

Let the cramming commence



JEFF CHEN/TUFTS DAILY

A sign on the Crafts House on Professors Row reassures passing students in the last week before finals begin.

Junior expelled, faces city charges

BY BRIAN LOEB
Daily Editorial Board

The student who allegedly assaulted a campus police officer last month has been expelled from the University.

Junior Ciaran O'Donovan, 21, will be allowed to finish his courses this semester, but he is not allowed on campus for any other purpose. His expulsion goes into effect when finals period ends.

O'Donovan was involved in a fight with junior Tim Churella in the early morning of Wednesday, Nov. 23 in a house at 185 College Avenue. The fight spilled into the street, and Tufts University Police Department Officers Cheri Burton and Eric Morales and several Somerville officers responded to the scene.

O'Donovan ran across the street next to the blue light emergency phone on Lower Campus Road. Burton attempted to detain O'Donovan, but O'Donovan allegedly struck Burton, knocked her to the ground, pulled out her hair and shouted racial epithets at her. Burton is African-American.

When the other officers who responded intervened, O'Donovan allegedly shouted other racial and homophobic epithets and spat in an officer's face.

O'Donovan was first taken to the hospital and then detained by the Somerville Police Department.

According to O'Donovan's lawyer, Michael Schneider,

see EXPULSION, page 2

Anthropology, sociology: Two better than one

BY JEFF LINDSAY
Senior Staff Writer

Now on its own, the Department of Anthropology is getting high marks from faculty and students.

Before this year, students could major in anthropology, but the major was part of a joint Department of Sociology and Anthropology. The two departments are now separate and each has a chairperson.

"Both the sociology and anthropology professors thought it was high time we separate departments," Anthropology Chair Rosalind Shaw said.

At department meetings before the split, Shaw said, professors had to wait while faculty from the other major discussed proposals irrelevant to their department's goals.

"It enables us to make much more direct representation of our needs to the administration," Shaw said. As chair of the new department, she can now attend meetings with other department chairs. Previously no anthropology professor was necessarily represented.

The departments "had been combined

see ANTHRO, page 2

Student film explores drunk driving law's patron

BY LAURA HERMAN
Daily Staff Writer

With the recent passing of Melanie's Law, Massachusetts is in compliance with federal standards for drunk driving laws for the first time in state history.

The law, enacted Oct. 28, bears the name of Melanie Powell of Marshfield, Mass., who was 13 years old when she was struck and killed by a drunk driver while walking with friends to the beach after a sleepover party on July 25, 2003.

The new law increases the severity of punishment for driving under the influence and closes loopholes in the system that had previously allowed repeat offenders to get back behind the wheel.

Margot Abels, the Director of Drug and Alcohol Education Services at Health Services, said the new legislation will likely lead to an increased crackdown on sales of alcohol to minors and the use of fake IDs.

She also said the fear of legal complications associated with Melanie's Law could increase people's concerns about tangential involvement with drunk driving.

"People are at a loss for preventative strategies around the response to drinking and driving, so they move towards a harsher, punitive response," Abels said. She hopes increased education about the law will lead to increased prevention.

Several Tufts students chose to explore that problem in Professor Roberta Oster Sachs' Ex College class "Producing Films for Social Change."

On Monday night, Oster Sachs' students screened the documentaries they had been working on all semester. One group's film focused on the fight to pass Melanie's Law.

Senior Leah Tucker was one of the group members who worked on the documentary.

"I wasn't immediately passionate [about any topic] because I didn't feel connected to any specific person," she said.

She searched for "car accidents" online and found an editorial that detailed Melanie's grandfather Ron Bersani's fight for tougher repeat drunk-driving legislation in Massachusetts.

"I contacted Bersani, we chatted for a long time, and he was happy to be involved [with the film]. His story was just so powerful," Tucker said.

Bersani's effort to pass Melanie's Law was a long struggle. The Tufts students involved with producing the documentary were impressed with his determination to bring about social change.

"Without him, [Melanie's Law] would have never happened. It took so much manpower and energy on his part," sophomore Eli Netter said.

Tucker wants the film to serve as an educational tool and bring the new legislation to the attention of the Boston area and the Tufts community.

"Maybe I was just a little cynical, but before I heard Bersani's story, I didn't believe that one person could truly get involved and make a difference," Tucker said. She called the new law "a baby step" in the direction of prevention.

A provision in the law gives prosecutors the power to introduce certified court documents to prove that a repeat offender has been previously convicted.

Repeat offenders will then be required to install a device that measures the driver's Blood Alcohol Content and prevents the vehicle from starting if the driver is intoxicated. The device must be installed in any car owned or operated by the repeat offender.

The minimum jail sentence for an individual found guilty of manslaughter by motor vehicle was also increased from two-and-a-half to five years.

The law has been criticized for not taking a more treatment or prevention-oriented approach, but its biggest supporter remains optimistic.

"We'll never know how many lives Melanie's Law will save, but we have faith it will be many, so today, we thank you Melanie," Bersani told the Boston CBS affiliate after the law was passed.

INSIDE

The Daily invests in oil.

see ARTS, page 5



INDEX

News | Features 1
Arts | Living 5
Editorial | Letters 8
National 11
International 13
Comics 16
Classifieds 17
Sports Back page

tuftsdaily.com

At weekly meetings, both genders are looking to talk

BY ALIYAH SHAHID
Daily Staff Writer

Two discussion groups on campus — one for men, one for women — are trying to make students more comfortable dealing with issues of health, gender and sexuality.

In the fall of 2004, Director of Alcohol and Drug Education Services Margot Abels and Tufts Violence Prevention Program Coordinator Elaine Theodore created a discussion group for freshman girls. The following semester it was opened to women of all years.

Abels said attendance was erratic and would range anywhere from two to 15 students.

This semester, the group returned to its original model, limiting attendance to freshmen and meeting twice each

week.

"This fall we had people fill out a simple application to get into the group, to just hold people a little bit more accountable," Abels said. "We've had the same group of six girls coming every week."

The group's Thursday night meetings consist of a social event. Last week the group made "rice socks," a type of microwaveable heating pad, to stay warm in the winter. On Friday mornings the group has breakfast and a discussion.

"It's a combination of getting support, talking, getting information and being able to treat yourself really nicely for the hour," Abels said of the Friday-morning programming.

"A lot of girls came into the group really feeling lonely and feeling like they hadn't found

people that they connect with," she said. "Here, they have this really solid group that they socialize with."

The group's discussions have focused on what it means to be

see TALK, page 2



JEFF CHEN/TUFTS DAILY

The Women's Center on Talbot Avenue hosts discussions — organized by Health Services — for female students on issues of health and sexuality.

Students satisfied with new anthropology department

ANTHRO

continued from page 1

many years ago, somewhat arbitrarily, as an economy, since both were small," Dean of Academic Affairs Kevin Dunn said. "It certainly seems as though the ambitions have grown as they focus on their own agendas. That energy will certainly benefit students in both departments."

According to the 2004-2005 Fact Book, published by Institutional Research, there were 11 graduating seniors

majoring in anthropology in 2004, the last year available. There were 23 in sociology.

Junior anthropology major Sebastian Chaskel said the split is good for students. "If it means professors having more time to devote to anthropology, that's great," he said. "I haven't noticed changes yet but I think it's very exciting."

Shaw also said the change will bolster the reputation of the major. "Having our own department does give more legitimacy," she said.

Both Shaw and Chaskel said they take pride in the major's focus on public anthropology.

In his Public Anthropology class, Chaskel recorded the oral history of Latinos in Somerville. "I got to take people's stories, put them in a little book and give it back to them," he said.

Shaw said public anthropology gives students a unique chance to connect with the community in which they live.

"Most students live in Somerville, but don't know

much about it," Chaskel said. "Students aren't just studying the community but working with it."

President of the Tufts Anthropology Collective senior Molly Whittington said the department lets undergraduates perform and present research. Last winter, the department accepted student input during the interview process for a new professor.

"The department is really good about involving students," she said.

FROM THE DAILY ARCHIVES |
DECEMBER 7, 1981

Snow Day? No way

Tufts and the New England area were hit with what weather forecasters called "a meteorological bomb," dropping over two feet of snow over the area. This was one of the more severe snowstorms in New England history up until this date, as well as the first real snowstorm of the season, but it was business as usual on the Hill. Both University Provost Sol Gittleman and President Jean Mayer announced that there would be no class cancellations, as the date fell on a Monday.

New men's discussion group tackles stereotypes, student views of manliness

TALK

continued from page 1

a freshman woman and what it means to be sexual, as well as topics like alcohol, roommates and relationships.

The students in the group declined to be interviewed.

Abels and Theodore started the group because they felt strongly about doing targeted work.

The group was formed "in response to the statistics of the risks that first-

semester freshman females face around sexual assault and alcohol poisoning," Abels said.

She also said the group was created to refer students to services they might need and create "a place where we can chill and talk."

Senior Reena Desai, a residential assistant in South Hall, said she would encourage her residents to apply for the group next semester. "I think this is a great resource for freshman girls," she

said.

Men now also have a place to go for discussions of gender issued. The Tufts Men Activists Coalition, founded this semester, meets weekly.

"There are numerous women's groups, and we're the only men's group," freshman Jeffrey Kiok said. "We think that's an important aspect missing from this campus."

Freshman Daniel Albert agreed. "Men are oftentimes overlooked in terms of

getting support just because of this social stigma that exists that men are supposed to be the stronger sex," he said.

Topics included in the group's discussions have included what it means to be a real man, gender stereotypes about men and how men are perceived at Tufts.

Next year the group plans to create a gender education program for high school and middle school boys.

Student involved in fight with police officer plans to appeal his expulsion

EXPULSION

continued from page 1

O'Donovan is awaiting charges on disorderly conduct, assault and battery on a police officer and resisting arrest. He is due in Somerville court Jan. 23.

O'Donovan was previously arrested, along with junior Nathan Cleveland, by Somerville police Sept. 25 for walking on Curtis Avenue with open beer cans.

The city charges and additional ones of public intoxication, noise violation and acts of intolerance were used by the University to pursue expulsion.

O'Donovan received the official expulsion letter from the Dean of Students Office Monday, Dec. 5.

According to the School of Arts, Sciences and Engineering Student Judicial Process, parties involved in a disciplinary decision have ten days to appeal the ruling to the Committee on Student Life.

"We definitely intend to appeal it," Schneider said. Schneider will represent O'Donovan both in Somerville and at the University.

Appeals can be brought on two grounds: denial of fair process and new evidence. Schneider said the appeal would describe O'Donovan's character and what he called a "fuller development of the facts." Schneider would not elaborate on the specifics of the appeal.

"I am not shirking any responsibility," O'Donovan said. "I did what I did. I have

nothing but regret."

O'Donovan said alcohol contributed to, but was not the sole cause of, the incident. He said his blood alcohol content was measured at .327. The legal limit for operating a vehicle in Massachusetts is .08.

"I do believe that had some effect on my mental state," he said.

Churella is not facing any disciplinary or legal action from the University or Somerville.

O'Donovan and Churella were members of this semester's men's cross country team. Team members said no formal discussion had taken place about the incident or O'Donovan's expulsion.

The team members were also supportive of O'Donovan. "I still see Ciaran as a friend," senior co-captain Matt Lacey said. "I just hope he can grow and move on and it doesn't essentially end his life."

Lacey said the topic may be discussed at a team meeting within the next few weeks.

Though he was present when police arrived, Churella stayed in front of the house and did not see the incident between O'Donovan and Burton. "We knew Ciaran, he's a good kid," Churella said. "None of our impressions change because of one night."

O'Donovan admitted his role in the incident but said his actions were out of anger and not hatred for any racial or ethnic group. "I can't apologize enough to anyone I may have offended," he said.

OFF THE HILL | PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

Prescription pills to ease pressure

BY ELYSE GRAHAM
Daily Princetonian

It's hard not to notice the signs of crunch time on the Princeton University campus.

The Frist Campus Center turns into a 24-hour study space, the C-store constantly restocks its soda supplies and Red Bull advertisements at the U-Store exclaim, "Turn your ZZZ's into A's." The phrase "all-nighter" becomes a regular part of conversation. For many Princeton students, the pressure runs so high that caffeine just doesn't cut it.

Prescription amphetamines such as Ritalin and Adderall, commonly used to treat attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), are increasingly being used as study aids by students without ADHD who want to be able to work harder and longer.

"David," a current senior at Princeton, began using the 'study drug' during high school. A top student at a competitive East Coast prep school, David began having trouble concentrating his senior year, and his work just kept piling up.

One of David's classmates, having been diagnosed with ADHD, began to supply his prescription Adderall to friends who either wanted the drug to stay focused or just to get high. David had long been convinced that he suffered from ADHD, but was never diagnosed. His mother had prevented him from consulting a doctor, refusing to believe that her son suffered from a learning disability. Thus, when the opportunity to obtain Adderall presented itself, David decided to give the drug a try. And the drug had "an amazing effect."

"I did some of the best work I've ever done," David said.

Once at Princeton, David initially attempted to refrain from using the drug. He used Adderall only once during his first two years of college, resorting to Red Bull and caffeine in order to stay focused and awake.

Enter junior papers

Last fall, David found himself particularly pressed for time — and, as per usual, struggling to maintain attention. David eventually managed to scrounge some Adderall up from a friend at Georgetown University. And once again, "[Adderall] really got the ball rolling," David said. While some students like David find outside suppliers, many others turn to fellow students.

According to a few student sellers on campus, the average price for one Adderall pill is about \$5, but the price depends on the dosage size and the discretion of the seller. The Adderall pill is available in various dosages, including 10 mg tablets, 20 mg tablets and capsules. Even though many sellers report high business around midterm period and finals reading week, there is a steady demand throughout the year. Adderall is usually consumed orally, but some student users said they have tried to inhale the drug in hopes of speeding up and heightening its effects.

Last spring, David was confronted with yet another junior paper, and he acquired some Adderall XR from a friend at Princeton. An extended relief form of Adderall, Adderall XR affects the user gradually rather than "hitting [them] all at once," David explained. Although David found its effects to be much more lackluster than those of Adderall itself, he still used the drug to help him overcome his mental roadblocks.

Study drugs at Princeton: The motivation

Fascinated by the factors that drew Princeton students such as David to Adderall, 2004 graduate Allison Arensman decided to make performance-enhancing drugs the subject of her senior thesis. An independent major in bioethics, Arensman conducted a Web-based survey as well as personal interviews with Princeton students in order to assess the reasons behind the use of illicit study drugs among Princeton undergraduates.

Opinionated?

We thought so.

Be an editorialist: daily@tuftsdaily.com

MARKETS

Yesterday's close

▲ DOW JONES
21.85 10,856.86

▲ NASDAQ
3.12 2,260.76

WEATHER FORECAST

Today
Wednesday, December 7

Mostly sunny
High 32
Low 18

Partly cloudy. Cold with highs in the lower 30s. West winds 10 to 20 mph with gusts up to 30 mph.

Thursday



Sunny
32/24

Sunday



Partly cloudy
34/29

Friday



Snow showers
34/24

Monday



Cloudy
44/31

Saturday



Partly cloudy
35/24

Tuesday



Showers
42/31

QUOTE OF THE DAY

“ I can't even complete the metaphor. Just take my word for it and go abroad. ”

Dave Pomerantz
Pom in Prague

see page 3

DAVE POMERANTZ | POM IN PRAGUE



Yeah, we got some stuff

For the last of these columns, it would be great if I could come up with some big, overarching lesson explaining why studying abroad is so amazing. Or perhaps a more specific anecdote — some cute story with a “wow” moment at the end. Maybe, “But then, under a starry Prague night, I realized that it had actually been a seeing-eye man leading a blind dog. And that made all the difference.”

Well, sorry, but if it's possible to do that in 800 words, it won't come from me, because my creative juices have all run drier than...see, I can't even complete the metaphor. Just take my word for it and go abroad.

