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## Keiji Morokuma elected president of International Academy of Quantum Molecular Sciences

Keiji Morokuma, professor of [Chemistry](#) and director of the Emerson Center was recently elected president of the International Academy of Quantum Molecular Sciences. He will serve a three-year term. The IAQMS is an organization of the top quantum molecular scientists in the world, and includes in its current membership 5 living Nobel prize winners. Said Dean Steven Sanderson of Morokuma's election, "It's a great honor, richly deserved."

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## CBS scholarships awarded to Emory College students

Ashante Dobbs and Tiffany Harlow are two of just 26 students nationwide chosen to receive the CBS Foundation Scholarship for the academic year 2000-01. The scholarships are administered through the [Foundation for Independent Higher Education](#) and are designed to recognize and assist minority students preparing for careers in broadcast communications.

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## Emory College honors Xuefei Jin with Allen Professorship of English and Creative Writing



Author and [English](#) professor Xuefei Jin, a native of China, has been honored with the College's the first Young J. Allen Professorship of English and Creative Writing. The professorship is named after the first Methodist missionary to China and "both honors the accomplishments of Ha Jin, and celebrates the deep intellectual connection between Emory and China," says Steven Sanderson, dean of Emory College.

Young J. Allen graduated from Emory in 1858 when the campus was located at what is now Oxford College of Emory University in Oxford, Georgia. Young John Allen left the United States in 1859 as a missionary in Shanghai, China. Then in 1860 he was forced to work also as a teacher, editor and businessman when the American Civil War caused the loss of contact with the Methodist Episcopal Church. Allen remained in China until his death in 1907.

## After winning National Book Award, Jin receives PEN/Faulkner Award

The honors keep coming for Emory author/professor Xuefei Jin. After winning the National Book Award in November for his novel, "Waiting," Jin recently received the prestigious PEN/Faulkner Award for the same novel. The competition is the largest annual U.S. juried award for fiction, with the winner receiving \$15,000. The judges considered more than 250 novels and short story collections published in the United States from 93 publishing houses during 1999. See the [PEN/Faulkner Award](#) for more information.

## Jin wins National Book Award



[Creative Writing](#) Professor Xuefei Jin, who writes under the name Ha Jin, was awarded the 1999 National Book Award for fiction. Jin's debut novel, "Waiting," was one of only five finalists for the prestigious award. Past



recipients of the the National Book Award have included Ralph Waldo Emerson, William Faulkner and Robert Penn Warren.

"Waiting" is a lyrical love story spanning 17 years and set against the backdrop of China's Cultural Revolution. The novel's protagonist, Lin Kong, is trapped in a loveless, arranged marriage and is struggling under the rules of Communist society.

Jin has been a professor at Emory since 1993 and is the winner of the 1997 PEN/Hemingway Award for his short story collection "Ocean of Words" and the 1998 Flannery O'Connor Award for Short Fiction for "Under the Red Flag." He has also published two books of poetry, "Between Silences" and "Facing Shadows," and a novella, "In the Pond."

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### Matthew Simms awarded Gould Fellowship at Princeton

Matthew Simms, assistant professor in [Art History](#), was recently awarded the Florence Gould Foundation Post-Doctoral Fellowship for the academic year 2000-01. The residential fellowship is administered through the [Art and Archaeology Department of Princeton University](#). Simms will continue his research in 19th century French painting and photography, and will work on his book about French painter Paul Cezanne. Chair of Art History Gay Robbins says, "The department is delighted by this achievement."

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### Monks construct and deconstruct sand mandala

At Emory this April, monks from the Drepung Monastery in Dharamsala, India painstakingly prepared, and then destroyed, a sand mandala in the artistic tradition of Tantric Buddhism. In a ceremony meant to call forth the forces of goodness, the site at the Dobbs University Center was consecrated through chanting, music, and mantra recitation. Over the next five days, millions of grains of sand were laid into place on a flat platform, creating an intricate and exquisite work of art.



