UNIVERSITY OF BRIDGEPORT MCM XXVI

The Scribe

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Generation II, Vol. 8, No. 11 April 5, 2001

IRC hosts 25th annual International Festival

By Laura Mecure

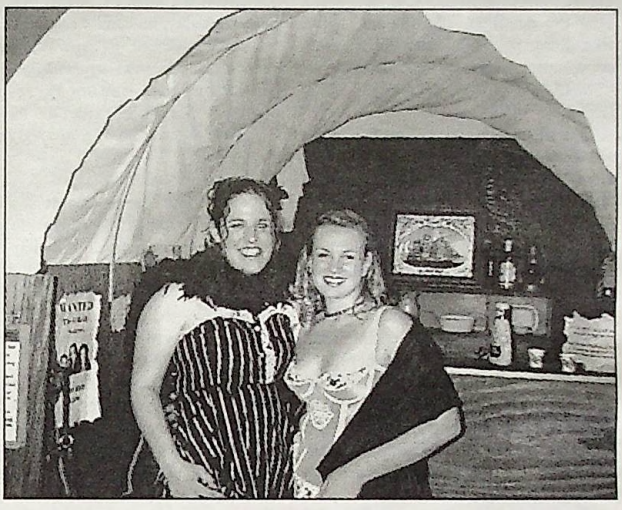
The 25th annual International Festival was held on Saturday, March 31, from 4-8 PM in the field house of the Wheeler Recreation Center. It was hosted by the International Relations Club (IRC).

The event was divided into two parts. The first part was two hours of walking between booths to learn about and sample the food of the different countries represented. Although only 19 countries signed up, as compared to last year when there were over 30, it was still an awesome success. There was less crowding and pushing than last year, and people were able to take the time to ask the participants questions about their countries.

The second portion was an arrangement of performances by different countries and other student groups, which began with a flag procession. There were flag bearers from many of the 90 countries represented at UB. Japan thrilled us, even as they waved their flag by giving us a taste of their entertainment to come, and everyone from the United States gave a "Yee-haw!" as their flag was waved.

The President of the IRC, Esther Bessell, said a few words of welcome. She then introduced the President Neil Salonen, who spoke about the festival, saying, "Every year, the International Festival is a high point of our many student-centered events and my hope is that this year will be the best ever."

Then came the entertainment. The MCs for the Festival were Andrea Koehler of the United States and Jones Aizebeoje Iziomo of Nigeria. There were dances by the countries of India, Bulgaria, Nepal, Puerto Rico, Trinidad and Jamaica, as well as several by the UB dance club, Soul Beat. Jamaica also represented itself through Patois poetry read by Lacrisha Wright and there were songs by Germany, Puerto Rico and the International Choir. Japan presented a musical skit packed full of action, drama, and good versus evil.



The Old West was the theme of the American booth

Japan took first place in the perfomance competition

After the performances, Bessel came out again to thank and present flowers to Dawn Valenti, director of International Affairs, and Edina Oestreicher, director of Student Programming, who both worked hard for this festival. She remarked that they are both extremely dedicated and without their guidance, the show would not have gone on, as they plan every aspect of the event.

Then, prizes were awarded by country in the areas of best food, booth and entertainment. The top prize in the food category went to Nigeria. Second and third place went to Jamaica and the Gambia, respectively.

In the booth competition, Japan came in first with a booth that was beautifully decorated. The United States was second with a booth that offered a very authentic Old West experience. India and Korea tied for third place. India's booth showed the beauty of Indian culture and art and Korea's booth had a beautiful backdrop, with very authentic costumes.

Japan came in first in the entertainment portion, which they tied for last year with India. Second place went to the dancers from India, who worked exceptionally hard, and gave Japan a run for their money. Third place went to Bulgaria, whose dance was perfectly timed and elegant.

Hardeep Mehta, a participant for India, summed up the festival with, "This is my first International Festival, but I liked the flag procession very much. It gives everyone a chance to be proud of their culture."

Inside

Biggest Caliente ever: 450 show up to party

By Andrea Koehler

On Friday, March 30, the Latin-American Club (LAC) hosted its annual fiesta, Caliente, which again proved to be one of the most popular and well-attended events of the year. It took place in the Student Center Social Room, from 10 PM to 2 AM.

The party drew around 450 people from UB, other local universities, and the surrounding neighborhood. This was almost 100 more people than attended last year.

The music was provided by a DJ Victor Gonzalez and a local 12 person Latin Band called "Essencia." The band and the DJ alternated playing, each doing one 30 minute set at a time. The band got rave reviews from attendees and, toward the end, when the DJ started having technical difficulties, they even played extra to cover his set.

Many babes shook their booties at Caliente

There were a few new features at Caliente this year, which added to the event's success. One was the expanded light show, including a projector that displayed pictures and videos over the head of the band while they were playing.

The other new phenome-

See **Caliente**, *page 7*

Mathematics problem of the week

For the week of April 3

From The Mathematics Dep't

Any officially registered UB undergraduate student may submit a solution for this problem. Solutions should be submitted to Professor Edwin Eigel through the Math and Science department secretary. The deadline for submission is 12 PM on Tuesday, April 10. A correct solution will be posted after the deadline. The winner of the five dollar prize for the best-presented, complete, accurate and correct solution, if any, will be posted two days later.

Problem 105 (M) "Over the Hill" – Harmony Spindlematt, the faculty advisor to the Hill and Dale club at a large midwestern university, spent a Saturday last September exploring a new hiking course for the student members of the club. She left the campus gate at 1 PM and walked along at level road, up a hill to the top, then back down the hill, and along the same road to the campus gate, arriving there at 7 PM. Her speed was four miles an hour on the level road, three miles an hour uphill and six miles an hour downhill. How far did Harmony walk and, within half an hour, what time did she reach the top of the hill?

Last Week's Problem: Problem 104 (M) "Early" – Professor J Risling Headgere, of the department of virtual agronomy at a large midwestern university, commutes between his home and office by train. His wife Harmonica drives him to the station in the morning and meets him at the station to drive him back home in the evening. She is very punctual, always arriving at the station just as the good professor gets off the train in the evening. Last Thursday, he caught an early train and arrived before his wife was at the station. He decided to start walking home rather than wait for her, and he met his wife on her way to the station. He got in the car and they arrived home six minutes earlier than if he had waited at the station.

Given that the car travels at a uniform speed that is ten times the professor's speed on foot, and that they reached home at six o'clock, when would they have arrived home if Harmonica (warned of the change of time) had met the professor at the station as he stepped off the train?

Solution – They would have arrived home 27 minutes earlier, at 5:33 PM. For a complete explanation of the answer, contact Angela DiMario, secretary, Mathematics and Science department, Dana Hall.

