

Men's and women's track and field teams shine at nationals

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The singles are ready to mingle: the Daily reviews the big pop singles arriving this spring  
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THE INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF TUFTS UNIVERSITY EST. 1980

# THE TUFTS DAILY

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## Students, faculty discuss new Science, Technology and Society program

by **Daniel Nelson**  
Contributing Writer

Students and faculty gathered in the Sophia Gordon Multipurpose Room last Thursday for a Student Summit on the new Science, Technology and Society (STS) program, which was introduced this semester to provide students with an interdisciplinary approach to study topics in science and technology as well as their effects on society.

Last week's summit provided a forum for interested students and alumni to discuss the new program, which offers both a co-major, to be declared along with the completion of another major, and a minor. The three main tracks of study of the STS program include Bodies, Health and Medicine, Science and the State as well as Mathematics and Modeling, according to the program's website.

Program Director Moon Duchin, an associate professor of mathematics, hosted the Student Summit. She said the event allowed students interested in STS to share their ideas for the development of the program.

"We want to hear what students are interested in; we want to hear about how to build a community that works for [the students]," Duchin said at the event. "The forum is designed to figure out which courses will appeal to [students] and have [them] pitch ideas for that courses could fill."

Over time, Duchin hopes to build a community of students within the STS program. As the program is still in its inaugural semester, her primary concern is getting it off the ground. The Student Summit was a part of her campaign to increase awareness for the new major.

At the forum, students shared their desires for the major's future. Ideas ranged from broadening the program to include courses studying music theory and the physics of instruments to examining the use of mathematics of elections to introducing reading labs for reading-intensive courses.

Spearheading the creation of the program, Duchin also assembled a com-

see **STS**, page 2

## Tufts launches new 'Diversity Dashboard' to improve demographic transparency

by **Abigail Feldman**  
News Editor

The university launched a new Diversity and Inclusion site on Monday, alongside the new tufts.edu homepage. The site includes an expansive "Diversity Dashboard" geared toward making university demographics more accessible to the Tufts community members and prospective students.

According to Jessica Sharkness, senior associate director of the Office of Institutional Research and Evaluation (OIRE) and co-chair of the Diversity and Inclusion Working Group (DIWG), the interactive dashboard uses graphics to display data on race/ethnicity and gender distribution of students at both the undergraduate and graduate levels, faculty and staff, broken down by school. It also provides information on students' country/state of origin and graduation rates within four, five and six years of undergraduate students who enrolled at Tufts in 2009.

The dashboard currently displays data from the fall 2015 semester and will be updated annually with fall semester census information according to Sharkness, who focused on preparing data for the site and creating its visuals.

She explained that all information on the site has been gathered from initial data collection surveys on Tufts' admissions and job applications, as well as through the Student Information System (SIS) and Oracle's PeopleSoft human resource system used by faculty and staff. Currently enrolled students can change their racial/ethnic identification at any time on SIS, as can faculty and staff members through PeopleSoft.

"This is not secret data," Chief Diversity Officer and Associate Provost Mark Brimhall-Vargas said. "We're trying to do it so you don't have to do a lot of homework from year to year."

While schools receiving federal aid are mandated to report certain demographic information, according to OIRE's website, relatively few universities release data in the visually-appealing way that the dashboard does, Sharkness said.

"I'm proud of the way we have made it more accessible," she told the Daily in an email. "I believe our decision to include a full tally of all of the race/ethnicities that individuals selected as well as our commitment to making this information easily understood make us relatively unique."

In addition to displaying demographic data as it is reported to the federal government through the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) — a series of



Chief Diversity Officer and Associate Provost Mark Brimhall-Vargas fields questions at the "Diversity Dashboard" feedback session in the Campus Center Room 113 on March 3.  
HENRY HINTERMEISTER / THE TUFTS DAILY

surveys conducted by the U.S. Department of Education — the site allows users to view the data through a Tufts-specific system of reporting, Sharkness explained. Under the IPEDS method, individuals are recorded under one category, regardless of how many options they may have selected, so that the percentages of all categories amount to 100 percent. Tufts' reporting system, which Sharkness refers to as the "all races selected" method, includes individuals under all the categories they have selected, allowing percentages to total to over 100 percent.

Brimhall-Vargas said he believes the second method is more informative, since the IPEDS system fails to identify the ethnicities of students who describe themselves as multiracial and groups all international students together without indicating their race.

"We want people to expect two kinds of reporting everywhere, so they can understand the complexities," he said.

Brimhall-Vargas stressed that Tufts is not required to report additional information beyond that mandated by IPEDS surveys but has launched the dashboard to make the data more available for students.

"We believe that transparency conveys [that]; even if we're not where we want to be, we know we're not where we want to be and we're willing to actually tell you about our progress," Brimhall-Vargas said. "We think that's a message that's significant."

According to Sharkness, she and Brimhall-Vargas, along with the Assessment, Reporting and Dashboard sub-committee of the DIWG, have worked together since the beginning of the academic year to gather and organize data for the site, though the initial call for

improved data transparency was part of the 2013 Diversity Report.

Brimhall-Vargas and Sharkness said the site team has held multiple feedback sessions with the Tufts community members with at least three on the Medford/Somerville campus. These sessions have led to developments within the dashboard preceding its launch.

Alyssa Rivas, who attended a March 3 feedback session, said she was impressed by the dashboard's breadth and the depth of thought that went into it, though she was initially skeptical about its function and how it would employ diversity markers and statistics.

"My suggestions focused on maintaining accuracy across all boards, mostly encouraging that 'over-diverse' photographs and language not be used in order to avoid deception of what the diversity representation really is at Tufts," Rivas, a sophomore, told the Daily in an email.

Charlie Zhen, a first-year who also attended the March 3 session, said the dashboard represents a significant improvement from the data released earlier this year as part of the undergraduate admissions' accepted students profile, which he believed was misleading. The data on the admissions website — which appeared in the form of a graph that no longer appears online — gave percentages of first-generation college-bound students, foreign citizens, U.S. students of color and students receiving need-based aid but displayed the statistics on a bar graph that terminated at 40 percent, rather than 100 percent.

see **DASHBOARD**, page 3



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Bridge the Gap



## Less subsidized transit is not always better

Amtrak had a great fiscal year of 2015.

Although our national passenger railroad as a whole lost more than \$1 billion, the most visible part of its business — its operation of scheduled intercity passenger trains — required a mere \$170 million subsidy on a \$2.6 billion revenue. This is a startlingly strong result; it means that Amtrak's recovery ratio — the percentage of its operating costs paid by operating revenues — was above 94 percent, whereas large transit agencies' recovery ratios are typically in the 40 to 60 percent range. The MBTA's recovery ratio is 43 percent.

So why, then, is Amtrak a perennial target of those eager to reduce the national deficit?

Part of the answer is that Amtrak is technically a for-profit company created from a merger of other for-profit companies. In early 1971, when Amtrak began operating, passenger railroads in the United States were facing hard times due to competition from airlines and interstate highways. In the hope of improving the sustainability of passenger rail service, 20 passenger railroads merged to form Amtrak. As expected, this amalgamation of unprofitable railroads proved itself to be unprofitable, and vocal opposition to subsidizing an outcompeted mode of transportation remains.

But a more complete answer would note that, despite Amtrak's relatively strong overall performance, parts of the Amtrak system are remarkably inefficient. There is no greater demonstration of this than Amtrak's long distance routes — the routes in the Amtrak network that are more than 700 miles long.

Some of the inefficiency on long distance routes results from the fact that these routes largely utilize tracks owned by private freight railroads. Freight trains have more strict speed limits; this severely limits Amtrak's speed, often to below the speed of driving. Further, not a single Amtrak long distance route is served more than once per day, a severe limitation of choice that limits the utility of the service.