With the remaining space, I'll instead throw out a little piece of knowledge that I rediscovered while in Prague: America's got some stuff, too.

For instance, I was in Rome and Florence a few weeks ago. I ate better than I ever have in my life. My brother, cousin and I took the first couple of days to see sights, but for the last two days or so, all we did was sit at cafes from sunrise to sunset and just eat our faces off in disgusting displays of engorgement. Meats, cheeses, olives, vegetables, sauces, pastas — all bursting with flavor.

Yet now, on the eve of my return to the United States, my thoughts turn only to cheeseburgers and wings. I plan on going directly from the airport to an establishment located about ten minutes from my house that is known as the Candlelight Inn. It is, without question, the greatest vendor of chicken wings on the planet. It also stays open until four in the morning, and I plan on spending every hour of my first day back in this most personal house of worship.

Here in the Czech Republic, I was lucky enough to watch a Champions League soccer game between the Sparta Prague and England's Arsenal. I wrote about the experience in an earlier column, but to quickly paraphrase myself, it was pretty amazing.

Nonetheless, when I think about sports, I only dream of my beloved Yankees and Giants (8-4 and NFC East leaders, baby), and how good it's going to feel when I'm cooking steaks and burgers in the Meadowlands parking lot the day after I get home, gearing up to watch the Giants' last home game.

I've seen some pretty amazing cities here, too. The onion domes of the Frauenkirche punctuate the Munich skyline, just as dozens of spires aspire to reach the omnipresent cloud-cover in Prague. Narrow canals feature tourist-ferrying gondolas in Venice, while broad ones dissect the red light district in Amsterdam.

In Berlin, everything is new — it is a shimmering city of glass and steel that is constantly under construction. In Istanbul, everything is ancient — you can't turn the corner without walking into a mosque that has listened to prayers for the past four centuries.

But in New York, you can watch a two-ton Spiderman balloon float through midtown as gravy drips down your chin — an experience I heartily missed this Thanksgiving. In Boston, you can picnic on the Common in the shadow of Government Center.

You can tour the Budweiser plant in St. Louis, where the beer is free (unlike at the Heineken Museum in Amsterdam, which is still awesome). Hell, if you make it to Juneau, Alaska, you can swim in an ocean,

see POMERANTZ, page 4

Dave Pomerantz is a junior majoring in history. He can be reached via e-mail at david.pomerantz@tufts.edu

Saving lives, taking finals: all in a day's work

A glimpse into the world of TEMS' student volunteers

BY VALERIE SULLIVAN
Senior Staff Writer

“When you ask someone to volunteer a lot of their time,” senior Mike Garshick said, “there's a certain type of person who is willing to do it.”

Garshick, the executive director of Tufts Emergency Medical Services (TEMS), falls into that category. So does senior Jeff Burke.

“I took the EMT class that's offered at Tufts last fall and then I was gone for a semester,” said Burke, who first became involved with TEMS after he returned from studying abroad during his junior year.

Since that time, Burke has moved from a tertiary EMT to a probationary technician to his current position: a technician who volunteers up to eight shifts per month for his fellow students at Tufts.

Students are able to join TEMS when they are CPR-certified and enrolled in an EMT class. Most begin as observers, responding to calls with the other two EMTs on duty. Observers then graduate to tertiary EMT status. From there, they move on to be probationary technicians, and, usually after a year, technicians.

At a minimum, TEMS always has two certified EMTs available per shift to individually respond to a call. The third student may be a tertiary EMT or an observer.

Of course, “on nights like [the naked quad run] for example, we put other special details on campus,” Garshick said. “We've had up to nine [TEMS workers] on at one time.”

Although workers are paid in the case of the naked quad run, TEMS is otherwise completely volunteer-dependent. The average TEMS worker volunteers for four to six shifts per month. Many students volunteer more time than that, however. It was for this reason that Burke moved up to the rank of technician so quickly.

“Most people spend about a year as a [probationary technician],” Garshick said. Burke, however, moved up after one semester.

Garshick came to be executive director of TEMS through an election process. All working members of TEMS who complete four to six shifts per month and are in



JOSHUA WILMOTH/TUFTS DAILY

Reporting for duty: On their TEMS shifts, Mike Garshick, Liz Mann and Jeff Burke must be prepared to receive and respond to a call at any time. Last year, TEMS received 400 calls.

good standing with TEMS are eligible to vote.

As executive director, Garshick serves as an intermediary between TEMS and outside entities, including companies, the media and the Tufts police force.

He also works closely with TEMS Director of Operations Bracken Babula, whose responsibilities include “scheduling, uniforming and paperwork,” Garshick said.

Garshick spends a substantial amount of time volunteering with TEMS. While he usually aims to take six or seven shifts per month, he often takes more. He and Babula find themselves sacrificing their own time in an effort to keep TEMS in service.

But that doesn't stop Garshick from finding time to play a role in the Tufts community in other ways. He participated in a musical last year, has run a bone-marrow drive and is a member of the pep band.

Burke, who is a member of the crew team and Theta Chi, has been successful at managing his time and not letting his dedication to TEMS ever fall by the wayside. “It's a little tough to make nighttime shifts during the week,” he said, adding

that the commitment is different from what most students imagine.

TEMS volunteers are not stationed in one location on campus, waiting for a call. They may be in class, eating lunch, spending time with friends — as long as they have the radio with them that informs them of any calls.

“When I'm on duty, I'm able to carry out every other activity,” Burke said. “Obviously you can't be in practice, but I can be doing schoolwork, in a class, anything around campus — as long as I have the radio on and I'm able to respond to a call. You just always have to remember [TEMS] is your priority at the time.”

A TEMS worker on duty must be prepared to receive a call at any time. “A Saturday night is more likely than a Monday afternoon,” Burke said. “But you can get a call any time, any day, really.”

“We can go two or three days without a call, and then have a day where we get call after call,” Garshick said. He estimated that TEMS receives, on average, one call per day. Over the course of last year, the TEMS staff received over 400 calls.

Another misconception about TEMS is

see TEMS, page 4

ONWARD AND UPWARD

A major change of scenery for one 'slacker'

BY ELEONORA KINNICUTT
Contributing Writer

The fourth annual Tour d'Afrique will begin on Jan. 14, 2006. It's an 11,900-kilometer bicycle race and expedition across Africa, and the event — which has both professional and amateur participants — will include 99 days of racing.

That's 120 kilometers traveled per day, on average — and recent Tufts graduate Danny Gold (LA '05), a native of White Plains, N.Y., will be one of the amateur cyclists making the journey.

Gold, who majored in English and minored in political science while at Tufts, is currently working three days a week at a real estate office to make enough money to pay for his trip. Since graduating, he has been living in New York.

“One of my brothers, who is in his third year at Fordham Law, lives in the East Village,” Gold said. “I've spent most of my weekends since graduating at his apartment.”

When asked about his years at Tufts, Gold described himself as having been a “slacker” whose best memories are of his nights — and early mornings — hanging out with close friends. Gold said that during his four years in college he “was involved in a few things, however, off and on.”

The two major commitments that he stuck with were Alpha Epsilon Pi fraternity (he was a brother) and Fun Fridays, a six-week after-school program for disadvantaged children.

During his senior year, Gold was also able to bring his grandmother, who is a

Holocaust survivor, to speak at Tufts during the Holocaust Memorial Week.

So what inspired Gold — an average young man who loves reading, listening to music and watching movies — to put his life on hold to bike around Africa? “I think part of the allure of me going on this trip is that I can relate pretty well to the many apathetic members of the student body, because I was and still am one of those kids,” Gold said.

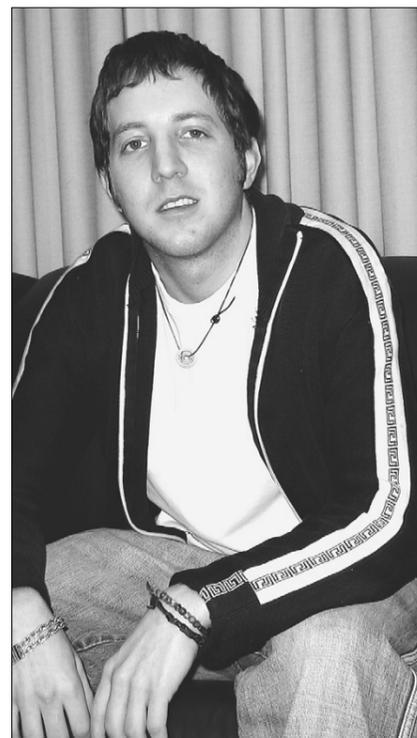
“If I was a really serious-minded, dedicated student and athlete, the idea of me going on this trip would not seem as interesting,” Gold said. “But as a slacker representative of my friends and the people like me, I think that I'm going to bring a really unique perspective to this experience.”

Gold, who has been riding 30 to 40 miles three to four days a week, admitted that he has not been training nearly as hard as he should. He added, however, that there are many reasons why he wants to do this tour.

“I am really into traveling and seeing the world, and my abroad experience junior year in Madrid definitely helped with that,” Gold said. “It gave me the travel bug.”

Gold said that he is now ready for something more than just weekend visits to European cities. “I have always had a very romantic image of Africa in my mind, ever since I was a young kid listening to my uncle tell stories about it,” he said. (His uncle, Henry Gold, co-founded the Tour d'Afrique.)

Gold believes that people are able to gain a whole new perspective once away from their comfort zone for so



COURTESY DANNY GOLD

Gold will be cycling in an 11,900-kilometer bicycle race-slash-expedition across Africa.

long. “It's like looking at your life from someone else's shoes,” he said. “I need that, especially now at this transition period of my life. That may sound kind of corny and clichéd, but I mean it.”

Gold also said that a trip like this can make one a better person — and can

see GOLD, page 4

Alumnus prepares to take part in 11,900-kilometer African expedition

GOLD

continued from page 3

help one develop a stronger appreciation of what he or she has.

"[A trip like this] can only help you become a more complete and relaxed person," he said. "I really admire the way my uncle is completely calm and assertive under pressure. I feel like this trip will help me become like that, because panicking in the middle of Africa will get you nowhere."

As for his life after Africa, Gold says that he hopes to write about his journey and his experience. Concerning his future career plans, though, he remains undecided.

"I just know that I'm not ready to accept the fact that I'll be working in an office cubicle for the next 40 years," he

“Panicking in the middle of Africa will get you nowhere.”

Danny Gold
LA '05

said. "Some people say it's immature, but I like to think it's youthful idealism."

Coming (back) to America: Pom reflects as he peaces out from Prague

POMERANTZ

continued from page 3

walk in a rainforest and trek up a glacier in one day.

Here's my point: One trend that definitely exists at Tufts, and probably other liberal universities as well, is the romanticization of Europe and Canada to the detriment of American culture. The argument goes something like this: "America is racist, classist and prudish. Bush is stupid. I wish I lived in Montreal/Paris/London, etc."

Without a doubt, 2005 has been a bad year for the United States. Iraq has shown that our moral compass is spinning around as if just hammered with a magnet. Katrina reminded us that the racial problems we try so hard to sweep under the rug never stay hidden forever. And the CIA leak scandal has undermined many Americans' faith in both our political system and the competence and strength of our media.

But the idea that there's something wrong with American culture or with

Americans themselves is ludicrous. Americans are as friendly as any other people, and our culture is as worthy of adoration as any other. And therein may lie the moral of this column, which had eluded me until now:

Going abroad is a great way to meet new people, discover new cultures, eat new food, watch new sports, and, if you're in college, drink even better and cheaper kinds of alcohol (Italy made me a wine-lover and the Czech Republic rekindled my passionate love affair with beer). But in the end, going abroad also made me realize how great America is and how lucky I am to live there.

While I'm in the gracious mood, some quick shout-outs: thanks to Ben Hoffman for paving the way for me in Prague. To my buddies and brother here in Prague for making it such a sweet ride. And, obviously, to Mom and Pops for paying for this whole shindig.

That does it for Pom in Prague. Peace, love, and Pilsner — I'll catch you back on the Hill.

They do outreach as well: TEMS doesn't just deal with drunkenness

TEMS

continued from page 3

that it deals primarily with students who have had too much to drink. "We do a lot more than just alcohol intoxication," Garshick said.

TEMS has sponsored CPR and first aid classes, as well as outreach programs such as Kids' Day and Read by the River.

"Our definition of services is to provide 100 percent free, voluntary care to all of the Tufts community, including staff, students and also anybody associated with Tufts University," Garshick said.

Members of the Tufts community aren't the only ones benefiting from TEMS — the volunteers themselves feel rewarded for their work.

"[My experience with TEMS has] affected me primarily in terms of leadership roles," Garshick said, citing the learning experience of "running an

organization with your peers where no one is being paid."

Through his experience, Garshick has learned a great deal about working with others. "You're all students, you're all friends, you all have to be considerate and kind to everybody," he said.

Garshick continues to dedicate as much time as he does to TEMS because he knows how much the organization is needed on campus. "Having TEMS go under would be a big deal," he said.

Burke is equally positive about his time with TEMS. He appreciates that "TEMS has given me the opportunity to gain experience as an EMT in a non-business [setting] — we're not here to make money."

In addition, Burke has been especially impressed with "the quality of people" he has met through the organization. "I can't think of anything I'm involved with that [has] the same caliber of people," he said.

OFF THE HILL | UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

Official wants to lower drinking age

BY AMANDA MASKER
The Daily Iowan

Despite the right to sign a lease, vote for the president, and lay their lives on the line, one thing 18-year-olds legally cannot do is have a beer.

New Hampshire state Rep. Jim Splaine wants to change that for a special sector of 18-year-olds in his state.

The Democrat has sponsored a bill to lower the legal drinking age for military personnel to 18, arguing that the United States is "disrespecting" the young men and women who are sent into harm's way by not allowing them a glass of wine before they leave for war.

"This is not a way to reward or thank the troops," Splaine said on Monday.

But the military does not seek such special accommodations, an official representing Iowa soldiers said on Monday.

"We wear the uniform to protect the rights of all people," said Lt. Col. Greg Hapgood, the public-affairs officer for the Iowa National Guard. "We don't want to be treated any differently."

The bill, if approved, will only affect people in New Hampshire, and an Iowa lawmaker said on Monday he would be surprised if similar legislation would pass in this state.

A recent caucus in Des Moines did not indicate that lowering the drinking age would be a priority for state lawmakers, said Rep. Dave Jacoby, D-Coralville.

"I don't see a political will to lower the drinking age to 18," he said.

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ALBUM REVIEW

'System' are the Red Bull and Vodka of music

BY MIKE ADAMS
Daily Staff Writer

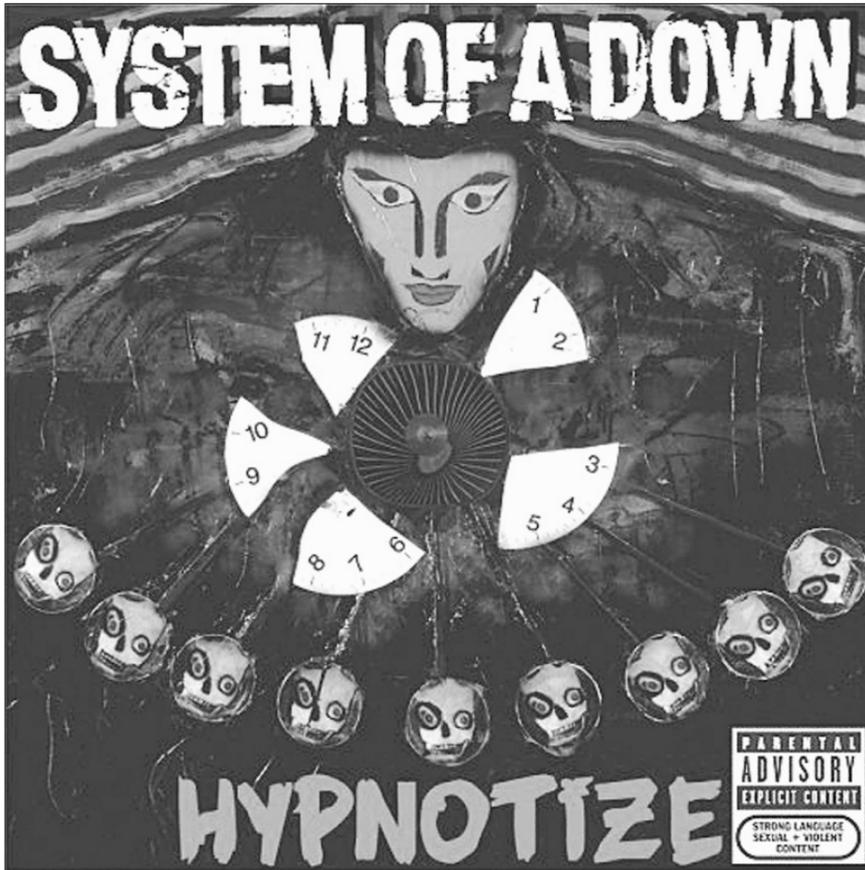
It is pretty exceptional to find an album today that truly rocks. "Hypnotize," the latest by System of a Down, is one of these

Hypnotize
System of a Down
★★★★☆
American Records

albums, the kind that get better with every additional increment of volume. Whether it is used for personal head-banging or for a pre-finals spaz attack, "Hypnotize" will not disappoint.