The Scribe

To Inform, Persuade and Entertain

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The Scribe would like to congratulate Zori on passing her insurance exams.

Tracking technology trends

By Puneet Batra

April Fools Day didn't spark any exciting pranks on the Internet this year. Some websites posted false news stories, but nothing spectacular. The only one that caught my interest was about the increased use of wave-generated power causing the moon to lose kinetic energy, and thus hurl towards the earth. This, however, has no basis and if this were a concern, it would be about the moon escaping earth's orbit and not coming towards the earth.

On a more serious note, researches are looking to utilize your computer's processing power to find a cure for cancer. Yes, you heard me right – your computer. Along the lines of the SETI (Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence) project, the project aims to utilize a computer's processing power when the computer is not being used. The way it works is that you download software that kicks in only when your screensaver goes on. It then works on estimating how well small drug-like molecules will bind to proteins that could be targets for anti-cancer drugs. The program then sends data to a central server and receives additional data to analyze. This new method of distributed computer aims at utilizing the mass of PCs that amount to be much more powerful than any supercomputer. The software can be downloaded at <www.ResearchForACure.com>.

Talking about the health sciences reminds me of a number of cloning stories that have come up recently. Scientists in Europe are now taking applications to clone people. Even though this has never been done, scientists claim that they are very close and will prove it by cloning an actual person. Meanwhile, two of the three cloned cows at the California State University-Chico farm have died and the third may be in trouble, farm officials said. I'm not sure how many people will want clones that drop dead three weeks after they are born (did I just say "born"?).

The stock market has been dropping just like the cloned cows. Most of this is courtesy of the now infamous technology companies which are constantly reporting increased losses or decreased profits for those that ever made it past that line.

Now that I've talked about the health science and the stock market, let's give some attention to the column's title. Coca-Cola vending machines in Japan are starting to be equipped with a chip that lets you buy soda by using your cell phone. The whole process of using your phone to get on the Web and manually deposit money into a vending machine account may seem cumbersome. However, this is a prototype and plans are to extend the service to drive-through food counters, grocery shopping and almost anything that can be done with cash or a credit card today. Then again, the vending machine idea might sound great when you realize you have exactly 5 cents less than what you need for that much-needed can of soda!

This week in UB history

By Michael McCarthy, Jr.

On April 18, 1978, tuition went up by $300 and room and board by $125.

The Scribe reported, "Tuition will rise $300 and room and board $125 next year, costing full time undergraduate resident students $5,660 to attend the University. Tuition at the School of Law will also rise by $300, from $3,500 to $3,800."

"Student Council President Hal Tepfer said he was upset that [President Leland] Miles released news of the hike before informing Council members. 'I just don't like the fact that I heard about it on WICC,' he said."

"Last year, tuition rose $260 and Student Council, when hearing the news, threatened to put the increase into an escrow account but never went through with the plan due to some legal complications."

On April 3, 1978, *The Scribe* reported, "*Scribe* is protested."

"Shouting '*The Scribe* is racist!' and 'Shut down *The Scribe!*' over 100 Iranians marched up and down University Avenue to protest several stories run in the March 29 edition of *The Scribe*."

"The protest began around 3 PM. The protestors marched down University Avenue to North Hall, then crossed the street to Bodine Hall, where they were pelted with eggs by several people shouting 'Iranians go home!' Then the protestors came back to the Student Center. They repeated this pattern several times before heading for Waldemere Hall."

"Several protestors then came up to *The Scribe* office on the second floor of the Student Center. Two were allowed to go into *The Scribe* office and talk to Edition Editor Lenny Colon, Jr., Sports Editor Cliff Coady, News Editor Lennon Hite, Reporter George Dalek, and Advisor Herb Geller."

"The spokesmen called a story in the March 29 edition of *The Scribe* entitled "Iranian Threatened' a 'total fabrication.' They also demanded to know the name of the girl that was allegedly threatened. They said they wanted to confront the girl and challenge her allegations."

"The spokesmen called *The Scribe* 'racists' for several stories written in last Thursday's Lampoon issue. They said the stories entitled 'Staff found dead' and 'Cats protest mouse's visit here' were degrading to them and that *The Scribe* was trying to make fun of them."

"Then the protestors marched outside the Student Center and started burning *The Scribe* in a garbage can. The protestors left the scene around 6 PM. The protestors said they would protest every day until *The Scribe* apologized or was shut down. There were no protests Friday, Saturday or Sunday."

"According to Managing Editor Dan Tepfer, he was told the administration will back The Scribe. 'The Scribe won't be shut down,' said Tepfer."

"Dean of Student Life held up outside off-campus nightspot," read the headline in 1985.

Dan Smith wrote, "On February 28, Jackie Benamati, dean of Student Life, and Ken Best, director of Public Information, were leaving Albertos' Lounge on Main Street at approximately 12:30 AM. The two were approached, and according to Grant, told to hand over their wallets. The perpetrator was holding a revolver. Best handed his wallet, containing $23 to the perpetrator. A ring was also stolen from Best. Benamati lost her wallet, which did not contain a large sum of cash."

Role of religion in society discussed

By Vanessa Trinidad

On March 22, the Collegiate Association for Research on Principles (CARP), the Religious Youth Services (RYS), and the Social Cerebrals of the University of Bridgeport in America (SCUBA) organized a dialogue among multiple perspectives.

The event addressed the question, "Does Religion Have a Role in Shaping a Moral, Globalizing Society?" Professor Timothy Eves presided over the event as moderator. The speakers represented atheism, Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism and Unificationism.

The event began with the presidents of the organizing clubs, who introduced the program and thanked Harumi Kawamura for her painstaking effort in putting together the event.

Each group was allotted 10 minutes to put forth their perspective on how their particular religion plays a role in shaping a moral, global society. Every group was comprised of an expert and a student, with the exception of Judaism.

The evening began with Daniel Eisenberg speaking for Judaism. Eisenberg attended post high school and post-graduate seminary in Israel and is a student at the College of Chiropractic.

He talked about kosher diets and how the Torah mentions that Jews should only eat fish with scales and animals with cloven hooves, such as venison. Also, the animals have to be slaughtered without force.

He said that this is significant because it teaches humanity's place in the world and about its dependence on nature. It honors ecology and influences what we as people do.

Eisenberg said religion has an important role to play since it gives illustrations and Judaism does this by teaching and not proselytizing. He said Judaism is a teaching model, not a forced view. Each individual chooses to learn and incorporate what he or she wants to.

