

## Curtatone: Tufts-based obesity program impacts city planning

BY BRENT YARNELL  
Daily Editorial Board

Somerville Mayor Joseph Curtatone Thursday night outlined the city's plans to incorporate into its public planning the aims of Shape Up Somerville, the Tufts-based obesity-prevention program.

Curtatone, who is serving his fourth term as Somerville's mayor and intends to run for re-election in the fall, spoke in Paige Hall's Terrace Room, in a lecture sponsored by the TuftScope Journal of Health, Ethics, and Policy.

Shape Up Somerville is a community-wide anti-obesity movement that began with a study conducted by researchers from Tufts' Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy.

Curtatone said in his lecture that the program has continuously informed Somerville's health policies. The city is now redesigning its public spaces in an attempt to facilitate physical activity.

"It started affecting our development strategy — we started planning more strategically for our different squares," Curtatone said.

Curtatone said his plan to make Somerville more pedestrian-friendly is part of an effort to encourage healthy habits among its residents.

In the past year, the city has introduced a bicycling program in Somerville schools and has created more than 10 miles of bike lanes on its streets, a project

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## Athletic center expected to clear zoning hurdles soon

BY MATT REPKA  
Daily Editorial Board

Tufts' proposed additions to the athletic complex are expected to go forward, pending clearance from Medford city officials in the coming weeks.

Before continuing plans for its expansive construction and renovation projects at the site of Cousens Gymnasium and the Gantcher Center, the university must receive a zoning variance allowing it to break from the City of Medford Zoning Ordinance. Receiving such a variance would clear the way for university to start the expansion in April, subject to the approval of other city department heads.

The university is seeking to build a new 42,000-square-foot building between Gantcher and Cousens and perform renovations in Gantcher. The proposed project is a continuation of a three-phase initiative to improve the Athletics Department's facilities that began in 2008 with renovations to Cousens Gym.

The university applied for a zoning variance after its initial application for a building permit was denied in December. Such a rejection is not uncommon, according to Director of Community Relations Barbara Rubel.

The university appealed to the Medford Zoning Board of Appeals because the project's details require variances from the zoning code, Rubel said.

Three elements of the proposed design were at odds with standard zoning regulations, according to Rubel. The first concerns the overhang on the new athletic building. The Medford zoning ordinance requires buildings to be set back a specific distance from the street.

The second concerns the availability and accessibility of parking spaces for the new athletic center.

Rubel said that under the proposed design, some of the new parking spaces located across College Ave. would not

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JAMES CHOCA/TUFTS DAILY

Provost and Senior Vice President Jamshed Bharucha will leave Tufts at the end of the academic year for his new position as president of The Cooper Union in New York City.

## Bharucha to leave Tufts for Cooper Union

Provost and Senior Vice President Jamshed Bharucha will leave Tufts at the end of the academic year to assume the position of president of The Cooper Union in New York City effective July 1, he announced last night.

Bharucha, who has served as provost since 2002, said he will leave Tufts with a deep appreciation for the university.

"I have loved every minute of my eight years at Tufts, and I have found it to be one of the most extraordinary places there is. Tufts is truly a unique institution and I think it has potential to be one of the great institutions of our time," he told the Daily last night.

Bharucha said that while he has enjoyed his time at Tufts, he is ready to assume the position at Cooper Union as the next step in his career.

"It will have been nine years, and I think it's time to move on to a new adventure," he said. "The [Cooper Union] position was really an excellent opportunity."

Bharucha cited Cooper Union's promise as an emerging institution as a reason he decided to take the position.

"It's a jewel of an institution, but it also has enormous upward potential, which is what I thrive on," he said.

In an e-mail sent last night to the Tufts community, Bharucha said that he looks forward to leading Cooper Union partly because of its progressive tuition policies. The college is one of the few in the country to offer free tuition to all its students, regardless of their financial circumstances.

Bharucha said he made the decision to leave Tufts "a couple weeks ago."

University President Lawrence Bacow, in a subsequent e-mail sent to the Tufts community, praised Bharucha's dedication to Tufts and his accomplishments as both an administrator and a scholar.

Bacow in his e-mail said that University President-elect Anthony Monaco intends to conduct a national search for Bharucha's successor. Bacow said that he will consult with Monaco in appointing an interim provost, who will assume the office in July.

—by Martha Shanahan

## Say cheese!



MCT

Led by MVP Aaron Rodgers (above), the Green Bay Packers pulled away late last night to beat the Pittsburgh Steelers 31-25 in Super Bowl XLV. Rodgers threw for 304 yards and three touchdowns as the Packers captured their fourth Lombardi trophy and first since 1997.

## Students visit Iraq over winter break NIMEP trip

BY LAINA PIERA  
Daily Editorial Board

While Jumbos returned home or went on vacation over the winter break, a student delegation headed across the world to northern Iraq in January to conduct research and meet with regional leaders.

Eleven Tufts students with the New Initiative for Middle East Peace (NIMEP) spent two weeks in the semi-autonomous Kurdistan region of Iraq on a fact-finding mission in January. Participants met with several local leaders, including Kurdistan's regional president Massoud Barzani.

NIMEP is an Institute of Global Leadership (IGL) program that aims to find solutions to conflicts in the Middle East.

Part of NIMEP's mission is to perform an annual fact-finding mission, according to IGL Director Sherman Teichman. The Kurdistan trip, part of the Robert and JoAnn Bendetson Public Diplomacy Initiative, is the eighth in the group's history, Teichman said.

The NIMEP trip this winter was the first American student delegation to visit Iraq, according to senior Amit Paz, one of the trip's three co-leaders.

Teichman, Trustee Robert Bendetson (A '73) and Shahla Al-Kli (F '09), a Fletcher graduate and the current senior advisor to the speaker of the Kurdistan Parliament, proposed to NIMEP the idea of traveling to Kurdistan, according to Teichman.

The Kurdish president addressed the group at his presidential palace. Barzani spoke about Kurdish history, focusing specifically on the importance of forgiveness and tolerance in Kurdish culture, according to senior Khaled Al-Sharikh, a co-leader.

"It was really an honor because if you read about the history of Kurdistan, what's particular about it is that there's been one family that really fought for the Kurds, and it's the Barzani family, so for us to be able to meet him was a total honor," senior Patricia Letayf,

see KURDISTAN, page 2

## Inside this issue

YouTube videos continue to entertain Tufts' admissions officers but may not play such a large role in the decision process.



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Artist Rachel Perry Welty breathes new life into ordinary objects.



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## Visiting the Hill this Week

### MONDAY

"Biomedical Engineering Seminar: Joyce Wong"

*Details:* Joyce Wong, associate professor of biomedical engineering at Boston University, will give a lecture on her work in biomedical engineering, particularly at the cellular and tissue levels.

*When and Where:* 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.; Science and Technology Center  
*Sponsors:* Department of Biomedical Engineering

"Engaging with Quantitative Thinking"

*Details:* Eleanor Duckworth, a Harvard Graduate School of Education professor, will discuss her research on the development of ideas as part of the STEM Education Lecture Series.

*When and Where:* 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.; Curtis Hall CEEO Workshop Room  
*Sponsors:* Center for Engineering Educational Outreach, Department of Education

"Faces from 'The Axis of Evil' — Syria and the Middle East: Business Leaders Working Together for Change"

*Details:* Dick Simon, a renowned photog-

rapher and entrepreneur, will discuss his career documenting life across the world.  
*When and Where:* 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.; Sophia Gordon Hall Multi-Purpose Room  
*Sponsors:* New Initiative for Middle East Peace

### TUESDAY

"Life in the Vast Basaltic Subseafloor Aquifer"

*Details:* Dr. James Cowen of the University of Hawaii at Manoa will address the array of and change in microbial communities in ocean floor rocks and the technologies for studying the communities and hypotheses for the nature of the deep biosphere.

*When and Where:* 4 p.m. to 5 p.m.; Lane Hall 100A  
*Sponsors:* Department of Geology, Consortium for Ocean Leadership

"Hank Willis Thomas Lecture"

*Details:* Hank Willis Thomas, a New York-based photo conceptual artist, will discuss his reflections on identity, history and visual culture.

*When and Where:* 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.; Aidekman Arts Center Alumnae Lounge  
*Sponsors:* Africana Center

### WEDNESDAY

"The Future of Energy Demand and Supply Possibilities: A Review of BP's Energy Outlook 2030"

*Details:* Paul Appleby, Head of Energy Economics at BP, will discuss the Energy Outlook 2030 report and the key areas of focus such as energy intensity, growth of non-OECD countries, fuel substitution, bio-fuels and global environmental policy.

*When and Where:* 2 p.m. to 3 p.m.; Mugar Hall Room 200  
*Sponsors:* Center for International Environment & Natural Resource Policy

"Lyon and Bendheim Alumni Lecture Series: Mike Granoff"

*Details:* Michael Granoff (LA '91), head of oil independence policies for Better Place, will discuss his work with governments and industry to generate support and provide a policy framework to enable countries to convert from gas to electric powered cars.

*When and Where:* 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.; Granoff Family Hillel Center  
*Sponsors:* The Tufts University Alumni Association, Tufts Gordon Institute, Tufts Hillel

"Plenitude: The New Economics of True Wealth"

*Details:* Juliet Schor, a professor of sociology at Boston College, will discuss her most recent book, *Plenitude: The New Economics of True Wealth* and the economics and sociology of ecological decline, suggesting a radical change in how we think about consumer goods, value, and ways to live.

*When and Where:* 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Cabot Intercultural Center 702  
*Sponsors:* Global Development And Environment Institute

### THURSDAY

"The Beginnings of Shi'a Internationalism"

*Details:* Andrew Arsan, a postdoctoral research associate in the Department of Near Eastern Studies at Princeton University, will discuss politics in the Lebanese Diaspora from 1931 to 1958.

*When and Where:* 12:30 p.m. to 2 p.m.; Mugar Hall 129  
*Sponsors:* Fares Center for Eastern Mediterranean Studies

—compiled by Laina Piera

## Curtatone credits Shape Up Somerville with city's health improvements

### CURTATONE

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ect Curtatone said will continue into this year.

In addition, updates to the city's roads and sidewalks, as well as the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority's planned extension of the Green Line through Somerville and Medford, will encourage fitness and improve pedestrian access in one of the country's densest cities, Curtatone said.

"When the Green Line comes through the city we'll have more than 80 percent of the city within walking distance of a transit stop," he said.

Shape Up Somerville's initial survey, conducted in 2003 by Friedman School researchers, found that 46 percent of Somerville's first-, second- and third-graders were either overweight or at risk of becoming overweight.

Curtatone said that the figure could be partially attributed to an increased reliance on automobiles that started in the mid-20th century. The shift made driving more common than walking, and the subsequent development of the area's highways pushed

sources of fresh food further away from Somerville's center and changed the quality of life for its residents, he said.

"People had a difficult time getting to the wholesome food choices ... you saw more fast-food choices come up; you saw more liquor stores," he said. "Our streets became dirty, there were more chemicals in the air, cars driving around outside; walking was no longer an option because you put yourself at risk."

Curtatone said Shape Up Somerville also prompted updates to the meal programs in Somerville's schools, encouraging them to offer fresh fruit and vegetables and train the schools' cooks to prepare nutritious meals.

Following those changes, three Somerville schools earned Healthier U.S. School Challenge awards from the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

University President Lawrence Bacow in his introduction at the event praised Shape Up Somerville as the model for similar efforts across the nation.

Curtatone last year delivered the keynote address

at the launch of First Lady Michelle Obama's Let's Move initiative, a nationwide program which aims to eliminate childhood obesity.

Curtatone said the city's policies to encourage nutrition and physical activity do not impose new burdens on the city budget.

"A lot of the decisions at the end of the day do not have a financial impact," he said. "We spend the least per capita out of any city in Massachusetts of a population of 50 thousand or more."

Curtatone said the city finances its fitness and health initiatives by efficiently reallocating funds already in the budget.

"For crosswalk painting, you can use more reflective painting, and not do as many in one year but do a few that will last a little longer," he said. "It's really the same money, moved around."

Somerville and Tufts have in the past decade benefited from partnership, Curtatone said.

"We understand the resources we have available here," Curtatone told the Daily after the lecture.

## Athletic complex needs zoning variance before breaking ground

### ATHLETIC CENTER

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meet the zoning code requirement that parking spaces be placed no more than 200 feet away from the building.

The third deals with the number of loading docks at the complex. Though zoning code requires that an additional loading dock be constructed along with the expanded athletic center, the existing loading docks are sufficient, according to Rubel.

At a Jan. 25 meeting with the Board of Appeals, a team from the university presented the project, describing the building's design and purpose and answering questions about the proposed facility.

Director of Facilities Services Bob Burns said that at the meeting, Medford Fire Chief Frank A. Giliberti Jr. asked questions specifically pertaining to the new building's smoke evacuation plans.

"He wanted to make sure that the entire athletic complex had adequate fire protection," Burns said. "We will get back to him in the next ten days with a solution."

The university now awaits the Board's decision, which is expected in the next few weeks, Rubel said.

Board of Appeals Secretary Kim Scanlon told the Daily that the Board would approve a variance for the athletic center project, but that steps still remain in the process.

"The Board is going to approve it subject to department heads' recommendations," Scanlon said, referring to the City of Medford's Engineering Division and Fire Department, among others.

Scanlon said she had not yet received the written decision, which must be formally signed and then submitted to the city clerk's office for a 20-day period, during which time the Board will accept appeals concerning the project.

Scanlon expects that 20-day period will begin soon. "That should happen within the next week and a half," she said.

Even if granted a variance, the project still faces more potential obstacles because any department can put a hold on construction during the 20-day period, Burns said.

Rubel hopes the university will be able to have everything in place in time to break ground on the facility in April.

"I think it's safe to say that we are all cautiously optimistic," she said.

## NIMEP group meets with regional president Barzani in Kurdistan

### KURDISTAN

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the third co-leader, said.

Barzani at the meeting expressed support for NIMEP's research, according to Mark Rafferty, a sophomore who participated in the trip.

"I was happy to see that he expressed a willingness to support our research even if it wasn't necessarily going to be complimentary to his government," Rafferty said. "He told us that he was willing to allow us to research objectively and hear both sides of the story, and whether or not that was true in practice, we appreciated him saying that."

The group also met with Director of Security and Intelligence Masrouf Barzani, who is President Barzani's son, and the Speaker of the Kurdistan Parliament, Kamal Kirkuki.

Each student in the group researched individual topics related to the region prior to leaving for Iraq. The students' goal in Iraq was to collect new perspectives on their research, according to Letayf. Their reports will be published in the NIMEP journal *Insights* in the spring.

