

# The Ampersand

UIC Honors College

April 1998

## Important Upcoming Dates

April 7	Phi Eta Sigma Induction
April 13	Fall 98 Registration Begins
April 14	Phi Kappa Phi Induction
April 21	Discrimination Workshop
April 22	Honors Day

## Don't Forget!

All Honors College students, regardless of their choice of Honors Activity, **MUST** register for HON 222 (Honors Activity) each semester.

For Fall 1998, the call numbers are: **54308** (students whose last name starts with A through L) and **54297** (students whose last name starts with M through Z).

## A Night Under the Stars Shines

by Roopa Chakkappan

It was Saturday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, around 5:00 p.m. Many UIC students were probably checking out the local paper and making plans to catch the latest Hollywood flick. Others were calling their friends to make last minute changes to their Saturday night plans. However, on this particular Saturday evening, a large number of UIC students were anxiously anticipating one of the most exciting and talked-about nights of the year. It was the night of the fifth annual Honors College Ball, *A Night Under the Stars*.

This year's Ball was held at La Strada's Top of the Plaza, a wonderful venue high atop Michigan Avenue. The clear, crisp evening and the floor-to-ceiling windows afforded us a beautiful view of the city lights.

As a member of the Honors College Advisory Board, I was required to be at the Top of the Plaza early to help with the room decorations and some final touches to make sure everything was perfect. This required that several of us change into our ball finery in the restrooms!

At any dance or formal event, one of the most exciting aspects of the evening is checking out everyone's attire. Unlike last year, where black was the most popular color for dresses, this year, the girls added a little more variety to their color selections. We saw more navy and pastels, and even some prints. And not only did the girls look smashing, the guys cleaned up good and looked great in their suits!

The evening began with guests mingling in the reception area and enjoying the cocktail hour. After Ball chair **Comi Sasson** invited everyone to be seated for dinner, the rest of the evening flew by.

(cont'd. on page 3)



Shivangi Bhatt, Joanna Kuppy, Nadia Jafri, and Eric Yang enjoy the festive atmosphere of A Night Under the Stars.

See the Honors College web page (<http://www.hc.uic.edu>) for more Ball photos!

## *A Message from Dean Kaba*

The return from the spring break brings us to the conclusion of the academic year. Soon exams and research papers will devour most of your time. For the members of the graduating class, it is also a period of great expectation and anxiety. I wish them the best response to their job, graduate and professional school applications. Fortunately, we still have a few more weeks to work and rejoice together.

I will therefore remind you of a few important events to which you are cordially invited. First, your attendance at the workshop on tolerance, harassment and discrimination (Tuesday, April 21, 3:00-5:00, 305 Burnham Hall) will demonstrate your consciousness of broad social issues that characterize our university and the contemporary world. I look forward to seeing you there.

Second, we must fill the Illinois Room at the Honors Day Convocation on April 22 at 3 p.m. and together salute the achievements of the graduating seniors. Let us honor them with respect and joy. It is a fine group of students. A note to those receiving awards: this is a great honor. Your presence, an expression of your pride, is indispensable.

Finally, you, the members of the Honors College, represent the largest group of students being awarded prizes for excellence and dedication. The staff and I are proud of your academic success and will be pleased to shake your hand at the various honors societies' functions. Do your best to attend.

Good luck with your exams!

## **So You Want to Be a Student Consultant...**

Remember when you were a new UIC student? You entered a university with more than 20,000 students--and you may have felt alone and confused. But if you entered the Honors College as a new freshman, you probably knew at least one person at UIC before you even came to campus: your Honors College Student Consultant.

We're currently recruiting Student Consultants for the 1998-99 academic year, so if you think you'd enjoy serving as a Student Consultant or have questions about the program, please make an appointment to see Dean Madia by calling 413-2260 (the interview will take less than half an hour). Please note that the deadline for applying to be a Student Consultant is Friday, April 10.

Hard copies of this information as well as Student Consultant applications are available at the Honors College reception area, 102 BH.

What is a Student Consultant?

Student Consultants are upper division Honors College students who have volunteered to help recruit prospective students and work with newly-admitted freshmen.