More strikingly, the \$514 million operating subsidy of Amtrak's long distance service is disproportionate to the 213 destinations served exclusively by long distance trains. In fact, the subsidy of approximately \$2.4 million per Amtrak long distance city served is more than 25 percent greater than the average subsidy of another federal transportation program, Essential Air Service, which subsidizes multiple-times daily air service to small cities throughout the United States. Clearly, if multiple-times daily air service could be cheaper than less-than-daily Amtrak service, paring back long distance Amtrak service in favor of cheaper and faster transportation (buses?) ought to be considered.

In short, Amtrak's long distance service clearly needs retooling. Consequently, it might come as a surprise to learn that its recovery ratio is above 50 percent, better than that of the MBTA and those of almost every other transit agency in the United States.

Does this make the MBTA and nearly every other American transit agency "remarkably inefficient," as I have dubbed Amtrak's long distance routes? Certainly, the answer to that question cannot possibly be yes; the MBTA provides an invaluable service to greater Boston under the belief that transit service exists not to make a profit, but rather because the value of having the service is greater than the value of the revenue collected.

In this case, the agency with the worse recovery ratio provides the more worthwhile service.

John Russell is a senior majoring in mathematics. He can be reached at [john.russell@tufts.edu](mailto:john.russell@tufts.edu).

## New co-major and minor programs allow interdisciplinary study of Science, Technology and Society

STS

continued from page 1

mittee of faculty from across the university, according to Associate Professor of Philosophy Patrick Forber, who sits on the program's executive committee.

Duchin explained that she wanted to tap into the success of the STS programs she saw at other institutions in creating the program at Tufts. One of the most prominent programs, she said, is at Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), which was founded in 1976.

"The program [addresses] two basic, interrelated questions: how did science and technology evolve as human activities, and what role do they play in the larger civilization?" according to the program's website.

While Duchin noted that addressing these questions is central to any STS program, she noted that "Tufts is not MIT" and that the Tufts program committee planned to structure its program differently, rather than mirroring MIT's. Duchin said she primarily worked within the existing course listings at Tufts to shape the curriculum.

Professor of Urban and Environmental Policy and

Planning Sheldon Krinsky, who served on the program's planning committee, explained that courses were incorporated from various departments across the university, such as "Bioethics" from the philosophy department and "Globalization" from the history department.

"There were already courses relevant to STS [before its introduction]," Krinsky said. "But there was no curriculum that brought it together [until now.]"

Additionally, some new classes have been introduced specifically for the major as well, such as Technoscience and the State — a course that examines the intersections between technology and society, according to STS' website.

The development of the STS program represents a major step forward in Tufts' approach to sciences, according to Krinsky. Before the introduction of the program, students studying hard sciences, such as physics or chemistry, could seldom study their disciplines through a broader lens, Krinsky said. However, through STS, students can understand the impact sciences have on society, and conversely, the impact society has on sciences, Krinsky added.



JIAOXUN LI / THE TUFTS DAILY

Associate Professor of Mathematics, Moon Duchin, talks about the newly-launched Science Technology and Society Studies Program at the STS Student Summit in Sophia Gordon Multipurpose room on March 10.

### Police Briefs

#### House Fire

The Tufts University Police Department (TUPD) responded to a house fire at 300 Boston Ave. at 2:57 p.m. on March 9. The department was joined by the Medford Fire Department, Medford Police Department and the Armstrong Ambulance Service. As the case is still under investigation by the Medford Fire Department, the cause of the fire has yet to be determined. Eleven of the house's residents are confirmed to be Tufts students. Displaced residents were offered on-campus housing.

#### Fire Alarm

The fire alarm went off in South Hall at 3:04 a.m. on March 12. The cause has yet to be determined. The building's pull station was activated and the area was scanned. No signs of fire were found, the building was deemed safe for re-entry and the system was reset.

#### Stolen Plow Markers

TUPD responded to stolen plow markers reported at 574 Boston Ave. at 10 p.m. on March 12. The officers were only able to uncover two small broken pieces, which had frayed and splintered wood at one end.



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## Site team seeks community feedback to strengthen 'Diversity Dashboard'

### DASHBOARD

continued from page 1

"I am happy to see that they are putting forth a great effort into making sure the information is presented as accurately as possible in a straightforward manner," he told the Daily in an email.

Neither Rivas nor Zhen said they considered Tufts' population demographics when they enrolled, though they have thought about this information since beginning school.

"[W]hen I arrived, I realized that the diversity statistics were misleading in some ways, and that has impacted my experience at Tufts," Rivas said.

"I came here with no expectations, so demographics were not really involved in my thought process at the time," Zhen said. "I knew the school was largely white, and I had to accept that."

According to Sharkness, the feedback sessions also led the team to come up with plans for future changes to the site. For example, she and Brimhall-Vargas hope to expand and clarify the data on gender identification among students, faculty and staff, which currently breaks down into "Female," "Male" and "Other."

"[S]ome of the feedback we received on the current dashboard is that the term 'Other' is not very inclusive — it is 'othering,' Sharkness said. "We agree. The issue at the moment is that the option that several students selected actually says 'Other,' so we cannot be sure of what they intended by selecting it. We are hoping that the gender identity options [on] SIS will be expanded over time so that students will not need to select an 'Other' category to express their identity."

The team is also looking to include more longitudinal data to track trends in race/eth-

nicity and gender demographics over time, according to Sharkness.

"[T]his is the number one enhancement to the dashboard that people have asked for in all of our feedback sessions, and I am working on some trend dashboards now," she said.

Brimhall-Vargas hopes that students will be excited about the dashboard and will utilize it.

"What I want students to realize is this is a gold mine," he said.

"My hope for the diversity dashboard is that it makes it easy for students, faculty, staff, alumni, prospective students and employees, the media, individuals from other institutions and the general public to understand our institution," Sharkness said.

Brimhall-Vargas said he has reached out to administrators at other regional universities, namely Northeastern University's Vice Provost for Institutional Diversity and Inclusion John Armendariz and Babson University's Vice President of Human Resources and Chief Resources Officer Donna Bonaparte, in order to create a network of schools committed to launching similar sites.

"We have the sense that if we start to create a cluster of universities that start to release data in this very transparent way, its mere existence calls other universities to join," he said. "My hope is that perspective students and their families, when they see what we provide, that they'll ask other institutions, 'Why don't you provide that?'"

Brimhall-Vargas believes the new dashboard will make Tufts a frontrunner in higher education data transparency.

"No one does this," he said. "We're leading by example, and I'm excited to have Tufts be a leader."

## TuftScope hosts panel of cardiovascular experts

by Mia Lambert and Sofie Hecht

Contributing Writer and Executive Photo Editor

TuftScope, the Interdisciplinary Journal of Health, Ethics and Policy, hosted "The Heart of the Matter: An expert panel on life-prolonging medicine in the 21st century" in the ASEAN Auditorium last night.

The event featured cardiovascular medicine specialists John Groarke, Eldrin Lewis and Mandeep Mehra, who are all associated with Boston's Brigham and Women's Hospital and Harvard Medical School.

In the talk, Groarke emphasized

how cardio-oncology, a field which the panelists said was founded to prevent the cause of cardiovascular diseases due to new cancer treatments, enables doctors to improve patients' quality of life to the point that "they may not even realize they are sick."

The panelists also focused on how new technology, medicine and research have improved the study of cardiovascular health.

"It's hard to call ourselves 'heart failure specialists,'" Mehra said. "We like to call ourselves 'heart success specialists.'"



