



Haigazian Herald

Vol. XV No. 2

The Student Newspaper of Haigazian University December 2006

What are you **thankful** for? We asked this question to any HU people we could get our hands on...
...answers on **page 8**



"No pain, No Gain, so Strain your Brain!"
Check out our puzzles on **page 9**...

(Source: BBC MindGames)

Back to Haigazian...
The Quad
Inauguration...
The unexpected plaque in the Admissions waiting room explained...
Interested?
Flip to **pages 12 - 13**...



MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Special "Christmas Cheer" splattered all over **Pages 16 - 17**... Take a peek. You know you want to!



Yes, it Really **IS** Still the Herald!

Our Sincere Hopes For All

Have you realised that this actually **is** the **Haigazian Herald** between your hands?!

Yes, it really is the university newspaper of Haigazian, but with an extreme makeover (we're aiming for this "intellectual" look)!

Our objective is acquiring the perfect look that'll please our readers (i.e. YOU!)...
Most of what we've done so far is based on comments we've heard around campus, as well as from experts on the matter...

So unless you think it's perfect already, get in front of a computer and spew all your feedback here: herald@haigazian.edu.lb

If you're a devout fan of the mailboxes, drop a line in **box 123**.

If you need the human contact, just share your comments with any member of the Herald staff (listed on page 9).

Crimes against humanity,
A country wallowing in fear.
Citizens tense with nervousness,
Wondering if the end is near.
We can't predict what the future holds,
None of that is clear.
But our sincere wish for you all,
And those who you hold dear,
Is that you have a blessed Christmas,
And a better coming year.

Jenni Feghali (BIO)

We're in a GIVING MOOD! Millions for Your Thoughts!

\$\$\$\$\$\$

Okay, so it's not really millions, and the giving will occur at the end of this academic year, but here's the good news: we have managed to persuade our beloved Student Life Office to make the competition prize a monetary one this year!!

As always, we of the **Haigazian Herald** start the year by publicizing the fact that the:

- 1) Best Author
- 2) Best Article
- 3) Best Creative Writing Article
- 4) Most Prolific Writer
- 5) Best Cartoonist

will be showered with fame and fortune at the end of this year...

So? Wanna publish your work in the best paper on the block? (the block being the street that houses our precious campus, although we are toiling to expand the radius so that this will be a paper you'll truly look forward to grabbing...) Give it a shot! You really might make it through the screening process!

Best Wishes,
The **Haigazian Herald** Posse

Poll Results!

Who are the "coolest" male and female professors?

Percentages from a 200 vote count by people of **random** and **diverse** majors.
There were no nomination rules, so people could vote for anyone, thus the wide vote distribution. The "Other" categories contain several names.

MALES

Nadim Hassoun	37.33%
Fadi Asrawi	9.80%
Hratch Barsoumian	8.87%
Ousama Ramadan	6.80%
Berge Traboulsi	6.40%
Elie Shbeir	5.90%
Ohannes Geukjian	5.40%
Nazim Noueihed	3.40%
Jouseph Moudabber	2.90%
Daoud Tawil	2.90%
Ali Moukallid	1.90%
Ghassan Abou Jaoude	1.50%
Wael Helou	1.50%
Other	5.40%

FEMALES

Sarar Maalouf	27.75%
Hanine Hout	16.20%
Samira Shami	7.51%
Najwa Inglizi	5.30%
Marie Claire Rizk	5.20%
Nina Zeidan	4.62%
Najoie Nasr	4.50%
Nicole Baker	4.00%
Rula Halaby	3.00%
Noura Salmanian	2.30%
Joumana Tannous	2.30%
Lena Urneshlian	2.30%
Arda Ekmekji	1.73%
Lamia Shehade	1.20%
Shafika Assaad	1.20%
Rania Mansour	1.20%
Other	9.78%

A Rainbow of Hostility

It doesn't seem right to follow the Herald tradition and say, "Welcome to the end of the old year, and the beginning of a new one"... Does "welcome" seem to be an appropriate word these days?

As I look around me, each day I see more signs of rejection than welcome. Animosity that used to be kept covered up is now out in the open, pouring forth from the hearts of Lebanese, overwhelming the love for peace they expressed not so long ago.

Haven't you seen friends arguing with each other, spewing venom at each other because they follow different leaders? And I wonder: should we be following our leaders? What is the "enlightened" path upon which these shepherds are leading us? Is it a path of their choosing, or ours?

There are probably very few remaining who still rely on their own intellect and reasoning, who understand that the country is being filled with poison - the poison which sets brother against brother.

Is it right for one Lebanese to turn against his fellow Lebanese just because one is Muslim and the other Christian? And how much worse

is it for Muslim to turn against Muslim?! Should we let sectarianism fasten its mindless, heartless reins on our brains and souls, and divide us, making neighbours treat each other like sworn enemies? What a foolish way to live our political life! What a disgrace to abuse religion like this!

"United we stand; divided we fall..." It's ironic how not too long ago, we were a nation uniting for peace. Now, no matter where we look, we see a "rainbow" of hostility fragmenting an already shattered and broken land, in place of the welcome and hospitality for which Lebanese are famous.

I am worried about our fragile situation; and yet I continue to hope that we can make a difference if we pray for all of Lebanon, and all of its people, no matter what "color" they belong to. And one day we will again be able to truly welcome and care for each other.

My wish at the end of an old year, and the start of a new one is this: May peace prevail, and may God bless us all.



Back to front, left to right: Anita Moutchouyan, Maro Krikorian, Hala el Moghrabi, Araz Keuroghlian, Manuel Kurkjian, Wissam Malaeb, Shahe Seukunian, Riaf Hamze, Alaa el Atrash, Jenni Feghali, Stepan Harmanlikian



LISTEN UP, SANTA!!

A Letter to St. Nick

Who needs you, anyway? You make the same promises every year and get our hopes up so high, but it never does any good. We wait in anticipation each December, wondering if this year will be different. When will you wake up and bring us what we really need? You know how hard a summer it has been, and how hard the past two years have been. Surely you could find it in your heart to leave us some gifts that would help us restore our faith in you!

Look, the North Pole is really not that far away from us, especially with the improvements in air travel (except for the problems with the Concorde; but you have your sleigh and reindeer, so that's not a problem). Oh, you should be careful to get clearance before you enter our airspace though; even coming from the north might be highly risky, and we don't want to have you shot down on top of everything else that has been happening. But you have to push us higher up on your list of priority destinations. This is getting ridiculous! Why do I have to tell you these things? Don't you watch Al Jazeera or CNN at least?

I don't know whether it is even worth it to write to you. You are supposed to "see us when we're sleeping" and "know when we're awake." While we were sleeping, all sorts of things happened - bad things, you know? And when we woke up, things got worse, not better, for us. We started bothering each other, then accusing each other, then yelling at each other. I don't know what's next. But if you brought us some nice things, maybe an iPod or a PlayStation3 for every good boy and girl here, I'm sure we would settle down and be nicer to each other. A few candies or some "Made in China" plastic toys are not going to do it, if you know what I mean. With all the money people are sending our way, I'm sure you can find a donor or two to make up for the shortfall in your budget.

Maybe I'm being too materialistic, I don't know. Maybe new and improved toys are not what we need. All these Hummers all over the place... I guess they're getting to me. But help me out, here. Isn't there something you could arrange that would improve on our situation? Maybe something warm and fuzzy, like a kitten or a teddy bear?

Or maybe something... more internal? Like peace and good will? That might make life more tolerable. However I don't want to be selfish, so make it peace on earth, not just peace in our land. And I want to be specific, so don't just make it generic good will; make it good will among men. You know, humans, the blobs I have to share air with?

Is that OK? Can you manage this? And if not, do you think that while you're flying around you might be able to find someone up there who could manage to bring these items to us?

Remember, sweet ole' Santa, we want peace on earth and good will among men. Don't mess up this order, or we'll go and find someone who can deliver the goods!

Your friend,
Rev. Nishan Bakalian

A Summer Experience...

What Haigazian student, Dima Bitar, had to say about how she spent her summer.

How did your summer start?

Everything was going normally; I decided to take two summer courses in order to graduate this year. I had to come down from the South to HU everyday! But this problem was a very easy one compared to the one I faced later on during the war...

What did you do after the war started?

I decided to leave Lebanon to Dubai where my dad awaited us, and I started my training at Blom Bank there. However, after ten days, my summer classes resumed and I had to come back here. Despite my family's objection, I acted against their will for the first time in my life and returned to Lebanon, promising them to be careful.

What happened after you returned?

With God's help, I finished my summer courses and excelled in them; in addition, I was able to continue my training here at Jammal Trust Bank.

Any comment on the overall experience?

It was a very tough summer and I do admit that sometimes I felt weak and thought of giving up...but I did not! Looking back, I feel very proud of myself, and I do not regret any decision I made because through the entire dilemma, I was thinking with my mind and not my heart.



The Rainbow Warrior II in Lebanon, With HU Students on Board!!

I don't think I've ever agreed with the cliché "every dark cloud has a silver lining" more than I did this summer. Being the devoted environmentalist I am, I was truly devastated (no exaggeration!) when the oil was spilled into the sea... However, I am somewhat ashamed to admit that my pain was **slightly** alleviated when the Rainbow Warrior II, a famous Greenpeace ship, came to Lebanon on an "oil mapping mission" and I got the amazing chance to board it for a week (so did Bilal Dia, an ex Haigazian student). At first, we were pretty seasick, but we overcame that soon enough, and we were performing our duties with extreme excitement; I of assistant cook (and volunteer deckhand), and he of deckhand... As the days passed, we grew more and more attached to the ship, and I can honestly say that I, personally, was quite depressed for a while after getting off it... I'm pretty sure both of us are going to try to get on board the ship again in the future, though it's not that easy!

Jenni Feghali



Shadow Government - The Youth Criticizes

The Shadow Minister of Affairs Anto Ketchedjian Tells All...



What's the Shadow Government?