What are the qualifications for being a Student Consultant?

The successful applicant will:

1. Be a member of the Honors College in good standing (i.e., not on probation).
2. Be able to relate to students from diverse backgrounds.
3. Be outgoing and articulate.
4. Be interested in helping new students positively adjust to UIC and the Honors College.

As a Student Consultant, what will you do?

1. You will be assigned to work with up to 20 freshmen who have been admitted to the Honors College for Fall 1998. Insofar as possible, we will assign you to work with freshmen who are in the same college and/or major as you, or perhaps, one or two from your high school. Then you will be asked to do the following:

- a. Telephone these students prior to May 1 in order to:
  1. find out if they are still planning on enrolling at UIC;
  2. welcome them to the Honors College;
  3. encourage them to take placement tests as soon as possible (if they haven't already);
4. answer questions the students may have.
- b. In July, write your students a letter inviting them to attend HCAB's New Student Orientation, which will be held on Friday, August 21.
- c. Telephone the students the week of August 10 to see if they will attend the Orientation and to answer questions.
- d. Complete several additional tasks during fall and spring semesters to aid your students in adjusting to UIC.

## **Some Tips for Turning Stress into Success**

The circumstances of life produce a great deal of stress these days. Over one hundred years ago, Robert Louis Stevenson shared some suggestions for those who "think themselves sick."

- (1) Make up your mind to be happy—learn to find pleasure in simple things.
- (2) Make the best of circumstances. No one has everything, and everyone has something of sorrow.
- (3) Don't take yourself too seriously.
- (4) Don't let criticism worry you: you can't please everybody.
- (5) Don't let your neighbors set your standards: be yourself.
- (6) Do things you enjoy but stay out of debt.
- (7) Don't borrow trouble. Imaginary things are harder to bear than actual ones.
- (8) Since hate poisons the soul, do not cherish enmities and grudges. Avoid people who make you unhappy.
- (9) Have many interests. If you can't travel, read about places.
- (10) Don't hold postmortems or spend time brooding over sorrows and mistakes.
- (11) Don't be the one who never gets over things.
- (12) Keep busy at something. A very busy person never has time to be unhappy.

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# CONGRATULATIONS

The following Honors College students have received awards from UIC's Scholarship Foundation: Mays/Nelson/Dineen Award, **Youlet Aissa**; Stanley O. Ikenberry Award, **Jeni Aris**; Thomas Beckham Memorial Prize, **Arlettemaria Attiah**; Winifred Geldard Memorial Award, **Sedefka V. Beck**; Thomas Beckham Memorial Prize, **Scott Davies**; Winifred Geldard Memorial Award, **Joel A. Elvery**; Sigma Lambda Beta Award, **Mark Gartler**; Donald Slowik Memorial Award, **Elizabeth Harbour**; Norman Nachtrieb Memorial Award, **Scott Harter**; Herbert J. Stein Memorial Award, **Meet Jariwala**; Donald and Leah Riddle Prize, **Mashal Jatoi**; Stanley O. Ikenberry Award, **Chang Lee**; Mark Wyatt Memorial Scholarship, **Andrey Lev**; Joseph J. Galassini Memorial Award, **Matt Liberatore**; President's Award, **Peter Moschovis**; Peter and Elsie May Klassen Memorial Award, **Tara Mythri Raghavan**; Donald and Patricia Langenberg Award, **Clare Rudall**; Lebus Award, **Mitzi Say**; B.J. Merkle Memorial Award, **Kaushik Shah**; Judy Curry Award, **Jennifer Solheim**; Judith L. Ikenberry Award, **Josephine Volpe**; and Revere Award, **Matt Wright**.

Congratulations to all the winners!

## Honors College Seniors Lauded

The following Honors College seniors were recognized at the Illinois Alumni Association's 1998 Student Leadership Recognition dinner, held on Wed., March 25th.

**Elizabeth Berrones**, English; **William M. Lucas**, Engineering; **Hina Patel**, Pharmacy; **Catherine Pawelek**, Business Administration; **Sandra L. Reyes**, Engineering; **Mitzi Say**, Engineering; **Marion Serwe**, Social Work; and **Josephine Ann Volpe**, Architecture and Arts.

