Zweig Discusses Mission to Iran

by Jesse Londin and Ray Katz

Economics professor Michael Zweig, a 13 year veteran of Stony Brook’s academia, has been politically active since the early days of the radical SDS (Students for a Democratic Society). Some of Zweig’s most recent work has been with the Committee to Send Back the Shah, and his efforts with this organization resulted in an invitation from the Confederation of Iranian students to visit Iran on a “fact-finding mission.” Zweig spent January 26 to February 5 touring Iran, along with James Cockcroft, a Rutgers University Sociology professor, and his artist-photographer wife Eva. Zweig returned with documents of United States involvement with the Shah, and a wealth of information on the people of Iran. Between a press conference and an address to the Stony Brook campus last Thursday, Zweig took time to discuss his findings and observations with The Stony Brook Press.

PRESS: What did you find out about the hostages?

ZWEIG: We were told by Iranian police that despite reports to the contrary-including statements by President Carter—8 out of the 12 nuclear plants operating in the United States could be shut down immediately without affecting service. He also stated, “There will never be another nuclear power plant built in the United States, it’s just too politically difficult.”

PRESS: Suppose the hostages are released tomorrow. Where do you think the U.S. will stand with Iran?

ZWEIG: It depends on what terms they’re released on and it depends on this Carter doctrine. I think it’s a very serious thing President Carter said in his State of the Union Message. He said that those countries are ears. The Iranian government is not going to play ball with that. They just fought a revolution to resolve that question. I think that we have very much in our interest as a people, as American people, to see it that that kind of an outlook on the part of our government continues on page 2.

Commoner Plugs Citizens Party at SB

by Melissa Spielman

Accusing the two major political parties of avoiding issues vital to the United States, professor, environmentalist and author Barry Commoner told a Stony Brook audience Saturday that the newly formed Citizens Party, of which he is chief spokesman, will deal with those issues head-on. “The time has come for the country to at least debate taking control out of the hands of the big corporations,” Commoner asserted before an attentive capacity crowd in the Union auditorium. “I think it’s time now to call the bluff on the two parties.”

The Citizens Party contends that the Democrats and Republicans avoid the issue of nationalizing large companies because they receive funding and support from business. Roy Murphy, the party’s Stony Brook coordinator, said, “We don’t take grants from corporations—we’re funded by individuals and foundations.”

In addition to a hard anti-corporate line, the Citizens Party calls for an end to nuclear power, decreased military spending, guaranteed jobs, support for human rights throughout the world, stable prices, conservation, and solar energy.

The party was started by political activists who, according to Commoner, realized that more than protests was needed to change the country. “We’ve got to go for political power.”

The party is very young, its formation was first publicly announced last June. By the beginning of January there were chapters in 22 states, and a New York chapter was added in mid-January. Although they plan to run a presidential candidate in the next election, party members view this mainly as a means of getting support. The next campaign is going to get as much public support,” said Murphy, “so in 1982 we can run state and local candidates, and run a presidential candidate in 1984.”

The nominee for the state election will be chosen by state delegates at a national convention in Cleveland in mid-April. Murphy announced a candidate, but Commoner disclosed that the party has been busy spreading the word of the party on the lecture and television circuits, and Ward Lee, Co-chair of the New York chapter, said, “I’m sure he will run for the candidacy.”

The 65-year-old Commoner, director of the Washington University Research Institute, is known for several books including The Poverty of Power and The Politics of Energy, and for his long involvement in the anti-nuclear movement. Nuclear energy was a major topic of his Stony Brook speech, which was sponsored by Science for the People and ENACT. (The speech will be broadcast over WUSB, 90.1 FM, 8 PM tomorrow.) He told the audience that despite reports to the contrary—including statements by President Carter—68 out of the 72 nuclear plants operating in the United States could not be shut down immediately without affecting service. He also stated, “There will never be another nuclear power plant built in the United States, it’s just too politically difficult.”

Commoner tied nuclear power, the decaying railroad system, the slipping economy, and other ills with the notion of an outlook on the part of our government...it’s just too politically difficult.”

Commoner opposes registration, the Olympic boycott, and the Middle East, which he compares to "putting guns in a tinderbox."