The next view was Christianity. It was represented by Reverend E.L. Smallwood, who is head of the Protestant Ministry, and Jerusha Michael, a freshman. Smallwood said that the Christian view, faith and belief, does play an essential role in a moral society. It does so by focusing on the teachings of Christ, which are based on the foundation of love.

Michael spoke about how we need God to shape a moral society and of the need to be faithful to little things. Michael said that each individual is special and this is even more apparent at UB because of its diversity. She said life is full of relationships and religion is a relationship with God.

Islam was represented by Nasif Mohammed, a Muslim imam in Bridgeport and Feroz Jamal, a junior. Nasif said that Islam does play a role and Prophet Mohammed serves as the best pattern of conduct and the best example for others to emulate.

He also said Islam, like other religions, encourages respect and love for others and, in essence, all people are equal because the duty they are born to is the same.

Jamal spoke about the five times of prayer in a day. When asked if Islam justifies the atrocities against women as seen in Afghanistan, Nasif and Jamal said, in Islam, women are uplifted. They also urged people not to judge Islam by the Muslim, but the Muslim by Islam.

Thomas Ward, dean of the International College, and Sunhee Mudgett, a biology major, represented Unificationism.

Ward said that culture draws its roots from religion and, therefore, religion has a fundamental role in shaping culture. He said that the "family" was the fundamental paradigm for Unificationism and that family was not just limited to believers, but encompassed non-believers as well. Ward said that there was a consensus between different religions as to what constitutes good and it should be directed at efforts to end racism, hunger, poverty, and so on.

Mudgett said that all religions have a fundamental point, which relates to something, and, to her, family represents something ultimate. Mudgett also said that the concept of good stems from the love expressed in the family.

Atheism was represented by Professor Larry Philips from the School of Education and Lucas Mc Cloud, a senior.

Philips said that, as a humanist and existentialist, he believes in human nature. He said that we can honor humanity by helping it. However, Philips felt that religion should not be counted upon to lead the moral cause of the world based on its track record, but, all the same, religion cannot be eliminated because it offers social control and structure.

Mc Cloud said that his answer to the question being addressed was a no. He said that sometimes the most rational choice does not lead to the best choice. Mc Cloud said that the value system that comes from humanism is capable of shaping a moral society.

The next religion was Hinduism by Professor Stephen Healey and Jishnu Guhathakurta, a senior. Healey said

See **Religion,** *page 7*

First black belts awarded

By Trinity Belgrave

On Friday, March 30, a group of four students became the first to attain their black belt in Tae Kwon Do. The four students tested were Anthony Pla', Adrian Teschmaker, Katsushi Morishita and Ognian Petrov.

Part of the tough examination involved breaking a two-inch thick slab of concrete with their hands. All four have been participating in the martial arts training here at UB under the guidance of Master Yong Bum Kim.

The newly christened black belts (standing, from left to right) Ognian Petrov, Anthony Pla', Adrian Teschmaker and Katsushi Morishita, with Master Yong Bum Kim (seated)

Pla' said, "I felt very proud being one of the first members of the University of Bridgeport to earn a black belt. I'm very happy that the other members who stayed with me for the past three years also obtained it. I am looking foward to continuing my success in Tae Kwon Do."

Master Kim said that he was very proud of the newly inducted black belts. He likened them to his own sons and said that the most important things that they could have learned in his class were self-confidence and self-discipline, both of which will be of great use to them in later life.

Tae Kwon Do is a Korean martial art. The program has been offered here at UB by Master Kim for three years now and has the number of students who participate in it continues to increase.

Master Kim says that the University is planning to offer a four-year degree in martial arts. Tae Kwon Do will be the initial martial art offered under the degree program and other disciplines, such as Won Hwa Do, which is currently offered, will be integrated into the program later.

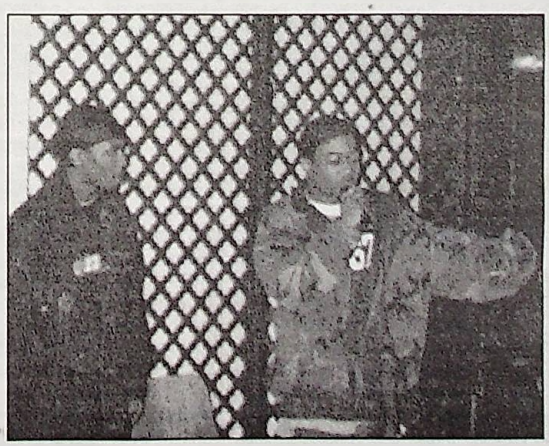
The University is hosting an international Tae Kwon Do competition on Sunday, April 29. The competition will feature martial artists from Mexico and Korea as well as students of the program here at UB.

KOB hosts Poetry Slam

By Michael McCarthy, Jr.

On March 22, the Keepers of the Brotherhood (KOB) slammed UB on its ears. The Poetry Slam they hosted had approximately 100 people in the Faculty Dining Room of the Student Center.

Many people from the UB community attended, including Brother Jack Davis of the Music and Arts Center for Humanity (MACH).



Over 20 students recited, rapped and slammed about the realities of life at the Poetry Slam

The reason behind the event was, in the words of Jamal Jimerson, "to give people an outlet to express their poetry in a mature comfortable setting and that's why we went for the entire Jazz element."

Chaelyn Lombardo said, "It always makes me proud to see the talent of my fellow students. Especially when it's something as deep and emotional as their own poetry."

The Poetry Slam was funded both by the Student Congress and KOB. Jimerson also said, "All credit goes to the KOB officers, they all have a role in KOB."

Jimerson invited everyone to KOB's upcoming events in April such as the Brotherhood-Sisterhood awareness "Battle of the Sexes" on April 12, their Music Appreciation Weekend from April 19-20, with the Hip-Hop forum on April 19 and the Player's Ball on April 20, to which Jimerson encouraged everyone to have their wigs and bell-bottoms ready.

Does HIV really cause AIDS?

By Ram Madabhushi

Glory in science is often the product of path-breaking ideas, unrelenting determination and persistence, and, above all, honesty. The research by Dr. Konstance Knox and Dr. Donald R. Carrigan on HHV-6 perfectly illustrates this fact.

Human Herpesvirus HHV-6 is one of the eight known members of the human Herpesvirus family. This sixth strain of the Herpes virus was first discovered in 1986 at the National Cancer Institute in the US. Two variants of HHV-6 have been identified. These have been named HHV-6A and HHV-6B. Primary infection with HHV-6B causes Roseola, a common childhood disease that resolves spontaneously. After primary infection, the virus replicates in the salivary glands and is shed in saliva. Transmission of this virus is believed to occur as a result of exposure to saliva.