"We like to be challenged," Letayf said. "It's hard not to come into these trips with preconceived notions, because we come in feeling like we're experts on our topics."

Some students saw a different side of the Iraq war after visiting the region.

"I was very critical of the war in Iraq, and you get to this place and you meet people who say, not with any regrets, thank you for liberating us," Paz said. "It's not a narrative that you encounter at a university like Tufts."

Paz said that the trip to the region opened his eyes to a far wider view of the war.

"You really have to step back and look at the big picture and see what this war is really all about. While there are still very different interpretations about what this was all about, this is an example of a positive aspect of the war. That was a very important thing to see," Paz said.

Kurdistan offers a valuable model for the rest of the region, Letayf said.

"It was the perfect opportunity to visit Kurdistan because it's a budding democracy and a model for the rest of the Middle East because they are secular," Letayf said. "They want the rest of the world to recognize that they are different and that they are developing at a faster rate than the rest of Iraq and that they have suffered a lot in the past."

The trip offered the students a chance to see what is often an overlooked part of the country, according to Letayf.

"There is a story there that not a lot of people hear about," Letayf said.

Rana Abdul-Aziz, the Arabic language program coordinator at Tufts, and IGL fellow Zach Iscol, a former Marine infantry

officer and Iraq war veteran, also accompanied the students.

The trip was sponsored in part by the Kurdistan Parliament as well as the IGL, though participants still had to pay for part

of the trip, according to Teichman.

"This is the beginning of what may be a long-term relationship with the Kurdish sector of Iraq on education and other initiatives," Teichman said.



A group of students traveled to Iraqi Kurdistan over winter break on a NIMEP fact-finding research trip. COURTESY KRG.ORG



JUSTIN MCCALLUM/TUFTS DAILY

Six percent of this year's applicants submitted a supplemental video in their admission applications.

## For a second year, YouTube application 'essays' stream in, showcase individuality

BY FALCON REESE  
Daily Editorial Board

With admissions season already in full swing, high school seniors around the country are biting their nails and asking themselves what they could have done differently to be distinguished from thousands of other applicants. The answer may lie in one of several optional essays that Tufts applicants may submit alongside the required supplements.

For the second consecutive year, applicants were able to upload a short movie to YouTube or other video-sharing websites to express their personalities in a way not evident via the traditional paper application.

Despite the nationwide publicity focusing on Tufts' decision to offer the video option, which went into effect for the Class of 2014, the role that supplemental videos play in an applicant's admission — or rejection — may be smaller than some would expect.

"The video is a very small, optional element of our undergraduate application," Dean of Undergraduate Admissions Lee Coffin said. "In fact, only six percent of the applicant pool has submitted one in each of the two years we included it in our supplement."

While evaluating the undergraduate applications, admissions officers try to glean a complete and detailed

image of the individual behind the application, according to Director of Public Relations Kim Thurler.

"Tufts looks at many elements in a holistic admissions process that seeks to get as full a picture of an applicant's abilities and talents as possible," Thurler said. For this reason, the video option is only ever considered in moderation — appreciated if beneficial to the application, glossed over if not.

"The 'success' of the video option is equal to the 'success' of the other parts of the application," Coffin said. "It is one small aspect of a holistic and most selective admissions process. Some students do it well, others do not, the same as a written or visual essay."

St. Mary's College of Maryland offers a similar supplemental option and has given students the choice to submit a video since the days of VHS tapes. St. Mary's, like Tufts, has a similarly low rate of applicants who choose to make a video.

"You don't get extra kudos for doing a video," Director of Admissions for St. Mary's Richard Edgar told the Daily.

It's a given that the students applying have strong writing skills, he said, but a video supplement demonstrates something extra.

"I know they can write, but we're looking for how creative they can be," Edgar said. Coffin also believes that the video option can provide an indis-

pensable way to evaluate the creativity of an applicant.

"Regardless of the format — words, video or visual — the responses to the optional questions are evaluated for creative expression and originality," Coffin said. "If it achieves that goal, that evaluation enhances our overall understanding of the applicant."

Edgar pointed out that even the written essay isn't only being evaluated for writing skills.

"The purpose of the essay is not necessarily to see how you write; the purpose of the essay is to see how you think," he said. Given that, providing a video option is just another way of allowing students to demonstrate their thought process in a more creative outlet.

Production of a video can be an extremely time-consuming process for the student applicant, which Edgar believes is related to the low submission rate for video supplements.

Submission of a video represents a risk that does not go unnoticed in the admissions office, according to Edgar. "When we get a video, that young person has really put their foot out there," he said.

Edgar hopes that the video option makes the admission process less stressful. "It's about finding a home and so students have to have an enjoyable time going through this process," he said.

## Test-taking aids retention, study claims

BY VICKY RATHSMILL  
Daily Staff Writer

To the students who cram, diagram or study in groups: You've met your match. The results of a new study published last month in the journal "Science" show that the most effective way to learn material is to be, well, tested on it.

The study, conducted by Jeffrey Karpicke, assistant professor of psychological sciences at Purdue University, and Janell Blunt, a student in the department, tested the effectiveness of retrieval practice — a method that involves reading infor-

mation, then immediately taking a test that forces the individual to recall the material.

In one of two experiments conducted under the study, the testers gave 200 undergraduate students a text and divided them into four groups. Each group had the same amount of time to study the text and employed one of four methods: The first group studied the passage in one session, the second in four consecutive sessions, the third studied the text and then created a detailed diagram of the information and the fourth used the retrieval method.

After a week, the students took a final comprehensive test on the passage they

had read. The study revealed that the students who used retrieval practice retained about 50 percent more of the information than the other students in the experiment.

The students in the study were also asked to guess how much they would remember a week later. Ironically, the students who used the retrieval method were the least confident in their ability to remember the information but ended up performing the best on the final test.

"The key thing is not that they were taking a test; it is that they were put in

STEPHEN MILLER | COUNTERPOINT

## Enough Is Enough



So, if you are blind, lack the ability to sense heat, haven't had an offhand conversation with someone in line in the Rez and have somehow found a Braille copy of the Daily and are feeling your fingers across this column (honest question: Is that still called reading?), well, I have a little news flash for you. In words I imagine screamed out by Chris Farley in "Tommy Boy" (1995), there is a S--- TON OF SNOW! Yes, breaking news. IT'S EVERYWHERE! And, like the Persians in "300" (2006) or that lead guy in "Grandma's Boy" (2006), it just keeps coming!

Well, I finally made up my mind today: Snow sucks. Maybe sometimes in small doses it doesn't suck quite so much, but, in general, and especially by February, it sucks a lot. I know right now you are thinking two things: 1) "Why, Steve, does snow suck so much?" and 2) "What's the record for number of times 'suck' has been used in an article in the Daily?" As for #2, as far as I can tell, the record is three. We're at five, and counting. As for #1...

- It gets on your pant legs when you are walking around, then melts once you get indoors and your socks are wet all day.

- It's another reason for the City of Medford to ticket/tow my car.

- It brings out the worst in two types of Tufts students: the clowns from LA who have never seen snow and go off like five-year-olds on a Halloween candy binge every time it snows, and the clowns from the northern Midwest who feel real at home and want to keep reminding us that this is nothing compared to back in Minner-soda. Both types suck.

- It melts and drips through my ceiling into my stairwell, and my landlord decides not to bother with it until the spring when all the snow has melted through our roof — another reason why both snow and our house, 9 Fairmount, suck.

- There's not enough sunlight for my plant to grow. Yes. I have a plant. It's an amaryllis. It's going to have a bright red, trumpet-like flower when it blooms, but right now there's no sunlight to help it grow, because it is always effin' snowing!

- Then, when there is sun, the light bounces off the snow and I stumble around campus squinting like Clint Eastwood in every movie, ever.

- It's much more conspicuous when our house loses running water and we have to go outside to piss. No, we don't have a dog. (Reason #276 why 9 Fairmount sucks.)

- It turns into sneaky puddles at crosswalks that look like solid ground but are actually just-above-freezing water.

- Shoveling sucks.

- Our neighbor yells at us for putting our trash cans in the only opening in the snow drift, a place he likes to call "his driveway." What? Is the mouth of your driveway not a good place for our garbage?

- The song "Let It Snow" inevitably pops into my head and stays there all day. If you know me, you know my feelings on holiday music. It sucks. Ergo, snow sucks.

- And finally, when I bury the cash from my lucrative black-market Four Loko trade in my backyard, it is very obvious where the holes are.

There you go. A baker's dozen reasons for why snow sucks. Disagree? I don't care. Go back home to LA or Minnesota. It sucks. End of story. And for those of you counting at home, the new record is 13.

Stephen Miller is a senior majoring in English. He can be reached at Stephen.Miller@tufts.edu.

# Test-taking jumpstarts information retention, new Purdue study shows

## TESTS

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a position where they had to reconstruct something for themselves, by themselves," Tufts Professor of Education David Hammer said. "If you are going to study for something, don't look at a book. Look at a blank piece of paper and reproduce what you have learned. Students don't recognize how important that is."

Experience, Hammer said, is a key part of learning.

"Reading the book is like watching a swimming instructor show the strokes; you have to actually get in the water and do the strokes yourself to really learn them," he said.

Assistant Professor of Psychology Ayanna Thomas agreed with the study's results, adding that the retrieval practice is so valuable because of the effect it has on cognitive processes.

"It likely develops what people have called more useful and more elaborate retrieval pathways, so you have more ways to access the material," she said.

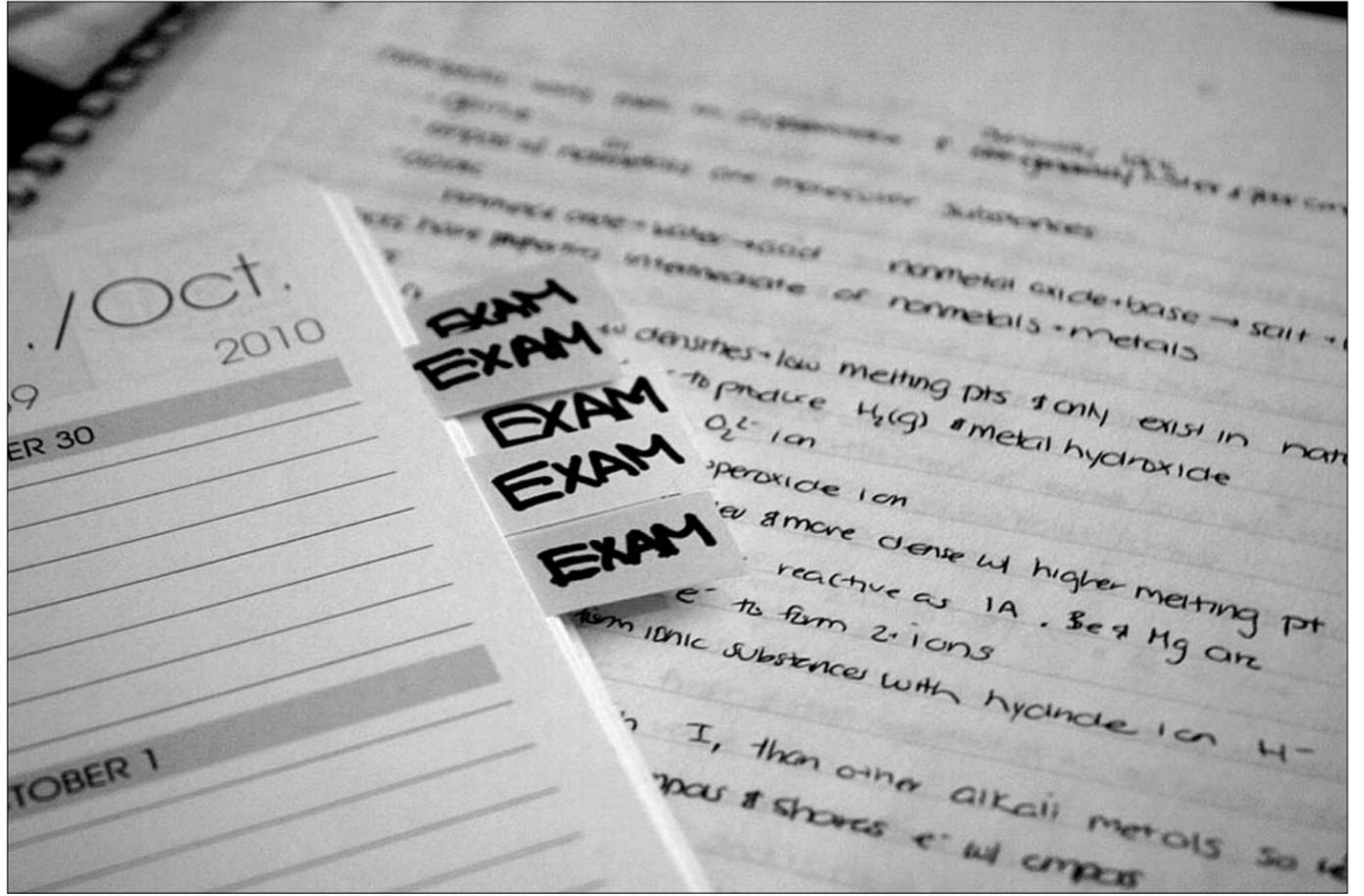
Thomas explained that the ideas about the effectiveness of retrieval practice are not new.

"This finding, while it has been more recently applied to educationally relevant materials, has its roots in early work from the 1960s looking at a generation of fact and expanded retrieval practice. These ideas are not new, just the way that they are being applied is," she said.

Hammer applies the retrieval method in his own classes.

"The best outcome comes from exploring and investigating ideas for yourself," he said. "What I do in my physics class is a lot more of the students producing the information and coming up with their own arguments. If you want to learn physics, you have to assemble ideas for yourself."

Thomas uses this concept as a teaching tool in her classroom as well.



GILLIAN HODES/TUFTS DAILY

A new study claims that testing oneself immediately after learning material may be the most effective way to retain information.

"Many of us who come from this theoretical perspective apply it in the classroom. I do. I give a lot of tests and pop quizzes," she said. "It's the act of taking the material away and being forced to generate it. Every time you retrieve information, it serves as another act of encoding, so you have multiple representations of one bit of information."

Thomas acknowledged that test-taking is far from an experience students

enjoy, but she reiterated that the process is beneficial.

"It's for your own good. It really is," she said. "Obviously, if you haven't encoded the material, you won't perform well on the test. But if students are going into the classroom with the goal of learning, then whatever the grade the student receives shouldn't matter. Test-taking is a mechanism for learning, not a mechanism for assessment."

Although Hammer supports the results, he is not optimistic that the findings will have an impact on the way material is taught in classrooms across the United States.

"What's very hard about education is that people have yet to think of it as an area where you have new insight from research," he said. "People teach the way their gut tells them to teach ... and it's very hard to change that system."

