

CHANGE WE CAN BELIEVE IN: MOTIVATING THE NEXT GENERATION

SAM JEFFERY

Last night's banquet was a scene of gorging and grinding, devouring and dancing. Memories of last night are, no doubt, quickly fading into a happy blur of "remember that Friday night in the middle of HSMUN?" as well as the better-off forgotten taste of the chicken-beef-pork mystery dish. There was one aspect, however, that should stay with delegates for years to come. It was the moments that came after dinner, during dessert, before the dance: the Guest Speaker.

Those delegates who were also in attendance last year may recall that the guest speaker spoke before dinner, as hungry diplomats shifted impatiently in their chairs. Far from being a commentary on the speech, the restlessness was rather a signal that food is a primary need, coming before that for intellectual stimulation or self-fulfilment that could be gained from

the speaker's words. The decision to have Senator Douglas Roche speak after dinner this year was a wise one, leading to delegates able to fully devote their minds to his words as they spooned tiramisu into their sated mouths.

The Senator is no stranger to public speaking. In addition to his years as a senator, he has written nineteen books on the subject of peace and has even served as Chairman of the United Nations Disarmament Committee in 1988. Perhaps it should come as no surprise, then, the power his words hold over the delegates of HSMUN. Though his speech far exceeded what many would call the average attention span of a student, delegates listened in rapt attention as Roche explained how the culture of peace must struggle against the culture of war. Roche was the first to admit that there are no easy an-

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swers to disarmament, no way to force a nation into peace. How does one peacefully force a hostile nation to give up their warlike ways? This catch-22 is nonetheless what the Senator urged all those present to attempt solving.

The Senator's words did not sound in vain. Delegates surged to their feet following his speech, applause ringing through the ballroom. More poignant still were the questions asked of Roche, revealing the helplessness many feel in the face of such impossible odds. How do you force the entire world to change? Roche, at least, believes in the power of the youth. And the youth, it seems, are ready to take up his challenge. "He embodies the mindset people need to have going into this changing world," Irish delegation of SOCHUM. "We need more liberalism, more socialism. It's conservatism that's killing us." It is easy to see the reference to conservative nationalist policies, the same policies that have the United States plac-



Senator Roche answers questions from inquisitive high school students

SAM BROOKS

*please see ROCHE
continued on page 11*

THE DEEPER MEANING BEHIND HSMUN



SAM BROOKS

"Love actually is all around."

SAMUEL SHAPIRO

While millions and even billions of people around the world wake up each day to an empty stomach and no home, the participants from HSMUN—ordinary high school kids just like you and me—wake up in their rooms, with breakfast served in the kitchen, a school to go to, and most importantly, a family. And for three days of the typical 365-day year, these ordinary high school teenagers have a chance to discuss the issues which the aforementioned billions of people in the world have to face daily. War, famine, disease, the environment, social security, racism and hatred, self-determination—the list goes on and on. Truth is, the list never ends, never has and never will. So for those who truly do care about those three days, they can be assured that HSMUN will continue running indefinitely, for the issues are always there.

I first attended HSMUN in 2008 as a delegate, and to be quite honest had not a single clue of what was going on or what my role should have been. Representing Belgium on the DISEC committee, I was forced to debate a seemingly boring topic regarding water systems and the like. A year later, however, with a number of other programs such as SUNIA under my belt, I look back and I realize several very important things. In the end, what matters

isn't whether you passed a resolution or how many countries you won over with your persuasive skills. What matters most, and probably the only thing you will remember, are all the ties and new friends you made, as well as your interaction with them during debate.

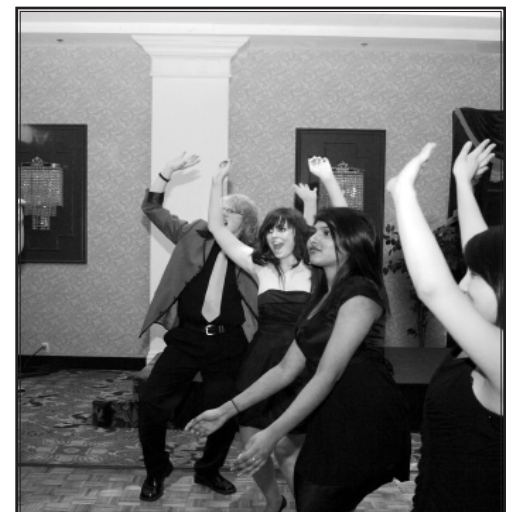
The debate itself is not a competition. It is a chance to be serious yet have fun at the same time, and the only way to accomplish that is to participate as much as possible. I feel sorry for the people who are too shy to voice their opinions and views on issues – they are too preoccupied with making a mistake, and consequently what their peers might think of them. Well, suck it up, my friends, because the wheel is still spinning regardless of the countless number of mistakes that we, as a race, have made in the past. Mistakes are tools that allow us to build and improve on who we are, and we should never be afraid that someone else might laugh at us. Because, truth be told, that person is probably the one with whom no one will end up hanging out or who will ultimately reach a dead end in his or her life.

You have all probably heard that Canada is a great country to live in for its multiculturalism and acceptance. So then I ask you: What's up with Canadian government not letting Jews into our country dur-

ing WWII? Why the egging of religious mosques and temples? Why all the racism and bullying in schools? It is human nature to hate, and so the word "peace" is too abstract a concept to be aiming at. Mutual respect and understanding others and their values are the goals we should be pursuing, for it is those concepts that lead to peace and harmony.