Then, as a metaphor for the impermanence of life, the mandala was swept up. Part of the sands were distributed to the audience as function of healing and the remainder was poured into a nearby body of water. The waters symbolically carried the healing blessing to the ocean and throughout the world for planetary healing.

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### Emory College Language Center to be Technologically Advanced

Dean Steven Sanderson announced in April the creation of the Emory College Language Center to enhance foreign language instruction. Founding director Mahmoud Al-Batal in

[Middle Eastern Studies](#) will bring more than just his international reputation for Arabic instruction to the job: he has just secured a two-year \$249,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Education to develop web-based materials for teaching Arabic.

The Language Center will be a collaboration with the language departments, the Information Technology Division, Woodruff Library staff and the Center for Teaching and Curriculum. There are two exciting features of the new center. The first is a technologically advanced language laboratory that will be built in the annex of Woodruff Library. The lab is being designed now and construction will begin as soon as practically possible, according to Sanderson. Second is the development of two classrooms within Woodruff Library specially equipped for teaching languages. The recent curriculum revision has boosted the foreign language requirement for all Emory undergraduates, so the center will go a long way to supporting the increased numbers and enhances Emory's goal of increased internationalization. In fact, the [Institute for Comparative and International Studies](#) will oversee the Emory College Language Center.

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### **Mellon Minority Undergraduate Fellowship Awarded**

The Mellon Foundation has awarded Emory a \$475,000 grant as part of its Mellon Minority Undergraduate Fellowship (MMUF) Program. Established in 1989 with a select group of colleges and universities, the program seeks to boost the numbers of African-American, Hispanic-American and Native American students in doctoral programs. The long-term goal is to increase the diversity of faculties at institutions throughout the country in order to bring a wider range of experiences and perspectives to teaching and scholarly discussion.

The MMUF complements an existing Mellon-funded diversity initiative at Emory: the United Negro College Fund/Mellon Summer Institute. The institute is a program for African-American students interested in graduate school and college-level teaching careers, a "boot camp for black intellectuals," according to institute director Rudolph Byrd, associate professor and director of the [Program in African-American Studies](#). Byrd and Mark Sanders, associate professor in [English](#) and associate director of the Program in African-American Studies, will direct the new MMUF.

Learn more about the [Mellon Minority Undergraduate Fellowship Program](#).

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### **Emory College senior Brad Murg named Luce Scholar**

Brad Murg has been named a Luce Scholar by the Henry R. Luce Scholars Program. Murg is one of only 18 Luce Scholars chosen nationally for the 2000-2001 academic year, and is the first Emory student to receive this honor since 1988. As a Luce Scholar, Murg will live and work as an intern in Asia for one year.

Dean Joanne Brzinski said, "This is an extremely competitive scholarship since only 18 are awarded each year, and only 67 colleges and universities are allowed to submit applicants." Brzinski added that Murg's selection is still more impressive since the competition is open to graduate students and junior faculty, so it is unusual for a college senior to be selected. For more, [see Emory University News and Events](#).

See also the [Luce Foundation](#) for a full description of the scholarship program, along with a listing of past awardees.

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### **Junior Hetal Doshi named Truman Scholar**

Emory College junior Hetal Doshi has been named a Truman Scholar, earning \$30,000 for graduate study in preparation for a career in government or public service. Doshi plans to pursue a law degree, with the long-term goal of working on women's rights and Islamic legal issues.

Truman Scholars are selected on three criteria: extensive records of public service, commitment to careers in government or other public service, and outstanding leadership and communication skills. Doshi certainly fits the bill. She is the newly elected College Council president with a long track record of public service and academic success. As a member of Emory's nationally ranked debate team The Barkley Forum, Doshi is an active volunteer coach in the Urban Debate League, a partnership between Emory's debate team and the Atlanta and Decatur City schools. Her interest in women's issues and human rights has Doshi active in the National Organization for Women, Habitat for Humanity and Amnesty International. She also is involved in many campus organizations and is an executive board member of her sorority, Kappa Alpha Theta.