A youth government composed of 29 students from different universities. It aims to criticize, evaluate, and provide new ideas for the governmental ministries. We are the voice of the Lebanese people taking no sides, but representing everyone.

So what's your position?

The Shadow Minister of Social Affairs, representing Haigazian. My ministry deals with different social aspects in society from volunteer camps, to disabled people, to maternity and childcare issues.

And what have you done so far?

Up until now, we've had workshops and training sessions organized to generate maximum productivity by the ministers, and to enhance our unity as a team. The real government has sanctioned the Shadow Government, thus we will be working in collaboration with the real ministers. We have finalized the governmental policy declaration that will be presented to the public, and we have started official meetings to deal with the woes of the Lebanese people.

What is your opinion of this project?

This project is not just for this year, and it has long-term plans. It has the potential to become a real asset to the political field of Lebanon, especially since we are completely objective - or should be - in order to benefit our people and not be sucked into the unproductive and chaotic reality of the Lebanese society these days.

Anything to add?

It was really difficult - and it still is - to get past certain political convictions between fellow ministers, and this has created problems. We have to remember that in spite of our different views, ideologies, and beliefs, we all have to put aside our biases and be as objective and tolerant as possible for the sake of Lebanon. My fervent hope is that we get past all the prejudices that dominate the Lebanese community and work together towards a better Lebanon.

Alina Hagopian, Lebanese Armenian Red Cross Volunteer

What exactly did you do in the summer?

I volunteered for the Lebanese Armenian Red Cross, and my work was organizing patient data - basically, putting files in alphabetical order, searching for the patient card numbers, and helping out doctors.

What pushed you to do it?

I wanted to volunteer in an organization to reach out to the old and poor people, especially during the war when the situation in Lebanon was so bad. And through my work, I found out that I can make a difference by helping the needy people.

How was the experience in general?

It was good because I met so many people with different kinds of problems, which I tried to help them overcome as much as I could.

Anything to add?

I advise all those people who like helping out their fellow humans to do as I did, or something similar.

9 Steps to Become a Multi-Billionaire



YouTube shows us how to laugh all the way to the bank!!

Step 1: If on a lazy Sunday, you thought that it would be cool to launch a website where people can view each other's videos and upload their own, then that would have been the wisest decision you ever took in your life.

(This is the idea three 20-something Americans (Jawed Karim, Chad Hurley and Steve Chen) thought of in early 2005 when they launched a site where people can watch and share videos especially personal travel videos, recordings of themselves voicing opinions about certain issues, and even dancing to the beat of famous songs.)

Step 2: When coming up with the domain name of the site, avoid choosing long words even you can't pronounce.

("YouTube.com" was the catchy domain name these 3 men came up with)

Step 3: Choosing the target market can be a very tricky process in general. But when internet sites are concerned, teenagers are most likely to be your primary focus.

After all, who on earth records an intentional fight he had with his friends for everyone in the world to see other than your average teenager?

(YouTube is currently one of the fastest growing websites on the net attracting 72 million visitors each month, where the 12 to 17 year-old age group is dominant)

Step 4: When your site gets millions of hits everyday, companies will line down your block to advertise their products on your site.

(The millions of monthly visitors were the reason companies wanted to promote their brands through ads on YouTube.)

Step 5: Beware of Haters!

(YouTube users were posting copyrighted music and videos on the site. This outraged major record labels and TV networks which demanded that YouTube take corrective action to remove the copyrighted material.)

Step 6: Forgive the Haters who almost sued you and your site when they realize that the benefits of partnering with you are far greater than the benefits of suing you.

(After just weeks of claiming that YouTube owed them millions because of copyright infringement, the offended companies decided to capitalize on the site's newfound success and agreed to provide it with content)

Step 7: There are 1.65 billion reasons to smile!

(In early October 2006, Internet mogul Google announced that it will buy YouTube for \$1.65 billion in stock.)

Step 8: Accept awards.

(In early November, YouTube was named "Invention of the Year" by Time magazine.)

Step 9: Laugh all the way to the bank. You're finally a multi-billionaire who has enough money to pay off 10% of the Lebanese National Debt.

(This is what the 3 young men who invented YouTube are doing this instant.)

Manuel Kurkjian (ADC)

Still Think You Don't Need a Bunny?!



So, are you wondering if a rabbit can really be smart? Well, this bunny can teach you Tai Chi, read your e-mail, report the weather/stock market, and tell you the time. That's pretty smart - and it's also got personality! Nabaztag can move his ears, play music, talk and whistle, and its body can show off hundreds of colors and special patterns of light. Sometimes he will even have his own random things to say, as long as you can put up with its moods!

'Nabaztag', the Armenian word for 'rabbit', is a Wi-Fi enabled "smart object", a part of a new breed of objects which exploit

computing and the internet to provide information without a computer, screen, keyboard, or physical interface.

For now, Nabaztag is an ingenious, constantly connected communications device that uses lights, cutesy ear movements and sounds (played through his built-in speaker) to convey messages to anyone nearby.

Basically, Nabaztag is a desktop companion that can fetch information from the Internet and express it in various charming ways.

Confused? You won't be; soon you'll be relying on this cute little critter for a large part of your daily news and activities. For example, it can even read you today's headlines or give you its opinion on the previous week's happenings.

And as far as friendship, it can even communicate with fellow bunnies and get married. But be careful, because it is uncompromising - if it thinks that it didn't receive enough messages, it might be unhappy!!

And that's just the beginning, because the world of Nabaztag is continuously expanding. Before long, this brainy bunny will be able to receive traffic updates, alert you when you have SMS messages, tell you if your train is running late and broadcast 'Nabcasts' from fellow subscribers. The possibilities are truly endless.

Stepan Harmanlikian (ADC)

Just for Laughs!

Only two things are infinite: the universe and human stupidity, and I'm not sure about the former.

Albert Einstein

Psychiatrists say that 1 of 4 people are mentally ill. Check 3 friends. If they're OK, you're it.

A Freudian slip is when you say one thing but mean your mother.



The X Planet!

There are hundreds of thousands of objects orbiting the Sun, yet only nine of them are considered 'planets'. The nine (known) planets are extremely diverse in terms of their size, number of satellites, presence of an atmosphere, and other properties. So what distinguishes these bodies from all of the other objects orbiting the sun??

Not too long ago, scientists started reconsidering Pluto's classification as a planet. After years of research and hard work, some have agreed that Pluto is actually **not** a planet. However, what Pluto **really** is remains vague. So what is the disagreement about? A Harvard essay explains as follows:

1. Pluto is too small compared to the other planets.
2. Pluto is smaller than the 7 moons of the solar system.
3. Pluto is unlike the other planets in that it has an icy surface instead of a rocky one like the inner four terrestrial planets, or a deep atmosphere like the next four 'gas giant' planets.
4. Pluto was discovered serendipitously by Lowell Observatory astronomers searching for what was then known as 'Planet X'. However, Pluto is far too small to be Planet X. Its 'planet-hood' was, and still is, *primarily due to a PR campaign* launched by the Observatory at the time of discovery (1930), rather than Pluto's properties.
5. Pluto has more in common with Kuiper Belt Objects or comets than it does with other planets.

Sorry Pluto!!!!

Wissam Malaeb (BAD)



Got Face??

A **face transplant** is an operation that people with disfigured faces undergo in order to change their abnormal facial features, which could be a result of burns, trauma, disease, accidents, or birth defects.

During the operation, skin is taken from another person's face, or from the patient's back, buttocks, or thighs and is attached to the patient's face.

But what about the ethical concerns of face transplants? Many doctors hesitate to perform this type of surgery because of several concerns regarding the psychological impact of such a surgery, the possibility of technical failure, and the consequences that might result, in addition to the use of immunosuppressors. All these issues have prevented the approval of face transplants.

The world's **first full-face replant** operation was performed on a nine year-old girl named Sandeep Kaur, whose face and scalp were completely ripped off when her hair was caught in a grass-cutting machine. Sandeep arrived at the hospital unconscious, with her face in a plastic bag. Microsurgeon Abraham Thomas was astonished by the frightening sight of Sandeep's face, and decided to reattach it. The surgery succeeded and Sandeep Kaur was able to continue her life in a normal way. She is now training to become a nurse.

Sandeep's miraculous surgery brought forth the following question: If it is possible to reattach a torn face, is it possible to transplant one?

The world's **first partial face transplant** on a living human was carried out in France on a 38-year-old woman named Isabelle Dinoire. This

woman had lost her nose, lips, and chin after being savaged by her dog. During the operation, tissues, muscles, arteries and veins were taken from a donor, and attached to Dinoire's face. Before the surgery, Dinoire underwent extensive counseling, but despite the counseling, the surgery's psychological effects included remorse, disappointment, and guilt felt towards the dead donor's picture.



Dinoire after surgery

To this date, no full face transplants have taken place; however, several medical institutions are competing for the opportunity to carry out such operations.

Hala el Moghrabi (MIS)

Consider This.

- * Don't use a big word where a diminutive one will suffice.
- * Love your enemies. It'll make 'em crazy!
- * Old musicians don't die... they just decompose.

- * Politics: Poli (many) - tics (blood sucking parasites).
- * A neat desk is a sign of a sick mind.
- * Do radioactive cats have 18 half-lives?
- * There are 10 types of people in the world: those who understand binary, and those who don't.

New Viruses on the Loose!

Adam and Eve Virus

Takes a couple of bytes out of your Apple computer.

Disney Virus

Everything in your computer goes Goofy.

Oprah Winfrey Virus

Your 200MB hard drive suddenly shrinks to 80MB, and then slowly expands to 300MB.

Titanic Virus

Your whole computer goes down.

Alzheimer Virus

It makes your computer forget where it put your files.

Child Virus

It constantly does annoying things, but is too cute to get rid of.

Diet Virus

Allows your hard drive to lose weight by eliminating the FAT table.

For More Laughs!

How do you eat DNA spaghetti?