I failed to mention that it is also our nature to radiate love—not only to significant others but to family, friends, and even enemies. When I come to the HSMUN banquet and see Israel and Palestine dancing together, I cannot help but smile—if not visibly, definitely on the inside. Only when we put aside our quibbles and disagreements do we have a chance to see one another for who we really are. Do you actually think that the majority of soldiers fighting on opposite sides of a war have anything against each other? No – it is the hatred of one person that drives the rest of society, and it is high time we started thinking and decided for ourselves what is right.

I guess I've gotten sort of sidetracked on the topic of HSMUN, but everything I have mentioned is inherent in HSMUN. Debate, connections, appreciation—all of these things are what tie our world together; fighting and hostility will never get us anywhere. To end with a famous quote, "love actually is all around", all we have to do is look for it. And I guarantee you that there is plenty of love to be had here, at HSMUN 2009.



Hope springs eternal.

SAM BROOKS

SOLUTIONS AND SHENANIGANS IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL

SARAH FLOWERS

In its final hours, the Security Council is frantically working towards passing resolutions on both the crisis in South America and the right of nations to self-determination. While delegations focus on solving the various issues presented, it is also a time to reflect on the weekend that was HSMUN 2009. The past three days have been a mixture of foreign policy, alliances, and classic quips, such as Libya's motion to "expel the ever-absent Mexico from the Security Council" that will resonate throughout the history of the conference. It was also a conference of firsts—from the rainbow colored sweater of the Croatian delegate on opening night to the bribery trend started by Uganda and the various hairstyles the sported by one of the Russian Federation representatives, Security Council members went above and beyond to make HSMUN both entertaining and informative.

Security Council started off this morning by doing clause-by-clause roll call voting on Draft Resolution 1.0 in reference to the conflict between Colombia and Venezuela. While the first few clauses passed with ease, delegations locked over clause four due to objections from Burkina-Faso. However, the small country managed to be cajoled into agreement by other delegations, ultimately allowing the

council to pass the resolution and rectify the situation in South America with a vast majority vote. Only Burkina-Faso voted against the resolution. This quick passing allowed the delegations to refocus on the initial issue—the right of self-determination. Hopefully, the Security Council will manage to pass yet another resolution by the time the HSMUN conference wraps up this afternoon.

The turtleneck sweater worn by one of the Croatian delegates on Thursday night went against the traditional business attire worn at the United Nations. Perhaps it was this initial show of individuality that allowed the delegation to become a power in the council, as Croatia was active in all aspects, particularly the South American crisis and the drafting of a resolution to solve that global issue. The success of this pair may also be accounted to the actions of the female delegate from Croatia, whose "death stares" and rumored flirtations with delegates from other nations also helped propel Croatia to a position of influence. In what is known as the alternate universe of the Security Council, Croatia essentially became one of the main members, particularly in the absence of participation from various superpowers, such as the United States.

Stylistically, one of the representatives



SAM BROOKS
USG (Intervention) Aaron Rankin has no time for your tomfoolery

from Russia also stood out. Initially sporting his badge clipped to his hair, the delegate flaunted a Mohawk on the second day and a half slicked-back look on the final day of the conference. Unfortunately, the delegate's diplomatic skill and political strength did not possess the same amount of flair as his hairstyles and the nation did not play a large role in the council. When asked how he thought his hair affected his role as a delegate, the Russian Federation replied, "I say it's a good thing we believe in self-determination and my hair shows our self-determination. I feel that if people care more about my hair then they shouldn't be here, but in a hair salon."

Last year, Security Council was rocked by the dynamics of the Belgian delegates, who brought humor to the council alongside representing the interests of their nation. For HSMUN 2009, the Belgians returned, this time to represent Uganda. Bringing humor and wit back into the Security Council, Uganda also started new trends such as the aforementioned bribery of the dais staff. A Ugandan delegate stated, "This debate is so important to me. I just don't know what I'm going to do when it's over". Luckily for the delegate, HSMUN will be returning next year, so it is only a matter of time before delegations reunite to once again try their hand at solving the world's issues.



The delegates finalize the details on their resolution

LUKAS KAWALILAK

BECOMING GLOBAL CITIZENS, ONE STUDENT AT A TIME

ASHVIN SINGH

We've spent an excessive amount of time this weekend telling you what a good delegate should do. This time, we thought we should do an interview of some random delegates so we could tell you what good delegates shouldn't do. Here are some healthy tips that will help you on your way to being a world diplomat.

- When asked what you will do with the "extra money from R2P", don't suggest that you use it in situations where Colombians need help, suggest that we "put more stuff in education" or suggest that we shield Brazil for its upcoming attack on the United States of America. As a general rule, in fact, don't declare war on the USA and don't succumb to the belief that the US "has borrowed so heavily from the World Bank that they can't afford to turn on the power to fire their nukes". Don't reference R2P as a source of funds, an investment portfolio or ask if it is a type of lipstick.

- Don't state that the 2008 financial crisis is a premonition of the downfall of capitalism, "something to do with cheques", what happens when we use ATMs too often or a consequence of "people not planning more in their budgets".

- When asked about the consequences for Europe of the recent fall of the Berlin Wall in Munich, don't answer that it made everyone more equal, "breaks down fights" or rendered socialist nations far more efficient than their capitalist counterparts. Don't pretend to be knowledgeable by saying you read about it in the Globe three weeks ago. Also, recognize that the Berlin Wall is in Berlin.