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### **Sloan Foundation awards \$3.6 million for Bradd Shore's Center for Myth and Ritual in American Life**

The Alfred P. Sloan Foundation has approved a grant of \$3.6 million to Emory University to establish a center on rituals and myths in working families. The [Emory Center for Myth and Ritual in American Life](#) (the MARIAL Center) will be led by Emory anthropologist [Bradd Shore](#).

Since 1995, the Sloan Foundation has established prestigious research and teaching centers on dual-income middle-class families at four other institutions--Cornell University, the University of California at Berkeley, the University of Chicago, and the University of Michigan. The Sloan Foundation approached Shore to set up a center that would focus its research and training on the study of ritual and myth in middle-class families in the contemporary American South.

Emory Provost Rebecca Chopp says that, "The Emory/Sloan center is an exciting intellectual endeavor that will reach across the arts and sciences and into a number of our professional schools. By bringing together scholars and students from different schools and centering around a related set of important questions, this center so ably directed by Professor Shore will contribute to Emory's intellectual community and Emory, in turn, will contribute to what we know about the American family."

A major reason the Sloan Foundation approached Emory about establishing such a center, says Shore, is because of the "outstanding group of [anthropologists](#), [psychologists](#) and other [social scientists](#) who are at Emory, or who are affiliated with the university." The research of eight to ten Emory scholars will be funded for an initial three years by the center, along with up to 14 graduate students and post-doctoral fellows. Unique to Emory's

center will be the incorporation of undergraduate research funding into the program.

Shore is a cultural anthropologist whose areas of expertise include culture and cognition, myth and ritual, religion and language. "At first," Shore says, "People are always puzzled by the very idea that one can actually study 'myth' and 'ritual' in middle-class American life. People sometimes assume that myth and ritual only matter in small-scale, 'traditional' societies, but not in our own lives."

Shore's initial challenge was to rethink the meaning and significance of myth and ritual in a modern American family setting. "It doesn't take much reflection," he says, "to see that the basic themes of ritual and myth---providing a framework for the coordination of time, of activities and of meaning in our lives---these themes are all very much in play in modern life." Shore points out that our struggles to balance home and work obligations, the increasing role of mass media in creating modern myths, the growth of culturally and religiously "mixed" marriages, the changing role of organized religion for American families, and the proliferation of novel forms of communication are all challenging traditional meanings and functions of myth and ritual.

"Something as basic as the viability of 'dinnertime' has become a matter of national debate," says Shore. "Myth and ritual are hardly dead in our lives, but they are taking on many new and sometimes surprising forms. In fact the issues of ritual and myth are so pervasive and crucial in American life, that the real challenge is to define useful boundaries to what we will be studying."



In addition to overseeing the new Sloan Center, Shore is the Emory College Distinguished Teaching Chair in the Sciences and Social Sciences. His early research was done on conflict and social control in western Samoa. Shore's most recent book, **Culture in Mind: Cognition, Culture and the Problem of Meaning** (Oxford University Press, 1996) rethinks the whole idea of culture in relation to cognitive psychology. Among the numerous cultural analyses in this book, Shore looks at the psychological implications of many familiar American institutions, including baseball, for defining a distinctively American "frame of mind."

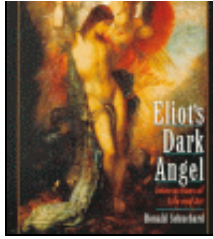
The [Alfred. P. Sloan Foundation](#), a philanthropic non-profit institution, was established in 1934 by Alfred Pritchard Sloan Jr., then president and chief executive officer of the General Motors Corporation. In 1995, the foundation initiated a program on working families aimed at creating a community of scholars who have direct knowledge of the issues faced by dual-career families as they cope with the competing demands of work and family. In addition to sponsoring numerous research grants, research at the five Sloan Centers of Working Families focuses on work-family issues across the life course, cultures of care and the experiences and socialization of children and adolescents, and the ethnography of everyday life in working families.