MIA LAMBERT / THE TUFTS DAILY

John Groarke discusses cardio-oncology at The Heart of the Matter panel on March 15.

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**CROSSWORD**

FOR RELEASE MARCH 16, 2016

**Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle**

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
13					14					15		
16					17					18		
19					20				21	22		
	23		24			25	26					
27	28					29						
30						31			32	33	34	35
36					37	38	39		40		41	
42			43		44				45	46		
			47	48				49	50			
51	52	53						54				
55						56			57		58	59
60					61	62	63			64		
65					66				67			
68					69					70		

- ACROSS**
- 1 Latte option
  - 6 Difficult position
  - 10 It's cut and dried
  - 13 Loud, as a crowd
  - 14 African city where pounds are spent
  - 15 Tree feller
  - 16 Venue that keeps you up-to-date
  - 18 \_\_\_ Tin Tin
  - 19 Hunk
  - 20 Really bother
  - 21 Bus terminal
  - 23 "Beaches" actress Midler
  - 25 Canadian stadium renamed Rogers Centre in 2005
  - 27 Tropical cocktail whose color comes from curaçao liqueur
  - 30 First name in game shows
  - 31 Work-wk. start
  - 32 Basic Latin conjugation word
  - 36 "Got it, man?"
  - 37 This puzzle's theme, as suggested by the ends of 16-, 27-, 47- and 61-Across
  - 41 Big heart?
  - 42 Ladies of Sp.
  - 44 Chicago's \_\_\_ Center
  - 45 Elena of the Supreme Court
  - 47 Chaste priestess of ancient Rome
  - 51 Record covers
  - 54 "\_\_\_ a stinker?"
  - 55 Upright, e.g.
  - 56 Bow (out)
  - 57 Disaster relief org.
  - 60 Longtime football commentator
  - 61 Biblical wise man
  - 65 Actress Charlotte
  - 66 Where to learn une leçon
  - 67 Practical joke
  - 68 CIA forerunner
  - 69 "Man, you are not serious!"
  - 70 Rocker Patty married to John McEnroe

- DOWN**
- 1 24 Hours of Le \_\_\_: auto race
  - 2 Hurier Hershiser
  - 3 Ninja Turtle's "Awesome!"
  - 4 Faded star
  - 5 Curved part
  - 6 Went under
  - 7 Alley target
  - 8 Load from a lode
  - 9 "Shoulda listened to me!"
  - 10 Silent Marx
  - 11 Assumed truth
  - 12 "Fiddler on the Roof" matchmaker
  - 14 Hall of Fame infielder Rod
  - 17 Words before homer or brick wall
  - 22 Novelist Ferber
  - 24 Takeout option
  - 25 "The Da Vinci Code" priory
  - 26 Warm-hearted
  - 27 Some undies
  - 28 Lion's den
  - 29 Range maker
  - 33 Rod Stewart classic with the line "You stole my heart but I love you anyway"

**Tuesday's Puzzle Solved**

L	I	M	P	I	D	M	A	R	E	D	A	M				
A	B	O	A	R	D	A	L	E	S	E	S	E				
M	E	T	R	O	S	E	X	U	A	L	P	T	A			
E	A	T	E	N	S	I	M	S	F	O	I	L				
M	O	S	E	Y	S	N	O	S	E	S						
						R	E	A	G	A	N	O	M	I	C	S
C	A	T	S	T	Y	R	L	A	T	H	E					
T	R	O	T	I	S	E	R	E	L	E	A	N				
R	E	M	A	P					C	O	L	E	D	I	T	
L	A	B	R	A	D	O	O	D	L	E						
						S	C	R	A	M	H	E	A	V	E	D
R	O	T	H	M	E	S	A	R	O	P	E	D				
I	P	O														
T	E	N	A	N	T	E	S	E	R	E	N	E				
E	N	E	S	E	A	M	P	R	E	S	E	T				

- 34 Trendy berry
- 35 Ky. neighbor
- 38 Postage-paid enc.
- 39 Gobs
- 40 Banana peel
- 43 Kristoff's reindeer in "Frozen"
- 46 Sculpture or ballet
- 48 Brought forth
- 49 Run out
- 50 Corleone patriarch
- 51 Veep between Hubert and Gerald
- 52 Turkish coins
- 53 Some nest sites
- 56 Give the eye
- 58 \_\_\_ Blanc: tallest Alp
- 59 Egyptian cross
- 62 Post-ER area
- 63 Sign of approval
- 64 Old DJ's records

**SUDOKU**

		1						3
	3	2	1		6			
				2		1	8	
			2				9	
	6						7	1
	5				4			
		3		6				
		5	8		3	7	4	
	8						9	

Difficulty Level: Not having your life fall apart before the end of the week.

**Tuesday's Solution**

7	5	8	9	1	3	4	6	2
3	4	2	6	7	8	1	5	9
6	9	1	2	5	4	8	3	7
9	8	7	3	4	5	6	2	1
5	6	4	7	2	1	3	9	8
1	2	3	8	9	6	7	4	5
8	7	6	5	3	9	2	1	4
4	3	5	1	8	2	9	7	6
2	1	9	4	6	7	5	8	3

**JUMBLE**

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

**BIROT**

**CLIKF**

**BRETOH**

**NIRGIO**

I can't believe I bet it all!

Looks like my straight flush beats your flush.

I can loan you a few bucks.

HE LOST ALL HIS MONEY PLAYING POKER AFTER HE DECIDED TO ---

Ans:

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: HELLO BIRCH SUFFIX SHROUD  
 Answer: An electric guitar with just one string is — "CHORDLESS"

**NON SEQUITUR**  
 BY WILEY MILLER

DADDY SAYS IT'S TIME TO COME IN, DANAE

I'M TRYING TO, BUT LUCY WON'T CROSS THE BRIDGE UNTIL IT'S CHECKED FOR VAMPIRE SLUGS

UH... THERE'S NO SUCH THING

I KNOW! MAYBE YOU CAN WALK OVER TO SHOW HER IT'S SAFE

MAYBE SHE'S RIGHT

I SHOULDN'T HAVE DONE THAT, BUT IT WAS TOO GOOD TO PASS UP

GAH!

SEE?

## MUSIC REVIEW

## The singles bar: spring has sprung edition

by Justin Krakoff  
Arts Editor

The arrival of warmer weather brings the end of the musical drought that lasts through the first quarter, from January to March, of each year. While this music season has been somewhat of an exception due to thrilling (surprise) releases from Rihanna, Beyoncé, Kanye West and Kendrick Lamar, big pop singles have been in short supply, leaving radio with little material to latch on to. However, the past couple of weeks have seen a bevy of huge releases that will be sure to set the tone



OLIVIER DOULIERY VIA TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE  
Fifth Harmony attends Hot 99.5's Jingle Ball at the Verizon Center in Washington, D.C., on Monday, Dec. 16, 2013.

for the radio for the next few months until the arrival of the all-conquering songs of the summer.

