



COURTESY EVAN PARKER

Delta Upsilon (DU) brothers Marty Finnegan, Andrew Rayner, Evan Parker and Zak Kline, left to right, in the DU house with bags of food destined for the Somerville Homeless Coalition.

## Greeks deliver Thanksgiving meal to the homeless

BY CORINNE SEGAL  
Daily Editorial Board

An effort by the Greek community at Tufts recently gave dozens of families in Somerville a chance to celebrate this Thanksgiving.

Tufts fraternities and sororities, along with the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs, donated 100 Thanksgiving meals to families through the Somerville Homeless Coalition (SHC), according to Director of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs Tanya McGinn Paolo.

Delta Upsilon (DU) Philanthropy Chair Evan Parker, who organized the donation, said that the Thanksgiving effort was unprecedented in its nature and size. "This was the first time we did anything like this," Parker, a sophomore, said.

Paolo, who first proposed the project, said that Director of Community Relations Barbara Rubel recommended the SHC as a candidate to receive the food donations and put her in touch with the organization's executive director.

Most of the fraternities and sororities lent their support to the project, Parker said.

"I got really positive feedback and positive responses so we decided to go through with it," he said.

Parker and Paolo assigned certain food items to participating Greek chapters. Fraternities and sororities dropped off the food items at DU on Nov. 19 and 22.

Paolo also bought 100 turkeys financed through private donations and funds that the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs sets aside for community service initiatives.

DU brothers, along with fraternity and sorority affairs intern Daniel Flowers, purchased other food at Shaws and created 100 individual food bags to donate, according to Parker.

Parker, along with Paolo and fellow DU brothers Andrew Rayner and Zak Kline, both sophomores, on Nov. 19 delivered the food to the SHC's Davis Square

see **THANKSGIVING**, page 2

## Federal earmark ban could deal blows to city, university

BY MICHAEL DEL MORO  
Daily Editorial Board

In light of the announcement by U.S. House of Representatives Minority Leader John Boehner (R-Ohio) earlier this month that House Republicans will ban congressional earmarks when they take control of the body in January, Tufts and its surrounding communities are bracing for an even greater tightening of the belt.

Senators and representatives rely on earmarks as a source of funding for projects and programs in their respective states. Although they account for less than one-half of 1 percent of the federal budget, earmarks have increasingly become the focus of conservative ire.

For Tufts, the ban will likely have minimal effects, as the university receives only a small amount of money from federal earmarks, according to Vice President of University Relations Mary Jeka. Still, she said, the university will not be able to entirely evade the impact of the ban.

"Overall, the amount of funding received from congressional earmarks is modest," Jeka said in an e-mail to the Daily. "Although the support received from earmarks is not great, the ban will require efforts to find alternative sources of funding to minimize the impact on staff and projects."

The primary project that may be affected is the Jean Mayer Human Nutrition Research Center on Aging, run through the Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy for the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

In a recent interview with the Daily, University President Lawrence Bacow said that the research center receives an annual appropriation from the USDA for a cost-of-living increase, which is technically considered an earmark. Though Tufts does not depend on earmarks beyond this funding, the ban could prove challenging for the research center to overcome, he said.

"That's our exposure to earmarks," Bacow said. "It's a modest exposure for us. I'm not terribly concerned about it, but if the cost-of-living increase which

they get goes away, that would be a problem."

The university is in the process of negotiating ways for the appropriation to sidestep its designation as an earmark, Bacow said.

On the local level, the elimination of earmarks could potentially restrict projects, as well as cut back long-running programs.

Somerville Board of Aldermen President John Connolly said conservative attacks on earmarks may be misplaced, and banning them could have adverse effects in communities nationwide.

"In the very general sense, it sounds all well and good until there's a particular economic situation, and you can pick any place in the country," Connolly told the Daily.

Education in Massachusetts, both at the primary, secondary and university levels, could face considerable setbacks if earmarks get hung up by legislators in Washington, he said.

In particular, the lack of research grants from the federal government's National Institutes of Health could produce a decline in the quality of instruction and result in fewer students working in labs, according to Connolly.

"It's going to have a very negative trickle-down effect," he said. "We're going to be doing an awful lot less in terms of money coming through."

Connolly foresees "extremely difficult consequences" for Somerville if the federal government does not continue allocating funds that the city has become accustomed to receiving. In the face of the impending lack of federal money, the city is doing everything it can to keep certain programs out of jeopardy, he said.

"We're not optimistic that the new Congress is going to be overly generous in dealing with the state of Massachusetts," he said.

The Green Line Extension project, designed to expand the T into Medford and Somerville, is one such program

see **EARMARKS**, page 2

## With future in mind, MBTA implements expansions

BY BIANCA BLAKESLEY  
AND RACHEL RAMPINO  
Daily Staff Writers

MetroWest Regional Transit Authority (MWRTA) buses will soon accept fare payment from riders using the Massachusetts Bay Transport Authority's (MBTA) CharlieCard, just one of several new revamps to the Boston area mass transportation network.

The MBTA announced the move last month as part of several new improvements to the T system. Beyond increasing the reach of its CharlieCard system, the T has also introduced three-car trains on its Green Line, extended its Silver Line and unveiled plans to upgrade its commuter rail.

The MBTA has also bought 75 new commuter rail cars for a sum of \$190 million, according to MBTA spokesperson Lydia Rivera. The

double-decker cars, purchased in 2008, are now set to be phased in beginning next month until December 2012.

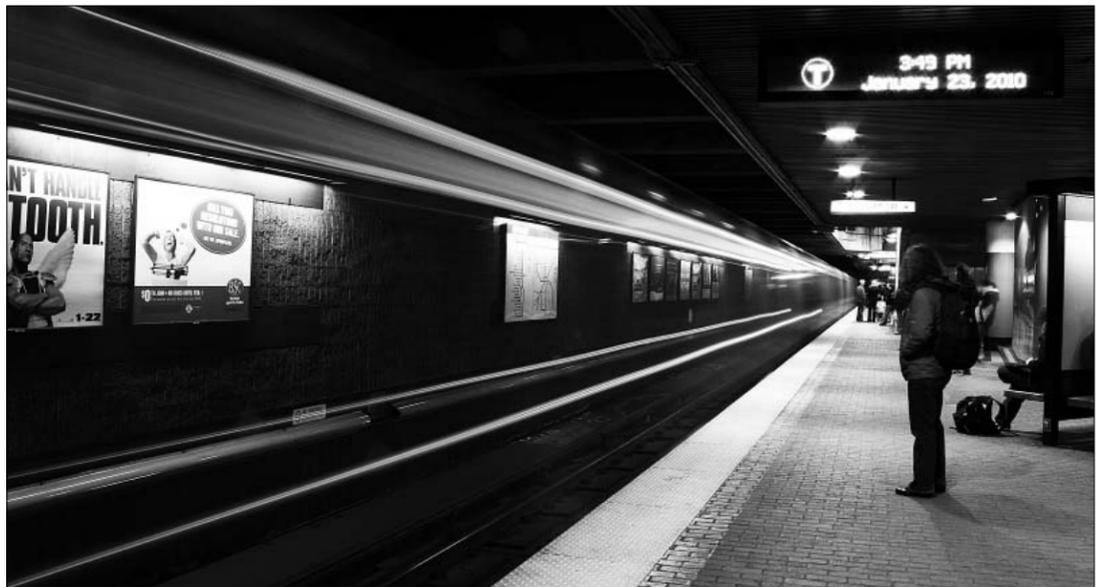
The MBTA last month introduced the Silver Line Direct Connect, a new branch of the Silver Line that runs between Dudley Square Station and South Station.

In addition, the MBTA also last month began testing expanded trains on some routes, introducing three-car trains on selected branches of the Green Line, rather than the customary two.

Rivera said the MBTA plans for buses from 10 other regional transportation authorities (RTAs) in the Greater Boston area to eventually accept CharlieCards as well.

"This is the pilot; this is the first one. What we want to do, and we

see **MBTA**, page 2

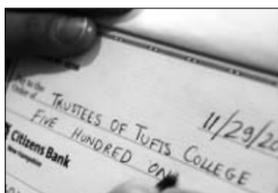


DAILY FILE PHOTO

The MBTA is introducing longer trains and new routes and plans to expand its CharlieCard system.

### Inside this issue

The Tufts Student Fund is fine-tuning its message to appeal to more potential participants.



see **FEATURES**, page 3

The characters in 'Fever Chart' seek to form connections amid Middle East tensions.



see **ARTS**, page 5

### Today's Sections

News	1	Editorial   Letters	8
Features	3	Op-Ed	9
Arts   Living	5	Classifieds	11
Comics	7	Sports	Back



COURTESY TUFTS UNIVERSITY PHOTOGRAPHY

The Jean Mayer Human Nutrition Research Center on Aging, operated by Tufts for the USDA, receives an annual appropriation technically designated as an earmark. New congressional leadership will put such earmarks' future in doubt beginning in January.

## Federal ban on earmarks could mean cutbacks for education and development projects

### EARMARKS

continued from page 1

that the city is working to safeguard, Connolly said, though he was unsure exactly how much of the project is funded by federal money appropriated through earmarks.

City of Somerville spokesperson Mike Meehan said that he does not anticipate the Green Line extension to be affected by the spending halts.

But a \$50 million project to add a stop to the Orange Line in Assembly Square may be jeopardized should Congress choose to stop earmarking, according to Meehan. A significant portion of the money for the new stop, he said, would come from the

Transportation Authorization Bill, which legislates the amount of federal funds allocated to federal, state and municipal transit facilities.

Meehan believes the project will have long-term economic benefits for the community, and is a good use of American taxpayer dollars.

"That's the kind of project that pays off with long-term economic benefits — that would be the sort of the thing the federal government would be interested in funding," Meehan told the Daily. "If they're going to spend our tax dollars, they might as well spend it on something with a long-term economic benefit."

In the absence of earmarks, Connolly thinks Congress would see a much great-

er quantity of legislation, namely smaller bills with local funding initiatives, which could slow down appropriations to cities and towns across the country.

"Now, all of a sudden, you're going to have to deal with many, many larger volumes [of legislation]," he said.

Meehan said that banning earmarks would likely have little impact on improving the federal deficit.

"As I understand it, earmarks are a sliver of the sliver of the federal budget," he said. "They could get rid of all the earmarks and we'd still have a massive federal deficit."

Matt Repka contributed reporting to this article.

## Increased CharlieCard use is in the MBTA's plans

### MBTA

continued from page 1

will do, is expand to the additional RTAs," Rivera told the Daily.

MetroWest buses previously accepted fare payment in cash or paper 10-ride tickets, according to MWRTA Administrator Ed Carr.

Rivera said passengers riding MetroWest buses to the Green Line now use their CharlieCards to pay for all the fares in their commute.

"Say someone gets on at Framingham, pays, and then they get off at the Woodland Station on the Green Line, then they have to get a CharlieCard to board that train," Rivera said. "What we're going to be doing is providing a seamless connection from the MWRTA to the Green Line."

John von Goeler, a representative for Scheidt & Bachmann, the company that developed the automated fare collection system used with the CharlieCard, said a single method of payment for trains and buses simplifies travel.

"For the rider it's an easy process to jump back and forth," he told the Daily. "Now you can just use the one card and it's all automatically calculated and deducted."

Carr said the MWRTA's transition to accepting CharlieCards, initiated in October, would be complete by the end of December.

Scheidt & Bachmann is now finalizing contracts with the ten other RTAs in the greater Boston area, von Goeler said.

"We're expecting them to implement most of those [contracts] by the first half of 2011," Goeler said. "Most of these agencies should have fare systems up and running



JUSTIN MCCALLUM/TUFTS DAILY

New, upgraded commuter-rail cars will soon hit the rails near Boston Avenue.

that should be compatible with the CharlieCard."

Carr said that the MWRTA has planned to integrate its payment system with the MBTA's since the MWRTA was established in 2007. MWRTA equipped its buses with the same fare boxes that the MBTA uses for the CharlieCard.

"When we started the RTA we wanted to be interoperable with the MBTA. Because it was new we had the ability to plan for this interoperability," Carr told the Daily in an e-mail.