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## Ron Schuchard recipient of Robert Penn Warren/Cleanth Brooks Award



Ron Schuchard, professor of [English](#), has been named by the Center for Robert Penn Warren Studies at Western Kentucky University as the



recipient of the Robert Penn Warren/Cleanth Brooks Award for his 1999 book, "Eliot's Dark Angel: Intersections of Life and Art" (Oxford UP). The award carries with it a \$1,000 prize and is given annually based on a work, published in English in the U.S.A., that exemplifies in spirit, scope, and integrity the innovative, critical interpretation of literature offered by Robert Penn Warren and Cleanth Brooks.

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### Dwight Andrews awarded residency with Meet the Composers

The New York-based Meet the Composers' Residency Works has awarded Dwight Andrews, associate professor in the [Music Department](#), one of four residencies designed to bring composers and their music into the day-to-day life of communities across the country. Andrews will receive \$100,000 over a three-year period and will divide his time between Emory and Philadelphia. He plans to work with the Prince Music Theater, the Walt Whitman Cultural Arts Center (in Camden, New Jersey), and the Camden Creative Arts High School to create a piece call "Haiti, Harlem, and Havana."

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### Three students named to USA Today Academic Team: Caps off a year of major awards for Emory College

Emory University has had a banner year when it comes to major faculty and student awards---first a [National Book Award](#) winner, then a [Rhodes Scholar](#)---now three students have been named to the 20-member USA Today 2000 All-USA Academic Team. No school has ever had this many students on the same team. Past recipients, considered by the panel of educators as the "best and brightest college students" in the country frequently have been from schools such as Harvard, Yale and Stanford.

Members of the USA Today All-USA Academic Team receive a \$2,500 cash award and are profiled in the Feb. 17 double-page spread in USA Today, along with a description of the students' original academic or service project that was a key element in the team selection. The three Emory award winners are:

- Junior **Nir Eyal** (hometown New York City) founded the student-volunteer Emory Read program in collaboration with Hands On Atlanta in 1997 to help Atlanta area elementary students improve their reading skills. Eyal also established a group called Emory Bigs, in collaboration with Big Brothers/Sisters of Greater Atlanta, to train volunteers to develop and nurture one-on-one relationships with at risk-children. He was honored March 18 by Hands on Atlanta at the organization's 10th anniversary gala, and was also profiled in the Atlanta Journal Constitution the same day. A journalism/political science co-major, Eyal has worked part-time as an intern in The New York Times Atlanta bureau and currently is a reporter for the CNN student bureau in Atlanta.
- Senior **Amos Jones** (hometown Lexington, Ky.) was named a 1999 Truman Scholar by the Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation on the basis of his leadership potential, intellectual ability and likelihood of "making a difference." A Robert W. Woodruff scholar majoring in political science with a minor in African American

studies, Jones is a musician and journalist for campus publications, and also has worked as a reporting intern for the Atlanta bureau of The New York Times, and other major newspapers. Jones is active in the Emory community, including serving as president of Omicron Delta Kappa and playing principal viola in the Atlanta-Emory Orchestra. The project that helped Jones gain a spot on the USA Today team was his research on the "unsung legacies" among the black church community in Lexington, Ky. He also is a Knight-Ridder Newspapers National Scholar and a National Merit Scholar.

- In December 1999, senior **Danielle Sered** (hometown Evanston, Ill.), was one of 32 American college or university students selected as a [Rhodes Scholar](#), the oldest and most prestigious international study award available to American students. The scholarship provides for two or three years of study at the University of Oxford in England. Sered has won several major awards and scholarships, including a national Norton Scholars Prize from the W.W. Norton Company and the Modern Language Association for her critical essay on the work of Irish poet Medbh McGuckian. For the USA Today competition she wrote about her interviews in Ireland last summer of a dozen women poets, which she is planning to publish in a single volume. Her interview with McGuckian will be published in the forthcoming issue of "Nua: Studies on Contemporary Irish Writing." Sered, an English major/French minor, is very active in the Emory community and has founded Arts Reach, an outreach program for Atlanta city schools and juvenile detention centers, and Emory Women's Alliance, a mentoring network.

