

Jumbos miss NESCAC finals qualification

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First North American location for reality gaming company Boda Borg opens in Malden
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Tufts, Bowdoin head football coaches to face off after joint coaching career
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Tufts Wi-Fi struggles to keep up with student demands

by **Nina Joung**
Assistant Features Editor

On Sept. 20, students on Medford/Somerville campus experienced large-scale wireless network inefficiency. In response, Tufts Technology Services (TTS) is inviting the community to give input and more direct feedback.

According to TTS Director of Enterprise Infrastructure Theresa Regan, the problem lasted from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. However, Regan noted that it is possible that students could have experienced Wi-Fi problems before TTS was notified of the problem.

While the Wi-Fi was down, students took to social media platforms such as Twitter to express their frustrations about the problem on Sunday and general wireless network challenges.

Sophomore Philip Hicks took to social media and tweeted about the

see **WI-FI**, page 3

Tufts joins coalition for new application platform

by **Safiya Nanji**
Contributing Writer

This year, Tufts became one of approximately 80 schools that have joined the Coalition for Access, Affordability and Success, a free alternative college application platform that will go into effect for the 2017 admissions cycle.

According to the Coalition's website, the new application platform will provide various free tools to help students through the application process, with the hope of minimizing disadvantages faced by students who lack access to well-equipped guidance offices.

"[R]esearch has found that students from disadvantaged backgrounds often do not participate effectively in the college application process, struggle with applying for financial aid and often do

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TuftsLife relaunches site after eight-month hiatus

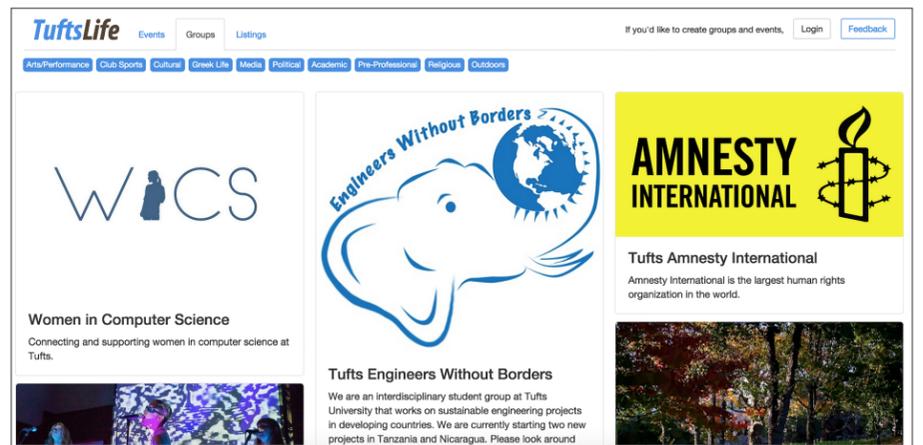
by **Roy Yang**
News Editor

TuftsLife, which served as the virtual bulletin board for student groups and their events for the past decade, has re-launched this fall after an eight-month hiatus.

Inactive since Feb. 1, TuftsLife announced its return on Oct. 6 with a post on its Facebook page that read, "Hello[,] World. It's been a long time."

As of press time, around 20 student groups, including Tufts Amnesty International and Spoken Word Alliance at Tufts (SWAT), had already registered their information on the website.

According to Alex Lenail, the developer behind the revamped website, the new version of TuftsLife is more structurally sound and simple than its predecessors.



"In contrast to the old TuftsLife, we don't have a huge dashboard of information such as the weather," Lenail, a senior, said. "With events, groups and listings, [students] can filter accordingly."

The student-created and -operated website's return follows the Tufts admin-

istration's launch of its own Student Life website. Lenail, who is also the president of the Computer Science Exchange, said he considers the university's new Student Life website to be complementary to TuftsLife.

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Coming Out Day Rally held at Campus Center



RAY BERNOFF / THE TUFTS DAILY

Humanist-in-Residence Walker Bristol speaks at the LGBT Center's Coming Out Day Rally on Oct 7.



RAY BERNOFF / THE TUFTS DAILY

Program specialist Anne Moore talks about being a queer femme mom at the LGBT Center's Coming Out Day Rally on Oct 7.



Mostly Sunny
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Medford, MA 02155
617 627 3090
FAX 617 627 3910
daily@tuftsdaily.com

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TuftsLife reboots after TCU de-recognition

TUFTSLIFE

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"I'm really happy with it," he said. "I think they are perfect complements because...there are parts of Student Life that aren't events, groups and listings."

Student Services Communications Specialist Caitlin Felsman Pfitzer (A'09), who led the development of the administration's Student Life website, expressed support for an updated TuftsLife and said that she would like for there to be collaboration between TuftsLife and the university.

"I think it's great for students to have their own web presence," Pfitzer said. "And I think that both of our resources will be more valuable if we are talking and finding ways to work together."

Pfitzer said that she believes the two websites will have different functions for their users, since the Student Life website doesn't have student-driven listings.

"I think [listings are] a great thing to offer," she said. "I hope [the two websites] attempt to serve slightly different purposes, and then we can collaborate on things that we each lack."

She added that TuftsLife has experienced problems in the past due to turnover of the website's leadership and expressed hope that a stronger connection between TuftsLife and Student Life can help address that. Pfitzer said that TuftsLife, which had been the homepage for lots of students, became a bit difficult to navigate once leaders of the group had changed hands.

"If there's a better connection between Student Life and TuftsLife, maybe we can help," Pfitzer said. "So that if somebody goes abroad or graduates [from TuftsLife], we can offer resources...to help it keep going."

Lenail explained that TuftsLife, which currently has a total of three students on its team, has had a long history under the leadership of different students at Tufts.

The website, which was created in 2000, had achieved considerable success

in its infancy, but the site disappeared around 2006, according to Lenail. It was rebuilt in 2008 in an effort led by Mike Vastola (A'12).

After Vastola's departure, however, TuftsLife went into a period of decline, Lenail said. In 2013, Taylor Lentz (A'14) tried to rebuild the website as part of her senior project but was unsuccessful.

According to Lenail, after Lentz left the website's rebuilding process, Tony Cannistra (A'15) and Tara Kola (A'15) attempted to fix the broken website by gathering a collective of students to work together.

Cannistra said that there was a large amount of interest when the club was restarted in the 2013 fall semester, with designers, human factors engineers and programmers attending many of the initial design meetings.

However, the club faced challenges regarding time commitment, since the website required continuous maintenance, according to Cannistra.

"A TuftsLife executive position becomes close to a full-time software development position," Cannistra told the Daily in an email. "This is a commitment that many people found difficult to sustain, especially when the majority of candidates come from the busy and over-committed population of computer science students... The difficulty came when real development started, and people had trouble committing to something with so much overhead."

According to Cannistra, Vastola's departure from Tufts and TuftsLife deeply affected the website, since subsequent leaders lacked Vastola's commitment.

"It was broken, and then no one updated the front page," Lenail said. "For about a year from 2013 to 2014, user numbers just slowly crumbled to the floor."

Since the various efforts to rebuild TuftsLife were not successful, Lenail explained that he took it upon himself during his sophomore year to revamp the student website.

According to Lenail, working alone proved very challenging, and, for a period of time, TuftsLife became inactive. The rebuilding process began to speed up when sophomore Ben Steephenson joined Lenail in the TuftsLife project last spring.

With two people working on the project, the quality of code became much more durable, stable and comprehensible, Lenail said.

Lenail also said that while the developers made great progress in the development of TuftsLife, he faced another challenge with the de-recognition of TuftsLife as a student group by the TCU Judiciary last semester.

According to Lenail, he felt that the administration, which was working on its new Student Life website, wanted TuftsLife gone and was not as helpful as he hoped they would be during the rebuilding process.

"When we were working on TuftsLife, I went into [Director of the Office for Campus Life] Joe Golia's office, and I told them that we were rebuilding website," he said. "[Golia] said that it was great, but he also told us to slow down because the administration was working on something similar. Two weeks later, he wasn't answering my emails, and TuftsLife had been de-recognized. I think he had reasons to do so, but he hasn't been the best to us."

Golia explained that de-recognition of TuftsLife was due to the guidelines and protocols of student organization recognition.

"Departments [and] administrators have no say in the recognition or de-recognition of student organization, and [it] is all done by the TCUJ [TCU Judiciary]" Golia told the Daily in an email. "Over the past few years, we in the [Office for Campus Life] have heard nothing from TuftsLife or any students representing TuftsLife, while attempting several times to find someone involved."

Golia said he was very up front with Lenail regarding the administration's

website and its progress and that it was Tufts students who worked directly with Pfitzer on the Student Life site. He also said students who were frustrated with the loss of TuftsLife requested similar features from the old TuftsLife be added to the Student Life website.

Pfitzer, the point person behind the Student Life website, also explained that the administration had reached out to TuftsLife several times but did not receive a response for several months. According to Pfitzer, the administration had to take TuftsLife off the server due to limited resources, which were allocated them elsewhere.

Lenail is excited about the new website and eager to introduce it to the Tufts community despite the difficulties TuftsLife has faced in its relaunch.

"I would really like everyone to use it," Lenail said. "If everyone is on TuftsLife, it becomes more valuable, and if people post a lot of events, it might become a good place to go and learn about these events."

Lenail did express concern, however, that in an environment where Facebook dominates a student platform for finding events, TuftsLife may be superfluous.

"The question for TuftsLife is how do we survive in a place where Facebook exists," he said. "I don't think Facebook events are a good solution to the problem of organizing campus events, but since TuftsLife hasn't existed for the past few years, students have learned to twist Facebook to supply their needs. People also have higher expectations now, and I think holding on to user trust is something I'm definitely afraid of."