As the second of a pair of albums, "Hypnotize" was released just six months after the moderately successful "Mezmerize." Whereas "Mezmerize" owed much of its success to "BYOB," a hard rocking political tirade that transformed into a sort of antiwar anthem, "Hypnotize" does not give the same weight to any given song. Despite the album's lack of potential future radio airtime, the first eight tracks tie together to form one long hit song. This rock opera style seems to be awakening an old trend, following the same concept as last year's Green Day's "American Idiot."

It is evident from the way that "Hypnotize" flows that the rock opera feel was well thought-out. The album has three



AMERICAN RECORDS

see **HYPNOTIZE**, page 7 The cover of "Hypnotize" doubles as a primitive, albeit inconvenient and inaccurate, clock.

JULIE SCHINDALL |
MAKING THE CONNECTIONS



Brushes with dead European masters

While meandering down the Champs-Élysées a few weeks back, my friend turned to me and remarked, "Yeah, Paris has a lot of museums. But seriously, I'm over the art thing — how many more masterpieces are there to see?"

Before the politically correct side of you gasps in indignation, take a moment and try to see it from the perspective of the poor American student, stuck in Europe for a semester trying to see every major European destination in thirteen weeks. Escorted across the Old World by night trains and REI trail packs, we tramp from city to city, oohing and aahing over every last amazing building, street, and park while we read out of our

see **SCHINDALL**, page 6

Julie Schindall is a junior majoring in music. She can be reached at julie.schindall@tufts.edu.

MOVIE REVIEW



Warner Bros. Pictures
Matt Damon, George Clooney and the two newest members of the gang go undercover for "Ocean's 13."

Oil is not the only greasy part of today's international politics

BY KRISTIN GORMAN
Daily Staff Writer

Which is more desirable, Chinese water torture or having your fingernails ripped out with

Syriana
★★★★☆
Starring **George Clooney, Matt Damon, Jeffrey Wright**
Directed by **David Gaghan**

pliers? Can one really use the death of a six year-old child as a financial bargaining chip?

Writer/director Stephen Gaghan's newest political thriller, "Syriana," answers these questions and more while following the intertwined actions of a disillusioned CIA agent, a struggling money management consultant, a corporate attorney, and an unemployed Pakistani immigrant in the chaotic world of America's Middle Eastern oil endeavors.

"Syriana"'s political aspects provide interesting vantage points in the wake of Sept. 11 and the Iraq War. Prince Nasir Al-Subaai (Alexander Siddig), the second son born to the king of an unnamed Gulf country, struggles to earn the good favor of his dying father, stabilize his country and optimally manage oil resources. CIA Agent Bob Barnes (George Clooney) embodies the United States' response by tracking and investigating Nasir. Meanwhile, businessman Bryan Woodman (Matt Damon) is able to win his small oil brokerage company a seat at the bargaining table with Prince Nasir.

Back in Texas, manipulative corporate officials attempt to secure an oil company merger tainted by bribery and deception. Attorney Bennett Holiday (Jeffrey Wright) is hired to find the legal flaws in the merger before the prosecution does. As the merger

see **SYRIANA**, page 7

INTERVIEW | RICHARD SHEPARD

Richard Shepard tends to 'The Matador'

BY BRIAN MCLOONE
Contributing Writer

For a director's hotel room, I was a little disappointed. There were no papers strewn across the floor, no posse, no cocaine buffet, no passed-out hooker. There was, I guess, no Hollywood.

As I sat in his suite at the Four Seasons in downtown Boston, I got the feeling that, to Richard Shepard, it hadn't all sunk in — and maybe he likes it that way.

"Can you tell the front desk to stop calling up here?" he modestly asks a publicist, not his own. "They keep telling me I have to check out."

Before his new film, "The Matador," in which Pierce Brosnan plays a slimy hit man who befriends an out-of-luck business associate played by Greg Kinnear, Shepard had a long but unremarkable resume (including 1999's "Oxygen" and "Mercy" from 1996). You've never seen his movies, and you've never heard of them. Trust me.

Maybe that's what creates the unmistakable enthusiasm in Shepard's eye: he's not a kid who's in way over his head; he's a professional who is finally figuring out the game.

BM: What was it like filming in Mexico City?

RS: Well, you know the whole movie was filmed in Mexico. Denver was filmed there, Budapest, and Manila; it's the magic of the movies. I would say that it was really great on every level. First, it's just a beautiful, interesting, crazy city and that energy sort of invaded our film set.

You talk about a combo of studio and indie [film



Jeff Vespa/WireImage.com
A candid picture from Richard Shepard's, right, Webshots page

styles]...It's an accessible movie, but maybe it's interesting and a little more different than your average crappy studio movie... But the city kind of brought out our indie side; it was a little run-and-gun.

Sometimes, you know, there's so much traffic that you can't shoot where you think you're going to shoot, because you can't even get there, so you have to kind of improvise and everyone was up for it; it was never a case of "Where's my trailer? My trailer's not big enough!"

It was more like, "Okay, well there's a marching band and a parade, and we can't shoot this scene, so let's shoot another scene and we'll figure it out..."

BM: Getting back to the characters, it seems as though Greg's character wants a bit of Pierce's character, and vice versa. Did you direct them to experience this tension, or did it come naturally for them?

RS: When I cast Greg, who's such a great comic actor but

also has a good dramatic side as well, I knew I was getting as good as I would possibly get for that part, and I knew that there would be tension between them. And they're both smart enough actors to sort of use what was happening between them for the movie.

My job as a director is [that] you don't really direct good actors, specifically, like you direct a child, a first-time actor, or a dog. But when you're dealing with movie stars, you kind of just set the scene for them. You make sure that the set is right, that the costumes are right, that props are right, that their co-stars are right, that the dialogue is right, and then you sort of just let them go, and you steer them a little bit.

But you're not sitting them down and getting the performance out of them. If you're doing that, you're in deep s--t; you don't have enough time to do that.

see **INTERVIEW**, page 7

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Michelangelo is a tough act to follow

SCHINDALL

continued from page 5

guidebooks precisely why these places are important.

The risk for becoming dazed and confused runs high. This past weekend, traversing the Forum ruins in Rome, I remarked that the pine trees reminded me of home in San Diego. Fifteen feet in front of me, fellow student Jessica called out happily, "I've stopped looking at trees! They're all the same everywhere anyways!" She then proceeded to trip on a rock — or, rather, an ancient Roman stone. "Ooof!" she remarked. "These people should really consider smoothing out the ground."

Now, mind you, Jessica is an intelligent girl, and I like to think I'm no numbskull either. The astounding artistic and historic sights of Europe should be nourishment for earnest students like us, affording us a true-life brush with centuries of some of the world's most important contributions to human life and culture.

But as with all good things, everybody — even this dedicated art and culture lover — reaches a saturation point. In Paris especially, the famed city of art, the endless street portrait artists and white marble colonnades admittedly wore thin. I bypassed endless kiosks along the Seine, selling old French books and black-and-white photographs. It was just so Parisian! So French! and I had had enough.

Several weeks later, sitting in the State Opera House in Prague (yes, my life reads like a fairy tale), I was reading the company's season book and it suddenly struck me why I was so off-balance about art in Europe. The director's opening remarks read, in part, "...we strive to meet the demand of those opera-goers who are keen to listen to beautiful melodies of the international repertoire's best known operas..."

Seated in the far back row of the beautiful hall, halfway through a lovely rendition of "Rigoletto," a muted alarm bell went off in my head. An opera company — an artistic endeavor — devoted to

replaying over and over every tourist's favorite opera? Indeed, the hall was filled with different languages, few of them Czech, and most everybody was wearing comfortable sneakers and daypacks.

And here began my latest European conundrum, brought on by the repertoire list of the Czech State Opera. European art, from the average tourist's perspective, is all about the old, the famous and the amazing. We slog from museum to museum, glancing at aging paintings under gilt frames just long enough to snap a (forbidden) photograph and shuffle across the marble floors to the next great masterpiece. They're beautiful, and everybody knows it. I won't deny that I love the Louvre and that the Sistine Chapel was truly stunning.

My quandary thus develops into my usual interplay between Old World and New World. Tourism is one of Europe's biggest industries, and they sell their art and their history with great skill. But what is new and happening with art in Europe?

I admit I am a Classicist when it comes to music; J. S. Bach perfected it back in the 1700s and that's that. But when an entire opera company devotes itself to good old-fashioned favorites, where is the future of art? Is Europe selling a dead beast, an art world that reached its peak with Michelangelo and Mozart and has since been skating on their powerful coattails?

After thirteen weeks of clinging to my Eurail, I'm struck by my experience as an American in Europe. The sights, the sounds, and the cultures are beautiful — and perhaps a bit brain-numbing. I still can't decide if the European art world is moving forward or cashing in on the past.

But for this young student of art, in the end, it's all good. Fifteen weeks into my study abroad experience, I was nearly brought to tears at the sight of "La Pieta" in St. Peter's Basilica. Yes, it's an old stone, it's protected by a Plexiglas wall — and it is part of the riches of an entire continent's phenomenal artistic tradition.

Statement from the Dean of Student Affairs December 6, 2005

The Dean of Student Affairs Office has expelled a student who was accused of several serious criminal offenses and violations of university policy. Tufts Police filed reports both in the university judicial system and in the court system of the Commonwealth, against the student for a series of incidents that took place on November 23, 2005. In the incident, the student was alleged to have committed several offenses, including:

- Public Intoxication
- Disorderly Conduct
- An Assault and Battery on a Police Officer
- Resisting Arrest
- Acts of Intolerance Based on:
 - Race, Ethnicity or National Origin
 - Sexual Orientation
 - Religion
 - Age
- A Noise Violation

Among the other charges, the incident report stated that the student knocked a female African American Tufts Officer to the ground, attempted to punch her, tore her clothing, and ripped out her hair. The incident report further stated that while being taken into custody, the student directed racial, ethnic, age-based and homophobic epithets at the arresting officers, medical responders and other parties.

The student did not deny the accuracy of the allegations, citing intoxication as a cause of the behavior. Intoxication does not excuse the behavior or the hatred, rage and violence that the student displayed in the series of offenses that he committed.

The student is allowed to complete the courses in which he is currently enrolled, but may not be present on the campus for reasons other than those necessary to complete the courses. The expulsion becomes effective at the conclusion of the upcoming finals period.

Bruce Reitman,
Dean of Student Affairs

Richard Shepard can stick it to 'the studio'

INTERVIEW

continued from page 5

BM: Will you be going back to the indie genre?

RS: To me, even though this is a \$10 million movie and it looks like a big movie, it still was indie in spirit because the script that I wrote is the script that I filmed; the film that I finished cutting is the film that is being released.

It wasn't changed because some audience member couldn't handle that Pierce was sexually ambiguous [or that] someone at the test screening was like, "I don't like that he's mean to children," and suddenly the studio is like, "He's mean to children; we must cut it out, we must make him likable." No, this is what it was. So it is indie in spirit. But if your question is whether I will go back to a lower-budget movie, the answer is yes,

because if there's a movie I want to make and no one will give me real money for it, I'll go and make it for nothing, because I just love making movies.

I think a lot of times people get to the point where it's like, "Well, we can't raise the \$10 million; we can't make this movie." And my feeling is like, "Well, then make it for \$250,000 if you care that much about it..."

If "[The] Blair Witch Project" had been... if someone had given them \$25 million and suddenly there's some kid from "Dawson's Creek" and whatever in that movie, it wouldn't have been nearly as good, because that movie needed to be real.

I was ready to make "The Matador" for \$250,000. I'm a big believer that you should make your own opportunity.

BM: And finally, are you a

writer or a director?

RS: I am a writer who writes his material so that I can direct. But I'm a filmmaker and a storyteller, I think.

And I feel like I am just finally really getting good at writing. I've written for a long time, I've had movies made, I've done things, but I'm finally in a groove and finding my voice, maybe. And some people find it at a much younger age, and some people don't ever find it. I mean, I just feel like I'm finding it now.

"The Matador" was an amazing experience for me; it opened a lot of doors for me [and] I learned a lot on it. I love to write, but I also love to actually get on the set and make the movie, because that's where actual accidents happen and excitement happens and stuff happens, in a good way.



SYSTEM OF A DOWN

System of a Down are terrible at sardines.

'Hypnotize' just loses its spell

HYPNOTIZE

continued from page 5

distinct sections, the first beginning with the simple lyrics and frenzied rhythms that made System of a Down famous. The opening song, "Attack," does not disappoint, as it only builds up for about three and a half seconds before it unleashes quite possibly the fastest beat that drummer John Dolmayan has ever recorded.

The middle of "Hypnotize" is by far the deepest, most complex, and best overall section. Beginning with the one possible hit, the title track, this block of songs asks the relatively tough questions, all while adhering to the fast pace that was established before. In a bitter critique of the materialism of American society, the title track begins: "Why don't you ask the kids at Tiananmen Square / Was fashion the reason why they were there / They disguise it hypnotize it / Television made you buy it."

The primary risk taken in the middle section is its unprecedented amount of harmonization. Such a technique inevitably features more input from backup singer, and main song writer Daron Malakian, who has a much lighter style than frontman Serj Tankian. While this vocal complexity may detract from the album's heaviness for some, it certainly adds new depth and is quite an accomplishment for a band with such a defined sound.

The depth of the middle section does not end with the melodies. In the song "Tentative," writers Malakian and Tankian take what would typically seem like a slow song and give other parts of the track the same aggressive energy that is found earlier in the album. In mixing these two distinct moods, "Tentative" feels like a delicious dose of red bull and vodka, making your

heart speed up and slow down at the same time.

The second section's musical brilliance extends through track eight, "Holy Mountains," which could (and should) have been the album's conclusion. Tracks nine through twelve seem more like hidden tracks than part of the same album, used primarily for experimentation.

Although System of a Down is well known for their quirkiness, "Vicinity of Obscenity" is just plain silly. It is hard to excuse these lyrics as a poetic expression of some drug binge, because, frankly, they sound like they were written by a five-year-old who ate too many Cocoa Puffs. It's possible that this five-year-old druggie was a creative writing persona for Tankian, but "Vicinity of Obscenity" simply takes away from the seriousness of his other songs.

Fortunately for "Hypnotize," the third section's isolation prevents it from ruining the rest of the album. Though true fans would rightly prefer a hard copy, a logical choice for everyone else would be to utilize iTunes to the fullest and just buy tracks one through eight. Though it is only a partial album, it is one long string of brilliance.