## Day of Remembrance 2011 New England Japanese American Citizens League and Asian American Center, Tufts University present

Film Screening

# 442

Live with Honor, Die with Dignity

Free Admission

Saturday, February 12, 2011

1:30 - 4:30 p.m.

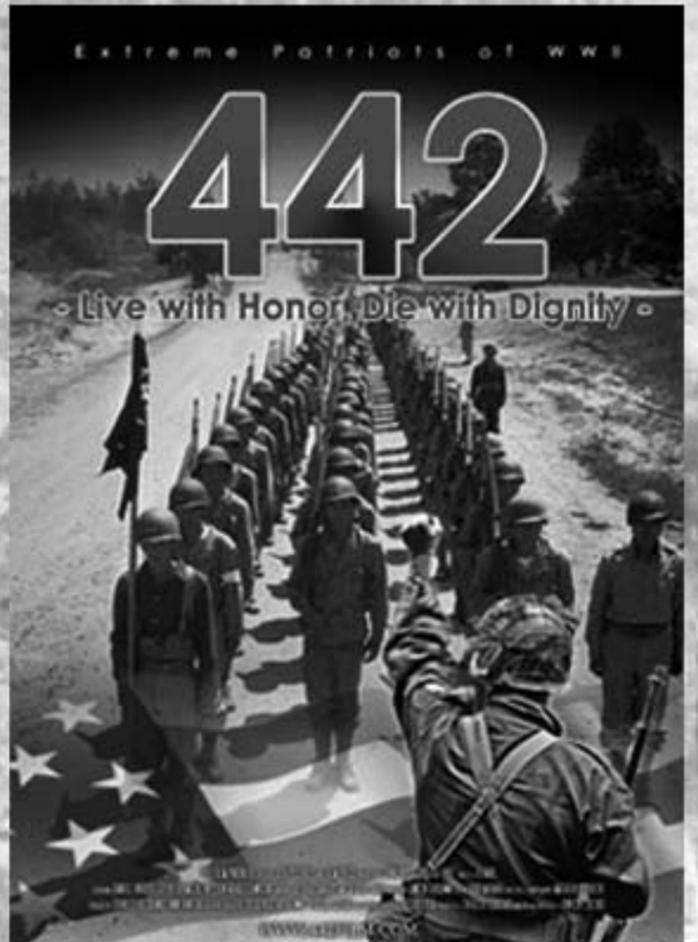
Tufts University, Medford

Sophia Gordon Hall, 15 Talbot Ave.

Refreshments will be served

2010 documentary by Junichi Suzuki features interviews with former veterans of the 442 Regimental Combat Team, the WWII Japanese American army unit, one of the most decorated regiments for its size and length of service in the history of the United States armed forces.

They had to overcome numerous challenges to fight, proving their loyalty as Americans. Unfortunately, this regiment also suffered a shocking casualty rate. The documentary also features footage and photos from the Washington National Archives. Following the screening, Susumu Ito, member of the 442nd, will speak.



Co-sponsored by Charles Smith Endowment Fund, Department of German, Russian, and Asian Languages and Literatures, American Studies, Japanese Culture Club, Asian American Alliance, and Hawaii Club

For information: Tufts Asian American Center 617-627-3056

**GALLERY REVIEW**

## In 'Rachel Perry Welty 24/7,' artist explores the grind and repetition of modern life

BY SHOSHANNA KAHNE  
Contributing Writer

It's not new for art to find beauty in the humdrum of the world, and it's certainly not new for artists to find beauty

### Rachel Perry Welty 24/7

At the deCordova Sculpture Park and Museum, through April 24, 2011  
51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln, MA  
781-259-8355

in the unusual, but Rachel Perry Welty takes the especially humdrum and composes beauty from it. Her deCordova Museum debut, "Rachel Perry Welty 24/7," sorts through the emotionally taxing stuff that overwhelms daily life and finds subtlety in the most underwhelming of materials.

Her focus is on things often relegated to the background. As a result, her work comes at you peripherally; each piece starts in a far-off emotional place, and you approach it detail by detail. All of her pieces are collections of small things: labels, missed-call notes, twist-ties. She takes these banal objects and their minimal emotional evocations and arranges them to reframe their discussion in the foreground.

Welty inserts herself into material usually devoid of personality. In "Deaccession Project" (2005-present), she has photographed something to get rid of every day for the past six years. Under each picture are a few words or sentences about how she acquired it or why she's getting rid of it, and how she's getting rid of it (donating, recycling, re-gifting, trashing). Lining the monstrous wall in chronological order, the photos of objects speak to her life, showing what she notices and how she thinks about what she owns. Her cathartic process is enthralling and inspiring, coming through in the stories she tells, her dry wit and self-conscious sentimentality.

Several pieces come from the severely mundane, including medical records,



COURTESY OF THE ARTIST, BARBARA KRAKOW GALLERY (BOSTON), GALLERY JOE (PHILADELPHIA) AND YANCEY RICHARDSON GALLERY (NEW YORK)

see **WELTY**, page 6 Rachel Perry Welty, 'Lost in my Life (wrapped books),' 2010.

**EUGENE KIM | ALLEGED BUT NOT CONVICTED**

## The last great American Western?



Westerns are awesome. I know I'm late to jump on the bandwagon, but "True Grit" was an excellent movie; it's up for 10 Academy Awards, after all.

Over break, I had a conversation with my brother on the way to see the new Coen Brothers' movie. It went something like this:

Bro: "Why are we seeing this movie? It seems boring and slow and I don't like Westerns." Me: "Shut up. You don't know what you're talking about. Everyone loves the Wild West; they just don't know it yet."

And you know what? He did like "True Grit." It was due in no small part to the tightly written script and the spot-on acting of Jeff Bridges, Matt Damon and relatively-unknown Hailee Steinfeld in the leading roles. And the quirky directors. But really, he liked it because it was a Western.

Kids these days don't realize how good Westerns are and I hope "True Grit" is a shift toward reclaiming our national film heritage. At their core, Westerns are a straightforward affair: Some old dude has to do something, whether it's get revenge, find some treasure or do the bidding of some upstart little girl in the case of "True Grit," and he goes about doing this self-appointed task. He goes through some trials and tribulations, builds a slow and steady relationship with those around him and eventually, at the climax of the movie, the old dude has to tear it up with the bad guys.

Westerns are a simple beast but they effectively tell morality tales. We follow the characters through their respective ups and downs so that we end up empathizing with them. If we had the slow plodding middle but no climax, there would be no resolution to the story, and if we had the gun-slinging without the campfire scenes, there would be no emotional impact on the danger.

Chances are you already like a lot of Western movies. Sure, there's the new rash of 'em, like "True Grit" and "3:10 to Yuma," but there are also a good number of movies that might talk like city-folk while deep down they walk like a bow-legged cowboy. Quentin Tarantino has made a number of them, such as the "Kill Bill" films (2003 and 2004) and "Inglourious Basterds" (2009). Fan of the TV show "Firefly" (2002-3)? You're a fan of westerns. Remember Pixar's "A Bug's Life" (1998)? WESTERN. "The Last Samurai" (2003) with the very out-of-place Tom Cruise? THINK FAST — WESTERN. The underappreciated Marky Mark movie "Four Brothers" (2005)? BOOM, WESTERN.

I guess I shouldn't call Westerns a genre. That's like classifying "The Wire" (2002-8) as just a cop show or "Battlestar Galactica" (2004-9) as just sci-fi. The tropes of a Western movie have filtered through our general consciousness and become more a state of mind than a genre. You might get a movie like "True Grit" and see horses and revolvers and think, "well, golly, this is a Western." But when I watch "Inglourious Basterds," I see Nazis and American guerillas and I feel like tumbleweeds are missing. Heck, a part of me wants to call "127 Hours" (2010), the recent one-man show starring James Franco as Aron Ralston against the rock, a Western. Everyone knows what's coming, but if you don't see the hour and a half leading up to the famed moment, it's just kind of gross.

Sure, Westerns can be slow and boring. The classic "High Noon" (1952) is rough to watch without some coffee, but you know what? If you invest in these movies, you'll get something out of them — which is much more than I can say about a lot of blockbusters coming out these days. Also, "True Grit" had that crazy bear guy. That dude single-handedly makes the movie worth seeing.

Eugene is a senior majoring in biology. He can be reached at Eugene.Kim@tufts.edu.

**MOVIE REVIEW**

## 'The Roommate' falls flat; horror film fails to scare

BY JOSEPH STILE  
Daily Editorial Board

Some movies are so bad that they become really enjoyable for how lame

### The Roommate



Starring **Leighton Meester, Minka Kelly, Cam Gigandet**  
Directed by **Christian E. Christiansen**

and unintentionally hilarious they are. Then there are films that are so bad they move past that point to become just plain awful again.

"The Roommate" is one such awful film. The movie is a train wreck that offers little to no pleasure for the viewer.

Despite being a horror film, there are no thrills, jumps or shocks in the entire run of the movie. It plays like a watered-down version of "Single White Female" (1992). It is clear from the get-go that the movie follows, quite lazily, the "crazy stalker" plot line that has been exhausted already. Not only does it trek over ground that other films have already traveled, but it does so in the most unimaginative

and derivative ways possible.

As Sarah, Minka Kelly does little except look like a supermodel. She wears trendy clothing and expertly put-on makeup, even when she is just hanging around her dorm. In fact, everyone at the school just seems to be there to look pretty. It never feels like a university as much as it does the set of a CW drama about privileged teenagers.

The supporting cast contributes nothing but its young and attractive looks, and character development is a distant afterthought. It might make the movie look good, but it also makes it feel very superficial and empty, as not one of the actors seems to be even trying to create a three-dimensional character.

The film never gets that gory, as it is rated PG-13, and it excludes anything that might be too graphic, leaving the film boring and lifeless. The film never builds any kind of real tension in its delivery and heavily relies on a cliché string orchestra score to fake suspense. Horror films have used that type of music for decades, and using it in this film just seems standard and pointless.

Leighton Meester plays the psychot-

see **ROOMMATE**, page 6

**TV REVIEW**

## 'Gossip Girl' return mixes old formulas with new characters

BY NATASHA JESSEN-PETERSEN  
Daily Staff Writer

The rich and spoiled New York socialites are back. "Gossip Girl" returned Jan. 24 to continue its fourth season on

### Gossip Girl



Starring **Blake Lively, Leighton Meester, Chace Crawford, Ed Westwick**  
Airs **Mondays at 9 p.m. on The CW**

The CW following the lives of beautiful Serena van der Woodsen (Blake Lively), her troubled friends and her even more drama-ridden family.

It becomes quickly apparent that all the villains have disappeared. Dan's mischievous little sister Jenny Humphrey (Taylor Momsen), revengeful newcomer Juliet (Katie Cassidy) and even the jealous Vanessa (Jessica Szohr) are all gone, leaving the cast relatively devoid of serious conflict.

Serena's mother, Lily (Kelly

see **GOSSIP GIRL**, page 6

## Without originality, 'Roommate' fails in every respect

### ROOMMATE

continued from page 5

ic roommate, Rebecca, with little originality or finesse; she simply has her character stare expressionlessly in an

unintentionally meek way. What hurts her performance even more is that her crazy actions are often weakened and diluted to avoid gore, but in doing so, the film favors Rebecca's insanity over

creating any type of legitimate horror.

The film also never gives Rebecca any believable or real reason to have this instant obsession with Sarah. Consequently, Rebecca just comes off as a flat character that invokes very little emotion because she has no real motive. She is just the stereotypical "crazy" character of a horror film.

Even Rebecca's more intense stalker actions do not elicit chills. She increasingly threatens anyone who takes up Sarah's time because she wants Sarah all to herself, yet it is all done in the most unoriginal ways. From blackmailing a professor who is giving Sarah a hard time to attacking one of Sarah's friends in the shower, they are all tactics that have been in cheap B-movies for decades now. There is not a single action or character that has not been seen in hundreds of movies before and done a hundred times better.

The film never even lets itself get trashy enough to be fun in a campy way. It does not feature any sex, real violence or blood. It takes itself too seriously as a horror picture to at least get some laughs out of its poor acting and cheesy setups.

Not many people who see "The Roommate" will come in with high — or any — expectations for the movie, but even so, the film somehow still manages to be worse than expected. With little gore or thrills, "The Roommate" is an empty and vapid horror film experience that will have many wishing they had not wasted a full hour and a half of their life.



MCT

Leighton Meester and Minka Kelly don't get along so well as roommates.

## Welty's exhibit forces us to re-examine trite aspects of culture

### WELTY

continued from page 5

bills and Facebook status updates. In "Altered Receipt: Children's Hospital Bill for Inpatient Services" (2001-2), she selects a color for every word and number and blots them out like paragraph-shaped pointillism. The redundant jargon is reduced to bands and dots of bright colors, an Aboriginal interpretation of Morse code.

In "Transcription/Medical Record #32-52-52/001 (645 pages)" (2000) the droning is filled in, without pause, onto graphing paper. The ends of the sheets are left hanging in the air, the words unintelligible. There is no individual in this record, no patient. Not even the problem is discernable, just squares and squares of letter-symbol nonsense any direction you read.

"Rachel is" (Facebook status via iPhone) (2009) addresses the junk we make and leave in our Internet lives. For one day, Welty updated her status every single minute, detailing her precise actions and thoughts; she has not updated it since. The scraps of news are displayed on a line of iPods, to watch the project unfold for eternity. Transcripts and bills are supposed to be tools, like social networking sites, to help keep life orderly, but they ultimately make a mockery of our trite habits.

Welty assembles spectacles out of the most common materials. Six larger-than-life-size photos show Welty among objects made to be used once and trashed. She is reading a grocery store insert in front of a wall of collaged, unfolded cereal boxes. In a skyline of take-out boxes, she is holding, as if delivering, a Styrofoam offering. She is facing a wall of sticker price tags, organized by color and shape, holding a bag covered with the same tags wearing a gown covered with the same tags, plucking one from the masses. Her face is obstructed in all these pieces; she is becoming the environment she has created for herself.

