

THE PRIMARY SOURCE

*The Journal of Conservative Thought at Tufts University*SM

Volume XV Number 9

VERITAS SINE DOLO

February 13, 1997

Weis-ter-Braii



PLEDGE WEEK SPECIAL
Plus:
17 & 19: An Rx for the TCU
5: The Elephant's Mouth

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FROM THE EDITOR

Last Saturday, a horde of United Paperworkers International Union members stormed campus to disrupt a trustees meeting and litter campus with propaganda leaflets. They selected Tufts as their venue because trustee Monte Haymon, whose caricature adorns the front of the pamphlet, sits on the board of directors at Sappi, a South African paper company with an alleged "history of exploitation."

In sixties style, they toted signs and chanted in front of Ballou Hall. At times they shouted a chorus of "stop corporate greed," at others it was "no justice, no peace" or "hey hey, ho ho, nonunion made has got to go." And like young campers they even sang, "we are the union, the mighty mighty union and everywhere we go people want to know, who we are so we tell them..." When I asked the kingpin of this field trip what his group hoped to accomplish, he stressed that they wanted to help their brothers in South Africa, while I overheard others discussing plots to agitate various businesses.

UPIU's brochure is riddled with vague accusations against Sappi, none of which can be directly linked to Haymon, and cites an incident in which police shot rubber bullets at strikers, as if it were within Sappi's power to order the officers to do so. Under the sub-heading of "Safety and Health Violations," the UPIU notes that OSHA slapped Sappi's Maine plant with thirteen citations, no doubt hoping to evoke images of poor workers getting their appendages caught in running machines. Many times, however, OSHA citations mean little because as an enormous federal bureaucracy, the agency is incapable of ascertaining what level of safety proves sufficient for every industry and all types of equipment.

A common misconception about labor unions like UPIU is that they are

composed of poorly paid laborers overworked by an exploitative corporate fat cat. Quite the contrary, union workers manipulate the natural worker-employee relationship to extract wages much greater than the going market rate. By demanding higher prices than the market will bear, unions diminish the employment opportunities available in their industries while increasing the number of individuals seeking those jobs. This eventually causes an artificially high degree of competition for non-union positions (hence unemployment).

Mainstream journalists often laud unions for their staunch advocacy of minimum-wage hikes. But collective bargainers do not support the wage floor out of compassion for their worker brethren. Rather they back the anti-market regulation as a measure to reduce competition. That is, as the union and minimum wages converge, the incentive for an employer to switch from union to non-union labor diminishes.

And unions achieve their duplicitous ends mostly through coercion and corruption. Union leaders exact dues from members ostensibly for strike insurance; but the money is often spent on protest outings and propaganda, such as the recent UPIU excursion to Walnut Hill and Monte Haymon bashing literature. It is improbable that Sappi workers would have invested time and money to better the lot of their South African counterparts on their own initiative.

It was simply unacceptable for UPIU to punish Tufts by hindering important business and littering the grounds for something the University has no legitimate connection to. But seldom does big labor respect codes of civility. Indeed it is a misnomer to refer to unionists as collective bargainers, for they do not bargain; they only rudely and unfairly demand. —JS

THE PRIMARY SOURCE

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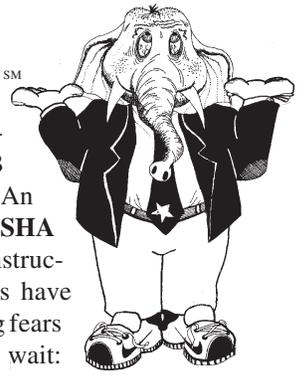
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From the Elephant's MouthSM



☞ Continuing a quest to make the world safe for poli-sci majors, TCU Senator **Stacey Delich** announced the body would conduct a week-long survey to “find out the issues that are most important to the students.” Freshman Senator **Matt Behrens** thinks the survey will help the fatuous body “find out what students want us to do.” How about just go away? ... For those who didn't notice, *The Tufts Daily* has made major changes to its layout and design. A suggestion for our downstairs neighbors: it's the writing, stupid.... As long as we're beating a dead horse, *Daily* columnist **Greg Geiman** wants to tell the world that abortion is a “God-given right” and that if you don't like abortion, “don't have one.” Good idea Greg, if you don't like murder, don't kill anybody.

☞ English Department head honcho **Linda Bamber** doesn't see why English majors should have to study Shakespeare and professor **Carol Flynn** “see[s] both the feminist and the classical British literature as equally important,” and that is just the problem.... Some people just never give up. **Alex Shalom** writes in a January 28 “Viewpoint,” “Tufts has been praised by *Mother Jones* for being a politically active campus. And yet, why is it that the fewer than 20 students who write for THE PRIMARY SOURCE make more political noise than any other on-campus group?” Because, old boy, other groups just make noise; we make sense.... But **d a n tob** thinks unicorns outnumber “intelligent argument[s] in the SOURCE.” This from a man whose best idea is putting spaces between the letters of his first name. We'd take him on in a battle of wits anytime, but **HAMS** would surely protest.

☞ Spotted at the **Student Activities Fair** two weeks ago: one **HAMS member** in allegedly imitation leather boots. Surely such footwear, be it made from Naugahyde or Bessy, promotes the image of animals as fashion accessories. Watch your grocer's shelves for the new PRIMARY SOURCE line of imitation fruits, vegetables, and pasta, all made from 100% reprocessed veal and mink protein.... Just how many trees were killed to make those new **recycling stations**? ... At the recent open forum on campus race relations, the never-resting **Kathy Polias** told all that there's not enough “white understanding” of racial issues. When there's

nothing left to protest, honkey-bashing never goes out of style.... **TAB Building or Love Canal**: you decide. An inspection by the notoriously fanatic **OSHA** revealed that since the building's construction in 1989, at least four employees have been diagnosed with cancer, prompting fears that the building is carcinogenic. But wait: **SOURCEStats**, using data from the American Cancer Society, calculated the risk of developing cancer for the general population over the same period at about 3.5%, while the **TAB apparatchiks** scored a mere 1.8%. Government bureaucrats rarely let truth get in their way, however, so the “poor air quality” that prompted the OSHA inspection might yet hit the fan.

☞ **TuftsConnect** struck again with bills for service students had no way of using. Jumbos are outraged, but Tufts gets away with nickel-and-diming students all the time. Still, curious minds are waiting to see how **Marj “the-Dollar-a-Minute-Lady” Minnich** weasels her way out of this one, and you know she will. .. Perhaps there should be a one-year waiting period for frosh to submit articles for publication. **Hamilton Lee**, LA '00, writes in a February 6th “Observation,” “Stop blaming the culture houses, the administration, the professors, or the way the dining halls are arranged for whatever segregation you happen to see.” And while you're at it, quit blaming the Holocaust on the Nazis.... Director of Curmudgeonry **Bruce Reitman** wants to impose a rule that would effectively limit the number of fraternity parties on campus to three on any given night, and require a cop at the door of every house holding one. After all, Friday nights here really are getting out of hand.

☞ **PREDICTIONS: Merchants-On-Points** suffers constant and crippling “technical difficulties.” **TuftsConnect** claims voice-mail availability represents delivery of services during break. **Greg Geiman** writes a piece entitled, “If you don't like supporting welfare queens, don't think about it.”
THE ELEPHANT *never forgets.*

The Primary Source



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Commentary

Get 'Em While They're Young

Children do most of their learning before they enter kindergarten. Advocates of government schooling have finally picked up on this phenomenon, and the New York Assembly has followed up with a proposal to introduce socialized preschools. Apparently an entire generation of poorly-schooled New Yorkers is not enough; now the state wants to extend the damage to the young, where it will be irreversible.

Government schools already suffer from every conceivable problem, including overcrowding, politicization, crime, and low teacher morale (despite higher wages than their private counterparts). To inflict such problems on the very young in the name of their education seems an incredible proposal. That politicians feel they can duplicate the private sector's successful pre-school system simply by subsidizing an imitation government rendition shows their complete ignorance of what breeds success. Perhaps pre-school's unique status in the educational marketplace—small private enterprises subject to minimal state encroachment and rampant competition with each other—is precisely what enables it to satisfy its customers so effectively.

Private schools also lack one other contaminant omnipresent in socialized education: indoctrination. Flustered parents tell horror stories of public-school children as young as five-years-old receiving merciless bombardment of all sorts of political propaganda, including environmentalism, multiculturalism, and sex education. As students enter high school, they learn about how government benevolence saves them from a greedy and callous private sector. Any behavioral specialist can testify to the great increase in programming efficiency that comes with 'starting early.' Even if the New York plan's sponsors possess the most noble of intentions, speculation as to who will move the line they draw, and for what purpose, should concern everyone, not just parents. A government that takes virtual custody of children from toddler stage until adulthood indulges in dangerous experiments in absolutism inappropriate for a free society.

The Scandals Keep Rolling In

Each day, it seems, another repulsive tale of presidential greed and depravity comes to light. Fifty-thousand-dollar cups of coffee, photos with cocaine smugglers, and the Motel Sixteen-Hundred have transformed Pennsylvania Avenue from the seat of Camelot to a carnival of ethical freaks and favor-seekers. The latest addition to the list of high crimes perpetrated by aides: Harold Ickes's use of government offices and material to solicit a five million dollar donation-for-legislation offer.