After this initial infection, the HHV-6 viral DNA remains latent in white blood cells (lymphocytes and monocytes) and persists at low levels in cells and tissues. It has been found that about 95% of the world's population has antibodies against HHV-6. The presence of antibodies indicates immune response by the body to HHV-6 infection. Primary infection with HHV-6A is believed to occur later in childhood or during adulthood and may occur without symptoms. The prevalence of HHV-6A infection is not known.

It has been discovered that the resurrection of this virus during adulthood may cause disease. In most cases, the immune system suppresses this resurrection. But in some cases, probably due to genetic and environmental factors, this does not happen.

While investigating the reasons for this sudden reactivation of HHV-6, Knox and Carrigan examined the biopsies of the lymph nodes of HIV-infected patients. This enabled them to make the startling discovery that 100% of HIV-infected patients studied (10 out of 10) had active Human Herpes Virus 6 Variant A infections in their lymph nodes early in the course of their disease. By conducting another study, Knox and Carrigan were able to conclude that HHV-6 causes an increase in HIV production! This was supported by other studies, which demonstrated that a particular protein of HIV called the tat protein stimulates HHV-6A replication.These studies led them to hypothesize that because these viruses hang out in the same place, and they infect the same cells, that it's not an accident that they co-localize –where you find HIV, you find HHV-6A. There exists a relationship of mutual enhancement and almost potentially a mutual dependency for efficient replication between HIV and HHV-6A.

If the above is true, how come the

See **HIV**, *page 7*

Letter to the Editor

To the editor:

I had the good fortune to participate as the faculty advisor to the UB delegation that participated in the Harvard Model United Nations that took place this past February. While at the program, I spent most of my time going from session to session, observing our UB students' participation. I was impressed because, without exception, I felt that our students had a substantive grasp of the issues at hand.

The members of the University of Bridgeport team, I found, presented themselves in a very responsible way, knowing that they were there to represent El Salvador rather than themselves. This was not true for everyone at the Harvard Model UN, where some resorted to grandstanding rather than representing their respective countries.

I believe that we were very fortunate that Dr. [Stoyan] Ganev and Dr. [Justus] van der Kroef made themselves available in the months prior to the event to prepare our students; the students also clearly worked very hard. At the Model UN, the UB delegation presented high quality position papers. They addressed the issues in the sessions in a knowledgeable, responsible manner. I was impressed at how our UB students established coalitions reflecting the Salvadoran reality. They favored and/or helped to foster resolutions that reflected an understanding of realpolitik and an appreciation of the inherent limitations of an international organization composed of member states that, based on national interests, continue to view UN General Assembly resolutions as recommendations rather than as enforceable legislation.

There was a political maturity and judiciousness in the UB delegation that I honestly did not find elsewhere. I am not denying that others may have also possessed it but I did not find it elsewhere. Socrates regularly challenged the sophists who argued with eloquence but lacked depth and commitment. Socrates would not have been disappointed with the UB delegation at Harvard. They demonstrated clarity, intelligence, eloquence, and a refined grasp of the issues. I felt very proud of them.

Thomas Ward
Dean, International College

Send Letters to the Editor of ***The Scribe*** *at scribemail@altavista.com*

Students, B&G plant trees

By Harumi Kawamura

Braving winds, 54 students gathered on Friday afternoon, March 30, in an effort to beautify the UB campus. Proposed by the Religious Youth Service (RYS) and coordinated by Buildings and Grounds, the trees, planted around the Student Center, are expected to "bloom in April or May," according to Paul Engemann, director of Facilities Management.

The program began with a short interfaith dialogue. Islam, Unificationism and Protestantism were represented and spoke on "friendship." As for friendship, other faiths such as Buddhism, Confucianism and Hinduism were presented through a reading of World Scriptures, a text containing religious scriptures from all faiths.

From the student side, Tomihiro Onishi, vice-president of RYS, worked together with Engemann for over a month in preparation for the event. According to Onishi, the project, named "With Others II," was part of a gift the administration had presented to the University when Neil Salonen first took office as president.

Averaging about $125 to $165 per tree, 20 flowering ornamental trees were planted in front of the Student Center, joining 30 trees that had been planted approximately one year ago.

Alumnus works to save lives

Press Release

Charitable service is a way of life for UB alumnus Abraham I. Gordon (BA '54), who has used his energies to save lives among the world. Recognizing that polio is one disease that can be eradicated from the face of the Earth, Gordon is an active proponent of the eradication of polio around the world. He works with fellow Rotarians (Rotary International members) worldwide in the immunization of babies so as to prepare a generation of a polio-free world.

Only once before has a natural disease been eradicated: smallpox, in 1977. In the course of Rotary's polio eradication program since 1985, 85% of the world is currently free of polio including North and South America, Europe and the Pacific Rim nations.

"Our biggest concerns are the polio endemic nations in the African sub-Sahara belt of nations and in the underside of Asia, particularly India, Bangladesh, Pakistan and Afghanistan," said Gordon.

He notes that, to date, Rotary has raised in excess of a billion dollars directly and through governments in this projects with the hope that by year 2005 the world can be declared free of polio "forever." The only way to truly eradicate polio is to ensure that every child in the world is immunized. Otherwise, an un-immunized child could carry the disease elsewhere in the world and the disease could continue.

In another area, Gordon has been directly responsible for saving over 50 lives in a unique "Gift of Life" program in Malaysia. This program encourages Rotarians in areas where there are hospitals and physicians who can do surgery on defective hearts to reach out to the Third World and bring children, who would otherwise die, to the hospitals for corrective surgery. While in Malaysia, Gordon arranged for a local hospital to undertake this special program and to date they have saved over 50 children under five years of age who would otherwise die. That hospital in Malaysia has promised to do a minimum of 25 such surgeries each year. There are other Gift of Life programs throughout the Rotary world and, to date, that program has saved over 2,500 lives worldwide.

Gordon recently returned from a polio immunization program in Africa, where he and his wife, Marilyn (BA '72, MA '85), led the effort of Rotary International in immunizing babies in Ghana and Togo.

"I can think of no greater joy than those moments when I personally gave the babies their polio immunizations, as I knew those babies would be free of polio. Unfortunately, while in Africa I could see older children on the streets who had already suffered the crippling and debilitating effects of polio," said Gordon.

Asked why he and his family participate in these worldwide programs to save lives, he noted the Biblical admonition, "He who saves a single life saves the world entire." He believes that all lives are of equal importance and it matters not where we save lives.

A graduate of Duke University School of Law, Gordon practices law in Bridgeport and is past President of the Rotary Club of Bridgeport. He has served Rotary's 1,250,000 members in 190 countries as the international Vice-president of Rotary International. Among his current activities is Chairman of the Rotary Youth Leadership Award program, which provides training in over 500 districts world-wide for high school and university level students in leadership skills.