Congratulations!



## Phi Eta Sigma Inductees Announced

The following Honors College freshmen will be inducted into the Phi Eta Sigma National Freshman Honor Society at the annual induction ceremony on Tuesday, April 7th, 1998. Freshman who earn a 4.5 or better GPA their first semester are eligible for membership. Congratulations to all!

James M. Abraham, Nicole Joy Adam, Shariq Ahmad, John Antoniadis, Monica Gamil Antoun, Noam Belkind, Bojana Bojovic, Deirdre M. Brennan, Suzanne Thanh Chau, Albert Bo-Howe Chiang, Anish Dave, Joy Almarie L. Depasupil, Danilyn Depasupil, Fariba Edalat, Andrew Joseph Fabiano, Brian Christopher Fort, Diana J. Gibrael, Alyssa Elizabeth Griffin, Yosri Y. Hassan, Marliese M. Hines, Suja Mary Isaac, Shelina M. Jamal, Harris Jatoi, Sheila Catherine Johnson, Anisa Juma, Kevin Daniel Kahley, Zishan Khan, Vandana Khungar, Michael M. Kirschner, Piotr Kleszcz, Richard Patrick Koche, Ruben G. Koshy, Simona Kucher, Chong W. Lee, Grace J. Lee, Miesoak Lee,



David Limsui, Ania Marszaiek, Sobby T. Mathew, Muzzammil Mithaiwala, Deepak Mitra, Cindy Moy, Alexandra Anna Nienart, Maria Padron, Shalini Pasupneti, Ruchik Ishwar Patel, Sanket M. Patel, Joseph John Persak, Boyan D. Petrovic, Matthew Young Jae Rhee, JoAnne Rzadzki, Jonathan Charles Sanders, Jorge Ivan Santana, Amanda J. Schneider, Nirali N. Shah, Irina Shostak, Daniel A. Swartz, Kevin Tao, Brocha F. Tarshish, Anne McDougal Taylor, Stacy Thomas, Ankur Vallabh, Vaghani Vani Vedam, Eric Hao-Ming Yang, and Lindsay S. Zimmerman

### Discrimination Workshop

The Honors College and the Office for Access and Equity invite you to attend a workshop on tolerance, harassment and discrimination. All are welcome to this session. It will take place on Tuesday, April 21st from 3 - 5 p.m. in Room 305 Burnham Hall.

Topics to be addressed include: gender, race, age, disability, religion, sexual orientation, and national origin.

### Ball

*(cont'd. from page 1)*

For me, dinner always goes by very quickly, because I'm already anticipating the best part of the evening: hitting the dance floor! It was really a treat to see students, faculty and staff come together on the dance floor. It is only on rare occasions like the Ball that we get to mingle in such a casual, upbeat setting.

When it came to the Ball, the old cliché, "time flies when you're having fun" was definitely true. The evening went by so quickly that, before I realized it was so late, the D.J. was playing his last song, and my third Honors Ball experience had come to an end.

*(cont'd. on next page)*

## How I Got Involved

by Harris Jatoi

Fall 1997: I began my undergraduate studies at UIC as a pre-med biochemistry major. On the first day of classes, my alarm clock buzzed loudly at 6:30 a.m., signifying the start of the new school year. I felt nervous as I approached the tall SEL building, where my first Chemistry class was being held. As the weeks passed by, my fear and disorientation soon diminished. However, a new problem arose: I didn't know anyone here! I watched people talking to my older sister, who is currently a senior, and I felt even worse. Although I worked at Harris Bank and had many friends there, it wouldn't solve my problem at school.

As the Spring 98 semester commenced, I vowed that I would participate in some school activities. Near the end of January, I came across a perfect way to get involved: HCAB (the Honors College Advisory Board). I filled out an application to become a Member-at-Large and was accepted.

My experience at UIC has changed ever since that day. As an HCAB member, I participate in meetings and special events, the first of which was the Honors College Social. This was the perfect opportunity for me to meet other students and faculty. I talked with a few freshmen and was relieved to know that I wasn't the only one feeling overwhelmed. However, the best activity was yet to come: the Honors College Ball. I'll confess, this was the first formal ball I ever attended and thus, I felt nervous. As I mingled with many students and danced with a group of friends, my fear faded away. The ball was worth the thirty dollars, if not more.