Additionally, the *Los Angeles Times* and *Time* magazine obtained quotes from a former DNC finance chairman who revealed that the party used a government-owned database in selecting whom it would invite to campaign events with the President. White House aides designed the computer system, which replaced the supposedly outmoded one used by President Bush's events staff, to keep track of supporters and visitors. Distancing herself from the breaking story of partisan use of official property, Hillary Clinton declared that she merely suggested creating the new database but took no part in its use. Evidence subpoenaed by Congress, however, tells another tale entirely; a memo released to investigators indicates that the First Lady indeed bridged the politics/government divide by asking for inclusion in the database of a list of figures associated with the '92 Clinton campaign.

Violating the often difficult and confusing laws concerning the separation of one's official duties from his campaign work is only the beginning of Clinton's troubles. A degradation of the presidency largely unreported by the mass media includes much more damning evidence about the sale of American values. According to the House Republican Policy Committee, as part of his effort to raise \$180 million for the Democratic Party, the President invited a Chinese national named Wang Jun to the White House at the urging of a DNC official. Although the substance of the discussion remains unclear, Clinton must have known a) that Wang Jun is the head of the Communist Chinese People's Liberation Army's arms smuggling operation, b) that a week before the meeting Wang's operation brokered a deal to deliver Chinese cruise missiles to Iran, and c) that a day



*The hand that rocks
the cradle rules the world.*

before the meeting *The Washington Times* reported that Wang's Poly Group orchestrated the delivery of nuclear-weapons components to Pakistan. He might not, however, have known that nine days later Poly Group would begin smuggling thousands of AK-47s onto the streets of San Francisco. Clearly, the President should exercise greater caution when choosing with whom he will associate and from whom he will accept campaign donations, but scruples do not comprise part of the Clinton agenda.

Laundered Loot

Liberals relentlessly cry for "global justice," but most kept conspicuously silent when government documents revealed that supposedly neutral Switzerland had laundered gold for the Nazis half a century ago. Confiscated gold belonging to Holocaust victims with an estimated value as high as one billion US dollars remains unreturned, stored to this day in the coffers of a handful of Swiss banks. Those who hold private-property rights sacred are naturally outraged. In no instance does a thief acquire a more

legitimate claim to his plunder than the original owner, and returning the stolen gold to Holocaust victims and their families is the only morally just recourse.

Such are the reparations demanded by Senator Alfonse D'Amato, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, and other prominent conservatives. But the debacle is indicative of a great evil that cannot be healed by any form of restitution: the "virtues" of pacifism and neutrality. For years, craven Switzerland cowered under these alibis, refusing to choose a side in the quintessential moral trial of the twentieth century. Protected by their apathy, the Swiss proceeded to clandestinely profit from the Nazi terror, going even so far as to demand exorbitant fees for admitting emigrant Holocaust refugees into their so-called neutral country.

The full extent of Switzerland's ties to the Third Reich will never be known for sure. Were it not for D'Amato's personal crusade to unearth hitherto classified documents (no doubt influenced, to be fair, by his large Jewish constituency), none of the Swiss banks would ever have been held accountable for their egregious crimes. But one thing is certain: no decent person can call inaction a virtue when human beings die screaming in torture chambers. To compound that evil with a willful desire to aid and abet their tormentors—and to use money looted from those victims to conceal Switzerland's sins many years later—is not only unspeakable but also inhuman. But such are the spoils of pacifism and "neutrality."

Global Integrity Meltdown

A few weeks ago, President Clinton subtly launched a campaign to recast the nation's perception of media bias so as to benefit himself politically. His aides and agents have since brought to the fore theories of an alleged *conservative* media prejudice, assaulting talking heads with their contention that the right wing controls the fourth estate.

Yet the President need look no further than coverage of his State of the Union address to ascertain the true state of the media. Squeezing the OJ case for all its worth, *The Boston Globe* pushed the President to the front page's left column, but it also devoted almost an entire two-page spread in the first section to quotations from and analysis of the President's oration. Among the headlines: "Clinton puts focus on education," "From educators, plaudits and some questions," and "(News Analysis) Clinton challenges nation—and self." The scores of column inches and enormous photos allotted to those pieces dwarfed the tiny section given to the GOP's response. That bore a banner reading "The Republican Response" and a headline declaring "Rep. Watts of Oklahoma seizes a chance to raise funds".

To *The Globe's* credit, the first two paragraphs of the article

described Congressman Watts's address, as the banner indicated it would. But the significantly larger headline had nothing whatsoever to do with the GOP Response; instead, it referred to the third of the short article concerning a letter the celebrated Congressman wrote to constituents in which he asked for campaign donations. The missive was, at best, an aside to an article that should have described Watts's speech, his points and manner—just as *The Globe* had so generously done for the President. This transgression of journalistic objectivity, though damnable, is lamentably not unexpected. Most importantly, it evinces the true character of the *liberal* mass media.

When Chinese Eyes Are Smiling

A late night meeting last week between US and Chinese negotiators managed to finally clinch a deal on a long-stalled textile trade agreement. Coming on the heels of a general warming in Sino-US diplomacy, the deal mollifies previously thorny obstacles to better mutual relations. Unfortunately, the pact, which pledges to increase transpacific trade in a market already worth many billions of dollars, offers far more to the Chinese than to the United States.

At the heart of the conflict were quotas previously put in place by the US to protect manufacturers from Chinese producers against which they simply could not compete. The quotas today still stand, but the US will loosen them somewhat in return for China's agreement to lift import bans on home furnishings, drapes, and designer garments made in America. Yet even if the agreement expands the nineteen-million-dollar market for those products



tenfold, it still pales in comparison to the nearly seven billion dollars of Chinese-made clothing and textile products imported by the US. In light of the expanding forty-billion-dollar trade deficit, the new treaty promises even worse figures next year.

But that is not due to any failure on the part of US negotiators. While freer trade always means better trade, the solution to the Sino-US trade deficit will never lie in increased opportunities for American textile manufacturers. Because of redistributive government programs like the minimum wage and mandatory union membership laws that hike American workers' salaries high above their market value, the US cannot hope to compete internationally in labor-intensive industries. The US does, on the other hand, hold a pivotal advantage in service and technology-based industries. But Beijing, well aware of the importance of those sectors in a modern economy, protects their own with maternal ferocity. An ideal trade agreement would open all borders and allow consumers—not politicians—to decide where to spend their money.

Fortnight in ReviewSM

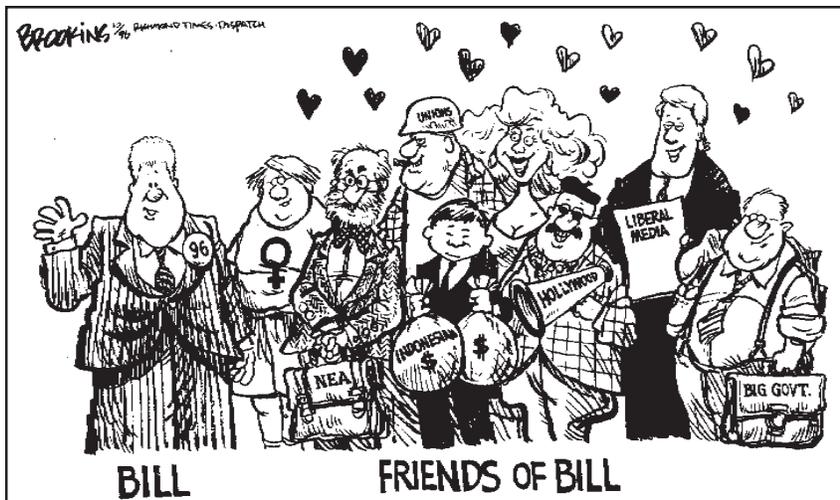
Comedy is allied to Justice.
—Aristophanes

PS *Time* stirred rumors that Jesse Jackson is considering running for President and courting Newt Gingrich, to which the Rhyming Reverend responded, "That's not even rational." Neither is "Jackson for President."

PS Twelve convicted child molesters in Providence, Rhode Island, received no prison time as part of their plea bargaining agreements. But they did have to turn in the clown suits.

PS The Cambridge Police Department issued a formal invitation to lesbians and gays to apply for its next round of hiring. What man could resist a man in uniform?

PS A San Francisco teen claims that she suffered mental anguish, emotional distress, and post-traumatic stress disorder after local radio station KYLD talked her into stripping nude and running around its van wearing promotional bumper stickers. But she did thank the station for supplying her with a free bikini wax.



PS Cincinnati grandmother Sylvia Stayton faces up to ninety days in the slammer for feeding two strangers' expired parking meters. TUPD must have a precinct out in Ohio.

PS Undercover officers arrested Monroe, Connecticut, teenager Mence Powell for selling marijuana in Happy Meals at the McDonald's Drive-Thru Window. Anyone ordering hash browns was apprehended.

PS No wonder Bubba goes to Mickey-D's all the time.

PS A judge threw out the lawsuit of Portland, Oregon, security guard Charles Murphy, who claims he was fired because of his unsightly chest hair. Jaime Roth was found with a can of kerosene near the Portland company's headquarters.

PS Teresa Roda of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, chased \$2,510 worth of loose bills down a windy street to find that the money came from a lost wallet belonging to a local college student. The kind woman returned it to the TCU senator.

PS From the We-couldn't-make-this-stuff-up-if-we-wanted-to file: The Loose Juice has applied to copyright his name for placement on a new line of cutlery. (Starting price: \$8.5 million.)

PS A Gobles, Michigan, high-school freshman was suspended on weapons charges when he brought a knife to school to cut brownies. School officials made him fork it over.