Commoner also attacked Carter’s handling of Iran. “Three years ago, Carter praised the Shah as a bulwark of democracy,” he said, adding that if the President had publicized the files on CIA intervention in Iran, the hostages would have been released immediately. And as for Afghanistan, Commoner said that the Soviets chose to invade at this time because “They had a political opportunity, we had put ourselves in the insane position of supporting despots in the Middle East.” Murphy reported, “We’re finding support among trade...Continued on page 2.”
**Professor Denounces Imperialism**

Ayatollah Khomeini returning from exile last year.

is ended as soon as possible. Bani-Sadr wants to resolve that situation is trends Kurdistan and other minority regions autonomy within an integrated united Iran. That is easier said than done. But that is the overall strategic orientation that I believe will successfully solve the problem. If you cut it loose and let the Kurds go, they're sure to carve up the area, and it makes it more difficult for those regions to survive as independent entities.

PRESS: Iran offered one day's oil revenues to the Kurds to end rebellion. How do you feel about that?

ZWEIG: It's not just a question of revenue. It wouldn't work. The question of revenue is really a question of recognizing the national differences and allowing the Kurds to go their own way within the boundaries of a certain unity against the common enemies they face.

PRESS: Who formed the Committee to Seed the Shah Bear and what are its goals?

ZWEIG: That was formed by Americans. Immediately after the Shah came to the United States. In November (1979) the hostages were taken and then the situation got very ugly. There were attacks on Iranian students, even here at Stony Brook. Iran has pointed out to us that more Iranians have been murdered in the United States since the taking of the hostages than Americans have been injured, let alone killed, in Iran...in that period of time. Iranian students have been killed in Iran, too. It's a very ugly business, and so, we formed this committee to take up three questions: number one, the return of the Shah to Iran. Number two, the hostage situation; we're also dealing with that. Number three, why did it happen? Because simple justice calls for that.ª

PRESS: Was he a broadcaster?

ZWEIG: I don't really know, but I understand it's in the billions and so, we would have to work out the rest of it. The second point of the committee's program is to defend Iranian students in the rest of the world. Whether it's deportation or unjust attacks by the government, or attacks from people going wild and reactionaries showing them down in the streets. The third point of the program is to do what any U.S. military intervention or sanctions against the Iranian people.

PRESS: You've called for an investigation into U.S. policy in Iran. What do you hope this will accomplish?

ZWEIG: I hope it will get the facts and the truth of the matter out. And if the Americans have made that, then they'll be richer for it and able to help to influence policy and affairs of state and evaluate policy and affairs of state and evaluate that relationship and make adjustments so they have to do in order to get a more favorable and just foreign policy.

PRESS: What facts do you want uncovered?

ZWEIG: The facts of the history of the Shah, who this guy is, what kind of criminal the guy really is, what the complexity of the U.S. government has in the history of the United States and Iran.

PRESS: Since 1957?

ZWEIG: Since 52, '53, yes.

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**Plan to Admit Shah Revealed in Documents**

by Jesse Londin

Top secret and "secret-sensitive" classified documents obtained by Michael Zweig, James Cockcroft and Eva Cockcroft during their eight day fact finding mission to Iran earlier this month have disclosed that plans to admit Mohammad Reza Pahlevi into the U.S. were being discussed as early as last summer, before his illness.

One document which escaped shredding during the embassy takeover, drafted at the U.S. State Department on August 21, 1980, is headed "Planning for Shah's admission to the United States". The document outlines some alternatives for the Shah's admission to the U.S. It sets out the question of the Shah's admission to the U.S., which was under consideration by the Carter Administration at the time, and outlines some alternatives for the Shah's admission to the U.S. It sets out the question of the Shah's admission to the U.S., which was under consideration by the Carter Administration at the time, and outlines some alternatives for the Shah's admission to the U.S., which was under consideration by the Carter Administration at the time, and outlines some alternatives for the Shah's admission to the U.S., which was under consideration by the Carter Administration at the time, and outlines some alternatives for the Shah's admission to the U.S., which was under consideration by the Carter Administration at the time, and outlines some alternatives for the Shah's admission to the U.S., which was under consideration by the Carter Administration at the time, and outlines some alternatives for the Shah's admission to the U.S.