- When asked if Venezuela's border with Russia is a threat to international security, don't suggest that Venezuela has a vendetta against Russia, that both countries are nuclear powers or that HSMUN's Security Council proceedings are a testament to their tensions. Also, don't stare your interviewer in the eyes and repeat solemnly, "Russia has a bomb." So does Switzerland, and Venezuela doesn't border Russia.

- When asked if Kazakhstan's history as a French colony is the source of its prob-



Here are some intelligent and well-behaved Global Citizens...

SAM BROOKS

lems, don't respond that their culture is too dominated by la langue de Molière and that now, in the 24th century, we need to stamp out French influence. Don't state to your interviewer, quite seriously, that their production of the film "Borat" has been a cornerstone of productivity in the nation and don't declare that Kazakhstan should "rejoin itself with India". Further, don't engage in long discussions about the preservation of French culture in Kazakhstan until you establish that Kazakhstan was never a French colony.

- When asked how East and West Korea can best reconcile their differences, don't launch into a tirade about the faults of East Korea, state angrily that it isn't our problem or cite something you saw on the Discovery channel about the West Bank (which is, by the way, in Israel). Above all, don't state that East Korea's economy will be salvaged by Shanghai. East and West Korea aren't countries (kudos to the one person we interviewed who realized this). A tip, though: When you do realize it, don't correct our definitions and continue to cite the North as the "less socialist one".

- When asked whether liberalism or realism is the best doctrine for international relations, don't declare that realism is better because it "gets sh** done". Recog-

nize that liberalism is not the opposite of realism. Favourite answer: "Liberalism... actually realism...I changed my mind. Liberalism is the more left one, right? I like left."

- When asked about your solution to world peace, don't declare that we need to separate church and state, that we need to "put down the fighting and talk" or that we need to undertake a massive expansion of the narcotic industry so that people will "reach a friendship high".

- When you are asked about Somalia's naval attack on Uganda, don't reference it as uncalled for, say it took you by surprise or, after a minute of pensive thought, state that you think it was justifiable because Uganda provoked Somalia. Uganda is landlocked and the two countries share no common border.

- Don't answer "I don't know" to every question, giggle hysterically when asked about the recent Israel-Gaza conflict, call Obama the "all in one solution to everything", pronounce Germany "Gur-many" or ask the interviewer which country he is from.

A special thanks to our sources.

THE REAL DEAL

CLAIRE WALLACE

A future career in politics? Similar thinking has sprung from the minds of the delegates on the Security Council, as they experience what the politics of the United Nations are really about. The Venezuelan/Columbian crisis had the delegates thinking on their feet as they debated the sudden crisis. The Venezuelan delegate, pulled from ILO, had to admit he felt slightly overwhelmed. "We were sort of thrown in there. We had to learn our material quickly and make sure it was right." Columbia, the other country involved in the crisis was found in a similar situation. The Columbian delegate, pulled from UNEP, confessed "The quick change of scenery taught me to think on my feet." Was this model UN an accurate representation of what the real UN may be? From what we have heard, yes! The Columbian and Venezuelan delegates from the Security Council were eager to agree. The Columbian delegate, David Frasier, stated "The

cooperation, organization, and resolutions of the debates were quite accurate."

Taylor Henzlemier, representing Venezuela, had to agree. When asked, he declared the model UN was an ideal representation. "Well I have been somewhat interested in politics for my future, and now you have asked, I am interested in the politics of UN now."

The promotion of the UN seems to have sprung an interest among delegates, achieving a large underlying goal for the seminar. From letters of intervention to the proper speaking etiquette, every last detail of the seminar has been a flawless replica. In addition, the gaping difference in personalities of delegates and debating techniques has, on the whole, contributed an element of mystery to the scheming and outcomes. Delegates from this seminar have experienced just a small taste of United Nations politics, and hopefully in the future...they will be hungry for more!

SPECPOL AND WHO TALK BACK!

MEAGAN CHIU

Last night's banquet edition came with some mixed reviews, especially from members from SPECPOL and WHO, whose groups were represented more pessimistically than some members wanted.

So because it would be unjust to portray groups in a negative light without at least getting their side of the story, this reporter went to SPECPOL and WHO to listen to their opinions on the articles. In SPECPOL the delegate of Bangladesh felt that the article written by Sydney was "somewhat accurate" but "did not represent all sides." While she did not deny the goings on of the unmoderated caucus that Sydney reported on, she believes that "some discussions were important and useful" and that the use of the word "pathetic" was a bit harsh. The delegate of South Africa, who was also interviewed, found the offending article to be contradictory. If "countries like Finland [were] sleeping" then how could "the little information that was interesting" be spread by Finland? She wants to ask the report-

ing press member "Just how long did you stay?" She also feels that "ten minutes is not long enough" and that the press member was not there to see that they "have had good discussions."

Delegates from WHO were just as opinionative about the article written by Vienna and responses varied. The delegate of Kenya felt that the article was "actually pretty accurate" and thought that the article was "pretty funny." The delegate of Finland found that the most offensive part was the title because she agreed that they were "wasting time." The delegate of Israel felt much misrepresented by this article. Her response was that "WHO dynamics were not boring!" In fact, ultimately they came up with two resolutions which came from a lot of co-operating, compromises and negotiations. There were also a lot of funny moments, such as the ones inspired by the delegate of Cuba who provided much comic relief. She's asked that another journalist come to report on WHO, to give their group a second chance.