**Fifth Harmony, "Work from Home (feat. Ty Dolla \$ign)"**

Fifth Harmony's newest offering follows its breakthrough hit "Worth It" (2015) and sees the X-Factor girl group continuing to experiment with a more hip-hop oriented sound. Thanks to sleek production from Ammo and DallasK, the lead single from the group's sophomore set "7/27," out May 20, largely succeeds in evolving Fifth Harmony's musical palette without sounding too much like a rehash of its previous hits. While the single does borrow somewhat from a DJ Mustard production in certain places, namely the booming beat that drives the song, the women fully make the song their own, exerting an explicit sexuality not previously present in their work. The appearance of Ty Dolla \$ign adds little to the appeal of "Work from Home," as his verse is inoffensive at best, though it is a step from Kid Ink's feature on "Worth It." After tying the peak position of "Worth It" on the Billboard Hot 100, the track is already well on its way to becoming a bona fide hit. Expect everyone



ROBERT GAUTHIER VIA TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE  
Meghan Trainor performs at the 58th Annual Grammy Awards on Monday, Feb. 15, at the Staples Center in Los Angeles.

to soon be chanting, "You don't gotta go to work, work, work, work, work, work, work." (Rating: 3.5/5)

see **SINGLES**, page 6

## PODCAST REVIEW ★★★★★

## Latest 'Freakonomics' episode weaves storytelling together with economic wonkishness

by Allison Wainer  
Contributing Writer

Every week on his podcast "Freakonomics Radio" (2010 - present), award-winning journalist Stephen Dubner takes his listeners behind the scenes of a phenomenon in our everyday lives that we may not give a second thought. But what distinguishes his podcast from others that investigate our world, like "99% Invisible" (2010 - present) for example, is the economic lens that Dubner and his guests employ to carry out their investigation. What sorts of things does "Freakonomics" investigate? If you've read any of Dubner and Levitt's best-selling books you may have an idea. Topics range from the more economic in nature — the gender pay gap, interviews with top economists such as Ben Bernanke and education — to topics that may never have been associated with the discipline — handwriting, predicting the future and a cheeseburger diet.

This past Wednesday, "Freakonomics" released an episode entitled "The No-Tipping Point," which explored Danny Meyer's decision to implement a "hospitality included" program at one of his restaurants, Modern, in the bottom floor of the Museum of Modern Art in New York City. This episode does a great job of showcasing Dubner's ability to balance the qualitative and quantitative aspects of his storytelling. In this episode, Dubner unpacks percentages, profit margins and other business metrics as well as interviews team members at the Modern. When discussing this new policy from a quantitative point of view, Dubner contextualizes any metrics he provides so that all listeners will understand the meaning behind them. For example, the Modern has a seven percent profit margin. Dubner explains the definition of this term — that for every dollar the Modern takes in, it only earns seven cents — and then goes on to explain the impact this low profit margin, common to the restaurant industry, has on the restaurant's employees.



AUDREY S. BERNSTEIN VIA WIKIMEDIA COMMONS  
Stephen J. Dubner is the host of the podcast "Freakonomics Radio."

"Freakonomics" episodes are particularly enjoyable to listen to because they are often very story-like. "The No-Tipping Point" begins with a background, both of Danny Meyer and his restaurants, and our current tipping system, both its history and why many consider it problematic. Dubner, with the help of Meyer himself along with Abram Bissell, executive chef at the Modern, then dives headfirst into the hospitality included plan. He explores the economics of the system — whether it will allow the restaurant to increase compensation for back of the house staff, which includes dishwashers and chefs. He also examines whether it will increase employee morale by decreasing rifts between the front and back of the house staff and other potential benefits and consequences of the decision. Next, Dubner asks Meyer to provide us with an overview of the results of the program thus far, and we also hear about the changes from a server herself.

The best part about "Freakonomics" is Dubner's ability to think about all potential effects of the system, policy or phenomenon he is discussing, and to force the people he talks with to consider these consequences as well. In this episode, Dubner wants to know how the hospitality included policy will affect all staff members at the restaurant, as well as customers. He also considers the effect of supply and demand on future restaurant employees and customers and the restaurant culture in New York City at large. Meyer shares that the Modern has seen an increase in revenues since the change to the hospitality included system in December of last year. And Dubner does not miss a beat in questioning whether this revenue increase could be a result of the restaurant's increased media presence and not the hospitality included system itself. This ability to question cause and effect relationships is essential to a podcast centered around economics, as finding these links lies at the heart of the discipline.

Vidya Srinivasan

Screen Time



## Tell me you're seeing this too

Of all my millennial idiosyncrasies, the most think piece worthy is undoubtedly my penchant for watching TV alone, but not really alone.

From the childhood friend who traded play-by-play TextEdits with me for at least two seasons of "Grey's Anatomy" (2005-present) to my now-housemate, who put up with strings of incoherent iMessages the summer I binged "Orange is the New Black" (2013-present), my TV friends are an integral part of my social life. They alternately protect me from and ply me with spoilers. They indulge my overwrought analyses, and they accept my sporadic Tumblr finds with good humor.

But my current TV friendship is my most rewarding to date, spanning multiple genres and several hundred miles. Maybe someday, we'll be writing joint reviews for our beloved A.V. Club — but for now, my brother and I have a weekly excuse to check in, goof around and peek inside each other's brains.

This week, seeing me still mired in the Lexa doldrums, he stepped in with a new recommendation. One episode into "Mr. Robot" (2015-present), I feel very technologically inept — but ready for the conversations the two of us have in store: capitalism, the right to privacy, race in STEM and Rami Malek's face. Here's a bit of what he had to say this week:

**VS** [that's me!]: How does all of the hacker-speak hold up?

**GS** [that's him]: Very well. I didn't understand everything — because I'm not as experienced as Elliot (Malek) — but what I did understand was completely legit. I'm actually extremely impressed with how true-to-life the hacking sequences were ... The greatest weaknesses in digital security are often people themselves.

**VS**: I should probably change all of my passwords now. I did like that despite the computer stuff front-and-center, the pilot made clear that (some of) Elliot's relationships matter — hopefully including his friendship with Angela (Portia Doubleday)?

**GS**: We get backstory that explains why Angela is willing to put up with Elliot's shit. She makes a huge, related decision at the end of season one, and I'm excited to see how it changes her.

**VS**: Ooh, cryptic. What makes you willing to put up with Elliot's shit, though? Besides all the tech, I mean.

**GS**: Elliot isn't just a tech guy who exists solely to be smart and amaze us with his exploits in front of a terminal. Since the viewer is treated as a figment of his imagination, we watch his life through his eyes and his own filter — with a voiceover further exposing his vulnerabilities. I think it really fleshes him out, makes him human.

**VS**: I see that. Think I'm running out of inches, though. Would you do the honors?

**GS**: Sure...

**Hidden Gem**: Krista's (Gloria Reuben) dating site bio. It only stays onscreen for a second or two, but it's darkly hilarious.

**#RelationshipGoals**: Elliot & Shayla (Frankie Shaw). Though largely unrelated to the main plot and somewhat contrived, it's still nice to watch develop.

**Selectively Forget**: That Elliot straight-up steals Michael's (Armand Schultz) dog. It's just unnecessary — and it has a significant negative effect on Elliot by the finale.

Vidya Srinivasan is a senior majoring in international relations. She can be reached at vidya.srinivasan@tufts.edu.