"We think a cover-up is going on," they reported.

This document was drafted on August 2. The embassy was seized on November 4. No steps had been taken on the part of the U.S. government to secure the embassy or strengthen its guard force.

Henry Precht could not be reached for comment. A spokesperson at the Iranian Desk in the State Department said that statements would not be made until the situation is resolved. The spokesperson reiterated the official position that there were no plans to admit the Shah to the U.S. before his illness, and that he was admitted "for medical treatment only." Upon returning to the U.S. with the embassy documents, other information obtained by speaking with various Iranian officials and citizens, Zweig and the Cockrofts drafted a reporting called for a "public investigation into...the history of U.S. policy and affairs of state and evaluate that relationship and make adjustments so they have to do in order to get a more favorable and just foreign policy."

"We think a cover-up is going on," they reported.

At a press conference on February 7, the delegation called for inquiry by "congressmen or citizens, with powers of subpoena and a grand jury as prosecutor." They proposed investigation into such areas as: the Shah's illnesses; additional security for the embassy; and visas privileges for Iranians going upon warning to the U.S. before his illness, and that he was admitted "for medical treatment only."

Early this week, a United Nations inquiry commission was forced to look into Iran's grievances. Zweig commented, "We'll see what the context of it is. I hope the U.S. will be cooperative and that it is a full investigation into the history of relations between the two countries."

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**Ayatollah Khomeini returning from exile last year.**
After Fact-Finding Visit to Iran

Mossadagh. Even when Mossadagh was in power in '52 (there were) plots at that time under Truman to overthrow and get rid of him. So the Shah says, "You try me, try seven American presidents."

PRESS: That's why, even if there is an investigation, it might not go as far as you want. The American government doesn't want to incriminate itself that way.

ZWEIG: That's true, the American government doesn't. But the American people deserve the truth and if you're going to talk about what is the American policy, that's necessary at this point it seems to me that one aspect of that policy is that we have to turn away from that whole history and say we aren't going to do that any more. Because we can't do it any more. Of course David Rockefeller would love to keep doing it, but his fingers are getting chopped off in one country after the next.

PRESS: Do you have more specific ideas or guesses as to what an investigation would find?

ZWEIG: I don't like to guess because, to tell you the truth, in my experience with those things you never guess bad enough. You could make up stories. We made up all kinds of stories, what we estimated, what was going on in Vietnam and how did we get it all there. And then when the truth actually came out, it was worse than anything we had imagined. The government tries to keep these things as secrets and, like radioactive waste, they try to put it in a barrel somewhere. It's supposed to be so deep in the government bureaucracy and the secrets are not supposed to leak out. But it leaks out. We ought to go in there with spades and shovels and bulldozers and find out what the hell is going on. And that's why I don't like to speculate. I like to get to the heart of what's true.

PRESS: Do you think Iran will be able to maintain independence from superpower manipulation?

ZWEIG: It's a very iffy situation. Iran faces many, many difficulties. Almost no country except they're trying to do. You can name very few countries that have really managed to maintain independence in this world. We could talk about Yugoslavia, the People's Republic of China, maybe Romania, and then you've basically done with the last. So what the Iranian people are trying to do is extremely exciting. I don't know what their prospects are. I would think that in part depends upon what we do or don't do in this country—what the American people do to support that thing. Privy: What has been the reaction to your call for an investigation? Does the press—

PRESS: Do you think there will be a live war game for them. Is that comparable to what Vietnam was to us?

ZWEIG: Well, no. It's more like Spain in 1936. It's not the same as the same. Japan. PRESS: Do you think that arming Afghanistan will increase hostility in the region, and that arming other nations will start another arms race?

ZWEIG: That comes down to the very basic question of what is your attitude towards appeasement. Should we have armed England in 1938? I believe so. Should we have armed the Poles with the most modern weaponry in 1939? I certainly think so. Would that have been inflaming tensions in the area? I think the Nazi's might have been very upset, but I think it would have been harder for them to invade Poland.

PRESS: Do you think those examples are applicable to today?