THE MAC ATTACK

TARALYN CHAPMAN

The MAC students are profiled as the nerds...until last night that is. The evening started out simple with us gathering to share our stories of that day over a fabulous dinner and desert. The press team talked about their stories that were published in the paper and just like a true MAC student they criticized their grammar and spelling mistakes as they read through the different stories. The guest speaker was an inspiration to many in the crowd and the MAC students were among the impressed delegates. Surprisingly, when the music started the MAC kids were the first to be on the dance floor grooving and moving to the beat of their own drum. Many were amazed to see a member of the press (Claire Wallace) dancing like she hadn't ripped a ligament in her ankle and not only was she the dancing queen, she also rode the friendship wagon all-night introducing herself to many new delegates. The Croatia duo was dancing in their own format of politics. Along side them were the newly made couple a member of the Press and a Cuban delegate. Even Mr. Martino was busting out his moves. It was great to see the MAC alumni dancing with their fellow MAC friends. Last but not least me according to my friends I was being shy and I am an eccentric dancer.

Observing the room if I were to choose my favourite dancers I would say the chief editor, the Croatia duo and a Brazilian (Spencer) delegate. I was amused with the staff and how they were having just as much fun as the delegates. I can't wait to see the banquet photos and I am excited to look back on the HSMUN 2009 with great pleasure and pride.

The MAC students sure know their foreign policies and they know how to win over not only other countries but also the dance floor. "The MAC students took social to another level last night" – Mr. Martino.

IF YOU FIND ANY SPELLING ERRORS IN THIS ISSUE, DO NOT BOTHER THE EDITOR WITH YOUR DISCOVERIES.

THE GOOD SHEPHERD: A HISTORY OF THE 43RD PRESIDENT

NATHAN PINKOSKI

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The administration was sterile. Its pool of ideas had run shallow, and the office of the President was besought by bitter scandals. A recession plagued the economy, ruining a period of uninterrupted growth. All legislation of note seemed to come from Congress rather than the White House. The President had exhausted his political influence. While his party base backed his natural successor for the nomination, the rest of America was worried. They did not want another term of the same dry ideas. They wanted change.

Across the party fence, a man promised it. Youthful and charming, he promised to fix America's Social Security, save America's schools, and bring an end to foreign military adventurism. He promised a more compassionate government that would reach across the party fence to care for all its citizens.

That man was not Barrack Obama. In 2000, that man was George W. Bush. Eight years later he left office, with barely 20% popular support. A President had not left office this reviled since Truman. There are few in the world that sympathize with Bush, though, and most are glad to see him leave office, seeing his Presidency as a colossal failure. But does he deserve to be the effigy of all hatred? One needs to look past the polemical overstatements to assess his Presidency. Here, then, this writer offers up an attempt at the same

assessment, with the hope that the reader will gaze deeper than the usual cabal of accusations to look at the 43rd President's decisions. As he set himself up as the 9/11 President, the leader of a nation responding to the worst attack on America since Pearl Harbour, we shall examine him in those terms, leaving aside domestic policy to ask the fundamental question about Bush's foreign policy, the question that any national leader must ask himself about his country's foreign policy: did it serve the interests of his country and make his country safer?

The greatest boast for Bush's legacy is not based upon any particular event; victory in the long war on terrorism could never be brought about by American soldiers hoisting a flag on a hilltop. It is, instead, the non-event that one must draw one's attention to: after the smoke from Manhattan vanished American soil was never struck again. Leading up to 2001, the United States and its allies had been struck by increasingly more aggressive and innovative attacks. The list is frightening: the hijacking of TWA Flight 847 in 1985 and the Berlin disco bombing in 1986, the Buenos Aires bombings in 1992 and 1994. There was shocking World Trade Center bombing in 1993, a warning of what America's enemies were capable of that went unheeded. Paris' subways were bombed. There were plots to

attack New York monuments and jetliners in 1995. As the 21st century came nearer, it became more and more clear that while America was sleeping, her enemies were awake. The Khobar Towers bombing in 1996. The East Africa embassy bombings in 1998. The USS Cole in 2000. Then, 9/11.

Like his predecessor had once said, "Never Again" became the maxim governing Bush's actions. He proceeded to oversee the largest government reorganization in American history, creating the Department of Homeland Security by incorporating and creating security agencies on a scale not seen since 1947, when the Department of Defence, National Security Council and Central Intelligence Agency were born. That achievement, its screening procedures and its security measures have achieved their purpose. They have allowed for the largest economy in the world to continue to import, export and prosper while undertaking massive security regulations. While some bemoan the restrictions on civil liberties undertaken, these restrictions are not a product of neo-conservative fervour—they have been sweepingly adopted by other liberal democracies, and in many places with even more restrictions than in the United States. Citizens were not imprisoned for treason, unlike the First World War. Thousands of citizens were not detained indefinitely, unlike the Second World War. Citizens were not deported, nor denied passports, nor blacklisted, as they were during the 1950s. Domestic security was maintained without disrupting domestic life. That success has continued every minute that Bush has been gone from office. Unlike his predecessor, then, when Bush said "Never Again", he was able to keep that promise.

Abroad, Bush assumed the port of Mars. In Afghanistan, the United States brought the regime that had sponsored 9/11 to its knees, while Americans cheered their President. Bush's approval ratings shot to



Doing their duty.