"As we train our younger generation, we expand the number of hands which can reach out to those in need so that we may improve the quality of the world in which we live," he said.

International apathy

How many of us went to the International Festival this year (let's see a show of hands)? How many of us actually lifted a finger to represent our country? Oh, not quite so many hands, huh? Well, with only 18 booths, you can't help but expect that.

What is wrong with you people? I mean, there are supposed to be over 70 countries represented at UB and we didn't even get half that many flags in the flag procession. How lazy do you have to be when you won't walk across a room holding a flag and say "Hello!" I mean, you'd think most countries would do that just to save some face. And "I'm the only one from my country" does not cut it. There were several lone flag bearers.

Speaking of under-representation, what the hell happened with the booths? All you have to do is throw on a tablecloth, order some food from a restaurant and sit there and smile. The International Relations Club even pays for the stuff! Who cares if there aren't many from your country, at least put in some effort. My respect goes out to Jordan, Slovakia and The Gambia, who all had decorated booths, and food. And they don't exactly represent a majority in the UB population.

And where were Pakistan, Taiwan and Russia? If I were you guys, I would be ashamed to go home after this. You'd think that they couldn't find the help. Even some of the countries with only a handful of representatives, you could at least make an attempt. If it really too much work for you alone, you could always get a couple of Americans to fill out your ranks. After all, most of them were obviously not interested in representing their own country.

And, leaving specific names out of the picture, if you sign up to do a booth, you could at least have the class to show up.

This festival really made me sick. I was embarrassed that I asked my friends to pay 10 dollars each to go to it. UB prides itself on its international character. It's the excuse we give for existing. Sure, UB is broke, and Bridgeport is not the greatest area, but, hey, where else do you get such an international education? This last festival could barely compete with Sesame Street.

I'm not saying that the countries that were represented did a bad job. All of the students involved in the booths, performances and cooking, worked hard and did an excellent job for the numbers that there were. What I can't get over is that people would not even deign to find out whether their country was even represented and then had the nerve to complain about the presentations of the few who did decide to work.

UB students, where is your sense of pride in your school, your country? Hell, where is your sense of embarrassment for not even having a flag carried? I can't conceive that any person, after seeing the competition year after year and watching the pride with which Japan, India and Nepal carry away award after award, would just put up their feet and say, "So what?"

Do you really care so little about anything?

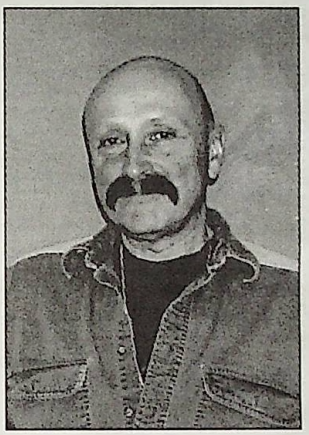
Faculty Commentary

An interview with Professor Michael J. Autuori

BY TRINITY BELGRAVE

Some potentially troubling effects of technological advancements in humans or an ostrich who hides its head in the sand puts its butt at risk.

The first problem that I see is the banishment of night and its potential effect on biological rhythms. Not only do people never have to be without light, but it is very difficult for people to experience darkness. If we live anywhere within or even near urban areas, there is just no such thing as going outdoors at night and seeing true darkness. In the house, it is very difficult to find true darkness unless you turn out all your lights and put up opaque shades, which very few people do because, really, who thinks about it? We are dealing with a significant intensification of nighttime illumination, especially ambient light in urban environments.



When you consider that we evolved in an environment where there was day and night, where there were what we now call diurnal rhythms, it makes me wonder what the long-term biological effects of the absence of night are. We have not really had time to evolve a response or an adaptation to the lack of nighttime.

There have been some studies that indicate that even a small amount of nocturnal illumination can impact biological rhythms. We have biological clocks that affect the whole body. If we separate cells from the body and measure enzyme synthesis, we discover internal circadian rhythms that appear to be independent of the whole body clock. All of these clocks, however, require synchronization and the most ubiquitous synchronizer is the repetitive cycling of day and night. How much light can we put into the night part of that basic cycle without losing the synchronicity? It seems as though it does not take too much light at night to upset biological rhythms.

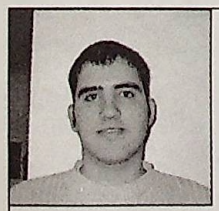
In addition, devices like electric motors, and the fields they generate, are becoming more and more common in households. Take, for example, the day care center where the children gather in the kitchen and many of them lean against the dishwasher while it is running. Now, that is a relatively powerful, projected electromagnetic field. What is the effect of that field on the development of those children? We do not know.

What about the effect of staring at

From **Faculty**, *page 7*

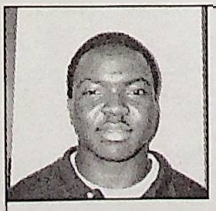
Sports On The Spot News

What do you think about the dearth of booths at the International Festival?



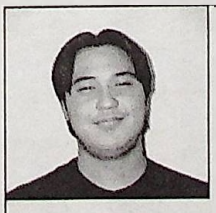
"The lack of student participation is distressing."

- Adelino Barata



"For some reason, there wasn't a lot of enthusiasm this year. Hopefully, it'll be better next year."

- Akin Adekeye



"Apathy strikes again!"

- Christoph Yasutake

"I think the school should put more effort in encouraging students next year."

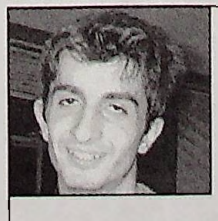
- Mishiko Seino

"The IRC should focus more on advertising and encourage student participation."

- Deepti Shrestha

"I think people need to take more pride in their country."

- Jaspreet Shahpuri

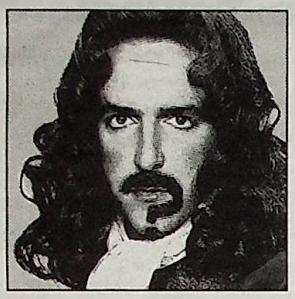


"I did not attend, but it sounds bad."

- Saephamis Alexin

"I think that is because the concentration of international students has come from limited countries this year."

- Rohit Arora



The Question Marquis

Ask the Question Marquis is a sporadically produced advice column, because proper loving takes time. It is to be read with a silly French accent. The views of the Question Marquis are his alone and are in no way to be construed as representative of his sponsor, Questia, you American pigs.