Despite these worries, Lenail said that he isn't afraid of failure.

"This is the culminating project of my programming experience so far," he said. "I don't think...I've [ever] worked on something this hard [in my entire life]. And that's what TuftsLife means to me... I'm very prepared for it to fail, and I won't be upset, because I learned so much."

Tufts Class of 2021 will have alternative college application option

ADMISSIONS

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not get awarded all the financial aid they qualify for," a Sept. 28 press release states. "As a result, even the most highly qualified students either do not attend college, attend a college that does not engage their full potential, or do not complete their degrees. Attending a high school with a college-going culture greatly increases students' college success. The Coalition hopes to address these findings through its free online tools and increased transparency around admissions and financial aid."

Dean of Admissions Lee Coffin noted that the Coalition's aims are in line with Tufts'.

"I shared the goals of the Coalition to explore opportunities to improve the college admissions process, to level its playing field for low-income students and to leverage technology in new ways to achieve those goals," Coffin wrote.

This platform, created in partnership with Portland-based technology developer CollegeNET, is meant to streamline the application and financial aid processes and help students begin the college process sooner, according to the press release. The Coalition application will provide online tools, such as a digital

portfolio, a collaboration platform and an application portal

According to Coffin, the Coalition application will not affect Tufts' admissions process; the Coalition application and the Common App will be equal submission options in the same manner that students can opt to submit the SAT College Admissions Exam or the ACT, he said.

"I don't foresee any changes to Tufts' admissions process," Coffin told the Daily in an email. "The application platform does not influence the things we value and evaluate, only the means by which those elements are delivered to Tufts."

Coffin wrote that the growing number of Coalition members includes a mix of both private and public institutions.

"Ten of the 11 members of NESCAC [New England Small College Athletic Conference] joined the Coalition, as well as all eight members of the Ivy League," he said. "[The full list] includes a wide array of private as well as public universities and liberal arts colleges."

In order for colleges to become members of the Coalition, they must meet certain membership criteria, Coffin wrote. All the Coalition's members offer affordable education, and private universities must provide enough aid to meet the full demonstrated need of students applying

in the United States.

"Each college must meet two membership criteria: the institution must meet 100 percent of the demonstrated financial need of applicants and the college must have a six-year graduation rate of at least 70 percent," he said.

According to Coffin, the Coalition initiative was started two years ago by university admissions deans from the University of Chicago, Yale University and others.

"The initiative was originally spearheaded in 2013 by the admissions deans... who were dissatisfied with the status quo as the Common Application experienced significant technical issues that year," he said. "The original founders felt the Common Application was not fully meeting their goals, and they began a conversation about an alternative to it."

Meghan Dangremond, the associate director of admissions, said that Tufts has always been open to experimenting with new boundaries, in regards to the application process.

"The Tufts Admissions Office has never been one to cling blindly to tradition while balking at the new or unprecedented," Dangremond, who is also vice president for membership of Overseas Association for College Admission (OACAC), told the Daily in an

email. "We've experimented with video submissions, creative essay topics and assessment of non-cognitive factors. The Coalition is an opportunity to break down limitations imposed by our existing platform, and allow Tufts to develop an application that suits our community and future Jumbos alike."

According to Harvard University's Associate Director of Communications Rachael Dane, Harvard joined the Coalition to increase the accessibility of its admissions process.

"[Harvard] has always done everything possible to ensure that the college application process is accessible for all students," Dane told the Daily in an email.

The Coalition's platform is not yet complete, but Tufts Admissions is looking forward to working with the other Coalition member institutions, according to Dangremond.

"While the final product (and the path we'll take to get there) is not yet determined, the conversations, motives and capacity for change are all encouraging," Dangremond said. "We are excited to work with a group of institutions committed to access and success. We look forward to not just the application but the suite of tools that the Coalition will make available to all students in pursuit of higher education."

TTS calls for feedback following reported Wi-Fi outages

WI-FI
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problem.

"I did text in [a] group chat, and one of my friends said, 'Yeah, I called TTS, and they said it's down everywhere,'" Hicks said.

According to TTS Manager of Service Marketing and Communications Christine Fitzgerald, TTS received service requests regarding wireless connection issues, but its monitoring systems did not register the outage that day. When reviewed, the in-place monitoring system showed services as functioning, though possibly degraded or slow.

"All our monitoring that [was] in place during those two days worked as expected," Regan said. "What I mean by that is that we monitored all the access points, and there was no advanced warning that the access points were having problems."

Additionally, a brief outage the following day was a result of initiating a failover — a shift to a backup system in case of operational failure — of Tufts' wireless controllers to address the issue, according to Fitzgerald.

"This failover process is designed and intended to be seamless," Fitzgerald told the Daily in an email. "But as a result of an unexpected configuration issue, there was a brief impact to users of the Tufts Secure wireless SSID."

Despite all the attention, there is little explanation for the event that occurred on Sunday, according to Regan.

ed spaces on campus where additional access points should be added, according to Fitzgerald. Currently, the wireless network consists of approximately 2,700 access points across all three campuses, with approximately 1,970 of those access points deployed on the Medford/Somerville campus, she said.

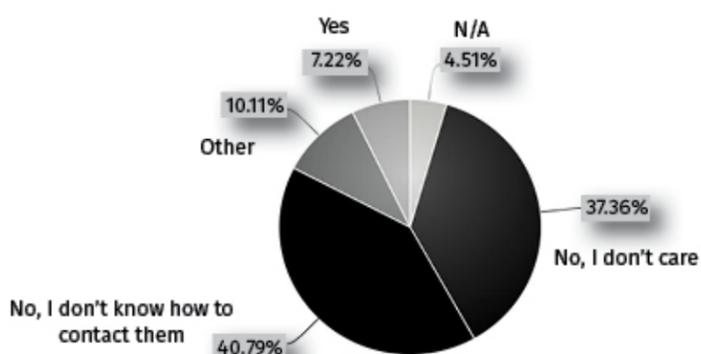
"The initial rollout in 2010 was focused on providing strong wireless coverage to high-impact areas and future efforts have been focused on providing more dense and seamless coverage," Fitzgerald wrote. "During the summers of 2013 and 2014, Wi-Fi was extended to outdoors areas with a primary focus on public gathering areas and athletic fields, for example: President's Lawn, The Green, Ellis Oval, the Quad, tennis courts, etc."

In an increasingly wireless world, student demand for consistent Wi-Fi access continues to grow. According to a recent survey conducted by the Daily with the Tufts population 95 percent of the 554 respondents find that a bad Wi-Fi connection affects their productivity. The survey also showed that students feel campus wireless access is an amenity that they should not have to worry about.

According to Regan, the students' growing demand for mobility is one of the factors that is affecting the network's efficiency.

"Today, there's a real big difference between what we call mobility and being mobile," Regan said. "So five years ago, being mobile meant that

Do you contact Tufts Technology Services (TTS) when you encounter Wi-Fi problems?



"I think we've tried to express this as clearly as we can that we don't have any explanation for it," Regan said. "There is nothing I can point to as like, 'Okay, this was the root problem.' There is nothing, no matter how I look at the data."

On Sept. 30, the student body received a response from the Tufts administration. In a statement written by Fitzgerald, TTS addressed the community's frustration in struggling to access "a robust and modern wireless communications environment" and provided information on getting connected.

In 2008, there was a strong student demand for campus-wide wireless access as a basic college amenity, though the administration chose not to implement it at the time, according to a Tufts Daily article from Nov. 24, 2008. The Tufts wireless network was initially rolled out in 2010, according to Fitzgerald.

To improve the wireless infrastructure across campus, TTS has taken steps in the past to address densely populat-

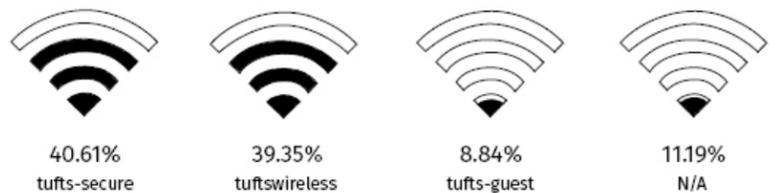
you took your laptop, your phone, you went to a particular place and you were extremely happy — it was a great experience. Today, you're expected to have mobility, meaning you start something in your dorm room, you want to be able to walk out of your dorm room, across the hallway, another room and still have connectivity. That's different."

Other factors that affect the efficiency include the increased number of devices using the network, as well as the significant amount of traffic for high-definition video for applications such as Skype, Google Hangouts, FaceTime, Youtube, Periscope and Netflix, Fitzgerald wrote.

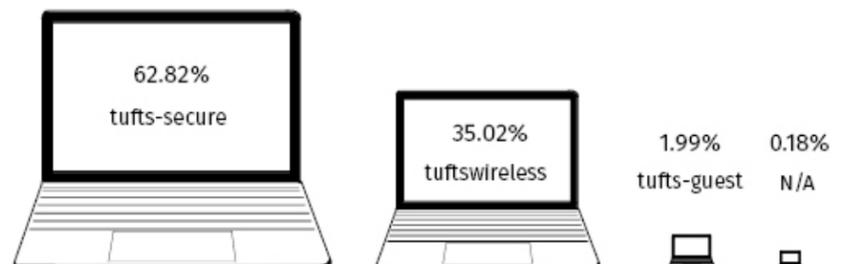
Fitzgerald added that the cellular carrier plays a role in the cellular Wi-Fi efficiency on campus. As a means to improve cellular wireless access on campus, there are plans to install additional cellular towers in the region, she said.