The differences in quality beg the question of why "Hypnotize" and "Mezmerize" were not combined into one normal-length masterpiece. It would certainly be feasible to combine the consistent eight tracks from "Hypnotize" with "Mezmerize"'s few hits. It seems that the band was swayed by the media coverage that accompanies the accomplishment of releasing two albums in the same year.

Overall, though, System of a Down continues to overstep such labels as "metal" and "nu-metal" and has put out some of the best rock and roll of the last decade.

Oil barons are the only cheaters who prosper

SYRIANA

continued from page 5

effects the closure of an oil field in the Persian Gulf, a worker (Mazhar Munir) loses his job and conveniently meets a group of men affected by the same uncertain labor circumstances.

Unfortunately, unless one is extensively educated in all fields concerning the issues at hand — namely, international politics, economics, and law — the fast-paced story lines blurred by sporadic explosions in the background provide a little too much chaos to follow the multi-tiered plot. Gaghan, screenplay author for the Oscar-winning "Traffic" (2000), doesn't achieve in this project the delicate balance necessary to strike when incorporating multiple vantage points into a film. This is not to say the film is merely a flight of fancy; CIA field officer Robert Baer's book "See No Evil" gets a "suggested by" credit.

Erratic and numerous transitions between the various main characters drain the film of its educational value. Nothing is ever allowed to resonate; as soon

as important information is revealed about one character, there is an immediate switch to another. The audience constantly struggles to keep up, never able to appreciate one specific instance or endeavor.

With such a powerful cast of substantial actors (including Clooney and Damon), the superficiality is even more frustrating. The captivating performances all around make each abrupt storyline departure just plain depressing. There are four stars in the film, and not one ever finds the spotlight.

Despite the occasional (perhaps intentional) confusion, the presentation of the subject matter is entertaining. Perfect for the undying action movie fan, this film makes for the quintessential edge-of-your-seat, breath-taking thriller.

But the film's appeal is not only limited to straight blockbuster excitements. The American business family, comprising Woodman and his wife Julie (Amanda Peet), induce tears; Bob Barnes's undercover operations induce fear; the

Texan corporate scoundrels induce vomiting. At least in the emotional department, Gaghan covers all the bases.

The most moving aspect of the film, however, is not its exposure of the fraud and deception within the global political system, but rather the questions of morality it raises. Each character experiences intense conflict between what is right and what is wrong, yet ultimately one of the corporate oil businessmen sums it up best: "Corruption is how we win." Even in the most benign situations, the essence of this belief is subtly present.

By the end of the film, though, the message is clear: corruption is how we lose. This fundamental belief is the basis upon which all the characters are interconnected, and due to this moral flaw, their situations explode.

Although the film is plagued by confusion issues, its problems are fairly positive. The actors are too good to share screen time, the situations are too complex to convey in two hours, and the subject matter is overly intellectual.

Daily's Next Top Model: Editors' Picks

And then there were three. The producers made a noble attempt to incorporate the show's new locale by asking the girls to represent British fashion trends. They were, however, completely thwarted by the competitors shocking inability to encapsulate "mod," "preppy," "Bollywood," or "punk" style (no, Nicole, the fact that Bollywood "sounds like Hollywood" is not a good indicator).

After disastrous performances by all at the go-sees, Nik and Jayla chose to pair up for a walking tour of London, leaving feuding Nicole and Bre together for a potentially uncomfortable sightseeing excursion. The girls made the best of their forced

pairing, however, by endearingly making up over glasses of wine (Bre: "I'll buy you a whole bunch of Red Bull. And I'll put bows and ribbons on them, OK?"). In a retrospectively comical judging session, in which Bre was repeatedly criticized for being too short to model despite the fact that Jayla, Nik, and Nicole are all within two inches of her 5'8" stature, the little lady won out over Jayla to secure her spot in the top three. The winner of the competition will be determined tonight in the bittersweet finale.

— Kate Drizos

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EDITORIAL

Bah humbug

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas. There's snow on the ground, people are entombing themselves in layers of clothing, and everyone's favorite holiday specials are starting to appear all over the television map. The surest sign of the season, though, is that conservatives have worked themselves into a red-faced frenzy, defending Christmas against a massive liberal conspiracy aimed at undermining American traditions and destroying Christianity once and for all.

Or so they claim. Conservative Fox News pundit Bill O'Reilly calls the abolishment of Christmas a part of the "secular progressive agenda" and author and pundit John Gibson recently released a book entitled "The War on Christmas: How the Liberal Plot to Ban the Sacred Christian Holiday is Worse than you Thought." Conservative interest groups like Fidelis and the Committee for Justice have even begun running Internet and radio advertisements which claim that Supreme Court nominee Samuel Alito will defend Christmas against scheming leftists.

Do liberals really hate Christmas? In order to accept the right's sob story as valid, one must rewrite American history and the very philosophy on which the United States was founded. Conservative Christmas crusaders claim that the liberal movement is actively trying to destroy America's religious and cultural foundations in order to implement its agenda. They are correct in saying that liberal groups oppose official sponsorship of religiously-themed Christmas events and images, such as public school Christmas pageants or town-square nativity scenes. But evidence for the claim that liberal opposition to Christmas strikes at the core of American tradition can be found only

within the active conservative imagination.

Biblical scholars generally agree that Jesus was born not at the end of December, but rather during a warmer season when shepherds would have been more likely to be grazing flocks. The date of the modern-day celebration of the birth of Jesus is thus not religious at all. Following the adoption of Christianity by the Romans, Pope Julius I chose the date Dec. 25 so that Christmas would coincide with the ancient festival of Saturnalia. His goal was to make the holiday as popular as possible. Clearly then, the cultural celebration of a winter holiday preceded and was appropriated by the religious component.

For the very reason that Christmas remained more a cultural festival than a religious observance, it was largely rejected in colonial America and especially in the post-revolutionary period. Puritans did not celebrate the holiday at all, and it was banned in Massachusetts from 1659 to 1681. After the American Revolution, Christmas, which was associated with English traditions, was not widely celebrated. Throughout the middle of the 19th century Christian denominations which are now considered mainstream, such as Presbyterians, Methodists and Baptists, did not hold services on Christmas because they did not recognize it as a religious holiday.

While the emphasis on the religious aspect of Christmas over the cultural aspect is a relatively new phenomenon, opposition to publicly sanctioned religious celebrations of Christmas is not. Throughout the 20th century, educators and advocates of religious minorities acted to block overtly religious celebrations of Christmas from entering the public sphere.

Instead of acknowledging the long secular history of the holiday season, conservatives have invented a history which paints Christians as a group under attack by a newly powerful liberal movement to secularize society. In addition to a creative interpretation of world and American history, the rage generated by conservatives at the thought of Christianity rejected from the public sphere requires that America's founding principles be stood on their heads. The first European Americans emigrated to free themselves of the yoke of state-sponsored religion and the tyranny of the majority. The Constitutional framers recognized that minorities were vulnerable in democracy, and they constructed institutional safeguards in response. Now, though, cultural conservatives insist that the right of the majority to have its views sanctioned by the government trumps the principles of official religious neutrality and minority protection.

Though the war in defense of Christmas is a completely delusional campaign in defense of nonexistent traditions, it should not be surprising that it has arisen within the contemporary political and cultural climate. Republicans have spent the past 15 years fulfilling Barry Goldwater's dream of politics as culture war. They were monumentally successful in the 1994 congressional elections because they presented themselves as a rebellious minority reigning in a majority run roughshod over traditional America. Conservatives have worn the mantle of persecuted minority ever since, even though they now control not only corporate America but every branch of government and much of the media. Screaming that Christmas is under attack is simply a continuation of this charade.

ALEX SHERMAN



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Drug-related crime vs. prohibition-related crime

Dear Editor:
Brian Yun ("Cocaine abuse needs to end"; Viewpoints, Dec. 5) makes the common mistake of confusing drug-related crime with prohibition-related crime. Attempts to limit the supply of illegal drugs while demand remains constant only increases the profitability of drug trafficking. For addictive drugs like cocaine, a spike in street prices leads desperate addicts to increase criminal activity to feed desperate habits. The drug war doesn't fight crime, it fuels crime.

With alcohol prohibition repealed, liquor bootleggers no longer gun each other down in drive-by shootings, nor do consumers go blind while drinking unregulated bathtub gin. While U.S. politicians ignore the drug war's historical precedent, European countries are embracing harm reduction, a public health alternative based on the principle that both drug abuse and prohibition have

the potential to cause harm.

Examples of harm reduction include needle exchange programs to stop the spread of HIV, marijuana regulation aimed at separating the hard and soft drug markets, and treatment alternatives that do not require incarceration as a prerequisite. Unfortunately, fear of appearing "soft on crime" compels politicians to support a failed drug war that ultimately subsidizes organized crime.

Robert Sharpe, MPA
Policy Analyst
Common Sense for Drug Policy
Washington, D.C.

Real fur should no longer be an option

Dear Editor:
Thank you for running Sydney Summer's opinion piece on fur ("How to... keep fashionably warm and stay animal-friendly"; Features, Dec. 5). The U.S. fur industry is completely self-regulated and there are no

laws that govern the humane care or slaughter of animals killed for their fur. Therefore, animals are often killed using the most horrific methods in order to preserve the pelt. A recent investigation on a fur farm in Midland, Mich. revealed chinchillas who were either electrocuted, causing painful seizures to the animals' hearts, or having their necks snapped while fully conscious.

An investigation released last year of fur farms in China — where 80 percent of the world's fur comes from — showed workers attempting to stun animals by repeatedly slamming them against the ground or bashing their heads with clubs, leaving many fully conscious, after the fur was ripped from their bodies. Fur from China ends up in stores all across America.

With so many warm synthetics available, there simply is no reason to wear real fur.

Kristie Phelps
Program Coordinator
In Defense of Animals
Mill Valley, Calif.

Finding beauty in the eye of the storm

BY TAMBRA STEVENSON

In the words of Sir Winston Churchill, "We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give."

As a Tufts Med alumnus from the Masters in Health Communication program, I am very appreciative to be volunteering in the upcoming January trip to Mississippi, which affords me the opportunity to give of myself, like so many others have and will, who are devoted to improving the health and environment of people. It is a perfect chance to be socially responsible, help our fellow mankind, and be humble as we make a difference in the world. As a fourth-generation Oklahoman native with family in Texas, Mississippi and Louisiana, I am cognizant of the economic, environmental and health disparities between the North and South. Massachusetts ranks No. 5 as the healthiest state — which does not compare favorably to my state of Oklahoma (No. 45), Louisiana (No. 49) and Mississippi (No. 50) as reported by the United Health Foundation, a nonprofit, private

Tambra Stevenson is a 2004 graduate of the Tufts School of Medicine-Emerson College Joint Program in health communication.

foundation.

Massachusetts has the best record for fatal car accidents; Louisiana has the worst. North Dakota has the least amount of violent crime; Florida the most. Smoking is most prevalent in Oklahoma and Kentucky. Mississippi has the highest risk for heart disease.

For many from the North and abroad, this valuable opportunity will be a first to see the pervasive deplorable conditions facing many low-income Americans and possibly shape future career interests for some students. Certain parts of the South, including the Mississippi Delta, are akin to developing nations. Coming to the Northeast was analogous to visiting another country with a different culture, value and beliefs system in viewing the world. Connecting the two worlds, I pursued my graduate education on the East Coast at Tufts after attending Oklahoma State University. Both were very unique and invaluable experiences.

My own hometown of Oklahoma City ranks as one of the top five unhealthiest cities in the United States (Tulsa, Okla. is on the list as well) by SELF Magazine. With Louisiana ranking No. 4 and Mississippi No. 5 as the most uneducated states, attracting

see RELIEF, page 10

KEITH BARRY | BLIGHT ON THE HILL



Sutter Home for the holidays

My favorite description of Boston in the winter comes from a John Updike short story in which one of the characters, upon his return from work to his Beacon Hill home, is described as "bringing the cold in on his coat." When I was little and my parents were coming home from a Christmas party, it was that same cold that I felt as soon as I hugged them when they entered the house. It reminded me that I was inside and warm, protected from all the harsh elements outside.

In fact, entering my 21st Boston winter, I have no desire to ever leave here. Sure, it's cold, but not Margaret Thatcher's-bed cold. Before the sand trucks are out, it's also quite beautiful. Just look at Childe Hassam's painting of Boston Common in the winter if you ever need a pick-me-up sometime around February.

Winter at Tufts means footsteps crunching on frosty ground, bundling up inside inadequately heated off-campus houses, amazingly bright decorations in every neighborhood, lousy snow removal on the

see BARRY, page 10

Keith Barry is a senior majoring in community health and psychology. He can be reached via e-mail at keith.barry@tufts.edu.

OFF THE HILL VIEWPOINT | UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA

Checkpoints further separate Israelis and Palestinians

BY JOY ARBOR
Daily Nebraskan

The 15 of us in the bus were tense, hungry and irritable the evening of Nov. 14 as we sat in bumper-to-bumper traffic. It reminded me of the Los Angeles traffic of my youth.

We sat there, the bus edging forward a couple yards every few minutes, for 45 minutes. As any "Angeleno" can tell you, this is the stuff of road rage. But for the 15 of us who had come to Israel/Palestine to talk with people on all sides of the conflict, waiting for 45 minutes at the Kalandia military checkpoint on our way back to Jerusalem from Ramallah was just another new experience.

Waiting in long checkpoint lines, Israel Defense Force soldiers checking identification is life as usual for Palestinians. Mustafa Ayoub, a social worker in Hebron who lives in Al-Arroub refugee camp, told me checkpoints make his 15 minute commute last two hours.

Journalist and editor Hisham Sharabati said it used to be worse. In the first two years of the Second Intifada, it took three hours to get from Bethlehem to Hebron, a distance of 18 miles.

Because West Bank-registered vehicles are usually not allowed to leave Palestinian areas, many Palestinians take a taxi to the checkpoints, walk through, and then pick up another taxi on the other side.

That evening, before Kalandia checkpoint, we tried another route, but that checkpoint was closed. We had to turn around. Palestinians said checkpoints often close without warning.

Despite the daily aggravation of the restriction of movement and the humiliation of being suspected as a terrorist or sui-

cide bomber because of one's nationality, many Palestinians are trying to break the cycle of violence.

"Even a donkey would learn" in prison that violence is not the answer, said Jamil Roshdy, a Palestinian fighter who spent nine years in prison. Roshdy claimed a friendship that developed with an Israeli jailer made him realize "they are people, and we are people." Now he is a nonviolent leader of the Popular Campaign for Peace and Democracy, a grassroots movement supporting coexistence.

As we all know, most media sources specialize in reporting bad news. So virtually all Israelis know about bombed buses and cafes, but few of them know about the many Palestinian peace efforts.

Another former Israeli prisoner, Souliman al-Khatib, is now the secretary of the Abu Assukar Center for Peace and Dialogue. Unlike other groups, which facilitate encounters between Israeli and Palestinian civilians, al-Khatib organizes a dialogue group of Israeli and Palestinian ex-fighters.

When Palestinian peace activist Mohammed Khatib of Bil'in was asked about the violence advocated by extremist groups including Hamas, he responded that he wanted to convince Hamas to

engage in nonviolent demonstrations and appeals to the Israeli government. But in order to convince Hamas and extremist groups calling for a jihad against Israel, Palestinian peace activists have to be able to show Hamas that nonviolence can create change.

Ordinary Israelis rarely encounter Palestinians. According to BBC News Online, Israeli civilians are banned from going to Palestinian-controlled areas. Because most Israelis live in Israel proper and not West Bank settlements, many Israelis have never seen a checkpoint.

As we all know, most media sources specialize in reporting bad news. So virtually all Israelis know about bombed buses and cafes, but few of them know about the many Palestinian peace efforts. So when Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad claims that Israel should be "wiped off the face of the earth" as he did on Oct. 26, it's no wonder Israelis live in fear.