PS A 13-year-old lad turned in a cooler full of dynamite to Sunflower, Mississippi, police. The constables then cuffed him for not obeying the five day waiting period.

PS Poor Spanish grammar in Trenton, New Jersey's letters to welfare recipients cost the state \$18,000 in entitlements. How difficult can it be to say "get a job" in Spanish?

PS Kissimmee, Florida, schoolteacher Holly Hendricks was canned after taping a boy's mouth shut and sealing him in a box. Serves him right for saying a prayer in school.

PS A police car being steered by a dog struck a suspected bus hijacker after a high-speed chase through San Diego. Eat your heart out, Toonces.

PS Seventy-five percent of Port Townsend, Washington, residents said they would be willing to spend \$100 more in taxes every year to protect fish and wildlife. But only 25% actually pay taxes.

PS Top Ten Reasons Tufts Connect is charging for Christmas Break:

10. Tryin' to move it on up.
9. Ballou office needs a new rubber plant.
8. Can't pilfer any of that \$334,000.
7. Marj Minnigh hired James Carville for PR.
6. Automated customer service doesn't come cheap.
5. Had to make up for free local calls.
4. Couldn't charge for busy signals, either.
3. Had to cover rent on warehouse for lost checks.
2. Who says voice mail isn't worth the price of an answering machine every month?
1. Because they can.

PS An Ottawa man drove his jeep into the Canadian Parliament while hollering about devil worshippers. He must have been referring to their health-care administrators.

PS An MS-NBC poll reveals that a quarter of Americans believe in reincarnation and almost three-quarters believe in faith-healing. And 80% claim to have had a telekinetic experience with Dionne Warwick.

PS At the National Prayer Breakfast, President Clinton “plead guilty” to playing dirty politics, confessing, “I got so mad at our friends in the Congress and the Republican Party because they were real mean to me.” They wouldn’t share their fries.

PS Or their teenage daughters.

PS The hot attraction at Tampa’s State Fair is a ride that spins people at 70 miles per hour on top of a 160-foot-high structure. The second hottest attraction consists of thrill seekers getting beaten senseless by Tampa’s state locals for 70 minutes.

PS The number of illegal immigrants in the United States is growing at over a quarter million a year, recently surpassing the 5 million mark. They can always get jobs appearing in the Tufts *Viewbook*.

PS Record industry execs are reportedly upset with Alanis Morissette, who, after coasting on multi-platinum-one-hand-in-her-pocket sales, seems unable to deliver a second album. It’s like rain on a rainy day.

PS Several American wrestlers testified that John du Pont often had white powder underneath his runny nose when leaving his library. Got Coke?

PS Moscow scientists say that with proper treatment, Lenin’s body can be preserved in good condition for hundreds of years to come. Unlike the country he helped build.

PS His hair, however, lives on....

PS Sue Evan-Jones of England, 45, finally passed her driving test after 27 years and over \$30,000 in lessons. She has spent the past three decades driving the Safety Shuttle.

PS Governor Weld is hinting that he may run for a third term, despite Lt. Gov. Cellucci’s fundraising blitzkrieg. It seems Bill was banking on winning that Senate election.

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1. No Decal / Expired Decal	\$50.00	15. At Fire Hydrant	\$50.00																																																																	
2. Expired Decal	\$35.00	16. At Fire Ramp	\$35.00																																																																	
3. Failure to Display Decal Properly	\$ 5.00	17. Of Curb/Edge	\$15.00																																																																	
IMPROPERLY PARKED		18. Of Trash Container	\$15.00																																																																	
4. In Handicap Area	\$50.00	19. Of Loading Zone / Service Area	\$15.00																																																																	
5. In Fire Lane	\$35.00	20. Excessive Speed	\$25.00																																																																	
6. On Turf / Sidewalk	\$35.00	21. Disregarding Stop Sign	\$25.00																																																																	
7. In Visitor Area	\$15.00	22. Operating Wrong Direction	\$25.00																																																																	
8. Outside Designated Area	\$15.00	23. Obstructing Traffic	\$25.00																																																																	
9. In Wrong Direction	\$15.00	27. Improper Operation	\$25.00																																																																	
10. Overnight Violation	\$15.00																																																																			
11. Within 10 ft. of Corner	\$15.00																																																																			
12. Illegal / Double Parking	\$15.00																																																																			
13. No Parking Area	\$15.00																																																																			
14. Meter Violation	\$ 5.00																																																																			
<p align="center">• SEE REVERSE SIDE OF THIS TICKET •</p>																																																																				

PS Strike 1: Citing the vehicle for “no decal” while taking note of the decal’s number.

Strike 2: Parking Director Kathy Williams went on the record saying that most parking rules are suspended on the weekends, but failed to communicate as such to her own department; officers are told by superiors to write tickets which Williams tells students are illegitimate.

Strike 3: Ticketing Delaney’s car in the first place.

PS Top Ten Ways Tufts celebrates Valentine’s Day:

10. Tufts Connect doubles long distance rates— so conversation with your loved one has “meaning” to it.
9. Peggy Barrett does her annual leg shaving.
8. Jaime Roth sends flowers home to her dog... from prison.
7. Tuftonians watch Boston College students celebrate.
6. TUPD parking tickets have little hearts drawn on them.
5. Excessive use of aphrodisiacs clouds the Concert Board’s judgment— again.
4. Womyns’ Collective protests male attempts to fatten women and defoliate the environment, AKA chocolate and roses.
3. Pink rotisserie chicky-chicky in Hodgdon.
2. Members of defunct Phi Sig Sig take back the night— and can’t figure out what to do with it.
1. For once, those creaking sounds in the dorms aren’t the roofs collapsing.

PS Air Force training flights mistakenly sent F-16s into commercial airspace, causing near-collisions. And we thought it was bad when Bubba crushed that \$75,000 toilet seat.

PS Speaking of the Crook-in-Chief, he unveiled a plan to spend \$200 million wiring disadvantaged government schools to the Internet. Now sex-ed students can learn about bestiality through multimedia presentations.

PS *USA Today* notes that the Comeback Kid uses a different pen to sign all 23 letters of his name on legislation so that they can be used as souvenirs, calling cards, and thank-you gifts. And what a deal, at only \$20,000 each.

The Perils of Prohibition

Tracey Seslen

Last November, voters in Arizona and California passed ballot propositions legalizing the use of marijuana for medicinal purposes, fueling the national controversy regarding the merits of drug legalization. Critics in the debate, including Clinton drug czar Barry McCaffrey, have argued that these referenda are merely stepping stones toward wider legalization that could lead to an increase in casual use and abuse of narcotics. But when one considers the measures legislators have taken since Nancy Reagan's "Just Say No" campaign, and the impact of those measures on the American drug habit, the benefits of prohibition come into question. Over the past fifteen years, our nation's leaders have formed task forces, designed drug awareness and resistance programs, organized advertising campaigns, and constructed youth centers to keep children away from drugs and their potential influences. Sadly, these endeavors have failed, and have left the United States with more teenage junkies and more drug-related violence than ever. Yet lawmakers are loath to change their course of action, citing that there exist no other reasonable options. Legalization, however, may be just the remedy America needs.

To many Americans, legalization of drugs— not just marijuana— is a scary thought, because it would result in wider availability. At the same time, however, drugs would lose the allure of being the proverbial 'forbidden fruit.' Just as individuals do not suddenly become alcoholics when they gain legal access to alcohol at age 21, young Americans will not become pot-heads the moment they see that a bag of weed is as close as the nearest Seven-Eleven. The effects legalization has had in Europe contradict the claim that access leads to abuse. In the Netherlands, for example, drug abuse

and the crimes associated with it have clearly declined. Drug Policy Foundation spokesman Rob Stewart explains, "The Dutch have made drug use boring, because people can get [drugs] all the time." Thus, "it's mostly tourists" who frequent the establishments at which marijuana and other drugs are sold. One should also consider the effects of marijuana legalization in several American states during the 1970s. Notes *The Economist*, these states "saw no divergence in the consumption of the drug from that in neighboring states which continued to prohibit it."

Some liberals argue that since the United States has a responsibility to preserve the welfare of its citizens, the government is justified in passing laws controlling or prohibiting drug use. The founding fathers, however, would have balked at the prospect of government intervention in per-

affected. For instance, drug abuse often leads to domestic violence and motor vehicle accidents. In such situations, the government should intervene by arresting and punishing the aggressor rather than penalizing the majority of drug users who only harm themselves.

One need look no further than Washington, DC's, crime rates, which reveal that an astonishing 80% of homicides are drug-related.

Time columnist Barbara Ehrenreich argues that, "Legal drugs, even if heavily taxed and extensively regulated, would no doubt be cheaper than illegal ones, which could mean more people sampling them out of curiosity." Of course, drugs can kill. But the wildly inflated prices resulting from drug prohibition kill as well; the junkie with a \$200 per day habit must resort to illegal, often violent, means to support that addiction. One need look no further than Washington, DC's, crime rates, which reveal that an astonishing 80% of homicides are drug-related. Sadly, this statistic includes not only homicides perpetrated by young dealers and addicts against one another, but homicides perpetrated by dealers against police, witnesses who choose to help the police, and innocent bystanders. "It's gunshot wounds that fill our urban emergency rooms, not ODs," concludes Ehrenreich.

In addition to the risk of death by gunshot, prohibition poses other health risks. Sixty years ago, fifty thousand Ameri-



sonal health issues. In their view, the purposes of the government include providing defense from foreign attack, a police force for preserving internal order, and a court system for resolving civil and criminal cases. Granted, drug use becomes an issue concerning the general public when individuals other than the users themselves are

Please see "Prohibition," continued on page 16.