The CharlieCard expansion is part of a series of reforms outlined in a 2009 transportation reform bill, signed into law by Gov. Deval Patrick, which eliminated the Massachusetts Turnpike Authority and consolidated numerous agencies into the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT).

Integrating commuter rail into the CharlieCard system is part of the governor's larger goal of streamlining transportation,

according to MassDOT spokesperson Klark Jessen.

"The Patrick administration and MassDOT have the goal of moving towards a more seamless system for the customer who may one day need to take a bus and then the subway and the next day the commuter rail," Jessen told the Daily. "The goal would be to eventually add the commuter rail."

But Rivera said that actual implementation is still a long way off. The MBTA must update the commuter rail's technology to make it compatible with the CharlieCard system, she said.

"That is a future endeavor that we're underway with. That's not anytime soon," she said.

Von Goeler said that future innovations to simplify fare payment remain possible.

"We talk with a lot of transit authorities that would like to implement a system where any card in your wallet you could use potentially as a device for paying your fare," he said.

## Greeks participate in Thanksgiving charity project

### THANKSGIVING

continued from page 1

office and on Nov. 22 to a food pantry on Franklin Street.

Every family received a food bag, a turkey and a turkey pan, Paolo said.

Zeta Beta Tau and Zeta Psi jointly donated canned vegetables, while Alpha Epsilon Pi gave cranberry sauce. Sigma Phi Epsilon donated cake and brownie mix, and DU contributed bags of stuffing.

Alpha Tau Omega and Delta Tau Delta together gave a roasting pan. Sigma Nu and the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life donated muffin mix.

Sororities Chi Omega and Alpha Omicron Pi donated boxed potatoes and canned gravy, respectively, while Alpha Phi provided pasta mixes, according to Parker.

The food deliveries were positively received, Parker said.

"It turned out really well," Parker said. "By the time we dropped them off, there were already lines of people ready to pick them up. ... The people getting it were very happy, along with the people who worked at the homeless shelter. They were really grateful."

Paolo echoed the sentiment, saying that the SHC was amazed at the volume of the donations.

"The executive director said that he was pretty skeptical that we had actually come up with 100 turkeys," she said. "They were really wonderful and obviously they were incredibly appreciative and thankful for all of the donations and everything the students did."

She said that the holiday presented an opportunity to help the community.

"I think I'm just so aware, especially in today's economy, there are so many needy families in the community," Paolo said. "I've always donated food personally. I just thought it would be a great idea."

Parker said that the project was successful and hopes to repeat it.

"It was a pretty good turnout across the board," he said. "Maybe we'll be able to continue it into the future. I'm sure we'll try to make it happen."

## Visiting the Hill this week

### TUESDAY

"Doing Virtuous Business"

*Details:* A panel discussion will accompany an advance screening of the PBS documentary "Doing Virtuous Business." The documentary's producer, Ted Malloch, also the CEO of the Roosevelt Group and the author of "Spiritual Enterprise: Doing Virtuous Business," will be in attendance.

*When and Where:* 5 to 7 p.m.; Goddard Chapel

*Sponsor:* Entrepreneurial Leadership Program

### WEDNESDAY

"The Grinch that Stole Hanukkah"

*Details:* Professor Paula Fredriksen, Aurelio Chair Emerita of the Appreciation of Scripture at Boston University and author of "From Jesus to Christ: The Origins of the New Testament Images of Jesus," will conduct a question-and-answer session.

*When and Where:* 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.; Coolidge Room, Ballou Hall

*Sponsor:* Center for the Humanities at Tufts

"Religion in America"

*Details:* Harvey Cox, the Hollis Research Professor of Divinity at the Harvard Divinity School, will speak about the future of religion in the United States.

*When and Where:* 6 to 7 p.m.; Goddard Chapel

*Sponsor:* Office of the University Chaplain

"Former Army Interrogator at Guantanamo Bay"

*Details:* Matthew Alexander, a former senior military interrogator and an outspoken critic of the use of torture, will deliver a lecture.

*When and Where:* 6 to 7:30 p.m.; Braker 001

*Sponsor:* Amnesty International Tufts Chapter

"Fatal Promises"

*Details:* A screening of "Fatal Promises" (2009), a film documenting the stories of victims of human trafficking in Eastern Europe. Kat Rohrer, the documentary's director, will conduct a question-and-answer session following the screening.

*When and Where:* 8 to 10:30 p.m.; Olin 012

*Sponsor:* Russian Circle

### THURSDAY

"Bottom-Up Entrepreneurship for Democracy and Development"

*Details:* Iqbal Quadir, founding director of the Legatum Center for Development and Entrepreneurship at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the founder of Grameenphone Limited in Bangladesh, will discuss new approaches to solving global poverty and empowering workers in developing countries.

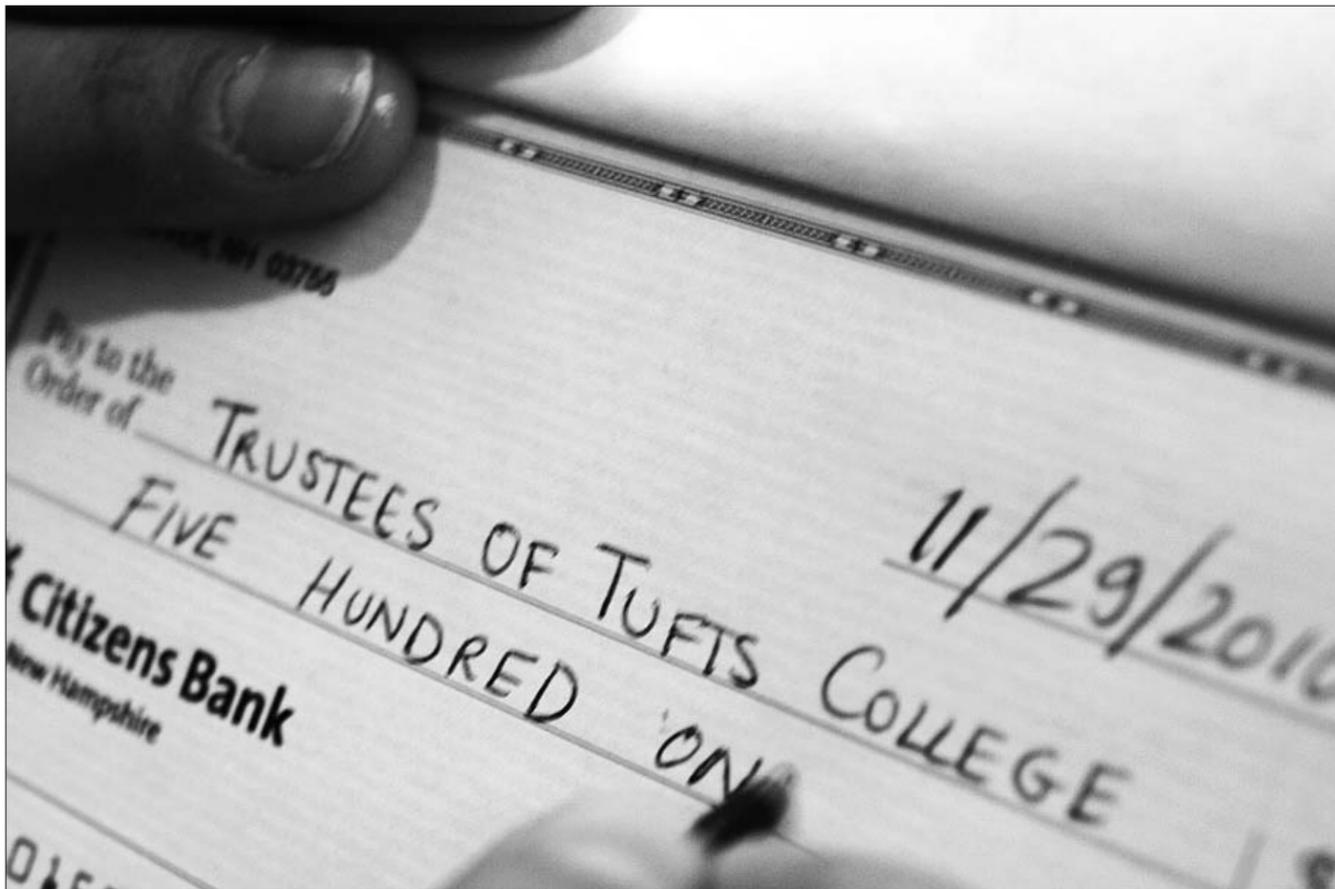
*When and Where:* 7 to 9 p.m.; Pearson 104

*Sponsor:* OneWorld

—compiled by Daphne Kolios

# Features

tuftsdaily.com



TIEN TIEN/TUFTS DAILY

The Tufts Student Fund is shooting for more student participation this year as it tries to better explain its aims.

## Tufts Student Fund tweaks its message, keeps its eye on participation

BY DEREK SCHLOM  
Daily Editorial Board

Being a Jumbo has never been pricier — and one student-run initiative is revamping its attempts to alleviate the cost of a Tufts education for one Jumbo.

With a yearly price tag of more than \$50,000 for tuition, room, board and fees, Tufts ranks as the second most expensive school in Massachusetts, according to a report released last month by The Chronicle of Higher Education.

The proceeds of the Tufts Student Fund (TSF), which, according to its student leaders, is gearing up for its third cycle of fundraising to begin in February, contribute to the tuition bill of a single student in need.

Last year, the TSF initiative generated close to \$7,000 in student donations, supplemented with a grant from two anonymous alumni who donated \$50 for each student donation, raising the total to \$40,700.

Though TSF participation in the form of student donations has hovered around 20 percent — a number consistent with Tufts' overall alumni donation percentage — since its inception during the 2008-2009 school year, the goals of the TSF have not been met with unanimous approval by the student body.

Among the criticisms levied at the TSF, according to TSF Committee co-chairs Kyle Sircus and Daniel Slate, both seniors, is the complaint that students should not be responsible for the finances of their peers, particularly during difficult econom-

ic times. Additionally, the co-chairs said, the TSF's opponents have argued that the fund's proceeds should benefit the financial aid budget in general rather than a single student; the Office of Financial Aid chooses the recipient.

"We do get a lot of questions," Sircus said. "You know, 'Why are you donating to one student; isn't it better to donate across the student body so that more people can get a piece of this?'"

"We of course understand the controversy," he continued. "It's a big question, but the philosophy we want to expose people to is that living a philanthropic life begins here, in the strong sense of community we develop here."

see FUND, page 4

## Questioning your faith: Students consider religious conversion on the Hill

BY MAYA KOHLI  
Daily Editorial Board

The practice of religious conversion is fairly common in the United States. Roughly half of American adults have switched religious affiliation at least once in their lives, according to a 2009 study by the Pew Forum on Religion and Public Life.

Though such a decision marks a major life change, the study found that most adults that did leave their childhood faith did so early — before the age of 24.

How do the processes of religious questioning and exploration manifest themselves at Tufts? University Chaplain David O'Leary said that he frequently counsels students who are beginning to doubt their faiths.

"Questioning is good. The more one questions, the more you're making the faith your own instead of the faith of your parents or grandparents," O'Leary said.

Before students elect to change faiths, O'Leary said it is important they have a handle on the religion in which they were raised.

"My biggest thing to ask before anyone changes is 'Do they know their own tradition?'" he said. "A lot of people want to change, but they haven't explored the faith they want to leave. My role is to make sure they explore the tradition they grew up in."

O'Leary believes social factors play a large role in the conversion decision, especially during college years.

"No one has a problem with doctrine. It's usually social — sadly, people find they haven't been treated properly where they have been worshipping," he explained. "Many people don't switch faith paths because of doctrinal issues; it's more their friends, their partner, their boyfriend or girlfriend."

Rather than social pressures, O'Leary stressed that the process of religious conversion should instead derive from a combination of highly intellectual and spiritual questions.

"Students need to examine what's motivating them," he said. "What is [it] that's calling? What are they feeling? What are the reasons they are drawn to [a new faith]?"