As the semester is coming to an end, there are still many activities yet to come. For example, HCAB has scheduled another social and a luncheon. You can be sure that I'll be attending both.

In the process of attending all these activities and events, I have been able to meet a lot of interesting people, and even become friends with some of them. Therefore, I encourage freshmen, or anyone for that matter, to participate in HCAB or other school activities. It's an excellent way to meet new people and make new friends. Even though waking up at 6:30 is still as hard as it was the first day, it's nice to know that I can look forward to seeing friends when I get to school.

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## Consultants

(cont'd. from page 2)

2. You will be required to attend the following mandatory events:
  - a. A special leadership training session scheduled for Thursday, April 23, from 5 to 7 p.m.
  - b. HCAB's New Student Orientation, from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Friday, August 21.
  - c. The Consultant's Social, a get-together held late in the afternoon about a month after school begins.
3. Throughout the 1998-99 academic year, you may be invited to help us with other recruiting activities; for example, giving campus tours to prospective Honors College students and their families, or telephoning prospective students.

What will you get out of this?

1. You can use this experience as your honors activity for spring semester 1999.
2. You can put it on applications or your resume.
3. You will undoubtedly meet new people, make new friends, and feel more involved in campus life.
4. You will have the satisfaction of having helped make other students' transition to college life easier.

## Go Climb a Rock

by Amit Parikh



The sport of rock climbing has been around for ages, but did not start becoming popular until recently. It is one of the most demanding sports because it challenges your physical and mental endurance, strength, and flexibility.

On your climb up the mountain, you are faced with hardship and strain. Many times you are faced with soreness and fatigue from your toes up to the tips of your fingers. This is caused by all the jamming, pulling and pushing to keep going higher and higher. Now is when the mental challenge takes on a greater role: should I let go and give up, or fight on and continue? The thing that keeps you going is the sight of the heavenly skies above, which by now are closer and more welcoming than the big ground below ready to eat you alive if you think about letting go and falling.

Your strength is also challenged and tested when you are climbing. You come across many holds which are just so small or awkward that they require you to really shove your foot or finger into the wall and hold on with just the tips of your fingers or toes. And other times you are faced with a rock which is so small that if you don't pinch and grasp it to the point where your fingers start to shake, you will not be able to hold on. All of this requires a lot of strength to do successfully. Many walls or mountains have an over-hang which limits the parts of your body which can be used, so the limbs you do use become stronger. Many times you have just your hand or a few fingers supporting your entire body weight.

(cont'd. on page 6)

## Help Wanted

Dependable student wanted for general office work. Duties include: light typing, copying, filing, errands (driver's license required), answering telephones. Hours: 3 hours daily minimum, expected to work during the summer, spring break or whenever there is no school - all year with requested time off. Start date: 4/27/98. Salary is \$6.12/hr. Contact: Joyce Williams, Office of the President, (312) 413-9097, 414 AOB

## Ball

(cont'd. from page 3)

The overall consensus was a positive one. The following comments about the Ball were overheard in the days after. "The dance was a pretty wild time!" exclaimed freshman **Jeff Czaplewski**. However, not everyone's mind was on the dance floor. Sophomore **Amit Parikh** added, "It was my first Ball, and I found it to be a pretty enjoyable experience. The dessert was the highlight of the evening." And junior **Goud Maragani** elevated the Ball to Academy Award status. "The Ball reminded me of what the post-Oscar parties must be like!" A Night Under the Stars indeed!

## Study Abroad - Where Do You Want to Go?

*by Nicole Seidlitz*

Welcome to the new UIC Study Abroad Column! We will be writing articles each month for the Ampersand, to better inform you about the various study abroad opportunities available at UIC. This month, we would like to provide you with an overview of the UIC Study Abroad Office. In the coming months, articles will discuss the various study abroad experiences of UIC students.