"It's not often that any university, in the same year, produces a National Book Award Winner and a Rhodes Scholar, and has so many faculty and students receive major recognition for their scholarship, community service and academic accomplishments," says Emory University President William M. Chace. "On behalf of the Emory community, let me say that we are immensely proud of the accomplishments of our colleagues, particularly of our students whose strength of character, academic excellence and contributions to our university life continue to delight and inspire us."

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## Danielle Sered named Rhodes Scholar



Senior Danielle Sered was named one of 32 American college or university students selected as Rhodes Scholars, the Rhodes Scholarship Trust announced last December.

Sered is the 16th Emory student to be awarded the scholarship that provides for two or three years of study at the University of Oxford in England. She was selected from 935 applicants endorsed by 323 colleges and universities nationwide.

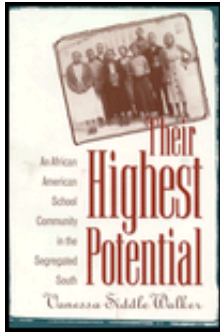
"After spending a whole day with all the candidates and learning of all the amazing and inspiring work they are doing, it is a very humbling experience to have been chosen," Sered said. "It is invigorating to know that there are so many students doing work that will make a difference."

"On behalf of this university, and in particular her teachers and fellow students, let me say that we are immensely proud of the

accomplishment--academic, civic and physical--of Danielle Sered," said President Bill Chace. "She has done much at Emory to remind us of what strength of mind and of character can do, particularly when such strengths are brought to very high levels."

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## Vanessa Siddle Walker awarded Grawemeyer

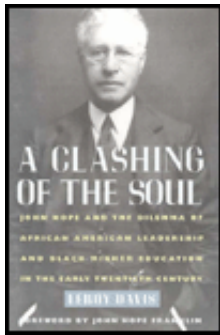


The University of Louisville announced that Vanessa Siddle Walker, associate professor of [Educational Studies](#) at Emory University received the 2000 Grawemeyer Award in Education for her book, "Their Highest Potential: An African American School Community in the Segregated South."

Walker will receive \$200,000 in cash. The awards, in music, composition, religion, education, and international affairs, were established in the 1980's by H. Charles Grawemeyer, a philanthropist and Louisville alumnus who died in 1993. The Grawemeyer awards recognize outstanding ideas and works that "help make the world a better place."

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## Davis receives Lillian Smith Book Award



Leroy Davis, associate professor of [History](#) and [African American Studies](#), received the 1999 Lillian Smith Book Award from the Southern Regional Council (SRC) in honor of outstanding writing about the American South. Davis's book, "A Clashing of the Soul," is a biography of John Hope - the Augusta-born president of both Morehouse College and Atlanta University. Hope was the first African American president of both institutions and was a pioneer in higher education for black Americans.

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## Semester-long study abroad program in Tibetan Studies to be offered next Spring

Emory University and Drepung Loseling Monastery are proud to offer a new semester-long study abroad program in Tibetan studies in Dharamsala, India, which will run from Jan 20-May 20, 2001. Situated in the foothills of the Himalayas, and home to His Holiness the Dalai Lama, Dharamsala is the seat of the Central Tibetan Administration and the cultural and intellectual capital of the Tibetan exile community.

This unique program integrates modern academic study, traditional Buddhist pedagogy,

immersion in the Tibetan community, field research, and guided explorations of contemplative practice. Formal courses will include: 1. Introduction to Tibetan Language, 2. Culture of Tibet, 3. Tibetan Buddhism: Philosophy and Practice, and 4. Independent Research: Selected Topics. This combination of theory, practice, and immersion will nurture students' fluency in multicultural environments and provide them an excellent opportunity to explore the cultural, educational, political, historical, and religious dimensions of the Tibetan world. For more information contact Tara Doyle at [tndoyle@emory.edu](mailto:tndoyle@emory.edu), [Religion Department](#) and [Asian Studies Program](#).