Sorority Trading Cards

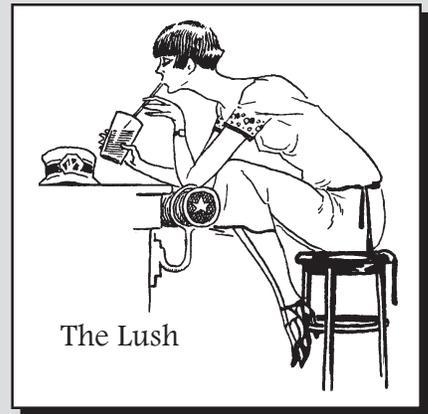
Some time ago, Tufts strongly encouraged fraternities and sororities to assure each and every rushee a bid to at least one house. The Pan-Hellenic Association broke with fraternities on this issue of self-governance, accepted the University policy, and wrote it into the all-sorority constitution. Consequently, we may speculate that chapter leaders negotiate with one another to determine whom will be saddled with the less-desirable candidates. SOURCE investigators took a gander at the process and bring our loyal readers the respective Queen Bees' notes....



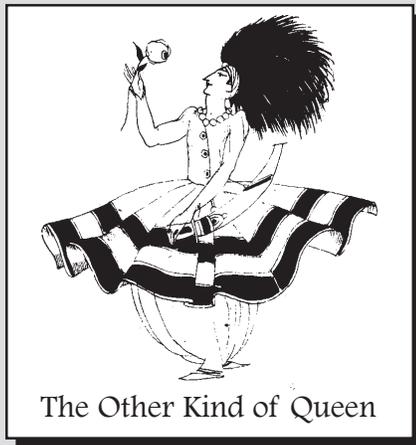
Beauty Queen
Runner-Up



Over-zealous
Star Search
Contestant



The Lush



The Other Kind of Queen



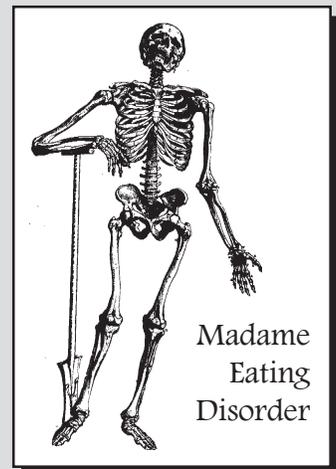
Flagrant
Solicitor



Indulgent Buffet Patron



Mushmouth



Madame
Eating
Disorder

Special Pledge Week Quiz !!!

After Hours Greek Style

See if YOU can find:

1. The sober person
2. The guy not wearing a baseball cap
3. The brother hooking up
4. The townie
5. The cold beer
6. The sheep
7. The keg about to be confiscated
8. The house mascot
9. Waldo
10. The pledge
11. The Womyn's Collective spy
12. The TUPD security detail
13. The date-rape victim
14. The Poli Sci prof
15. The other brothers watching

(answers on page 14)





A PLEDGE'S SCAVENGER HUNT

Goons, Trolls, and ΣΦ Wanna-bes must find the following:



1. A UNICCO employee at work
2. A pair of shaved legs in the Eco-freako pad
3. Substance Free Hut's secret stash
4. A VHS tape with TUTV programming
5. A funny issue of *The Zamboni*



6. An unticketed car in a staff spot on the weekend
7. An English-speaking Math prof
8. An error-free TuftsConnect bill
9. A liberal with a clue



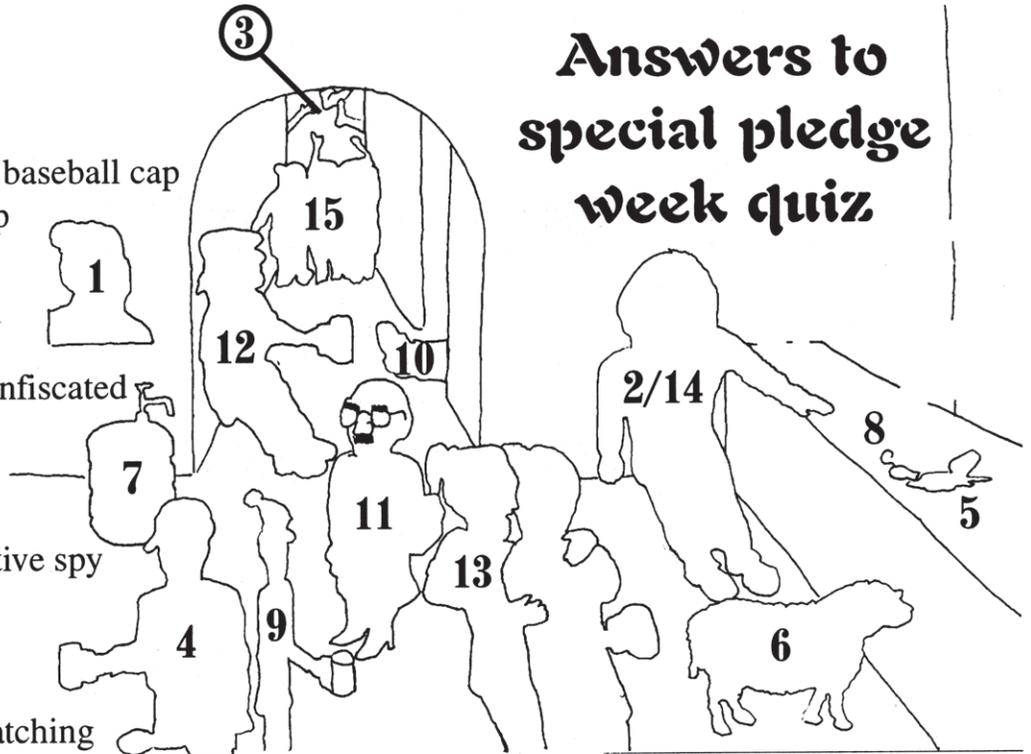
10. A Bridge-Metcalf resident who doesn't call hallmates "comrade"
11. An English-class syllabus that doesn't have Jack Kerouac on it
12. A humble TCU Senator
13. A smoking area
14. Anything between Greg Geiman's ears
15. Pair of women's undies



Note to self: Call mom for that last one!

Answers to special pledge week quiz

1. The sober person
2. The guy not wearing a baseball cap
3. The brother hooking up
4. The townie
5. The cold beer
6. The sheep
7. The keg about to be confiscated
8. The house mascot
9. Waldo
10. The pledge
11. The Womyn's Collective spy
12. TUPD security detail
13. The date-rape victim
14. The Poli Sci prof
15. The other brothers watching



Snore of the Union

Ian Popick

Good luck crossing Clinton's bridge to the 21st century, for it is full of faulty planks and shaky ropes. While he did not make his usual overtures to the "bridge," President Clinton nevertheless dragged the nation through another long-winded State of the Union address, praising bipartisanship, environmentalism, and other futile pursuits—deplete of both sound and fury but still signifying nothing.

One would think that Bubba would have sought to disprove his David Brinkley given classification as a bore, but instead he stuck to a predictable route. He continued to appropriate pillars from the Republican platform but nevertheless displayed his affinity for the federal activism of his first term big government debacles. Clinton's speeches continue to remain consistent in only one measure: length.

After repeatedly patting himself on the back, the Chief Executive got down to brass tacks. Issue number one involved the pesky national deficit, to which Clinton advocated the passage of a statute to balance the budget by the year 2002. In typical fashion, the man who once found a requirement of balanced books to be both impossible and simultaneously accomplishable in seven, eight, nine, and ten years, now claims the crusade for fiscal responsibility. But it is doubtful that the Comeback Kid has really adopted the sensible stance that many of his publicists touted during his most recent campaign; he still shies from the meaningful constitutional amendment that the GOP has firmly supported. In actuality, his budget plans call for a 3.5% increase in federal spending for the 1998 fiscal year to \$1.69 trillion.

Compensation must come from somewhere, but don't expect Slick Willy to shoulder the blame for the forthcoming cuts. His plan delays the lion's share (an

estimated three quarters) of the necessary budget cuts until after the completion of his term, creating a tough target for his unlucky successor to face in addition to hordes of disgruntled Americans accustomed to feeding off the federal government. Clearly, Bill Clinton values his historical image more than the welfare of the American people.

Even if these vague cuts find themselves in the next millenium's budgets, the President's plan comes with no promises. Though his aides have reached the optimistic conclusion that the US will eventually be blessed with a \$17 billion surplus, a GOP study projects a \$50 billion deficit. Besides a possible recession, Clinton's scheme threatens to push the 2002 "deadline" back further, perhaps indefinitely. And even if 2002 does mark the first time in many decades that Uncle Sam's books are out of the red, Clinton provides no guarantee that they will remain so. The truth is that these cuts are based upon speculative assumptions such as the

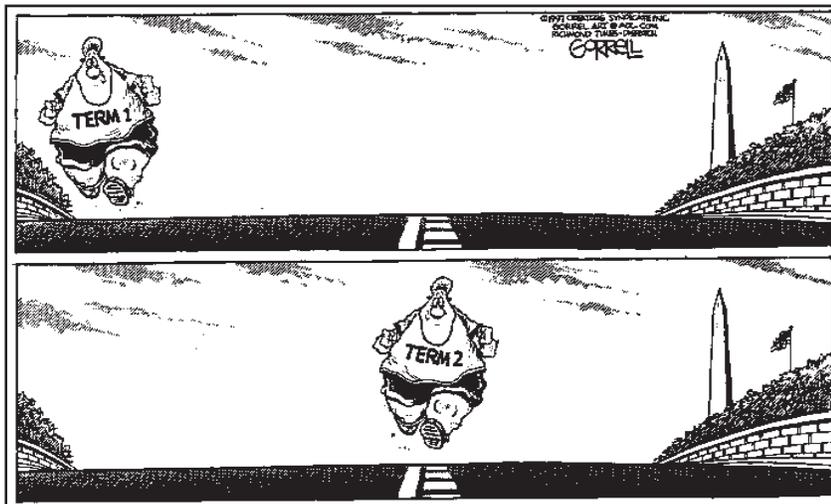
billion for interest payments on the \$5 trillion plus debt alone. None of this, as the Oklahoma representative points out, will go towards education, crime fighting, or any other issue about which Americans express concerns. Republicans recognize the Democratic tendency to spend away

Clinton's speeches continue to remain consistent in only one measure: length.

our children's future and that is why they insist on "the discipline of a constitutional amendment," as Representative John Ashcroft puts it.