Israelis and Palestinians have more in common than one would think. Roshdy says he never sleeps more than four hours a night and gets out of bed whenever he hears tanks because he's afraid he'll be taken; he also recognizes that the Israeli media suggests to Israelis that Palestinians will kill them if they go to the West Bank.

A dear friend of mine who recently immigrated to Israel thinks I'm brave for walking around the Muslim Quarter of the Old City of Jerusalem, where I feel safe if annoyed by all the other tourists. Other Israeli friends tell me they're afraid they'll be shot on the street if they go to the bustling city of Ramallah.

Both Israelis and Palestinians live in fear of the unseen other. It's easy to demonize what you don't know.

VIEWPOINTS POLICY The Viewpoints section of *The Tufts Daily*, an open forum for campus editorial commentary, is printed Monday through Thursday. Viewpoints welcomes submissions from all members of the Tufts community. Opinion articles on campus, national, and international issues can be roughly 700 to 1000 words in length. Editorial cartoons are also welcome. All material is subject to editorial discretion, and is not guaranteed to appear in *The Tufts Daily*. All material should be submitted by no later than 1 p.m. on the day prior to the desired day of publication. Material may be submitted via e-mail (viewpoints@tuftsdaily.com) or in hard-copy form at *The Tufts Daily* in the basement of Curtis Hall. Questions and concerns should be directed to the Viewpoints editor.

CORBIS

'Happy holy-days' is too secular a greeting for many Christian conservatives

BARRY

continued from page 9

Memorial Steps, sledding down the President's Lawn, bell-ringers in Davis Square, and enough ice on the Tisch patio for Paul Wylie to complete a full triple axel. Something about the expectations for winter rituals always seems enjoyable to me, regardless of how cold it gets. All except for one ritual, which I hope I never see again.

It seems that every December, every conservative columnist and commentator in the country has to blather on about how Christmas has become commercialized, how the "true message" has been lost, or — and this is my favorite — how a secular "Happy Holiday" has replaced "Merry Christmas." Recently, a number of conservative Christian groups called for a boycott of Target stores because they claim Target does not wish customers a "Merry Christmas" and relies on what the Christian groups consider to be a secular greeting, "Happy Holidays."

Their excuse? America is a predominantly Christian nation. Going by the ridiculous "predominance" test would mean that employees of stores in predominantly Hispanic locales should only speak Spanish,

and "predominantly vegetarian" parts of Cambridge should not allow meat sales. Even more ridiculous is when Christian conservatives try to appear ecumenical and say that America has been founded on "Judeo-Christian values." Apparently, there were some Greenbergs and Rothsteins sitting next to the Websters and Smiths on the Mayflower, and it's therefore OK to offend Muslims, Buddhists and atheists as long as there's a shiny menorah decoration in the window.

Perhaps most ridiculous is that Christian conservatives fail to realize that the greeting, "Happy Holidays" comes from "Happy Holy-days," which is possibly the most inherently religious greeting you can get aside from, "Repent, O Sinner! The Return of the Son of Man is Near!"

Simple manners have taught me not to assume anything about a person, especially when they are a stranger and you are trying to make them feel welcome. I've never taken a marketing class, but I also imagine that retailers would rather make all customers feel welcome with a generic greeting rather than give a religious declaration that may potentially offend a few people who were willing to shell out a couple of bucks for a

new HDTV.

I've never taken a marketing class, but I also imagine that retailers would rather make all customers feel welcome with a generic greeting rather than give a religious declaration that may potentially offend a few people who were willing to shell out a couple of bucks for a new HDTV.

There are many December holidays. I imagine most of them were invented by northern Europeans who would have killed themselves had they had to survive an entire winter without one day on which they could

celebrate, take a break from pillaging, and get drunk. In America, the holiday which predominated for many years was Christmas. Most Americans today, including my family, celebrate Christmas. This doesn't mean that I want everyone else to celebrate Christmas. I truly do want everyone to have a happy holiday, which for some may be religious and for others may be just a much needed rest and time with family. Drawing on the Christian tradition of peace at Christmas, I think it would be smart for Christian conservatives to put their prejudices and over the top evangelism aside, and be content that at this time of year all people of different faiths and traditions come together to celebrate, join with family and friends, have a little too much Sutter Home white zinfandel at office parties, and be at peace for at least a little while. That's not just a religious goal — that's a basic human desire. Especially the Sutter Home.

Happy Holidays, everyone. We can leave the cold outside, take off our coats, and come together in a holiday spirit of warmth. And can Facilities please spread some icemelt on the Tisch patio? The last thing I want at this time of year is to worry about attracting Paul Wylie to campus.

An alum's praise for Tufts' efforts to improve living conditions in the South

RELIEF EFFORTS

continued from page 9

employers with strong wages come by harder than average. Consequently, service industry jobs and the few and last U.S.-based manufacturing plants are attracted to these locations where they can provide low wages and benefits. (But the General Motors Oklahoma City plant is slated to close by early 2006.) Though life maybe good for some in the South, for many Americans with low incomes, there is a strong connection linking poor, uneducated, unhealthy (including disability) and minorities with environmental injustice in some situations (e.g. with 53 percent of African Americans living in the South).

Tufts' planning efforts has put forward in the wake of Hurricane Katrina only reinforces my belief that Tufts was a valuable choice for me.

What does this mean for Americans who are low-income and/or a minority in the South in particular? Many challenges lie ahead. This cries for the need to have informed, active citizens and responsive, accountable public officials

and social responsible businesses and non-profits providing improved, forward-thinking policies for health, wealth, social, and education equity. With the current employer-based health care system, many employers find places including the South difficult to consider building businesses in because of high health care premiums affecting their bottom line.

The University's planning efforts put forward in the wake of Hurricane Katrina only reinforce, my belief that Tufts was a valuable choice for me. I am gratified to know that Tufts has taken initiative in creating opportunities for students and alumni to join together in rebuilding homes and building futures

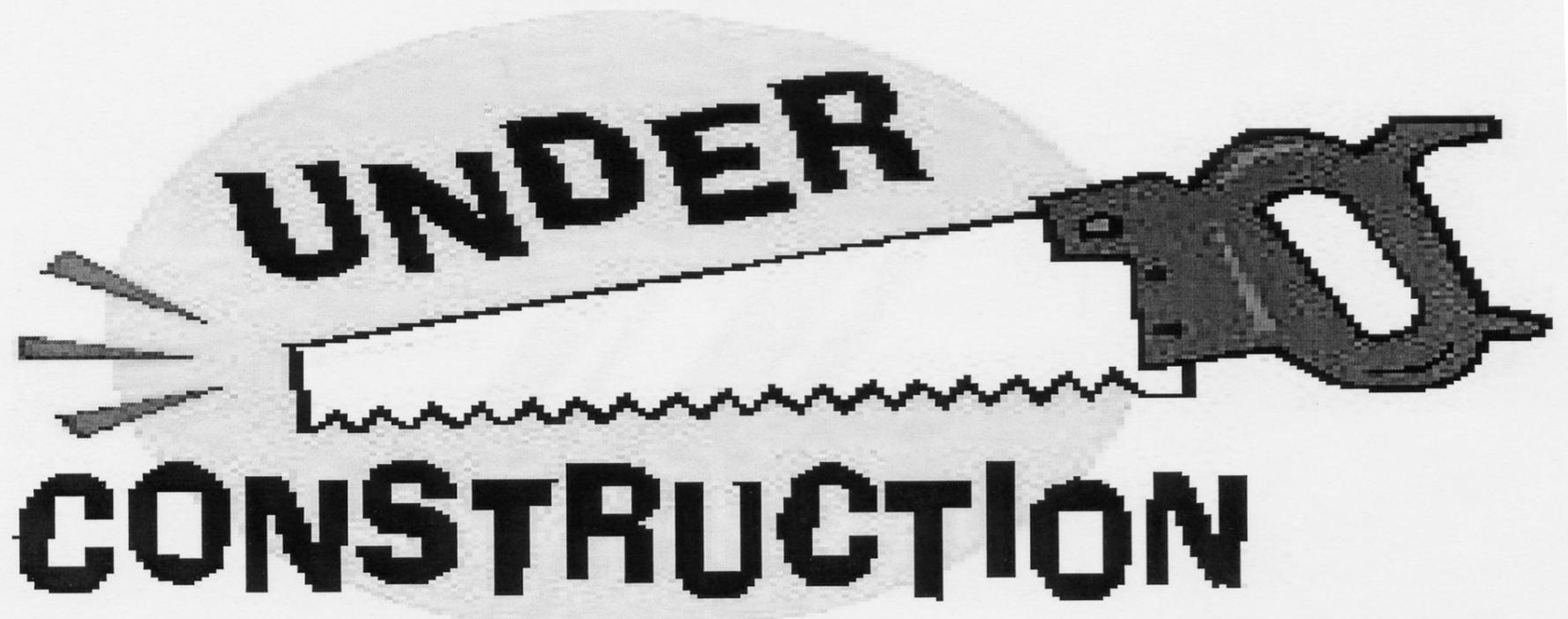
for many Americans in the South. With so much attention in the early phase of the hurricane aftermath, it is imperative that cyclical work prevails in a multi-phase approach to ensure consistent and committed efforts in aiding Americans.

Though I have painted a bleak future for the South and other parts of America, challenges bring opportunities, and the beauty of human spirit still finds happiness and gratitude in the eye of the storm. Case in point, the Tufts Katrina program is a shining example of the golden rule: "Do unto others as you wish they do unto you."

And I am proud to share in the experience.

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Scientist creates system to solve serial crimes

BY PATRICE M. JONES
Knight Ridder Tribune

Tom Muscarello has the gravelly voice and dry wit that conjures up an image of a hardened police detective.

And he certainly seems to spend a great deal of his time contemplating the morbid intricacies of the criminal mind.

"Most criminals are creatures of habit," Muscarello said recently, shuffling through data by light of his computer screen. "Typically, a thief does not just rob once. He will rob a different person every week of the year without fail. He will hit old ladies every Social Security day. It is his job; his occupation."

Muscarello, the man who can reel off a criminal profile like a pro, himself has an unusual occupation: He is, in fact, a cyber sleuth.

A veteran DePaul University computer scientist, Muscarello has been working since the mid-1990s on perfecting an artificial intelligence system that is aimed at helping the Chicago Police Department blaze a bold new trail in the way they crack it solves serial robberies, rapes and other violent crimes.

And he just might have hit pay dirt.

The computer system, called the Classification System for Serial Criminal Patterns (CSSCP), is expected to begin live trials at the

Chicago Police Department as soon as early next year.

Developed by Muscarello with DePaul researcher Kamal Dahbur, CSSCP uses pattern-recognition software that acts like a super human superhuman brain.

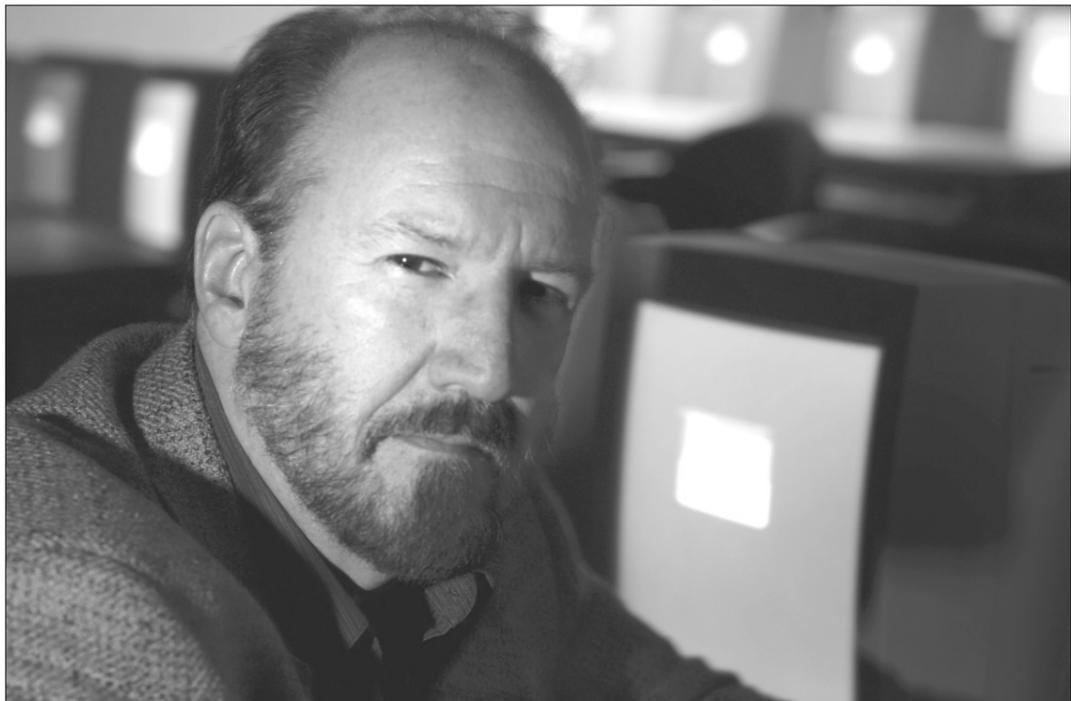
The computer system will be able to cull massive amounts of data, pulling out details of individual crimes, such as the assailant's age, sex, height, location of the crime, weapons and vehicle used, to create a criminal profile that can be compared with others to link several crimes together.

The goal is to help overcome a thorny problem in police work — the fact that detectives can have difficulty linking serial cases.

The system also will have the potential to search through words or phrases in police reports, such as a criminal who wears "green military fatigues" or one who says "give it up" every time he robs a bank.

It can work 24 hours a day without human intervention, sorting through thousands of criminal records per second, revealing patterns in seemingly unrelated crimes that a mere mortal could miss.

"It could revolutionize the way [the Chicago Police Department] does police work," said Charles Padgurskis, former director of information systems for the Chicago police, who has worked with Muscarello since the research project was launched a decade



TOM VAN DYKE/KRT

Dr. Tom Muscarello has come up with a computer artificial intelligence system that can help crack serial rapes, robberies and other violent crimes for the Chicago Police Department.

ago. Padgurskis retired from the Chicago Police Department last May.

"[The system can tell us], for example, these six cases have the same characteristics so that we can attribute them to one offender," added Steve Maris, the Chicago police's current representative for the project and the acting assistant director for information services.

Cracking serial crimes has long been especially tough for law enforcement since the crimes can occur over a long stretch of time, a

widely dispersed area (involving different police districts within a city or separate police departments) and may even have differing criminal patterns in each incident.

In a recent study using three years of Chicago police robbery data (not active cases), the CSSCP system — which uses a computer network particularly suited for this type of inquiry called a Kohonen neural network — detected at least ten times as many related crimes as a team of detectives with access to the same data.

Muscarello, who started his career as a federal investigator of Medicare fraud, has garnered national attention from law enforcement since the research project was published last year. He said he has gotten calls from law-enforcement representatives across the globe, even from as far away as Australia — all from officials searching for security solutions.

Still Muscarello cautions that the new system could enhance, not replace, solid criminal investigations.



BONNIE TRAFELET/KRT

"Keo," a 47-year-old male chimpanzee, waits for a treat, after touching a computer screen while researchers study its cognitive abilities at the Lincoln Park Zoo in Chicago, Ill.

Impatient chimp bananas over zoo PC

BY WILLIAM MULLEN
Knight Ridder Tribune

Keo, a 47-year-old male chimpanzee at Chicago's Lincoln Park Zoo, paced the floor of his non-public living quarters one recent afternoon, clearly annoyed with his keepers.

In his rolling gait, he would stride up to a glass wall, stop and glare at the humans on the other side. He was supposed to have been at work on his computer at 1:30 p.m., but now it was 1:40 p.m. and the door to a small adjoining room with the computer was locked so that he couldn't enter.

Behind the glass, Steve Ross, the zoo's supervisor of behavioral and cognitive research, was a little annoyed too. He was waiting for two visitors, 15 minutes late, who were coming to see how he has been training Keo and other apes this year to use a touch-screen computer in order to measure their cognitive abilities.