Ask the Question Marquis

Q: *Dear Question Marquis: My girlfriend seems distant lately. And I can't get her to take off her sunglasses. I wonder if she's seeing someone else. What should I say to her? – Paul in Dallas*

A: Ah, mon ami. I think I can help you with this. Your female is probably feeling that you spend more time with the library than with her delicate, sensuous frame. (I am making the assumptions about her, but for your sake, I hope that I am right, you know?) But you are having many of the research papers, correct? So you have two options to send you on the path toward a satisfactory loving scenario.

Option 1. When you are writing the research papers, you can save time by going to questia.com. Listen, this is brand new. You can skip all of the tedious working, because the full text of the books and journal articles is all online. Search for the keywords, highlight the text. Also, you are not going to believe this, but if you want to quote something, you just click a button and Questia puts it in your paper, footnotes it, and *formats the bibliography automatically.* And right now you can get two days* of Questia free. So try it. When your girlfriend sees how much better your papers become and how much more time you have for her, she will be looking at you with her naked eyes that seem to say, "Hallo. I like you. Much, much more than I like pâté de fois gras," or whatever it is these girls like now.

Option 2. You can challenge her to a duel.

Also, what are sunglasses?

"It is the joke of an imbecile who longs to have my knowledge and looks. Challenge the pig to a duel."

Q: *Dear Question Marquis: My friend sent me this photo. I don't get it. Is it a joke, or is it some deeper commentary on the effect of technology on culture? – Cosmo in Grand Rapids*

A: It is the joke of an imbecile who longs to have my knowledge and looks. Challenge the pig to a duel.

Q: *Dear Question Marquis: How come you know about computers and dot.coms, but you've never heard of sunglasses? – Michelle in Boston*

A: Oh, sunglasses. Of course I know sunglasses. I thought you said "St. Molasses." I am not familiar with that one. The patron saint of sorghum? What?

Business aspect of the Human Genome explored

By Trinity Belgrave

A complementary presentation to one held earlier this semester, on the impact of the human genome decoding on drug discovery, was held on Tuesday, March 27.

The presentation focused on how this development could impact investment strategies in the future. To put a monetary value on the human genome itself is a difficult task, but, to date, the Human Genome Project (HGP) has spent at least one billion dollars on their sequencing project, while Celera's privately funded project has spent an estimated $50 million in obtaining their sequence.

Harry Sanchez speaks about the business of the Human Genome

Harry Sanchez of Trilogy Advisors gave the presentation. Sanchez obtained his BA from Cornell University in Economics and Finance; he subsequently earned a Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) designation. He started off as a trader at Credit Suisse Asset Management. Sanchez is currently a partner in the six billion dollar investment company, Trilogy Advisors.

Professor Jennifer Sanchez, who organized the presentation, said, "A primary goal of our Capstone Seminar is to examine recent developments in biotechnology from a variety of perspectives. Mr. Sanchez illuminated some of the current and anticipated economic ramifications of the sequencing of the human genome."

The sequencing of the genome, Sanchez believes, is "Possibly the biggest discovery in science to date." He believes that it will change not only the way in which drug development is performed scientifically, but also the manner in which pharmaceutical companies fund various stages of drug research. Currently, the largest percentage of money spent on drug research is spent on laboratory development and clinical trials of new treatments.

Target discovery refers to the identification of a biological molecule (usually a protein, such as a specific enzyme or receptor) that is implicated in a disease. This molecule is then targeted by organic molecules, using traditional techniques, in hopes of discovering an effective treatment for the particular disease. Research starts with a target and then looks for drugs. It is this phase of drug research on which the sequencing of the human genome is expected to have the most significant effects with the development of "biotech drugs." Sanchez expects that, because genomic information will allow drugs to be made with greater efficacy and specificity, the large amount of money currently spent on extensive, and lengthy, drug trials will be reduced. Currently, the rate of biotech drugs being developed is increasing faster than that of traditional drugs.

The current atmosphere is marked by reluctance in many sectors of the public to touch anything labeled "biologically engineered." Sanchez does not anticipate this being as much of a problem when it comes to potentially life saving drugs. He notes that there is a considerable difference between biologically engineered corn and a potential cure for a cancer and anticipates little, if any, serious objection to these new drugs by the general public. As for as the Food and Drug Association (FDA) and their role in approving new drugs, the FDA has historically been willing to approve potentially life saving drugs, particularly if there are no effective treatments available.

Sanchez expects this trend to continue, particularly with the promise of more effective, specific treatments with fewer side effects. It is for these reasons, and others, that Sanchez believes investing in biotechnology is a progressive and potentially lucrative strategy for the future.

Despite the fact that most biotechnology firms show negative earnings, Sanchez sees them as good investments because of their considerable earnings potential in the near future. He believes that the majority of these companies will not suffer the same fate as many of the dotcom companies for a number of reasons. He said that biotechnology companies are low-risk investments because they have a better business model that incorporates alliances, new technology and realistic expectations into a real product.

Research is sophisticated, and therefore expensive, so companies often go into debt while getting started. Biotechnology companies, however, have the advantage of patent protection for any treatments that they discover. Most companies today are currently unprofitable because the do not have any products out on the market. A change in this situation that will be aided by the sequencing of the human

See **Genome,** *page 7*

From Faculty, page 5

a television screen? One thing we do know is that certain screens emit X-rays. How harmful are these rays? X-rays, in general, are not beneficial, although we have evolved biological mechanisms to deal with background radiation.

When kids spend time not only looking at television sets or other cathode ray tubes (CRTs), but also sitting right next to them, staring at them, the electric field could invade their brain space and could affect the electrical field in the brain itself. What are the effects, if any, on children? I wonder what it is doing to adults in terms of generalized anxiety, but I am more concerned about potential effects on children and their development.

Then we have these annoying little issues like the fact that the incidence of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma in Connecticut has increased significantly over the last 10-15 years and no one seems to know why. Suspects include environmental chemicals and dietary changes, but no one, it seems, is looking at the great intensification of what we call electromagnetic smog. Every building of any significance has one or more antennae on it. Everywhere you look, you see people talking on cell phones with the antenna right next to their head. What are these phones doing biologically? There is a lot of controversy here. Not a month goes by when something does not pop up on the Internet as the newest finding questioning cell phones and their link to cancer, their link to anxiety, their link to personality disorders. We are subjecting ourselves to forces for which we have not yet evolved a response. Not that I know for certain that they are causing A, B or C, but we have thrust ourselves into a new environment without sufficient time to adapt biologically.

