

NOTES

MUSIC'S ANATOMY

* The insight into the anatomy of popular music today would be incomplete without a study of the rhythms and melodies of African music. At a seminar on African music held on Tuesday of this week we discussed patterns inherent to traditional African music that place in perspective much of the music that we hear today including reggae, calypso, R & B, Blues, Jazz, Soul and rap music. The artist as griot figure - the bearer of the history of a people is elemental to music in Uganda, Kenya, Niger, Nigeria, and quite likely in other African countries. Today we still attribute to artists the responsibility of social consciousness and the charge to address the society that births them. The music still relies heavily on the dynamic interplay of "performer" and "spectator" and while popular culture has made the relationship border on a bizarre parody of exaggerated sacredness that is expressed most explicitly in the "language" of materialism, the essential patterns are quite clear. Undoubtedly, these patterns have far more universal occurrence than the above lines would suggest, but the fact of slavery and its resultant exodus (forced) of millions of blacks from Africa to the Americas makes the links inevitable.

The seminar was very stimulating and promises good things for the Africa Nite on Saturday night at the SUB Cafeteria. I will be there.

RUSHDI & RUSHTON-

* Many would like to see both of them dead but for quite different reasons. However, their controversiality deserves challenge on a more critically astute plain. Take Rushton, he epitomizes for me the revival of the kind of racism that has made a state like South Africa possible for so many years and that corresponds with the growing trend in conservatives redneck politics in the West. And poor Rushdi - a brilliant writer picks a theme that has amounted to a death warrant! So now we know that the pen can get you killed; but every artist should be frightened by these developments. The "shrinking" of the globe has its pitfalls and Rushdi is one victim of this disturbing development.

By KWAME DAWES

Debators Visit Princeton



James Murray Gill of the UNB Debating Society makes a point.

Photo by Jayde Mockler

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On the second of January, 1989, five Fredericton students started on a week long trip to Princeton University to attend the IX World University Debating Championships. The five individuals were, competing from the University of New Brunswick, Derek Dunnett and Kapil Kamra, competing from Saint Thomas University, Neil Bouwer and Kelly Lamrock. Also from the University of New Brunswick, James Murray-Gill attended as a judge.

The format of the tournament itself is as follows: There are nine preliminary rounds. Challengers were selected in a round robin format. The first two rounds were prepared (the resolution was given the night before). The next seven rounds were impromptu (the resolutions were given 15 minutes before the rounds began). All constructive speeches were of eight minutes in duration with one four minute rebuttal allowed to each side. After these nine rounds, the 32 teams with the best records would continue to single elimination rounds. From this, the victors would emerge. There were 119 different teams competing from universities from all over the world (in fact, this was the most diverse

debating tournament in the history of the world's). For the first time ever, East Bloc nations attended with teams from Poland and the USSR being present.

On third of January, the five students arrived at Princeton University and after settling into the Hyatt Regency Hotel, the UNB team attended a planned practice round. UNB was the Government and therefore had to defend the resolution "The Sun is Setting in the West". The Opposition was the University of Edinburgh (from Scotland). UNB defined the resolution as follows: Since a storm obviously symbolizes violence and the sun is not visible during a storm, the sun must symbolize peace. They said that the words "is Setting"

means "is Ending" and "in the West" means "Around the World". Therefore, "The Sun is Setting in the West" is a metaphor meaning "Peace is Ending around the World." To prove this, they brought about example of recent terrorist activities, religious wars, and recent coups. Since there was no judge in the room, it is not known who won this round.

That evening was the Opening Ceremonies, a question and answer session for rules clarification and the opening banquet. At this banquet, the prepared resolution was announced "Socialism has failed."

After preparing all throughout the night, the UNB team felt they were ready for a full day of debating on January 4. The first round began at 8:30 am. UNB was the Government and the American College of Greece, team A, was the Opposition. The terms were defined as follows: Socialism - the public ownership of industry. Has Failed - the failure of anything measured against set criteria. Therefore, UNB had to define the expectations of industry. They were: 1) Service to the customer, and 2) Economic Efficiency. The Government said that public industry had not met these broad expectations and had therefore failed. Lack of experience lost this round for UNB. Both UNB competitors believe that this was their worst round of the entire tournament.

At 11:15 am the Humorous Individual events began. These were public speaking events which were of a humorous nature. There were serious speaking events later. UNB was represented in the Serious Individual event as will be explained later. For the Humorous Individual event, competitors were to explain how they would pick up a member of the opposite sex given different scenarios such as, on the Titanic while it was sinking, in line to be beheaded during the French Revolution, on a nudist beach or at a funeral. Kelly Lamrock, from Saint Thomas University, gave a funny speech on how to pick up a girl at a funeral. It should be noted that all speeches for both individual events were five minutes in duration with only thirty seconds preparation time.