The work Ross and his colleagues are doing is part of a movement in American zoos to hire their own scientists and allow

others to use zoo animals for sophisticated studies that used to be done almost exclusively in university settings.

Among the experiments being conducted at Lincoln Park is long-term research on using computers to "talk to the animals." The idea is to get the apes to learn to use computer programs to communicate preferences on food, activity and living space. More broadly, Ross said, the work should add to the scientific literature on how and to what extent apes are able to think and perceive the world.

Keo's annoyance at being delayed suggests he is keenly aware of time, even though he can't read a clock, said Ross. He and other apes judge the time of day with uncanny accuracy and are able to anticipate their scheduled activities, such as feeding and training sessions.

"Keo seems to gauge the time of day starting from the time keepers arrive in every morning," said Ross.

That kind of obvious intelligence is driving zoos to develop projects like the computer study.

Blog postings result in student's suspension and the loss of credits

BY MEGAN TWOHEY
Knight Ridder Tribune

A dental student at Marquette University has been suspended for the rest of the academic year and ordered to repeat a semester after a committee of professors, administrators and students determined that he violated professional conduct codes when he posted negative comments about unnamed students and professors on a blog.

Scott Taylor, the student's attorney, said his client, a 22-year-old in Marquette's School of Dentistry, was brought before the committee for a conduct hearing last week after a classmate complained about his blog, a Web site that contained musings about topics ranging from his education to videogames and drinking.

The focus of the hearing, Taylor said, were half a dozen postings including one describing a professor as "a (expletive) of a teacher" and another that described 20 classmates as having the "intellectual/maturity of a three-year-old."

Taylor released what he said was a complete transcript of the blog, which is no longer available online. Taylor said the student did not want to be identified, and his name could not be confirmed.

In a letter to the student dated Dec. 2, Denis Lynch, the dental school's associate dean for academic affairs, said the committee had found the student "guilty of professional misconduct in violation of the dental school's Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct."

The student also violated a university-wide code that subjects students to disciplinary action if they participate in "stalking, hazing or harassments," the letter stated.

In addition to informing the student of his suspension and his need to repeat his fall semester, which costs \$14,000 in tuition, Lynch threatened the student with expulsion if he continued to post material

on "any blog sites that contain crude, demeaning and unprofessional remarks."

Marquette spokeswoman Brigid O'Brien Miller said the decision, which is being appealed, is the second time the private university has taken action against a student for statements made on a blog, a form of online communication that is becoming increasingly popular among students and professors across the country.

The decision drew sharp criticism on Monday both on and off campus.

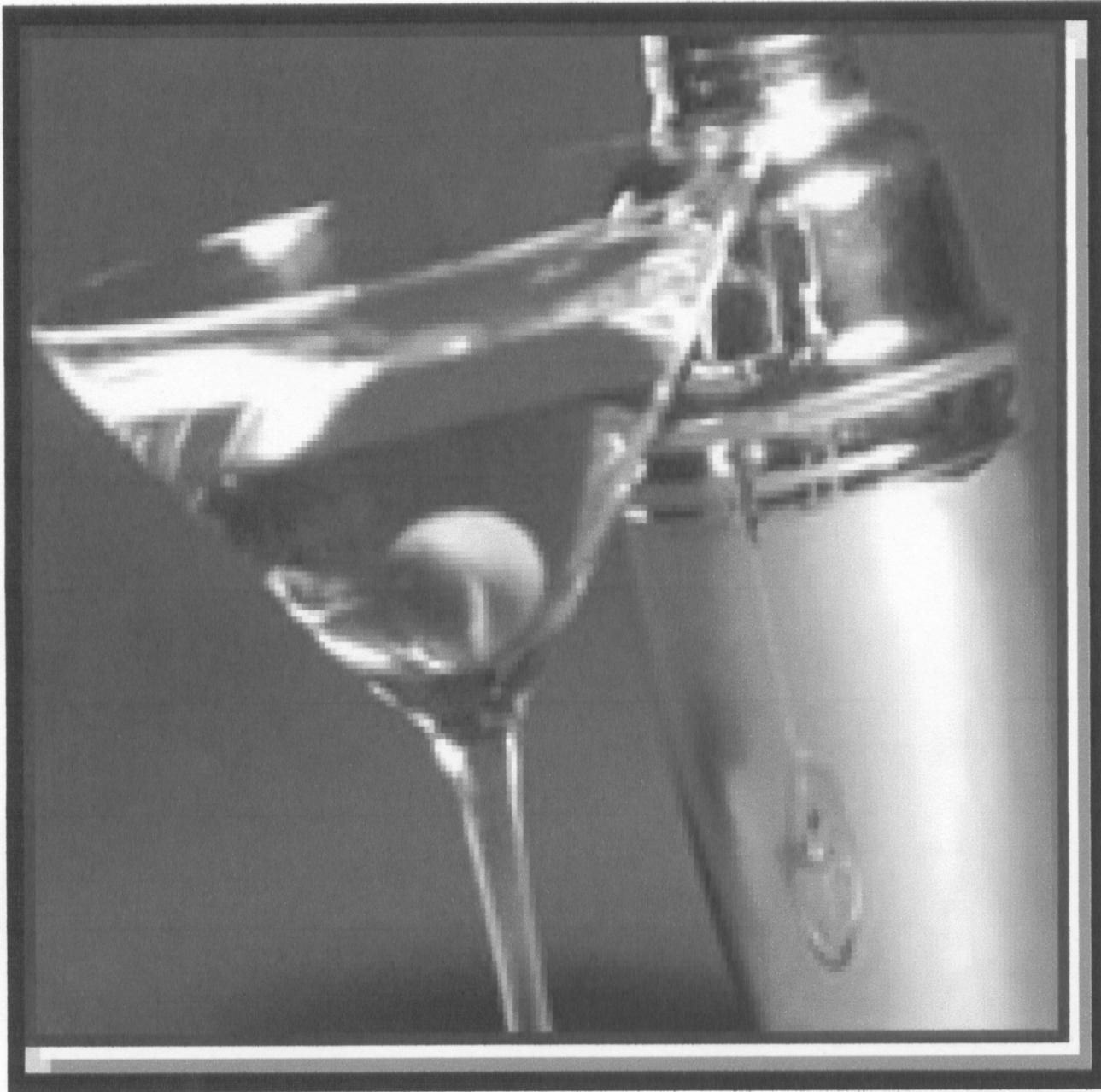
"Dear Marquette Administrators," read the opening entry Monday on GOP3.com, a blog maintained by several Marquette students who have never faced disciplinary action for postings that criticize the administration. "You decided to screw up again. ... I am eager to learn the student's name; He has just made many new friends at Marquette University."

Mark Goodman, executive director of the Student Press Law Center, in Arlington, Va., said "the decision raises serious questions about the school's commitment to free expression. If the university has the ability to punish students for expression that occurs outside of class and school-sponsored events, they are really controlling students' lives."

The critics, including the student's attorney, recognize that private universities have a greater ability to limit student speech than their public counterparts, Taylor said. When students enroll in a private university, they agree to follow restrictions imposed by the administration.

What bothers Taylor and other critics is what they view as the vagueness of Marquette's codes of conduct, and the decision to apply them in this case. The dental school's code requires students "to conduct interactions with each other, with patients and with others in a manner that promotes understanding and trust" and condemns "actions, which in any way discriminate against or favor any group or are harassing in nature."

WHAT'S IN YOUR MIX?



The Tufts “blackout”: any combination of alcohol, marijuana, and cocaine. Acting like a “date rape drug”, it may cause you to lose time and consciousness.

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SADDAM TRIAL UPDATE

Two witnesses tell of Baathist horror in Saddam Hussein trial

Tale of human meat grinder horrify court

BY AAMER MADHANI
Knight Ridder Tribune

The first witness to appear in court Monday for Saddam Hussein's trial was able to keep his composure as he recounted the 1982 massacre of Dujail in a vivid, albeit rambling, monologue.

He spoke of an intelligence service building where he and his family were imprisoned that was so crowded there wasn't enough room for everyone to lie down to sleep. He calmly described seeing bits of hair and blood under something he described as a human meat grinder.

But when Ahmed Hassan Mohammed, 38, began telling the court that his teenage brother was savagely beaten and tortured with electric shock by Hussein's henchmen, he broke down.

"They beat him in front of my father," said Mohammed, tears streaming down his cheeks. "He was bleeding. ... He was bleeding from his back."

Chilling and detailed, Mohammed's testimony marked a haunting moment in Iraqi history as he accused Hussein, who sat just a few feet away, and his cronies in a court of law of gruesome atrocities.

But the moment was largely overshadowed by the deposed president's hot-tempered defiance and repeated outbursts. Hussein boasted that he doesn't fear execution and boldly threatened the judge during Monday's court session.

"When the revolution of the heroic Iraq arrives, you will be held accountable," Hussein said. Wearing the same pinstriped suit he has donned for court sessions since his first appearance in July

2004, Hussein ambled into the courtroom holding a Quran. The defense attorneys and his fellow defendants rose to their feet to show respect to Hussein, and the ousted leader smiled broadly through much of the session.

Despite Judge Rizgar Mohammed Amin's frequent admonishments, Hussein and his co-defendant and former intelligence chief, Barzan Ibrahim, quickly turned the proceedings into an unruly spectacle with their interjections and rants.

Hussein seemed unmoved by Mohammed's testimony. When he was given the opportunity to question the witness, Hussein instead lashed out about the legitimacy of the court and suggested that Mohammed be given a psychological evaluation.

"I am not afraid of execution. I realize there is pressure on you and I regret that I have to confront one of my sons," Hussein said to Mohammed. "But I'm not doing it for myself. I'm doing it for Iraq. I'm not defending myself. But I am defending you."

When Amin told him to only address the witness with questions about his testimony, Hussein barked back that he had served Iraq for more than 30 years and had the right to speak his mind.

Ibrahim, who is Hussein's half-brother, was perhaps even more petulant. He called Mohammed a liar, and at one point during the session screamed that someone was making threatening gestures in the gallery. He stood up and spit toward the gallery and shouted an insult.

Hussein, Ibrahim and six others are on trial for the executions of more than 140 Shiite men in the village of Dujail. They were



KRT
Former Iraqi president Saddam Hussein attends his trial in Baghdad, Iraq. The trial of Saddam Hussein and seven others on charges of crimes against humanity resumed in a Baghdad courtroom.

rounded up and killed after a failed assassination attempt on Hussein. If convicted, Hussein and the others could be sentenced to death.

In his account, Mohammed told the court about the random arrests and torture that he and hundreds of others in his village

faced after the failed assassination attempt. He said he was only 15 when he was arrested and that he spent four years imprisoned without seeing a judge.

He recalled that early in his

see SADDAM, page 15

Woman makes claims of widespread torture

BY NANCY A. YOUSSEF
Knight Ridder Tribune

In a proceeding that's been punctuated by antics and outbursts, the first witness Tuesday during Saddam Hussein's trial did something that even the judge has been unable to do: She silenced the defendants.

The woman, who was identified only as Witness A, gave her testimony in a box covered by a beige curtain, her face visible only to the judge and the prosecution. Her voice was digitally altered to protect her identity.

As she spoke, the courtroom sat silent and listened to her describe being tortured at the hands of the former regime.

It was the fourth day of the trial, but it was the first session that drew attention largely to the prosecution's case rather than the defense's noisy efforts to stall the proceedings. In all, five witnesses testified.

Although the witnesses told compelling stories and blamed Saddam for their suffering, none presented evidence directly linking the former dictator to the killings of nearly 150 people in the city of Dujail, as he's charged with in this case.

By the end of the nine-hour session, Saddam was threatening not to show up for Wednesday's hearing, complaining that he hadn't been allowed to change his clothes and underwear in three days.

When the judge refused to delay the trial, Saddam called the court "unjust" and snapped at the judge: "Go to hell!"

In Basra, threats stalk elections

BY PAUL SALOPEK
Knight Ridder Tribune

Halal Naim al-Musawi wanted to be absolutely clear: The reports of Iranian infiltration in this strategic Iraqi city were exaggerated.

"Americans are obsessed with the secret hand of Iran," said al-Musawi, a leader of the Master of the Martyrs, one of the murky Shiite militias that have virtually free rein in Basra.

"Where is the proof?" he declared. "Show me one Iranian agent in Basra. Identify this man to me on the street. We will beat him. Iraqis tolerate no interference from outsiders of any kind."

Trouble is, al-Musawi's own faction has been linked by Iraqi military sources to Iran's intelligence service. And outside his high-walled compound, the streets of Basra look suspiciously like those just across the Shatt al Arab waterway in the fundamentalist theocracy of Iran. Basra, once a liberal metropolis that welcomed coalition forces in 2003, has become an austere and perilous place.

Every woman in sight wears a hijab, or Muslim head scarf. Liquor stores and even music shops have been firebombed by Shiite militants for being "un-Islamic." And the campaign posters of secular Iraqi politicians are systematically spray-painted black. Plastered over them are two telling portraits: pudgy-cheeked Muqtada al-Sadr, an increasingly powerful Shiite cleric who has opposed the U.S. occupation and is ardently being wooed by Tehran, and the bushy-browed visage of

the late Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, patriarch of Iran's Islamist revolution.

More than two years after the fall of Saddam Hussein and less than two weeks before millions of Iraqis go to the polls to elect their first permanent democratic government, the shadow of Iranian influence appears to be lengthening over parts of Iraq, particularly in the nation's Shiite-dominated south.

While the U.S. military and the American public have concentrated on the Sunni-led insurgency in the central part of the country, supposedly more peaceful southern cities such as Basra have fallen under the sway of equally brutal Shiite militias. Many of them, Western and Iraqi security analysts say, are on the payroll of Tehran.

Iran's clout in Basra received widespread attention in August, when U.S. journalist Steven Vincent was kidnapped and assassinated here, apparently in retaliation for exposing the infiltration of Iraqi police forces by Iranian-backed militias such as Thar Allah and the Badr Organization.

A recent visit to the dusty city of 2 million, a vital Iraqi oil port, revealed that little has changed.

Frightened political moderates, both Sunni and Shiite, said they were threatened with death for participating in the upcoming elections — not by Sunni extremists, but by pro-Iranian Shiite gunmen. The warnings came in the form of bullets sealed inside envelopes.

Silencer-equipped pistols intended for political assassinations were reportedly



KUNI TAKAHASHI/KRT
Local men walk past defaced electoral posters of former Iraqi prime minister Ayad Allawi in downtown Basra, Iraq on Nov. 27. A strong Iranian influence has been observed in Basra.

trickling across the Iranian border and into the hands of local religious militants, intelligence sources in Basra said. And according to members of Iraq's beleaguered secular parties, some Iranian-backed militias are said to be undergoing sniper training in the city's desert out-

skirts for the same purpose.

The Iranian government, which openly supports the ruling coalition of Iraqi Prime Minister Ibrahim al-Jaafari, a fellow Shiite, adamantly denies such allegations.

Witness in Saddam case tells of a human meat grinder

SADDAM
continued from page 13

confinement Hussein and Barzan visited the prison. Mohammed said that Hussein asked him if he knew who he was. When Mohammed responded "Saddam," he said the former president smashed an ashtray against his head.

A second witness, Jawad Abdul-Aziz Jawad, testified that his 16-year-old brother was detained in the roundup and executed.

The two men's testimony, which came on the third day of proceedings since Oct. 18, marked the first substantive moment in the trial, which has moved at a glacial pace. U.S. officials said that 11 prosecution witnesses are expected to testify over the next few days before the court is adjourned again.

Early in Monday's session, it appeared the long wait for testimony would be extended when the defense attorneys, led by former U.S. Attorney General and Hussein team lawyer Ramsey Clark, walked out of the courtroom.

As the lawyers filed out, Hussein and Ibrahim shouted, "Long live Iraq! Long live the Arab nation! Long live democracy!"