Junior John Peter Kaytrosh, a Judaic studies major, started grappling with these kinds of questions his sophomore year of high school. Kaytrosh, who is currently in the process of converting to Conservative Judaism, began exploring different faiths when he felt that the Catholicism of his childhood wasn't meeting his spiritual needs.

"I was raised Catholic and went to Catholic school for 12 years," he said. "There were a lot of intellectual leaps I couldn't make, and there was also a lot of teaching that I

found disagreeable. I explored and looked at Quakerism, Unitarian Universalism and some mainline Protestant denominations, such as Protestantism and Lutheranism."

Kaytrosh said that the large Jewish community at Tufts was a motivating factor behind his decision to convert.

"There's too much ritual, too much social observation, too much you need to watch other people doing in order to learn the ritual mastery," he explained. "You can't practice Judaism in a vacuum or a bubble; there's been a lot of intellectual and spiritual discovery involved. If Tufts didn't have such a strong, welcoming, cohesive community, it wouldn't have happened."

Kaytrosh also identified with the more intellectual and doctrinal aspects of Judaism, particularly its groundings in everyday life, he said.

"It was definitely the emphasis on community and living in the world. A lot of other religions will emphasize doing things that are extraordinary, that are not necessarily sustainable as a way of life — they emphasize drawing yourself out from the world," Kaytrosh explained. "Judaism doesn't do that. It asks us not only to engage but to become very skilled [at] living well and living with the world and not living against it."

see CONVERSION, page 4

STEPHEN MILLER | COUNTERPOINT

## Harry Potter? More like Harry Notter!



So I went to the new Harry Potter movie last week, and — I'm about to lose a bunch of friends saying this — it was terrible.

Look, I love Harry as much as the next guy from the '90s. Magic is dope. I waited in line at midnight for the release of the third book. I even try to *accio* the TV remote from time to time. Harry Potter is not my issue. My problem is with that weaselly, money-grubbing, holier-than-thou entity known as Hollywood. Yes, I know holier-than-thou doesn't fit, but it's fun to write.

OK, where to dive in with this vent? Let's start with the most blatant and overt offense — splitting the last book into two movies. First off, a message from all of us out there: go to hell, Hollywood. How dare you make us wait another seven and a half months just so you can collect during the summer blockbuster season. I understand that you, Hollywood, have no soul and are greedy. But you're running away with more of our money than Bernie Madoff. This went too far.

Deathly Hallows is a book that can't be split up. Why? Because nothing happens. The first 7 million pages of the last book just set up the final battle between Mr. Potter and a noseless Ralph Fiennes. There are no goofy Hogwarts shenanigans. No Quidditch. It's just a couple of British chaps sitting around, worrying about the fate of the world and looking sad. If I wanted to see that, I'd turn on the BBC.

The movie, as a result, was a series of scenes of the protagonists and their tent framed by exotic, over-the-top locations. There was a whole bunch of dithering. There were many dramatic, intense faces. Then — SPOILER ALERT — Dobby dies, and the movie leaves you with a cliffhanger. Not pleased.

Every friend I mention this to responds with the stock, "but they were being accurate to the book." Oh really? I must have missed the Harry-Hermione professional dance routine the first read-around. And I guess Ron imagining Harry and Hermione munching face slipped my memory too. Hollywood wants to have its cake and eat it too, and I'm not playing ball. If you're going to stick to the book, stick to the book. If you are going to embellish and throw in Hollywood additions, then can we please have an Emma Watson shower scene? I'm just saying...

You know what is annoying me most about this movie? It's that people are loving it, and voicing the opposite opinion is heresy. Why was this so good? There's nothing like the dope Dumbledore-Voldemort battle from the fifth or the Dumbledore being a boss at the end of the sixth. Other than one blatant penis-wand comment, there's really not much comedy. Regardless, Deathly Hallows has the highest rating of any of the Potter films on IMDb.com. I don't get it.

All in all, the movie was as disappointing as a South Park "old fashioned." It took a long time, wasn't very exciting and had an anti-climactic climax. And think about how awesome a three-hour, full-book movie would have been. But no, the Harry Potter frenzy has reached a level where the quality is no longer important. It's a name tag attached to a number of very, very large bank accounts. It makes me want to go all CJ Saraceno on this and call for a Harry Potter ban.

Wait a second. Hold up. Who am I kidding? That's going a bit far. Only 228 days until part two. Are ticket preorders available yet?

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

## Tufts Student Fund looks to clarify its goals among students

**FUND**  
continued from page 3

Slate admitted responsibility, on the part of the committee, for what he deemed a lack of success in communicating the TSF's goals to the student body in the previous two years of fundraising.

"I do find it sort of crass to hear people say, 'Because I'm a student, I don't have a responsibility to support the other students here,'" Slate said. "But I think it's because we didn't do a very good job in the past of explaining to students why they should be donating to this."

To more effectively address potential student donors, the TSF Committee has shifted this year from a central, administration-driven body to a largely student-driven one, according to Slate.

The initial TSF Committee was formed by the administration, which chose student representatives from campus groups, including the Tufts Community Union (TCU) Senate, which is no longer directly involved with the TSF, Slate said. Unlike in past years, the TSF Committee is also currently allowing volunteers to participate.

"Now we're more of a student group functioning in an advisory role to the [University] Advancement office so that the fund can be pitched more effectively to students, which is where we've gone astray in the past," Slate said. "There used to just be an informal meeting between the committee and the administration."

Sarah Pease, volunteer coordinator for the Tufts Fund for Arts, Sciences and Engineering, which, according to Slate, provides administrative assistance to the TSF, said that the internal changes being implemented by the TSF Committee are noticeable and impressive.

"I would say that they're definitely choosing their mission," she said. "We're just supporting them and providing as much help as we can in their efforts."

Despite the shift in approach, Sircus and Slate stressed that the overall goal of the TSF remains constant: getting students involved.

"We're emphasizing that this is not about the money, the \$50,000 for a scholarship," Slate said. "It's about students demonstrating support for the vision of education not needing to be restricted financially ... and demonstrating support for each other. To expect students to donate \$50,000 is an undue burden, but we can expect them to demonstrate support, which can even mean donating a dollar."

According to the TSF Committee co-chairs, the actual financial impact of the TSF's student fundraising efforts pales in comparison to the awareness about financial aid issues it generates among students and potential alumni donors.

"We're making a small but important contribution to a huge financial aid budget," Sircus said. "It's not about the dollar amount; it's about getting the whole campus involved in this issue, dealing with something that's a hot topic on our campus and trying to do something about it."

Ultimately, Slate sees donating to the TSF as a part of a circle of giving.

"I go back to the fact that all of our experiences here have been as positive as they've been because of the people who've come before us and donated back to the school," Slate said. "I look at [the TSF] as a way to ensure that our experience here continues for those after us. A lot of us are here today because alumni have donated grants to financial aid that have allowed us to come here."



DAILY FILE PHOTO

While half of Americans convert at some point in their lives, religious leaders on the Hill explain that religious conversion takes on different meanings within different faiths.

## Students and chaplains encourage learning about religions before committing to them

**CONVERSION**

continued from page 3

Tufts' Jewish Chaplain, Rabbi Jeffrey Summit, said that the conversion process is lengthy. Many of the students he has helped to convert to Judaism, he said, do not finish until after graduation.

"A person goes through a serious process of study, usually taking a formal course and meeting with a rabbi regularly for about a year," Summit said in an e-mail. "After that process, a potential convert goes before a rabbinic court of three rabbis who speak with the convert about his or her reasons for converting and ask questions about how the convert will integrate Judaism into his or her life."

Other rituals follow, including the "mikvah," a ritual immersion in a pool of water.

Like Kaytrosh, Summit empha-

sized that conversion involved a high level of commitment and a lot of religious learning.

In contrast, conversion to Islam is far simpler according to Tufts' Muslim Chaplain, Naila Baloch.

"All you have to do is say that you bear witness — that there is no god but one god, Allah, the Arabic term for god or one god," she said. "Basically, it is bearing witness that there is the one god and that Muhammad is his prophet."

Baloch, who has exchanged e-mails with a few students interested in Islam, explained that the Muslim community is very open to converts. Unlike the more procedural conversions required in Judaism and some other religions, conversion to Islam is far less ritualistic, she said.

"It's more like your inner orientation changes," she explained.

"I think it depends on how you were living your life before; for some people it's an inner shift, but for some people, it's also an outer change."

Regardless of religious affiliation, the process of exploring different faiths is important for students interested in converting.

"Explore away. It's easy here at Tufts," O'Leary said. "We have a great Department of Religion that offers courses on many of the spiritual religions. There are also various student religious organizations that people should check out."

Kaytrosh echoed this sentiment, advising that students on their own spiritual journeys listen to their instincts.

"Go with your gut," he said. "If something is attracting you really strongly, never stop learning. There's always more to learn."

# Introduce new Jumbos to the Tufts Experience



Applications  
Due 2/4

## *Innovative and Energetic Leaders Needed to Coordinate Orientation 2011!*

Positions in Major Events, Leadership, Training & Academic Programs, and Logistics & Communications

(3 Full-Time Paid Summer Positions...June, July, August)

more information & application at:

<http://studentservices.tufts.edu/orientation>

or stop by Campus Life in the Campus Center.

THEATER REVIEW

## 'Fever Chart' addresses Middle East tensions with poignant execution

BY BRIANNA BEEHLER  
Senior Staff Writer

Do you know what your hands do while you sleep? In her new three-part play, "The Fever Chart: Three Visions of

**The Fever Chart: Three Visions of the Middle East**



Written by **Naomi Wallace**  
Directed by **Elena Araoz**  
At the Central Square Theater through Dec. 19  
Tickets \$20 to \$40

the Middle East," Naomi Wallace asks us to consider the consequences of our actions regardless of whether we are aware of them or not.

In "The Fever Chart," characters from Palestine, Israel and Iraq deal with trying to establish connections amid turbulent times. All of the characters are lonely and alienated, making their various attempts to find human sympathy all the more touching. Adding to the effectiveness of



see **FEVER**, page 6 Ken Baltin and Najla Said share a tense moment.

MOVIE REVIEW

## 'Love and Other Drugs' spread too thin

### Romcom about health care misses the mark

BY SMRITI CHOUDHURY  
Daily Staff Writer

Contrary to what drug companies may hope, there's not a lot that's sexy about selling erectile dysfunction medications like Viagra.

**Love and Other Drugs**



Starring **Jake Gyllenhaal, Anne Hathaway, Oliver Platt**  
Directed by **Edward Zwick**

Yet in "Love and Other Drugs," Jamie Randall (Jake Gyllenhaal) is a modern-day Don Juan who seduces women with his job as a slick pharmaceutical rep. Unfortunately, director Edward Zwick's second romantic comedy falls flat with a predictable storyline couple with a forced commentary about American health care policy and conniving pharmaceutical companies.

"Love and Other Drugs" unravels the sex-driven relationship between Jamie and Maggie (Anne Hathaway), a free spirit with stage-one Parkinson's disease, as the two predictably fall in love. Overwhelming Jamie and Maggie's narrative, though, is a macro-story about the questionable marketing schemes and corrupt tactics of pharmaceutical companies.

Zwick, known for war epics like "Blood Diamond" (2006) and "Legends of Fall" (1994), aims to address a parallel between medical drugs and the "drug" of love for Jamie and Maggie. Yet the product ends up lame, especially in its resemblance to "Sweet November" (2001).

Although the storyline is easily guessed from far off, Zwick does manage to elicit the rawness of his characters' emotions, feelings and actions. Throughout the film, Jamie's pharmaceutical career — chock-full of corporate brown-nosing and bribing doctors in order to sell certain

drugs — comes off as very real. Jamie and Maggie's relationship is shaded with various convincing details, from the nuance in Maggie's tremors and Jamie's hyperventilating to the much-discussed nude scenes.

The movie's identity crisis lies in its juxtaposition of an eccentric but romantic relationship with its exploration of the realm of the morally dubious American pharmaceutical market. Jamie, for example, is continuously shown bribing Dr. Knight, played by Hank Azaria (LA '85), with alcoholic beverages and beautiful women in order to gain his business for drug sales, while he continues to sweetly fall in love with Maggie.