With a replication fork (you can also use your zinc fingers...)

How do you identify a bald eagle?

All his feathers are combed over to one side.

How do you tell the difference between boys and girls?

Take their genes down.

Support bacteria -- it's the only culture some people have!

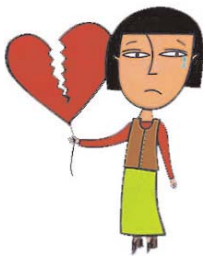
We just hired a molecular biologist. Man, is he small!

Why Did He Fire You?

Two businessmen were talking about work, when one asked, "Say, why did the foreman fire you?"

Replied the second, "Well, you know how a foreman is always standing around and watching others do the work. My foreman got jealous. People started thinking I was the foreman."

Are You a Victim of Limerence?



Surprisingly, romantic love is the least understood part of the human psyche because we are programmed to believe that it just happens;

that it clearly contradicts rational understanding, and that it is a different experience for everyone and can't possibly be discussed.

However, psychological research has shown just the opposite, pointing out that perhaps underneath this "irrational love" there is something that we can talk about meaningfully and sensibly. Most of us have, at one point or another, been captured by the painful, irrational clutches of **limerence** gone bad.

What is limerence? According to psychologist Dorothy Tennov, limerence is the involuntary, cognitive and emotional state whereby a "limerent individual" feels an intense romantic desire for a "limerent object." Tennov states that limerence can be experienced as intense joy or as extreme despair, depending on whether the expressed feelings are mutual or not. Tennov points out that limerence, in the beginning, starts with a feeling of increased interest in the limerent object. From this viewpoint, Tennov characterizes it by:

1. Overly thinking about the limerent object.
2. Having fear of rejection and unsettling shyness in the limerent object's presence.
3. Feeling an ache in the chest or the stomach when uncertainty is strong.
4. Having a great desire for reciprocation: the limerent object's positive response.
5. Experiencing buoyancy, the feeling of walking on air, during reciprocation.
6. Experiencing a general intensity of feeling that

leaves other concerns lagging behind.

7. Having a significant ability to emphasize what is good in the limerent object, and ignoring his or her negative characteristics.

Tennov says that involvement increases if external obstacles are imposed or if the limerent object's feelings are doubted. Limerence only subsides if the limerent object's feelings are revealed as highly undesirable.

Based on questionnaire and interview data, Tennov estimates that the average limerence duration, from the moment of initiation until a feeling of neutrality, is approximately three years. The extreme cases range from as brief as a few weeks to as long as a lifetime.

Most love in fact starts out as limerence, whereby lovers see their romantic partners as idealized, god-like versions of who they are and become euphoric with this vision instead of the actual person.

Maro Krikorian (TEFL)



A Five Star Workshop

The meeting point was the Safir Heliopolitan Hotel, Raouche. Fifty student activists from the diverse clubs, societies and sports teams of Haigazian University participated in this workshop. They were mostly chairpersons, representatives, and secretaries, along with the sports committee members.

The commitment was clear and so were the objectives of the workshop. Alongside group discussions that took place between the clubs and their own personal guests, a session that targeted all the clubs combined was held on each day; one was about communication, and the other about teambuilding. These were intended to help the participants acquire special skills that would enable them to perform better in their university co-curricular activities and make them more productive in the Haigazian University Student Life parameter in a more efficient way. The sessions were given by two experts, Ms. Nicole Eid Abu Haydar, and Mr. Fadi Hajar.

The students also got time to brainstorm and put a plan for the coming year.

The night was great... Although most of the students were pretty tired, they defied sleep in order to discuss crucial issues, or just have fun with friends...

Overall, this workshop was extremely productive and benefited all in different ways.



A mass lecture with Ms. Nicole Eid Abu Haydar

The Guests

Dance Club **Shant Anserian**
 Arts and Crafts **Raffi Yedalian**
 Social Activities **Jawad Sbeity**
 HUBS **Mohammad Daher**
 CS3 **Mohammad Daher**
 NSSS **Dr. Shafika Assad Costanian**

Desert Streams **Eliane (Mission de Vie)**
 The Xtremers **Harout Altounian**
 Actors Club **Sahar Assaf**
 Debate Club **Dr. May Maalouf**
Haigazian Herald **Ara Arzoumanian**

Pictures of Some Clubs and Their Guests

(Those with pictures available... We apologize to the clubs whose pictures we couldn't find... Sorry!)



The Actors Club: Ms. Sahar Assaf



The Xtremers with Harout Altounian and Ludwig



The Arts and Crafts: Mr. Raffi Yedalian



The Social Activities Club: Mr. Jawad Sbeity



The Dance Club: Mr. Shant Anserian



The NSSS: Dr. Shafika Assaad-Costanian



The **Haigazian Herald** with Mr. Ara Arzoumanian



The HUBS and the CS3: Mr. Mohammad Daher



Enjoying dinner at Pizza Hut... Or is it lunch?



The all-powerful trio.



Yes, it's real, genuine plastic!



??????



Multitalented...



Maybe it was that solo 4am trip for a \$30 breakfast...



The above expression, when on Peggy's face in a Student Life oriented hotel stay could only mean two things:

- 1) Oh no, what did they do now?
- or
- 2) When will this end so I can go home and get my much needed rest?!



This time, our question was a general one whose main purpose was to make people think of their blessings.

What are you thankful for?



Sarar Maalouf
My peace with myself, the type of family I have, and the fact that I'm a bit on the lunatic side.



Wael Bahnan
For books and literature and philosophy and all other things that give us a reason to act intellectual when we really are not.



Rita Arslanian
For all the bad things that happened for they could have been worse, and for all the good things for they couldn't have been any better. For my loving family including HU, very special friends, and the fact that I'm blessed with 2 guardian angels.



Shant Kabakian
For my fellow countrymen encouraging me to leave my country.



Mr. Elie Shbeir
For God's blessings in spite of the terrible situation we're living in. Also, I hope that we'll come to an end very soon, which will be for the benefit of all Lebanese, who should be united as a family, because we're **all** brothers in humanity.



Taline Chakerian, Garsi Kademian
For having God in our lives.



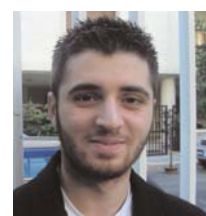
Sophie Issa
My friends, family, and hair.



Maral Kejejian
Everything I have in my life, specifically for being a senior in Haigazian.



Araz Tcherchian
For incorporating basketball into my life, which helps release anger.



Chris Arzoumanian
Even though I don't have a perfect life, I'm thankful for what I have.



Elie Habbaki
For breathing regularly and having **almost** 3 meals a day.



Nanor Garabedian
For having Jesus in my life.



Nicole Baker
For living in this beautiful country, although...



Helen Hobeika
The love of my friends and family.



Anto Ketchedjian
Friends, family, life in general.



Lori Kendirjian
For not being deprived of my daily needs, and for having a great family.



Maya Iskandarani
For being able to continue my education under the current circumstances.



Omar Hamzi
That I was born in a country where I can watch all sorts of problems happening around me.

Wassim Bou Malham
That there will come a day when Fakhoury will die, and that a cat will replace him.

Shahe Seukunian
For Wassim's sense of humour.

Mohammad Fakhoury (far left)
For the fact that friendship overcomes politics in Haigazian.

Cable, Fables, and Student Lounge Tables

It was brought to the attention of this reporter that a certain element was recently added to Haigazian's rapidly increasing, ever-growing modernization movement. Yes, ladies and gentlemen, we are now privileged enough to enjoy cable television. But before we all begin with our "Finally, we're catching up with the rest of the world!" statements, it would be fair to point out that perhaps our beloved Student Life Office had our interests in mind when it took them, well, some 50 years to add this "cable" issue to our campus (not that it has existed for 50 years, but you get my point). After all, it is a tiny university with not enough people paying thousands of dollars so that we could enjoy the opportunities and lifestyles of the rich and famous.

Maybe it was about saving money, so we could afford to pay our bills. (Not that we ever have any electricity... but you know). It reminds me of the type of parents that refuse to buy Clorox thinking they'd save money by simply soaking the plates or pans a couple of hours before washing them. Little do they know, their teens are paying 3 times as much at their favourite restaurants because it sure beats having cereal in a bowl that still smells like last week's egg salad. So they're coughing up a lot more for allowance than they would be for a \$2-4 bottle of Clorox. And maybe that's what was happening here at Mother Haigazian's. Well, actually that was the case. In investigating our university's financial dilemma, the monetary crisis which led to our being deprived of cable television for decades, it was brought to my attention that there are several other areas of our beloved campus in desperate need of attention, rejuvenation, and thus, MONEY. The university gym, for example, could use some extra pampering. The shower doors lack proper locks, meaning all

you ladies working out for flat abs won't look or feel as good as you're hoping since you cannot shower properly after completing your exercise routines. But we have hope now - sooner or later, (most probably later), we will have those locks put up. Besides, who needs to shower when we've got cable TV?

Then, there is the issue of parking. Several times before, complaints from students and teachers alike have been made regarding the parking issue. Getting to class on time becomes extremely difficult if one cannot manage to find a parking spot on time. For those of you who suffer on a daily basis, I regret to inform you that we cannot afford to make any decent deals with regards to university parking because, well, we're using that money to renovate our much-needed student lounge, and oh yes, paying our monthly cable bill. The best part of this is if you're late for class looking for a parking spot, don't bother offering an explanation or interrupting your teachers. March right up to the most important room on campus and watch your favorite show. If we pay for it, we might as well enjoy it!

So you see, my fellow Haigazianis, our administration was merely looking for the easiest and cheapest (arguably) way to please us after renovating the student lounge for \$3,500. Sure, we may not have Instant Messengers on our computers out of fear of being lured in to ditching classes. And sure, we may feel a bit angry with the fact that our university thinks we pay some \$4,000 dollars per semester just to go online and chat with our friends. Obviously, it was never about the money, or the fear of students ditching class: it was all about favoritism (the Student Lounge is the University baby... it must be spoiled). Enjoy what we've got, fellow citizens, for it will be another 50 years before the next addition to our campus.