"When you think about your cell phone, you have your cellular carrier... then [you have] got the wireless infra-

Which campus Wi-Fi network choice do you find most reliable?



Which Tufts Wi-Fi network do you use most often?



structure across campus," Fitzgerald said. "It's the combination of the two that will allow your phone to work well across campus."

To keep the campus wireless network coverage up-to-date with the current wireless technology field, TTS conducts refresh cycles or projects through heat maps, according to Fitzgerald. These heat maps represent the strength of an access point's wireless coverage within a particular location.

According to Regan, using heat maps during the refresh projects helps TTS figure out where new access points need to be placed on campus.

"When we go ahead to do the refresh project throughout the fall, winter and next summer, every location where wireless coverage should be augmented, increased penetration, we'll add more access points," she said.

However, a major concern identified by both Regan and Fitzgerald in the refresh project is including users' input. As a new role created last June as part of the Tufts Effectiveness in Administrative Management (TEAM) Initiative, Fitzgerald has encountered roadblocks in reaching out to the Tufts community for feedback.

"I'm beginning to look at different ways to get information out and also to get people's feedback, which is the hardest thing I've found so far given the distributive nature," Fitzgerald said. "So I'm working to better understand the culture and to best work collaboratively across the schools and the divisions as well as the student population."

Regan believes that one major roadblock to communicating with Tufts students in particular is their tendency to post problems on social media rather than contact TTS. Despite efforts to get accustomed to receiving information from social media, she said that if students had reached out to TTS before going to social media with their complaints, the incident from Sept. 20 could have been easier to address.

"Based on the data that I can look at retrospectively, if some of the students had chosen to report it to us, either at it.tufts.edu or calling the service desk directly, it would have been particularly helpful," Regan said.

According to the Daily survey, only seven percent of respondents have contacted TTS about WiFi issues, while 37 percent of respondents do not care to contact TTS and 41 percent do not know how to contact TTS.

According to the seven percent of respondents who reached out to TTS,

the service's responses include adding routers to the problem areas, reassuring students that the problem is being addressed, offering generic solutions such as disconnecting and reconnecting and making sure they are on Tufts' more reliable networks: tufts-wireless or tufts-secure.

While students like Hicks communicated with friends to obtain information, Regan hopes that those experiencing wireless access troubles will contact TTS directly with details about the problem so that TTS can address the situation.

"We really have gotten very little specific information from people," Regan said. "If a colleague or student were to [report] the location where they had [experienced] no...or low...or weak productivity, we visited those locations."

Regan also supported the simpler solution to students' connection troubles, questioning whether students are connected to the most reliable wireless network rather than if the campus has proper coverage.

"I think if you're in the teaching-learning spaces, if you're in the public spaces, if you're in the student spaces, I think the access points are there," Regan said. "I'm really interested in whether or not you're connected to the right network."

However, the survey results indicate that nearly 98 percent of respondents connect to the networks deemed most reliable by TTS: tufts-wireless or tufts-secure.

Although the majority of students appear to not report their connection problems to TTS, there has been an increased number of complaints to TTS. According to Regan, since the event on Sept. 20, TTS has received between 24 and 36 service requests — a considerably higher number of complaints than they normally receive.

Hicks recognizes that the recent trend of campus Wi-Fi problems is suggested by the increased complaint count.

"It was so weird because I knew last year maybe one time I had a problem with it," Hicks said. "But then this semester it sort of seems like a recurring thing that [it] sometimes doesn't work."

Nonetheless, for Regan, the solution for current wireless network dissatisfaction will come with the support of student feedback.

"I really encourage the students to reach out to us, I really encourage the students to help us help them solve the problem," Regan said. "We're interested in meeting anybody who is interested in meeting with us."

GRAPHICS BY SHIRLEY WANG / THE TUFTS DAILY

You're invited.

Tufts Attitudes about Sexual Conduct Survey Panel Discussions

Medford/Somerville campus:

Thursday, October 8, 7:00–9:00 pm in the Rabb Room | Lincoln Filene Hall

Boston campus:

Friday, October 9, 12:00–1:30 pm in the HNRCA Conference Room | Mezzanine Level

Grafton campus:

Friday, October 9, 12:00–1:30 pm in the Kohnstamm Conference Room
(by videoconference)

The survey was developed by the Presidential Task Force on
Sexual Misconduct Prevention
and Tufts' Office of Institutional Research and Evaluation.

To see survey results, visit <http://oeo.tufts.edu>.



COURTESY CHAD ELLIS

In this element of a Boda Borg game, players must pass through a space with their feet on the wall, leaning against one another so that neither falls to the ground.

Boda Borg brings real-life gaming experience to Malden

by **Josh Podolsky**
Executive Arts Editor

Downtown Malden, just a short way northeast of campus, is going through something of a revitalization, but the newest arrival in the district is far from what one might expect to find in a city planner's toolkit. This addition, Boda Borg, is a reality gaming experience that challenges participants — “questers,” in Boda Borg lingo — to keep their minds and bodies flexible in more ways than one as they confront various challenges.

While unorthodox, Boda Borg fits into the vision Mayor Gary Christenson's administration has for the city's downtown area.

“It couldn't have come at a better time, because we're in the midst of revitalizing our downtown, so we think this could be one of the ways to do it,” Christenson said. “You know, we have the restaurants, we have the employers and now, to have something like Boda Borg, it could help us to complete the puzzle...no pun intended.”

Kevin Duffy, Malden's business development officer, echoed the mayor's sentiments and expounded on the family appeal that the new business brings to the district.

“It's one of those things where you really don't have to hold back when you're playing with your kids,” Duffy said. “You know, if you're playing soccer, you're always going three-quarter speed. I was questing with my eight-year-old last night and was like, ‘Come on, let me do it.’ It's really a good time in that regard. So it's a family thing, but you can also come with a group of friends. You can come with people after dinner, drinks.”

Boda Borg bills itself as an activity for ages seven and up. While one might not expect septuagenarians to be enticed by this attraction, the launch event on Oct. 1 included teams with more than a few grey hairs between them. These teams were even taking on some of the more physically challenging quests and approaching them with the same verve and determination as more spry questers.

“It's a little bit of everything,” Mayor Christenson said. “It can be used for corporate training ... I think based on [a Sept. 30] article [in the Boston Globe] generating over 10,000 shares, views, likes, we just can't wait to see what happens here in the ensuing weeks and months.”

Founded in Sweden, Boda Borg has eight locations in its mother country, seven of which contributed quests to the new Malden location. In fact, Boda

Borg Boston, as the location is known, is the first of the company's facilities outside Sweden.

Boda Borg Boston Founder and CEO Chad Ellis first learned about the questing experience through a business school classmate. When this friend sent Ellis an email to gauge his interest in starting a venture with the Swedish company, Ellis flew across the pond to kick the tires, so to speak, and signed onto the project to bring the idiosyncratic organization to an American audience.

“It's been a long, torturous process,” Duffy said in regard to Malden's involvement in bringing Boda Borg stateside.

According to Duffy, the process started just under a year before the opening.

“To be able to watch all of Kevin's hard work and dedication translate into this tonight, I couldn't be more excited or pleased for Malden,” Christenson said at the launch event.

Even at the launch event, however, there were signs that the setup process was not yet complete. Some quests smelled of fresh paint, others took place in spaces marked by painter's tape to indicate gaps in their construction and a couple of others were still not open to the public. Most of the quests, however — 16 of the 19 that will eventually be available — were fully operational, providing questers with shockingly engrossing, challenging and addicting experiences.

The promotional video on Boda Borg's website and YouTube channel walks viewers through the basic mechanics of a quest, and the staff on site provide questers with a brief orientation that provides slightly more detail. In essence, a quest is a sequence of two to five challenges that often build on each other, and are attempted by questers grouped into teams of three to five. A quest's structure is similar to the level design of Nintendo's Mario games (1981 – present), wherein the designers introduce an easily comprehensible concept in one space before proceeding to expand and modify that concept in the next space. As a result, the original concept is molded into something recognizable, but far more challenging. The only way to continue to a new challenge is to complete the ones that precede it, and failing a challenge forces the entire team to start from the beginning. Most challenges require a team effort to succeed, making a mental exercise out of even the most physically arduous quests. Each quest ends at a box sealed by a magnetic mechanism, which is

unlocked upon the quest's completion to reveal a stamp.

Collecting stamps may sound a little lame, but it is far more engaging than one would expect; there's something cathartic about punching a stamp after doing mental and physical contortions. Teams often compare which stamps they have obtained, which become status symbols and indicators of questing cred. Some stamps confer more prestige than others, but a full stamp card is always a source of envy.

Questers will want advice about how to complete the quests, but that well is often dry.

“Our mentality here is, ‘Screw you, figure it out,’” Ellis said when asked for advice on how to approach a particular quest.

A group camaraderie emerged at the launch event, with teams offering cryptic recommendations to each other. This crowdsourced approach to solving a quest is perhaps the best indication of how gen-

**Even a skeptic's skeptic
will be charmed, frustrated
and astounded by the
cleverness built into each
quest.**

uinely difficult the Boda Borg challenges are; these are not your summer camp's low ropes challenges. Even a skeptic's skeptic will be charmed, frustrated and astounded by the cleverness built into each quest.

After a few hours of playing, questers may feel like they've competed in an actual Hunger Games. Indeed, the landscapes of the quests are as variable as the arenas and scenarios in which that series is framed: one quest resembles “Dance Dance Revolution” (1998-2014), one is modeled after a prison break and one takes influence from a haunted house, to name only a few examples.