Zwick's deeper message regarding pharmaceuticals and health care in the United States seems to bemoan a loss of humanity in the medical world. The movie takes a pathetic jab at American health care policy as Maggie is shown transporting some elderly people to Canada for medication. While there, the female protagonist purchases drugs to ameliorate her condition as well, since she has no job or health insurance.

Zwick's message ultimately comes through on screen, but rampant subplots and secondary characters — such as Jamie's sex-obsessed brother and Maggie's ex-boyfriend, a pharmaceutical rep — detract from the film's seriousness and credibility as a social and political critique.

As a romantic comedy that attempts to retain a dramatic message, "Love and Other Drugs" is peppered with too much jocular humor. The powerful moral regarding the pharmaceutical world is undermined by the film's humor.

The most memorable funny men in the film are Tufts graduates Oliver Platt (LA '83) and Azaria. Platt plays a Tums-addicted pharmaceutical sales director who introduces Gyllenhaal's character to the soulless world of drug marketing. Azaria portrays a narcissistic doc-

see **LOVE**, page 6

ALBUM REVIEW

## Minaj makes confident solo debut in 'Pink'

BY SAMUEL ZUCKERT  
Contributing Writer

Nicki Minaj is not your everyday rapper. To begin with, she is female, which is not only unusual in the male-dom-

**Pink Friday**

Nicki Minaj



Young Money Records

inated rap world but also what makes this album so exciting. The prospect of a female rapper with chops and lasting ability has been offered many times before, but except for a few (Missy Elliott, Lauryn Hill), they have all faded into obscurity. Though "Pink Friday" is by no means a classic rap album, it is a solid debut effort by Minaj and, more importantly, it gives us hope that she will be here to stay.

One of the main questions about "Pink Friday" leading up to its release was whether Minaj would actually be able to put out 13 songs on her own. This year, she's proved that she can rap with a solid verse on the

see **MINAJ**, page 6



MYPINKFRIDAY.COM

Surprisingly, the color pink features prominently on the album cover.

MITCHELL GELLER | MAKES IT RAIN

## Nolite futuere cum Wu-Tang gens



There are nine members of the Wu-Tang Clan, in case you were wondering.

As the RZA announces during the intro to "Clan in Da Front" (1993), they are: "The RZA, the GZA, Ol' Dirty Bastard, Inspecta Deck, U-God, Ghostface Killah, the Method Man, Raekwon the Chef, the Masta Killah."

But I'd like to propose a 10th member: Ovid. Yes, that Ovid: the great Roman poet who has basically influenced everyone ever.

His writings, collections of poems and epics such as "Amores," "Heroides" and "Metamorphoses," are cornerstones of Western literature. At some point in your education, you have, in some form, either encountered these works or works that are directly influenced by them.

While I can't prove it for sure, I wouldn't be surprised if Ghostface Killah has read his fair share of Ovid.

Ghostface Killah, known for his densely lyrical, often darkly comedic, inner-city narratives, can be seen as a spiritual successor to Ovid (and, thus, to Shakespeare, Chaucer and Spenser, among others). His songs, when written out, read like the poems by these authors, albeit updated with new language and new stories. Just as Edmund Spenser made up his own language to describe the various knights' exploits in Faerie Land, Ghostface often employs his own unique slang to weave his tales of life in the ghetto.

The song "Shakey Dog," off Ghostface's 2006 album "Fishscale," tells the story of a robbery gone bad. It starts with the narrator (Tony aka "Ghost") and his accomplice (Frank aka "Shakey Dog") in a car getting ready to enter an apartment building to rob a rival drug dealer.

As in the work of Ovid and Spenser, the narrative of the song doesn't follow a linear path: As Tony and Frank enter the building, Tony points out a local character to his partner, and the narrative goes off on a sudden, meandering aside. Just as Spenser's description of the nefarious Ate wanders off track in the first canto of the fourth book of "The Faerie Queen," Ghostface loses focus to discuss an O.G. in the hallway:

"Look out for Jackson 5-0 cause they on foot/Straight ahead is the doorway, see that lady, that lady with the shopping cart/She keep a shottie cocked in the hallway/Damn she look pretty old Ghost, she work for Kevin, she 'bout 77/She paid her dues when she smoked his brother-in-law at his bosses' wedding/Flew to Venezuela quickly when the big fed stepped in/3 o'clock, watch the kids, third floor, last door..."

The language here is just as dense and confusing as anything Spenser ever wrote; footnotes would be appreciated. What seems to be happening, however, is fairly simple: Tony warns Frank to watch out for the police — Jackson 5-0 — and to be aware that a woman in the hallway has a shotgun. From this warning, Tony goes on to relate the woman's life story — when she was younger she worked for some gangster, earned her stripes by killing a rival's brother at a wedding and then escaped arrest — and then, just as abruptly, switches back to the narrative, focusing our attention at the door of the apartment where the robbery is going to occur.

While epic poems are rarely produced now, and traditional poets are no longer heroes worshipped in the streets, it isn't fair to say that the bard is dead — he's just harder to recognize now, with those diamond teeth and all.

Rappers are our poets, and they're treated the same way celebrated poets of yore once were. Poetry is still important; it's still a vital, unique art form, but it's sometimes hard to connect with. Where people groan at Milton, Frost, Spenser or Rumi, they might be more receptive to Ghostface, Biggie or Jay-Z.

The always-irascible Eminem explicitly stated it on Jay-Z's "Renegade" (2001): "I'm a poet to some/A regular modern-day Shakespeare." Or, "My name is 'What' is in a name?"

Mitchell Geller is a senior majoring in psychology and English. He can be reached at Mitchell.Geller@tufts.edu.

## Cast's convincing performances give 'Fever' a robust emotionality

### FEVER

continued from page 5

the script is the mingling and mixing of reality with dreams, producing an interesting and successful commentary on contemporary issues and humanity in general.

With accents that never falter, the actors successfully cement the play's setting in the Middle East. Presented to us in three "visions," we witness a Palestinian woman's interaction with a young Israeli soldier in a small Rafah zoo, a grieving Palestinian father's confrontation with an Israeli nurse in West Jerusalem, and lastly, an Iraqi pigeon enthusiast's conversation with himself. The three stories overlap and converge in both moving and discouraging ways, yet Wallace still manages to provide surprising endings that compensate for the at-times dishearteningly complicated dialogue and plot.

The set is appropriately simple: A white tile floor and ceiling of dangling, ripped white fabric situates the scene somewhere that is dream-like and universal. The young Israeli soldier (Dan Shaked) opens the Rafah zoo story — and the play — with an extremely convincing performance that only becomes more impressive as the first story matures. The most confusing story of the play does its job setting the tone for the following performances by introducing us to what initially appears to be chaos, which eventually gives way to coherence.

In the second story, Najla Said gives us a painful performance as Tanya Langer, a young nurse who has survived a lung transplant. Ken Baltin also offers a strong performance as Mourid Kamal, a Palestinian father who informs Tanya that her lungs came from his son, who died a few years prior. The shifting balance between them is handled well, although Said's graphic delivery of her sexual encounters is uncomfortable at best. Similarly, when Baltin gropes Said's breast, the

moment's purpose is unclear and thus appears gratuitous.

The highlight of Said's performance is her fits of lung seizure, during which she agonizingly gasps for air. Her character takes on a new power in her helplessness. These disruptions only encourage the circuit of kindness from Baltin's character, who uses the fits as examples of the toll on her body resulting from her refusal to accept his help and love.

In the end, however, the point of the second piece makes its intended impact, and Baltin's last line is especially poignant and well-delivered. There is also a comic element to the story, thanks to the young janitor working at the clinic (Harry Hobbs), who does much to diffuse the otherwise traumatic emotional tension of the scene.

The third section is a monologue from Ali (Ibrahim Mirari), an Iraqi pigeon breeder who directly addresses and interacts with the audience as he relates burdensome memories from his life. While this is the most difficult story to keep engaging, Mirari does a strikingly solid job with his character, making for an impressively cohesive performance.

Most memorably, Mirari imitates the calls of his pigeons in an uncannily precise way. The pigeon motif returns from the first "vision," implying the freedom associated with those who fly, and further stressing the play's overarching theme of human connectedness.

During the second "vision," Baltin asks, "Do you think this is the only world?" and in doing so, defines the play as a whole. In the end, the play's answer to this question is a resounding "no." The incorporation of dreams and their inseparability from reality force us to realize the many possibilities for change and reconnection with those whom we had thought lost. Wallace's play raises important questions, but also successfully offers solutions in a performance that creates human connections across seemingly impenetrable borders.

## 'Love and Other Drugs' fails to juggle political message and heart

### LOVE

continued from page 5

tor who self-injects collagen in his buttocks to maintain his robust physique.

On the whole, the moral of "Love and Other Drugs" is a breath of fresh air as it seeks to explore a serious issue in the medical world while offering a real-life view on relationships. But the over-predictability of its screenplay and character development fails to serve the film's high aspirations.

The movie is a disappointment from Zwick, who, though talented, should stick to more action-heavy, war-focused stories. As such, "Love and Other Drugs" should be experienced not in a theater but at home with the comfort of personal control over its showing, with the fast-forward button available to be used gratuitously.



LOVEANDOTHERDRUGSTHEMOVIE.COM  
Jake Gyllenhaal, left, and Oliver Platt (LA '83) represent the seedy side of pharmaceutical sales.

## Collaboration with heavyweights like Eminem gives album more credibility

### MINAJ

continued from page 5

Young Money smash hit "Bedrock" as well as possibly one of the best verses (for anyone) this year on Kanye West's "Monster": "Yeah I'm in that Tonka, color of Willy Wonka/ You could be the King but watch the Queen conquer." Although her skill was unquestioned, people still wondered if she could put together a solo album.

Right from the start you can tell that "Pink Friday" is not going to be like most other rap albums. Minaj is weird on the microphone, spitting off-balance verses that dance around the beat like few other rappers, male or female, can do. Missy Elliott was a great rapper, but there was little femininity in her music — Minaj presents herself confidently as a particularly female rapper.

Very rarely can someone put out a "girly" rap album, but Minaj seems to have made it work. Her lyrics are often flirty and light, and at other times, obscure and cadenced like the snares.

Sex appeal is often a factor in female celebrities' fame, and "Pink Friday" is no different. But with Minaj, it's not only about her sexuality. She has an odd way of being scary and sexy at the same time. This odd form of sex appeal is unique in the rap

world, and Minaj definitely makes it work in her solo debut.

"Pink Friday" starts out strong, with a bubbly, boastful intro, "I'm The Best," and transitions smoothly into "Roman's Revenge," a song that features Eminem at possibly his most crazy in quite some time.

The singles off the album are solid but not amazing. "Right Thru Me" and "Your Love" probably won't be smash hits, but they can definitely hold their own against some of the other garbage rap singles that have come out this year.

Minaj doesn't do anything extraordinary on "Pink Friday," but with production from the likes of Swizz Beatz, Bangladesh and will.i.am, she doesn't have to. She put together a solid collection of rap songs, and that is more than you can say about a lot of other debut rap albums.

"Pink Friday" won't blow any minds, but it is a good listen, and anyone who liked Minaj on "Bedrock" or "Monster" will not be disappointed by her debut. The real question now is whether Minaj can keep it up. If she can put out more albums of this quality she will continue her established reign as the Queen Bee of hip-hop. If she can't, then she may just fade away like so many female rappers before her.



MYPINKFRIDAY.COM

Nicki Minaj illustrates her versatility as a model.

## Rise Above.



Join a young, ambitious, and rapidly growing medical device company

### We offer:

- ✔ the unique ability to influence the entire organization
- ✔ a very competitive compensation package

We look for exceptional candidates. See available position descriptions at [www.amnisure.com](http://www.amnisure.com).  
Send your résumé now!