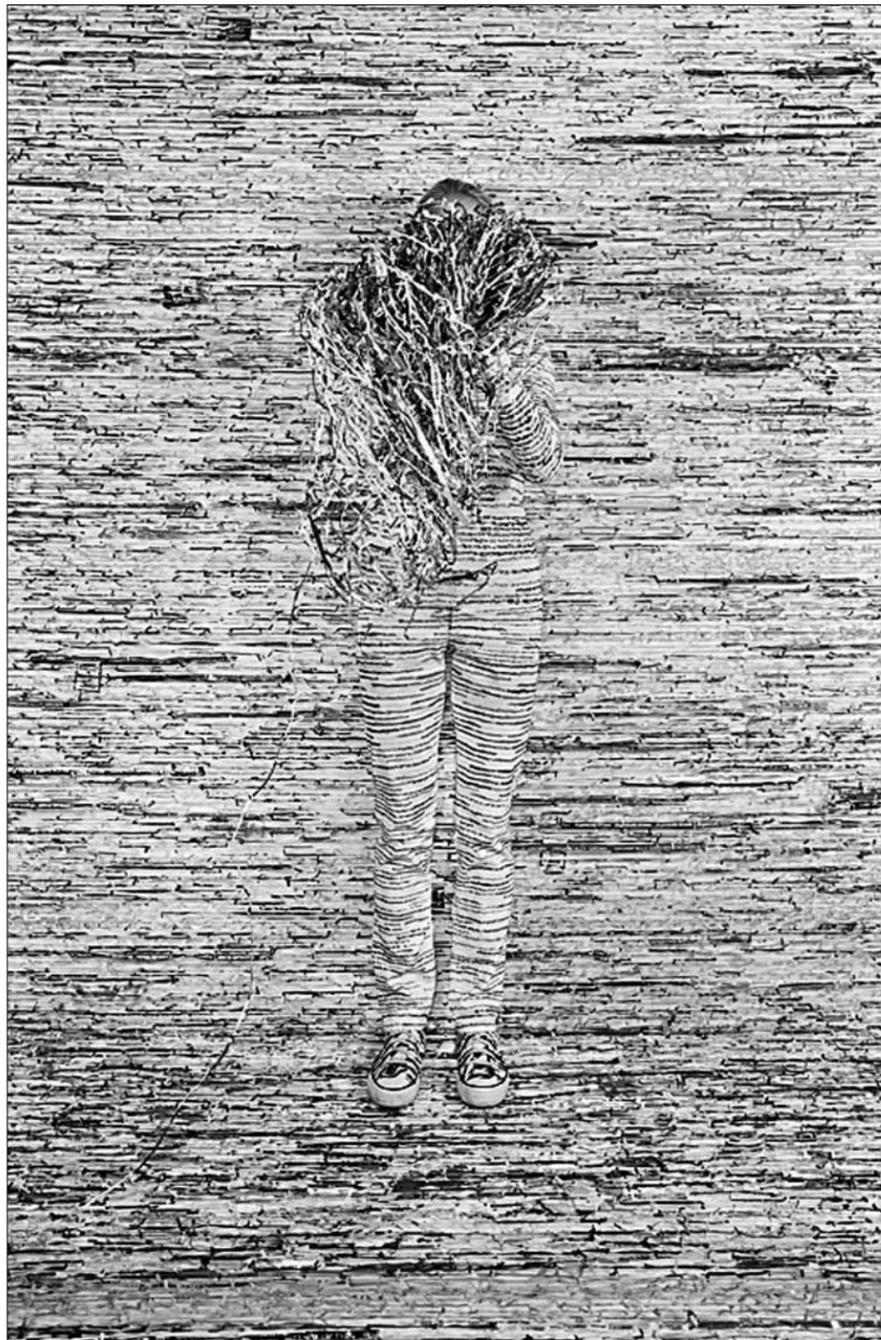
One of the strongest elements of this show is the underscored humor. "Karaoke Wrong Number (2005-2009)" (2009) is a video montage of her acting out the recordings of answering machine messages from people with the wrong number. She stands in a white frame and takes on different lives and relationships with such clarity that it's a wonder they are strangers.

The triptych around the corner, "Soundtrack to my Life" (2009) feels like being held hostage at the grocery store,

laundromat or gas station as bad hits with canned lyrics are played over synthesized drama on the loudspeakers. Welty has spelled the lyrics to three songs in letters cut from magazines she collected from waiting rooms, like ransom notes. There is nothing condescending about these pieces, as they are like learning to laugh at the

world. What could be more normal?

In total, this show is like exhaling what you didn't know you were holding in. The work is simple, the messages realistic and the presentation elegant. Any one of these pieces alone is thought provoking, and together they sing of life as told by the stuff we mostly ignore.



COURTESY OF THE ARTIST, BARBARA KRAKOW GALLERY (BOSTON), GALLERY JOE (PHILADELPHIA) AND YANCEY RICHARDSON GALLERY (NEW YORK)

Rachel Perry Welty, 'Lost in my Life (twist ties),' 2009.

## Cast additions promise new twists

### GOSSIP GIRL

continued from page 5

Rutherford), fills the villain void by plotting financial deals and falsely imprisoning teachers to protect her daughter's reputation. Serena's friends Chuck (Ed Westwick), Blair (Leighton Meester), Dan (Penn Badgley) and Nate (Chace Crawford) seem relatively drama-free in comparison.

With these changes, the main characters are more endearing and accessible. Even Blair, the former Queen Bee, seems to have calmed down. Her truly evil days are over, and, as a result, her sometimes cruel and selfish actions appear relatively trivial.

Nevertheless, "Gossip Girl" continues to represent everything the Parents Television Council is fighting to silence. The kids are rebellious, promiscuous and mischievous. And yet, they are much tamer than in earlier seasons, as though college has actually had a maturing effect. Drugs and crazy partying have been replaced with champagne and sophisticated soirees. The subtle merging of youth and adulthood becomes more obvious with the character's new challenges: Chuck fights for his business, Blair for a job and Nate for his family.

Although the transformation from high school to college has had positive effects on the characters, it seems to have simultaneously stopped them from attending classes, leaving them as college students in name only. Perhaps this is a move to keep the plotlines cohesive, but as the show stands, the characters are growing up much faster than their viewers.

Some new characters have been added in an attempt to tackle the racial homogeneity of its cast. The creators of "Gossip Girl" introduced a slew of new, ethnically diverse characters, and while most guest spots are fleeting and rarely linger, some of the new personalities appear to be developed enough to suggest longevity. For instance, Russell Thorpe (Michael Boatman), an enemy of Chuck's late father, emerges as a potential buyer of Bass Industries and promises to heighten the dramatic tone of the show.

Despite the addition of new cast members, the plot is largely recycled from previous material. People are in and out of jail. The younger characters remain mostly out of class. The parent-child dynamic continues to be explored. For the most part, although the characters may have matured, their interests have not.

The constant shifting of romantic dynamics makes the show difficult to follow. With the blossoming relationship between Dan and Blair, who have despised one another up to this point, it is even more apparent that even the show's relationships are recycled.

The dialogue is surprisingly witty, despite the often-unnatural delivery by young actors and actresses. For the most part, the characters' personalities don't fit in with profound analogies and references. The dialogue instead appears most natural when delivered in simplistic and curt bantering.

From the shaky first season to the current fourth season, the show has continued to gain a considerably stronger following. The drama is believable and the social conflicts honest. Characters such as Chuck and Blair, who once seemed devoid of feeling, have developed tremendous depth of character. Though "Gossip Girl's" sexual and dramatic nature may elicit controversial responses, one thing is indisputable: Despite its shortcomings, you know you love it.



CWTV.COM

Blair Waldorf's (Leighton Meester) cruel behavior is toned down in the latest season.

# IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

# Don't be left out

On **February 7** you received an invitation in your Tufts email to submit or update your emergency contact information. Use the link in the email before **Friday, February 11** to be a part of the upcoming test.

## This is only a test

There will be a test of the  
Tufts Emergency Alert System

## Wednesday, February 16

You may receive email, voice and text alerts —thank you for your patience and help in testing this important system.

To learn more, visit  
[emergency.tufts.edu](http://emergency.tufts.edu)

# Tufts

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Editor-in-Chief

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## EDITORIAL

## Students have right to choose where they vote

The New Hampshire state legislature last month introduced a bill that would prevent college students in the state from voting there unless they were residents before enrolling. New Hampshire law currently allows college students to choose either their home address or their local address as their permanent residence. Thus, college students in New Hampshire, like those in Massachusetts, can choose to vote either in their home or college state.

The Daily objects to the proposal — which was introduced by State Rep. Gregory Sorg — on several dimensions, not least that it may be a transparent attempt by Republican lawmakers to disenfranchise a liberal-leaning bloc of voters in the months leading up to the presidential election.

Though there is no evidence that the timing of the bill to coincide with next year's presidential election is anything more than a coincidence, House Speaker William O'Brien has made statements which call into question the state legislature's ability to be objective on the matter. College students, O'Brien said, are "basically doing what I did when I was a kid and foolish, and voting as a liberal." O'Brien's political motivation is hard to ignore. Sorg insisted that his proposed legislation wasn't politically motivated, but at the very least, it is certainly misguided.

"Even if [college students] voted the way that I wanted them to," Sorg said, "I would not want them to be voting because they would cancel out the votes of the residents of the town who have a stake in the future."

Sorg's assertion that college students have no stake in the governance of their college towns is without merit. A student in New Hampshire originally from Iowa rents and — at least indirectly — pays property taxes in New Hampshire. Even students who live on campus are affected by local property taxes because the tax rate affects how much the university charges for housing. In fact, she is subject to nearly all of the laws that govern the state of New Hampshire. Everything from her employment, her income tax and her access to health care to the quality of services she relies upon on a daily basis is subject to the will of her local representatives.

The proposed law states that in order to register to vote in New Hampshire, residents must have "indefinite" plans to live in the state. But forcing students to vote in their home state doesn't correct this issue, since most students do not have "indefinite" plans to live in their home state either. Instead, it will make New Hampshire college students less likely to vote altogether; students are much more likely to walk over to the local high school than they are to apply for and mail an absentee ballot from their home state.

Furthermore, the standard for residency outlined in the proposal would mean that anyone who comes to New Hampshire to work a job he or she knew were temporary, including those in the military, would be denied voting rights, in spite of the fact that he or she were paying taxes in New Hampshire. The U.S. Supreme Court struck

down this standard in 1972, when it ruled that the town of Hanover, N.H. could not prevent a Dartmouth College student from voting there despite the fact that he was originally from Hawaii and planned to leave New Hampshire after graduating.

Sorg's proposal appears to violate the spirit of the 1972 ruling. There is no need to ensure that anyone who votes in a state intends to live there permanently because when they establish residency elsewhere they leave their voting rights behind as well. There's no need to deny them voting rights to begin with.

It is nevertheless important to remember that the demographics of New Hampshire differ vastly from Massachusetts, where the bulk of the universities are located in major cities like Boston and Cambridge. Tufts, for example, has about 5,000 undergraduates, while Medford and Somerville have more than 50,000 residents each. Dartmouth, on the other hand, a college of just over 4,000, is in Hanover, N.H., a town of barely 10,000 residents. This makes towns like Hanover disproportionately vulnerable to the will of college students, and it is easy to see why these demographics would be irksome to the towns' other residents.

But their chagrin does not excuse denying college students the right to equal representation. Like permanent residents, they rely on local government resources like infrastructure, law enforcement and emergency room care. To deny them their say over who allocates those resources is not acceptable.

## DEVON COLMER



## LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

## Meet the columnists

Dear Readers,

Well, it's about that time of the semester — the time when we shed our leisurely every-other-day production schedule and start living up to our name. We floated the idea of continuing to take every Monday, Wednesday and Friday off, but "The Tufts Bi-Daily" just didn't have a good ring to it, so it looks like we'll be giving it the old daily go one more time.

Along with a steady dose of Sudokus and crosswords, daily production means that we will begin running columns starting today. Some new, some returning, our columnists this semester will tackle a variety of topics and aim to leave you laughing, thinking or hungry (literally) every week.

In our Features section, Stephen Miller returns with "Counterpoint," offering a sometimes serious, sometimes playful, always unconventional take on conventionality. Features Editor Romy Oltuski also returns to the columnist world, this time dabbling in hobbies that many of us are too scared or too busy to try on our own.

Alanna Tuller joins them with a weekly raid through Tisch Library's archives, and

Yuantee Zhu rounds out the section with an atypical sort of advice column, one that weighs a bit heavier on the vice than anything else.

In Arts, we've got something for all kinds. Madeline Hall marries pop culture's tasteful with its tasteless in her returning column. Eugene Kim, a self-proclaimed grumpy old man in a college student's body, will give his take on movies.

Emily Balk attempts to make cooking college-kid-friendly, while Arts Editor Mitchell Geller brings back "Makes It Rain," taking a magnifying glass to hip-hop in a way that only an English-psychology double major can. Mitch, in his eighth and final semester writing for the Arts section, will also be posting a weekly, online-only column called "Never Forget" to Jumbo Slice (blogs.tufts-daily.com) to satisfy the tastes of hip-hop and rap fans even more.

Three new columns will make it into our Op-Ed section this semester. Copy editor Elisha Sum, who has for two semesters mused about feminism, will use his last semester on the Hill to take on queer studies. Fletcher student Prashanth Parameswaran will bring the East to the West in "The

Asianist," and Ashish Malhotra, an editorialist for the Daily, will offer a weekly perspective on some well- and not-so-well-known world leaders.

Last, but certainly not least, our Sports section is ready to deliver a hearty serving of commentary. Sports Editor Ethan Sturm will be mixing work and play in "Rules of the Game," and David McIntyre, also a sports editor, will spice up the section with a column on soccer. Newbie Brian Rowe will offer his take on the MLB, while Sports Editor Alex Prewitt brings back "Live from Mudville" for its fifth semester.

Beyond columns, our sports crew will be enhancing its online presence, live-blogging several key games this spring on The Score (blogs.tuftsdaily.com/thescore) and providing real-time updates and statistics on Twitter (@TuftsDailySport).

With all this and more, we feel confident in saying that the Daily is back. All day, every day. Rain, snow day or shine.

Sincerely,

Alexandra Bogus  
Editor-in-Chief

## Correction

The caption in the Feb. 3 article "Heath Miller vs. Green Bay secondary" incorrectly stated that a Super Bowl win for Steelers Coach Mike Tomlin would be his third in the last six years. In fact, had the Steelers won the game, it would have been Tomlin's second win in the last three years.

# Are op-eds for anger or understanding?

BY CHRISTOPHER SNYDER

Stay angry and write Daily op-eds, folks, or we will never reach progress and understanding on issues.

The above is one way of summarizing Public Editor Jacob Kreimer's most recent op-ed, "Stay Angry: Keep Wrenchgate Alive" (published on Feb. 3). He writes that there should be considerably more Tufts Daily op-eds discussing last semester's ratchet misidentification. As long as grudges are harbored and students feel misunderstood, he said, students must keep publishing their individual views in the media.

I disagree. Students lobbing 800-word op-eds back and forth does not guarantee progress or understanding. Rather, the in-person and in-media conversations that stem from op-eds determine the long-term effects of issues such as the ratchet incident.