ZWEIG: I don't want to say that the situation today is exactly the same. The preparatory stages to World War III is that's exactly like going into World War III, because it's not the same. There are many differences about these things—of which is the strength and the unity and importance of the United Nations. But the question of appeasement—aggression is the same. And I think that the people who propose that it's dangerous, aggressive imperialist power, are not doing the country any good over the world. That's what it is trying to do. And it will do it through political and military means, both, and if you appease it, if you say "O.K., we'll give you Afghanistan, just don't bother Pakistan, please"—and Secretary Vance can go to Moscow and sign a detente agreement saying "to show our good will we won't give any arms to Pakistan"—do you think the Soviet Union is going to do anything but go into Pakistan on the basis of that? I think that's all they'll do. We're dealing with an aggressive power that's cynically out to dominate the world.

PRESS: Can the same be said for the U.S.?

ZWEIG: Yeah, but we can't do it in the same way. U.S. imperialism is basically on the Russian side. We have been defeated many times, it's been exposed. And I don't want to say it's nothing. It's a significant power. And it can do a lot of damage and it will try to do that damage—that's true of U.S. imperialism. But it's not the same as the Soviet Union.

PRESS: What do you think the role of the college student is in face of the international situation today?

ZWEIG: On the question of Iran, there are many Iranian students here. I think that the students on this campus should not condone anything that harrasses or intimidates these Iranian students because that's what's going on in Iran. Yet we know that kind of harrassment actually happens. A climate needs to be created on campuses—not just this one but on all campuses—of respect and support for the Iranian students, because what their people are trying to do and what they themselves are hoping to do when they go back to Iran is to build an independent democratic country and I think we should respect that and wish them well.

The government tries to keep these things as secrets. We ought to go in there with spades and shovels and bulldozers and find out what the hell is going on.

Young people in America—students—are very perceptive. I believe very strongly in the enormous respect for that important and for that possible role. The world belongs pretty soon just to you. And that's a serious thing. Maybe the world doesn't come to you in terms that you like, but it comes to you nonetheless.

Commoner Seeks Political Support Here

Continued from page 1

unions, farm workers, environmental groups, people who haven't registered to vote. It is a question of how much support the party will be able to muster. It is a possibility that any movement, no matter how small, may be a threat to the Russian government. In addition, third parties in this country have had a history of trouble with the two major parties, the Democrats and Whigs, were not addressing the vital issues of the day. The Republican party was formed in the 1850's because David Rockefeller would believe in the heart of what's true.

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The Perils of Knee-jerk Foreign Policy

What is passed off as foreign policy in the United States is simply a succession of knee-jerk reactions to isolated incidents. Government leaders legitimize this by manipulating the media to rouse public support for their actions, and as this is a republic, the aroused populace then perpetuates the system through its coerced cooperation.

The desire of the Soviet Union to make the government obeying the electorate is not under attack here. However, government officials should realize that in a world under constant threat of nuclear war, foreign policy must not be dictated by the swiftly shifting mood of the populace. And without a consistent, far-ranging foreign policy, the U.S. suffers poor status in the world, as evidenced by this country's relations with Cuba, some middle eastern countries and the Soviet Union.

There is evidence suggesting that the Monroe Doctrine, the U.S. rationale for starting the Spanish-American War, and relations with Cuba after 1898 have been based upon short term foreign policy goals, and that resulting repercussions have hurt the U.S. in many areas. In addition, these examples illustrate the government's manipulation of the media, which in turn influence public sentiment. They are explored here because it seems that foreign policy for the Persian Gulf is also based on short term whims, and that this policy could result in economic strains or even war for the U.S.

Though European nations posed no threat to the U.S. in 1823, President Monroe issued a doctrine ordering powers to leave the hemisphere. But his true goals were revealed once several mistakes with its recent implementations. As the history of the Monroe Doctrine illustrates, the U.S. has a tendency to overreact to situations. The media have played much on the possibility of war in the Persian Gulf region, citing our dependence on oil from there. Coupled with this is the portrayal of the Soviet Union as an ever-present menace. The result is a nationalistic fervor in which the electorate has assented to the government's request for its services in the military.

If there were reason to advocate war as part of U.S. foreign policy, these initiatives would make sense. However, in light of the American inclination towards overreaction, they are dangerous, for they portend serious consequences—including nuclear war. There are reasons for war, but they can logically exist only when circumstances directly complicate our foreign policy.