A portion of Boda Borg Boston's quests come from seven of the eight locations in Sweden, with whole modules shipped across the Atlantic to the new space. Some of the other quests are design collaborations between Boda Borg Boston and 5 Wits, another reality gaming outfit with a location in Foxboro, Mass. The 19th quest will be designed wholly in-house at Malden and will be built upon approval from the parent organization. According

to Ellis, quests will be swapped out over time to keep the material fresh and to entice experienced questers to come back for new adventures.

For the time being, staff from Sweden are assisting at the new facility to help make sure the activity translates smoothly. All staff, Swedish and American, were excited by the activity at the opening event, running around with questers and encouraging teams to try the most challenging courses. When this writer's team became the first to complete one of the challenges (even before some of the employees at Boda Borg), the staff seemed genuinely impressed. Staff encourage questers to push themselves, and their attitude goes a long way toward making Boda Borg an engaging activity.

“Have so much fun, try them all and just go,” Erika Smeds, one of the Swedish transplants in Boston for the first three weeks of operation, said.

When asked whether she had attempted all of the quests at the Malden space, Smeds responded enthusiastically that she had — but she was far less forthcoming about her success on each quest.

The dining hall located on the first floor of the Boda Borg Boston facility will also house the wall of fame. Teams that complete all the quests in under four hours will get a permanent spot on this wall, and the first three of them will receive gold, silver and bronze placements, as well as shirts signed by the whole staff.

Perhaps the most surprising thing about Boda Borg is its universal appeal. This is the kind of experience that young children, teenagers, college students, young professionals, parents and even grandparents can all share and enjoy side by side without one group detracting from the enjoyment of the others.

“This is going to bring so many people in and it's going to be huge for the city,” Duffy said.

Boda Borg very well could be exactly what its promoters make it out to be. Be sure to set aside an afternoon, or even a whole day, to tackle all that Boda Borg Boston has to offer — once you've started, it's hard to stop.

Boda Borg is open Sunday through Thursday, 10 a.m. — 10 p.m. and Friday through Saturday, 10 a.m. — midnight. Two hours in the facility cost \$18, and \$28 grants all-day access. Reservations can be made on Boda Borg's website. Boda Borg also takes large-group reservations. The grand opening ceremony will take place on Oct. 10, but the facility is already open to the public.

A & L

ARTS & LIVING

What's Up This Weekend

This is how to make your weekend artsy and fun:

Light the Night with DTD

The brothers of DTD will be joining the Boston Light the Night Walk to raise money for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. Having contributed the most of any Boston-area college group for the past three years, DTD's goal this year is to exceed \$15,000 in donations. Join them for LTN, walk with friends or go by yourself. Thursday, 5 p.m. – 9 p.m. at Boston Common. No tickets required. Free admission.

Rumtoberfest

Like Oktoberfest, but for rum. Rumtoberfest offers eligible drinkers a variety of premium rums and rum cocktail flights. Friday at 11 p.m. at Bahama Breeze. No tickets required. Free admission.

Joaquin on Sunshine, an Institute Show!

The Institute sketch comedy group takes inspiration from hurricane Joaquin in their latest show. The 'Tute is guaranteed to provide some good laughs. Friday at 9:30 p.m. in Braker 001. No tickets required. Free admission.

Homecoming Carnival

Senior Class Council and Tufts Alumni bring students the annual homecoming carnival. The usual fair fare will be available (think cotton candy, funnel cake and the hammer-bell thing that's at every carnival). Saturday, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. at J Field. No tickets required. Free admission.

SPOTLIGHT

Rachel Sheldon dives into theater community

by Anjali Nair
Arts Editor

Junior Rachel Sheldon may be double majoring in history and psychology, but outside of class, much of her time is devoted to the arts. She has been a member of Pen, Paint & Pretzels (3Ps) — Tufts' umbrella theater organization — and Torn Ticket II since her first year at Tufts. Sheldon started out as a costume designer for the first-year production "Lend Me a Tenor" (1986) in the fall of 2013. This year, she is in Torn Ticket II's fall major production, "Little Shop Of Horrors" (1982), and serves as the club's secretary.

Sheldon's involvement in theater began in middle school and high school, where she participated in various school productions. She also attended the French Woods theater program, an intensive three-week performing arts camp located in Hancock, N.Y.

"I love performing...especially here; the people who do theater at Tufts are so much fun," Sheldon said. "It's an incredible environment, and we spend so many hours together that everyone just becomes really close."

In addition to her theatrical pursuits, Sheldon is a member of a cappella group Enchanted and was the group's music director for a year and a half. Sheldon also expressed her longtime love for vintage and historical fashion.

"I can get really really nerdy about it," Sheldon said. "I feel like the first thing that started it was my American Girl doll because I had one of the historical ones, and she had really cute dresses. And I was like, 'Wow, these are way nicer than dresses that people wear now!'"

Sheldon will star as Chiffon in "Little Shop of Horrors" on Nov. 5 and 6 at 8 p.m. in Cohen Auditorium.

VIDEO GAME REVIEW

'Card Crawl' is well-executed riff on digital card games

by John Gallagher
Assistant Arts Editor

Card games, beyond those played with a standard deck of cards, were once somewhat of a niche genre — and one confined to physical cards at that. Digital card games have exploded into mainstream media recently due in no small part to the release of Blizzard Entertainment's "Hearthstone" (2014), a strategy game in "World of Warcraft" style. Now, "Card Crawl," released on mobile platforms in early September, is the next highly-rated game to jump on the card game bandwagon. Unlike a great many of the digital card games to come out recently, "Card Crawl," which was independently developed by Berlin-based developer Tinytouchtales, is not a competitive experience but instead a fantasy dungeon crawler riff on solitaire.

The aim of "Card Crawl" is to clear all 54 cards in the online deck, which contains a mixture of weapon, potion, ability and monster cards. Four cards are dealt to the player each turn, and the player must somehow use the random combination of "item cards" to overcome the monsters lurking in the deck.

If the player is able to remove three of the four cards dealt during each turn, three new cards are drawn from the deck and the player is one step closer to victory. Like most card games, success depends, to a degree, on the luck of the draw (though the player can redraw a particularly terrible hand at the cost of some of their health), but "Card Crawl" is, fortunately, fair enough that it makes for a satisfyingly intellectual challenge.

Play sessions last approximately five minutes — ideal for a ride on the T — and the element of randomness introduced by the shuffled deck keeps the game feeling fresh between rounds. "Card Crawl's" progression is also based on achieving high scores and completing various in-game

feats, which unlock more cards. The new cards are shuffled into the dealer's deck, introducing further variety and replay value.

"Card Crawl's" art is a treat. Each card, drawn in cartoonish black and white, depicts gorgeous renderings of fantasy monsters, swords, shields, potions and powers. Also depicted is the dealer, a burly goat-person who bangs a comically large tankard of ale on the card table in rage each time the player defeats him and chuckles throatily when the player loses. He, too, is delightfully drawn and animated.

The user interface is fabulously well executed, with impeccably chosen colors, entertaining animations and thematically appropriate skeuomorphism. All these elements contribute to a well-realized look and feel that complements the game's already solid mechanics.

"Card Crawl" is free to play on Google and Amazon platforms, but costs \$2.99 to download onto iOS devices. Not surprisingly, its business model is based around optional in-app purchases. Mobile games have become notorious for "pay-to-win" business models, but, fortunately, "Card Crawl" seems to avoid falling into this trap. Players who want to support the developers can pay \$4.49 to get access to a new quest system and some additional cards. The game is still a ton of fun with this optional add-on, however, and never feels like an incomplete experience designed around selling you an upgrade.

"Card Crawl" is available now for both smartphones and tablets on the Apple app store for \$2.99 and is available for free at Google Play and the Amazon app store. Players will find much to like in the well-realized fantasy art and the short, challenging matches. And, as the game avoids the "pay-to-win" business model that has ruined many perfectly good mobile titles, players can enjoy the card game without paying a cent on some platforms.

ALBUM REVIEW

Darkstar gets political with 'Foam Island'

by Daniel Komanoff
Contributing Writer

Amidst all the social unrest present around the globe these days, one might wonder why there aren't more popular musicians making albums with politically charged messages. Though there have been some social justice-oriented songs, like J. Cole's "Be Free" (2014), which addresses the Black Lives Matter movement, it has been a while since music has seen an album dedicate itself to an examination of contemporary social and political issues; albums like Marvin Gaye's "What's Going On" (1971) or the self-titled album by the Clash (1977) are hard to find these days. English duo Darkstar, however, has brought the politically engaged album back into style with its third effort, "Foam Island," released Oct. 2. The album addresses issues of socioeconomic imbalance between life in London and northern England.

Darkstar has been around since 2007, when it began producing dark grime and English dubstep on the London-based label Hyperdub, known for introducing such groundbreaking U.K. acts as Burial and Zomby to the public. Over the course of its last two albums, Darkstar has made the transition from producing garage and 2-step style beats to more synth-oriented

soundscapes and compositions that lean toward experimental pop. "Foam Island," released on the well-known English electronic label Warp Records, is the culmination of those years of experimentation with ambient textures and accessible melodies.

The album is made up of seven normal-length songs with interludes between each. These interludes are often characterized by spacey chords and twinkling arpeggios drifting in and out of the mix, with dialogue from citizens of northern England that Darkstar interviewed for the album featured throughout.