Consider the controversy over the Tufts Student Fund (TSF) fundraising drive two years ago. Supporters of the TSF wrote a series of op-eds promoting the fund, while then-sophomore John Atsalis wrote to disagree with the fund's premise. The pro-TSF op-eds barely engaged with Atsalis' arguments, leading to grudges, frustration and a lack of understanding. Despite this result, the op-eds ceased when the drive ended for the year. Countless issues have met a similar fate after just a handful of op-eds.

Why does an issue quickly disappear from the Daily op-ed page? I think the end of a semester plays less of a role than Kreimer believes — the TSF drive was in the middle of a semester. The main arguments about an issue are generally established in just a couple of op-eds; beyond that, students risk repetition or talking past each other with further 800-word missives. Some people do not submit op-eds in the first place, despite having valuable opinions, because they are unsure of the opinions' merit. Some people see their ideas as too minor to command space on the op-ed page.

Others have worthy opinions but do not want to step into the limelight, either because of their personality or because they fear getting judged or mired in a polarized discussion, and I think this tendency is easy to overlook. Still others tire of hearing about a specific incident ad nauseam after the main points have already been made.

But an issue never dies. The very night before Kreimer's column was published, I discussed the ratchet incident with a friend (who would never write a Daily op-ed about it, for several of the above reasons) as part of a larger conversation about race.

The role of campus media, then, is to publicly guide these conversations forward through moderation and in-depth analysis. Just look at how the Tufts Observer magazine handled the debate on Tufts Community Union (TCU) presidential campaign spending after the 2008 (Pickard/Mourning/Sykes) election. The magazine distilled a



ASHLEY SEENAUTH/TUFTS DAILY

range of divergent views into a single long-form feature article that effectively captured the nuances of the topic. The Daily's Dec. 6 report on the ratchet incident was handled similarly by featuring a variety of opinions on the issue in a single spread.

More can be done by campus media to keep conversations in the public eye while remaining productive. The Daily can solicit or organize point-counterpoints on important campus issues, borrowing a format that The Primary Source has used successfully in the past. Some college papers, such as The Harvard Crimson, have editorial writers specifically to write point-counterpoints or to dissent from the paper's editorial, rather than waiting for unsolicited submissions from columnists and op-ed writers. The op-ed page could also publish dialogues between people with divergent views, or a series of short messages between several writers (in the style of Slate's The XX Factor or The National Review's blog family). All of these formats allow writers the flexibility to advance views in order to have them challenged, rather than advancing views with the sole purpose of persuasion.

Sure, these ideas may break from op-ed page tradition, but any idea that brings more campus debate to the op-ed page beats running other college papers' op-eds on national issues.

Students and non-media groups can also effectively implement these ideas: TCU Senate? Group of Six centers? The Committee on Student Life? Expand the reach of the meetings and forums you already hold by taking notes about what is said, having a couple of people write out a simulated dialogue based on the notes and publishing the result as an op-ed.

Ironically, the Daily's decision to require registration for its commenting boards may have stifled conversation rather than improved it. Restricting the boards reduces ad hominem attacks, but makes campus emotion less visible and reduces the number of students who engage in the minor points of campus issues. Without

the anonymous commenting boards, conversations and long-form campus media analysis become even more crucial to maintaining campus dialogue.

In the end, though, campus media by itself will not assuage a black student's worry that she could easily spark a public safety alert — or worse — because others see her holding a shiny object. Campus media will not assuage a white student's worry that he could easily be labeled a racist for an honest misidentification, just because statistics show the misidentification may have been influenced by race.

Anger will not assuage these concerns either. Does the ratchet incident still perturb you in some way, major or minor? Then stay interested. Engage in conversations. Hear each other out.

I close with an observation from my days as a student government blogger. One of the most controversial decisions my blog made was endorsing freshman candidates for TCU Senate. One student sharply expressed disagreement by writing opinion pieces on a different blog, and we went back and forth, commenting all over the place for hours on end. Yet as the volume of words increased, we failed to get any closer to reaching an understanding.

Another student sent me an e-mail detailing her concerns about the endorsements. I was nervous when I replied — would she listen to my views? Nevertheless, I engaged her concerns in my reply while explaining my reasoning for the endorsements. We quickly reached an understanding through this e-mail exchange, accepting each other's motivations and acknowledging each other's reasoning. She still disagreed with the decision to endorse freshman candidates, but we remain the best of friends.

That is the power of engaging in conversation.

*Christopher Snyder is a senior majoring in political science.*

ASHISH MALHOTRA | FOLLOW THE LEADER

Mr.  
Mubarak,  
please leave



Unless you've been living under a rock for the past two weeks, you have heard about the unrest that has been going on in Egypt. Over a million Egyptians have flooded the streets, demonstrating, rioting and clashing with police forces, their anger directed at one man, their president for the past 30 years, Hosni Mubarak.

With the exception of Muhammad Naguib, who was merely a caretaker president after Egypt's 1952 Revolution, the Arab republic has had only two presidents other than Mubarak. Mubarak lacks both the charisma of the first, Gamal Abdel Nasser, and the vision of the second, Anwar El Sadat. This made the fact that he has been in power for so long a topic we often debated in the Egyptian Politics and Government class I took at the American University in Cairo during my semester abroad there in the fall of 2009.

The answer, it seemed, was that Mubarak had been able to keep such a strong grip on power through heavy-handed politics and maneuvering. Politically, he has been brilliant. From a democratic and human rights point of view, however, Mubarak deserves no such pat on the back.

Mubarak has locked up opponents, like members of the Muslim Brotherhood — perhaps the largest opposition movement in the country — and Ayman Nour of the Al-Ghad party, whose only crime seemed to be running for president against Mubarak in 2005.

The political rights of the people have also been infringed upon throughout Mubarak's rule primarily because of emergency law. Under emergency law (which has been in effect for Mubarak's entire 30-year rule), constitutional rights are suspended, censorship is legal, the powers of the police are immense and political demonstrations as well as the creation of new political organizations are made very difficult. The brute and draconian crackdowns of Mubarak's thugs and riot police during the Kefaya movement in 2004 and 2005 have stifled mass opposition movements and scared people away. The 2005 election also marked the first time that multiple candidates could directly run for president.

Furthermore, U.S. support of Egypt has only allowed Mubarak to get away with undemocratic practices. While the U.S. bemoans the lack of democracy and the human rights abuses that take place in North Korea, Iran and Myanmar, it turns a blind eye to those that occur in Egypt, for the sake of a so-called sense of "stability" in a vital region. Egypt receives around \$1.5 billion from the U.S. per year. With most of that aid going to the military, however, Mubarak has neglected the dire social, political and economic needs of the people.

The Egyptian people have had enough. For the past week, the world has seen dramatic images from Cairo's Tahrir Square. The problem seems to be that Mubarak is not living in this world, or, if he is, he resides in an insulated bubble. His appearances on state television over the past week have been sporadic and have shown that he is out of touch with his country. Sacking his entire cabinet was not enough. Appointing a new cabinet (made up of members of the old cabinet) was not enough. And his announcement on Feb. 1, that he would not be seeking re-election in September, though historic, was not enough.

The people want him out. They do not trust him. He may have briefly won the upper hand back when his thugs instigated brutal clashes in Tahrir Square on Wednesday and Thursday, but it now seems that even those closest to him are negotiating with the U.S. to broker a deal that will see Mubarak out sooner than September.

Try and understand, Hosni, you've had a hell of a run, but your time is up. Ben Ali is waiting for you in Saudi Arabia.

*Ashish Malhotra is a senior majoring in International Relations. He can be reached at Ashish.Malhotra@tufts.edu.*

## OFF THE HILL | INDIANA UNIVERSITY

# Egypt in flames, Obama in a pickle

BY INDIANA DAILY STUDENT EDITORIAL BOARD  
Indiana Daily Student

From social networking sites to radio stations, news programs to blogs, the sounds and images of protests in Egypt have been prominent and gripping. The message is clear: Egyptians want new leadership, and they want it now.

We believe it is the moral duty of the United States to support democracy wherever it is sought. And it especially should not be to supply the regime oppressing democracy with tear gas canisters that say "Made in the USA," as is being done in Egypt. Our taxes are directly paying for a nation wanting democracy to be brutally repressed by its government.

The reasoning behind Egypt's distaste with its government is sound: a suffering economy, rampant unemployment, lack of personal freedoms and a dictatorial reign that has lasted for more than 30 years have left citizens with a thirst for change and democracy.

What are less sound are the mixed messages that the United States has sent in response

to the revolution that's now underway.

On the one hand, President Obama made it a point to emphasize to the world in his State of the Union speech our country's support of the revolt in Tunisia, saying "Let us be clear: The United States of America stands with the people of Tunisia and supports the democratic aspirations of all people."

And yet the Obama administration's response to the Egyptian revolution has not been so straightforward.

"This is not about taking sides," said White House Press Secretary Robert Gibbs in regard to the U.S.'s role in the struggle between protesters and the government. And President Obama (as of Friday, at least) has yet to use the D-word — democracy — to describe the situation in Egypt.

Vice President Biden has also been quoted expressing conflicting views of Mubarak, concurrently stating that the "time has come for President Mubarak to begin to move in the direction of being more responsive to some of the needs of the people out there," and also that he "would not refer to him as a dictator."

We recognize that foreign policy isn't

always black and white. Egypt is the fourth-largest recipient of U.S. foreign aid, receiving \$28 billion since 1975, and the Egyptian government under Mubarak has been a strategic puppet for U.S. interests in the region. A remark made by George W. Bush in a 2003 speech seems to eerily describe the current conundrum:

"Sixty years of Western nations excusing and accommodating the lack of freedom in the Middle East did nothing to make us safe — because in the long run, stability cannot be purchased at the expense of liberty."

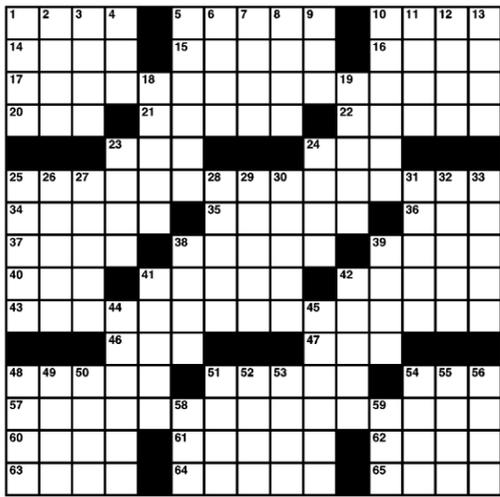
At this pivotal moment in Egypt's history, it is imperative that the United States issue clear and concrete steps in reducing aid to Egypt if Mubarak and his government fail to step down and hold free and fair elections.

We cannot stand idly by and knowingly support a regime under which praying protesters are shot in the streets by police officers whose salaries are partially paid for by the United States.

We suspect that Secretary of State Clinton and the rest of the Obama administration won't be getting much sleep in the coming weeks.

CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**  
 1 Steve of Apple  
 5 Snug, as jeans  
 10 Agile  
 14 Old-fashioned exclamation  
 15 One-way street sign symbol  
 16 Draft classification  
 17 New perspective  
 20 Turkish topper  
 21 U.S., French and Australian tournaments  
 22 Hurdles for future attys.  
 23 Emissions watchdog org.  
 24 "Dites-...": "South Pacific" song  
 25 "Doesn't bother me a bit"  
 34 Deathly white  
 35 Did electrical work  
 36 Roman peace  
 37 Inst. of learning  
 38 "\_\_\_ the loneliest number": '60s song lyric  
 39 First name in jeans  
 40 Word after box or cable  
 41 Burst of growth  
 42 '90s candidate Ross  
 43 Listen very carefully  
 46 Section of L.A.?  
 47 Commercial suffix with Water  
 48 \_\_\_ Dei: lamb of God  
 51 Prophets  
 54 Barfly  
 57 How the poor live  
 60 Rivers, to Rosita  
 61 \_\_\_ cum laude  
 62 Hummus holder  
 63 Grand Ole \_\_\_  
 64 Thrown weapon  
 65 Put in the overhead bin
- DOWN**  
 1 Bezos of Amazon  
 2 Grimm baddie  
 3 Folksinger Joan  
 4 '60s militant gp.  
 6 "Dies \_\_\_": hymn  
 7 Boyish smile  
 8 \_\_\_ d'oeuvre  
 9 Seesaw complement  
 10 Knocks off  
 11 "Only Time" New Age singer  
 12 Pedal pushers  
 13 Soviet news source  
 18 "Come on, let's go for a ride!"  
 19 Bank robber "Pretty Boy"  
 23 Barely made, with "out"  
 24 Lyon ladies: Abbr.  
 25 Civil rights org.  
 26 Acting award  
 27 Lamb Chop creator Lewis  
 28 Admit it  
 29 Flaming  
 30 Corn chip  
 31 Verdi work  
 32 Really enjoy, as food  
 33 Some turnpike ramps  
 5 New York's \_\_\_ Zee Bridge  
 6 "Dies \_\_\_": hymn  
 7 Boyish smile  
 8 \_\_\_ d'oeuvre  
 9 Seesaw complement  
 10 Knocks off  
 11 "Only Time" New Age singer  
 12 Pedal pushers  
 13 Soviet news source  
 18 "Come on, let's go for a ride!"  
 19 Bank robber "Pretty Boy"  
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 24 Lyon ladies: Abbr.  
 25 Civil rights org.  
 26 Acting award  
 27 Lamb Chop creator Lewis  
 28 Admit it  
 29 Flaming  
 30 Corn chip  
 31 Verdi work  
 32 Really enjoy, as food  
 33 Some turnpike ramps



By Thomas Takaro

2/7/11

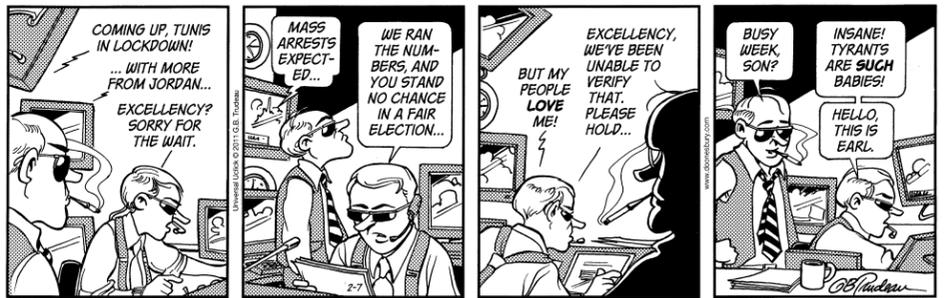
THURSDAY'S SOLUTION



- 38 Magnum \_\_\_: great work  
 39 Onion relative  
 41 Smidgen  
 42 Bender of rays  
 44 Bumbling  
 45 Hubbub  
 48 Jackson 5 hairdo  
 49 Golf club part  
 50 American-born Jordanian queen  
 51 Piece of cake  
 52 Outskirts  
 53 Sicilian smoker  
 54 One of a deck's foursome  
 55 Maestro  
 56 Melting period  
 58 Early hrs.  
 59 Covert \_\_\_: spy missions

DOONESBURY

BY GARRY TRUDEAU

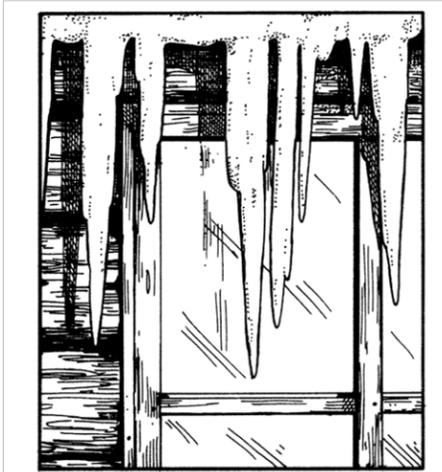


NON SEQUITUR

BY WILEY



MARRIED TO THE SEA



Hey, guys! Ice dam here! I thought you could use some water inside your house.

www.marriedtothesea.com

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Mike Argirion and Jeff Knurek

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

CUTOS  
 YICTH  
 ENGILT  
 ROCCUN



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

Answer here:  OF

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: RURAL WOMEN ESTATE TERROR  
 Answer: What the groomer lost on his wedding day — TWO LETTERS

SUDOKU

Level: Resigning from Tufts University

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

Thursday's Solution

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

LATE NIGHT AT THE DAILY



Alexandra: "Allie wants to have a Daily-gasm."