Riaf Hamze (PSC)

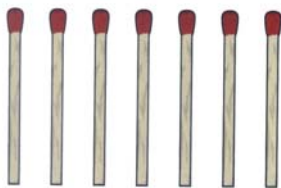
Challenge Your Brain Cells With Some Puzzles...

(highly effective in keeping your brain healthy and functional well into your old age)

Did you know?

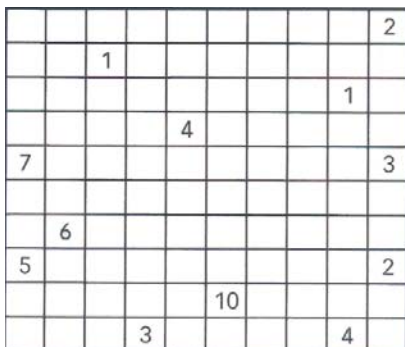
Pac-Man's name came from Japanese phrase 'paku-paku', meaning to quickly chomp something!

Can you leave nothing by removing one match and moving two others?



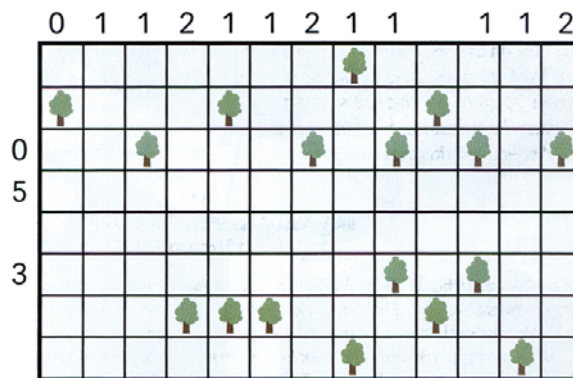
Nurikabe

Shade in unnumbered cells to leave unconnected islands. Each island contains ONE numbered cell that's equal to the size of the island; a 7 needs 7 white cells, while a 1 stands alone. All shaded cells forming an island must be linked horizontally or vertically.



Tie a Tiger to a Tree!

Your task is to tie a tiger to each tree. Any tiger must appear in a square adjacent to the one with the tree in, either to the north, south, east or west of it, but not diagonal. Tigers are fierce, so they can't appear adjacent to each other, not even diagonally. The numbers outside the grid show the number of tigers found in the relevant row/column.



Ocean's Seven

Reducing this number by 7 and multiplying it by 7 gives the same number as reducing it by 18 and multiplying it by 18. What is that number?

Easy Bonus: Whose "thankful smiles" are on page 1, below the feature box?

Turn the 'wine glass' upside down by moving two coins.



THE HAIGAZIAN HERALD PEOPLE

Editor in Chief	Jenni Feghali
Representative	Shahe Seukunian
Layout	Alaa el Atrash, Jenni Feghali
Editor	Anita Moutchayan
Staff	Nairy Arakelian, Riaf Hamze, Stepan Harmanlikian, Hovsep Katerji, Araz Keuroghlian, Maro Krikorian, Manuel Kurkjian, Wissam Malaeb, Hala el Moghrabi
Contributors	Anto Keurkian, Dima Matta, Raja Mouawad
Advisor	Antranik Dakessian
Special Thanks	The Revo



All New Sports Committee!!

Who said there is no democracy in Lebanon? Of course there is! There's also democracy nowadays in HU sports. How? Well, in a move that Mr. Dakessian proudly calls "a step towards democratization" (you don't have to smile Mr. Bush, you didn't cause this), a Sports Committee was formed to deal with issues concerning the sports world inside HU. The Committee meets on a weekly basis and discusses all sorts of sports issues, from the upcoming inter-university chess championship on December 10, to the sports uniforms. The Committee includes Ali Mouzannar (Men's Basketball), Menar Boyadjian (Women's Basketball), Bilal Noueihed (Kickboxing), Garo Ghazarian (Swimming), Krikor Oknayan (Chess), Mohammad Haidous/Mohammad Fakhoury (Tennis), Omar Salam (Men's Football), Nanor Garabedian (Women's Football), Issa Saddi (Table Tennis) and is headed by sports coordinator Sahag Bidinian.

Hovsep Katerji



United Run for Life: The Beirut Marathon

Contrary to the usual gloomy weather and political situation, on Sunday, December 3 the sun was shining bright, and the weather was perfect for a good run. And that's exactly what people did... They ran for life in the Beirut Marathon which took place on that day.

Haigazian students and staff formed a group (originally of 25 members, but due to the unstable condition of the country, the number decreased to 17... Good enough!) and dressed with their unique high quality Haigazian shirts (no, seriously), they brightened the streets with their adamant determination.

Two students, Sultan Raydan and Mahmoud Kaaki ran the 42K race, which began at 7am. Raydan managed to finish the race in 4 hours and 30 minutes, which made him the second student in Haigazian history to finish that race (the first being our dear Omar Hamzi, two years ago!)

At 9:30, the 10K race began, and thirteen students, accompanied by Sahag Bidinian and Reverend Bakalian took part in it. They were constantly hydrated by the many volunteers distributing water to them from the 'sidelines', and they were kept amused by the people in stilts whose 'legs' they ran between!

Congratulations, people, ya made us proud!!



Jenni Feghali



Table Tennis Tournament

The Athletics Department of Haigazian University organized its 5th annual indoor table-tennis tournament in the roof sports hall from the 27th of November till the 4th of December, 2006. The final matches took place on the 4th of December at 2:00 pm in the presence of the Assistant Director of Student

Life Mr. Alan Kairouz and a great audience. The results were as follows:

Male Category: (Overall 20 participants)

Final Match:

Issa Saddi - Garo Torkomian
3-0

Female Category: (Overall 4 participants)

Final Match:

Shushan Artinian - Lara Shabbazian
3-1

Interuniversity Chess Championship

Good things come to those who wait. Better things come to those who organize faultless private interuniversity chess tournaments. HU was granted the privilege of hosting this year's "Interuniversity Chess Championship" under the auspices of The Sportive Federation of Lebanese Universities (FSUL). Encouraged by the repeated success HU has had in organizing its own annual interuniversity chess tournament, the high level of orderliness and the commitment it has shown to the game of chess, HU will be hosting this event and promises to match the high expectations. The event will take place on December 10, 2006, and its winner will be crowned chess champion of the Lebanese Universities. * However, this does not in any way mean that HU will abandon its own traditional tournament. The Haigazian's 5th annual interuniversity chess tournament will take place on March 4, 2007. The Athletics department of Haigazian University will not spare any effort while organizing these two tournaments. Good luck to all!

Hovsep Katerji

Lookin' Good...

Care to lose a Kg or two? Perhaps add on a few pounds of muscle? - not that you're not perfect the way you are - but if you want to enhance your physique further and maybe impress a certain you-know-who, then there's only one thing to do: (no, not watch the news), get up right now and head to the newly improved HU Fitness Center! Open Monday through Friday, 8am to 5pm, the Fitness Center boasts four brand new machines - that I heard Kobe Bryant personally uses - to its already complete set.

That's not just it, the Fitness Center also sports a new look. Talented student Maria Tenbelian (BAD/ADC) worked overtime this summer painting the walls in beautiful colors and flag-like figures to ensure that those working out have something pretty to stare at.

All that is left for you is to put this paper down and go check it out yourself! Who knows, you might even decide to try a set or two. See you later, Hercules/Anna Kournikova.

Hovsep Katerji

* Due to the problematic situation, the event was postponed until a later date.



A Weekend for Questions



What about those questions we want to ask but are afraid to? Questions about life, about injustice, questions about the Bible and God? About fifteen students, including a handful of alumni, were encouraged to do just that as they gathered with the Rev. and his wife, Maria, on October 20-22 in Kchag. Here are some thoughts from three of those who attended.

"Without even blinking I said 'ok'. Later I sat down and tried to think if there was any way I could get out of it. It was strange because I didn't feel left out or alone. I was immediately considered part of the group.

"The camp was about getting closer to

God and just having fun together. I loved the worship, but then again that is my favourite part of any camp. The discussions we had were very different from what I've been used to. They made me think outside the box, and from different people's perspectives - not like a lecture - and we helped each other to understand Christ more. They were not easy questions either, and we talked for hours...

"I couldn't stop singing for days. I got to meet some amazing people and eat really yummy brownies!!" [Becky White]

"Other than the fun part of hanging out with friends, I had in mind that we will have the chance to ask all kinds of questions about the Bible, and we will more or less be supplied with answers on the spot. However, even though lots of questions were answered, I realized two important things: 1) hard questions are a necessary part of spiritual growth, and asking them is not doubting my faith, rather, I have to try to find the answers to these questions to be able to grow and look at my faith in a different and more wise perspective. 2) I noticed that there's never going to be a church service or Bible study that's going to satisfy all my ques-

tions and those of all the people there, so I should do my own research. [Issa Saddi]

"This retreat was something very special and had a great influence on me. It was the first time I went on a retreat with university students... As we were sharing new concepts and arguing, my thinking was broadened; I learnt to be open-minded, but at the same time firm. My thanks to the Rev. for sharing his thoughts with us by supporting his responses based on the Bible.

"I loved the worship, and we used to listen to worship songs all night thanks to our friend, Maral. I was renewed and refreshed in my spirit and I felt like a new person, re-established in my faith." [Joshua Kastanian]



Great Technological Changes Promised

After Working For the **Walt Disney Company**, Mr. Nicolian Works to Create "A Whole New World" at Haigazian



To start it off, Mr. Nicolian, would you tell us a little about yourself to better acquaint the students with your background?

Well, I attended HU in 1977-78, where I completed my freshman year before leaving to the

United States. I spent 23 years living and working in the U.S. having attained my Undergraduate Degree in Computer Science, and my Masters degree in Information Science from the University of Pittsburgh. I worked in several prestigious global organizations, including Price Waterhouse, Walt Disney Company, and Warner Bros. and I served as the CIO (Chief Information Officer) for Universal Studios.