## Ariana Grande's new single 'Dangerous Woman' fails to innovate

### SINGLES

continued from page 5

#### Meghan Trainor, "NO"

While Meghan Trainor's latest effort will not do much to make people forget the questionable lyrics of her debut album "Title" (2015), the Massachusetts-born singer-songwriter is back with a new single that is, lo and behold, not terrible. "NO" trades the doo-wop-inspired aesthetic from Trainor's debut for a sound straight out of the late 1990s. Arguably the best song of her career so far, the lead single off of her forthcoming album "Thank You," which will be released on May 13, features Trainor telling a man to get lost. With a cadence and flow that sound straight out of a Destiny's Child song, the assertive single has all the hallmarks of an addicting pop song with a great hook built around "My name is no / My sign is no / My number is no." Thanks to production

from Ricky Reed, also known as Wallpaper, the song also echoes the teen pop boom of the early 2000s, incorporating a beat that echoes NSYNC or Britney Spears. Striking a perfect balance between nostalgia and modernity, "NO" demonstrates that Trainor is not going away anytime soon, which is more than okay if the music continues to be this good. **(Rating: 4/5)**

#### Ariana Grande, "Dangerous Woman"

After failing to recreate the pop magic of "Problem" (2014) and "Break Free" (2014) with the stale sounding "Focus" (2015), Ariana Grande was forced to go back to the drawing board for the follow-up to her blockbuster sophomore album "My Everything" (2014). Originally titled "Moonlight," Grande's third LP has been given new life as "Dangerous Woman," set to be released on May 20 and marks a departure for the pint-sized diva, with the album's title track kicking off this

superhero-inspired album campaign. The sultry lead single of "Dangerous Woman" borrows heavily from the overall structure and ambience of The Weeknd's "Earned It" (2015), yet the addition of real guitars saves the song from total copycat status, featuring a rather seductive guitar solo. Grande also goes to great lengths to avoid her bad habits of poor enunciation and oversinging, which is made evident by the cool, smoky sensuality she exudes when crooning "Somethin' 'bout you makes me feel like a dangerous woman / Somethin' 'bout, somethin' 'bout, somethin' 'bout you / Makes me wanna do things that I shouldn't." Even though it is by far Grande's most mature track to date and a welcome return to form after "Focus," "Dangerous Woman" is plagued by blatant unoriginality and ultimately fails to further define Grande as an artist. **(Rating: 3/5)**



KIRK MCKOY VIA TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE  
Ariana Grande arrives at the 58th annual Grammy Awards on Monday, Feb. 15, at the Staples Center in Los Angeles.

### MOVIE REVIEW ★★☆☆☆

## 'The Brothers Grimsby' stifles Sacha Baron Cohen's comedic chops

by Jocelyn Contreras  
Staff Writer

To promote his new film "The Brothers Grimsby" Sacha Baron Cohen decided to showcase the shocked, frightened and definitely disgusted reactions elicited by teaser clips deemed too graphic to include in traditional trailers. Cohen took the clips to Jimmy Kimmel's show, then to Dwayne Johnson and Zac Efron on their set of the new "Baywatch" movie and since then, their collective screams of incredulity have been spreading like wildfire on social media. This type of uber-focus given to a few scattered moments in a film is usually a tell-tale sign of how underwhelming the picture is as a whole, and sure enough, it was. The tried and true lesson holds up: shock value can't mask average quality.

"The Brothers Grimsby," directed by Louis Leterrier, follows the extended reunion of grade-A idiot Nobby (Cohen) and his younger brother Sebastian (Mark Strong). They were separated 28 years before, when Sebastian was adopted by an upper-class English family, leaving Nobby to grow up in the slums of their poor hometown, Grimsby. Their lives took polar opposite turns: Sebastian is now an MI:6 agent while Nobby is married with 11 kids. While on a covert assassin's mission at a charity event, Nobby startles Graves, causing him to miss his target and shoot a little boy with AIDS instead. Pandemonium ensues, including a moment where the blood that ricochets off the misfired bullet manages to make contact with Daniel Radcliffe, causing him to contract the disease. This massive fail causes Graves's task force to assume he's gone rogue, and they issue an order to have him terminated. Graves has no choice but

to team up with his buffoon of a brother to track down the real target in order to clear his name.

The astounding truth about Cohen is that no matter how debauched his characters appear, his wide-eyed commitment to moral depravity normally pushes boundaries into a comedic sweet spot that has audiences reveling in just how dreadfully wrong he is. However, in "The Brother's Grimsby," he falls short. The structure of the film is likely the culprit. There is no real investment in the plot — for good reason. The "clearing his name" mission has been tried too many times. Instead, the plot feels like a sad excuse for a set up meant to pad all the cringe-inducing sequences Cohen takes no shame in letting run for far too long. The gags are just gross, and audiences should prepare themselves for a scene that rivals one from "The Revenant" (2015) in which Leonardo DiCaprio took refuge inside of a dead horse. If that was too much for some people, they should probably stay clear of the enlarged orifice Cohen assaults in "Grimsby."

The film does have its merits, as short-lived as they are. There are several flashbacks of the brother's childhood that are oddly poignant, considering where they're pulled from. The dialogue is also really funny when it isn't trying to accommodate the more elaborate scenes. After the initial misfiring of the fateful bullet, Graves screams at Nobby "You gave Daniel Radcliffe AIDS! You managed to do in three minutes what Voldemort failed to do in eight movies!" That, coupled with a few-less-than-friendly timely jabs at Donald Trump, earn a few light-hearted chuckles that make the hour and twenty minutes spent watching "Grimsby" slightly less aggravating.



COLUMBIA PICTURES VIA TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE  
Sacha Baron Cohen and Mark Strong in "The Brothers Grimsby."

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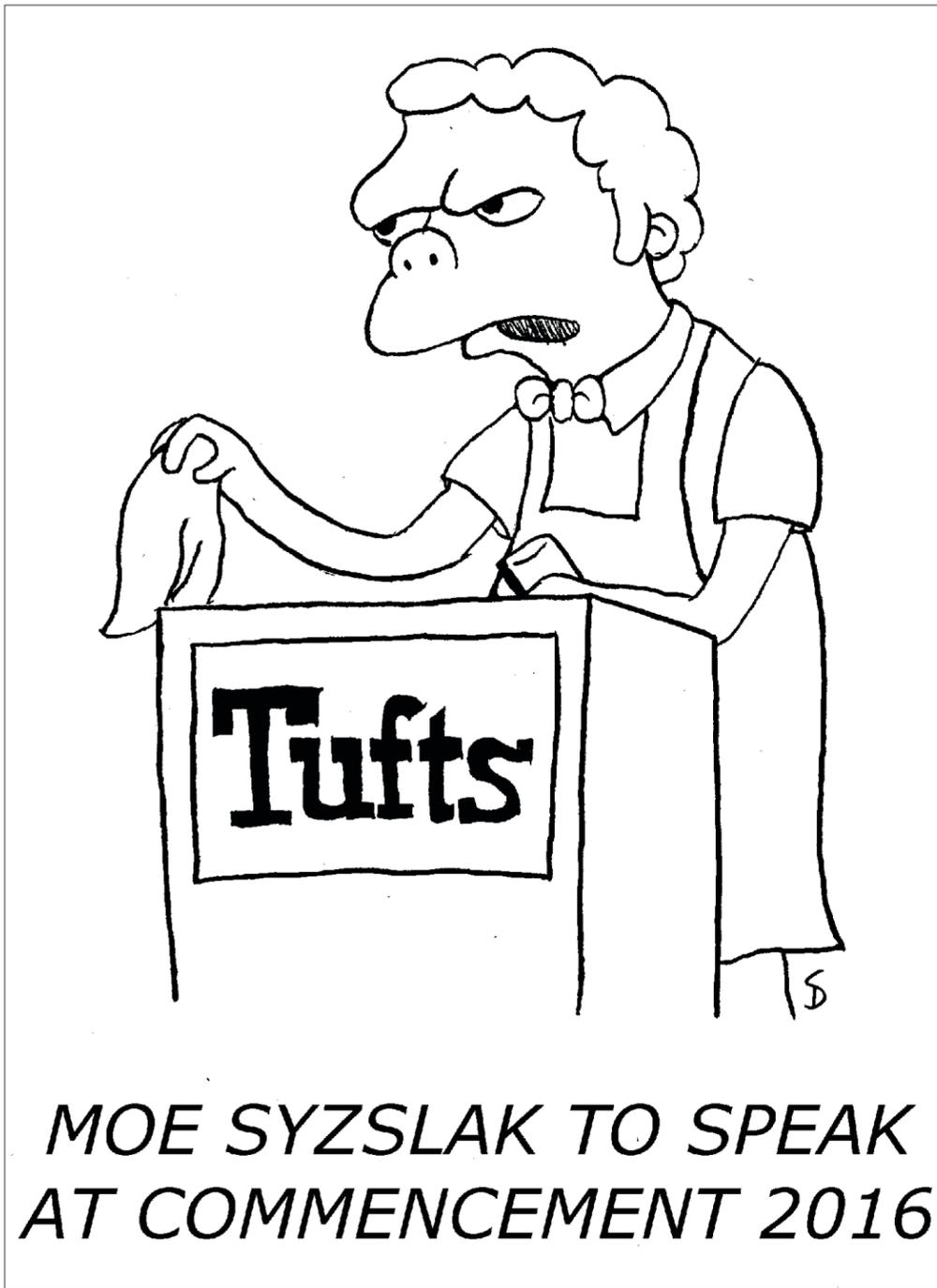
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## EDITORIAL CARTOON