Please recycle this Daily.

American Red Cross  
**Blood Drive**



**February 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> 2011**

**Carmichael Hall Lounge**

- Monday, 2/7** 1:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m
- Tuesday, 2/8** 1:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m
- Wednesday, 2/9** 1:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m
- Thursday, 2/10** 1:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m
- Friday, 2/11** 12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Schedule an appointment **TODAY**: [www.TuftsLife.com](http://www.TuftsLife.com)  
\*Positive ID Required\*Drop-ins are welcome!\*Free food!

*While the Leonard Carmichael Society fully supports blood donation, we do not condone the FDA's policy barring blood donations from men who have had sex with another man. We acknowledge that this policy discriminates against gay and bisexual members of the Tufts community.*



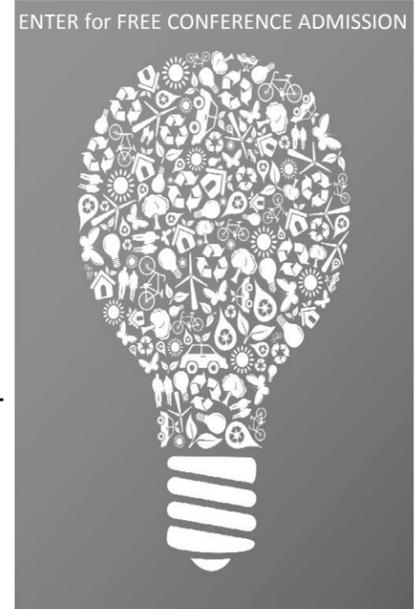
Participate in the inaugural  
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Apply Today!  
*Deadline: March 1, 2011*

**Design** the first ever  
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Winning design will be printed on  
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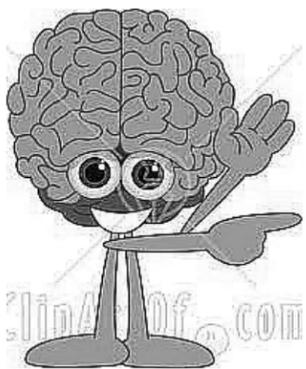


Submit your design!  
*Deadline: February 18, 2011*

*Both Contests Open to Tufts Undergraduates + Graduate Students*

[www.tuftsenergyconference.com](http://www.tuftsenergyconference.com)

*Did you know, 1 in 4 people have a mental health disorder? That's someone you know!*



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mental health at Tufts-join Active Minds!

**GIM: Mon, Feb. 7<sup>th</sup> @ 9PM**

Campus Center Conference Room (by  
Hotung) *All are welcome!*

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<b>1 Bedroom Apartment</b> Gorgeous 1 Bed Apartment. 2 Blocks to Tufts. Large Sunny Rooms, New Bathroom & Kitchen, Refinished Hardwood Floor, Huge Thermal Pane Designer Windows. Off Street Parking available 09/01/11. Amazing Apartment No Fees. \$1,000. Contact (781)396-4675	<b>4 BR APT</b> 4 Bedroom Apartment located at 35 Teele Ave between Packard Ave and Curtis St. It is available June 1st to May 31st. The apartment is fully furnished with washer and dryer. It is walking distance to campus. I am asking \$650 per room per month. First month, last month and security deposit required. If interested contact Tim at (617)448-5626.	<b>53 Curtis Ave 6 Room 4 Bedroom</b> Full bathroom, large living room, large eat-in kitchen, two porches (front/back), new energy efficient windows, all metal doors w/ deadbolts+locks, parking for 2 cars, laundry system, brand new energy eff gas heating system. \$2400+utilities. Avail: June 1 2011 call Russ (978) 663-6370	<b>53 Curtis Ave 5 Room 3 Bedroom</b> Full bathroom, large living room, large eat-in kitchen, two porches (front/back), new energy efficient windows, all metal doors w/ deadbolts+locks, parking for 2 cars, laundry system, brand new energy eff gas heating system. \$1900+utilities. Avail: June 1 2011 call Russ (978) 663-6370	<b>\$\$ SPERM DONORS WANTED \$\$</b> Become a California Cryobank donor and earn up to \$1,200/month, receive free health and infectious disease testing, and help people fulfill their dreams of starting a family. Convenient Cambridge location. Apply online: SPERMBANK.com

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## Lack of regulation courts on campus hinders recruiting, development

### MEN'S SQUASH

continued from page 16

matches for Tufts this season, decided that they would not continue playing after winter break.

"It was a great team and my teammates are great guys, but I felt like I had some other things that were more important to me," Mutzel said.

For Salisbury, the time required to participate on the team proved too steep.

"We're both pretty pressed for time," Salisbury added. "We have to travel 25 to 30 minutes one way just to get to the courts [at Belmont Hill School] for practice. It takes up a lot of time."

Tufts is currently the only men's varsity squash program in the country that lacks regulation courts on campus, according to Michael Bello, executive administrator of the College Squash Association.

"What Tufts has on its campus is American squash courts," Bello told the Daily. "The American squash game was more a game of speed and placement with less focus on moving. However in the '90s, a lot of colleges began converting to international courts. Today, everyone is pretty much converted. All new squash courts built these days are international."

The American squash courts at Tufts' Cousens Gymnasium, built almost 30 years ago, are a few inches narrower than the international courts used by the CSA and the rest of the country. In addition, the tin — an area of the front

wall that players are not allowed to hit during play — is significantly higher up the wall at Tufts. Both of these factors make it difficult for Tufts to play on international courts after spending most of their practice time on the American courts.

"Practicing on an American court and then having to play on an international court is definitely challenging," Bello said.

This puts the Jumbos at a disadvantage relative to every other collegiate squash program. Without international courts on campus, the team travels to Belmont Hill School five days a week for practice. In the offseason, players must either go to Belmont Hill or Harvard just to hit around on regulation courts.

For Salisbury and Mutzel, the lack of proper facilities played a major role in their decisions to leave the team.

"Because we don't have facilities, a lot of people don't know the team exists," Salisbury said. "Recruits look at the squash courts here and immediately get turned off. Nobody wants to travel to Belmont Hill or Harvard."

Mutzel believed that not having regulation courts on campus reflected insufficient backing for the program.

"There's not a lot of support for squash," Mutzel added. "We don't have any courts, which doesn't bring in any crowds. I'm surprised that we're able to compete at the level we do. There are some teams ranked 40th in the country and some club teams that have better courts than we do."

I think it's amazing that Tufts squash is able to do what it does."

For other veterans of the program, the squash facilities still remain a contentious issue. While no promise was made that courts would be ready for this season, there was still some belief among players that they would be ready by 2010.

"I was really hoping for [international courts] to be built within my four years," senior captain Alex Gross said. "However, the Tufts gym needs a lot of renovations, so expecting new courts during this recession is a little unreasonable. It is just hard to recruit players without the necessary facilities, so for Tufts to have stayed as competitive as it has is really impressive."

Former squash player Zach Bradley (LA '10) agreed that talented recruits are difficult to attract to Tufts when the team does not have sufficient facilities for them.

"With the courts the way they are and no solid understanding of when real courts will come, Tufts is unfortunately not viewed as a legitimate squash program anymore," Bradley said. "You can see how much Tufts is struggling in the NESCAC, and a lot of that is because the top-tier players in high school aren't going to come to Tufts."

Bradley, now a high school squash coach at the Bryn Mawr School in Baltimore, mentioned one of his talented players who hoped to play squash in the NESCAC but was immediately turned off by Tufts' facilities.

"She visited Tufts and loved the campus, loved the academic part, but she saw the squash courts and immediately knew that she couldn't come to this school," Bradley said.

For any collegiate program, bringing in top recruits each year is the only way to consistently compete at a national level. Due to the lack of collegiate squash teams in the country, all teams compete at the Div. I level. Eng has the challenging task of convincing top squash players to come to Tufts despite the facility deficiencies and lack of funding relative to many other schools' programs that, unlike Tufts, are allowed to take university-funded trips outside the country for tournaments.

"I'd say I could get one very good player to come to Tufts every other year [with international courts]," Eng said. "With those players, we'd probably end up finishing around fourth in the NESCAC consistently."

Salisbury doubts that changes will come any time soon.

"I love Doug, and he loves the team,

but there's only so much he can do for the team in recruiting when he doesn't have the financial support from the school or the facilities," Salisbury said. "I don't think [University President Lawrence] Bacow has ever been to a squash match in the last three years, and we're also not given money for uniforms or travel."

*"We've faced some very serious economic challenges simply trying to figure out how to function. ... But the momentum is moving forward again, and I'm confident that in time, we'll be able to solve this problem. I would hope that our coaches now are not just selling the sports program but the entire university as well."*

Bill Gehling  
Tufts athletic director

Tufts Athletic Director Bill Gehling acknowledged that the current facilities are "subpar," and that there were plans to build new courts around this time. Due to the economic recession of 2008, however, the funding was not available to start construction on renovations to Cousens, and new courts won't be ready for at least a few more years.

"We've faced some very serious economic challenges simply trying to figure out how to function," Gehling said. "But the momentum is moving forward again, and I'm confident that in time, we'll be able to solve this problem. I would hope that our coaches now are not just selling the sports program but the entire university as well."

While Tufts may never again reach the elite status of the '80s, all parties agree that the addition of new courts would be an immediate boost. For now, though, Eng and the Jumbos continue to practice off-campus while waiting for their new courts.

Eng remains unsure of exactly when that will be.

"It's going to be up to the new president and the administration to see what the priorities are," he said. "So we're just going to have to see."



## POWER RANKINGS

COMPILED BY THE TUFTS DAILY

With the winter season winding down and the NESCAC Tournaments rapidly approaching, Amherst has retained a stranglehold on the top spot in the latest NESCAC Power Rankings. The Lord Jeffs' basketball teams have lost one combined game this season, and each squad is a unanimous No. 1.

Bowdoin made the biggest leap, moving up to third from sixth thanks to a first-place showing in men's ice hockey. Middlebury, powered by its women's ice hockey team, moved from third to second.

Williams, on the other hand, took a tumble from second to fourth, while Hamilton held steady at fifth. Bates' middle-of-the-pack campaign in both basketballs was enough to keep the Bobcats in the upper half of the rankings despite falling from fourth.

THIS WEEK	SCHOOL	MEN'S BASKETBALL	WOMEN'S BASKETBALL	MEN'S HOCKEY	WOMEN'S HOCKEY	AVERAGE	LAST WEEK
1	AMHERST	1.00	1.00	5.00	2.00	2.25	1 ↔
2	MIDDLEBURY	3.00	8.00	2.25	1.00	3.56	3 ↑
3	BOWDOIN	6.50	3.75	1.25	3.00	3.63	6 ↑
4	WILLIAMS	2.00	3.25	3.75	7.50	4.13	2 ↓
5	HAMILTON	—	—	3.50	6.00	4.75	5 ↔
6	BATES	5.50	4.25	—	—	4.88	4 ↓
7	TRINITY	4.25	6.75	7.25	4.00	5.56	8 ↑
8	COLBY	9.50	2.75	5.25	7.75	6.31	9 ↑
9	TUFTS	5.75	6.25	10.00	—	7.33	7 ↓
10	CONN. COLLEGE	8.00	9.00	8.75	5.00	7.69	10 ↔
11	WESLEYAN	9.50	10.00	8.00	8.75	9.06	11 ↔

The poll was devised as follows: Each voter ranked all NESCAC schools in each sport, and those scores were averaged to create a composite ranking for each sport. The composites were then averaged to determine each school's overall ranking. Note that Hamilton does not compete in men's and women's basketball in the NESCAC, Bates does not compete in men's and women's hockey and Tufts does not compete in women's hockey.

This week's list was determined by polling Amro El-Ade (Amherst Student), Seth Walder (Bowdoin Orient), Mike Flint and Nick Woolf (Conn. College Voice), and Alex Prewitt (Tufts Daily).

