvard University For admission costs or more information, visit www.fas.harvard.edu/ceramics	Shecky's Girls Night Out Boston 5 p.m. A five-hour evening filled with fashion, glamour, beauty, shopping, cocktails and freebies. Visit http://girlsnightout.sheckys.com/boston/fall2007 for more information Price: \$10 - \$25 Must be 21 or older

Parents' Weekend offered many events



Last weekend was parents' weekend. Simmons, in conjunction with the Office of Student Leadership and Activities, hosted many families of Simmons students at events from Friday to Sunday. The student showcase highlighted many of Simmons's talented students. Among the performers were the gospel choir, the Sirens, and the hip-hop dance team. On Friday, the Boston Symphony played a Mozart concert and on Saturday, the play "Wicked" was a popular evening event and sold out quickly. There was also a bus trip to Salem on Saturday and President Susan Scrimshaw hosted a reception for parents and students on the parents' council. Whoever opted out of the play either attended a family dinner at Vinny T's of Boston or came to Latin Night at the Linda K. Paresky Center at Simmons. The Latin dinner had great performers, including flamenco and tango dancers, and great ethnic food. On Sunday, the president's brunch was held at the Charles Hotel in Cambridge. Parents and students were invited to the Charles River after brunch to watch the Head of the Charles regatta.