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BUSH

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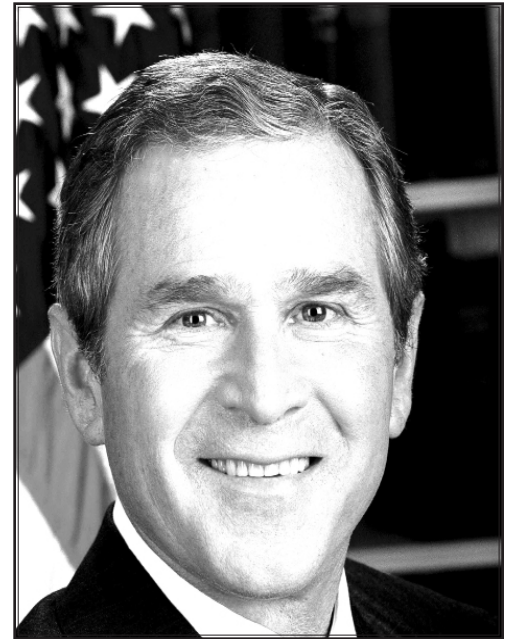
90%, an astronomically high level. America had woken from her slumber, and the people begged the President to lead them in order to make themselves and the world safer. And Bush answered. He declared terrorism to be the enemy of civilisation, and denounced those regimes that sponsored it as part of an “axis of evil”. This was the defining moment of his Presidency, for it said that America’s values were worth fighting for. There would be no equivocation of terrorism with freedom-fighting. There would be no attempt to justify the intentional slaughter of civilians. Instead, America was to provide the moral leadership for the world. The American charter assured the rule of law and the rights of man to that people, and Bush was convinced its ideals still lit the world. Other men have agreed with him. He would not apologize for our way of life, nor waver in its defence; to terrorism he said that our spirit was stronger and could not be broken: that it could not outlast us, and that we would defeat it.

So, he brought us into Iraq, a regime that sponsored terrorism (if not Al Qaeda) and was believed by every major intelligence agency in the world to have WMDs. In his bid to go to war, he was overwhelmingly supported by Congress and the American people. They supported the idea of a democracy in the Middle East, imposed by American might—because it was a new era of responsibility—a recognition, on the part of every American, that they had duties to themselves, their nation, and the world, duties that they would not grudgingly accept but rather seize gladly. Even when it became clear the democracy would not emerge from the rubble, the people still believed that terrorism would be beaten. So, against a lack-lustre Democratic candidate who seemed uncertain about America’s direction, they re-elected him, as their noble Brutus, the principled commander-in-chief who did all things for his country. In the wake of Abu Ghraib, he would not play a Valentino to d’Orco and fire his companion Rumsfeld, the architect of the disastrous post-Iraq order. He would not betray any member of his administration as a meal for the raving dogs

at the door of the White House, even as they grew louder and louder. That course would seem too bloody, and Bush was an honourable man.

The polls fell, and the death toll in Iraq rose. Terrorism seemed not beaten, but stronger than ever. Iraq looked to be on the verge of civil war. The centrist Democrats, once supporters of the war, became its harshest critics. Republicans in Congress walked away from the war and the Oval Office. The country called for retreat from Baghdad and that fight, having lost all hope. America, in this new Valley Forge, seemed beaten. But in that Oval Office, there was one man whose heart was in the trim. While the majority wanted to leave Iraq to an undoubted chaos and massacres, Bush authorized a radical revision in American strategy, and used his last ounce of political capital into passing it through Congress. In one year, the surge succeeded beyond anyone’s wildest dreams. Violence in Iraq plummeted. Militias disarmed and put their faith in the democratic process. On January 31st, millions of Iraqis went to the ballot for the first time since 2005, in a well-ordered and secure fashion. Between the Tigris and Euphrates, there is a democracy. Terrorism is waning across the Middle East, and Al Qaeda is no longer a force capable of striking internationally, nearly bankrupt. Libya, seeing the fate of Hussein, opened itself up for the first time, abandoning its support of terrorism and its uncomfortably well-advanced nuclear program. Statesmanship brought that there, even when the course seemed dark.

But Bush has lasted long enough to see himself become the villain. Bouts of tactlessness and first-term administrative mishaps have given him the appearance of failure. Like his predecessor, he never fixed Social Security or health care or the need for more careful financial regulation or America’s international reputation with her allies. The fact that he had satisfied America’s wish of vengeance and stretched American power, as the people wanted, only made Americans uncomfortable. So the man who gave them their wish for security, who has responded when the people asked more of their country, was not honoured. Their faith was in a total



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The Noble Brutus of the 21st century

victory. A single oversight, a plan not accomplished, became a national disaster, a conviction that the country was on the wrong track. So as power shifted, Bush’s successors set out to condemn him. But that’s what needed to happen. For how can Americans hope for anything less than total victory? How can they settle for less than someone who promises to fix all their problems, a shining knight who promises a new era? How else can a nation’s values have the quiet force of progress throughout its history, if no-one is willing to reach further and dream further than what is probable or possible? Sometimes the truth isn’t good enough. Sometimes people deserve more. Sometimes people deserve to have their faith rewarded.

Six years ago, they would have given him a statue with his ancestors; now, they call him a traitor and would pelt him in the street. But far away from those who cheer that he is gone, democratic countries are rising in Afghanistan and Iraq, while America remains fortified from terrorism. As he promised to do on the ashes of Ground Zero, Bush made America safer, and even when thousands said spreading democracy in the Middle East was an impossible venture, he has offered millions of people in Iraq and Afghanistan the real hope of a free society for their children and grandchildren. That is change they can believe in, and they owe it to the watchful guardian of America’s 43rd President.