DESIGN BY STEVEN SMITH/TUFTS DAILY

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# Strong performance at Wheaton Invitational bodes well for championships

## MEN'S SWIMMING AND DIVING continued from page 15

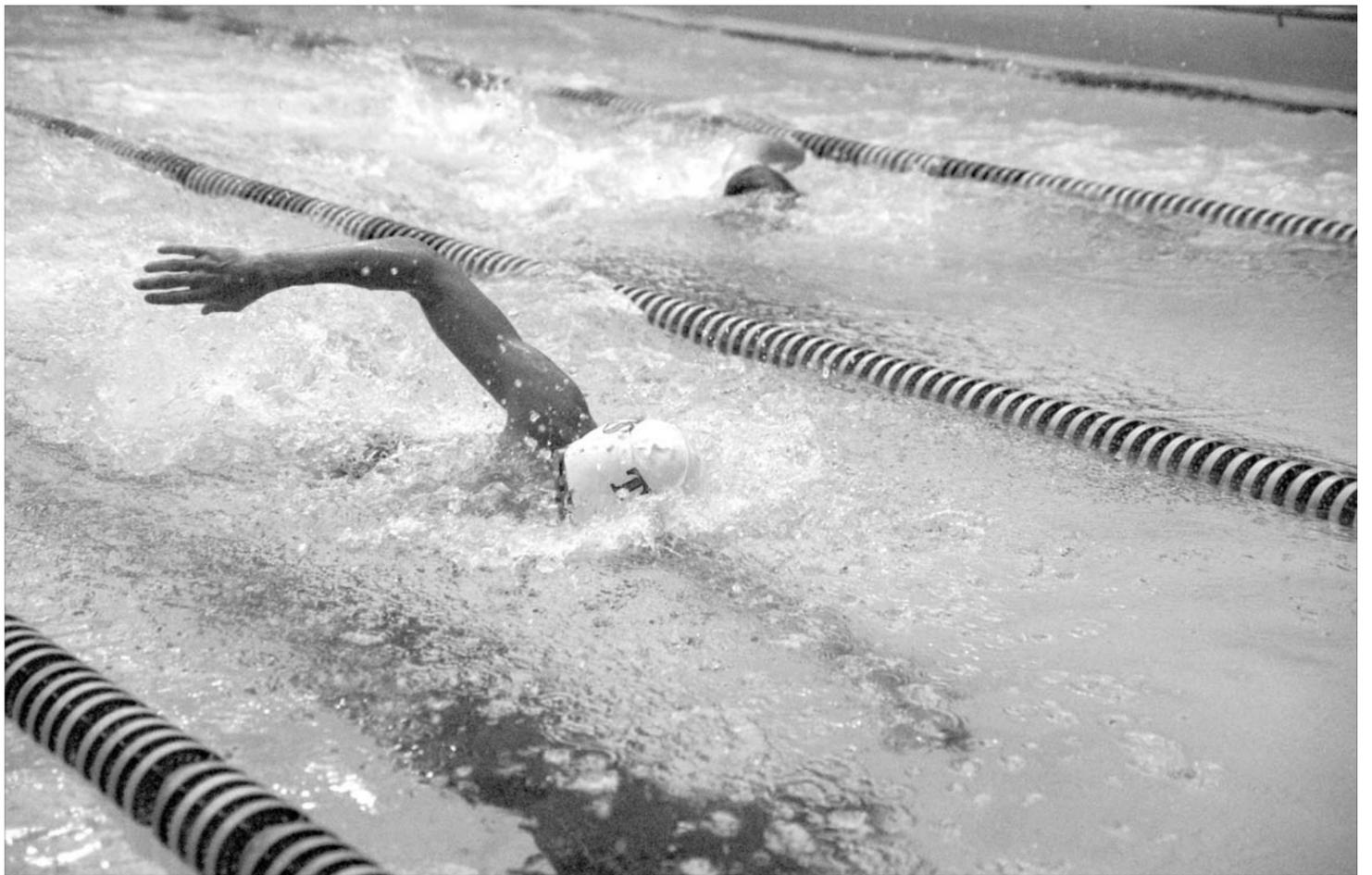
The team of sophomore Fred Teumer, juniors Brandon Ching and EJ Testa and senior quad-captain Gordy Jenkins kicked the event off with a victory in the 400-yard medley relay.

Teumer also swam the fastest time in the conference in the 50-yard butterfly and placed second in a 100-yard time trial, third in the 100-yard freestyle and fourth in the 50-yard freestyle. Ching placed third in the 100-yard butterfly with the sixth-fastest time in the conference and second in the 200-yard butterfly.

Testa and Jenkins each had stellar weekends, swimming on three first-place relay teams. They joined Lessard and Turk to win the 400-yard freestyle relay and teamed up with junior Owen Rood and senior Andrew Altman to take the 200-yard freestyle relay.

Lessard also won a 200-yard time trial, anchored the third-place 200-yard medley relay team, finished fourth in the 200-yard breaststroke and came in third in the 200-yard freestyle relay along with Ching, freshman Andrew Berman and junior Peter Debbaut.

The victories just kept on coming for the Jumbos. Rood won the 50-yard freestyle, freshman Craig Olynyk won the 100-yard freestyle, Berman won the 400-yard individual medley, freshman Matthew Wiens won the 1650-yard freestyle and junior Matt Richmond won the 100-yard breaststroke. Also, swimming in their final collegiate meets, seniors Eddie Mayerson and Andrew Meyendorff each won a 100-yard time trial.



ANDREW MORGENTHALER/TUFTS DAILY

Senior Joe Lessard was part of a winning 400-meter relay team at this weekend's Wheaton Invitational.

It was an amazing scene as Meyendorff swam his last race. "We had the entire team behind his lane ready for him," Lessard said. "It was the 100 free, and he had never broken 50 seconds [individually]. Everyone's behind there cheering for him, and he hits the water, and right away you can tell this is going to be a special swim. ... He hits the wall at 49.66, and you know for him it's

an excellent accomplishment, but you also know it's something the whole team worked at with him, and that the whole team was behind him." Second-place finishers included sophomore Dylan Portelance in the 1,650-yard freestyle, Olynyk in the 100-yard backstroke, senior Chris Vorlicek in the 400-yard individual medley and junior Andrew Vidikan in the 200-

yard backstroke. Vidikan's time was sixth in the conference. Freshman Johann Schmidt won both the 1-meter and 3-meter diving events. The standout swims reflect the high standard to which the Jumbos have held themselves all season, Lessard said. "The team has worked harder this year than in the past," Lessard said. "There's a growing expectation of suc-

cess. You talk a lot about the culture of a team — whether or not it breeds success and whether or not it breeds good performances — and I think our team is certainly starting to get that together." The 24 swimmers on the conference squad will now begin tapering off so they are fully rested come time for the NESCAC Championships on Feb. 25.

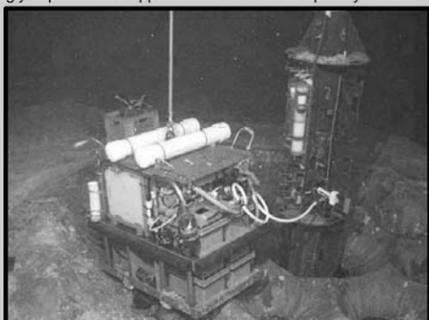
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## Life in the Vast Basaltic Subseafloor Aquifer

by  
**Dr. James Cowen**  
University of Hawaii at Manoa  
Department of Oceanography

A Seminar Sponsored by  
**Department of Geology**  
Tuesday, Feb 8 4 PM  
Room 100A Lane Hall

The subseafloor basaltic crust, or basement, represents the largest habitable aquifer on Earth. ODP/IODP borehole 'CORK' observatories offer unprecedented and increasingly sophisticated opportunities for interdisciplinary studies of this biosphere, where low temperature hydrothermal fluids circulate within the cracks and fissures of the upper basement, creating temperature and chemical gradients and associated continuums in microbial habitats. Extensive fluid-rock reactions supply the essential elements and a wide range of energy sources to support potentially diverse microbial communities. But is the reality of this 'deep biosphere' typified by generally high genetic and metabolic diversity or by a lateral gradient in community composition with sequentially changing dominant microbial groups? We will examine (and wander beyond) the emerging hydrological, geochemical, and microbiological data to consider contrasting hypotheses dealing with the magnitude and nature of the deep basement biosphere. We will also discuss the 'CORK' observatory, submersibles and related technologies required to explore this most remote biosphere on Earth.



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ANDREW MORGENTHAUER/TUFTS DAILY

Tiffany Kornegay, pictured above in a Dec. 11 game against New Paltz, had her fifth double-double of the season Saturday against Trinity, but the Jumbos still fell 63-48.

## Saturday's matchup versus Bobcats marks last NESCAC game of the regular season

### WOMEN'S BBALL

continued from page 16

After both teams struggled to score early in the second half, Amherst broke the deadlock decisively, putting together a 10-0 run and preventing the Jumbos from scoring for more than five minutes. The Jumbos finally got on the scoreboard thanks to a three-pointer from sophomore forward Collier Clegg, but by then the game was well out of reach.

"Amherst is a very fundamentally sound team," Rocchi said, "and their defensive pressure makes teams do things that they're not typically comfortable with. They did a good job taking us out of our element and forcing

us to change up our game. It was really difficult for us to adjust."

Amherst standouts junior Caroline Stedman and senior Jaci Daigneault led the Lord Jeffs' offense with 19 and 18 points, respectively. In the process, Daigneault moved into the ranks of Amherst's all-time leading scorers, now at No. 5 on the all-time list. On the Jumbos' side of the ball, Clegg led the team with nine points.

Still, it was not an easy loss to swallow for the Jumbos, who suffered their biggest loss and put up the fewest points in the history of coach Carla Berube's reign. Tufts had not lost this badly since a 40-point defeat to Bates

on Jan. 19, 2002.

Yet the Jumbos continue to stay positive in spite of the tough weekend.

"Despite losing against Trinity, "we fought hard until the very end, so if we bring that intensity into our remaining games, minute one to forty, I have no doubt we'll be able to turn things around," Kornegay said.

The Jumbos are now 15-5 overall, with a 4-4 NESCAC record. But with a No. 10 regional ranking, the team is in danger of missing the NCAA tournament for the first time since the 2006-2007 season. The two losses this weekend will also prevent the team from hosting a NESCAC first round game for

the first time since 2005-2006.

After a nonconference matchup at Worcester St. on Thursday, the Jumbos will face their final NESCAC opponent, Bates, on Saturday afternoon in Cousins Gymnasium. A win would likely get the team the No. 5 seed in the NESCAC championships.

"This weekend is important for several reasons," Rocchi said. "It's not only crucial for our NESCAC standings, it is also senior night for our four seniors, and we want to end our NESCAC play on a high note. We need to put together an entire 40 minutes of our intense, competitive play and finish out our regular season strong."

## Tufts clinches playoff spot but won't host NESCAC tournament game

### MEN'S BASKETBALL

continued from page 16

the paint before the break, a telling statistic for just how effective Tufts' defense was.

"The biggest thing with Trinity is that they're all shooters," Long said. "In the first half we did a really good job of staying out on shooters and closing out. We had guys right there with a hand in their face when they were shooting."

The Jumbos' offense was not a masterpiece either, but was efficient enough to secure a 30-23 halftime lead. The lead continued to grow after halftime, extending to 41-30 on a jumper by senior tri-captain forward Sam Mason.

But from that point on, Trinity slowly found its offense and began chipping away at the Tufts lead. In stark contrast to the first half, the Bantams were able to muscle their way inside, leading to 18 second-half points in the paint.

A major reason for the improved offense was Trinity senior co-captain Luke

MacDougall, the Bantams' leading scorer, who netted 13 points in the second half after being shut out in the first.

"MacDougall started playing a lot more aggressively," sophomore forward Scott Anderson said. "Our defense got a little lackadaisical towards the end, but he also just started playing a lot better and his shots started to fall."

The Bantams finally tied the game at 54 on a three-point play by senior co-captain Jared Pimm with just under two and a half minutes left to play. After the two teams traded points, Trinity went on a 10-2 run — scoring all of its points from the free throw line — to secure its fourth NESCAC victory.

"They got a lot more open looks in the second half," Long said. "We had more turnovers and that led to some easy buckets that we hadn't given up in the first half. The second half was sort of the opposite of the first half; they were looking at wide open threes and knocking them down."

Anderson led all scorers with 19 points, and also pulled down eight rebounds for the Jumbos, while freshman guard Kwame Firempong scored 14 points and dished out eight assists in his second start for the team.

Firempong's first start came Friday night against No. 5 Amherst, which entered the game 18-0 — including 5-0 in the NESCAC — and boasts the league's highest scoring offense, at nearly 89 points per game. Yet in the first half, the Jumbos were able to stay stride for stride with the Lord Jeffs, even managing to take the lead at times.

While the Jumbos did not shoot the ball particularly well, they were successful by crashing the boards, grabbing 11 offensive rebounds in the first half that led to nine second-chance points.

"Part of our game plan every game is to make sure we have four guys crashing the offensive glass and the point guard getting back on defense, and

it was working well against Amherst," Long said.

While Amherst struggled to contain Tufts on defense, the Lord Jeffs' offense was running as efficiently as ever. Amherst shot 54 percent from the field, including four-of-five from beyond the arc, and while they took 15 fewer shots than the Jumbos, they managed to take a 41-39 lead to halftime.

After the break, Tufts continued to hang tight, and with 16:22 left the Jumbos tied the game at 48 on a layup by Firempong. But the next three Jumbo possessions resulted in turnovers, and the Lord Jeffs capitalized, scoring nine points in less than a minute and a half.

The Jumbos would only remain within single digits for a few more minutes, as Amherst began to hit its full stride. The Lord Jeffs shot 61 percent from the field in the second half, and the lead ballooned to over 20 points with a little under eight minutes left. The 97 points allowed in the game was a sea-

son high for the Jumbos.

"We were playing pretty good defense in the first half and we were taking a lot, but in the second half their shots just started falling and they hit a bunch of threes," Anderson said.

Anderson had 14 points and five rebounds for the Jumbos, while sophomore guard Alex Goldfarb provided a spark off the bench with 15 points.

With the two losses, the Jumbos dropped to 3-5 in NESCAC play, which places them in a tie for fifth place with Bates College, their final conference opponent. While the results for Colby and Wesleyan over the weekend mean that the Jumbos have already clinched at least a playoff berth, dropping both games this weekend means Tufts' chances of hosting a first round playoff game have disappeared.

"It's disappointing because we knew that we had to take at least one [of the weekend's games] and we wanted to try and fight for a home playoff game," Anderson said.

## WOMEN'S SWIMMING AND DIVING



ANDREW MORGENTHALER/TUFTS DAILY

Freshman Ellen Gage finished second in the 100-meter breaststroke this weekend at the Wheaton Invitational.

## Hard work pays off at Wheaton Invitational

BY DANIEL RATHMAN  
Daily Editorial Board

For half of the women's swimming and diving team, the Wheaton Invitational was their championship. They had been preparing for this meet throughout the season, and they spent the past week easing off practice schedules and doing everything possible to ensure that they'd post their best times of the year.

The results could not have been more encouraging.

"A lot of girls hit some of their personal-best or season-best times this weekend," sophomore K.J. Kroetch said. "It was a really successful meet for us, and it was really cool to see how well the girls who tapered did."

Senior tri-captain Jen Iassogna, who is also a layout editor for the Daily, enjoyed a phenomenal performance in one of her final swims for Tufts, finishing the 1,000-yard freestyle in 11:26.78, good for second place behind Wheaton sophomore Caroline Isaacs. That time was more than 30 seconds faster than Iassogna's previous best in the event.

"Probably the best part of this weekend was the way the seniors, especially the girls who were swimming for the last time, went out with a bang," Kroetch said. "Jen Iassogna's performance, in particular, was really inspiring to a lot of the girls on the team."