Additionally, Clinton proudly unveiled plans to reform the campaign finance system. The proposed Feingold-McCain bill would "create a level playing field between challengers and incumbents and ban contributions from non-citizens and all corporate sources and the other large soft money contributions," according to the man who pushed soft money contributions to ridiculous limits just months ago. In keeping with his bipartisanship charade, Clinton assigned blame for the fundraising scandals on both parties and called on them to bond together to renew the public's trust in their elected officials. Perhaps this blame might be better directed at the man who practically charged by the hour for his attention, generated waves of distrust, and will never run

for office again. The irony of the new middle-of-the-road Clinton is that he has sold out his fellow Democrats as well. If severe fundraising limits are established, the resilient party members who staved off the first wave of anti-Clinton voter



price that broadcast frequencies will fetch in 2002, the market values of which are unpredictable at best.

Republicans realize that America cannot continue this pattern of procrastination; the budget must be balanced and stay balanced. As JC Watts commented in his response to the State of the Union, this year the American taxpayer will shell out \$330

*Please see "Clinton,"
continued on the next page.*

**“Clinton,” continued
from the previous page.**

backlash in 1994 will be forced to endure another assault in the 1998 midterm elections—without the incumbents’ traditional advantage of scaring off would-be challengers with substantial war chests.

Clinton then stressed scholarship in his ten point Call to Action for American Education. He mimicked the Republican ideal of local control in the school system, calling for a “citizen army of one million volunteers,” but this proposition drowns in a sea of bureaucratic federal programs. He proposed a \$51 billion *hike* in education spending, including an increase in Head Start funds—a pre-school program that proves little more than subsidized day-care. Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan once compared Head Start to a dishwasher, stating that the federal government was a great spokesman for this “product” in that, like the modern appliance, it went from a luxury to a necessity in no time at all. Now it has become an expensive taxpayer-funded “right.”

Clinton also outlined his crusade to

standardize all public schools throughout the nation, in part by imposing uniform curricula including, of all things, character instruction. Less than a year ago, Clinton attended a governor’s conference and agreed that the standardization of students’ and teachers’ performances were within the domain of the state. Yet today his

The teachers’ unions have paid their fee to get Clinton’s attention and are certainly getting their money’s worth.

minions are devising a method of scaling the quality of our classrooms at the national level. Meanwhile, he unconvincingly denies that the states will be required to conform to the standards that the feds deem imperative.

No doubt the collectivization of school districts will be handled much like the 21-year drinking age with “strings-attached” deals, tying other federal subsidies to the state’s compliance. States that have little choice but to accept the money slide fur-

ther into Big Brother’s grasp. And yes, Clinton is calling for better educators but is not about to strike down the tenure system that allows unfit teachers to fill the positions that talented teachers should hold. The teachers’ unions have paid their fee to get Clinton’s attention and are certainly getting their money’s worth.

Watts offered far more genuine optimism than Clinton and an honest commitment to more than “poll-tested phrases and winning smiles.” He spoke of responsibility, values, family, faith, and the spirit of America which resides within all of her citizens. Unlike Clinton’s myriad statist projects cowering under a shield of stolen conservative rhetoric, JC Watts believes in an America true to its rich tradition of freedom and opportunity. Clinton may liken himself to Harry Truman. But unlike Truman, and unlike Watts, Clinton is not a man of dignity; he is merely a man of words—far too many of them.

Mr. Popick is a sophomore majoring in Political Science.

**“Prohibition,” continued
from page 10.**

cans suffered paralysis after consuming an adulterated Jamaican ginger extract known as “jake.” Today, virtually every illicit drug purchased at the retail level contains dangerous contaminants. Users suffer the effects of tainted drugs because quality control lies solely in the hands of black-market dealers. Legalization would allow out-in-the-open regulation of purity, protecting the public from adulterated products. Furthermore, according to *Newsweek’s* Ethan Nadelmann, “Restrictions on the sale of drug paraphernalia has severely handicapped efforts to stem the transmission of AIDS by encouraging intravenous drug users to share their equipment.” Clearly, legalization would slow the spread of AIDS by allowing intravenous drug users access to uncontaminated needles.

If for no other reason, the American

government should end the prohibition of drugs simply because it costs too much. Notes *Commonweal’s* Peter Riga, the 1993 Clinton budget earmarked \$13 billion for law enforcement, surveillance, prison construction, and border patrols, rather than rehabilitation. Currently, the government spends \$159 per prisoner per day, yet only

fifteen percent of drug-addicted prisoners receive treatment for their addictions. In other words, imprisonment does little more than harden those serving time for drug-related activities. Even worse, over the past five years, the number of violent criminals serving time has fallen sharply in order to accommodate the increasing number of first-time, nonviolent, low-level drug offenders.

According to *The Boston Globe*, since the Massachusetts legislature passed laws requiring mandatory sentences for drug offenders, the state has overcrowded its prisons by fifty percent with

low-level offenders serving sentences of six-and-one-half years on average. Meanwhile, this get-tough policy on drug offenders has not affected drug use or availability. By legalizing drugs, the government could cut the prison population by more than half, create space for violent offenders, make more efficient use of its law enforcement personnel, and when liberal politicians realize their end of the bargain, generate billions of dollars in revenues from taxes on the legal sale of drugs.

“The real solution for challenging and changing the grip of the drug culture lies in people having some sense of hope in their lives,” notes Riga. Unfortunately, this sense of hope will not develop overnight. Nor will it develop from the prohibition of drugs. It will come from education and from the home. Only these institutions can instill the proper values to make wise decisions about drugs. Trusting Americans to make their own choices is the best strategy to promote personal responsibility and help strengthen the nation’s moral fabric—and legalization is a key component of the plan.

Miss Seslen is a sophomore majoring in Quantitative Economics and Spanish.

The Smoke-Filled Room

Colin Delaney

Although a friend and I long discussed forming a tobacco enthusiasts' club, neither of us ever got around to it. Happily, a dedicated group of underclassmen with time on their hands actually executed the idea, creating the Tufts Cigar Aficionados Club. They now hold regular meetings, enjoy the company of at least thirty people each week, and maintain a membership list of twice that figure. But when the habitués of death merchants sought the aid and comfort Tufts affords other "cultural" organizations, the smokers found themselves out in the cold.

Specifically, the club asked for a room in which it could hold its meetings and, as a connoisseur indulges once in a while, light up a cigar or twenty-five. Citing regulations and laws that supposedly ban smoking in University buildings, the Office of Students Activities declined the request. In fact, without extraordinary effort Tufts can designate a room or, for instance, part of the new coffeehouse 'smoking,' thereby satisfying Tuftonian smokers both within and without the new club. But tobacco is most definitely unpopular with the intelligentsia, and a school consumed with today's educational fads spurns the politically incorrect.

Unfazed by Tuftonian indolence, the Aficionados took their meetings outside. They also petitioned the TCU Senate for funding that would defray the costs of operating such an epicurean organization. But, based on the Treasury's unofficial response, the Garcia y Vega devotees do not stand a chance.

From a purely selfish standpoint, I would like the TCU Senate to buy me and my friends a box of cigars every week. And if they handed me a bottle of Wild Turkey to go with it, I cannot say that I would turn it down. Nevertheless, the TCU should not finance students' indulgences, especially if the funds do not benefit a broad segment of the population forced to pay the student activities fee.

Yet sagacity and the Senate do not often coexist. Student funds now support a plethora of events which claim appeal to

the entire Tufts community but in practice serve the needs of only a chosen few. Approved expenditures range from the superficially sound to the scandalously fatuous. The Armenian Club reasons that in

Since tobacco is politically incorrect, the image-conscious simpletons who dominate the Senate can easily refuse the Cigar Aficionados' requests.

order for the group to host a buffet in honor of President DiBiaggio, the Senate must pay the check—to the tune of \$765. The Chinese Culture Club holds a series of events, including a dumpling-cooking contest, which the Senate supports with at least \$323 of our money. Most outrageous is the Filipino Cultural Society, which spends TCU funds on food for an event that takes place at Harvard.

In all, Council One organizations spend about \$4,000 on food for obscure or ill-attended events. Naturally, these groups have something which the Tufts Cigar Aficionados Club does not. When the Allocations Board injects fiscal prudence into its



allowances by trying to cut away the fat in cuisine-heavy budgets, most cultural societies can shout "racism" from the highest peaks, calling activists to descend on the Senate and demand remittance. For the sake of political correctness, the Senate concedes, as it did last year for the Chinese

Culture Club. They surely will not when the Cigar Club knocks.