Electricity, in general, certainly has been a benefit. It is hard to imagine any modern medical facility treating people at decent, modern standards without electromagnetic apparatus. MRIs, for example, and CAT scans are all based on radiation and electromagnetic apparatus. There is obviously a tremendous benefit to humanity from this technology, but it may be that we do not know when to turn it off. We do not know when to say, "Okay, enough of this, put down the cell phones, turn off the TVs, turn off the street lights, or at least the lights in the house, and let's have some darkness, let's experience natural biomagnetic fields that the earth generates rather than all of this other electromagnetic smog." Because we have become so dependent on our electromagnetic technology we tend to look the other way. We tend to say, "Nah, it couldn't possibly be a problem." But are we sure?

From Religion, page 3

that Hinduism promotes metaphysical recognition of the fact that the world is different, and provides a kind of tolerance and capacity to recognize this difference. He said that, in Hinduism, hate is not final, joy is.

Guhathakurta said that Hinduism teaches tolerance and brings with it an essence of pluralism promoting a sense of understanding and harmony.

The last perspective, Buddhism, was represented by Professor Ronald M. Davidson, who is in charge of Indian and Tibetan Buddhism Studies at Fairfield University, and Abhishek Shrestha, a junior. Richardson said that religious leaders need to establish a moral currency for themselves and provide examples for others. He said the Dalai Lama was one such individual. He also said that humanity, as a group, needs to establish an imperative for religious, social and political leadership to follow.

Shrestha spoke about the Four Noble Truths and the Eight Fold Path propagated in Buddhism and said it was important to look at life with love and compassion.

The event was well attended and many audience members interacted with the speakers. President Neil Salonen also attended the event. The ideologies presented were interesting and addressed the question, as well as providing a glimpse of different perspectives.

From Softball, page 8

versity of Minnesota-Duluth by defeating them 5-2.

Since returning from Florida the team has split a relocated double-header with St. Thomas Aquinas University. This game was originally scheduled to be played at Seaside Park but had to be moved because the city of Bridgeport has not given the team permission to play on the park, which, at the moment, is under several inches of a combination of melted snow and spring rains.

The situation is causing a lot of frustration for the team. Treybig said of the situation, "The softball team anxiously wants to play games but because of the field situation we can't. The fields are owned by the city, but the city won't give us permission to fix them or to play on them."

The desire to play was echoed by outfielder Madeline Pelletier, who said, "I think that if we get out and play we can show just how good we actually are."

A less restrained version of the situation was expressed by co-captain Courtney Hibbard, who said, "I would be nice if the city of Bridgeport would let us on the (expletive) field or the school would buy some property so that we could play."

The situation is similar for teams other than Bridgeport, as other teams have had to cancel home games as well. The Athletic Department is currently looking into the team possibly playing in Stratford.

From HIV, page 4

majority of the population does not have AIDS considering the fact that HHV-6 is found to be latent in 90% of the population? This does not happen since these people are infected with HHV-6 stain B which seems to have no role in stimulating HIV. The best estimate, up to the age of 12, is that only 5-15% of the population is infected with strain A. Further confirmation from epidemiology studies of HHV-6A infection is still awaited.

During these studies, Knox and Carrigan made another interesting observation. Wherever they observed HHV-6 in tissue, they also observed dead tissue. On the contrary, presence of HIV has been associated with reactive changes, like the immune system reacting to a common viral infection. This indicates that HHV-6 may actually be a more deadly killer than HIV itself!

HIV alone has been known to infect patients for years without progressing to AIDS. The probability of a mutually enhancing relationship between the two viruses has led these scientists to conduct a decisive study that attempts to find out if suppression of HHV-6 infection could reduce the levels of HIV and reduce it to a mere chronic viral infection.

To conclude, these scientists have succeeded in directing the attention of the world through their efforts. While their research is being appreciated, they continue to face difficulties with funding from the government. The failure to consider alternative hypotheses on AIDS research has been primarily responsible for this attitude. It should be remembered that science attempts to explain natural phenomena and theory should be modified to accommodate observation. The HHV-6 episode has suggested the possibility of a modification in theory. Hopefully, government agencies will soon realize this and contribute towards revealing the real culprits behind an epidemic that has tormented us for the past 15 years.

From Genome, page 6

genome is expected to lead to profits.

The existence of a "Biotechnology Ecosystem" is exemplified by Pfizer's collaboration with over one hundred other companies, each with a differing area of specialty. Sanchez sees this as adding strength to biotechnology companies today as it allows for companies to be highly diversified without excessive expenditure.

Companies with broad technology and product bases are those Sanchez believes to be the best investment options in this field. He expects that Biotechnology firms will begin to turn a profit within the next decade.

Professor Sanchez concluded, "The presentation provided a good opportunity for students to hear a business and investment-oriented perspective on the biotechnology industry. From the amount of discussion generated it was pretty clear that there is a broad interest in the topic."

From Caliente, page 1

non was that the LAC got a liquor license and sold alcohol at the party, specifically beer and Mike's Hard Lemonade. This is the first time that a club has gotten a liquor license for an on-campus event for at least a decade. Many students expressed appreciation for the ability to buy alcohol at the party. Although this may have initially concerned some involved in organizing the party, like members of the Student Development division and Campus Security, they were very supportive of the LAC in their attempts to get the license.

The event went off without a hitch. LAC member Trinity Belgrave, who worked at the bar in the back of the party, said, "I'm very pleased that everything ran smoothly on the night. It was a big responsibility to serve alcohol and the club shouldered the responsibility very well."

Another member who helped organize the event, Michael McCarthy, commented, "I believe we set a strong example for other clubs that you can sell alcohol successfully."

Overall, student response to the event was very positive. One student, Pavan Vaswani, said, "Caliente was extremely good. I thought that there was a good mix of music from the DJ."

Humberto Ciffoni, the vice-president of the LAC, said, "In our opinion, the party went great. Turnout was great, as we expected."

From Gymnastics, page 8

The team finished third at the meet with a score of 185.200. On the vault, Pink finished fourth with a score of 9.550. Dana Babischkin earned a score of 9.325 on the apparatus. On the uneven bars, Vassalluzzo led the way for the Knights with a score of 9.225. McFarland finished sixth for the day on the beam with a score of 9.650. Kochanski finished just behind her with a score of 9.525. McFarland showed the form that has earned her a trip to Nationals on the floor exercise getting a score of 9.675 to earn her fourth place on the apparatus.

On March 24, the Knights hosted SCSU and Westchester University for the ECAC championships. Teri Meltsch finished second on the vault with a score of 9.550. Pink followed her with a score of 9.250. On the bars, McFarland finished second with a score of 9.500. On the beam, Powelski had a score of 9.600 to finish third. Kochanski finished third on the floor exercise with a score of 9.575. Powelski finished third over all and Kochanski fourth.