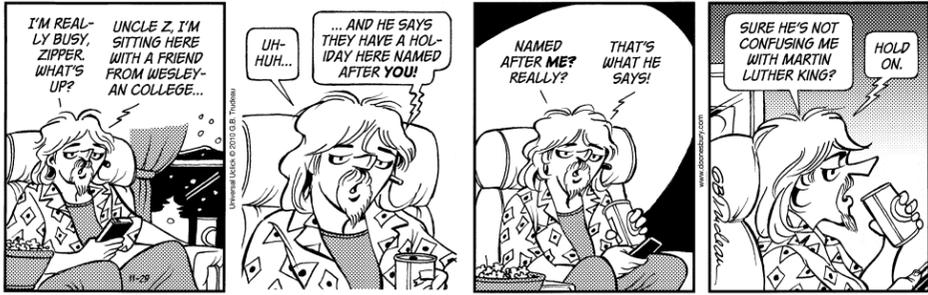
[careers@amnisure.com](mailto:careers@amnisure.com)

617-234-4441

Adult Women, ages 18 to 45 years old, with ANOREXIA NERVOSA or Severe Weight Loss are needed for a research study looking at the role of a natural hormone on depression, anxiety and symptoms of AN. The study includes outpatient visits at Massachusetts General Hospital. Participants will receive a physical examination, nutritional and hormonal evaluations. Up to \$750 payment for participation and parking/ transportation expenses offered. For more information, please contact Meghan Sullivan at 617-724-7129 or [msullivan49@partners.org](mailto:msullivan49@partners.org)

DOONESBURY

BY GARRY TRUDEAU

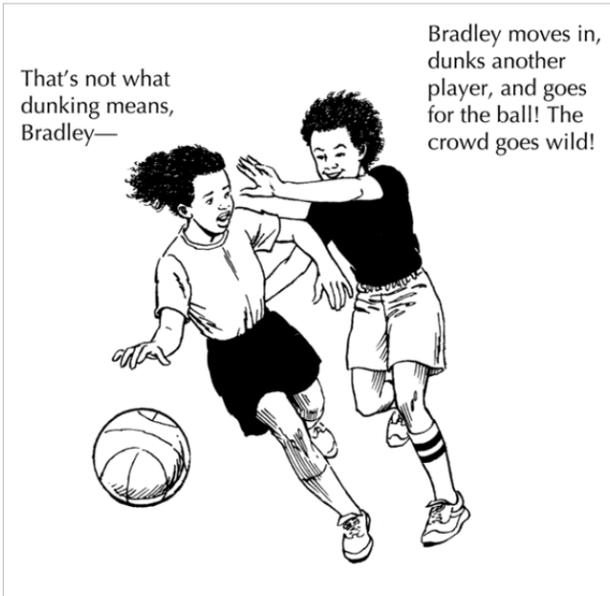


NON SEQUITUR

BY WILEY



MARRIED TO THE SEA



www.marriedtothesea.com

SUDOKU

Level: Getting sick of Christmas music by the second week of December

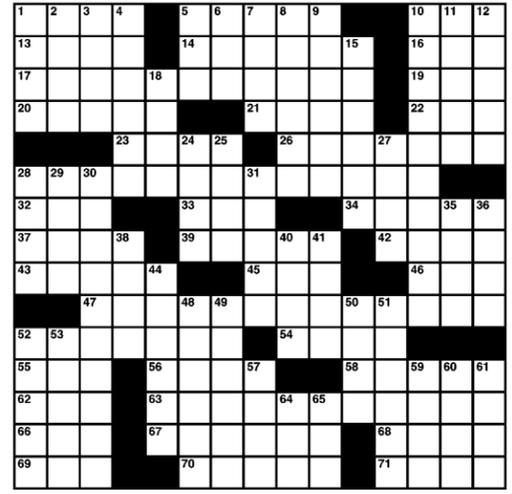
		2		3				4
					4	9		2
5			1			3		7
	1		6		9			
		6	7		2		8	
2		9			5			
6		3	2					
8				7		4		

Tuesday's Solution

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

CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- 1 Toad feature
  - 5 Cravings
  - 10 W.W. Jacobs short story "The Monkey's \_\_\_"
  - 13 Etionic competitor
  - 14 Hollandaise and barbecue
  - 16 Genetic molecule: Abbr.
  - 17 Music genre that evolved in the '50s
  - 19 "\_\_\_ complicated"
  - 20 Evil smile
  - 21 Pac-10 hoops powerhouse
  - 22 Cambridge sch.
  - 23 Letter before kappa
  - 26 Tranquil
  - 28 How the wheels on the bus go
  - 32 Possess
  - 33 Italian "a"
  - 34 Tide creations
  - 37 Formally relinquish
  - 39 Time off, briefly, and this puzzle's theme
  - 42 Winter fall
  - 43 Hägar the Horrible's dog
  - 45 Zippy start?
  - 46 Well-armed org.
  - 47 "Old" nickname for Zachary Taylor
  - 52 Nonsense
  - 54 The ten in "hang ten"
  - 55 Batter's stat
  - 56 Power co. product
  - 58 Freeze, as a plane's wings
  - 62 + molecule, e.g.
  - 63 Complain hysterically
  - 66 Work unit
  - 67 Like the night in a classic Van Gogh work
  - 68 All done
  - 69 Knox and McHenry: Abbr.
  - 70 "Do the Right Thing" actor Davis
  - 71 Wimpy
- DOWN**
- 1 Serious conflicts
  - 2 Cosmetic caller
  - 3 Paddy grain
  - 4 Adopt, as a puppy
  - 5 "Top Gun" org.
  - 6 "Groovy!"
  - 7 Hindu religious instructor
  - 8 Chevy Volt or Ford Fusion
  - 9 Do business with
  - 10 Temperamental diva, e.g.
  - 11 Shenanigan
  - 12 Trash
  - 15 First-rate, in Rugby
  - 18 Yankee with 613 career homers
  - 24 Bull: Pref.
  - 25 Oscar winner Paquin
  - 27 Nephew of Cain
  - 28 Big birds of lore
  - 29 Wilson of "Marley & Me"
  - 30 Subordinates
  - 31 "Who's the Boss?" star Tony
  - 35 Manor master
  - 36 Oscillate
  - 38 Sock ending
  - 40 Car scar



By Jeff Chen

11/29/10

TUESDAY'S SOLUTION

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

(c)2010 Tribune Media Services, Inc. 11/24/10

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.

**SOBAS**

**KLANE**

**CUNBOE**

**GITSAM**



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

Ans:      A

(Answers tomorrow)  
 Saturday's Jumbles: LADLE EVENT FINISH BEDECK  
 Answer: What barbed wire is usually used for — DE-FENCE

LATE NIGHT AT THE DAILY

Ben: "Wait it's negative? ... Oh it's b----, yeah, of course."



Please recycle this Daily.

## THE TUFTS DAILY

BENJAMIN D. GITTLESON

Editor-in-Chief

EDITORIAL

Managing Editors

Ellen Kan

Carter Rogers

Matt Repka Executive News Editor

Alexandra Bogus News Editors

Michael Del Moro

Nina Ford

Amelie Hecht

Corinne Segal

Martha Shanahan

Brent Yarnell

Jenny White

Daphne Kolios Assistant News Editors

Kathryn Olson

Romy Oltuski Executive Features Editor

Sarah Korones Features Editors

Alison Lisnow

Emilia Luna

Alexa Sasanow

Derek Schlom

Jon Cheng Assistant Features Editors

Maya Kohli

Amelia Quinn

Emma Bushnell Executive Arts Editor

Zach Drucker Arts Editors

Mitchell Geller

Rebecca Goldberg

Ben Phelps

Anna Majeski Assistant Arts Editors

Rebecca Santiago

Matthew Welch

Rachel Oldfield Executive Op-Ed Editor

Bhushan Deshpande Assistant Op-Ed Editors

Larissa Gibbs

Dave Kellog

Kevin Luo

Jeremy Ravinsky

Daniel Stock

Elaine Sun

Devon Colmer Cartoonists

Erin Marshall

Lorraine Shen

Louie Zong

Craig Frucht Editorialists

Rebekah Liebermann

Ashish Malhotra

Josh Molofsky

Michael Restiano

Alexandra Siegel

Philip Dear Executive Sports Editor

Lauren Flament Sports Editors

Jeremy Greenhouse

Claire Kemp

Ben Kochman

Alex Lach

Alex Prewitt

Daniel Rathman

Noah Schumer

Ethan Sturm Assistant Sports Editor

Aalok Kanani Executive Photo Editor

Meredith Klein Photo Editors

Danai Macridi

Andrew Morgenthaler

Tien Tien

Josh Berlinger Assistant Photo Editors

Virginia Bledsoe

Kristen Collins

Alex Dennett

Emily Eisenberg

Dilys Ong

Jodi Bostin Staff Photographers

Jenna Liang

Meagan Maher

Ashley Seenaugh

Mick B. Kreyer Executive New Media Editor

James Choca New Media Editors

Kerianne Okie

## PRODUCTION

Leanne Brotsky

Production Director

Andrew Petrone Executive Layout Editor

Sarah Davis Layout Editors

Adam Gardner

Jason Huang

Jennifer Iassogna

Alyssa Kutner

Steven Smith

Sarah Kester Assistant Layout Editor

Zehava Robbins Executive Copy Editor

Alexandra Husted Copy Editors

Isabel Leon

Vivien Lim

Linh Dang Assistant Copy Editors

Andrew Pasettiner

Melissa Roberts

Elisha Sum

Darcy Mann Executive Online Editor

Audrey Kuan Online Editors

Ann Sloan

Emily Denton Assistant Online Editors

William Wong

Ammar Khaku Executive Technical Manager

Michael Vastola Technical Manager

## BUSINESS

Benjamin Hubbell-Engler

Executive Business Director

Laura Moreno Advertising Director

Dwij Goswami Receivables Manager

The Tufts Daily is a nonprofit, independent newspaper, published Monday through Friday during the academic year, and distributed free to the Tufts community.

P.O. Box 53018, Medford, MA 02155  
617 627 3090 FAX 617 627 3910  
daily@tuftsdaily.com

## EDITORIAL

## The church in a changing world

In an interview with German journalist Peter Seewald, Pope Benedict XVI conceded that the use of condoms could in rare cases be acceptable to the Roman Catholic Church. In his comments, which appear in Seewald's book, "Light of the World: The Pope, the Church and the Signs of the Times," released last Tuesday, the pope specified that the use of condoms by male prostitutes could, in his opinion, be justified in an effort to prevent the spread of HIV.

The pope's statements come in the context of a larger debate in the church about the permissibility of using condoms. While the pope's stance signifies a loosening of church policy, he affirmed that condom use for the purpose of birth control is impermissible, a position the church has traditionally stood by. The pope admitted that condoms play an important role in HIV protection, but the "humanization of sexuality," he said, is the ultimate solution to stemming the transmission of AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases.

The comments represent a significant, progressive step for the Catholic

Church. Coming from the pope, the proclamation carries a great deal of authority. Although it only has implications for Catholic members of society, it may foreshadow a shift in the church's approach to the issue. At the very least, the pope's comments suggest that the use of condoms is a complex issue for the Catholic Church.

Thus far, the pope's decision has been widely applauded, particularly by AIDS activists. Outside the United States, the pope's stance may bear even greater significance. Many reports have said that any breakthrough on this issue is a major step for societies in Latin America and Africa, where sexually transmitted diseases are more rampant.

But it has not received universal support. Some African priests who have petitioned for permission to support more widespread condom use to combat the spread of AIDS feel that the pope has not gone far enough. They cited married couples in which one partner had HIV as a group that should have been included in the pope's statement.

Overall, this development should be viewed in a positive light. It has been 48 years since the Second Vatican Council (Vatican II), when Catholic leaders gathered to discuss modernizing the faith to fit the era. We can only hope that Pope Benedict's comments represent a new-found progressivism within the church. Upon his election at the age of 78, he was seen primarily as a placeholder, a conservative pope who would uphold traditional, canonical values. But his statement suggests otherwise.

With longstanding institutions such as the church — institutions based on ancient rituals and policy — there is a constant struggle to maintain relevancy in a changing world. The success of an institution is often based on its ability to successfully strike a balance between adapting to present-day circumstances and preserving core values.