SOME JUICY INTERNATIONAL NEWS

HSMUN GOSSIP HE-SHE

Most interpreted the fall of the Soviet Union as the collapse of red empires. But the innovative mind of Vladimir Putin and the painting skills of Martha Stewart have shown that the return of a red empire is only beginning.

After all, with many hairy children to paint, nobody found it suspicious when Putin imported six billion cans of red paint last summer. But when mandatory, twenty-four hour paintball with red paint was instituted in major urban centres, eyebrows started to rise. Accompanied by Martha's mysterious resurfacing in St. Petersburg to lead an IPO ("Martha Stewart Vodka Ballet Communist"), the pieces of the puzzle came together. Looks like Putin's legacy will be the spread of the red vision across Asia and Europe. And this time, it will not be through the spread of communism, but instead by dousing urban centres in millions of gallons of red paint, using Martha Stewart's expert housekeeping abilities to drop the paint just right.

"The Westerners may have their liberty," said one Russian insider, who wished to remain anonymous, "but the true strength of their spirit lies in their wide palette of colours. Look at you, with your greens, your yellows, your purples, your asparagus and gamboge. You even have a song about a technicolour dreamcoat—such is the lavishness with which you use colour! We do not have colours, dreams or coats to waste! What if there was only one colour? What if the whole world was a reflection of Mother Russia? Ha ha ha."

Watch out, boys and girls. Yesterday might be overcast, today may be a bright azure...but like it or not, crimson is on the horizon.



UNN

Just when we thought the Venezuelan dictator couldn't get more serious, a total makeover swept through the instability of Latin America. Horrible dictator Hugo Chavez has decided to put some of his country's petroleum products to use by becoming the hippest fashionista since Shakira. Abandoning his suit for a skimpy negligée, it looks like his next UN speech aims to turn heads as well as influence foreign policy ideology.

But it looks like the cozy attire isn't all Hugo has in store. "I want to be a singer too," commented Chavez. "I have always dreamed of singing that American song, 'Hips don't lie', in the middle of Times Square." Having pushed the limits of physical beauty, Chavez feels he can do anything. "Perhaps I will do a rap," he hinted slyly.

Does this mean a new era of cosmetic liberty for Venezuelans? Or is it just a statement that all good dictators do their conquering in style? One can only speculate.



UNN

Just when we thought that cher Nicholas' marriage to starlet Carla Bruni was written in stone, France threw us a curve ball to show us that in the land of Gaul, nothing lasts forever.

Most had accepted the mutual hate of Americans and the French as static dogma in international affairs. All of that changed one windy afternoon. Spotted: Nicolas Sarkozy smooching with American glamour queen Rosie O'Donnell in the middle of a Parisian press conference. It didn't

take long to make the transition from rich cappuccino to some café americano, did it, Nick?

Looks like things with Carla have ended as quickly as they began. Sorry, C. The trouble with guys who marry pin-up girls is that sooner or later, you're going to get traded in for a better model.



UNN

The inauguration was fun, but it's looking like things aren't all fun and games at the White House. While America was busy admiring her winning smile and fashion sense, first lady Michelle Obama has been preparing to smash UN secretary-general Ban Ki-moon. Uh oh! Looks like America has sought yet another unilateral solution.

International relations disaster...or just the latest stage in Michelle Obama's fashion revolution? Only time will tell.



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GOSSIP

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Panda bears may seem cuddly, but that doesn't mean they cannot be used as violent attack forces when times become tough. Looks like imperialism is alive and well in Red China; rumour has it that Indonesia was just eaten by a giant panda.

One of the panda's close friends, panda James, commented on the crisis:

Pandas

Pandas are precious and nice

They eat no meat

Except for some mice

They do not sleep

They only snooze

They mostly eat different types of bamboos - the tallest grass in the world

Looks like someone was mistaken! Apparently, Palestine isn't the only one with a taste for nationhood.



UNN

Just when we thought we had turned a page on the Bush era, we now see a possible renaissance of neoconservative ideals. Where has America spread its sweeping influence this time? Seems like chubby German Chancellor Angela Merkel is the target.

As with most policy developments of the former Bush administration, it began with the sickening expulsion of fluorescent green vomit. But this wasn't just any vomit; experts have identified the fluid transfer as imitation-evoking ideology flow, last seen in the case of Stephen Harper's uncanny emulation of drying paint.

Look out, traditional Bratwurst. Looks like a healthy seasoning of intervention-

ism is on its way.



UNN

Headed South for a vacation? Forget Hawaii, Mauritius or Cuba...try Oprah. That's right - American's hottest talk show host has now decided to transform into a huge island in the south Pacific.

"I've conquered the economic world, the fashion world, the sexy world, the eating world and the world of giving away cars to strangers," commented Oprah, "I've even elected a President. I asked myself, 'What's left for me?' And the answer came: 'Oprah, you've never been a southern Pacific island.'"

The island, consisting of Oprah and a palm tree, may not have much room or anything to do, but the world's top personalities are bidding up a storm for a stay on this newest tropical destination.

Naturally, geopolitical tensions have sparked. India, China and the Republic of Syria have all laid claim to this media mogul's new territory in Earth's most vast and diverse ocean. Will they be able to succeed where many have failed, in conquering Big O? Or will their "forces" and "diplomatic influence" be useless in the face of Oprah's smart, sensible wardrobe and witty comebacks?

Her island, composed of herself and a palm tree, will be named Girlfriendmania. Given her capacity to swim, the moving island lends new, literal meaning to her favourite catch phrase, "You go, girlfriend."