The crux of the problem in the Persian Gulf and elsewhere is that the United States has no discernible, rational long range foreign policy, other than making short term decisions which create long range problems.

The Perils of Knee-jerk Foreign Policy

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Benny Andrews' Exhibit: Frightening Perception

by Scott Higham

Benny Andrews' exhibit in the Fine Arts Center Gallery successfully conveys contemporary social and political values. The vibrancy of the exhibit is due not only to the exceptional quality of Andrews' work but to the perspective he has, as a black man, of the United States.

Current problems and traditional failures of our society, some of which we would like to forget and others of which we fail to recognize, are brought to reality on his life-size murals. Huge oil and collage works such as "Trash," "War," "Utopia," "Circle," and "Sexism" lend themselves to people of all interests.

"Trash," one of the most expressive murals, depicts beautiful trees along the coast which obscure the world's view of the "Land of Opportunity." On a procession of patriotically colored carts lie bottles, rats, a Klansman, and a jack-in-the-box among other garbage, all being hauled to the junk yard by two young black men as a third tries to free himself of shackles. The symbolic struggle for freedom is overwhelming.

In combining surrealism with expressionism, Andrews brings to Stony Brook many aspects of America which have existed outside for over two hundred years. Although one's opinion may differ from the artist's, it is impossible to deny the quality of Andrews' art and his frightening perception of reality.

Benny Andrews is 60 years old and a resident of New York City. This is his first exhibition tour; it will close at Stony Brook on Saturday. He is currently involved in a mural project for Atlanta Airport.

The exhibition will open tomorrow from noon to 5 PM and 7 to 10:30, and on Saturday from 1 to 5 PM. Admission is free.

Susan Liers: Walk To Victory

Continued from page 8

Though there are no women's walk races in the Olympics, Liers said she empathizes with the athletes who have trained four years for the Olympics, and now face a boycott of the games. Despite her empathy, Liers says she stands behind President Carter's decision.

Liers said her feelings about boycotting the summer games "shifted back and forth" before she decided to support the President's policy. She added, however, "I really think the people have to consider the athlete's position a little bit more. I think everyone has to stand together. I think it would make us look bad if we (the President) said we can't go and the athletes did not respect that."

Though Liers could not compete in the Russian Olympics, she still looks forward to going, in the event the U.S. goes there. She has a vested interest because the Smithtown High School track coach has a possible shot at competing in the games. In addition, the coach is the president of a local track association, of which Liers is Secretary-Treasurer.

"We do everything together," Liers said of the coach. This is not too surprising, for the two are engaged to be married, and Liers said she was really looking forward to going with him to Greece. "There's still a possibility with Russia," she said. "That is, if anyone goes."

WHAT DO THESE THREE MEN HAVE IN COMMON?

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‘Pierre Patelin’: Mired in the Past

by Patrick Giles

The major demand of a comedy is that it should elicit laughter by conjuring humor, but while viewing The Fake of the Worthy Master Pierre Patelin I did not laugh. No matter what one says about comedy, everyone should agree that, before anything else, it must be funny. Broad or subtle, social or escapist, historically accurate or blandly topical: each category, no matter how disparate, aims at a single target. Pierre Patelin misses—and leaves a wide gap between arrow and target. When a production works, the director has helped the situation by setting the vocal rendition on one lead, tortuously shrill level (a problem hereafter known as The Equus Syndrome), and hurling his actors from one side of the stage to the other so mercilessly I prayed the Volunteer Ambulance Corps was present. In conception and execution, Pierre Patelin was thoroughly wrongheaded.

Except when one tries to drag it, supposedly intact, from the grave. This is what has happened with the current production, which has made a well-meaning attempt to give a classic commedia performance to a wholly inexperienced campanian badly in need of a lighter sense of humor. But in hurling their scenes in textbooks the company, and especially their director, Mark De Michelle, misses the spirit of the art and humor. The director has not helped the situation by setting the vocal rendition on one lead, tortuously shrill level (a problem hereafter known as The Equus Syndrome), and hurling his actors from one side of the stage to the other so mercilessly I prayed the Volunteer Ambulance Corps was present. In conception and execution, Pierre Patelin was thoroughly wrongheaded.