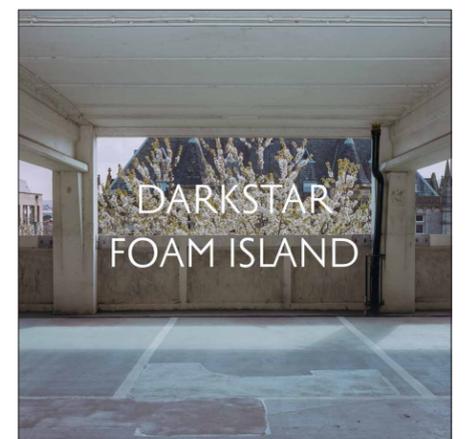
As for the writing process for the album, James Young and Aiden Whalley — the musicians who make up Darkstar — went to Huddersfield (located 190 miles north of London) to interview 15 young natives about their town and the then-upcoming general election. Young and Whalley themselves are from northern England and have expressed in various interviews their desire to return to their roots in order to give a voice to the underrepresented youth of the region.

According to a Jan. 19 Guardian article, the rate of job creation in the south of England compared to the rest of the country is 12 to one, and, in a recent study outlined in Express, the British government's transportation expenditures

are 500 times higher in London than in the whole northeastern region of the country. Statistics like these illustrate the disparity between life in southern England — where London is located — and life in the north.

The interviews featured on "Foam Island" express northern youths' frustration with this situation. On "A Different Kind of Struggle," a girl's voice cuts through the high-pitched drones and chattering voices to articulate that "the young people are having a problem — in that, there doesn't seem to be anybody current who's able to understand the issues that we have at the moment."

At the end of "Through the Motions," a wonderfully composed track featuring an uplifting yet bittersweet synth melody in the chorus, another girl tells the sad story of not being able to follow a normal life trajectory. "Do you know when you go, 'Well, I'm going to go to uni, and I'm gonna have this job. Then I'm gonna buy a house, gonna meet a boy, settle down?' I wish I could have followed that. But I haven't," she says over a somber progression of muddied chords. Moments like these, coming at the end of avant-garde ballads, remind the listener that even in industrialized countries, not everyone is as privileged as the media might lead us to believe.



WARP 2015

In addition, lyrics like "Show them where you're from / Speak or hold your tongue" on "Stoke The Fire" help emphasize the fact that this is not just a collection of snapshots of life in northern England. It is a call to arms, a call for politicians to pay more attention to the people who live in the region, often characterized as a grim, gray place. Darkstar wants to remind its listeners that humans, even in the U.K., are being denied basic needs, like funding for local community activities and the ability to get an education. It does so by balancing beautifully constructed interview clips with avant-garde songs, a combination that results in one of the finest political albums to come out of the decade so far.

A & L

ARTS & LIVING

TOP 10

Top 10 guilty pleasure TV shows

by **Merilla Michael**
Assistant Arts Editor

Everyone has them. We indulge in them secretly at night when no one is watching. They make us feel a bit of shame, but they're also an addiction we can't help but give into: guilty pleasure TV shows. The dialogue is bad, the acting is bad and there may even be unexplained supernatural elements that don't make sense (the recently-premiered "Rosewood," anyone?) There's no shame in taking a break from the intellectual stimulation of "House of Cards" (2013 – present) and settling for a good, mindless episode of "Pretty Little Liars" (2010 – present). Here are the top 10 guilty pleasure TV shows that viewers should only be mildly embarrassed of watching:

1. "The Vampire Diaries" (2009 – present)

This list wouldn't be complete without at least one vampire series. "The Vampire Diaries" — which is just beginning its seventh season — has been a whirlwind of supernatural danger, drama and teenage angst. Plus, the eye candy, courtesy of brothers Damon (Ian Somerhalder) and Stefan (Paul Wesley), doesn't hurt either. In all seriousness, their relationship has gone through the most turmoil on the show, and, surprisingly, it's actually pretty compelling.

2. "The Bachelor" (2002 – present) and "The Bachelorette" (2003 – present)

These shows are essentially just two hours of 20-plus contestants fighting to get married to the same eligible, attractive man or woman. People are ruthless. And to what end? Out of 11 seasons of "The Bachelorette," only four couples are still together. The stats are even worse for "The Bachelor." The show has had 19 seasons, but a measly two couples are still going strong. The odds might not be great for the contestants, but these ABC hits are always a success during a girls' night in.

3. "Reign" (2013 – present)

"Reign" is about Mary Queen of Scots (Adelaide Kane), King Francis II (Toby Regbo) and the drama of being royal. It's not historically accurate in the slightest — the gowns, though gorgeous, look like they came out of a Free People magazine, and there are storylines (supernatural and otherwise) that never actually happened in real life. Historians might hate it, but it's a blast to watch — and the CGI isn't half-bad either.

4. "Heroes" (2006 – 2010)

This show had a decent four-year run. It fell into the trap of peaking in its second and third seasons, and then took a steep downward dive in terms of quality in its fourth. It was canceled after that season despite an unresolved cliffhanger. "Heroes" is chock-full of superheroes, though, so that's a couple of points in its favor.

5. "Gossip Girl" (2007 – 2012)

Just ignore the fact that Dan (Penn Badgley) and Serena (Blake Lively) ended up together when Rufus (Matthew Settle) and Lily (Kelly Rutherford) — clearly the best couple on the show — did not. "Gossip Girl" is essentially "90210" (2008 – 2013), but better. There's drama, backstabbing and other devious deeds, making it an undeniably addictive watch. "Gossip Girl" executes the whole mysterious, all-knowing character setup better than "Pretty Little Liars" (2010 – present).

6. "Say Yes to the Dress" (2007 – present)

There really is something about watching women pick out wedding dresses that is so entertaining. Parents are crying, siblings are arguing and employees have to deal with bridezillas. TLC has marathons of "Say Yes to the Dress" almost every weekday afternoon, and it is just too easy to get sucked in.

7. "Teen Wolf" (2011 – present)

This is another supernatural show, but it's werewolves this time, not vampires. (They're different!) "Teen Wolf" is the best show on MTV, which isn't saying much. Its characters, however, are lovable, especially Stiles Stilinski (Dylan O'Brien), who provides comic relief. Plus, when they turn into werewolves, the makeup is almost believable.

8. "Hell's Kitchen" (2005 – present)

Why resist the urge to watch chef Gordon Ramsay call adults "idiot sandwiches?" Honestly, no one really cares about the food being made, because Ramsay's insults are the most inspirational part of the show. Now go watch the show, you panini-head.

9. "Big Brother" (2000 – present)

The world may never know how this show remains on the air, since it has three hour-long episodes every week, but has managed to survive 17 seasons. It's essentially what "Survivor" (2000 – present) would be, but without the whole survival aspect and with a nice house and food included.

10. "Supernatural" (2005 – present)

The CW staple somehow entered its 11th season this week and still has a solid cult following. Fans have been with protagonists the Winchester brothers (Jensen Ackles and Jared Padalecki) since the beginning and can't seem to let go, despite the fact that the show is quite terrible. There are only so many monsters the brothers can go after, and, at 218 episodes, the show has long since run its course. On the other hand, the 218 episodes mean that "Supernatural" provides long-lasting guilty pleasure material.

Lara LoBrutto
Sinoscope



A parent's love is like a mountain

While I was in China, I was assigned to a family with whom I spent time on weekends. My "mom" was the epitome of a modern mom, maybe even a bit futuristic: a lawyer with purple- and blue-streaked hair (I am not making this up, I swear). She wore stilettos on weekend outings, and her iPhone never left her hands. She put it to good use, too, by constantly taking pictures, candid and posed, of her daughter to the point of evoking aggravation from the American-schooled teenager.

The family took me on various excursions in the smoggy city: the capital museum, an art-filled shopping mall and, oddly enough, a car dealership. After spending a significant deal of time together, I expected that she would hug me upon my departure. Instead she gave me a stiff wave. My gut reaction was surprise, even a little offense. Only later did I realize that the role of parent, even an adopted one, was, in her eyes, entirely different from how I had been socialized to perceive it.

There's a Chinese saying that a parent's love is like a mountain, silent and reliable. Most Americans would agree with the reliable part. But silent? Love is not something that we tend to be silent about. On this point, every Chinese person that I spoke to agreed: they had never, or rarely, exchanged the words "I love you" with their parents. One friend said it had happened once, when she was leaving for university. My mom, in contrast, says "I love you" five times per phone call. In class in Beijing, when I was asked to make my own metaphor for a parent's love, I said that it was infinite and open like the sky.

In middle school, many Chinese children memorize a poem called "BeiYing" by the author Zhu Ziqing. The poem is from the point of view of a son looking at his father from behind on a train station platform as they say their goodbyes. Only then does he realize the depth of his father's love and regret his attitude as a child, when he was too "clever" for his own good.

My teachers in China claimed that this genre of literature, one in which children look back on their childhoods with guilt or remorse, is unique to China due to the unspoken nature of parent-child relationships as well as the emphasis the Chinese place on family. I beg to differ. While there may not be a style of literature that mirrors this one stateside, the experience of realizing a parent's sacrifices and one's own mistakes after reaching maturity is a universal one.

In both China and the United States, it often takes a step back and many years' distance to truly understand what our parents may have dedicated to the cause of raising us. In America, some say "I love you" to their parents as a daily ritual, but, in many cases, the frequency weakens the meaning. My initial belief was that holding back the expression of love was unhealthy. Now, I've reconsidered. The sentiments in "BeiYing" and the sentiments expressed by my Chinese friends suggest that the differences beneath the surface are minimal. Whether love is like the sky or like a mountain, what is fundamental to the bond between parent and child remains.

Lara LoBrutto is a junior majoring in Chinese. She can be reached at lara.lobrutto@tufts.edu.