UNN

SPECPOL: THE FIGHT FOR POWER

NANCY TRAN

First issue on the mind of Special Political and Decolonization committee delegates of the General Assembly are not the stewardship of natural resources on conflict, but instead the voting on the best delegate within that committee. Once the mention of who will become the best delegate will receive a prize of a mallet, all delegates scammed to identify who will receive the award. Some delegates who seek the recognition may regret not bribing other delegates at the banquet the night prior, the Dias the morning of, or not participating in the debate for the last day and a half. The SPECPOL delegates, along with other committees as well, scheme to win, but shamefully have to be reminded that voting fairly is required. Sorry delegates, fairly means no re-voting for your own country and no love notes to the Dias.

The greediness aside, the main topic that should be on the delegates' minds of SPECPOL is the debate on hand. Delegates need a certain reminder on what resources are in conflict, but somehow the topic that must be discussed becomes the conflict of whether or not land is a conflicting natural resource. As hardworking as the delegates are, one can question their true intentions for discussing lands and even other resources like "water, drugs, oil and gasoline", since land has always been a link to power. Shame on you delegates for craving power and having the desire to expand your countries' borders.

The most obvious candidates that clashed during the conflict of land are Tunisia and Afghanistan. There audacity should be applauded since more than half the other countries remain quiet. It is a surprise that these countries' neighbours are not eager to discuss the specifications of land as a natural resource in conflict. Either the delegates of SPECPOL are too tired from dancing all night or they do not mind lending (surrendering) their land to their friendly neighbours. C'mon delegates wake up and start fighting.

DEAR EDITOR-IN-CHIEF...

CONCERNED DELEGATES

Dear Editor,

The Russian Federation would like to protest against the interview with the Security Council chair that was featured in Friday night's paper. After personal review we have deemed this interview to be a personal attack based on biases and judgment by appearance. If self determination is good for the nation, then it is good for the individual. We believe that it is not correct conduct for a chair to call out a delegate based on obvious distaste and personal judgements. This interview was essentially a personal attack on one delegate. It is inappropriate, unfair, and highly uncalled for. While we recognize that this interview is meant to be tongue in cheek, it comes off as being snide and disrespectful to the individual.

Sincerely,

The Russian Federation

Security Council

P.S. We have nukes. Don't mess with us.

Dear Russian Federation,

The entire argument of your letter hinges upon a conditional clause: "If self determination is good..." Since the last time I verified the Russian Federation's regard for an absolute defence of self-determination I was confronted with the reality of a Russian-controlled Chechnya, and so I know in fact that self determination is not always and everywhere a good thing. Thus I must conclude that your protest is tongue-in-cheek, and that you are perfectly aware that self-determination for a people is mitigated by circumstance, just as self-determination for an individual is mitigated by things like dress codes and common sense about the ugliness of Mo-hawks. I am,

*Your obedient humble servant under the nuclear umbrella of the United States,
Editor-In Chief*

Editor-In-Chief,

"It is difficult to take a stance" on whether or not it would be proper to drop a wikipedia page on the desk of reporter Sarah Flowers; this is because even the common, uneducated person knows, so as

long as they observe credible news sources, that President Hugo Chavez is not "often mocked with the name 'America's puppet'" and that under no circumstances would the United States Government sink so low as to offering \$300 million - as the Republic of China is said to have reported - to support a tyrannical dictatorship, such as that which exists in Venezuela. Where the Republic of China dreamed up this information is beyond the comprehension of the United States, perhaps their embrace of collectivism has spawned this fantastical creativity, however, it is more likely they were misquoted. Frankly, considering the inability to correctly name the leaders of two pivotal nations to the Security Council debates, one would have to question the credibility of the quotes provided in the United Nations News. Perhaps the \$300 million she heard of was indeed the \$300 million in funding reportedly given by the Venezuelan government to the radical terrorist group FARC; as substantiated by evidence from FARQ leaders themselves.

Hoping that the great insult taken by the United States has been properly directed, and that the criticisms of the United States have been fully addressed, the United States would like to wish all delegates a great time at the closing of HSMUN 2009.

- Shauna Regan

United States of America

Security Council

Dear United States,

We regret this error. Our normally policy would be to sack Ms Flowers, but an irate mob has already lynched her in Caracas while she was deployed for more investigative journalism. Perhaps your new Obama administration might take this opportunity to defend its citizens abroad by carpet-bombing Venezuela. Nonetheless, we are reassured by your Secretary-of-State's refusal to prioritize human rights in relations with China, and so we are confident Realism still exists in the White House. I am,

*Your obedient humble servant,**Editor-in-Chief*

SAM BROOKS

Editor-in-Chief Nathan Pinkoski takes your concerns very seriously

Dear Editor,

It has come to the attention of the People's Republic of China that several misquotations, contradictions, and outright lies have been printed in your paper. As such, we demand the right to affirm our dignity and righteousness through a rebuttal, to be printed in Saturday's issue of the United Nations News. We will look most unfavourably upon any editing, alteration, or mangling of this, the attached document.