The perceived difference in the composition of each club is the salient point. The Cigar Club is racially and sexually diverse, but one's intuitive image of it more closely mirrors the fictional WASP Culture Club. Unlike the CCC, smokers have no racial identity, and, since tobacco is politically incorrect, the image-conscious simpletons who dominate the Senate can easily refuse the Aficionados' requests.

The real reason why the Cigar Club will not have Senate money supporting it is that it cannot claim prejudice when the cleaver of financial responsibility comes to chop its budget. The liberal consumption with race and the fear of being labeled "racist" drives concessions to self-segregating groups which want everything from their own house to a Senate-supported ethnic banquet for sixty. ALBO's decision to cut the Chinese Culture Club's request for \$750 in take-out food for a New Year's celebration unquestionably constituted a competent reduction, as will the surely forthcoming refusal to buy cigars for the tobacco enthusiasts.

When a professed victim charges "racism," the plea tugs at the strings of bleeding hearts. However, with notions of racism and xenophobia cleared away, one quickly realizes that asking the Senate to purchase a box of cigars and proposing that they buy next week's take-out are not altogether different. In fact, when viewed through lenses uncolored by accusations of racism, the practice of denying one and approving the other reflects nothing if not hypocrisy.

Pathos should never overcome reason. Senators must learn to call a spade "a spade," ignore spurious charges of racism, and turn down requests for luxurious expenditures on both food and tobacco. If the Senate followed sound counsel, I would gladly share a cigar *and* a potsticker with its members—on our own tab.

Mr. Delaney is a senior majoring in History, Classics, and Political Science.

The Sins of the Parents

Colin Kingsbury

As each generation leaves the protective walls of college and faces real world challenges, it begins to focus on its own unique opportunities and abandons the preoccupation with its elders' faults. Although every generation's rite of passage is to imagine some conspiracy of the aged against the young, ours has perhaps the most damning case in history against our predecessors. But rather than dwelling on our suspect upbringing, we must confront our own inadequacies and shortcomings if we ever wish to make our future a successful one.

All too often, the media inaccurately lumps today's young adults and teenagers in with the older members of "Generation X." However, today's college students came of age in an America changed drastically from that of even four years earlier. The end of the Cold War and the Reagan years marked the beginning of a new era for America, reflecting its uncertainties in the minds of the first generation to know nothing else. Indeed, many members of the class of 2000 probably have only the dimmest memories of Ronald Reagan, Mikhail Gorbachev, and the fall of the Berlin Wall. They opened their eyes to the world when America's Cold War victory was a *fait accompli*, already taken for granted.

Unlike Generation X or the Baby Boomers, ours is a generation of diminished expectations. At our age, the Boomers thought they could change the world. But the machinations of the late 1980s proved world peace a naive pipe dream, as older hatreds preempted by the US-Soviet conflict returned to the foreground. Similarly, our older Gen-X friends saw the promise of American economic supremacy shattered by recession and corporate downsizing. As for us, a

generation that believes in nothing can hardly fall prey to false promises. But can it hope to succeed as the heirs and standard-bearers of this unique nation?

Can our generation, which has never been taught "right," ever learn to avoid wrong?

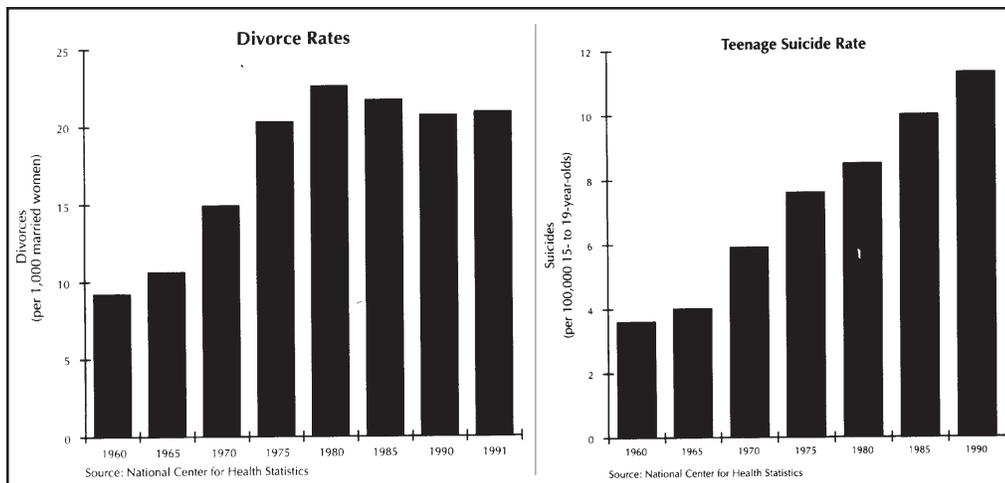
It is irksome to take a revealing look at the society which gave us our lives, values, and dreams. Consider that between 1972 and 1980, when today's young adults were born, nearly nine million abortions were performed in the United States. Without any regard to one's personal convictions on the matter, the reality that ours is the most aborted generation in history should send chills down our spines. Close to one out of four of our would-be peers are not with us today. We can only speculate how grave the consequences of this interference with humanity's evolution will prove. At least in economic terms, no small part of the worker-to-retiree ratio gap that

1980s high, is still double what it was in 1960. Today, over one million children annually must see their parents terminate their marriage, and while no doubt some children benefit from these divorces, as a whole it represents nothing less than full-scale tragedy. Nobody can act surprised when children suffer emotional devastation after witnessing the utter collapse of their family structure. Over the period of 1960-1990, the suicide rate more than tripled.

Most likely, these are not independent events, and nearly everyone who suffered through a divorce can bear witness to its destructive wake. Can it be that the two-parent family, legion to nearly every thriving civilization of the past five millennia, has finally met its match in the United States?

But for all the value of truth in numbers, the abortion of our generation takes place in numerous ways unmeasurable by any statistical method. In the past, a sizable and fundamental portion of society dedicated itself to the education and upbringing of its youngest members. Churches, families, schools, and community groups like the Boy Scouts all played their parts in this process. But today these once-crucial institutions are relegated to the sidelines. Divorce and growing illegitimacy tell of the family's fate, and public schools, once

eager promoters of community values, today actively engage in their dismantling. No doubt the decline of public education



threatens to collapse the Social Security system can be attributed to abortion's substantial alteration of the population's age structure.

But ours is "The Aborted Generation" in far deeper ways than just overall size. Divorce, though steadily falling from its

Please see "Generations," continued on page 20.

SPQT

Ananda Gupta

Criticisms of the Tufts Community Union Senate abound. Some charge its members with gratuitous resumé-building, petty politicking, and more than their fair share of hot air. Those accusations may or may not be justified, but the Senate unquestionably suffers from one fatal problem: muddled purpose, a complete lack of vision. Its members simply cannot decide what fundamental objectives the body should pursue. At times it seems as if its goal is to hoard Student Activities money, at other times, to pass resolutions against human-rights abuses abroad or debate hot-button political issues. Tufts's parliament of bores reached the apex of aimlessness early last fall when members actually spent time debating "offensive" material in *The Zamboni*. But as a working institution, the Senate's structure is abominable. The body is ideally configured for none of its legitimate goals, nor for any goal which the student body might conceivably want it to work towards. In practice, the Senate should pursue one and only one goal: the disbursement of the Student Activities fee that each student pays annually.

Presently, the Senate Treasury controls around \$640,000 per year in activities fees. That money is doled out through the budget process, in which any group can participate after recognition by the TCU Judiciary. The Allocations Board (ALBO), made up of seven senators plus the three most senior senators (the President, Treasurer, and Assistant Treasurer), approve or decline requests for money. If a group is unhappy, it can appeal to the rest of the Senate for changes.

On paper, the process seems plausible. But a few questions should immediately come to mind. First, if ALBO consists of

only eleven people— less than half the Senate— what do the rest of the senators do, besides hear appeals? Logic dictates that most of the remaining senators are either bureaucratic waste or dead weight. The Treasury rightly admits that its largest

It seems peculiar that a majority of the Senate should divorce itself from the budget process until the very end.

responsibility is the Student Activities fee. It seems peculiar, then, that a majority of the Senate should divorce itself from the budget process until the very end, only interceding when student groups have cause for dissatisfaction. The appeals process, incidentally, suffers from a 'rubber-stamping' phenomenon. Faced with the prospect of researching student groups rather than arbitrarily churning out appeals denials, many senators simply stonewall their constituents. That the Chinese Culture Club



felt that tears and cries of racism constituted the only viable tactic against the senators hearing their appeal, knowing the hard criticism and outright ridicule that would result, bears testimony to the obstacles disgruntled groups must face.

The Answer

To its credit, the Senate has made some significant efforts to bring groups and their ALBO representatives together so as to avoid such debacles. But few of these efforts have contributed substantive solutions to the Senate's greatest problem: distance. In truth, ALBO members cannot be blamed for the Senate's estrangement from student groups, nor can the miles of red tape that groups must cut through to reach student activities money. Quite simply, senators just do not have the time to understand group concerns.

For example, the Social Organizations Council head must oversee and consider budget applications for *eighteen* groups consisting primarily of high-budget programming organizations such as Film Series and Concert Board. ALBO personnel have two office hours per week. No amount of effort on the part of the Senate to bring such groups closer to ALBO will succeed when the chairs have such a workload.