ARTSY NUGGET

In anticipation of Kanye West's 'SWISH'

by **Ascher Kulich**
Assistant Arts Editor

Mr. West has had an extraordinarily busy and sporadic 2015. He began the year flaunting his two newest tracks, "Only One" (2014) and "FourFiveSeconds" (2015), both of which featured Paul McCartney in some form. The two tracks were the most sensitive material he had released to date, while also being some of his most directionless. After unveiling "Wolves" during his performance on the Saturday Night Live 40th Anniversary Special in February, Kanye dropped "All Day," another new song, in March. He went on to headline Glastonbury Festival in the UK in May, despite some 135,000 petitioning against his appearance.

A handful of other Kanye tracks surfaced in the following months, some of which were only short, half-baked snippets from fashion show videos — including "I Feel Like That," "A Long Time" and "Fade." Kanye also announced his plan to (seriously) run for president in 2020 at the end of his iconic speech at the

2015 MTV Video Music Awards.

Fans don't know what to expect for Kanye's follow up to "Yeezus" (2013), as he seems to be focused on myriad extra-musical responsibilities — his family, his fashion career, etc. — and his time for music-making appears to be taking a hit. The supposed title for Kanye's newest project has even undergone transformation, as Kanye moved from the divine proclamation of "So Help Me God" to the more ambiguous and informal "SWISH." One can only hope that he's waiting to give his full attention to a new project, shaping its general theme and perfecting its most minute details as he did with his previous albums, rather than adding a



RODRIGOFERRARI VIA FLICKR

real dud to his near-immaculate discography.

In an interview with Vanity Fair, Kanye hinted at the release of "SWISH," replying to a question about whether it was a year away from release: "I'm not sure. I'm not worried about the years. I'm worried about the life and the body of work that I can put out while I'm breathing."

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O

OPINION

OP-ED

*The problem with the Freshman 15*by **Steven Honig**

Along with the age old adage of “college is the best four years of your life” comes an age-old trope that first-years at Tufts have heard time and time again: “beware of the Freshman 15.” While Tufts has done a fair job of promoting health initiatives, the school has subliminally and indirectly supported this pervasive phenomenon because it simply has no choice.

The first-year meal plan fosters major weight gain because it makes getting food, either on campus or in the local community, very convenient. All first-years are forced to have a “premium meal plan,” which grants unlimited swipes at Dewick-MacPhie and Carmichael Dining Centers. We also have smaller café-like dining areas that take meal swipes or Jumbo Cash dispersed all throughout campus. It’s hard to go 200 feet without bumping into a place to eat. The convenience makes sense; we have a lot of work and activities complemented by a dearth of sleep. We need the food, right? Well, apparently all these options simply aren’t enough. When 10 students in Tilton Hall

were randomly asked if they had fridges, nine said they did. When 10 different students in Tilton were asked if they had microwaves, seven said they did. Finally, when 10 students in Tilton were asked if they had microwaves and fridges, eight said they had both. When asked why they have both, the general responses all stemmed from, “because we can.”

However, having first-years pig out is a blatant conflict of interest for the dining halls that want to conserve as much food as possible. A couple of years ago, Tufts got rid of the trays at Dewick and Carmichael and switched to small plates in an effort to control portions. These plates are frustratingly miniscule and what seemed to be an effective move by the higher powers actually failed miserably. Students stack plates. Nobody is stopping the first-years from getting seconds or thirds or even fourths for the athletes. Almost everything is self-serve. This idea of smaller plates leading to healthier eating is a false paradigm; small plates don’t mean better portion control. The only way to physically prevent us from unlimited food consumption is to dole out portions, limit the amount

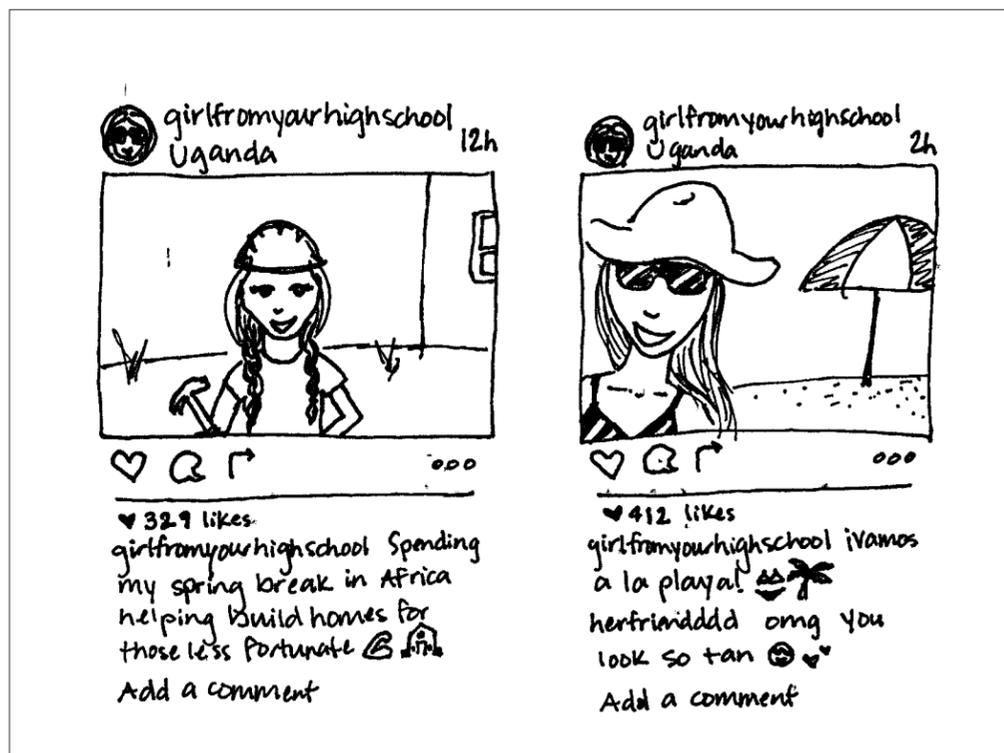
of seconds and cut out sweet drinks — a reversion back to the “parent-high school-parent” meal plan. This would be a travesty.

The fundamental difference between college and high school, a world that is free and a world that is burdened, is that we students now have a choice. There is nobody to tell us when to eat, how to eat, what to eat or how much to eat. The lunch lady named Gloria who served you perfect portions that coincide with the food pyramid posters in the dark crevices of the cacophonous high school cafeteria no longer exists. The mother who only buys you kale chips and quinoa balls as a late night snack is no longer a part of your everyday life. If someone at college told you what clubs to participate in, what classes to take, who to hang out with and when to sleep, the purpose of self-discovery and maturity would vanish. The Freshman 15 quite simply coincides with this premise of college; if Tufts were to monitor it, there would be university-wide chaos.

Steven Honig is a first-year who has not yet declared a major. He can be reached at steven.honig@tufts.edu.

EDITORIAL CARTOON

BY ALLIE MEROLA



O

OPINION

OP-ED

Israeli-Palestinian conflict: myths and facts

by Hannah Hoang

Our buzzword culture continues to thrive. Through its advertisement in the Tufts Disorientation Guide, Tufts Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP) promotes reckless policies and false or exaggerated claims. Let's have a look:

"Israel's expansion onto Palestinian land...mirrors the methods through which the land we stand on was 'settled by the original colonists.'"

Though I am against the Israeli occupation of the Palestinian territories and the continued displacement of Palestinians, this statement ignores some key differences between American and Israeli settler colonialism. Most importantly, the Jews, along with the Palestinians, are indigenous to the land. Don't believe me? Countless genetic studies, along with endless archaeological evidence, prove that Jews (European/Ashkenazi Jews included) trace their ancestry to the land and that the Jews' closest genetic cousins are indeed the Palestinians.

"Stealing land, displacing [people]...committing genocide continuously and using brutally dehumanizing technologies of population control against indigenous peoples are just a few methods of occupation shared by the U.S. and Palestine."

Israel continues to unjustly oppress — sometimes violently — the Palestinians, but it is not Nazi Germany. The United Nations defines genocide as actions perpetrated with the intent to destroy a people, including killing or causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group, deliberately inflicting conditions of life calculated to bring about the physical destruction of the group in whole or in part, imposing measures intended to prevent births within it or forcibly transferring children of the group to another group. By claiming Israel commits genocide, SJP accuses it of deliberately and systematically murdering the Palestinians en masse — with intention to exterminate — what the Nazis did to the Jews, Hutus to the Tutsis and Ottoman Turks to the Armenians. That is genocide. Not the war in Gaza, nor the occupation.

"On campuses all over the world, students have come together in outrage at the...aid the U.S. government supplies to Israel to fuel its war machine, military occupation and apartheid system."

This convoluted conflict has been perpetuated by violations on both sides; to place all of the blame on Israel is shortsighted. The Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court defines apartheid as actions or policies "committed in the context of an institutionalized regime of systematic oppression and domination by one group over another." While Palestinians living in Israel suffer discrimination, they also enjoy citizenship, the right to vote, political representation, state-funded Arabic language schools and media, affirmative action and freedom of movement (without checkpoints) within Israel. Since all parties (with the exception of Hamas, though Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's stance is pretty murky as well) support a two-state solution, checkpoints and barriers along the West Bank border are the legitimate precursors to the future international border.

"To resist against the fabulously-funded and well-oiled Zionist indoctrination machine that is alive and well on college campuses. Tufts being no exception (pst. Hillel)."