At 1:30 pm that day, Round 2 began. UNB was Opposition and Cambridge University (from Britain) was Government. Although Cambridge University clearly won this round, this is probably the round that UNB is most proud of because they put up a good fight. In the end, they lost by a mere three points. Derek Dunnett was judged to be the second best speaker of this round.

It is necessary to point out a few facts about Derek Dunnett. This tournament was the first time he had ever debated. Any individual who competes in a competition such as the World's for his first tournament has courage. For this display of courage, UNB should be proud. For him to rank second in a round against a team such as Cambridge University, UNB must be proud.

At 3:15 pm, Kapil Kamra competed in the Serious Individual event. With thirty seconds of preparation, he spoke for five minutes on Nuclear Arms Disarmament. Since no scoresheets were returned, the best thing that can be said is that he was competitive.

At 4:30 pm the third round began. The University of Waterloo, team A, was the Government while UNB was the Opposition. The resolution was "There is no such thing as a Just War." This was probably the most enjoyable round of the whole tournament because the Government defined a war to be a bullfight. Therefore, UNB was given the task to prove that a bullfight is justifiable. Some points brought out by UNB were that matadors and bullfighting fans obviously had certain frustrations and violent tendencies which they let out at the bullfighting ring. If it wasn't for bullfights, they would rape women and beat their children. In simple terms, UNB was caught by surprise and therefore was desperate for things to say. Needless to say, they lost that round. One judge found Kapil Kamra to be the second best speaker of this round.

On the fifth of January, at 8:30 am, Round 4 began. The resolution was "The University should undertake the Moral Education of its Children." The judges scoresheets of this round were not detailed and therefore not much can be said about this round except that UNB, although competitive, lost. Saint Michael's College of the University of Toronto

was the Government and UNB was the Opposition.

At 11:15 am Round two of the Humorous Individual event was staged. Competitors were to explain how they would do things such as start a war, run a political campaign, start a religion or erect a monument of somebody.

Round five was at 1:30 pm. The resolution was "No Human Matter is of Serious Importance." The Freie Universität of Berlin (from Germany) was the Government and UNB was the Opposition. This was one of UNB's better rounds. Although UNB competitors tied in points, Derek Dunnett was ranked as the best speaker of the round and Kapil Kamra was ranked second. UNB won this round.

At 3:15 pm, Kapil Kamra competed in the second round of the Serious Individual event. In this round, two opposing views of a topic were given. The speaker was to choose a side and defend it. The topic given to Mr. Kamra was "Spontaneity versus Careful Planning." Mr. Kamra used the point that when you are spontaneous, your true feelings are revealed. Since people are basically good, spontaneity is better than careful planning. Once again, Mr. Kamra was competitive.

Round six began at 4:30 pm. UNB was Government and the University of Regina was the Opposition. The resolution was "The First Thing We Do, Let's Kill the Lawyers." One judge scored Kapil Kamra as the second best speaker of this round. Since this resolution was really not defendable, UNB lost this round.

At 10:00 pm that evening, there was a party for all competitors and judges at the Colonial Club. It was a much needed break for all involved.

The next day, January 6, was a free day. There was a tour of New York City which the UNB and STU competitors went on. They toured the United Nations and the Museum of Art. That night, they saw the Broadway musical "42nd Street."

On the seventh of January, round seven began. The resolution was "There Should be a Right to do Wrong." UNB was the Government and Marist College (from New York City), team B, was the Opposition. The Prime Minister defined this as "There should Be a Right to have an Abortion." This was a very good debate with UNB losing by a single point. Kapil Kamra was ranked as the best speaker for the round.

At 12:30 pm was Round eight. The resolution was, "I Hope I Die Before I get Old." Emerson College (from Boston) was Government and UNB was the Opposition. Both Derek Dunnett and Kapil Kamra tied for the second highest score of this round. Once again, UNB lost by one point.

The ninth round was at 3:00 pm. UNB was the Government and the University of Tsukuba (from Japan), team B, was the Opposition. The resolution was, "Charity creates a multitude of sins." UNB defined Charity as aid to the Third World nations. They said it created sins because Third World nations were becoming dependent on the richer nations of the world. This was UNB's best round of the tournament. Kapil Kamra was ranked as the best speaker and Derek Dunnett tied for second place. UNB won this round.

Although UNB did not break to the elimination rounds, they must still be pleased with their performance. Teams with a five win and four loss record were breaking to elimination rounds. UNB won only two rounds but they also lost two by a single point each. This shows great potential for the UNB team.

On January 8 and 9, the individual events finals were held and the elimination rounds were held. The University of Sydney (from Australia) won the tournament with the University of Toronto becoming the runners up.

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