BY STEPHEN DENNISON



## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

*How Tufts evaluates and selects construction firms*

Dear Editor,

In response to the March 8 Tufts Daily article, "Tufts Labor Coalition protests non-union hiring at Tufts Talks event," we would like to share information about Tufts' process for evaluating and selecting construction firms. We followed this process in selecting firms for the Science and Engineering Complex (SEC).

For projects of this size, the university issues a Request for Proposal (RFP) to vendors with detailed requirements and specifications. Vendor proposals that do not meet the RFP specifications are not considered. Vendors whose proposals meet our stringent requirements are invited to present to

a selection committee. In addition to considering the architectural and technical merits of the proposal, we also consider factors that include safety records, experience on similar projects and overall cost.

The general contractor that was selected for the SEC — Turner Construction Company — is responsible for vetting and hiring its subcontractors, including carpenters, electricians and other trades. The workforce on the SEC is almost exclusively union labor, representing 90 percent of the work by total dollar value. The primary electrical subcontract — Wayne Griffin — and several smaller specialty elec-

trical subcontracts were awarded to open-shop electricians. Wayne Griffin was selected after an extensive vetting process of both union and non-union subcontractors that thoroughly reviewed their qualifications and all aspects of their proposals. At the time of award, Wayne Griffin had the best safety record among the firms submitting bids.

Linda Snyder  
Vice President of Operations

*Linda Snyder is vice president of operations of Tufts University and can be reached at linda.snyder@tufts.edu.*

**Pooja Sivaraman and  
Rebecca Solomon**

New York Style Dehli



## NYSD: Senior Dinners and mid-term jitters

**Pooja:** If you were one of the several people that attended the Senior Dinner at Monaco's house last week, you would have been witness to NYSD's shameless advertising of our column during the open mic. However, I must mention how that open mic session was probably one of the cutest student havens I have been witness to at my time at Tufts. If I had to put in a sentence my main take-away from my Tufts education, it would be the unlearning of everything I once knew.

More specifically, it would be the unlearning of the smallness of the world we are often deceived to believe. The most dangerous thing one can do is to make something small, to reduce a person, a country, a culture or even an experience to a mere word. As an English major, I have a complicated relationship with words, but there is a reason that our word counts on assignments have been increasing exponentially since high school.

As I struggle to maintain a 500-word limit for this column, I also struggle to sum up the experience of these past four years or even the NYSD experience of these past two years into a paltry number of words. However, the point of this all is to commend those who stood up at that open mic and somehow transformed their college experience into a couple minutes of heartwarming anecdotes, doing so in a way that emphasized the largeness of the Jumbo experience.

Dear NYSD,

How am I supposed to manage to study for all of my midterms this week?

**Rebecca:** The week before Spring Break seems to be a professor's favorite time to schedule exams. Personally, I have had three in the past seven days. How do you manage to study for all of them? Time management. Well, time management and keeping up with your classes, which means doing the assigned readings so you can avoid speed reading 300 pages on the European Union in one night. I must admit this is easier said than done. However, college is a time to challenge yourself, even if that challenge is to become more diligent.

Dear NYSD,

My boyfriend does not make time for me. We are in a long distance relationship, and I am not sure if I would like to continue it if he does not change. What can I do to make him see the severity of the issue?

**Rebecca:** Communication is always your best bet. Tell your boyfriend how you're feeling. If he is not receptive and does not validate these feelings, he is not the one for you. However, if he asks what he can do to improve, he is a keeper. Long distance relationships are hard, but if you ask him to set aside times for you to talk and he is willing to do so, it is worth working on this relationship.

That's all we have for this week. Keep sending questions to our Google Doc or our email at tuftsnysd@gmail.com!

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## OP-ED

# A Sanders nomination is suicide for the Democrats

by Chris Jarmas

There's good reason for the Democratic Party establishment to heavily favor a Clinton nomination: Bernie Sanders' record would render him defenseless against lethal attacks from candidate Trump or candidate Cruz in a general election. I don't intend to litigate the Senator's vision for America or his ideals – many of which I personally favor and trust more than Hillary Clinton's. And I deeply respect Sanders for his honesty and commitment to changing a damaged system in Washington. Unfortunately, however, if the Democratic Party nominates Sanders, the Senator would never even have a chance to clarify his policy positions; instead, his candidacy would be dead on arrival.

First, a word about polls. I've seen a number of my Sanders-supporting friends post on Facebook polls that claim victory for Sanders but defeat for Clinton in the respective scenarios of "Sanders vs. Trump" and "Clinton vs. Trump." These do not matter at all. A November Quinnipiac poll showed Ben Carson beating Hillary Clinton

by 10 points in the general election, a comic result just four months later. Nate Silver's FiveThirtyEight found that such hypothetical polls are typically wrong by double-digits and have little value. Why is this the case? The economy will likely change between now and November, and the main issue of the election may not have emerged yet. I, for one, would cringe at the outcome of a Sanders vs. Trump election in the wake of a terrorist attack on American soil. But this avoids the most pressing problem with early polls — while Clinton, as the presumptive nominee, has faced Republican attacks for months, Republican operatives haven't even touched Sanders' record.

If they did, Sanders' general election hopes would collapse. The March 9 Democratic debate flashed a glimmer of what he would face from the Republicans as the nominee. The moderator showed a clip of Sanders from 1985 when, as mayor of Burlington, he appeared to praise Castro's Cuba. Asked to "explain the difference between the socialism that [Sanders] professes and the socialism in Nicaragua, Cuba and Venezuela,"

the Senator answered evasively and looked uncomfortable. And he should feel uncomfortable, because he stands on unelectable ground. Sanders' comments while he was Burlington's mayor would offer Trump or Cruz an arsenal of damning advertisement fodder. Reflecting on a visit to Cuba, Mayor Sanders says, "The people we met had almost a religious affection for [Castro]. The revolution there is far deeper and more profound than I understood it to be. It really is a revolution in terms of values." Then, "And the Cuban revolution is only 30-years-old. It may get even better." The American populace shudders at the notion of being more like Denmark – I can only imagine how the electorate would recoil at an ad blasting the Democrats for wanting to emulate Cuba. Then, as Michael Moynihan quotes in a scathing piece in *The Daily Beast*, Mayor Sanders speaks favorably of Soviet-style *food queues* of all things: "It's funny, sometimes American journalists talk about how bad a country is, that people are lining up for food. That is a good thing! In other countries people don't line up for food: the

rich get the food and the poor starve to death." I included the last sentence of that statement, because I value context, but the Republicans won't. It is delusional to think that an election with Sanders as the Democratic nominee would ever focus on the issues. It is even more delusional (or out of touch) to claim that he could win.