Vatican II proved that the church can change. Hopefully, Pope Benedict's comments are in the same vein. They are a step in the right direction, leading to a renewed discussion of church policy in the modern world.

## DEVON COLMER



## OFF THE HILL | AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

## The problem with fixing today without regard for tomorrow

BY MICHAEL STUBEL  
The Eagle

The majority of the Democrats and Republicans that populate [Washington's] institutions are career professionals and public servants. For the most part, their expertise has served us well. Yet my worry is that maybe, somewhere, there is another Abraham Lincoln. Someone we would mock, someone who didn't go to an Ivy League school, someone who made it on his or her own.

Like Lincoln, they could change everything. They could right the wrongs and redraw America's path forward. Realistically, even Lincoln couldn't make it today, and that saddens me deeply. Lincoln's story is the story of this nation and what it should be — but isn't anymore. There will be no more Lincolns because our political system punishes those who are willing to speak the truth and make the tough decisions. Who's brave enough to put tomorrow before today?

Families across the country have spent the past two years altering their spending habits. Some have taken on another job, others have downsized to smaller homes. People are doing more with less, as they shop for the best deals and cut entertainment costs. There's a growing feeling that the same sort of waist trimming should be applied here in Washington.

To close the annual budget deficit and reduce the national debt, shared sacrifice

is a necessity. It's ludicrous to think that we could have continued our tired tradition of more spending, more borrowing and less taxes without paying a price. The cruelty of making promises we can't keep is immeasurable.

The co-chairs of President Barack Obama's National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform, former Republican Senator Alan Simpson and Clinton White House Chief of Staff Erskine Bowles, recently released their proposal for addressing our fiscal mess. Their blueprint, which is separate from the commission's larger report due out Dec. 1, calls for spending caps on major domestic and defense programs. They want a simplified tax code that reduces overall rates and closes loopholes. On health care, they emphasize malpractice reform and long-term cost containment. Retirement pensions for federal workers would be slashed and the Social Security age would be raised to achieve the program's solvency. Everybody would take a hit.

Although predictable, partisan reaction to the proposal was distressing. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi declared the terms "unacceptable." [American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations] President Richard Trumka said that the co-chairs had essentially told working Americans to "drop dead." To those politicians who subscribe to his no-tax pledge, Grover Norquist, president of Americans for Tax Reform, warned that

the plan didn't pass the test. Here's a timeless rule to help you cut through the political haze: Any idea, policy, or proposal that conservatives and liberals bash is probably the best course of action.

Selling a plan in Congress that lays out nearly \$4 trillion in deficit reduction through 2020 will be infinitely difficult. The co-chairs knew that they were asking so much of legislators who, for so long, had done so little. The purpose was to start a discussion, to get people, as New York Times columnist David Brooks put it, "to look beyond their short-term financial interest to see the long-term national threat." Right now, politicians have no incentives to make the hard bargains. They are elected to produce immediate results, so few find supporting unpopular cuts or tax hikes very worthwhile.

In the current environment, I don't have much hope for the recommendations of the president's commission. I do believe that the group's report, coupled with emerging plans from other fiscal commissions in the policy realm, will successfully raise the tenor of the debate over how we want to leave the world to our children and grandchildren. I doubt that something along the lines of Brazil's Fiscal [Responsibility] Law, which bars politicians who overspend from running for reelection, will catch on in the U.S. I'm waiting for a show of bravery from leaders who want to tackle these problems before a grave meltdown puts everyone on notice.

# Setting the record straight on Matthis Chiroux

BY VIJAY SARASWAT

On Nov. 16, the Daily featured a profile of Matthis Chiroux, a veteran of the U.S. Army who served for five years and is now a student at Brooklyn University and an anti-war activist. This article was presented to the Tufts community as part of a feature on veterans past and present, and Mr. Chiroux was portrayed as a typical modern-day veteran unique only for his outspoken objection to our current wars. In fact, Matthis Chiroux is anything but representative of the U.S. Armed Forces; he does not speak and act on my behalf, nor does he represent the vast majority of my brothers and sisters in the services. While he purports to speak for a plurality of veterans, in both word and deed he demonstrates that he speaks only for himself — and the screed he pushes is highly inflammatory and suspect.

The Daily could have interviewed any number of veterans at Tufts and the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy who would have given a balanced and reasoned account of military culture. Additionally, the Alliance Linking Leaders in Education and the Services (ALLIES) is an on-campus student group whose sole purpose is to promote dialogue and understanding between service members and civilians and would have been a valuable source for this feature.

That the Daily's editors gave Matthis Chiroux a solitary platform in the first place is nothing short of outrageous. Even cursory research would have revealed fundamental inconsistencies between his statements, actions and service record which should have immediately tabled any consideration of a profile piece. And while Matthis Chiroux's actual tour of duty deserves acknowledgement, his recent shameful actions and disingenuousness dishonor the legacy of service and sacrifice embodied by past and present members of the Armed Forces.

Chiroux claims to be "living proof that we do not have an all-volunteer army." His blog — [matthisresists.us](http://matthisresists.us) — recounts a drug arrest for possession and distribution in Alabama which led to threats and coercion into service. Military recruiters in years past made offers to young offenders of legal age as a way to improve their lot in life and move on from their poor decisions; I have known more than a few outstanding Marines who were given similar choices and became exemplary leaders. Chiroux mischaracterizes this practice as the rule, not an exception. This twisted tale is in direct contradiction to a profile of Matthis Chiroux in an Opelika and Auburn local newspaper from May 16, 2008 saying, "Matthis Chiroux had it all planned out after he graduated from Auburn High School in 2002. First, he would join the U.S. Army. Then, he would use his G.I. Bill benefits to enroll in college to pursue his dream of becoming a lawyer."

Furthermore, Mr. Chiroux was not simply trying to sell drugs to feed himself; he was distributing psychedelics outside the gates of a local elementary school. Statements by his father Rob Chiroux — himself a Navy veteran — also contradict Matthis' claims that this was an isolated incident, a simple mistake which landed him unwillingly in the U.S. Army. Matthis was in fact a repeat offender who spent significant time in and out of the Lee County juvenile system.

I joined the Marines after making my own poor decisions — either I could fail out of college or I could be proactive and make a serious change in my life. The decision to join was mine alone to make, as it was with Matthis Chiroux. He seeks to displace responsibility for his own actions by saying he was "forced" to join



JODI BOSIN/TUFTS DAILY

an all-volunteer Army; in actuality he could have chosen to pay the price for violating the law by serving his time in prison, but the military gave him the option to make amends and improve his life. His attempts to shirk responsibility for his crime and for his decision to join are cowardly and reprehensible.

In his blog, he speaks voluminously and hysterically about experiences with alcohol abuse, prostitution and erectile dysfunction in Germany and the Philippines during his tours of service overseas. His stories read like tall tales from someone who saw too many war movies or read *Soldier of Fortune Magazine* too many times — Chiroux's military has evolved substantially from the days of the Winter Soldier Investigation. He has made repeated public statements on the horror of seeing dead civilians in a combat zone and claims to speak for war veterans who have seen the same, depicting these traumatic experiences as a personal epiphany which turned him against the wars, the military and the troops themselves.

However, Matthis Chiroux is not a war veteran. He is a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces, but he is not a war veteran. A copy of his service record was obtained through the Freedom of Information Act in 2009 and distributed by Jonn Lilyea, an Army veteran who has tracked Chiroux's antics since 2008. His official discharge paperwork does not contain any record of service in Operation Enduring Freedom. His time as an Army journalist took him to Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan for one week, after which he returned to his permanent duty station thousands of miles away without ever going "outside the wire." The Department of Defense does not recognize this as a combat deployment, and neither would any war veteran. Despite this lack of firsthand experience, in April of last year — in yet another publicity stunt — he took it upon himself to personally apologize for the occupation of Afghanistan to Malalai Joya, an Afghan peace activist and member of the Afghan parliament.

I sympathize with his agony over his 2008 recall to active duty after he had begun his college career. While it was in complete legal accordance with the eight-year contract we all sign, it is nonetheless a reprehensible

practice which causes a great deal of anguish to veterans who have moved on. And ironically, though he professes disgust and disillusionment with the Army from the very first day of boot camp, the fact that he made the rank of Sergeant is proof that he must have had a decent measure of motivation and competence during his time in service — yet another inconsistency about his professed disenchantment with the military.

In writing this, I only wish to highlight Matthis Chiroux's trail of mendacity and the inappropriateness of the Daily's profile. I do not in any way seek to diminish the importance of real problems within the military and with veterans' care, issues that should be addressed in a responsible, reasoned and respectful way. I applaud those veterans who are courageous enough to voice substantive objections to our current wars in Iraq and Afghanistan because they have the experiences to back up their concerns and they are exercising the rights they essentially gave up during their service. I firmly believe that dissent is patriotic and that we veterans perhaps have more of a responsibility to take a stand and object to injustices committed in the name of freedom and democracy.

But Matthis Chiroux's words and deeds do not add to reasoned public discourse, nor are they designed to. Stunts like burning an American flag or pretending to be waterboarded outside the United Nations are as inflammatory as comparing President Barack Obama to Hitler or Stalin or carrying weapons to a presidential rally, and Matthis Chiroux commits these acts for the sole purpose of garnering attention. Though he has been discredited before, the Daily made the unconscionable decision to give him yet another public forum to use for his own publicity. His words and actions are harmful to the cause of raising awareness and encouraging the dialogue we must have, and the Daily should never have given him such a forum in the first place.

*Vijay Saraswat is a junior majoring in International Relations. He is a former U.S. Marine and a veteran of Operation Iraqi Freedom.*

## We are still at war

BY FATHI EL-SHIHIBI

Our recent commemoration of American veterans both past and present should be a reminder to all of us that the lull in the fighting in both Afghanistan and Iraq does not mean that our involvement is coming to an end. The war situation in both places is far from over for the simple reason that we still hear and read about casualties among Afghani and Iraqi civilians and military personnel, as well as among U.S. and coalition forces. My intention in bringing this up at a time when we are looking forward to the upcoming holiday season is to keep us focused on matters of national security instead of sliding back into disengagement, apathy and complacency.

Despite the U.S. military's involvement in more than one place in the world, Afghanistan and Iraq still top the list. I believe that our attention began to be diverted to more immediate concerns a few years ago after we became assured that, whether by sheer miracle or shrewd planning and execution on the part of former President George Bush's handpicked appointee Gen. David Petraeus, the surge remarkably turned the tide against the insurgents and their al-Qaida affiliates and terrorists.

Moreover, by 2008, we had elected a new president who, along with committing more troops to turn the tide of the war in Afghanistan in our favor, had also

appointed Petraeus to the post of the top commander in Afghanistan in order to replicate the surge in Iraq and to eventually fulfill his initial promise as commander in chief to begin bringing the troops home by July 2011.

Even though such positive developments helped restore our sense of confidence, serenity and, in some cases, renewed detachment, the danger of the two war-torn countries sliding back into total anarchy still exists.

Let me ask you this: Do you happen to know what the latest developments in Iraq are, following the "success" of the surge and the election of Obama? Give up? On Nov. 2, approximately a dozen coordinated car bomb attacks wreaked havoc in the capital of Baghdad, killing at least 64 people and injuring around 360. These bombings, by an al-Qaida-linked group, targeted both Shiites and Sunnis. This is indicative of an all-out campaign to cause massive destruction in order to ignite a major civil war at a time when Iraq is still without a viable government due to disputes over the results of the March 7, 2010 parliamentary elections.

Along with the terror inflicted on areas inhabited by Shiites, Sunnis or mixed populations, some al-Qaida-linked terrorists stormed the Catholic Our Lady of Salvation Church in Baghdad on Oct. 31, 2010. Following a botched rescue operation by the Iraqi security forces, the ensuing carnage led to the death of at least 52 worshippers, including clergy, and the wounding of 67 others.