SJP fails to understand what exactly Zionism is, which is why it continues to be snubbed by the mainstream. Zionism, like every form of nationalism — French, Vietnamese, German, Palestinian, American, etcetera — comprises a spectrum of beliefs that should not be defined by those on its extremes. At its core, Zionism supports the existence of a national homeland for the long-persecuted Jewish people within a part of the historic Land of Israel (Palestine) — simple self-determination. The actions of the current Israeli government do not define Zionism. The small proportion of Jews living in the West Bank known as "settlers" do not define Zionism. Tufts Hillel, which officially endorses a two-state solution and sponsors the Tufts Students for Two States coalition (which SJP has not joined), clearly shows its opposition to the Israeli Occupation. While I don't support Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS), I believe it's in the Jewish community's best

interests to encourage debate over its legitimacy and efficacy. And maybe Hillel could tone down Israel a bit. But does the principle of freedom of speech warrant Hillel to host (anti-Zionist) promotion of the destruction of the world's largest Jewish community?

"SJP at Tufts supports the Boycott of, Divestment from and Sanctions against the Israeli state until it extends equal rights to Palestinians. Wherever they reside — be it in the diaspora as refugees, in the occupied territories or in 'Israel proper.'"

Extending "equal rights" (which starts with citizenship) to the entire Palestinian diaspora of 12 million would risk making the 6 million Jews in Israel proper a minority. The position SJP takes on the Palestinian "right of return" illustrates its de facto political goal — a one-state solution in which Israel is dismantled and replaced by a Palestinian state. Why should the liberation of one nation come at the expense of another? Wouldn't that just be repeating 1948? And a binational state would be a chaotic failure. Israel is obligated to help alleviate the burden of the Palestinian refugees, but the future Palestinian state (alongside Israel), that I and a majority of Israelis and Palestinians support, should be where most of them receive citizenship.

"We designate one week...as 'Israeli Apartheid Week'...to end all facets of our institution's complicity in Israel's oppression of Palestinians."

Since Israel's oppression of the Palestinians does not constitute apartheid, SJP's accusation is distracting. Israel's human rights violations need to be addressed, but singling it out from among all of the world's nations, including U.S. allies and friends (Saudi Arabia? Turkey? Pakistan? France? Switzerland?) paints Israel as an illegitimate pariah.

I urge everyone to challenge both the Zionist and the Palestinian narratives you have been exposed to, including SJP's. And if, like me, you're sympathetic to the Palestinian cause, know that you don't have to adopt the unreasonable stances of SJP to be a student for justice in Palestine.

Hannah Hoang is a sophomore majoring in political science. She can be reached at anh.hoang@tufts.edu.

Kevin Lawson

The Tufts Daily Show



Syrians stuck between Iraq and a hard place

Syria is embroiled in a tragic sequence of halves: half of its war casualties have been civilian; half of its population is displaced; half of its refugees are children. Millions of Syrians have jumped to bordering countries, overloading Turkey and Lebanon, while others look to start anew in the western world.

Four million refugees have already escaped Syria's borders, forced to travel long distances on foot.

Over 50,000 refugees and migrants arrived in Greece in July alone, many with nothing but the clothes on their backs. Angry Greeks have complained to their government. "No fair! How come they get clothes on their backs?" While Greece has taken many, the lion's share of the displaced in Europe will be absorbed by Germany, which expects to bring in 800,000 by the end of the year. One refugee, Mohammed Alkilany, notes that for refugees, "Germany is the best in Europe...in Germany you can learn the language for free".

As Europe overflows with refugees, some Americans believe it's our turn to step up to the plate, and Obama has raised our refugee admittance rate to 85,000 in 2016. Others disagree. Ted Cruz argued, "It would be the height of foolishness to bring in tens of thousands of people, including Jihadists". Donald Trump has noted that, if he is elected, he will send the refugees back. Because apparently you can do that now.

But the refugees needn't fret. An Egyptian billionaire, Naguib Sawiris, wants to buy an island off Greece's coast to house them, or so he claims. Satellite photography reveals what seem to be the beginnings of a Sidewinder, as well as a man in a panda suit, prompting many in the CIA to suspect Naguib may be planning to actualize a real-world Rollercoaster Tycoon fantasy. Unfortunately, there don't seem to be any paths to the bathroom. Rookie move, Naguib. Everyone knows that if you don't make a path to the bathroom the refugees don't know they're allowed to go over there.

For many reasons, including the myriad separate forces jostling for power in Syria and the disjoint goals of Obama and Putin, the light at the end of the tunnel for Syrians is dim and distant. If you're looking to help, consider the last in Syria's series of halves -- of the United Nation's \$6.5 billion appeal in 2014 to deal with the crisis, less than 50 percent was funded.

Kevin Lawson is a junior majoring in political science. He can be reached at [kevin.lawson@tufts.edu](mailto:lawson@tufts.edu)

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COMICS

LATE NIGHT AT THE DAILY

Joe: "I didn't come into this office looking for conversation about my lower regions!"



SUDOKU

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

Level: Finding a food that doesn't have a pumpkin-flavored version.

Wednesday's Solution

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

JUMBLE

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

EVGIN

○ ○ ○ ○ ○

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SENHE

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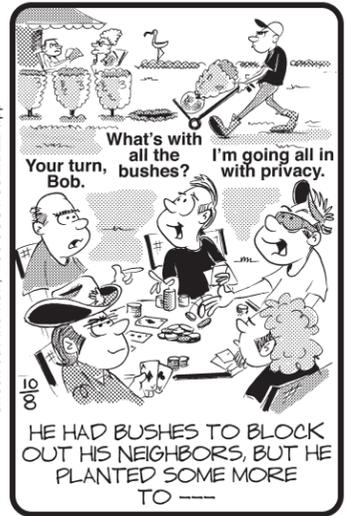
BIHDEN

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SAMHAT

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○ ○ ○ ○ ○



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: CIVIL ICING POLLEN PURELY
Answer: Being the principal of a high school had seemed like such a good idea, — IN PRINCIPLE

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SPORTS

GOLF

Tufts places sixth at qualifiers, misses shot at playing in NESCAC finals

by **Bradley Schussel**
Contributing Writer

Tufts has looked better this year than it has in a long time, so naturally the expectations were high going into the NESCAC qualifier held this past weekend at the Taconic Golf Club in Williamstown, Mass. Five Jumbos combined for a total two-day score of 647, which was 79 over par and 17 strokes behind the fifth-place Williams College Ephs (630). This result was not what the team had hoped for as it meant a sixth-place finish for the Jumbos — two spots short of qualifying for the NESCAC finals. Only four teams — Middlebury (605), Trinity (617), Hamilton (628) and Amherst (628) — will meet at Middlebury for the conference championship in spring 2016.

Junior Owen Elliott placed ninth overall in the tournament after shooting a 78 on Saturday and a 76 on Sunday, good for 12 above par overall.

"I think I actually played much better than my score," Elliott said. "With the wind and the tough course, I was having a lot of trouble with my distance control — I think everyone was having that problem."

Elliott, who was recently named to the NESCAC All-Conference Second Team, went on to explain that the Jumbos were not pleased with the result of the qualifier.

"We are definitely very disappointed," he said. "We knew this was a great year, and we had great opportunity to qualify. We had the talent; we knew the course. We just had a bad day."

Senior co-captain **Brendan Koh** agreed with Elliott.

"I think everyone's disappointed with the result," Koh said. "We all had really high hopes [that we would] play well and qualify for the [NESCAC] tournament in



EVAN SAYLES / TUFTS DAILY ARCHIVE

Owen Elliott drives from the third tee at the Newbury Invitational on Sept. 23. This invitational is the first golf tournament he has won.

the spring."

Koh believes that the difficulties the team faced were mostly psychological ones.

"A big part of the game is mental," Koh said. "You shoot, on average, 80 shots in a round, and half of those aren't going to go where you want them to. You really have to recover from bad shots. [Golf] requires a lot of mental stamina, [and] everyone on the team really has to work on that."

Many of the players, especially underclassmen, expressed hope for the future, both in this season and beyond. Aaron Corn, a sophomore, has been one of Tufts' strongest golfers this season.

"Aaron shows a lot of promise; he helped us win a tournament a few weeks ago," Koh said. "I think he expected a lot from himself this week-

end, [and] he seemed disappointed with his performance as well. But he still has two years left, and he shows a lot of promise going forward."

Players have also praised head coach George Pendergast, who is in his first year in the position.

"Coach did a great job this weekend, [and] he's done a great job getting us prepared all season," Elliott said.

The Jumbos now look forward to the New England Championship, which will take place in late October, giving the team adequate time to get back on track.

"I think we're going to try to take a fun attitude into the New England tournament and just try to enjoy being on the golf team," Elliott said.

The Jumbos will travel to Brewster, Mass. for the tournament, which takes place on Oct. 25.

Eddie Samuels
Horribly,
Terribly Wrong



Week 4

This league, this incredible mess of a league, is a blessing to those of us who enjoy the small moments of weekly hilarity it offers us. This week was no exception, as we were gifted with not just a screw up, but the biggest of all screw ups — a preventable, avoidable, counterintuitive screw up.

The Referees: I feel for you guys, I do. Most of the time, you do great work, but the only time you're ever noticed is when you get it wrong. It sucks. This week, the Seattle Seahawks were gifted a touchback on a goal line fumble from Calvin Johnson on national TV. What was clear though, was that Seahawks linebacker, KJ Wright, batted the ball out of the back of the end zone, which should've resulted in the Detroit Lions maintaining the ball at the spot of Johnson's fumble and thus having more shots at the end zone. I realize that referees are human, but really, is it so hard to make this stuff reviewable? Would it really break the game of football?

Joe Philbin: No shock here: bad teams are bad, and coaches of bad teams aren't the coaches of them for very long. After a 1-3 start, the Miami Dolphins thought now was a fitting time to fire head coach Philbin, who has been uninspiring at best — and downright incompetent at worst in his four years in the league. Again, not shocking.