### **Academic faculty and resources**

Emory University's partner in this program, Drepung Loseling Monastery, has for the last five hundred years been one of the most respected institutions of higher learning in Asia. Together, Drepung Loseling Monastery and the highly respected Institute of Buddhist Dialectics (IBD) in Dharamsala will provide outstanding English-speaking teachers of Tibetan philosophy, language, meditation and culture.

The academic program will be co-directed by Dr. Tara Doyle of Emory University and IBD Vice-President Geshe Kelsang Damdul. Besides the Institute of Buddhist Dialectics, local resources include the Library of Tibetan Works and Archives, the Norbulingka Institute for the Preservation of the Fine Arts, the Tibetan Institute for Performing Arts, the Men-Tsee-Khang Tibetan Medical and Astrological Institute, the Tibetan Center for Human Rights and Democracy, the Tibetan Childrens Village, and numerous departments of the Tibetan Central Administration. There are opportunities for volunteer work, internships, work with activist groups, meditation retreats, and additional language work.

### **Schedule and program sites**

After a two-day orientation meeting at Emory University, students will fly to Delhi as a group. They will then proceed to the Institute of Buddhist Dialectics (Sarah campus) for three weeks of intensive language instruction, lectures on Tibetan culture, and excursions to nearby sites. This campus is situated in a beautiful river valley ten miles below Dharamsala, and houses a large community of Tibetan monks and laypersons engaged in traditional and contemporary study. While there, students will live in the Institutes dormitory, giving them an unusual opportunity to interact on a daily basis with Tibetan students their own age.

Students will then move to a Tibetan guesthouse, located in the middle of McLeod Ganj ("upper Dharamsala") for two months of language and coursework at the main campus of the Buddhist School of Dialectics. This central location provides easy access to Dharamsalas many organizations and cultural resources, as well as to the wider Tibetan community. In particular, students will have the opportunity to witness the Tibetan New Years festival, Great Prayer festival, and a week of teachings by His Holiness the Dalai Lama. Other special events include weekly class field trips, guest speakers, and performing arts events.

During the last four weeks of the program, students will be engaged in independent research projects in Tibetan studies. Guidance will be provided by Emory and Buddhist School of Dialectics faculty, as well as local experts. Students may choose to remain in Dharamsala, or (with the co-directors approval) travel to places in the region, such as Tibetan villages, monasteries, or pilgrimage sites.

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## Indian-American community honors Paul Courtright

Paul Courtright, professor in the [Department of Religion](#) and director of [Asian and Asian American Studies](#), recently received two awards from organizations in the Indian-American community in Atlanta. He was recognized by the Indian Professionals Network, at its sixth anniversary banquet in November, was praised for "his professional achievements and contributions to the community." The India America Cultural Association honored Courtright in February for "his dedication and continuing leadership as an educator and researcher in developing a strong South Asian studies program at Emory."

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## Atlanta Historical Society recognizes Matthew Bernstein

Emory professor Matthew Bernstein has been awarded the 1999 Franklin M. Garrett Award by the Atlanta Historical Society in recognition of the best article on Atlanta history published during 1998-99 in "Atlanta History: A Journal of Georgia and the South," a publication of the Atlanta History Center.

Bernstein, an associate professor in [Film Studies](#), is the editor of a new anthology "Controlling Hollywood: Censorship Regulation in the Studio Era." He was recognized for his essay, "Selnick's March: Hollywood Comes to Atlanta for 'Gone With the Wind,'" published in the Summer 1999 issue. The issue brings together essays written by Bernstein, Emory historian Dana White and three Emory graduate students-Randy Gue, Gordon Jones and Pat Murdock-all part of the professors' "Segregated Cinema in a Southern City: Atlanta 1895-1996" project. White, professor of urban studies, and Bernstein, professor of film studies, received a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to research film-going in Atlanta from the 1895 Cotton States Exposition to the 1996 Olympic Games and to publish a book on their findings.

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