The solution is to give each senator specific ALBO responsibilities— a maximum of five or six groups, perhaps. One way might be to divide up the budget in equal shares among senators— i.e., with a TCU budget of \$640,000 and 26 senators, each senator would be responsible for \$25,000 of the budget. (Since some groups have budgets higher than \$25,000, some juggling would be necessary.) This would allow senators time to attend group meetings and get acquainted with their

members and officers. It would also provide groups with an advocate rather

*Please see "TCU Senate,"
continued on the next page.*

***“TCU Senate,” continued
from the previous page.***

than an adversary on the Senate, since there would be an incentive to ensure that familiarity breeds something besides contempt.

The Treasury has often been accused of arbitrariness. Under the more inclusive system, student groups might rescind that charge since the entire Senate would monitor and work with student organizations. Surpluses, such as the much ballyhooed \$334,000 sitting in the TCU buffer fund right now, would be harder to maintain as a result of groups having much more efficient and direct advocacy. In other words, the Treasurer would need to work that much harder to cut group budgets. And rather than sitting in a bank doing nothing, valuable Senate money would be serving the Tufts community.

Fiscal Responsibility

Some might argue that curtailing the Treasury’s ability to cut budgets might lead to fiscal irresponsibility and deficit spending. Not so. First of all, the Treasury operates under a very different notion of fiscal responsibility than do other budget-

Saving money for later use essentially takes from upperclassmen to give to underclassmen.

ary organizations. The Treasury is not in the business of investment, other than investing in student groups. Furthermore, since each student remains at Tufts for four undergraduate years and pays a student activities fee in each of those years, saving money for later use essentially takes from upperclassmen to give to underclassmen. Clearly, the Treasury should not indulge in

redistributive measures. As for deficit spending, the Treasurer would still maintain budget-cutting power. He would just have to work harder to use it.

Ethical dilemmas might present themselves in greater numbers as well, mostly in the form of incentives for conflict of interest. The TCU Judiciary seems an appropriate body for oversight, perhaps in concert with a small Senate ethics committee. Campus media organizations are well-known for examining the Senate’s antics. And, of course, the groups themselves have a strong incentive to participate in the watchdog’s role. In short, the problems raised by a proposal such as the above seem trivial when compared to the benefits—happier groups, a more involved and directed Senate, and a little more meaning in the “experience” section of the average senator’s resumé.

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***“Generations,” continued
from page 18.***

can be largely attributed to its gradual slouching towards Washington, away from local communities.

Educational experts subject children to “sex education” that all too often runs counter to values parents try desperately to instill. Considering that many children spend more time in school than with their families, it is no surprise that parents find it difficult to compete with monolith government education programs. It does not matter that some part of society believes teenagers deserve to know about safe sex; that issue must be tempered by parental consent, a concept frequently eschewed by today’s elites.

Given that our generation prefers talking about morally-equivalent “choices” to the antiquated concepts of objective right and wrong, the moral force of religion faces a severe uphill battle. Though the Boy Scouts still preach preparedness, Boomers’ selfish neuroses have infected similar activities such as competitive sports. Little League and the like should encourage persistence and sportsmanship, but instead parents’

drive to win often pushes children to the point of near-breakdown. Consider the recent case of JonBenet Ramsey, the six-year-old girl who wore high heels, makeup, and pantyhose while competing in lavish beauty pageants.

Our generation has received from our parents and society an education and upbringing not just lacking in substance, but one which is explicitly damaging. Our story raises the question: can a generation never taught “right” ever learn to avoid wrong? The baby-boom generation, growing up in an age of family stability, took for granted what we know all too well to be a blessing. This, combined with the specter of AIDS and myriad other diseases, inclines the Aborted Generation more towards monogamy and long-term relationships than its parents. And while religion overall does not quite flourish amongst our generation, that it manages to survive at all gives hope that we may one day reject the valueless culture we have inherited. The Baby-Boomers successfully achieved what the young and restless of every society have always desired: the complete upheaval of the social institutions that limit the range of human behavior. But the earthly utopia the sixties



aspired to create instead produced the nihilist wasteland we inhabit today.

The desire to rebel against the values of the elder generation goes hand-in-hand with being young. It is sweet irony, then, that we can save our culture and society by embracing the values our parents rejected and cast away. Significant evidence suggests that our generation is one of the most conservative in modern times. Growing up as we have in the shadow of the Boomers’ failure, we naturally lean towards the values of an earlier time.

The challenges our generation will face in the coming years, though thankfully not cursed by war or depression, still present us with as difficult a road as any ever faced. In many ways, our generation is the most cynical, angst-ridden, and alienated to come of age in the nation’s history. But our American journey has not even begun. The pages of our history remain unwritten, and we may instill it with a tradition rich in value if only we choose. So long as we realize the failures of our elders and jettison the society bequeathed to our generation, hope will still live, and the Aborted Generation may turn out to be the one that brings America back.

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Other People's Money

Keith Levenberg

When PepsiCo announced its intentions to fully sever its business connections in Burma, student activists across the free world lauded its change of heart. Although not directly in cahoots with the Burmese police state, PepsiCo's presence, the story goes, legitimized the military dictatorship and stabilized social unrest that would have threatened the government's authoritarian rule. It is too soon to tell whether or not the corporation's withdrawal can improve the lot of the Burmese people. But the congratulations did not come without reserve; the withdrawal has traced a path of devastation across America's college campuses, leaving scores of eager leftist activists with nothing to protest.

Attempting to justify Tufts's Top 20 Activist School status yet again, the Tufts Burma Action Group wasted no time finding a new project. It seems that the University's investments include a stock portfolio containing shares of companies like AT&T, Compaq, and American Express. Tufts follows a standard procedure used by large shareholders lacking the resources to adequately research details of companies' internal operations: it abstains from voting on many proxy questions. Some proxies feature shareholder resolutions covering politically correct topics, and TBAG coordinator Kathy Polias views the University's shareholder status as an opportunity to spread Tufts's activist influence to corporate America.

The *Daily's* coverage reveals that Polias and her followers possess little knowledge of the world of finance. The activists cite plebiscites on gay discrimination as typical examples of shareholder resolutions in addition to inane topics such as discontinuing the purchase of

slave labor goods, a practice long prohibited by law and not carried out by any American company. All publicly-traded companies adhere to the law's fundamental human-rights standards; thus, any at-

Students would accomplish nothing more than activism for its own sake were they to form a bureaucracy to police University investments.

tempt to subject corporations to "social responsibility" does not concern egregious violations like sweat shops but petty infractions of political correctness. Even still, most proxy questions concern internal corporate operations of no interest to social activists.

Tufts's activists seem to liken shareholder proxies to votes cast in national elections in which individuals who abstain are seen as shirking their moral duties.

However, the two practices are not comparable. The most important distinction is that proxy abstentions do not constitute a 'lost vote';

every question presented to stockholders contains a default answer usually selected by the company's board of directors. The corporation tabulates any votes not cast as an automatic vote for its own recommendation. Since the default vote is selected by individuals far more familiar with the workings and interests of

the corporations than common shareholders, the default policy is almost always the most profitable. A shareholder that votes against the board's recommendation generally votes against his

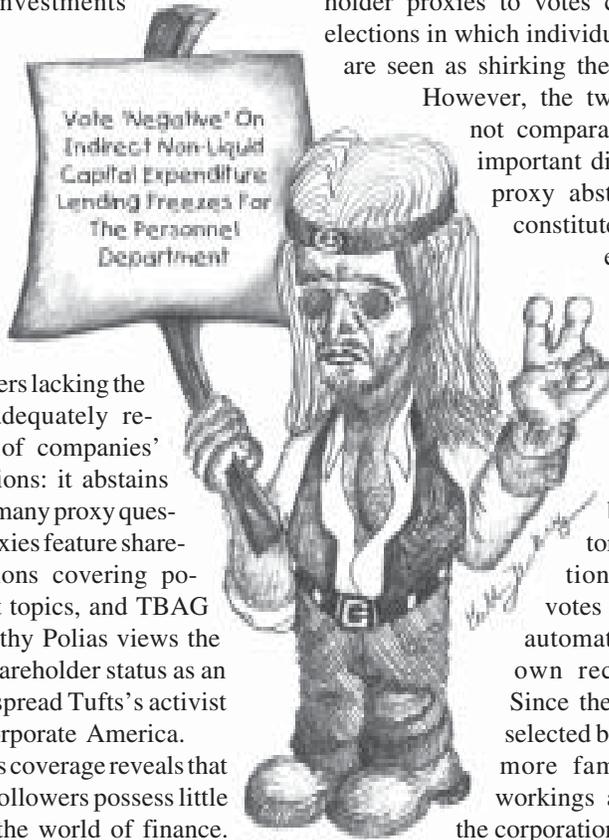
own financial interests. Since Tufts only holds shares for investment purposes, casting its votes for social causes would defeat the very reason it owns stock.

Another major characteristic differentiates proxies from the elections that most people are familiar with: the absence of the "one man, one vote" policy. Votes are accorded to investors on the basis of how much stock they own. Unless Tufts controls a major percentage of a company's stock, its vote will

have little influence— particularly if it chooses to vote against the board's recommendations. Since the largest shareholders deliberate on the default votes, the board of directors often comprises a sufficient majority to pass the favored vote by itself. As such, it is extremely rare to see the board's recommendation defeated.