The Study Abroad Office serves UIC undergraduates interested in living and learning overseas. Experience abroad helps to enhance resumes, provide college credit and learn about a foreign culture. Programs vary in length, allowing students to select summer, semester and full-year options. Students can choose from a variety of pre-approved programs to earn credit while abroad.

"All students have different needs and they must select a program that best fits them," says Rina Campbell, Associate Director. "For example, a student who wants to study in Spain but has no knowledge of Spanish may benefit from a summer language program."

Students who have a stronger foreign language background may be more interested in the semester or full-year programs. Students without language skills may opt to study in English-speaking countries such as England and Australia. Living accommodations vary from living with a host family, to apartments shared with other Americans.

Programs are not free – students often have to pay tuition, airfare, meals and living expenses -- but financial aid is available. Almost 80% of Study Abroad students receive financial aid, making many programs more affordable. There are also several scholarships, although they can be highly competitive.

Another concern students have is the course work they will be doing abroad. The Study Abroad office emphasizes planning ahead and getting requirements within the major completed. "General electives, in the social sciences and humanities, are the courses most likely to transfer credit. Natural sciences and 300-400 level courses can transfer, but it may be trickier to meet UIC's requirements because they are more specialized." Campbell also emphasizes that comprehension may be harder when taking a science course in a foreign language.

Options are available in over 30 countries, from South Africa and Korea to Spain and Mexico. Deadlines for most spring '99 programs are October 1, 1998; for summer and fall '99 the deadline is March 1, 1999. For more information, contact the Study Abroad Office at (312) 413-7662. You can also stop in at 502 University Hall and visit Study Abroad's Resource Center from 8:30 - 4:30, Monday through Friday.

Suggestions and/or questions about this column can be forwarded to [nseidl1@uic.edu](mailto:nseidl1@uic.edu).

# Rock

(cont'd. from page 4)

The last attribute that is challenged is your flexibility. In climbing you will come across many situations where the best places for you to put your feet are at a 180 degree angle, causing you to split your legs more than they are probably used to. If you don't get them accustomed to being split before you start climbing, you will get cramps in your legs and experience some serious pain.

Another common situation you will find yourself in is that the best or the only place to put your foot is by your waist or above it, and if you don't have the flexibility, you are going to have a hard time going any higher. Another place where you are going to have to be flexible is in your strategy. Many times a route and particular holds might look good as you plot them in your head before you start. To your surprise, when you actually get there, the hold is bad for you or the route is more challenging than expected. At this point, you have a matter of seconds to come up with a more effective approach before you are ripped off the wall by the almighty power of gravity.

As you can see, rock climbing is a very challenging sport that tests many of your attributes. This is one of the reasons why I like it. I also enjoy the sense of control, power, and accomplishment rock climbing gives me when I'm hanging by just my hands and feet. I feel that the only person who determines my fate is me. Once you make it to the top, you feel a tremendous sense of accomplishment. Rock climbing is the greatest thrill and rush that exists on the planet. Try it sometime!

# Too Much Time on Your Hands?

by Shivangi Bhatt

Do you find yourself having too much free time and not much to do with it? Are you sick of doing the same thing over and over, with no immediate goal in mind? Do you feel like doing something more meaningful with your experience at UIC? These are questions I would have said "yes" to a year ago, during my freshman year. I found myself getting bored with just going to class and studying all the time, hanging out with all the same people and going to the same parties, and basically not getting much else out of my college experience.

All of that changed when I decided to join a student organization. The first organization I joined was Alpha Phi Omega, the national service fraternity. As soon as I got involved, I was hooked. The opportunity to help others and have fun at the same time was wonderful, and having this whole other aspect of life always helped when I needed to get away from the stress of classes.

Excited by the prospect of making a change in the world, or at least in the university, I ran for Honors College Advisory Board in the spring. HCAB has been keeping me quite busy ever since. As a member-at-large and the chair of the luncheon committee, I get to help plan and carry out activities which touch the lives of students at UIC. Some of the highlights of my time on HCAB have been helping with the campaign for Priority Registration, getting to meet with the provost of the university to talk about issues that students are concerned about, and planning both the Fall '97 and Spring '98 student-faculty luncheons. It's been somewhat of a time commitment, but it is all worth it to see the results of what we do come through, and to get to know some of the really amazing people who are also on the Board.