These are not the actors, directors, or audience to undertake a Living Museum project. These are a group of students searching for the theatrical parameters of a vanished art-form is a hazardous, dubious task; it might be valuable for a museum-curator or scholar, but in the theater, with the ease of access to the histories of the art was anchored by the restriction of its situations are based on points of view and experiences and situations in this age, on the director of the actor, who lacks the generations of breeding, training and tradition available to their ancestors, lunch and stagger across the stage, pointlessly creating gags and situations that no longer connect with their own or the audience’s sense of the essence of commedia—the sense of anarchy, the formal construction, the baseless, well-known comic bits that make up the actors themselves. The essence of commedia was investigated by the freedom and lightness of the art was anchored by the restriction of comic types (which persisted, with slight variations, from generation to generation) and the extraordinary physical and vocal dexterity of its actors. A major influence in the theater in many ways and forms (such as vaudeville, Warner Brothers cartoons, performers like Jackie Gleason, Daffy Duck, etc.), commedia’s place in theater history is unshakeable.

The major demand of a comedy is that it should elicit laughter by conjuring humor, but while viewing The Fake of the Worthy Master Pierre Patelin I did not laugh. No matter what one says about comedy, everyone should agree that, before anything else, it must be funny. Broad or subtle, social or escapist, historically accurate or blandly topical: each category, no matter how disparate, aims at a single target. Pierre Patelin misses—and leaves a wide gap between arrow and bull’s-eye.

Based on a brief, anonymous text of the late 15th century, this Pierre Patelin takes as its source and inspiration the European theatrical genre commedia dell’arte. This genre has become seductive to producers, and every now and then one sees a recreation of commedia, a form of comedy which began sometime before 1550 and had a strong, enduring history until the mid-18th century. In other words, when one attempts to recreate commedia one must recreate commedia. The resurrection of a vanished art-form is a hazardous, dubious task; it might be valuable for a museum-curator or scholar, but in the theater, which leaves behind only scripts, sketches and scores, one is not easily able to raise the dead.

Commedia dell’arte was a theatre of professionals. Translated, its title can be literally rendered as “comedy of professional players” or “comedy of the players.” A mixture of action and dialogue, usually consisting of well-rehearsed, well-known comic bits that recur across generations (lazzi) – later filled in by the actors themselves. The essence of commedia was investigated by the freedom and lightness of the art was anchored by the restriction of comic types (which persisted, with slight variations, from generation to generation) and the extraordinary physical and vocal dexterity of its actors. A major influence in the theater in many ways and forms (such as vaudeville, Warner Brothers cartoons, performers like Jackie Gleason, Daffy Duck, etc.), commedia’s place in theater history is unshakeable.

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The Stony Brook Press/Sports

Walking to Victory

by Chris Fairhall

From being blown away in men's X-Country races four years ago, to becoming the fastest woman race walker in the world, Susan Liers has proved that you do not necessarily walk before you run.

Susan Liers is the world’s fastest woman race walker, men’s, Liers explained, “Most of the women’s times aren’t considered records. They’re called ‘world best performances.’ From walking with her, it was not surprising that she added, “But, it really doesn’t mean anything, anyway.”

While record setting may not seem too important to Liers, those she has set have helped her to compete in world events Denmark, Norway and Germany are some countries in which she competed during her last world trip. “And we stopped in a couple of other places while traveling,” she added. “London—we stopped in Sweden for 30 minutes.”

As a rule of thumb, it takes dedication and discipline to be a great athlete. It also means a lot of like training for distance running,” she said.

Like many other athletes, Liers can not always spend as much time as she would like on practice. “Sometimes, I don’t have the time, or I can’t make the time... If I don’t, I don’t worry about it,” she said. With a laugh she added, “They call it the Liers Method.”

Liers explained that there are few techniques particular to her event. “With race walking you get the style right away, or you have a hard time with it,” she explained. “There’s two rules while you’re racing,” she added. “You have to straighten the supporting leg” and “at least one foot must be on the ground at all times.”

One of Liers’ most important meets was at the Empire State Games. Though she did not realize it then, her performance impressed officials there that they selected her as a torch bearer for the Olympics.

Liers competed in two events at

Continued on page 6