What did you choose to focus on upon returning to Lebanon?

I returned to Lebanon in 2003 and since then have dedicated my time working in the academic field, teaching as well as nurturing management information systems.

Somehow, you ended up at Haigazian; what is your role in HU's technological department?

Well, I started working at HU in August 2006 as the new ITS (Information Technology & Services) director, as well as being appointed as the coordinator of the Management Information Systems (MIS), emphasis in the school of Business and Economics. The IT platform at HU has not changed for over 20 years. It is my depart-

ment's major objective and goal to transform HU's info-technology systems to a modern, effective platform which serves the needs of all HU constituents, including students, faculty, staff and all other external constituents. In support of these objectives, we have begun a major implementation of a new Oracle-based student information system related to financial systems, scheduled to be completed by the next Fall 2007 semester.

What exactly can students expect from all these vast changes in HU's information systems?

A subsequent phase of this implementation is to allow students to self-register for courses and to check their own "contact sheet", which basically shows what courses students have completed, as well as what is remaining in order for them to complete their major. We are also developing a growing department to ensure speedy, cost-effective and value-added services to our students, faculty, and staff. This includes support for wireless access to the internet in our network, and dedicated number help desk function (students will be able to dial a number for any help they need with the new systems), as well as support for Blackboard, which enables teachers and students to communicate more effectively. We have already installed a new lab in the College Building; 30 Dell computers available, and are being used for classrooms and exams.

In light of new additions to our systems, can anything be done about the printers at the internet lab? Printing is done on unprofessional papers and the noise from the printers is extremely disturbing.

I will look into it and get back to you soon.

What can be expected before the end of 06-07? Will we have more computers added to the Internet lab so that more students can have access to the internet when they please?

Before the end of the 06-07 semesters, a more speedy service will be offered. There are no plans to add more computers within the next year.

A Trip Down Haigazain Memory Lane



What do a Haigazian graduate of 1962 and one of 2006 have in common? Give up? Well, they could both be found on Haigazian grounds at 8pm on Friday, October 27th (alongside a vast number of other graduates with that 44 year range). Weird? Not at all!

The Haigazian Alumni gathering held on that day was in fact quite a success. The first segment started out in the auditorium with a "Tribute to the Founders" presentation, and ended with some wise words, and an announcement of the new Alumni Advisory Committee courtesy of President Dr. Haidostian. Next, everyone moved to the Admissions area where Setrag Topalian (1962) and Michel Majdalani (2006) together unveiled the plaque signed by the alumni. Finally, it was time for the

"Inauguration of the Quad (new building)", and everyone stepped out there for a reception and souvenirs (including the Jubilee album) were available to those who wanted them. There was animated conversation between the many graduates, and everyone went around greeting acquaintances they hadn't seen in a while. Overall, it was a pretty inspiring experience for everyone.

And although I'm not in a hurry to graduate (even though it's impending - Spring 2007...), I can't wait to be part of the alumni...

Jenni Feghali (BIO)



The unveiling of the plaque signed by the alumni.



The looks of awe!



The Quad inauguration



The Alumni Advisory Committee:

Ms. Dima al Hakim (2004),
Mr. Bashar Ladki (1974),
Mr. Joseph Ashjian (1973),
Ms. Salpi Jalian (1999),
Mr. Zeron Aintablian (1997),
Mr. Hisham Abou Jaoude (1993) in absentia.

A MESSAGE TO THE MASSES!

If you are a Haigazian graduate and would like to be part of its alumni, please contact us on alumni@haigazian.edu.lb

We thought it would be nice if we had a sort of interactive section for the current students, in which the alumni give them a short piece of advice, as well as share with everyone their best Haigazian memories. So, below are the questions we asked a few random alumni. Check out their answers on the next page.

P.S. In case you're wondering what the numbers beside the names signify, they're the year of graduation of each person!

- 1) **What do you miss most from HU days?**
- 2) **What advice would you like to give current students?**



2001-Arda Zeitunlian

- 1) Everything: professors, classes, activities, Student Lounge, the long waits in front of the cashier's office...
- 2) Enjoy every moment.

2004-Hratch Zeitunlian

- 1) The atmosphere.
- 2) Be active in clubs.



2003 - Hrant Vartanian

- 1) Cheating
- 2) Cheat, or die trying!

2002 - Ara Kojadelian

- 1) The camaraderie, especially having fun in the Student Lounge. Also, the Student Life activities.
- 2) Try your best in class, but don't forget extracurricular activities. Distribute your time properly because activities are important.



2002 - Aline Nercessian

- 1) The family mood.
- 2) You're going to miss these days, so live them out the best way you can.

2004 - Suzan Jouljian

- 1) The social life.
- 2) You've made a good choice, Haigazian is becoming more popular year after year.



1994 - Cynthia Ezadjian-Tomassian

- 1) My friends in the CMC building (Achrafieh), where people from every major knew one other.
- 2) Enjoy university life, so that you remember it every day.



1981 - Esther Haidosstian-Kilaghbian

- 1) Class reunions; most of my classmates have immigrated.
- 2) After graduating, many nice years of your life have gone and can't return. So take your university years as a blessing, and count your blessings.

2005 - Raffi G. Parseghian

- 1) ALMOST everything.
- 2) Enjoy the good things to the max.

1963 - Zevart Tanielian

- 1) The closeness and the family atmosphere between students and faculty alike, especially because it was a small college back then. I'm still in close contact with the friends I made.
- 2) Even if you're busy, try to have time for friendship, because it's very significant.

1975 - Seta Karagoezian

- 1) I miss the warmth.
- 2) Enjoy every minute, you'll miss the "family" you've found.

1971-Sona Kalaydjian - Yacoudjian

- 1) The family atmosphere, the professors, my classmates...
- 2) I majored in Biology and got my TD at Haigazian. I've taught for 25 years in high schools, and I'm very grateful to Haigazian for that. I hope the newer students can also accomplish themselves, especially in the mission of teaching, which in a way is a main Haigazian mission.



1984 - President Paul Haidostian

- 1) Spending free time with classmates. I was a psychology major, and there were only 9 of us. We used to sit in the cafeteria after classes, and we would experiment on different aspects (ex: 2 smokers tried to make other smokers quit). I especially used to love IST courses -we had 4 of them!- and we would sit for ages discussing them.
- 2) Enjoy every moment and every aspect of university life. I clearly remember being in class, in the cafeteria, in the street, in the library... Also, you should balance various aspects of university.
- 3) How'd you feel the overall mood of the gathering was?

Everyone was happy about Haigazian. There was a graduate range from 1962-2006, yet it seemed natural, and although not everyone went around making friends with each other, somehow, the whole picture fit.





Dying Cause



Tell me when the end of our lives began,
Was it when a child turned pale as he ran?
Since then we have been feeling anesthetized,
Watching the child stop midway.
Is there any clean linen where he lies?

Death has over-welcomed its stay.

Gazing seriously into nothing in particular,
What's the use of digging into sterile ground and stirring?
And that's when we feel that familiar pain,
'Graved into our collective memory like a stubborn stain.
Hatred rises from our stomach like bitter bile;
Are we really ready to walk that extra mile?
Loss is never painful for a while.

Kill a mother, kill a child,
Guilty conscience slowly dies.
Patriotism is a shame,
Patriotism is but a name,

Patriotism will get them killed,
Mass media gets its thrill.
Thousands injured, hundreds dead,
Empty mouths left unfed.
War for nothing, it's all the same,
We're waiting for Godot, but he never came.

Gather up the dead on the ground, have them neatly laid,
It's time for foreign politicians to get paid.
Watch them break into a crooked smile,
Saying, "after all, demanding peace seems so futile."
And then leaving with no comment to avoid public mockery,
Are we yet to be denied a third time,
Before Judas hangs himself for treachery?
And we watch history being reenacted in an absurd pantomime.

We're rebels with a cause,
Rebels with a dying cause...
Dying rebels for no real cause at all...
This only makes useless martyrs of us all!

Dima Matta (EDU)

The Seeds of Fear

I wrote this once during the war when I had just been woken up by a huge blast. It was almost 3am, and I lay in bed, my drowsiness usurped, typing my furious rush of thoughts on the phone in the dark... I know the problems circulating in the country haven't stopped, but this is about the summer war.

Lacking the knowledge of whether the sounds really exist or whether they've become a permanent figment of my imagination due to such continuously repeated exposure, I lie down, frozen in place, wondering...

Are kids and old people supposed to go through this? They're dropping bombs even as I write this. It's pitch black outside. There is not a hint of sun yet. Maybe it's an attempt not to disturb too many people, but I don't think it really matters. Many will wake up from the loud bangs or vibrations, and sleep will be a thing of the past that can't be brought back. I don't know how much it matters when all these thousands of innocent people **lose** their homes, their families, the lives they've worked so hard to live or provide... Or even worse, simply, their **lives**.

But then again, I think I see it as an act of shame, an act to hide the inhumanity from the world, from its people. Acting under the cover of the night, attempting to hide the carnage. Attacking a country to try to rid it and themselves of the 'terrorists' inside it, but at the same time becoming the bigger terrorist themselves.

(Oh hey, another bomb!)

Sowing the seeds of rage into the souls of calm, loving,

people, plowing their being with fear and paranoia.

Making tears the national language, and constant trembling a normality.

Destroying children who are aware enough to feel that something's wrong, but not really old enough to understand what exactly it is. Not even old enough to NEED to, though.

Causing nervous breakdowns and fits of screaming fury for the hate, the hurt, the destruction, the crimes, to stop.... But they don't. They just keep on going, like they're meant to be a normal part of life...

How right is it for a person to regret their origin? Their roots? Their place, country, continent of birth? What happened to taking pride in your culture, your surroundings, your people? How normal is it to feel torn between wanting to love your country, to be one of those 'glorified patriots' you've always been taught about, but feel like you just want to go tear apart a select few of its citizens just to stop the bleeding?