This sudden escalation in violence, if continued, could lead to the destabilization of the country and persuade our government to rethink its drawdown policy involving our troops as well as coalition troops. On the bright side, however, Iraqis from various areas and walks of life have been expressing optimism, confidence and genuine hope for a bright future, despite the intermittent outbreaks of violence. The source of their confidence is the commitment of the Iraqi and U.S. governments to work together to finally usher in a period of security and stability that will enable Iraq to emerge strong, secure and democratic. Again, diverting our attention away from Iraq during these critical times would only encourage those destructive forces in their bid to reverse such hard-won achievements toward freedom and democracy. It would also be a major let-down for the Iraqi people in their time of need.

Please let us remain focused on such matters of national security and remember, we are all in this together. In this day and age, we can no longer afford to stay neutral and hand over or delegate matters of paramount significance to government officials or those people who are directly affected as soon as the immediate danger seems to outwardly dissipate.

*Fathi El-Shihibi is an adjunct lecturer in the Department of Philosophy and Religion at Northeastern University.*



## **GODDARD CHAPEL FORUM - RELIGION IN AMERICA**

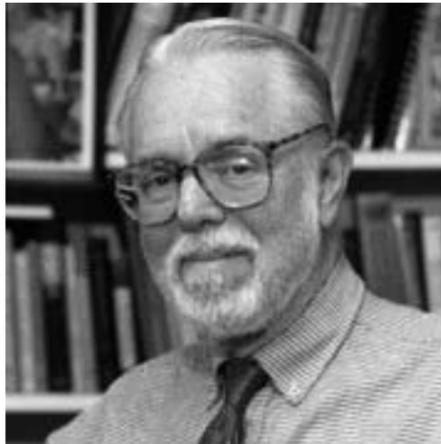
**Harvey Cox**

**Hollis Research Professor of Divinity**

**Harvard Divinity School**

**“What Lies Ahead for Jews, Christians  
and Muslims in America”**

**December 1, 2010 - 6 PM**



**Harvey Cox is Hollis Research Professor of Divinity at Harvard**, where he began teaching in 1965, both at HDS and in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences. An American Baptist minister, he was the Protestant chaplain at Temple University and the director of religious activities at Oberlin College; an ecumenical fraternal worker in Berlin; and a professor at Andover Newton Theological School. His research and teaching interests focus on the interaction of religion, culture, and politics. Among the issues he explores are urbanization, theological developments in world Christianity, Jewish-Christian relations, and current spiritual movements in the global setting (particularly Pentecostalism). He has been a visiting professor at Brandeis University, Seminario Bautista de Mexico, the Naropa Institute, and the University of Michigan. He is a prolific author. His most recent book is *The Future of Faith* (HarperCollins, 2009). His *Secular City*, published in 1965, became an international bestseller and was selected by the University of Marburg as one of the most influential books of Protestant theology in the twentieth century. His other books include *When Jesus Came to Harvard: Making Moral Decisions Today*, *The Feast of Fools*; *The Seduction of the Spirit*; *Religion in the Secular City*; *The Silencing of Leonardo Boff: Liberation Theology and the Future of World Christianity*; *Many Mansions: A Christian's Encounters With Other Faiths*; *Fire From Heaven: The Rise of Pentecostal Spirituality*; *The Reshaping of Religion in the Twenty-First Century*; and *Common Prayers: Faith, Family, and a Christian's Journey Through the Jewish Year*.

Cosponsored by The Chaplain's Office, the Fletcher School, and The International Center

Tufts University, Medford, MA 02155 – (617) 627-3427

Website: [www.tufts.edu/chaplaincy](http://www.tufts.edu/chaplaincy)

Housing	Housing	Housing	Housing	Wanted
<p><b>SOMERVILLE, UPLAND RD 2 APT AVAILABLE</b> 1st Fl. 2 Br. modern eat-in kitchen, with dishwasher, modern bath, hardwood floors, new windows. 2nd Fl. - sunny and spacious, 4 Br. modern eat-in kitchen, 1 1/2 modern bath, hardwood floors, new windows. Both apts have front and rear porches, shared coin-op washer and dryer, shared yard, parking for 3 cars each unit. No smoking, no pets, rent is \$720 per person, not incl. utilities (cont'd)</p>	<p>(cont'd) First and last and security required. Contact Nick (617)863-5306 or email nickkondilis@yahoo.com</p> <p><b>139 College Avenue - 4 BR</b> At Powderhouse Circle and Warner Street. It has hardwood floors throughout the apartment, along with a new fully appliance kitchen. Non-coin-op laundry and additional storage in basement. Off-street parking included. \$2,800/month. Available June 1, 2011. Call Angela at 617-852-2215 or e-mail: angelam@darinassociates.com</p>	<p><b>3BR Apt for Rent</b> Furnished, quiet and bright 3 BR Apt- 21 Day St, Somerville (near Davis Sq), avail 2/1/11, space for 3 students or family + living room, dining room, eat-in kitchen, dishwasher, washer/dryer, hardwood floors, 1 car off-street. pkg, \$ 2,175/mo excl. electricity and gas. Contact: bernhard.ehrenzeller@unisg.ch</p>	<p><b>College Ave 5 BR Apt</b> 2 1/2 Baths, kitchen, living room, off-street parking, w/d basement. Available June 1, 2011. Rent: \$3250. First and last month rent required. Tenants pay utilities. Larger apts available. Call Guy (617) 590-7656.</p>	<p><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</p>
<p><b>CLASSIFIEDS POLICY</b> All Tufts students must submit classifieds in person, prepaid with check, money order or exact cash only. All classifieds submitted by mail must be accompanied by a check. Classifieds are \$15 per week or \$4 per day with Tufts ID or \$30 per week or \$8 per day without. The Tufts Daily is not liable for any damages due to typographical errors or misprintings except the cost of the insertion, which is fully refundable. We reserve the right to refuse to print any classifieds which contain obscenity, are of an overly sexual nature or are used expressly to denigrate a person or group. Questions? Email business@tuftsdaily.com.</p>				

## Late missed field goals doom Boise State in showdown against Nevada

### INSIDE NCAA FOOTBALL

continued from page 12

scored an average of 50 points in their past six matchups.

The loss for the Broncos was the first since they lost in the 2008 Poinsettia Bowl by one point to TCU, and it couldn't have come at a worse time or in a more embarrassing fashion. The Broncos had a convincing lead at one point, winning 24-7 at halftime. Yet, in college football terms, it was still a somewhat close game. In the second half, the Wolf Pack attacked fiercely with

a top-notch running game, outrushing Boise State 239 yards to eight in the third and fourth quarters combined. The team ended with a 269-yard rushing performance against a Broncos defense that has allowed an average of only 229 yards of total offense per game this season.

The fourth quarter was highly entertaining, beginning with a score of 24-14. Wolf Pack receiver Rishard Matthews scored a 44-yard rushing touchdown, capping off a five-play, 68-yard drive to make the game close. Boise State punted on its next

possession, giving the Wolf Pack an opportunity to tie the game at 24-24 with a 23-yard field goal by Anthony Martinez, whose performance was key in the game's final moments. The Broncos showed a glimpse of what they have been doing the whole season when quarterback Kellen Moore delivered a slick screen pass to running back Doug Martin, who took it 79 yards for a touchdown.

Game over? Not quite. Matthews caught a seven-yard pass from QB Colin Kaepernick with 13 seconds left in regulation time to tie the

game, which set up the jaw-dropping finish.

With the score knotted at 31-31, Boise State needed a field goal to win. The highly touted Moore, an NFL-scout favorite, expectedly hit a 53-yard pass play to receiver Titus Young, which gave the Broncos a chance to kick a 26-yard game-winning field goal with two seconds remaining. But kicker Kyle Brotzman missed wide right. The Broncos could still win. But then in overtime, the Broncos received the ball first and, alas, Brotzman missed again

wide left, this time from 29 yards out. The Wolf Pack howled in victory as their kicker made a 34-yarder to seal the deal.

Because of the inexcusable mental breakdown of a special teams player that has been insignificant in the Boise State offense this year, the team's season has been rendered meaningless. This is just one of a variety of cases that prove a need for NCAA Football to incorporate a playoff system — the BCS standings are far too subjective. Perhaps it is time to make a change.

## Senior Singler is not the only reason for Duke's success

### NCAA BBALL

continued from page 12

gresses, we will have to wait and see if Irving can step up and replace Scheyer's intangible leadership skills.

Coach Mike Krzyzewski acknowledged the adjustments the team has to make in the transition from Scheyer's slow, deliberate pace to Irving's speedy style when he spoke to NBA.com reporter Adam Zagoria in May 2010.

"We'll change our whole offense, the way we play because of Kyrie," he said. "We'll run a lot more; we'll press."

Critics spent the offseason wondering how the team would fare rebounding without last year's other two starting seniors, 7-foot-1 Brian Zoubeck and 6-foot-8 Lance Thomas. Thus far, though, a team effort and the emergence of sophomore Mason Plumlee has helped quell any fear of a rebounding void. Plumlee averages 8.5 rebounds per game and Duke has out-rebounded five of its six opponents, with Kansas State being the only exception.

Seth Curry, brother of Golden State Warrior star Stephen Curry, transferred to Duke after his freshman year at Liberty University, where he averaged 20.2 points per game — the highest points per game average for a freshman in the 2008-09 season. While not averaging such gaudy numbers — yet — this season, he has started off strong by averaging nine points per game as a sharp shooter off the bench.

Sophomores Andre Dawkins and Ryan Kelly, both of whom have increased their playing times by seven to eight minutes, show impressive improvements since last season. Although he was considered a deadly marksman from behind the arc last year, Dawkins' 3-point shooting percentage was only 38 percent. This year, though, he has started to live up to his reputation by increasing his average to 55 percent. Kelly has made small gains statistically, but has clearly shown his worth to Coach K, evidenced by his position as a starter.



Duke freshman Kyrie Irving is taking the collegiate basketball world by storm, averaging 14.5 points and 5.8 assists through six games this season.

And, of course, the Blue Devils return two superstars in seniors Kyle Singler and Nolan Smith. Singler, the NCAA preseason player of the year, and Smith, preseason All-ACC guard, look to lead Duke to back-to-back titles just as Christian Laettner did in the 1991-92 and 1992-93 seasons.

Duke's depth and talents will be challenged on Wednesday with a showdown against the former No. 2 Michigan State, who recently lost to UConn in the semifinals

of the Maui Invitational. Irving will face the Spartans' senior point guard Kalin Lucas, considered one of the best point guards in the country. The game will be held at Cameron Stadium, giving Duke an important home-court advantage, where they will be surrounded by the infamous crowd of Cameron Crazies cheering them on. Unfortunately for all the Duke and Coach K haters out there, the Blue Devils' success is not likely to wane any time soon.

## Spurs need wins over top teams to prove worth

### INSIDE SOCCER

continued from page 12

The Spurs began the group stage paired with defending champions Inter Milan, Werder Bremen from the German Bundesliga and Dutch club FC Twente Enschede. The Spurs opened their Champions League campaign at White Hart Lane, defeating Twente Enschede 4-1 behind goals from van der Vaart, Russian striker Roman Pavlyuchenko and Welsh winger Gareth Bale.

This season has been quite the coming for Bale, whom Tottenham signed in 2007 from Championship side Southampton, fighting away stiff competition from Manchester United. Bale has given manger Harry Redknapp a number of options, as he is capable of playing at left back or up the pitch as a left-winger.

Redknapp this year has deployed Bale in a more advanced position, playing him on the left side of the midfield, supporting the strikers Pavlyuchenko, perennial goal poacher Jermaine Defoe and beanpole forward Peter Crouch. It was against the defending champions of Europe, Inter Milan, that Bale showed his class. At the San Siro, the Spurs found themselves down 4-0 at the half, but Bale put in one of the great individual performances of the evening, scoring a hat trick and consistently torching Inter's right back Maicon, generally regarded as one of the world's best.

In the return leg, Tottenham put in a great team performance, winning 3-1 behind the play of Bale, who scored one goal and provided the cross for Crouch to score another, while Roman Pavlyuchenko scored the third. The Spurs wrapped up qualification to the knockout stages with a comprehensive defeat of German side Werder Bremen, winning 3-0.