Hoping you are well,
People's Republic of China
Security Council

Dear China,

Here at the UNN, we only recognize the Republic of China. We do not think you are a legitimate country, and thus are not worthy of full publication or a reply. Occupation governments have no credence here. Give up Beijing and go back to the fields where your precious Mao came from. I am,

*Your obedient humble servant,
Editor-in-Chief*

Dear Sir,

Last night I had a chance to pick up a copy of the UNN, and was saddened by the view expressed therein on the ILO,

which I am delegate to. According to the newspaper we were at first unsure of what to do, then we progressed to being “civil”, and finally “autocratic” under the iron thumb of Vietnam. I beg to differ. What is often overlooked at the UN is the back-room scheming and politicking by various parties. The the columnist who saw smoke and theorized that the fires of autocracy were burring, was sadly mistaken. I advise anyone who sees such smoke to smell it and recognize it for what it truly is: the cigar smoke that is the glorious byproduct of backroom dealing. What may seem as a country ruling with a steel-cased hand is actually smart politics. Vietnam gathered the Asian delegates, Tunisia gathered the AU under our banner, and I representing Austria rallied the EU and the other developed nations. Against such an alliance none could stand, and I am proud to say that we are already drafting a working paper for the second topic, and I have high hopes it will pass as well.

Your servant,
Scott S. Reith delegate of Austria
ILO

Dear Austria,

*Perception is important. Even if you are capable of instigating back-room deals, the eyes of the world are upon those who speak publicly in the committee. Allow me to use an analogy from your country's history. In 1938, your people voted overwhelmingly in favour of unification with a certain militant country. While it may have been the reality that your people were coerced or beaten into this unification, the fact of the vote allowed for the perception to be delivered that this unification was legitimate. If you are perceived as something, then for all purposes you are that something. I am,
Your obedient humble servant,
Editor-in-Chief*

Dear Editor,

My name is Dylan Hansen and I am representing the great nation of Cuba in the International labor organization. I would like to immediately express my displeasure in the lack of, and negative credit given to Cuba in the United Nations News yesterday.

Yesterday I found it shocking to see my face in the paper but putting forth an image of a communist fiend who's opinion was considered repetitive and ineffective. This is the main article of my concern. The article ILO: I Don't Know mentioned that Cuba being the only communist nation present, or at least the only one speaking and voicing its opinion. China, a country renowned for some of its communist ideals, hardly spoke in support of Cuba's Marxist proposals. Venezuela, a very supportive and strong ally to Cuba, was rushed into the Security Council for diplomatic reasons involving Columbia. Cuba would like to point out to the editor that when one is in a group of people not getting involved or voicing opinions on hardly any matters, one must stress the point even if it needs to be repeated several times.

Although Cuba realizes it was tragically defeated in the debates presented yesterday, we are extremely upset that the rubbish portrayed in yesterday's paper, was allowed to be printed as it did leave credit where due, and was quite insulting. Seeing this, Cuba demands and immediate reprint to tell all of the United Nations that we are not a nation of wrong-doers and irresponsible and ignorant diplomats.

The Delegation of Cuba would like to thank the editor for their time and beg for consideration of our Proposals.

Sincerely
Dylan Samuel Hansen
Representative to the ILO for the Glorious Nation of Cuba

Dear Cuba,

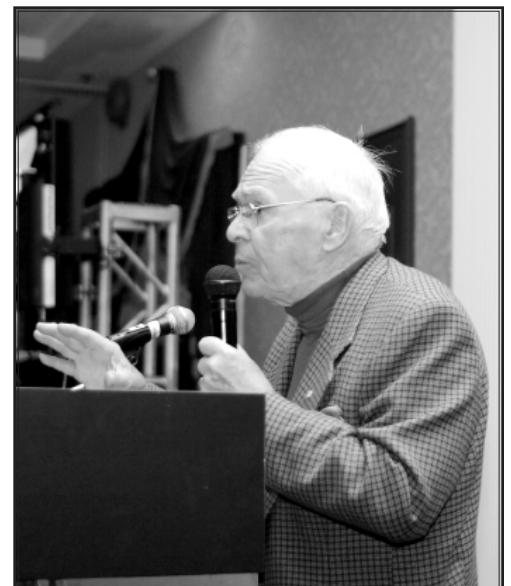
*If you will take a closer examination of the economic realities of your presumed Communist brethren China, you will see that there is very little that qualifies as “Communism”, as has been the case since Deng Xiaoping. Your friends in Venezuela have yet to announce formal autocracy, but in your favour this could very well be the case in the near future. But at that point, your country might have woken up to find that Fidel Castro has outlived Communism's time as a credible ideology, if indeed it ever was. I am,
Your obedient humble servant,
Editor-in-Chief*

ROCHE

continued from page 1

ing their own country's safety above that of the world. Everyone who knows what the word “nuclear” means also knows that a nuclear war would mean that everyone loses, regardless of who started it and who was “only” protecting themselves.

It is up to those young delegates of HSMUN to prove that the world can change. To prove that the youth of today do care about the state of the world, about foreign policy and global politics. To prove that they can make a difference. “I wish [the Senator's] words could go out not only to those who involve themselves, but also those who do not,” admitted the Swiss delegation from SOCHUM. Admittedly, Roche was preaching to the converted last night. Presumably, the delegates of HSMUN already care enough about their world to become involved in the debates of the past few days. But Roche has challenged them to move past mock debate and into the real world to make a discernible difference, and to really begin to change the world from this culture of war we seem trapped in to a utopian culture of peace. Convince those who stayed at home that what happens outside of hockey and watching Lost, that what happens outside in the world matters. There are no limits but those in your own mind. As Senator Roche said: “I believe in you.”



SAM BROOKS
Through the course of his presentation Senator Roche inspires the delegates to action and to take up their responsibilities as Global Citizen for Nuclear Disarmament and fighting climate change.



SAM BROOKS, SARAA MAHFOUZ, LUKAS KAWALILAK

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HSMUN • 09

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