How stupid is it to be enemies with a country bordering yours instead of supporting each other to help the economy of both, and to just rightfully give a sense of peace to both peoples, letting them know they're safe where they are? Letting them **know** they don't need to have this nauseating feeling of impending doom shadow upon them, and that nothing will swoop down to incorporate some souls every once in a while?

Jenni Feghali (BIO)

Just a Thought



While rejoicing with love in front of the fireplace, my concentration was redirected to the fire. There I saw sap coming out of the logs' pores, as if they were bleeding, and if that wasn't enough, they were also crackling, as if they were crying from the pain, begging for mercy and compassion. No longer hypnotized by the warmth and beauty of the fire, I sat up and started crying, feeling guilty for torturing them to death while I enjoyed the romantic setting they had created on that bitter night. It got me thinking: these logs, once part of a tree, represented beauty and nature; however, for reasons unknown, they were found unworthy and chopped for man's entertainment.

It's amazing how similar it felt to superficial love, the love that starts out with great beauty, but then is burnt at the stakes, leaving scars of man's selfish glory.

Araz Keuroghlian (MAT)



The Lost Land of Opportunities

Has it been ten months already? Ten months since I packed my bags and left, not realizing what I left behind. Was it a father embracing a crying mother? A brother comforting a sister, holding a fleeting tear? A beloved one who, against all odds, faked a smile, thinking that such behavior would render me stronger? Or a bunch of friends who, till the last moment, were joking around as if they wanted me to carry a smile as a last souvenir of Beirut? I left with the idea that I was going to conquer the world; I went to get the chance that I hadn't been granted here.

This is a certainty for all of us: abroad lays the land of opportunities, the better life with better finances. Some might argue that ten months is a minuscule period for judging; however, after this time, I find myself asking, "Is it worth it"? Is it worth it to leave everything behind just to settle in a Pseudo-City, a place that could be best described as a Monopolis? Predicted by the artists of the 1970-1980's era, a 'monopolis' is the realm where humans lose their stature and slowly turn into numbers, figures...

Is it fair to our spirit, or as some might call it, our soul? A soul that has been enriched with a history of thousands of years, with a culture, and an identity. I walk around the shattered streets, I breathe the air coming from our vanishing mountains, and I contemplate the black stigmas staining our beaches as a result of our dreadful doing. I observe the smallest details because details have become of great importance to

me; it is them that make us conscious of ourselves and our lives. The smallest details make us live, feel, revolt, listen, understand...

Why would one inhabit a city where in case of an emergency, a hotel would be the only refuge? Some existential questions haunt me: What has become the meaning of our lives? What are we living for? What do we stand for? What will become of us if money is the revolving center of our lives? What would our value be if we remove the salary factor from our lives? Who are we evolving into? Are we becoming pseudo-people residing in pseudo-societies?

The idea terrifies me. I am afraid to lose the identity I tried so much to enrich. I have always refused to be part of what I like to name a "Plastic Society" that we encounter at restaurants, theaters, night clubs...

I wonder, I look around, and all I see is people dreaming of visiting, working, and even living in Lebanon. Why is it that huge foreign investments are being poured into the country? Why is it that large companies are waiting to establish their regional offices in our capital? Why are the Lebanese abroad dying to come back home? What is it that we are lacking? Expertise? Creativity? Human capital? Innovation? Talent? Entrepreneurship?

I want to believe because to me it matters, and it makes me dream.

Who are we without our dreams?

A Foolish Believer

Haigazian Graduate Raja Mouawad

Many citizens lost their houses during the summer war. Haigazian professor Mr. Ali Moukallid was one of the Suburbs residents who had the misfortune of losing his home... Read on for his comments...

Mr. Ali Speaks...



Of course, it is never easy to leave a house not knowing what will happen next, but did you imagine back then that there wouldn't be an apartment to go back to?

Although bombs were falling near my apartment, I was still spending the night in it during the first three days of the war. Even when I did leave, I didn't take anything out of the apartment with me, thinking that our building would not be hit because there was no reason for it to be a target.

When did you realize that the building you lived in had been leveled? What was your reaction?

Five days before the end of the war, I found out through a phone call that our building had been hit, but no one told me the extent of the damage. I made a few calls to get more information, but people didn't want to tell me that it had been totally destroyed. The next day, I was able to enter the area, and I found out that the entire block, with

its tens of buildings, had been leveled. I can't describe the sight.

Did you manage to save any of your material belongings?

I am still waiting to see if I can find a black case containing some important documents that I left behind; they haven't removed the rubble off our 'building' yet.

Looking back, what one thing do you wish you had saved, and why?

I would like to say the documents, the books, and the computer, but I have to say my wife's and son's photos and videos. What I lost is replaceable; what my wife misses is priceless.

Is there anything your HU family can help you with during these days?

The difficult days are over. We rented a furnished apartment close to HU, and our life is back to normal. I would like to point out that the HU family gave me ample support during and right after the war; they always checked up on me and my family through daily phone calls and offered all kinds of support. Some of my friends at HU even offered their houses as a place for me to stay, but I knew that the situation I was in wasn't a matter of weeks or months, but rather more like two years; and that is why my family decided to rent an apartment.

If you had to look back on this experience and find the silver lining, what would it be?

I don't look back, I look forward! Two years from now, when I go back to my apartment, INSHALLAH, I will say: Yes, I was displaced for a while, and yes, I lost some money, but that is nothing compared to those who paid with their lives.

Happy Birthday,
Wishing you all the best during the
year to come!
XOXO

If ever you need help in filling out a birthday card, the above would be a good way to start. However, this article isn't quite about that, but rather about how similar birthdays are to the concept of 'Merry Christmas and Happy New Year'.

Christmas, being Jesus' birthday, is celebrated by us in His honor. **However, is that all Christmas is about?**

Some say that Christmas is about giving, sharing and so on. That leaves me with some unsettling thoughts. If people do not believe in Christmas, then are they excused from giving and sharing? Similarly, what does one do during the remaining 364 days? Is it acceptable to ignore the above mentioned?

One might answer these by saying it doesn't matter if you're a non-Christian, or that it is the 'wrong day' of the year, one should always live by them. So now I ask, what makes Christmas special? Well, it is the day God gave us His own Son. He was brought to earth for all mankind. He was born to sacrifice what is held most sacred by man, His life. He is our chance to free ourselves from the original sin.

Unlike the Mesopotamians, this ideol-

ogy gives us an optimistic view on life, full of chances to improve, repent and be forgiven for all the wrong and misjudgment done throughout the passing year.

So we can conclude that **Christmas isn't only Jesus' birthday, but also the rebirth of our souls.** And into the bargain is the end of the old year with the glow of the new. Thus, this is the time to reflect on the past year to learn and improve, to avoid repeating the same mistakes. This process is what helps make our souls more mature. Hence, the worries of having ignorant and fragile souls diminish, as do the worries about being a body without a soul. In fact, the stronger one's soul is, the stronger one's personality will be - that makes each one of us unique. It is only then that we can stand against temptations without any fear. This is when man can truly be happy and feel comfortable in his own skin, glow with energy, and let the inner beauty - the soul - shine. This is when people are hallowed with the Christmas spirit, and thus share it with those they love and encounter, with the hope that they too will rejoice and revive their souls. So, happy birthday Jesus and all our blessed souls; and let us all raise our glasses and wish the coming year be fruitful and bright.

Araz Keuroghlian (MAT)

Christmas Carols for Some Personality Disorders...

Schizophrenia: Do You Hear What I Hear?

Multiple Personality: We Three Kings

Dementia: I Think I'll Be Home for Christmas

Narcissistic: Hark, the Herald Angels Sing (About Me)

Mania: Deck the Halls and Walls and House and Lawn and Streets and Stores and Office and Town!

Paranoia: Santa Claus is Coming to Get Me!

Personality Disorder: You Better Watch Out, I'm Gonna Cry, I'm Gonna Pout, Then MAYBE I'll Tell You Why

Obsessive Compulsive: Jingle Bell, Jingle Bell, Jingle Bell Rock, Jingle Bell, Jingle Bell, Jingle Bell Rock, Jingle Bell, Jingle Bell, Jingle Bell Rock, Jingle Bell, Jingle Bell, Jingle Bell Rock...

Passive Aggressive: On the First Day of Christmas My True Love Gave to Me (and then took it all away)

Even Adam Wasn't Happy Alone!

On an ordinary Thursday night, I was watching an episode of Desperate Housewives. This show always ends with a strong message about life. This specific episode ended with the quote, "Human beings are designed for many things, but loneliness isn't one of them."

It got me thinking...My eighty year old neighbor who lives alone keeps the TV blaring on a high volume the entire day - just to scare away the chills of **loneliness**. Little children surround themselves with toys and treat them as companions - to avoid **loneliness**. Adults seek friends and partners in life to have someone close next to them - to escape **loneliness**.

What is it in loneliness that scares people?

Could it be that, "the silence of aloneness reveals to their eyes their naked selves and they would escape?" as Gibran Khalil Gibran believes? Or is it the fear of not being loved or not being an important part of another's life?

Human beings are designed to face so many challenges in life with courage; but loneliness is something beyond them. I guess that is why God created Eve, for even Adam wasn't happy alone, and he had the entire world at his feet!

I can not imagine my life without my friends, family and loved ones. Every success or failure I've ever experienced in my life would have no significance of any sort had I not the chance to share it with the people next to me.

The way I see it, today in our society, we already have too much to cope with, so why should we have to face it alone when we can elevate each other by our togetherness?

This Christmas season, **do** knock at the door of your old neighbor and give her the cheer of asking about her health, and **do** invite your friend who will spend Christmas alone, to your house to instill in him the Christmas spirit; after all, isn't that what Christmas is all about?