I understand the popular enthusiasm that Bernie Sanders' campaign has evoked, as well as the craving for overhaul in Washington. But I also understand the stakes of this election, with at least one Supreme Court seat and the Congress up for grabs, and the electoral realities of the United States. Seizing on Sanders' recorded support of totalitarian communist regimes in Latin America, the Republican Party would tear his candidacy to shreds, leaving us with four years of Trump or Cruz and decades of whomever the Republicans appoint to the Supreme Court. I can't afford that and neither can you.

Chris Jarmas is a junior majoring in international relations and Russian. He can be reached at [christopher.jarmas@tufts.edu](mailto:christopher.jarmas@tufts.edu).

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Nancy Birdsall is the Center for Global Development's founding president. From 1993 to 1998, she was executive vice president of the Inter-American Development Bank, the largest of the regional development banks, where she oversaw a \$30 billion public and private loan portfolio. Before that she worked 14 years in research, policy, and management positions at the World Bank, including as director of the Policy Research Department. Prior to launching the Center, she served for three years as Senior Associate and Director of the Economic Reform Project at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace where her work focused on globalization, inequality and the reform of the international financial institutions. She is the author, co-author, or editor of more than a dozen books and many scholarly papers. Her most recent publications include *Cash on Delivery: A New Approach to Foreign Aid and New Ideas on Development after the Financial Crisis*, co-edited with Francis Fukuyama. Shorter pieces of her writing have appeared in dozens of U.S. and Latin American newspapers and periodicals.

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## MEN'S TRACK AND FIELD

# Men's track and field takes 21st at nationals, Black wins 800 for third time

by **Bradley Schussel**  
Staff Writer

The indoor season has come to a close for the Tufts men's track and field team, but not before the Jumbos made their presence known. For the third time in his decorated track and field career, senior tri-captain Mitchell Black took home the crown in the 800-meter.

Tufts' last meet of the year was the NCAA championships at Grinnell College in Iowa, the culmination of a season's hard work for the team. All of the athletes that participated in this meet produced top times in other meets to get there. They had to train to keep their form, perform under pressure and finish with one of the best times in all of Div. III to get in on the action at the national championships.

Seven Jumbos flew out to Grinnell to participate in the nationals. The team scored 11 points as a whole, obtaining the 21st place in the meet out of more than 100 participating schools.

Both Black and senior Veer Bhalla participated in the 800-meter race and were the only two Jumbos to score on the day.

The seniors have served as leading scorers for the Jumbos throughout most of the indoor season. Bhalla went into the race as the New England Div. III Indoor 600-meter champion and Black as the New England 800-meter champion. Black entered the national championships with the country's top seed and a 1:50.89 qualifying time while his teammate Bhalla came in as the sixth seed with a 1:52.32 time.

Both runners advanced to the final heat of eight runners on Saturday after their strong



Senior tri-captain Mitchell Black runs a leg of Tufts' Distance Medley Relay (DMR) during the Final Qualifying Meet in Gantcher Center on March 4. The DMR team's time qualified them for nationals.

performances in the preliminaries on Friday.

"I knew if I ran a smart prelim that I could get to the final without having to run a blistering race, so the coaches talked a lot about positioning going into the race," Black told [gotuftsjumbos.com](http://gotuftsjumbos.com). "I just wanted to stay out of trouble and move up with a lap to go to put

myself in position to go through to the final. It was a bit more physical than we anticipated, but I was able to clear the scrum and grab the second auto-spot."

In a cruel twist, Bhalla suffered some hard luck in the finals, as he was tripped up in the tight field by another runner and fell 150

meters away from the finish. Despite finishing last in the final heat as a result, he ended up scoring for the Jumbos, as he finished eighth in that race with a time of 2:04.10. This top 10 finish also earned him an All-

see **MEN'S TRACK AND FIELD**, page 11

## WOMEN'S TRACK

# Harrison, Smith nab All-American honors at Div. III Indoor National Championships

by **Chris Warren**  
Sports Editor

Senior quad-captains Marilyn Allen, Sydney Smith and Alexis Harrison of the women's track and field team went out with a bang in its final indoor competitions of its careers this past weekend at the NCAA Div. III Indoor Track Championships in Grinnell, Iowa. As Harrison grabbed second place in the 60-meter dash, Smith took eighth in the one-mile run and Allen placed 12th in the 60-meter hurdles, this was the most impressive performance for the Jumbos at the indoor championships in the last few years. Harrison's performance garnered eight team points for Tufts while Smith's earned one, and the nine team points got the team the 24th place overall in the nation.

Harrison's journey to be the second fastest Div. III sprinter in the nation only started to become clear a few weeks ago at the Div. III New England Championships, where she ran a then-school record 7.63 seconds in the dash, launching herself into the top-three times nationally. But she kicked it up another notch over the weekend.

In the preliminaries on Friday, she ran the fastest time by anyone on the day, blazing to a new personal best and school record of 7.55 seconds. Harrison knew she had something special cooking, which was made apparent

during the finals on Saturday. In that race, she ran the second fastest race of her life in 7.57 seconds to take second overall, just behind the top sprinter in the nation this year — Illinois Wesleyan senior Nia Joiner, who ran 7.49 seconds to take the national title. This was Harrison's first All-American honor and may not be her last with the outdoor track season still to come.

"After I ran a 7.55 in the prelims, I was just really excited and happy. I couldn't stop smiling for a while after that," Harrison said. "It's a great feeling to achieve a PR at nationals. I was very nervous before the prelims. I took some deep breaths as well as told myself to trust my training and have confidence in my abilities. Once the race started, the nerves were gone, and I focused on my technique."

Harrison has improved by leaps and bounds this season. Last year, she didn't even qualify for the national championships. This year, she is second in the nation and was the team's biggest point contributor by far.

"This season I was able to find this next gear and mentally push myself farther than I have in the past," she said. "During races, I would tell myself to drive harder, and my training allowed my body to respond. I felt in control. I relaxed my body and really went for it whenever I competed. I wanted to win every race, and in order to do that I had to keep getting faster."

Smith, on the other hand, had a much more unpredictable path toward her All-American honor. Going into the meet, she was ranked nationally in the top 25 in the mile and made it through the bubble into the championships. In her preliminary heat on Friday, she was able to manage a 5:00.67 time, which, under normal circumstances, would have qualified her into the final with

the final time spot. In an interesting turn of events, Susquehanna senior Ashley West also ran 5:00.67, putting the two in a virtual tie for the 10th and final qualifying spot into the final. The officials examined the times closer, finding that Smith ran 0.002 seconds faster than West and awarded her the final spot in the final.

"I was incredibly frustrated and disappointed with how the prelims race went, and I honestly thought I had missed the finals," Smith said. "I didn't hear the news that I had made it until about 15 minutes later when I was back in the warmup gym. I don't think I'll ever forget getting the text from our assistant coach Heidi [Caldwell] with a picture of the official prelims results. The sense of relief I had at that moment is really hard to put into words. I can safely say I have a new appreciation for the importance of running all the way through the line and a new appreciation for the number 0.002."

Despite the drama, Smith got the job done in the final, running a new personal best of 4:56.59 to grab the eighth place and her first All-American distinction along with one team point.

"The finals was definitely the best race I've had all season," Smith said. "It was the first race where I finally put together a good last lap



Sydney Smith runs in the Tufts Invite #1 in January 2015.

COURTESY TY ENOS

see **WOMEN'S TRACK**, page 11

## Jumbos rest, train before kicking off outdoor season next month

### MEN'S TRACK AND FIELD

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American accolade.