In addition to HCAB, I also ran for the board of the Indian Students Association. ISA was a completely different organization from HCAB and APO, involving a totally new group of people than the ones I had met before. I originally joined ISA with the purpose of helping to unify the South Asian community at UIC - this was the first time I had come into an organization with a deep conviction, or a sense of exactly how I wanted to change things. ISA turned out to be a lot more work than I bargained for, but even though it's been quite a strenuous job, it has also been beneficial. I have met so many interesting people and done so much which has touched my life in countless ways. And as long as the results come through in the end, how much time and energy I have put into it so far will be worth the effort.

But, of course, there are the downsides of being too involved as well. As my involvement in ISA and HCAB grew, I could no longer fulfill my duties as a member of Alpha Phi Omega, and had to become inactive. Even after this, I still feel too busy to think sometimes. My day starts at 8:00 every morning and often doesn't end until 10:00 or 11:00 p.m. My social life, aside from the activities I participate in through ISA and HCAB, has become very toned down.

Sometimes things seem a bit overwhelming, but it's all about time management. Juggling school, work, and two activities which both require huge time commitments can be tough, but the experience is totally gratifying. All this involvement has left me fulfilled, with a sense of purpose. And everyone doesn't need to get as involved as I did; you can decide just how active you want to be. And with almost 200 organizations at UIC, I strongly urge everyone to join at least one. You won't be sorry.

**To find out more about these and other UIC student organizations, visit their web site at: [http://www.uic.edu/depts/chcc/programs/sor/stud\\_org.html](http://www.uic.edu/depts/chcc/programs/sor/stud_org.html)**

# Fun in the Sun, and Culture, Too!!

by Joey Volpe

For the last four years I have made it a point to go away for spring break in order to relax before the end of the school year. As a graduating senior, this year I decided to forego my usual trip to Arizona and saved up a little more money and went to Mexico City.

We hoped for good weather, as it is usually between seventy and eighty degrees and sunny this time of year in Mexico's capital. The weather certainly delivered its wonders, as we were able to bask in the sun as we walked around this unique metropolis. This huge city is nestled in a deep valley surrounded by mountains. Here's a handy little fact I picked up while in Mexico City: my science major roommate, who accompanied me on this trip, told me that the ice and snow in the mountains takes a very long time to melt because of the extreme 7,000 foot altitude of the mountains.

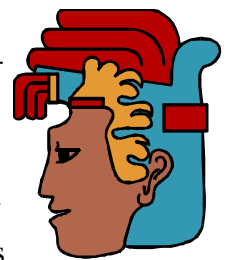
The enormous city is a unique blend of cosmopolitan hustle and bustle with a skyline dotted with huge skyscrapers like the Torre Latinoamerica. At the same time, you are surrounded by the old world charm of gardens and plazas like the Alameda Central, and colonial buildings like the House of Tiles. You get all of these things with plenty of cheesy tourist attractions thrown into the recipe as well.

Some of the major tourist draws are in the Centro Historico, the historic center of the city. In one sweeping glance, I could see pre-Hispanic, colonial, and modern Mexico. Centro Historico's major attractions are the Cathedral with its beautiful interior, the Palacio Nacional where many of Diego Rivera's famous murals are housed, the Zocalo (main square) itself with its enormous Mexican flag, and my personal favorite: the Templo Mayor. The Templo Mayor is the main Aztec temple that was discovered by subway construction workers in the early 1980's. Seeing the remains of the successive temples, one built over another for a hundred years, was fascinating. The wonderful museum attached to the archaeological site is a treat for any traveler, but especially for a museum addict like me. It is the syncretism of being able to see so many eras of history all in one place that defines Mexico for me.



After winding our way through the maze of cobblestone streets from the Zocalo to the Alameda Central, another one of Mexico City's highlights presented itself to us: the FOOD. Traditional Mexican cooking is a true treat for anyone who likes a good meal like I do. One of my favorite restaurants is Café Tacuba. After we pigged out on homemade tamales there, it was just a short walk back to the Alameda Central.