The lawyers argued with the judge over motions they filed regarding the legitimacy of the court and providing better security for defense team. They contend that it doesn't make sense to move forward with a trial before ruling on whether the special tribunal is a legitimate court to try Hussein and the others.

Judge Amin, who initially insisted that the motions should be offered and answered in writing,

relented after the attorneys walked out. He allowed attorneys Najeeb al-Nuemi and Clark to address the court about their concerns.

Al-Nuemi argued that the court was illegitimate because it was formed under the Coalition Provisional Authority, the U.S. occupation power that governed the country after the fall of Hussein's regime until June 28, 2004.

Clark told the court that if security measures were not adequately improved for the defense lawyers that the judicial system could collapse. Two defense attorneys working for Hussein have been assassinated since the start of the trial in October.

Amin, the presiding judge, struggled to keep the defense and witnesses on the topic of the charges. At one point during Mohammed's testimony, the witness claimed that Barzan had killed a 14-year-old boy, a charge that led to vitriolic exchange between the two men.

"To hell," Ibrahim told Mohammed.

The witness replied, "You and your children go to hell."

At another point in the proceedings, Hussein and Ibrahim were ranting at the judge and the second witness, Jawad. Guards entered the cage where the defendants are seated and tried to calm them. Ibrahim smacked the hands of the guards with a notebook, and Hussein threw some papers he was holding.

Toward the end of Monday's court session, Hussein blurted out a statement that implied that the violence at Dujail was a necessary reaction.

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"Spreading Democracy to the East and the Euro-American Partnership"

Presented by third chair holder

Dimitris Keridis, J.D., MALD, Ph.D.

Thursday, December 8, 2005

6:00 p.m.

ASEAN Auditorium

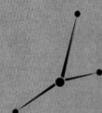
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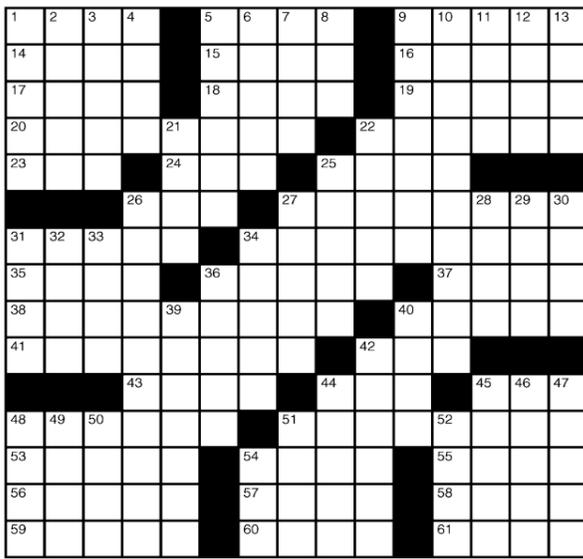
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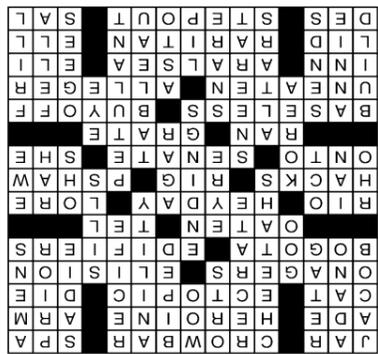
CROSSWORD

- ACROSS
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 5 Luge
 9 One more time
 14 Parcel of land
 15 Actress Turner
 16 Goody two-shoes
 17 Marketed
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 19 Noggins
 20 Bridge supports
 22 Birchbark boats
 23 Desire
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 26 Indistinct
 27 Woody
 31 City near Bremen
 34 Spy-in-the-sky
 35 "___ of Faith"
 36 Eye-dropped?
 37 Asian sea
 38 Feared tigers
 40 Odor
 41 Subs
 42 Guitarist Paul
 43 Flit
 44 Misfortune
 45 CAB successor
 48 Upper arm bulge
 51 One-for-one deal
 53 Arena
 54 "M*A*S*H" co-star Loretta
 55 Pluck
 56 Knight's weapon
 57 Core
 58 Fairy tale heavy
 59 Fed the kitty
 60 "The African Queen" scriptwriter
 61 Prognosticator
- DOWN
 1 Flavorful
 2 Get a goal
 3 Songwriter Harold
 4 Cincinnati pros
 5 Downhill ski race
 6 Grow dark
 7 "Hazzard"



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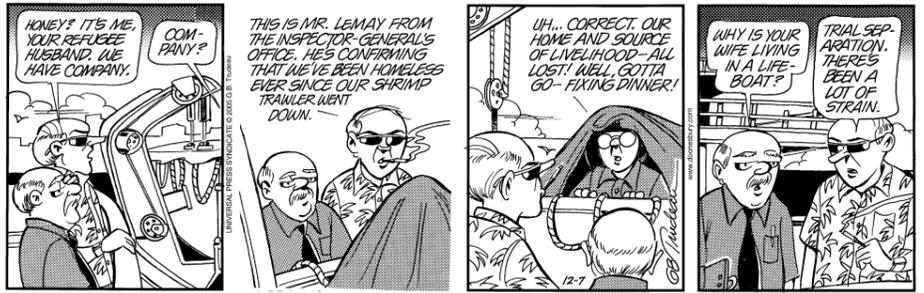
Solutions



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 8 Lake maker
 9 Garb
 10 Baseball feats
 11 Mobile starter
 12 ___ fixe
 13 Capone's nemesis
 21 Minnesota pro
 22 Hollowed, as apples
 25 Pigeon shelters
 26 Reliance
 27 Expos
 28 Trunk spare
 29 Etc.'s cousin
 30 Computer maker
 31 Shade trees
 32 Vegetarian taboo
 33 Comic Carvey
 34 Exhausted
 36 Mixes
 39 Altered to suit
 40 Plant ovule
 42 Abhor
 44 Communicate by letter
- 45 Blacksmith's shop
 46 Blazing
 47 Fairy tale ender
 48 Composer Bartok
 49 Terrible ruler?
 50 Canadian coin
 51 Young shoot
 52 Prima donnas' problems
 54 Masseuse's milieu

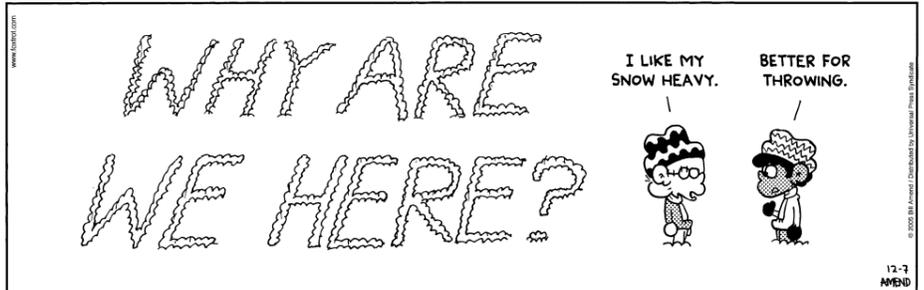
DOONESBURY

BY GARRY TRUDEAU



FOX TROT

BY BILL AMEND



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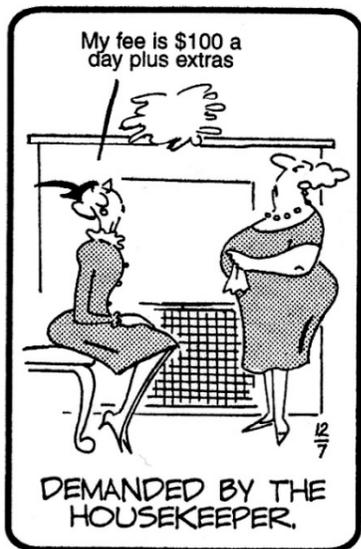


JUMBLE

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

EJYTT
 ZUFYZ
 DIRAHS
 YEMITS

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
 by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion



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

Answer here: A "O O O O O" (Answers tomorrow)
 Yesterday's Jumbles: VERVE PIVOT BELIEF JOSTLE
 Answer: What the hosts were stuck with when the party ended — "LEFTOVERS"

SUDOKU

Level: Moderate

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

12/7/05

Solution to Tuesday's puzzle

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

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk.

LATE NIGHT AT THE DAILY

"Everytime I'm feeling sad and blue, I will just look up and stroke."

— Dave Cavell

ATHLETE FEATURE

Evans, Gerry captain volleyball success

Seniors end careers with All-Conference selections as well as countless memories

BY NATE GRUBMAN
Daily Editorial Board

When seniors Courtney Evans and April Gerry walked on the volleyball court four years ago, they were freshmen joining a brand new head coach. When they walked off the court on Nov. 12 with their Tufts volleyball careers behind them, they did so as the captains of the winningest team in the program's history.

After entering the school as part of coach Cora Thompson's first recruiting class, Evans and Gerry finished their careers as All-NESCAC members on a team that finished 29-7 and made it to the NCAA Regional Final, uncharted territory for a Tufts volleyball team.

"I was just really proud to be a part of a program that has come so far in four years," Gerry said. "I was just proud to be involved in it and also to be a part of coach Thompson's first recruiting class. We came all the way though with her so I thought that was special."

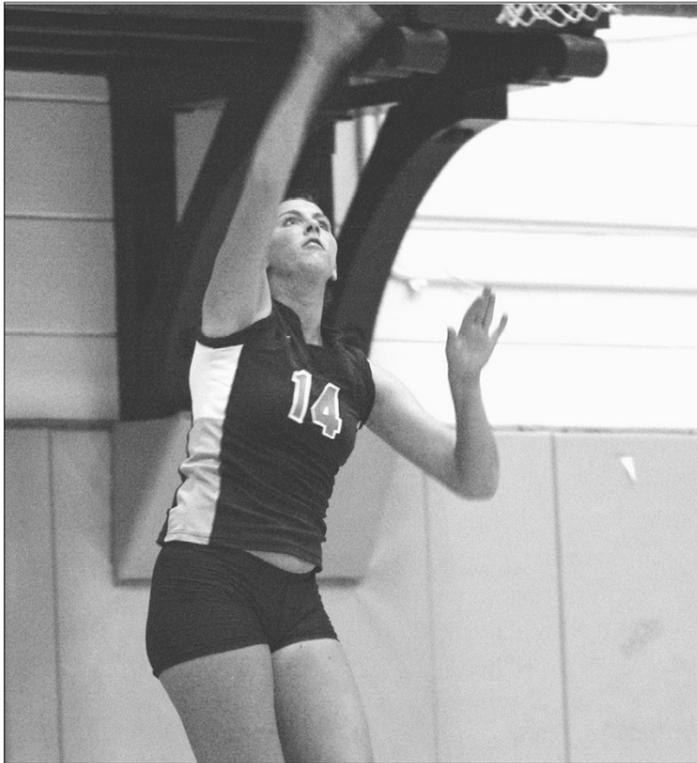
Evans and Gerry's ride ended at the hands of Colby after the Jumbos notched 57 wins the last two seasons.

"If you look at what this program has done in the past four years, it is a direct result of their passion and competitive spirit," Thompson said. "They have both been a huge part of creating something unique and special."

Evans and Gerry manned the middle for the Jumbos, leading the Tufts block. Evans finished second in the NESCAC with 1.12 blocks per game. Gerry contributed offensively with the eighth-best hitting percentage in the conference. Their performances caught the attention of the other league coaches as the two were named to the All-NESCAC Team.

"I was really, really surprised," Gerry said of her selection. "I definitely did not expect that at all. It was an honor that came from the success of our team. All

see VOLLEYBALL, page 18



Senior co-captains April Gerry and Courtney Evans were part of coach Cora Thompson's first recruiting class and helped collect 97 wins in four years.

MIKE CONROY/TUFTS DAILY

MEN'S SQUASH

National championships near as Jumbos gain steam

BY ANDREW SILVER
Daily Editorial Board

Already seven matches into its season, the men's squash team is heading into Winter Break with its eye on a top 16 ranking as February's national championship tournament, the CSA Team Championships, draws near.

At 5-2, Tufts sits ranked 17th nationally, with a berth in the top 16 earning it an entry into the second division at Nationals and the ability to improve upon its ranking heading into the offseason.

On Saturday, Tufts traveled to Hobart and grabbed back-to-back victories against the tri-meet host #23 Statesmen and fellow visitor Hamilton. The team opened the day with a 9-0 shutout of Hobart, with all but one Jumbo securing a victory in three straight games. The closest match came at the number five spot, as sophomore Nelson Schubart needed four games to get past Hobart's John Keating by a score of 8-10, 9-2, 9-1, 9-4.

The Jumbos ended the day with an 8-1 defeat of NESCAC rival No. 22 Hamilton. Senior co-captain Thomas Keidel needed five games to get past Hamilton's John Frazier in the sixth position (9-6, 9-1, 0-9, 5-9, 9-6), while at number eight freshman Chris Devereux was the only Jumbo to come up short, losing to Andrew Small 5-9, 9-4, 9-4, 9-6. In both of Saturday's contests, sophomore Jake Gross led the way for Tufts at the top spot, picking up straight-game wins and improving his season record to 4-2.

Keidel was proud of the way his team handled traveling to New York to play two local teams.

"We drove seven hours each way," the senior co-captain said. "Yet we showed that we were the fresher and fitter team, physically and mentally."

The team's biggest test of the season came a week ago, as it squared off against No. 8 Dartmouth at Harvard. The team fought hard but lost 7-2, with senior Dan Karlin picking

up a Tufts win at number seven (4-9, 9-5, 9-3, 0-9, 10-9 over Dan Schneider) and Devereux defeating Ben Mandel in straight games in the eight spot, 9-2, 9-2, 9-4.

In the opening weekend of the season, heading into Thanksgiving Break, the team took part in the Boston Shootout, winning three of its four matches in a two-day span. The team's sole loss came at the hands of No. 14 Bowdoin, a crucial contest that could have vaulted the team into the top 16. Playing at 10 a.m. the morning after two matches might have proven to be the difference against a fresh Bowdoin team.

"Three of our players were literally only a point or two away from victory in their matches, which could have meant that we would have won 6-3," said senior co-captain Spencer Maxwell, who was among the three Tufts winners against Bowdoin (9-6, 5-9, 10-8, 2-9, 9-3 against Zach Linhard in the third spot). "But instead, luck was not on our side and we lost."

But the team closed out the weekend on a positive note with an 8-1 victory against conference foe Wesleyan. In its two opening matches on Friday, the Jumbos took on Middlebury and secured a 7-2 victory without Gross in the lineup and followed it with a 9-0 shutout of Northeastern.

The team plays its final match of December tonight, hosting Amherst at the nearby Belmont Hill School in Belmont. A win over the Lord Jeffs, currently ranked No. 11, could be just what Tufts needs to break into the second division for Nationals. The team will, however, have other chances to defeat top-ranked teams, as NESCAC battles with Colby, Bates, and Trinity in February will all have implications on the national rankings.

The team has its sights set on an early February showdown with the No. 16 Mules of Colby, a match Tufts is confident it can win.

see MEN'S SQUASH, page 19

WOMEN'S SQUASH

Tufts comes home empty-handed from Wesleyan Round Robin

BY THOMAS EAGER
Contributing Writer

After a tough 9-0 loss to Dartmouth Nov. 30, the Tufts women's squash team fell in two more consecutive matches Dec. 3 at the Wesleyan Round Robin Tournament.

In the first match, the 12th-ranked Saint Lawrence Saints soundly defeated the No. 16 Jumbos 9-0 before the team lost once more later in the round-robin to the No. 19 Stanford Cardinal, 8-1. The Jumbos' record now stands at 2-4 going into today's match against Amherst, which will be played at the Belmont Hill School at 6:30 p.m.