Black was more fortunate than his teammate. He was already a champion of the 800, winning the race at the indoor and outdoor championships last year. This year, the experienced middle-distance runner was back in form and repeated the feat. The senior finished the last race of his indoor career at the head of the pack, taking the national title in the 800 for the third time in a time of 1:52.48.

"I approached it just as I have with Nationals races in the past," Black told [gotuftsjumbos.com](http://gotuftsjumbos.com). "Time doesn't matter. It's all about where you are in the race in the last 300-[meter]. I was confident in my ability to kick, so I hung back until about 250-[meter] to go, at which point I made a hard move to the front and pushed with everything I had. None of the front runners were able to cover the move, which was the hope going in to the race. It played out similarly to last year's Indoor final."

Earlier in the week before the nationals, Black was named the New England Track Athlete of the Year for the second indoor season in a row by the U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association.

Juniors Tim Nichols and Luke O'Connor also raced for the Jumbos in the 5000-meter. Neither scored in that contest, as Nichols placed the 11th and O'Connor placed the 14th, though the performances put the

juniors in strong position to improve on the national stage in the outdoor season and next year. In another unfortunate turn of events, Nichols reportedly lost one of his shoes on the second lap of the 25-lap race, which likely caused him to place lower than expected.

The remaining Jumbos took part in the distance medley relay. The team included senior tri-captain Alex Kasemir, first-year Colin Raposo, senior Alex Apostolides and Black, as they achieved their qualifying time a week before the race in the Tufts Final Qualifying Meet in Gantcher Center. The team of four finished 12th out of 12 competing teams in the Distance Medley Relay (DMR) with a time of 10:28.58.

"The DMR definitely wasn't a disaster," senior tri-captain Alex Apostolides, who ran the 800-meter leg of the race for the Jumbos, said. "It just didn't work out the way we expected it to, and that's just a part of sports."

Apostolides also acknowledged the bad luck that befell the Jumbos at the meet, including Bhalla's tripping in the 800 and Nichols' losing his shoes in the 5,000, more unfortunate yet inherent aspects of track and field competitions.

"The team is definitely happy as a whole; there were just some unexpected occurrences that didn't let us fulfill the potential that we all had in mind going into this meet," Apostolides said.

During the indoor season, the Jumbos finished first in two home meets and third

in a meet on the road. Aside from that, they had plenty of success with individual times. The team sent a relatively large seven-runner contingent to nationals and enjoyed a slew of personal records and school records.

Now that the indoor season has come and gone, the focus shifts to outdoor for coach Joel Williams and the Jumbos. Before the season starts, the team will be traveling to San Diego over spring break to train and get focused for the outdoor season.

"The trip will really set the backdrop for the new season," Apostolides said. "The goal for this season is to win a fourth NESCAC Championship. It would be the fourth for me, as this is my fourth year on the team. That takes place at Amherst in late April, so the team's focus, Joel's focus [and] my focus is to be ready to compete then and get ahead of Williams, who did a lot better than us at the indoor championships."

The Jumbos have their work cut out for them in their quest to claim this year's NESCAC title. At the indoor nationals last weekend, frequent NESCAC rival Williams earned 20 points to tie for the seventh, fourteen spots ahead of Tufts.

The first outdoor meet for the Jumbos will take place on April 1, when they will travel to Gainesville for the University of Florida's Pepsi Florida Relays. The team will look to carry their indoor success to the outdoor season while compete against some tough Div. I talent.

### Eric Smiley

Flashes of Brilliance



## King James

Before he had ever played in a professional game, Sports Illustrated christened him the "Chosen One," and he had the moniker tattooed across his upper back. Before he had graduated from high school, his games were nationally televised spectacles with him as the preternaturally gifted focal point. Before he was the greatest basketball player in the world, LeBron James had expectations placed on his broad shoulders that would have crushed most men. He was supposed to be a generational talent. He has not disappointed.

I became a big NBA fan at the exact time that LeBron was drafted first overall by his hometown team. It was a great story, the Akron superstar playing his home games in nearby Cleveland — a city that has not won a major championship since 1964. The 40-year title drought was immediately LeBron's burden to bear, but even as he ascended from hyped and gifted rookie to genuine megastar and from genuine megastar to the unquestionably best player in the world, the rain never came for Cleveland. After seven seasons in Cleveland ended without the champagne shower that the city so craved, LeBron deserted his team and his city to construct a super-team with his friends in Miami.

The night of "The Decision," I was so frustrated with his decision to join the Heat and leave what seemed like a great situation in Cleveland that I thought I would never root for LeBron again. Despite my hesitation, I found myself cheering for the Heat during the very first game of that season. I was demoralized and disappointed when LeBron seemed genuinely scared during that year's Finals loss to Dallas.

King James was the biggest name in the sport, but he would never be fully validated as having met expectations until he won at least one championship. Fair or not, this was the standard that North American sports stars were held to; Marino finally won his, while Marino did not. Charles Barkley and Karl Malone never did, and their legacy is irrevocably stained in the eyes of most.

LeBron's Heat went into Boston on the verge of elimination on June 7, 2012, on the precipice of embarrassment and the end of the "Big 3" blueprint. I have never seen somebody dominate a game like that night. He drained contested jumpers and flew into the lane for put-back dunks. He silenced the crowd and sucked the life out of TD Garden. Miami won that game, the series and, two weeks later, the championship that had eluded LeBron for so long.

LeBron won again the next year and is now back in Cleveland attempting to end the city's dry spell that has now topped 50 years. He may never do it; he is past his physical prime and on the wrong side of 30, no longer acknowledged as the pre-eminent star in the game. I've learned not to doubt him; he has met or surpassed enormous expectations at every turn, and I hope he does it one more time.

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## Jumbos to transition to outdoor track season next

### WOMEN'S TRACK

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and found the extra gear down the final home-stretch that's been missing for most of the season. The coaches and I had talked about putting myself in the front half of the pack to put myself in the race. From there, I just focused on covering early moves and not getting boxed in. I knew that the last lap would come down to a kick, so I just had to keep myself in a position to have space to pass people."

Back in the sprint events, Allen performed extremely well in the deepest 60-meter hurdle field in recent years. Last year, she narrowly missed an All-American title, placing ninth in the preliminaries with an 8.92 second time. Although she placed 12th overall this year, her

time was much faster as she blitzed to an 8.86 second time in the prelim. To put things into perspective, such a time at last year's national championships would have given her the seventh place. Allen will remain hungry and will be looking for that All-American honor this outdoor season.

With the indoor season officially over, the Jumbos have a brief three-week break before the outdoor season begins. The full squad will be back in force at Tufts' own annual Snowflake Classic, held at the Ellis Oval on April 2, where the team will look to start its quest to battle its way to the top spots in the NESCAC Championships.

Although the team's overall goal is a strong placing at NESCACs, Harrison and Smith will

also be eyeing some individual achievement.

"It's an unbelievable feeling to have been second in the nation let alone an All-American after dreaming about it for four years. It just proved to me that you can achieve your goals with hard work, and you can overcome setbacks with determination," Harrison said. "I hope to keep the momentum going for the outdoor season, and I have my sights set on the 100-[meter] national title."

"I'm looking to move up the Tufts all-time list and maybe even look towards the school record in the 1,500-meter," Smith said. "Tufts has had a long string of incredible mid-distance runners, so being able to compete for a top spot in the Tufts record books I think will really help push me to a new level in outdoor."



COURTESY KRISTEN MORWICK

Alexis Harrison finished second in the 60-meter dash during the NCAA Women's Track Championships on March 12.

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