Among Mexico City's other highlights are the museums, especially the Museo Nacional de Antropologia, and the Museo Arte Moderno. At the Museo Nacional de Antropologia, the collection of objects from Mexico's pre-Hispanic Mayan and Aztec cultures is overwhelming. It is an amazing experience to see original monuments like the Aztec Calendar Stone, which is not really a calendar stone, but that is another story altogether. The replica of the reconstruction of the Maya Murals of Bonampak was another highlight. It is possible to spend an entire week in the museum and not see everything! The Museo Nacional de Antropologia captures the essence of pre-Hispanic Mexico and the current native culture, while the Museo de Arte Moderno captures the essence of modern and contemporary Mexican art. Its permanent collection includes such pieces as *Las Dos Fridas* by Frida Kahlo, and a large collection of works by contemporary Mexican artists.



Our trip this spring break was capped off by trips to the Bazaar Sabado (Saturday Market) in San Angel, a suburb of Mexico City, and seeing a performance of Swan Lake performed by the National Ballet Company of Mexico on an island in the lake at Chapultepec Park. Mexico City's unusual aura will continue to draw me back for visit after visit.

## American Jeans

*Anonymous*

At five, small and unsteady, I remember walking through my mother's cavernous closet. Playing with her black open-toed pumps, my legs wobbled side to side. Burying my face against hems of cloth dangling from hangers, I felt the slide of patterned georgette. I recall sari-clad women who swished and mingled in our kitchen, gossiping, drinking tea, sinking

into elegance: woven paper-fine cotton and silk, delicately seeping threadwork, and flesh tones slightly glimpsed, sinuous like humid gold resin melting in the sun. They walked in small steps, rustling soft upon ceramic tiles, cloth swathed against their shapes, veiling curves.

Reminiscing on their easy grace, I pull on my american jeans — beaten, washed, blue Levi's. With denim tight against leg, smooth against hip, with a stiff inseam, and shiny hard buttons, I stand streamlined next to a full-length mirror. Irreverent, spare, shape defined, curves punctuated.

In my american jeans, my dim perspective is illuminated — the world lies magnified. I see my surroundings singularly, in deep contrasts of color. Like a camera lens minimizing on details, I no longer stop my mere glances at hands and mouth, but continue to gaze, unwarranted, unscathed. No longer simply admired, I am the admirer. With my camera-flash attitude and stance, my bass-beat walk, my daring to stare more than a nanosecond at this world, I walk with long strides.

Yet where is poise, the subdued expression of my mother's mouth, eyes and nose? An inner lissomeness disintegrates in an american haze of city fluorescents and neons.

These american jeans are all motion, rough, and unlike the slide of patterned georgette on my little face. Attention drawn to the body, regardless of silk or denim, a woman's gaze is intercepted by the unfolding, icicle stares of men. Pushing through filmy veils of vision, she gazes, intoxicated by surroundings etched, rich, and redolent of tastes.

## Major Fellowships Information Available

Have you always dreamed of studying at Oxford or Cambridge, and feel that you could positively contribute to British society? Perhaps you are strongly committed to a career in public service, and have taken a strong stand on an issue of national importance. Or maybe you are a science or engineering major who is passionate about pursuing a research career after earning a doctorate in graduate school.

If you answered "yes" to any of the above, and you have a high GPA and strong extracurricular experiences, you may be an excellent candidate to apply for a national scholarship or fellowship, such as the Rhodes, the British Marshall, the Truman, or the Goldwater scholarship.

The Honors College has just produced a brief brochure entitled "Major Fellowships: A Summary of National and International Scholarship and Fellowship Opportunities." It outlines the details and eligibility requirements for the major national awards such as those listed, as well as many others. In addition, it lists the web addresses for many of the sponsoring foundations, where you can get additional information on these programs.

If you are interested in these possibilities, stop by 103 BH to pick up a copy, and schedule an appointment with Dean Lewis to discuss the scholarship process. For many, a pre-application is required, and is due by June 1. It's never too early to start preparing for these opportunities, so pick up your copy of "Major Fellowships" soon!