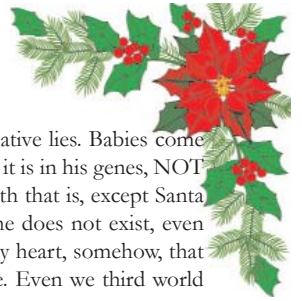
Anita Moutchoyan (ENG)

Christmas Toys We Advise You **Not** to Buy

1. Broken Bag-O-Glass
2. Dr. Kevorkian First Aid Kit
3. Jeffrey Dahmer's Easy Bake Oven with Cookbook
4. Switchblade Barney
5. Pork-n-Beany Babies
6. Mike Tyson Doll (with ear biting action)



Araz Keuroghlian (MAT)



I Still Believe In Santa, and I Know You Do Too

Once again, we have matured enough to refute the fables we were told when we were younger as mere creative lies. Babies come from sex, NOT storks; what lives under your bed is a rat, NOT the Boogie Man; your neighbor's nose is huge because it is in his genes, NOT because he lies to his mother. Yes, we intelligent adults have uncovered the truth about almost every myth: every myth that is, except Santa Claus. Who is this mysterious fat man? Does he exist? Well, I don't know who he is - but I refuse to believe that he does not exist, even though my sisters caught me eating the cookies and scribbling a "thank you" note signed "Love, Santa". I know in my heart, somehow, that Santa does exist, he just has clones in every country so he could be everywhere at the same time on Christmas Eve. Even we third world countries have a Santa! And here in Lebanon, he goes by the name (*dun, dun, duuun*) Lebnani Claus.

Lebnani Claus is very special, you see. Flying in on a 1970 Mercedes Benz dragged by cows and goats when the electricity goes off on the night of Christmas Eve, Lebnani Claus finds his way into your homes. Since most houses in Lebanon do not have chimneys, Lebnani Claus comes through your "tetkheetchs" (attics). On his way down the tetkheete, Lebnani Claus spots a plate of 'kaak' and a glass of tea, which are equivalent to America's cookies and milk. Upon devouring his kaak and tea, Lebnani Claus gets to work. Instead of putting gift boxes under your trees, Lebnani Claus tapes pictures of your favorite politicians on your wall. If you've been naughty, however, Lebnani Claus leaves belts and flying slippers by your parents' beds, the traditional Lebanese instruments of punishment. Coal, you see, would be beneficial since your fathers can burn it in the "soba" and keep you warm - and what kind of Santa would he be if he rewarded the naughty?! If you've been extremely angelic, Lebnani Claus leaves you the latest Nokia cell phone, even if you just bought one the week before... Can't have an out of date cell phone in Lebanon now, can we?

Of course, Lebnani Claus is also trilingual. His daily conversations are carried out in AraFrEnglish, a language that exists ONLY in Lebanon and is a mixture of, obviously, Arabic, French, and English. So there you have it. He may be different from our typical conception of Santa, but that, oh beloved Haigazian, is a reminder of the differences in culture worldwide. He does exist, and until you can prove the contrary, leave him some kaak and tea this Christmas Eve if you don't want Mama and Baba to get their automatic flying slippers. Merry Christmas!

Riaf Hamze (PSC)

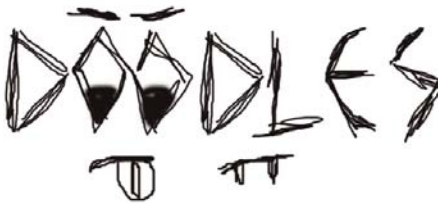
December 24, 2006. Beirut, Lebanon.



Anto Keurkunan (BIO)



Ever lose control of your hand?
Wonder what it means?



Doodling is when you scrawl or scribble aimlessly and meaninglessly.

"Doodles can certainly reveal something of a person's mental state. It must be considered whether the inspiration for a doodle is internal or external. Is the artist expressing concern with a current situation or experience or is it a reflection of an internal state?"

'Doodle' really refers to absent-minded scribbling that happens to be on a scrap of paper, **not conscious works of art.**

This information is offered for your amusement only, and is not to be used for psychological assessment in any form.

(Source: Helen South)

Some Types of Doodles and Their Meanings

The Significance of Page Placement:

o **Central Placement:** Might suggest a self-centered, attention-seeking extrovert. Their expressing a need for open spaces, pulling away from possible restrictions and seeking to expand their ideas.

o **The Top of the Page:** The domain of an energetic, free-thinking, spiritual person. If occupying the zone of a page usually reserved for headings, they might not be expecting to have anything worthwhile to write, or perhaps feel that their ideas are more important than those currently under discussion.

o **The Left Side of the Page:** Some analysts suggest that this is the domain of the past, nostalgia or regret. It may indicate apprehensiveness for the future.

o **The Right Side of the Page:** Taking up this space with a doodle might suggest a strong need to communicate inner feelings.

o **The Bottom of the Page:** The bottom of the page suggests a practical nature. Doodles along the bottom are unobtrusive and might indicate self-doubt and even depression.

Mark Making and Scribbling:

o **Line weight Pressure:** Light lines indicate sensitivity, or a tentative nature. Medium weight lines suggest a balanced, confident personality. Heavy marks can indicate

resolve, strength, and energy. Aggression produces overly heavy lines, and the paper may be impressed or torn. Varied lines can indicate instability.

o **Energetic Marks:** Random, energetic scribbles can indicate a disordered mind, or may be simple space-filling as a product of boredom.

o **Zigzags:** Indicate an experience of harsh reality and a need for comfort.

o **Waves:** The ocean is said to indicate an idle dreamer, though may of course be drawn by lovers of water sports. A curvy sine-wave pattern suggests musicality and natural rhythm. Wavy lines are sometimes drawn to represent long hair, meaning a desire for beauty and femininity (in ones self or a significant other).

Faces:

o **Eyes:** Regarded as showing a wish to be desirable. A feeling of being watched might be shown by a staring eyes, or especially an eye through a keyhole - you feel your privacy is being invaded.

o **Mouths:** Doodles of voluptuous lips might indicate frustrated desire. Frustrated artists also draw features of the face in isolation.

Flowers:

o **Internal Meaning:** A gentle personality, a love of nature, childlike innocence or wistfulness. They represent the feminine, passive aspect of the universe. Roses with sharp thorns can indicate betrayal of love.

o **External Motivation:** Inspired by flowers in your environment, a gardening show or a floral pattern in your décor.

Geometric Shapes:

o **The Circle:** An archetypal form representative of the eternal whole. With no ending or beginning, it revolves in an eternal cycle and is linked to the sun-disk and the attendant concepts of the yearly cycle, the moon, and the wheel.

o **The Square:** Represents earthbound matter, and correspondingly, with its two sides delineating a two-dimensional surface, may symbolize the earth or ground, or a field. In Buddhist symbolism the relationship the square within the circle represents the relationship of the human and the divine.

o **Abstract and Random Shapes:** May be closed or open. A wandering line indicates aimlessness and distraction. Rhythmical arabesques might suggest a willful, coquettish distraction, while more purposeful lines indicate unease.

Arrows:

o **Internal:** Represent direction and ambition. Drawn aggressively, they represent a desire for action. Drawn in careful outline, they indicate a desire for progression or advancement, especially if pointing upwards. Arrows traditionally have masculine associations.

o **External:** Arrows might be inspired by movies, an experience of following arrow-marked paths, or even a love of archery!

Other Shapes:

o **Celestial Bodies:** Stars are drawn by ambitious people and may suggest a desire for self-promotion. Little stars indicate optimism, while asymmetrical stars suggest excess energy.

o **Bars:** Indicate a sense of imprisonment, feeling trapped or powerless.

o **Game Boards and Mazes:** Game grids suggest a competitive nature and desire to win - or a love of the game! Mazes can suggest a feeling of being lost with nowhere to turn, being unsure of which direction one ought to take, or may indicate mental disorganization.

o **Hearts:** Generally drawn by people in love, but may also indicate a romantic disposition.

o **Dots:** A sign of great unease and a disordered personality. Carefully drawn dot patterns may be related to game designs (indicating competitiveness), and may be used as in a stippling effect to fill space. Those who enjoy complex stipple drawing are usually intensely orderly to the point of obsession, patient and tend to 'do things the hard way'.

NSA (PSY)



September 22, 23: Student Life Camp at Amsheet



September 30: Faculty Retreat in Dhour Shoueir



October 13:
Enrollment Day



October 16: Founders' Day



October 26: Iftar
with Orphan
Guests



25 - 29
October:
UNESCO
workshop in
the South





ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM

Your brother, sister, cousin, aunt, uncle....
Do they know about these evening classes???



NEW!

Human Resources Professional Diploma Program

Starts February 19th
Evenings, 100 hours total

Evening classes : January - March
HU students half price!!

LIFESTYLES & SOCIAL ISSUES

- * Paint with Oil
- * Music Appreciation: Film Music

THE BUSINESS TRAINING CENTER

BUSINESS TRAINING SESSIONS:

January/February

Negotiation Skills for Business
Strategic Planning
Strategic Management of Human Resources
Customer Service
Basic Accounting with Computers I
Finance: Stocks and Bonds

February/March

NEW: Human Resources Professional Diploma Program
Basics of Management
Introduction to Quality Management
The Art of Selling
Basic Accounting with Computers II
Investment in Debt Instruments

Contact us at:

Lifelong Learning office, College Building, Room 204
Phone 01-349230/1, 01-353010/1/2 Ext. 354
E-mail: lifelong@haigazian.edu.lb

The Haigazian University Blood Bank

YOU'VE NEVER HEARD OF IT??????

It's ok, that's because it's new...

To be 'part' of the Blood Bank, (basically donate blood, and in case you or anyone ever needs it, the bank is here for you.) contact **Abdel Masih Balta** or your local **Student Life Officer**.



HU student Mary Ghazarian had the unique idea of making an audio poem CD some time ago. It is now finalised, and it contains Armenian and English poems. Show the girl some support and grab a copy today!
Contact Mary at mgh_2002@hotmail.com for it.