While the Spurs have taken the Champions League by storm, their form in the Premier League has featured some lackluster results, such as a 1-0 loss to bottom-of-the-table West Ham United and a 1-1 draw with West Bromwich Albion. To challenge for a Premier League spot, the Spurs will have to take points from top teams like Chelsea and Man. United, to whom they lost 2-0.

Of course, for any Tottenham player or supporter, the North London derby against Arsenal is always one of the highlights of the year, and this season, for the first time ever, the Spurs beat Arsenal 3-2 at Emirates Stadium.

In a season with remarkable parity in the Premier League, many pundits are posing the question: Can Tottenham Hotspur win it all? They do have the credentials, including a win over their hated archrivals Arsenal, and with stars like Gareth Bale, Rafael van der Vaart and Luka Modric leading the charge, they have the talent. But Tottenham has had problems in the past with a leaky defense and questionable goalkeeping in the form of Brazilian goalkeeper Heurelho Gomes, who has been known to let in a howler or two each season.

The Spurs' talent is undeniable, but to put together a championship run, they will have to put all the pieces together.

## Games of the Week

### LOOKING BACK: TUFTS VS. BRANDEIS

On the back of senior tri-captain Colleen Hart, the Jumbos made a statement to the rest of New England with a come-from-behind 54-51 victory over Brandeis. Down as many as 10 points in the second half and playing without senior Vanessa Miller and junior Kate Barnosky, Tufts never let the game get away from it and slowly began to close the gap.

Then, with the team down three points and only four minutes of play remaining, Hart stole the show, scoring 11 points in the closing minutes, including a jumper with just under two to go that gave the team its first lead since well before halftime. Hart, who managed only three points on 1-9 shooting in the first half, turned it on down the stretch, totaling 19 in the second frame and leading her team to victory.

But it was not simply a one-woman victory. Sophomore Collier Clegg had 14 points, while freshman Ali Rocchi added eight points and three boards herself. The Jumbos also played a tough team defense, holding the Judges to just 29 percent from the field.

### LOOKING AHEAD: NCAA FOOTBALL FINAL WEEKEND

The Jumbos may not have any marquee matchups on the slate for this weekend, but there is still plenty of college sports drama to unfold as the NCAA Div. I Football season enters its final week. While the BCS may be a complicated system, the scenario has become quite simple: No. 1 Oregon and No. 2 Auburn are each one win away from a national championship game.

While the Ducks will not have it easy in a rivalry game with Oregon State, Auburn will face the tougher test in a rematch against No. 18 South Carolina in the SEC Championship game.

Auburn took the first matchup 35-27, but clearly had the advantage of playing at home. Now both teams must travel to Atlanta, Ga. for a neutral-field battle in the Georgia Dome.

Auburn senior quarterback Cam Newton may have narrowly escaped the Iron Bowl this weekend, but Alabama laid out a strong game plan for limiting his influence. If the Gamecocks can follow Alabama's lead, they may just pull off the upset of the season.

INSIDE NCAA FOOTBALL

## Costly loss excommunicates Boise State from BCS title contention

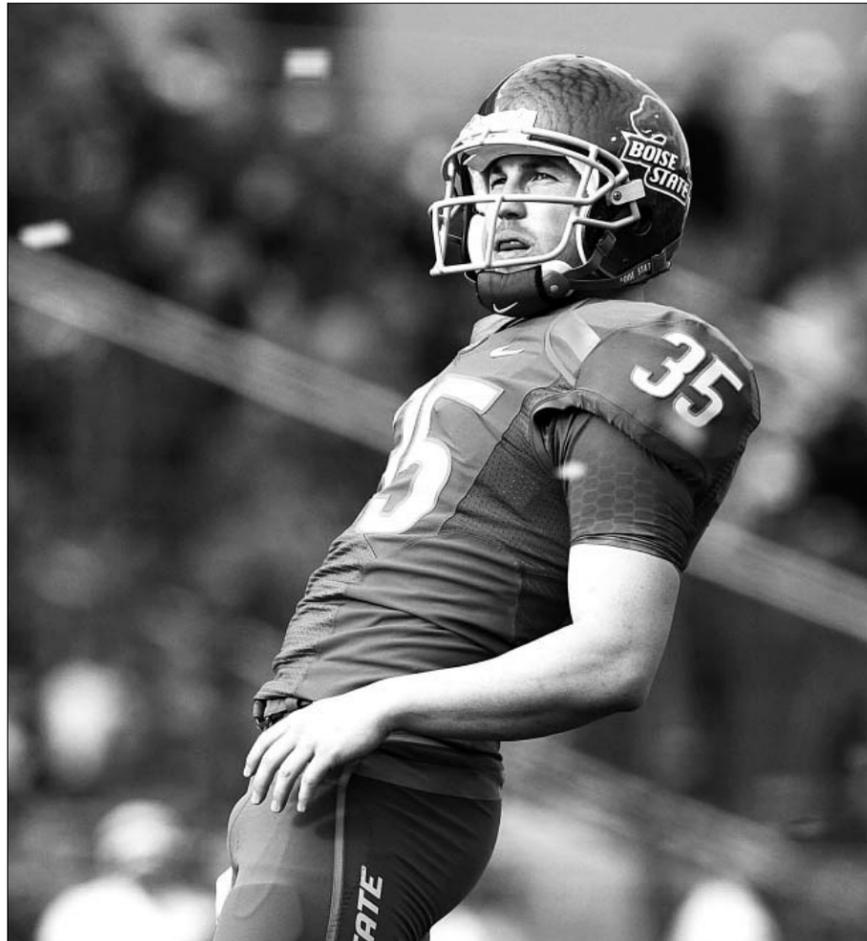
BY NASH SIMPSON  
Daily Staff Writer

In this past Saturday's memorable match-up between the No. 3 Boise State Broncos and No. 19 Nevada, the looming Wolf Pack rallied from 17 points behind to defeat the seemingly unbeatable Broncos in overtime by a score of 34-31.

Nevada's head coach, Chris Ault, took pride in his team's performance, saying: "This is the greatest victory this university has ever had, I can tell you that."

By winning, the Wolf Pack snapped the Broncos' 24-game win streak, dashing their BCS Championship dreams. With so few opportunities to prove themselves title-worthy, the Broncos should have hammered their opponents to make a statement. Instead, as evidenced by Nevada's comeback, it seemed that having to play four full quarters proved too detrimental to the members of the powerhouse team that's used to beating its opponents handily — prior to the game against Nevada, Boise State had scored over 40 points in eight of its 10 games and beaten its opponents by an average of 36.4 points per game.

But without the existence of college football playoffs, this dominance is meaningless. It's set in stone that Boise State has gone from being a squad with a beautifully paved road to the national championship game to just another good team scrapping for a meaningful bowl game. In financial terms, Boise State has gone from making \$13 million for being a top-two team to making around \$750,000 at best for appearing in a bowl game that nobody will remember. And this is all because of a team against whom they have



Boise State kicker Kyle Brotzman missed a 26-yard field goal that would have won the game at the end of regulation, then again in OT as his team lost both the game and a chance at a spot in the BCS National Championship game.

see **INSIDE NCAA FOOTBALL**, page 11

INSIDE NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL

## Duke looks to defend title, repeat last year's success

BY ANN SLOAN  
Daily Editorial Board

The reigning NCAA champion and national No. 1 Duke Blue Devils are at it again. With a dominating 82-68 win over No. 4 Kansas State on Nov. 23, the Blue Devils have forced the question upon NCAA basketball fans: Are they even better than last year's 35-5 team?

Though it is still early in the season, Duke's elite senior leadership and wealth of talent in the back-court tip the scales towards the affirmative. The team's most recent 98-71 win against Oregon on Saturday brings its undefeated record to 6-0.

Highly touted freshman Kyrie Irving, hailing from St. Patrick's H.S. in Elizabeth, N.J., has already proved his talent as starting point guard, replacing All-ACC guard Jon Scheyer, who graduated last year. Irving is averaging 14.5 points and 5.8 assists per game, while boasting an assist-to-turnover ratio of 2.5. He is expected to be a lottery pick in the 2011 NBA draft.

Any doubts about Irving's abilities were quickly discarded after his commanding performance against Kansas State, when he scored 17 points and 6 assists while holding All-American guard Jacob Pullen to a dismal 1-for-12 shooting from the field.

For all of Scheyer's talents, Irving brings to the court a different and more agile quality. A quick first step allows the explosive Irving to beat defenders off the dribble, a skill that Scheyer did not possess. As the season pro-

see **NCAA BBALL**, page 11



## POWER RANKINGS

COMPILED BY THE TUFTS DAILY

Thanks to a unanimous first-place showing in women's basketball, Amherst once again sits atop the latest installment of the NESCAC Power Rankings. Overall, the Lord Jeffs stayed below the three-point plateau thanks to strong showings across the board.

Close behind Amherst is Williams, who remained just behind its cross-state rival for the second straight week. The Ephs were tops in men's hockey and men's basketball and rang in second for women's basketball as well.

Bowdoin and Middlebury flip-flopped places at No. 3 and No. 4 for the second consecutive week, while Bates remained constant at No. 5. Hamilton and Trinity were the big movers, getting bumped up from eighth and ninth to sixth and seventh, respectively.

As a result, Colby fell from sixth to eighth and Tufts dropped from seventh to ninth. Wesleyan and Conn. College traded places at the bottom.

THIS WEEK	SCHOOL	MEN'S BASKETBALL	WOMEN'S BASKETBALL	MEN'S HOCKEY	WOMEN'S HOCKEY	AVERAGE	LAST WEEK
1	AMHERST	2.40	1.00	3.40	2.20	2.25	1 ↔
2	WILLIAMS	2.20	3.20	1.20	5.80	3.10	2 ↔
3	BOWDOIN	3.40	5.40	1.80	3.20	3.45	4 ↑
4	MIDDLEBURY	3.00	3.80	7.60	1.40	3.95	3 ↓
5	BATES	5.60	6.80	—	—	6.20	5 ↔
6	HAMILTON	—	—	5.20	7.80	6.50	8 ↑
7	TRINITY	4.80	8.20	9.60	3.60	6.55	9 ↑
8	COLBY	7.00	3.80	8.80	7.00	6.65	6 ↓
9	TUFTS	9.00	7.40	5.40	—	7.27	7 ↓
10	WESLEYAN	9.00	5.80	5.40	9.00	7.30	11 ↑
11	CONN. COLLEGE	8.60	9.60	6.60	5.00	7.45	10 ↓

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-Adle (Amherst Student), James Reidy and Seth Walder (Bowdoin Orient), Mike Flint and Nick Woolf (Conn. College Voice), Katie Siegner (Middlebury Campus) and Alex Prewitt (Tufts Daily).

DESIGN BY STEVEN SMITH/TUFTS DAILY

INSIDE INTERNATIONAL SOCCER



Dutch midfielder Rafael van der Vaart, right, is leading his new club team, Tottenham Hotspur, with six goals in the Premier League.

## Spurs charge into Champions League knockout stages

BY JESSE WEINBERG  
Senior Staff Writer

In English football there was last year a changing of the guard at the top of the Premier League table. The stranglehold of the perennial big four of Manchester United, Arsenal, Chelsea and Liverpool on the top of the standings was broken as Liverpool, whose season was rife with inconsistencies and injuries, faltered to a disappointing seventh place. In Liverpool's place was the resurgent Tottenham Hotspur, which charged into fourth place and, with it, a place in the Champions League.

The offseason proved to be a busy one for the Spurs as they looked to strengthen their back line, signing former Arsenal center back William Gallas on a free transfer

and pulling off one of the transfer coups of the year by signing the immensely talented Dutch midfielder Rafael van der Vaart from Real Madrid for 8 million pounds after he was deemed extraneous by Real's new manager, Jose Mourinho.

Van der Vaart has proved to be a huge signing and is leading the team with six goals in the Premier League, and has brought stability to the team by forming a good partnership with Croatian playmaker Luka Modric.

While the Spurs have gotten out to a somewhat slow start, currently sitting in sixth place with 22 points and a game in hand against table-topping Manchester United and Arsenal, they have excelled in the Champions League, clinching a spot in the round of 16 with a game left.

see **INSIDE SOCCER**, page 11