On going to Nationals, Powelski said, "It's unfortunate that the whole team can't go because we've worked so hard together all year, but everyone is excited for the girls who are going. We had a very successful year together and are looking forward to next season."

Purple Knights' Sports

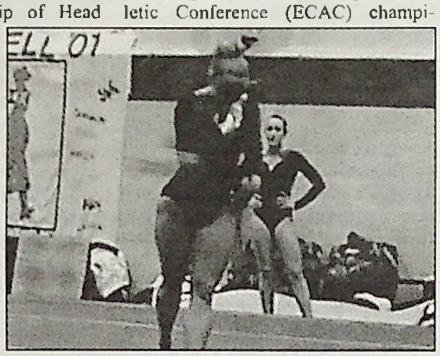
Gymnasts qualify for Nationals

By Trinity Belgrave

The culmination of yet another season under the leadership of Head Coach Lorraine Duffy has resulted in a trip to the Nationals for gymnasts at UB. Joey-Marie Kochanski, Korrinne Powelski and Tracy Vassalluzzo have qualified to compete in the all-around competition at the University of California-Davis. Laura McFarland qualified to compete on the uneven bars, the balance beam and the floor exercise. Stephanie Pink will be competing for UB on the vault.

The gymnastics team finished the season with a series of tough meets including the Eastern Collegiate Athletic Conference (ECAC) championships. The Knights traveled to Southern Connecticut State University (SCSU) on March 10. The ladies were bettered on the day, 186.800 to 184.750. Pink finished second on the vault with a score of 9.475. Powelski finished fourth on the uneven bars with a score of 9.100. Kochanski and Powelski tied for the top spot on the beam with a score of 9.525. McFarland was fourth with a score of 9.425 on the apparatus. Kochanski finished fourth overall with a score of 37.200.

On March 18, the team traveled to Rhode Island to compete against Brown University and the University of New Hampshire.



Laura McFarland has qualified to compete in the floor exercise at Nationals

See **Gymnastics**, *page 7*

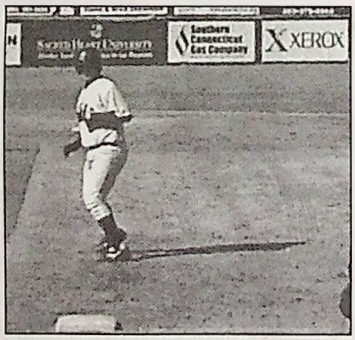
Baseball team optimistic about season

By Trinity Belgrave

The UB baseball team returned from Florida with a three and six record. The Northeast has proven to be something of a welcome change for the team as they have gone six and three since returning and now sport a 9-9 record. The team is confident that their present form can be carried over to a possible post season.

Pitcher Lee Foo said of the season so far, "I think that the season is going pretty good. Things are starting to come together. We're almost where we need to be before we reach our goal of making the Regionals."

Kevin Smith currently has a conference low 1.08 ERA and currently sports a 3-1 record having won his last three decisions. He sees the next month of the season as being crucial to the success of the team this season. He said, "The season is going well. Once we came back up north, we've picked up our game a lot. This next month will either make or break our season, but I am looking at the up side and working for a regional bid."



Baseball action out at Harbor Yard Stadium

Smith exemplifies the improvement in the team; since returning to Connecticut, his ERA less than half of what is was at the end of the spring trip he is also yet to lose a game in the northeast.

Shortstop Pete Rodrigues, who has on two occasions this season delivered game-winning hits, is less exuberant about the team's progress thus far in the season. He said, "I'm very disappointed in our season. We can't seem to put the really bad teams away. If we can't put those teams away we won't make the regional tournament like the expectations were in the beginning of the season."

One minor detraction in the season thus far was a bench-clearing incident in last Sunday's game against Dowling College in which several members of the team earned three to five game suspensions.

Frustration as soggy softball season continues

By Trinity Belgrave

The softball team returned from a 3-6 spring break in Florida to frustration with a season that is yet to get into gear. To date the team has played two games since their return from Florida and they have had six postponed due to rain or poor field conditions.

The Knights kicked off their spring trip on March 11 with a comprehensive 10-2 victory over Mount St. Joseph's. Larissa Treybig pitched six innings and struck out six, surrendered one hit and no earned runs. In their second game on the day, the ladies lost to Slippery Rock College.

On the second day of play, the Knights lost to the University of Minnesota-Duluth 10-5. This was followed by a 4-3-loss to Bentley College.

Forced inside, softball players practice in the Harvey Hubbell Gym

The ladies rebounded the next day in a stellar defensive effort against Northern Kentucky University, eventually defeating them 2-1. The Knights lost 0-4 later that day to North Dakota University.

In their lone game on March 15, the ladies lost to Bentley College by one run for the second time 1-2.

In their last day of competition in Florida, the Knights lost 1-2 to Monmouth College. However, they finished off their trip on a triumphant note, avenging their earlier loss to the Uni-

See **Softball**, *page 7*

Gymnastics

Date/Opponent	Result
3/10	
@ SCSU	186.800
UB	184.750
3/18	
@ Brown University	188.450
w/ New Hampshire U.	193.925
UB	185.200
3/24 Westchester U.	181.825
w/SCSU	186.775
@ UB	184.425

Overall 9-4

Baseball

Date	Opponent	Result
3/11	St. Cloud State	L, 9-1
3/11	St. Cloud State	L, 13-1
3/13	Lynn U.	W, 8-7
3/13	Lynn U.	L, 6-4
3/15	Wheaton Col.	W, 5-3
3/16	St. Thomas	L,19-2
3/16	W New England	L,6-0
3/17	Mayville State	W,6-5
3/17	Mayville State	L,8-0
3/23	Stonehill Col.	W,4-2
3/24	@ Queens Col	W4-2
3/24	@ Queens Col.	W,17-5
3/28	Adelphi U.	L,8-6
3/28	Adelphi	W,8-7
3/29	St. Rose	W,3-2
3/31	Dowling Col.	W,7-4
3/31	Dowling Col.	L,4-1
3/31	Dowling Col.	L,11-5

Overall 9-9

Softball

Date	Opponent	Result
3/11	St. Joseph	W, 10-2
3/11	Slippery Rock	L, 9-1
3/12	MN Duluth	L, 10-5
3/12	Bentley Col.	L, 4-3
3/13	N Kentucky	W, 2-1
3/13	North Dakota	L,4-0
3/15	Bentley Col.	L,2-1
3/16	Monmouth	L,2-1
3/16	MN Duluth	W5-2
3/28	St Thomas	W,7-4
3/28	St Thomas	L,6-1

Overall 4-7