Moreover, the TBAG coalition seems to believe that the corporation's preferred policy is usually the morally objectionable path. No doubt this assumption results from the inherent disdain the left harbors towards business of any kind, often presuming that, given a choice, every corporation will act irresponsibly. They fail to understand that presenting a positive image to the public is a prerequisite in the quest for profit. Often, corporations feature politically correct questions on their proxies for the sole purpose of generating positive publicity when the resolution is passed almost unanimously. After successfully approving a resolution condemning anti-gay discrimination, a corporation can issue a press release and receive television and print press coverage that amounts to free advertising. Quite simply, Tufts's activists have nothing to fear from prominent corporations should the University abstain from voting. Students would accomplish nothing more than activism for its own sake were they to form a bureaucracy to police University investments.

Alternatively, activists might suggest that Tufts continue its practice of absten-



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tion but investigate more carefully which companies it chooses to invest in at the outset. Such an absurd proposal suggests a scandalous disloyalty to Tufts; for anyone to propose that the University commit itself to social activism in a manner so extreme as to threaten the capital base that allows it to exist constitutes unrealistic self-indulgence. It is one thing for a student to dedicate his four years in the ivory tower to indiscriminate social activism, but it is quite another matter for him to demand free reign over other people's coffers to finance his schemes— especially when it is the University's distinct station that makes his favorite pastime possible.

Unsurprisingly, the coalition organized by TBAG is comprised solely of leftist campus groups like the Women's Collective, the Oxfam Collective, ECO, and the Tufts Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Community. A body composed of these groups ostensibly designed simply to promote 'responsible' decisions will surely degenerate into an organ dedicated solely to advancing the left's political agenda. Of course, property owners have the moral right to employ whatever criteria they deem important in making decisions concerning their holdings, even if their choices harm their own economic interests. However, as a prestigious University dedicated to the advance-

ment of knowledge, Tufts has a responsibility to divorce itself from certain kinds of political controversy. A University endorsement of a particular political ideology would compromise its objectivity. It would project an image of Tufts to the public associated with political dogma, implying that furthering the left's agenda outweighs its commitment to education. Few actions can damage the dignity associated with the academy more than the subjugation of learning to politics.

As an educational institution, Tufts's investment strategy must keep itself apprised of other special considerations unique to its cultural status. Unlike standard for-profit corporations, Tufts cannot rely on income from the sale of its services to stay in the black. Collecting contributions from wealthy donors is crucial to Tufts's economic well-being, and individuals will feel less inclined to donate if they question the University's financial acumen. Successful fundraising demands that contributors trust the competence of Tufts's investors; donors will feel that their money is being squandered if politically correct concerns trump economic security. Ultimately, the activist crusade will severely compromise the University's ability to raise funds.

Particularly galling is the activists' attempt to portray their dogmatic quest as consistent with Tufts's vision statement. One activist told the *Daily*, "We feel that a committee on shareholder responsibility would allow Tufts to be more true to its vision statement of endorsing non-discriminatory policies and promoting active citizenship." Although Tufts's vision statement certainly condemns discrimination, it also smacks of moral relativism, praising diversity of "personal values."

Given the relativists' traditional contempt for objective standards of conduct, it is unusual that they should ask the University to pursue a course of action that ultimately involves an affirmation of moral "principle." But it should surprise no one to see

Few actions can damage the dignity associated with the academy more than the subjugation of learning to politics.

the left contravene its fundamental tenets in an act of political expediency; such behavior is typical of the left's rich tradition of embracing power and influence as its highest ideals.

The ultimate contradiction distinguishing this new brand of activism is its ironic reliance on institutions that the left has always despised. Attempting to achieve social change through influence gained by stock ownership flies in the face of the left's traditional ideals. So-called "progressives" have always condemned the stock market as an institution of greed and selfishness, assuming any establishment so wholly dedicated to the profit motive incapable of virtue. To witness ideologues that curse money and often deny fundamental private-property rights rely on stock ownership to further their cause gives free-market conservatives a triumphant blast of satisfaction.

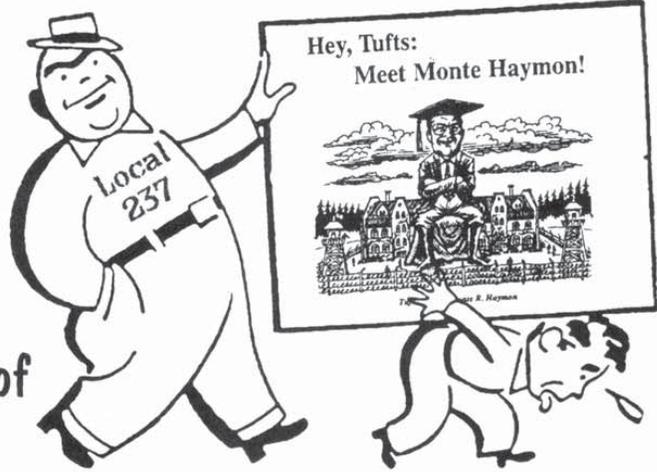
Perhaps this new form of activism will teach them that capitalist tools like the stock market can bring the public an influential voice in social institutions impossible under any other economic system. Perhaps it will even teach the left that money acts as an instrument of liberation, not destruction and certainly not evil. But considering that most college students engage in protest as a hobby rather than a reflection of moral convictions, it is doubtful that they will resolve such contradictions. Hopefully, when Tufts's leftists descend the ivory tower and enter the real world, they will restrict their activism to similar morally legitimate forms of social protest.

Mr. Levenberg is a sophomore majoring in Philosophy.



In response to last week's union-led picketing and leafletting on campus, THE SOURCE organized the first meeting of MAPS, the Monte Haymon Appreciation Society.

We're recruiting a new generation of scabs and strike-busters to oppose the next wave of anti-Monte madness and silly liberal cause-freaks.



When yo-yo's strike, look for the Union label.

NOTABLE AND QUOTABLE

How do you tell a Communist? Well, it's someone who reads Marx and Lenin. And how do you tell an anti-Communist? It's someone who understands Marx and Lenin.
—Ronald Reagan

In the brilliant rocket-explosion of its youth, this country displayed to an incredulous world what greatness was possible to man, what happiness was possible on earth.
—Ayn Rand

We are born believing. A man bears beliefs as a tree bears apples.
—Ralph Waldo Emerson

The strength of a nation is derived from the character, not from the wealth, nor from the multitude, of its people.
—Adam Ferguson

What was wrong with communism was not aberrant leadership, it was communism.
—William F. Buckley, Jr.

Saying The Washington Post is just a newspaper is like saying that Rasputin was just a country priest.
—Pat Buchanan

Politicians all too often are eager to invest taxpayer's money in the next election, but almost never in the next generation.
—Phil Gramm

Live so that when your children think of fairness, caring, and integrity, they think of you.
—H. Jackson Brown, Jr.

Man is not the creature of circumstances. Circumstances are the creatures of men.
—Benjamin Disraeli

Unless men are free to be vicious they cannot be virtuous.
—Frank Meyer

Grow? Why be diligent when half of your earnings are taken from you and given to the idle?
—David Frum

Politics is the cart. Economics is the horse.
—L. R. Boulware

Satire is a sort of glass, wherein beholders generally discover everybody's face but their own.
—Jonathan Swift

The important thing in acting is to be able to laugh and cry. If I have to cry, I think of my sex life. If I have to laugh, I think of my sex life.
—Glenda Jackson

It's clearly destructive to any sense of community when we come to know Roseanne's TV family better than we know the real-life neighbors next door.
—Michael Medved

It is now easier to renounce a marriage than a mortgage.
—James Q. Wilson

Too often, American educators are like the Wizard of Oz, handing out substitutes for brains, bravery, and heart.
—Thomas Sowell

Americans are so enamored of equality that they would rather be equal in slavery than unequal in freedom.
—Alexis de Tocqueville

In college one is exposed to a vast amount of information that is quite untrue, and it is most unjust that one should have to demonstrate one's mastery of untruths to graduate— one has to go even further to graduate with honors.
—R. Emmett Tyrrell, Jr.

An idealist is one who, on noticing that a rose smells better than a cabbage, concludes that it will also make a better soup.
—H. L. Mencken

A child of five could understand this! Somebody fetch me a child of five.
—Groucho Marx

Laugh and the world laughs with you; snore and you sleep alone.
—Anthony Burgess

I certainly agree that we should not go around saying we are the world's policemen. But guess who gets called when someone needs a cop?
—Colin Powell

Words are, of course, the most powerful drug used by mankind.
—Rudyard Kipling

The most fluent talkers or the most plausible reasoners are not always the justest thinkers.
—William Hazlitt

The Future is something which everyone reaches at the rate of sixty minutes an hour, whatever he does, whoever he is.
—C. S. Lewis

Whenever I'm caught between two evils, I take the one I've never tried.
—Mae West

Modesty is the artifice of actors, similar to passion in call girls.
—Jackie Mason

Teaching has ruined more American novelists than drink.
—Gore Vidal

Government is an association of men who do violence to the rest of us.
—Leo Tolstoy

In the final choice the soldier's pack is not as heavy as the prisoner's chains.
—Dwight Eisenhower

There are no limits on our future if we don't put limits on our people.
—Jack Kemp

A man is not finished when he is defeated. He is finished when he quits.
—Richard Nixon

Elvis is in fact a Republican
—Rep. John Kasich

Now is the time to kill the Texasaurus monster! Kill the dinosaur, kill him now! If you don't, he's going to eat more jobs.
—Alfonse D'Amato

I have always know that the only economic system that works is a market economy... for it is the only one that reflects the nature of life itself.
—Vaclav Havel