Computer Science Student Society (CS3) Photoshop Lectures

Interested In Becoming a Professional in Photoshop within 9 Weeks?

If Yes, The CS3 is Offering Lectures to Help You Become Advanced in Photoshop

The Lectures are Divided into 2 Levels (Intermediate and Advanced), and the Cost/Level is 50,000 LBP. Lectures will start On January 22, 2007.

They are Scheduled MWF 3:45 - 4:50 Room 408
To Register Your Name or For Further Details Contact Any CS3 Member,
or Send an Email to cs3@haigazian.edu.lb



Whoever you are!
Whatever your age!
Violin, Keyboard, & Piano lessons are offered in a weekly session, to teach the following musical pieces: Classical, Tsigan (slow or fast rhythm), traditional Arabic hymns, & traditional Armenian songs.

Whether you are a beginner in the music world or whether you quit some time ago, **Vahe Mekhdjian** awaits your call for more details at **04/710327**.



November 10, 11: Xtreme Camp at Shouf Cedars



November 17: Halloween Party

A lecture about **Corruption** by Mr. Maher Salloum was held on December 3, 2006, however, due to the corruption of the Photography Club we have no pictures (just kidding, Photography Club!)



November 20: Independence Day Lecture



December 11: Post Graduation lecture by Dr. Hassoun

A White Ribbon is a Sign of Peace

The brilliant idea of starting a WHITE RIBBON (white is the combination of all colours) trend first occurred to some HU students at the beginning of December 2006. Since then, many members of Haigazian have been working on propagating the concept of the White Ribbon throughout the country, and dispersing a **peaceful** message among Lebanese citizens.

Spread the message of **PEACE**. Wear a **White Ribbon**.



“Blessed are the **peacemakers**, for they shall be called sons of God.” [Matthew 5:9]

“Do not be weakened, and call out for **peace**, you shall be the upper ones, and Allah is with you and will not deprive you of your labours.” [Muhammad 47:35]



Safety Before Pleasure

The latest "in" thing...
 A means of acceptance...
 A 'buzz', a 'high'...
 A way to rebel...

A special connection between you and the person you love...

It doesn't matter how you view sex, and it doesn't matter whether you hide it or not, the fact remains that if you're having it, you're in danger!! And no, we're not only talking about pregnancy...

Why?? Well, every time you have sex (especially unprotected) with a person, you are exposing yourself to any disease they may have contracted from any of their previous sexual partners. DO NOT rely on "You're my first!" or any other "sentimental" statements, virginity cannot really be proven, neither can the presence of infections. Some have no instant, direct, or visible symptoms, but it doesn't mean they're not there. And even worse, it doesn't mean you can't contract them. They're actually more widespread than you'd think... It's important to note that awareness, and acting upon what you know means safety and good health.

The best ways to protect yourself are:

- 1) Abstinence (if you're not having sex, you can't catch anything)
- 2) Condoms (insist upon those. The 'if you loved me you'd do it' is reciprocal; 'if you loved me, you'd respect my decision to be safe'!)
- 3) Knowing your partner and his/her sexual history (that's a plus, but it's not reliable on its own...)

And remember:

- a) It's not true that nobody around you is having sex. Some people are just good at hiding it to preserve their reputation.
- b) It's not true that everyone around you is having sex. Many people have firm beliefs that they will stick to, like celibacy until marriage.

STD	Signs/Symptoms	Transmission	Treatment	Is It Curable?	Complications
CHLAMYDIA also called "The Silent Epidemic"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discharge from vagina, penis or rectum Pain during urination Sore throat Or, no symptoms 	Sexual contact (oral, vaginal or anal)	Antibiotics	YES	Transmission to newborn, problem pregnancy, infertility, increased risk of cervical cancer, problems with prostate, disease affecting testicles
GONORRHEA also known as "Clap," "Drip"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discharge from vagina, penis or rectum Pain with urination Sore throat 	Sexual contact (oral, vaginal or anal)	Antibiotics	YES	Transmission to newborn, infertility/pelvic inflammatory disease, arthritis/heart disease, blindness
SYPHILIS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stage I: Sores on mouth, vaginal area, breast, penis, and/or fingers Stage II: Rash on body, flu-like symptoms 	Sexual contact (oral, vaginal or anal)	Antibiotics	YES, but damage done can not be reversed.	Transmission to fetus or newborn, heart disease, brain damage, blindness, death
HUMAN PAPILLOMA VIRUS also called "HPV," "warts"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fleshy growth on, or in, sex organs Itching or burning on, around, or in sex organs 	Sexual contact (oral, vaginal, anal or skin to skin)	Application of chemical solution, freezing, surgical removal	NO, but can be treated during outbreaks. Virus stays in the body and outbreak can occur at anytime.	Transmission to newborn, increased risk of cervical cancer or cancer of penis
HERPES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flu-like symptoms Itching or burning on, or in, sex organs Painful blisters in, on, or around sex organs Or, no symptoms 	Sexual contact (oral, vaginal, anal or skin to skin)	Antiviral medications	NO, but can be treated during outbreaks. Virus stays in the body and outbreak can occur at anytime.	Transmission to newborn
HEPATITIS B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flu-like symptoms that do not go away Dark urine Jaundice Or, no symptoms 	Sexual contact (oral, vaginal or anal) Sharing of needles, contact with blood of infected person	Rest and good nutrition	NO, but can be prevented by vaccine	Transmission to newborn, liver damage, can be unknown carrier
HIV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flu-like symptoms that don't go away Weight loss Fever Diarrhea White spots in mouth 	Sexual contact (oral, vaginal or anal), sharing of needles, contact with blood of infected person	Medication and rest	NO	Transmission to fetus or newborn, AIDS



Sérénité

quality shirts for men



Sérénité

Futuroscope Sin el Fil 03 338713



A Form of Optical Illusions...

Try to find out what's hidden in each picture, and look at the bottom for the answers.



There was an old man living in a farming town. He needed to plow the garden to plant potatoes, but it was a hard job. His only child David was in prison. The old man wrote a letter to his son and explained the situation:

Dear David,

I feel very bad as I can't spade my potato garden. I'm too old to dig the garden. If you were here all my troubles would go away. I know that you would take care of the garden for me.

Love,
Your father

A few days later he received a letter from his son:

Dear father,

In the name of God, don't dig the garden!! I have buried the bodies there!!

Love,
David

The next day at dawn FBI and the local police came and dug the whole field but didn't find any bodies. They apologized to the old man and left. At the same day he received another letter from his son:

Daddy,

Now you can plant the potatoes. I did the best I could do under the circumstances...

Love,
David.

Famous Last Words...

I'll get a world record for this.

What does this button do?

So, you're a cannibal.

It's probably just a rash.

Are you sure the power is off?

Pull the pin and count to what?

Which wire was I supposed to cut?

I wonder where the mother bear is.

I've seen this done on TV.

Rat poison only kills rats.

It can't possibly rain for forty days and nights

That birthmark on your head looks like 999!

What duck?

Ok, this is the last time.

Now watch this.

Hey, that's not a violin!

I can do that with my eyes closed.

Give me liberty or give me death.

Well we've made it this far.

I can make this light before it changes.

Sung to the tune of

Santa Claus is Coming to Town

You better watch out,

You better not cry,

You better not pout,

I'm telling you why,

Santa Claus is tapping,

Your phone.

He's buggin your room,

He's reading your mail,

He's keeping a file

And runnin a tail

Santa Claus is tapping

Your phone

He hears you in the bedroom

Surveils you out of doors

And if that doesn't get the goods

Then he'll use provocateurs.

So you mustn't assume

That you are secure

On Christmas Eve

He'll kick in your door

Santa Claus is tapping

Your phone...



THE OFFICIAL DO-IT YOURSELF SHAKE-SPEAREAN INSULT KIT

Combine one word from each of the three columns below, and preface it with 'Thou':

Column 1 / Column 2 / Column 3

artless / base-court / apple-john
beslubbering / beef-witted / barnacle
bootless / beetle-headed / bladder
churlish / boil-brained / boar-pig
clouted / clay-brained / bum-bailey
dankish / dizzy-eyed / coxcomb
droning / doghearted / codpiece
fobbing / elf-skinned / flap-dragon
gleeking / flap-mouthed / foot-licker
goatish / fly-bitten / fustilarian
impertinent / fool-born / gudgeon
jarring / guts-griping / harpy
pribbling / ill-nurtured / maggot-pie
puking / knotty-pated / malt-worm
puny / milk-livered / measles
rank / onion-eyed / minnow
reeky / plume-plucked / miscreant
roguish / pox-marked / mumble-news
unmuzzled / sheep-biting / ratsbane

Some Interesting Calendar Events You Might Want to Start Observing!

DECEMBER

20 - Dot Your I's With Smileys Day

22 - World Peace Day (Wear a White Ribbon!)

25 - Christmas

26 - Candy Cane Day

28 - Chocolate Day, Card Playing Day

31 - New Year's Eve, Eid ul-Adha, Make Up Your Mind Day

JANUARY

1 - Bad Hangover Day

2 - Get Over It Day

3 - Festival of Sleep Day

4 - Trivia Day

6 - Armenian Christmas, Epiphany, Cuddle Up Day

11 - Tattoo Pride Day

12 - Make Your Mark Day

15 - Elementary School Teachers Day, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

17 - Ditch Your New Year's Resolution Day

21 - World Religion Day

24 - Beer Can Appreciation Day, Compliment Day (just don't consume the can's contents and then give compliments!!)

29 - Freethinker's Day, Puzzle Day, Bubblegum Sculpture Day

30 - Backwards Day

Answers to Optical Illusions: (use a mirror :D)

2. Which bird did you see? 'obscure', or 'illusion'; 'check' again.
4. Inside 'good', there is 'evil'; 'good' cannot exist without 'evil'.
3. 'Teach', reflects as 'learn'.
5. Look through the 'me', to be able to see the 'don'.
1. 'The' is reflected twice.