The Lions: I already mentioned the Monday night incident, but I want to focus on it from the Lions' perspective. Lions fans, life is hard. You've suffered some of the most unfortunate moments in league history, with your darkest moment being the 0-16 season that helped you land Matthew Stafford. Please, we all get that this blown call probably ruined any chance of you making a longshot run at the playoffs from 0-3, but don't make the rest of us listen to you complain about your luck anymore.

Colin Kaepernick: Kiss your guns all you want, you are not and will never be an elite quarterback. You showed promise early in your career, but man, do you understand how to throw a football? Green Bay Packers linebacker Clay Matthews summed it up perfectly when he heckled Kaep after a tackle, shouting, "You're not Russell Wilson." Was he right or what? When you look at physicality alone, the San Francisco '49ers quarterback is an impressive human being, but if you look at his actual coordination when it comes to throwing, he's pretty underwhelming.

This week was an interesting one to say the least, but I finally got to make fun of teams that didn't include my Rams, which I suppose feels like a victory in itself. I'm hoping that this season continues in its current state. We're only a quarter of the way through, and it has already been a series of ridiculous events. No other sport features such incompetence and receives this much national attention. With lots of attention still remaining on the Monday night blunder, I'll make one last statement: football would be a much cleaner (albeit less fun to mock) game if every single play and call could be reviewed.

Eddie Samuels is a sophomore who has not yet declared a major. He can be reached at edward.samuels@tufts.edu

Team sees increased number of new sailors

SAILING

continued from back

ing on both of those — our guys are pretty good at boat speed, but at competitive events like this a good start can be difficult. The start just comes with experience. They nail starts in practice, but it's much more difficult at the interconference championships."

On Sept. 26 and 27, the coed sailing team beat out stiff competition to place first at the 33rd Professor Stedman Hood Trophy interconference regatta. Tufts claimed six first-place finishes and 10 top-three finishes to beat out 19 other teams, including the second place team, Bowdoin, which lagged 35 points behind.

The wind conditions on the first day provided the Jumbos with the perfect opportunity to dominate. On the second day, the team showed its skill once again by placing in the top five in seven out of the eight races in much tougher conditions.

The sailing team also sent junior James Beatty, first-year Jack Bitney and junior Alp Rodopman to the New England Inter-Collegiate Sailing Association (NEISA) Men's Singlehanded Championships, held at Yale. The Jumbos came in ninth, 15th and 18th, respectively, out of a total of

28 contestants. The competition was extremely demanding, with each contestant having to compete in 14 races over a two-day period. The races, taking an average of 25 minutes each, required not only skill but endurance in the single-person races.

Despite a relatively weak showing this past weekend, compared to the team's strong performances on Sept. 26 and 27, the Jumbos managed to clinch three top-five finishes, and nine top-ten finishes at the Danmark Trophy Regatta. Many of the less-experienced sailors stepped up their game for the competition, especially juniors Scott Barbano and Griffin Rolander, both skippers, who competed in the team's top boats.

"We're going to do better because we're going to have more experience," DuPont said. "Scott [Barbano] and Griffin [Rolander] have been working on getting their experience up because they haven't done this that much before. Last year it was all seniors, so it's going to take them a little time, but they're going to keep getting better."

With a host of fresh talent this year for the sailing team, the team can send different people to each regatta, giving the team as a whole more exposure, and maximizing water time.

DuPont is not concerned about the number of fresh names on the roster.

"The freshman class is super motivated just by itself," he said. "Because there's so many of them, they push each other because they know that if they don't put in the effort, then they're just going to slip out because there are so many people who could just take their place. We nailed it at recruiting this past year. A lot of them are going to be really good the next couple of years."

First-year skipper Steven Honig also feels that there is strength in numbers, though he knows he will have to compete to earn his place on the team.

"There's a ladder, and you rise up the ladder by winning races in practice," Honig said. "It's tough to compete for that because you're competing against your own teammates for a starting spot. But then again, Ken [Legler] wants to find the best team. It's what you expect from a team that's top 10 in the country, it means our results are going to be better."

The coed sailing team looks ahead to the Truxton Umstead Trophy held at the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Md. in two weeks, where they will be competing against many of the same schools.

SAILING

Jumbos see mixed results in recent regattas

by Maddie Payne
Contributing Writer

The Jumbos took 13th place at the Danmark Trophy Regatta held at the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in New London, Conn. this past weekend.

Team members saw a mixed showing in the 20 different races, with finishes ranging from first to 17th place in an 18-boat race. Difficult conditions, including wind speeds up to 25 knots, made the regatta that much more challenging. Though the Jumbos finished in the bottom half of the rankings, the scores were extremely close, with only seven points separating the 10th and 13th placed teams.

"We didn't do as well as we wanted, but we want to always push ourselves to be better," senior tri-captain Pierre DuPont said. "We were hoping [to do] a little bit better but it was very competitive. All of these major events are very competitive."

DuPont specifically highlighted the importance of getting good starts off the line.

"Coach [Ken] Legler says that, in sailing, you need to do two things: you need to start well and you need good boat speed," DuPont said. "We're work-



NICHOLAS PFOSI / TUFTS DAILY ARCHIVE

see **SAILING**, page 11 On Mendums Pond in Barrington, N.H., racers begin the first upwind leg at the Peak Foliage Invitational.

FOOTBALL

Bowdoin, 0-2, looks to upset 2-0 Tufts at Homecoming

by Alison Kuah
Executive Sports Editor

As Tufts hosts Bowdoin in its home season opener at Homecoming this Saturday, coach Jay Civetti will face his former offensive line coach, Bowdoin's JB Wells, in their first ever matchup as head coaches.

"Both coming from Trinity, we have similar backgrounds, we had the same coach...a former coach that used to work [at Tufts], Rob Velasquez, was [Wells'] first captain, and a few of my former Trinity classmates have coached with him over the years," Civetti said. "He's been a mentor for me for a lot of things so it'll be different, I've never gone against him head coach to head coach."

Both teams scrimmaged before the season officially kicked off, but Civetti maintains that both coaches were unwilling to reveal any tactics that may potentially be exploited when the teams eventually play each other.

"I think we both held a lot of things to the vest [during the scrimmage]; it was a good opportunity for us to just get in and hit somebody else [and] it wasn't an incredibly long scrimmage," Civetti said. "I do know they've got some great kids and they've faced incredibly good teams in the past two weeks. They're hungry for a win."

Tufts, coming into this weekend 2-0 on the road, is eager to extend its undefeated start to the season during Homecoming against an 0-2 Bowdoin. The visiting Polar Bears, on the other hand, will be looking for a repeat of last season, when they handed the 2-0 Jumbos their first loss of the season at Whittier Field in Brunswick, ME. Tied 20-20 at 11:23 in the third quarter, Bowdoin went on to score the next 13 points while hold-

ing Tufts scoreless for the rest of the game. The Polar Bears' win was one of just two in their 2014 season, but the team has undergone significant changes in the offseason, the most notable of which was Wells' appointment to head coach.

Wells helped establish the football program at Endicott College and, when the team began intercollegiate play in 2003, became its first-ever head coach. In 12 seasons at Endicott, Wells accumulated a 75-48 record (.640) en route to a pair of New England Football Conference Championships and NCAA Tournament appearances in 2010 and 2013, as well as consecutive ECAC North Bowl victories in 2011 and 2012.

Wells brought two of his assistant coaches from Endicott with him in the appointment: Shem Bloom and Tom Blumenauer

took over as Bowdoin's defensive and offensive coordinators, respectively.

"[Wells] built Endicott from nothing," Civetti said. "They didn't have a football program when he started, and their offensive and defensive coordinators are two incredibly well-respected coaches in our profession."

Bowdoin has only generated 13 points on offense combined against Williams and NESCAC defending champions Amherst. Of their 501 offensive yards of the season, 413 were passing yards, and 88 were rushing yards over the two games.

Bowdoin junior quarterback Tim Drakeley has a 60.3 percent completion percentage, but has thrown two touchdowns and as many interceptions. Sophomore wide receiver Nick Vallas has caught 14 receptions for 132 yards and is averaging

a commendable 9.4 yards per catch, while classmate tight end Bryan Porter had five receptions against Amherst, including his first career touchdown.

Tufts will be looking to close off the passing option and force pressure on Bowdoin's offensive line, which has already given up eight sacks this season. The Jumbos' defensive line has been one of the most impressive units of the team this year, and it is currently tied at first in the conference for most sacks with Amherst; both teams boast eight sacks. Sophomore Steve DiCienzo and junior Shane Thomas are tied for fifth in the NESCAC with 12 solo tackles each.

Against Bates, DiCienzo had eight of his 14 tackles in the second half, including a sack that forced a fumble — recovered by Tufts — in a game that saw the defense hold Bates' offense scoreless after the half to allow for a 17-16 comeback victory.

After garnering NESCAC Offensive Player of the Week honors for his 178 receiving yards — the most at Tufts since October 2010 — on seven receptions against Bates, senior wide receiver Jack Cooleen will be at it again this weekend against a Bowdoin defense that has allowed the most yards (504) and most points (64) in the conference.

With the mismatch on paper, the shared history and mutual respect between head coaches could be what makes this game a tighter contest than it appears to be.

"[Wells] brings great intensity, he is fiercely competitive [and] he brings a lot of passion to the sport," Civetti said. "I think he very much prides himself on accountability and doing things the right way. It takes time for things to change [in the program] and right now it's game to game. They're as dangerous as anybody could be."



NICHOLAS PFOSI / TUFTS DAILY ARCHIVE

Tufts and Hamilton prepare for play during the first half of the Tufts football 24-17 victory against Hamilton on the Ellis Oval / Zimman Field on Sept. 20, 2014.