

War

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U.S. Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld says that internal protection needs to remain the foremost concern. "You cannot defend every place, at every time, against every conceivable, imaginable – even unimaginable – terrorist attack."

With the recent fear of biological warfare after one man died and one is in critical condition in West Palm Beach, Fla. from anthrax poisoning, the research-based company BioPort is attempting to make enough vaccines to cover the more than 2.2 million members of the National Guard.

Attorney General John Ashcroft denies a connection between the terrorist attacks and the recent anthrax poisoning cases. "We regard this as an investigation that could become a clear criminal investigation," he said Monday. "We don't have enough information to know whether this could be related to terrorism or not."

As preventative measures continue to be implemented, America and the rest of the world are pre-

paring to take whatever actions necessary to bring down bin Laden and give terrorists around the world a fatal blow.

Back in Pakistan, however, the feeling is one of fear and confusion. Gangs and anti-American protesters fill the streets, with estimates as high as 15,000 people involved in the Quetta riots. Students number highly among those present in the destruction of virtually all buildings selling Western products.

Many young Muslims say that they support any action that harms enemies of Islam. "Muslims do not do terrorist acts," one Afghan rioter said. "[The United States] has infuriated the Muslim world. Their war against Islam may take one month or one year, but our revenge will last until the end of time."

Extremist sentiments like this worry many Americans. At this point, it is too early to make predictions about the future of this war, but one thing is clear: Neither the terrorists nor the Muslims will allow Allied forces to defeat them without putting up a fight.

Students for Peace and Justice host speaker from Colombia

Rady Large
Reporter

On Wednesday, Oct. 3, Students for Peace and Justice sponsored a speaker from Colombia named Marino Cordoba. Cordoba is the president of The Association of Displaced Afro-Colombians. He spoke on the situation that Afro-Colombians are experiencing within the country and the role America is playing in their troubles.

The speech was mainly an education about what is happening to Afrodes or Afro Colombians. Most of the 16 to 17 million Afro Colombians live on the Pacific Coast. They represent almost 25 percent of the total population of Colombia. Many of them have been driven off of their

land, beaten, tortured or killed by paramilitary groups in the region.

Cordoba shared his personal experiences of terror. His village had been driven from its land by force and many of his community members were gunned down or bombed from helicopters. The same paramilitary group had shot Cordoba on a later date.

Colombia has been in the depths of a civil war for nearly 40 years. During this civil war, two million Colombians have lost their homes and an estimated 200,000 innocent civilians have been killed. Both sides of the confrontation have perpetuated the violence. The Colombian military, the right-wing paramilitary groups and the leftist guerrillas are

responsible for actions against innocent civilians.

Colombia ranks third on the list of countries the United States gives military aid to. At the same time, the Colombian military is well known for being prone to human rights violations. Recently the United States Congress approved a \$1.3 billion assistance package to Colombia to fight the "war on drugs."

Cordoba said on Wednesday evening that 70 percent of the money the United States gives Colombia would be used for the purchase of weapons. The rest will be used toward activities like crop dusting, which will not only kill the cocaine producing vegetation, but the food crops of the region as well.

China

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Shanghai is a city that mixes the old and the new "without skipping a beat," Gisclair said.

Brown, assistant professor of history, did not know what to expect from China, but what he soon found was a deep contrast between old and new, modern and traditional, and an outstanding awareness of globalization. In Nanjing, he said, children play basketball constantly. At the time the NBA playoffs were taking place, and each child knew the names of the players. Kentucky Fried Chicken and McDonalds restaurants are commonplace and a welcoming sight, according to Brown, was the familiar Starbucks he found in a historic district of Shanghai. "The West and the East are coming together in so many ways," he said.

Brown also noticed the dual economy present in China, with wealth and poverty existing side-by-side. In Beijing, newly constructed shopping malls are characterized by constant bargaining. Street vendors are patronized by a certain sector of the population, as are modern stores.

"In Nanjing, people who are prosperous and those not nearly as prosperous live in close quarters," Brown said.

When asked whether globalization was a positive or negative aspect of the modern world, the panel agreed

on its positive benefits and overwhelming acceptance. "The Chinese love it, and by allowing globalization to occur they have prospered," Gisclair said. "The United States does not export a lot except culture," Grady, associate professor of communications, said.

The faculty recognized basic differences between Elon students and the students at Southeastern. "They are, in a way, a professor's dream," Grady said. The lectures, which were not required, often boasted more than 350 students. They requested no break during their three-hour lectures. Electricity is cut off in the dorms at 10:30 p.m. The lack of power causes students to work efficiently during the day and go to bed early or seek light elsewhere. Much of the students' late night hours were spent reading American novels, according to Gisclair. "They would read anything written in English," she said.

"American students are late to class," Gisclair said. On the rare occasion students in Nanjing are tardy, they stop in the doorway, apologize and ask permission to enter the room. This is a striking difference.

The professors adapted their teaching methods to accommodate the language barrier. According to Gisclair, she had to slow the rate of her speech, change her vocabulary and write on the board more. The students often implemented electronic translators

into lecture sessions.

"They are fascinated by Americans," Brown said. The students asked many questions about American college students.

"In a sense, there is no difference" between Elon students and Chinese college students, Gisclair said. Both are concerned with the world and what is taking place around them. Steve Braye, who moderated the forum, said "the catastrophic events of the past month" have helped the world realize that each citizen of every nation is part of a global society.

The faculty members took part in a few American traditions while in China. For example, they judged a karaoke competition. They also recorded English language CDs, which became audio companions to books. The students, who are traditionally accustomed to hearing English spoken in either a British or Australian accent, now have the opportunity to hear American accents.

"One of the problems with traveling is that it ends," Brown said. Grady summarized his trip to China as "wonderful." The group discovered the fast-paced, richly-textured lifestyle of China and its people and saw first-hand the effects of global imperialism and globalization on the modern world.

"The Middle Kingdom is exactly where you want to be," Gisclair said.

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