Fellow seniors Erica Zahka and Meghan Lueders also showed marked improvements, and classmate Elley Cannon pared 15 seconds off her previous season-low in the 500-yard freestyle swim, touching the wall at 5:54.98.

The gutsiest effort of the day was delivered by first-year Laura Burns, who overcame a tough illness to anchor Tufts' B-team in the 400-yard medley relay. The quad — which also featured freshman Mia Greenwald and sophomores Erin Fleurant and Christine Garvey — placed third with a time of 4:20.68.

"A lot of people had really great swims, and the seniors especially swam really well," first-year Ellen Gage, who finished second in the 100-yard breaststroke, said. "The girls were definitely super prepared, and even a lot of those who weren't tapered for this weekend had great times."

Senior tri-captain Megan Kono, who was named NESCAC performer of the week for her dominant showing against Wheaton in Hamilton Pool on Jan. 29, continued a recent string of victories building up to the NESCAC Championships. Although Kono's strength is usually in the long-distance freestyle events, she won a pair of entirely different races — the 200- and 400-yard individual medleys — on Saturday. Kono finished

more than four seconds ahead of her nearest rival in the 200-yard race, and nearly 10 seconds before the runner-up in the 400.

The Jumbos also earned wins in the 400-yard freestyle relay, and a variety of 200-yard events. First-year Priyanka Bhargava won the backstroke in 2:17.23, junior Valerie Eacret took the freestyle in 2:00.89 and Garvey placed first in the butterfly in 2:13.51.

The season is now over for half of the team, and the other half will spend the next two weeks focusing on the NESCAC Championships, which take place Feb. 18-20 at Williams College. The Jumbos, fueled by their recent success, are confident that they will fare well against the best competition in their conference.

"The NESCACs are two weekends from now, and everyone who wasn't tapered for this weekend is going to be doing that now to get ready," Gage said. "I think we have a chance to do really well."

"Judging by this weekend's performance, the general attitude for the team is very positive," Kroetch said. "If we can keep that going, the NESCACs should be really exciting."

The swimmers and divers who excel at NESCACs could earn a trip to the NCAA Championships, which are scheduled for March 23-26 at the University of Tennessee.

## ETHAN STURM | RULES OF THE GAME

## So a Rabbi, a Priest and Brett Favre...



Before we get started, I'll give you a bit of my sports background. I love the New York Yankees, but also root for underdogs no matter who they are. I hate Boston sports, but love soccer and golf. Now that I have probably pissed off my entire readership, let's get down to business.

This column is about rules (in case you didn't get that from the title). Why write a column about rules? Well, because almost nothing — not the fans, not the stadiums, not the climate — affects a sport more than its rules and the way they are enforced.

Need proof? Back in Week 1 of the NFL season, Calvin Johnson of the Detroit Lions came down with the game-winning catch, at least, that is what it looked like to all watching. But according to the referees, Johnson placed the ball on the ground before possessing it through the entire catch, and they ruled the play an incomplete pass.

A Week 1 play may seem insignificant, until you realize that if that call had gone the other way, the Packers would have been the No. 2 seed in this year's playoffs, the Giants would have been the No. 6 seed and the Chicago Bears, the eventual NFC runner-up, would have never made the playoffs.

For all of you New England Patriots fans out there, how about this scenario to rub a little salt in your wounds: In Week 7, the Pittsburgh Steelers and Miami Dolphins also had a controversial end to a seemingly meaningless game. Down two in the closing seconds, Assault and Battery Ben Roethlisberger dove across the goal line for the win, but lost the ball on the way over. As the teams fought over the ball, the play was ruled a touchdown. Yet when video replay showed the ball came out before he was in the endzone, the refs could not decide who recovered the fumble, so they gave the ball — and the game — to the Steelers.

Why am I telling you this? Because if the Steelers lost that game, they would have been the No. 6 seed in the AFC, meaning the AFC Divisional matchups would have been flipped. The Ravens may have very well beaten a less-inspired New York Jets squad, while the Pats would likely have rolled over the Steelers again. One more win against an underwhelming Baltimore Ravens group and it would have been the Pats playing in the Super Bowl.

Even last night, Aaron Rodgers found wide receiver Brett Swain late in the third quarter on a key third down play, but the ball was jarred free by a hit. The play was brought to challenge, and the call came down to little more than interpretation. Though the ruling did not end up saving the Steelers' season, it was very close to doing so.

Now that we've established the importance of the rules, we can get down to talking about them. As an umpire for travel baseball, I hope I will be able to bring a different angle to some of these conversations. While I spend most of my life behind a TV screaming at the zebras just like everyone else, I also know how it feels to be one of them.

But I won't only be focusing on the written rules of sports. The unwritten rules — both on and off the field — are also all fair game. Should A-Rod have walked across Dallas Braden's mound? Probably not, but the steroids haven't left much room for brain cells up there. Should we be dissecting Tiger Woods' private life? Not while the rest of America has a 50-percent divorce rate. Should Brett Favre be sending out pictures of his MVP? Only with a healthy dose of Viagra.

In between, I hope to cover some of the cornerstones of sports: traditions, rivalries and fandom, which I also see as some of the unwritten rules of the game.

And if we ever run out of material, well, there are always more Brett Favre jokes.

*Ethan Sturm is a sophomore majoring in biopsychology. He can be reached at ethan.sturm@gmail.com.*

## MEN'S SWIMMING AND DIVING

## Jumbos' depth and talent on display at Wheaton Invitational; Turk takes 24th spot

BY AARON LEIBOWITZ  
Daily Editorial Board

Tufts had an incredible weekend at the two-day unscored Wheaton Invitational against Wheaton, Clark and No. 5 MIT, earning numerous lifetime-best and conference record times. For half the team, it was the last meet of the season, and for the other half it was the final tune-up before the NESCAC Championships.

No. 16 Tufts won 13 out of 24 events and had seven one-two-three finishes, four of which came in the first four races of the meet.

"We had guys posting up times that in their wildest imaginations they didn't think they could get," senior

quad-captain Joe Lessard said. "For a number of people, this was the best meet of their lives."

Coach Adam Hoyt agreed that the swimmers' posting times were extremely pleasing.

"It was the best Wheaton Invitational performance of our team since I've been coaching at Tufts," Coach Adam Hoyt said. "The guys just stepped up and swam unbelievably inspiring races."

Freshman Andrew Turk had a standout meet, and Hoyt announced yesterday to his team via e-mail that Turk will fill the coveted 24th spot in the conference championship lineup.

"It came down to a handful of guys and trying to figure out who's going to score the most points for us at

NESCAC Championships," Hoyt said. "Andrew stood out as far as being able to contribute in the breaststroke events in addition to being able to contribute in some freestyle relays. His level of performance and his versatility both contributed to adding him to our roster, and we know he'll do great there. We're happy to have him join us."

Turk won the 200-yard breaststroke, placed second in the 200-yard freestyle with the tenth-best time in the conference and was on the first-place 400-yard freestyle relay and second-place 400-yard medley relay teams this weekend.

see MEN'S SWIMMING AND DIVING, page 13

## MEN'S SQUASH

## Lack of proper courts prevents Tufts from reaching elite status

BY MATT BERGER  
Daily Editorial Board

Just 20 years ago, Tufts had one of the best men's squash programs in the nation. But now, following weekend losses to Wesleyan, Connecticut College and Hamilton in the NESCAC Championships, the No. 25 Jumbos will almost certainly fall out of the College Squash Association (CSA) top 24 for the first time in more than 10 years and will most likely finish ninth or 10th in the NESCAC at the end of the season.

Tufts has only finished that low in the conference twice in Coach Doug Eng's 15 seasons in charge of the program, a fact that sits poorly with him.

"Everybody in sports wants to be on a winning team," Eng said. "We have been historically very solid and have competed with top teams. It is only this year that we are really struggling because we lost most of our team to graduation, so we are very young and inexperienced."

Eng fondly remembers the glory years of Tufts squash.

"Tufts was very strong in squash in the '80s," Eng (E '84) said. "We were at one point top four in the country. We beat Trinity and Dartmouth and were usually No. 2 or 3 in the NESCAC."

Now, more than 25 years later, the team finds itself at 4-15 overall.

The Jumbos have had to rely even more on younger players after two veteran starters abruptly left the team more than halfway through the regular season. Juniors Chris Mutzel and Will Salisbury, both of whom started several



VIRGINIA BLEDSOE/TUFTS DAILY

see MEN'S SQUASH, page 12 The squash courts in Cousens are what Athletics Director Bill Gehling calls 'subpar,' forcing the team to practice at a nearby high school.

## MEN'S BASKETBALL

## Tufts falls to Amherst and Trinity after second-half letdowns

BY ALEX LACH  
Daily Editorial Board

The men's basketball team faded in the second half yet again in two games this week-

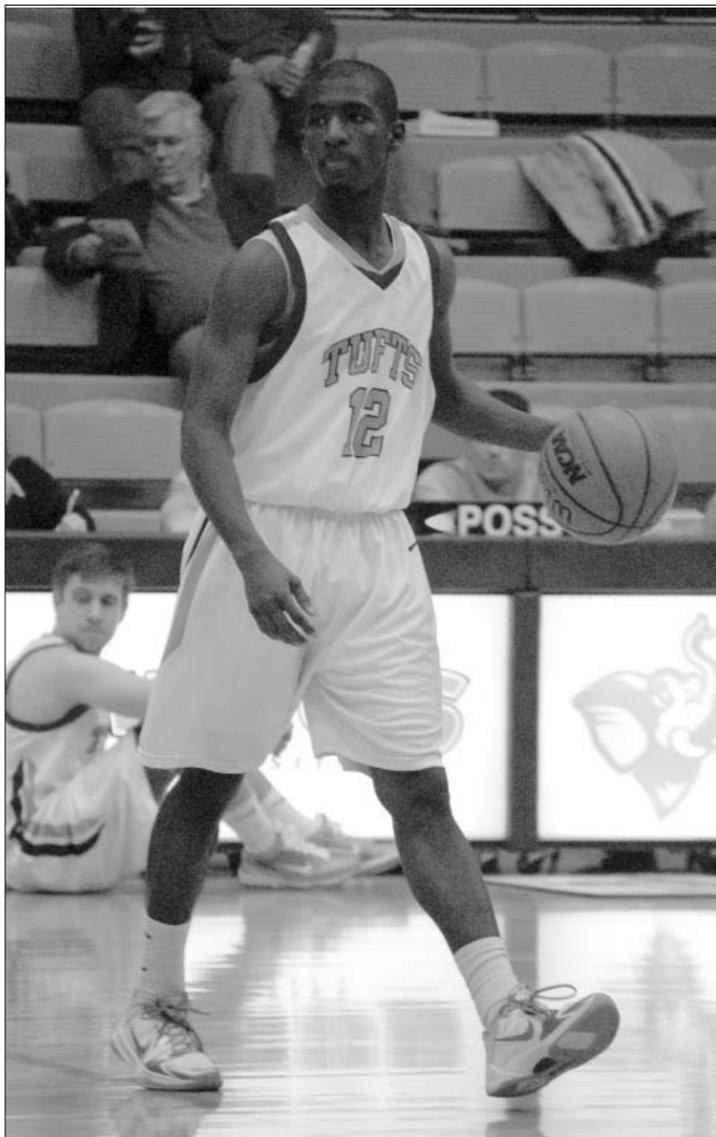
MEN'S BASKETBALL (11-11, 3-5 NESCAC) at Hartford, Conn., Saturday			
Tufts	30	31	— 61
Trinity	23	43	— 66
at Amherst, Mass., Friday			
Tufts	39	38	— 77
Amherst	41	55	— 96

end, falling to Amherst 96-77 on Friday night and again Saturday afternoon at the hands of Trinity, 66-61.

The pair of losses puts Tufts out of contention for a home playoff game in the NESCAC tournament.

"It's tough," junior tri-captain center James Long said. "After losing to Amherst we knew it would have been huge for us to have split. We're definitely disappointed."

In the first half of Saturday's game against the Bantams, the Jumbos used a stifling defense to keep Trinity from finding any offensive rhythm. The Bantams shot just 24 percent from the field in the opening frame, and were only saved on the scoreboard by hitting five three-pointers, including three from senior guard Brian Ford. Trinity had just four points in



VIRGINIA BLEDSOE/TUFTS DAILY

Freshman Kwame Firemong made his first career start this weekend, but his efforts were in vain, as Tufts dropped games to Amherst and Trinity.

see MEN'S BASKETBALL, page 14

## WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

## Jumbos suffer major losses to NESCAC foes

BY KELSEY PERKINS  
Daily Staff Writer

In a weekend when points were hard to come by, the women's basketball team fell to

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL (15-5, 4-4 NESCAC) at Hartford, Conn., Saturday			
Tufts	13	35	— 48
Trinity	18	45	— 63
at Amherst, Mass., Friday			
Tufts	15	20	— 35
Amherst	32	41	— 73

NESCAC opponents Amherst and Trinity, losing 73-35 to the Lord Jeffs on Friday night and 63-48 to the Bantams on Saturday afternoon.

"We had a really tough time on the offensive end in both games," junior guard Tiffany Kornegay said. "Against Amherst our plays weren't working, and against Trinity our shots just wouldn't fall, especially in the first half."

Saturday afternoon's game was the Bantams' first victory in four games and the Jumbos' second loss of the weekend. Trinity led 18-13 at halftime as Tufts struggled to find the bottom of the net, shooting only 33 percent from the field. The Bantams extended their marginal lead in the second half, pushing it to 18 points with 10 minutes to go and retaining the advantage until the final buzzer.

"Unfortunately our shots just weren't falling, so we couldn't get into any sort of groove offensively," freshman forward Ali Rocchi said.

But there were positives for the Jumbos, who were bolstered by the performances of Kornegay and senior tri-captain Colleen Hart, who was making her first appearance in two weeks after being out with a sprained ankle. Kornegay recorded her fifth double-double of the season, with 15 points and 10 boards, to which Hart added 11 points, seven rebounds and three steals, though she shot only 3-for-15 from the field.

"We got a lot of minutes from Colleen against Trinity, which was great," Kornegay said. "Even with an injury she's a threat on the floor, offensively and defensively."

The Jumbos' struggles on Saturday may have spawned from the emotionally draining shellacking they had suffered at the hands of Amherst the night before.

"Games like [the Amherst game] are tough to come back from," Rocchi said, "so playing Trinity the next day was hard, but I thought we brought more fight to Saturday's game."

The Lord Jeffs lived up to their No. 2 national ranking from the start, putting together a 13-point run early in the first half and cruising into the locker room with a comfortable 32-15 lead.

see WOMEN'S BBALL, page 14