At the No. 1 slot, sophomore Rebecca Rice lost to Saint junior Katia Stipinovich 9-2, 9-5, 9-1, while No. 2 player and fresh-

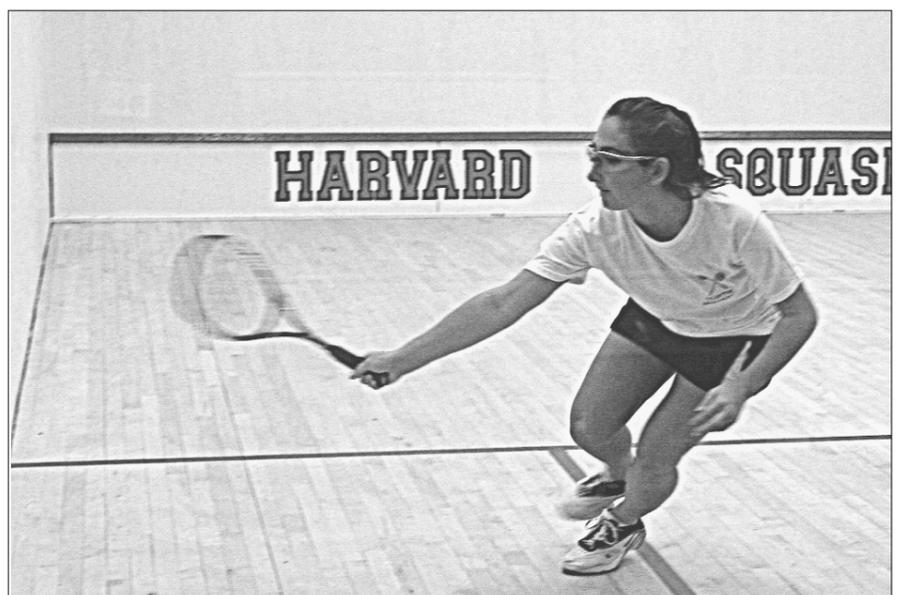
man Victoria Barba picked up a game, but still was beaten by Saint junior Ashley Eldredge 9-5, 9-2, 1-9, 9-4. Freshman Molly Frizzell, playing at No. 8, won a close third game against her opponent, sophomore Anne Perry Daniels, but ultimately lost 9-2, 9-5, 9-10, 9-3.

Overall, Saint Lawrence won 27 games in their sweep of the Jumbos, while Tufts tallied only two. Rice said that some players had to play up the ladder to fill in for higher-ranked absent players, which challenged the team even more against an already-difficult opponent.

"Saint Lawrence is a really strong team," Rice said.

Stanford only added women's squash as an "emerging varsity sport" starting for

see WOMEN'S SQUASH, page 19



DAILY FILE PHOTO

The women's squash team plays its last match of the season tonight as they square off against Amherst at the Belmont Hill School. After a rough weekend at Wesleyan, a win over the Lord Jeffs could send the Jumbos into winter break on a positive note.

Despite ending playing careers, volleyball to remain in lives

VOLLEYBALL

continued from page 20

year, the other girls worked so hard in making us look good."

Much of what the two captains contributed, however, was leadership. With a team that included six freshmen, including the starting setter and libero, and four sophomores, Thompson needed more from her captains than stats.

"When you have such a young team, strong leadership from the top is crucial," Thompson said. "They were bringing to the court experience confidence and a sense of stability every time they stepped on the court. They needed to lead not only with their play but with their composure, knowledge and passion."

Many times, being a leader simply meant elevating the play on the court. In the second round of the NCAA Tournament, Gerry did just that, recording 15 kills in 26 attempts, to lead the team to a win over Colby-Sawyer. In similar fashion, Evans collected 11 kills and eight blocks in a crucial NESCAC Semifinal victory over Trinity.

The Colby-Sawyer match was one of many memorable moments for the two departing seniors. Evans and Gerry also remembered wins over Amherst their junior year and Williams this season, the first over those two teams in years.

Being a part of the team was more for Evans and Gerry than just playing volleyball, however. According to Evans, the rides home from tournaments were the most memorable part of her career.

"We all use that time to bond, make jokes and laugh at each other," Evans said. "We get to know each other because we always have to travel at least two hours to get to where we're playing on the weekends. It's just a lot of time where you get to know the people who become your best friends. The [teammates are] my best friends at Tufts."

Although Evans and Gerry played opposite positions and rarely spent time together on the court, they are close off the court.

"She's a great friend, a great teammate and a great volleyball player," Gerry said of her co-captain. "It's meant so much playing with her, spending four years with her. There's a special connection especially being co-captains together."

"April is such a great player to have out on the court," Evans said. "She always comes through with big plays. Off the court, she is one of the funniest people I've ever met and I enjoy spending time with her."

The two also share a bond with Thompson, who recruited them as her first recruiting class as Tufts head volleyball coach.

"I can still see their recruiting videos in my head," Thompson said. "I remember both of them coming for visits with their parents and interviewing them. I knew that they were interviewing me as a new and young coach as well. It was an interesting feeling. I was very excited when they both committed."

Four years later, Thompson's first recruits are done with Tufts volleyball and ready for graduation. For Gerry, the question of life after Tufts is not a clear one, as she has not determined her plans. Evans, on the other hand, is training for the Boston Marathon and interviewed with Teach for America on Tuesday.

Both players said that while their playing careers are over, they would enjoy getting involved in coaching down the road.

In the meantime, the Jumbos are excited about their chances next year, even without Evans and Gerry.

"I'm really sad," Evans said. "But I'm also excited to be able to watch them play for the next couple years. I think they're going to do great things. I think they're going to advance further than we did this year. I expect to see them in the Elite Eight. Although it's going to be hard to watch — I'm going to want to jump out there and play — I think they're going to do a great job and I'm honored to have been a part of it."

Watching the team that she invested so much time in play without her, however, will not be easy.

"I'll miss it a lot," Evans said. "I guess that the feeling that I have is not necessarily a bad feeling because I know I'll be involved in volleyball later in life, but its sort of a sense of loss because that's been such a part of my life for so long. It's hard to watch basketball games, because I can't help but think I'll never be able to play on that court again. To all the athletes, you have to cherish every minute."

INSIDE THE NHL

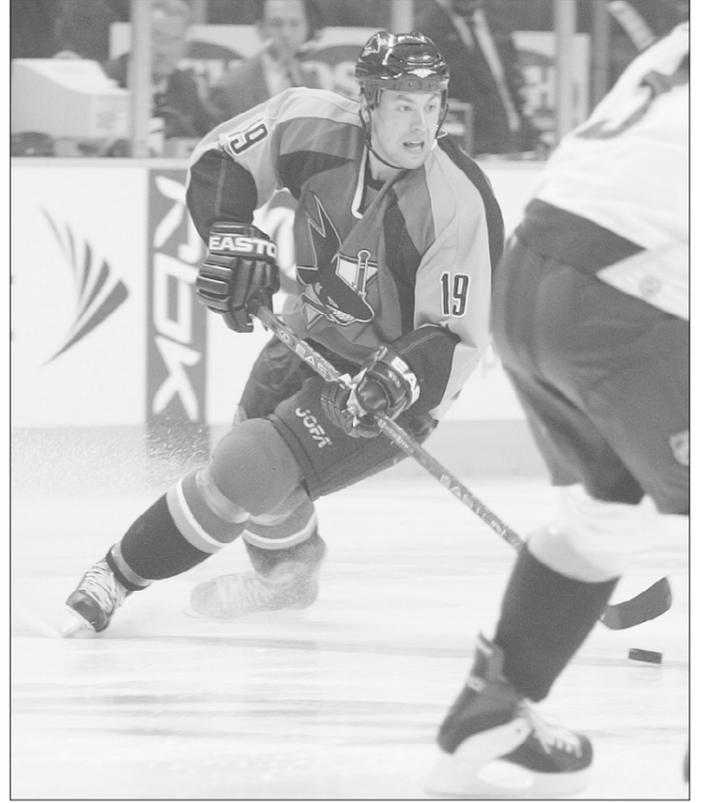
Sharks bite while Bruins end losing skid

BY PATRICK MANAHAN
Daily Staff Writer

When the NHL lockout ended this past spring, teams had to decide if they could afford their star players anymore. The **Boston Bruins** were one of the first teams to jump on their franchise player, as they signed superstar Joe Thornton mere days after the end of the lockout. Thornton was to be their captain, their leader and the rock to build their team upon. Apparently, that wasn't good enough.

On Wednesday, the Bruins traded Thornton to the **San Jose Sharks** for center Wayne Primeau, left wing Marco Sturm and defenseman Brad Stuart. The trade came on the heels of the Sergei Federov trade the week before, but its was even more surprising. Joe Thornton was to Boston hockey what David Ortiz is to Boston baseball. He was the Bruins' biggest attraction, and now he is gone.

The first game following Thornton's absence was against the red hot **Ottawa Senators** on Thursday. The Bruins shut out the Senators for the first time this year, 3-0, as newcomers Sturm and Stuart had a combined three points. The Bruins then beat the **Edmonton Oilers** 5-4 in overtime on Saturday to continue their winning streak before falling to the **Vancouver Canucks** on Sunday. Each of the three former Sharks played criti-



JOSIE LEPE/KRT

Former San Jose Sharks player Marco Sturm during a game against the Nashville Predators in November. Stuart was traded to the Boston Bruins on November 30.

cal roles in each game, as the Bruins emerged from losing nine of 10 games.

Thornton has found a home in San Jose, as he tallied four assists in his first two games as a Shark. San Jose has a host of

young talent, and the addition of the veteran Thornton may be just what the Sharks need for these players to excel. Thornton's four assists have come to two

see NHL, page 17

SCHEDULE | Dec. 5 - Dec. 11

	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT	SUN
Men's Basketball		@Plymouth St. 7:30 p.m.		@Keene St. 7:30 p.m.		Clark 2:00 p.m.	
Women's Basketball				@Simmons 7:00 p.m.		@Wellesley 2:00 p.m.	
Hockey			UMass-Dartmouth 7:30 p.m.			Conn. College 4:00 p.m.	
Men's Squash			Amherst @Belmont Hill 6:30 p.m.				
Women's Squash			Amherst @Belmont Hill 6:30 p.m.				
Men's Swimming						@Brandeis 12:00 p.m.	
Women's Swimming						@Brandeis 12:00 p.m.	

STATISTICS | STANDINGS

Men's Basketball Team Record: 2-1 Individual Statistics			
Player	PPG	RPG	Ass.
Jake Weitzen	16.8	5.3	11
Ryan O'Keefe	14.0	3.0	6
Dan Martin	12.4	6.2	4
Dave Shepherd	11.0	3.0	26
Jeremy Black	8.2	2.5	27
Brian Kumpf	8.2	5.3	5
Brian Fitzgerald	4.7	8.0	8
Pat Sullivan	3.5	1.8	3
Jason Grauer	2.8	2.0	3
Dacson Sears	1.2	1.0	2
Carl Onubogu	1.0	2.0	2
Aaron Gallant	0.8	0.3	0
Az Adhanom	0.3	1.0	2
Team	81.5	43.2	100

Women's Basketball Team Record: 2-0 Individual Statistics			
Player	PPG	RPG	Ass.
Jess Powers	13.5	3.8	6
Valerie Krah	11.0	4.	6
Jenna Gomez	9.0	7.0	5
Laura Jasinski	8.0	5.3	6
Kim Moynihan	7.0	3.5	2
Khalilah Ummah	5.6	4.5	0
Marilyn Duffy-Cabana	5.5	3.3	8
Libby Park	4.5	2.5	2
Katherine Miller	1.5	2.5	5
Alla Epshteyn	0.0	0.0	0
Team	62.2	41.2	44

Ice Hockey NESCAC Standings						
Team	CONFERENCE			GOALS		
	W	L	T	Pct	GF	GA
Colby	4	0	0	1.000	8	2
Middlebury	4	0	0	1.000	11	2
Trinity	3	0	0	1.000	9	5
Williams	3	0	1	1.000	13	9
Bowdoin	3	1	0	.500	4	3
Hamilton	2	2	0	.500	10	5
Amherst	1	2	1	.500	8	10
Wesleyan	1	3	0	0.00	7	14
ConnColl	0	3	0	0.00	4	10
Tufts	0	3	0	0.00	4	7

Individual Statistics			
Player	G	A	Pts
Greg McCarthy	3	5	8
Matt McCarthy	2	6	8
Greg O'Connell	2	4	6
Ken Cleary	2	2	4
Joe Milo	2	2	4
Ross Gimbel	3	0	3
Jared Melillo	1	1	2
Matt Dalton	1	0	1
Brian Bailey	1	0	1
Jonathan Kestner	0	1	1
Joe Cappellano	0	1	1
Andrew Delorey	0	1	1
Team	17	23	40
Goalkeeping			
Player	GA	Svs.	Sv %
James Kalec	24	243	.910

Women's Cross Country NCAA Championship Results	
Rank, Team, Points	
1. SUNY-Geneseo (88)	
2. Williams (107)	
3. Washington Univ. (132)	
4. Wisconsin La Crosse (167)	
5. Colby (169)	
6. Dickinson (190)	
7. Amherst (213)	
8. Ithaca (269)	
9. College of New Jersey (303)	
22. Tufts (481)	

Men's Cross Country NCAA Championship Results	
Rank, Team, Points	
1. Wisconsin-LaCrosse (94)	
2. Calvin (117)	
3. Haverford (118)	
4. Nebraska Wesleyan (132)	
5. Tufts (216)	
6. Wartburg College (247)	
7. Hamline (254)	
8. Carnegie Mellon (303)	
9. University of Chicago (304)	
10. College of New Jersey (311)	

Coed Sailing Rankings as of Nov. 15, 2005	
Rank, Team (Previous Rank)	
1. Hawaii (2)	
2. Texas (2)	
3. Georgetown (6)	
4. USC (4)	
5. Boston College (1)	
6. Harvard (5)	
7. UC/Irvine (3)	
8. Stanford (16)	
9. Tufts (14)	
10. South Florida (15)	
11. Hobart/William Smith (9)	
14. Dartmouth (11)	

NFL ESPN Power Rankings as of Nov. 29, 2005	
Rank, Team (Previous)	
1. Colts (1)	
2. Broncos (2)	
3. Seahawks (3)	
4. Bengals (7)	
5. Bears (10)	
6. Chargers (5)	
7. Panthers (8)	
8. Jaguars (11)	
9. Steelers (6)	
10. Giants (9)	
11. Cowboys (4)	

NBA ESPN Power Rankings as of Dec. 5, 2005	
Rank, Team (Previous)	
1. Pistons (1)	
2. Spurs (3)	
3. Grizzlies (4)	
4. Mavericks (2)	
5. Pacers (5)	
6. Clippers (7)	
7. Suns (8)	
8. Bucks (13)	
9. Warriors (10)	
10. Timberwolves (11)	
11. Cavaliers (9)	

NCAA Football Final BCS Rankings	
Rank, Team (Previous)	
1. USC (1)	
2. Texas (2)	
3. Penn State (3)	
4. Ohio State (6)	
5. Oregon (7)	
6. Notre Dame (8)	
7. Georgia (13)	
8. Miami (9)	
9. Auburn (10)	
10. Virginia Tech (5)	
11. West Virginia (11)	
12. LSU (4)	

INSIDE THE NBA

Lakers are no longer the team to beat in L.A.

Resurgent Clippers off to hot start as they take the lead in the Pacific Division

BY NATE GRUBMAN
Daily Editorial Board

The Los Angeles Clippers have long been the laughingstock of the NBA. But after wins over the Cleveland Cavaliers and Miami Heat propelled the Clippers to the second-best record in the NBA, the Clippers are finally on their way to having the last laugh.

On Monday night, the Clippers shut down the Heat in the fourth quarter to win 99-89 and improve to 12-5 on the season. With Shaquille O'Neal still sidelined, it was time for another wide-bodied big man to shine.

Clippers power forward Elton Brand poured in a season-high 37 points, nabbed 12 rebounds, and notched six blocks. With the Clippers up by just three going into the fourth quarter, Brand carried the team, scoring eight of its first 12 points to lift the Clippers to a 13-point lead.

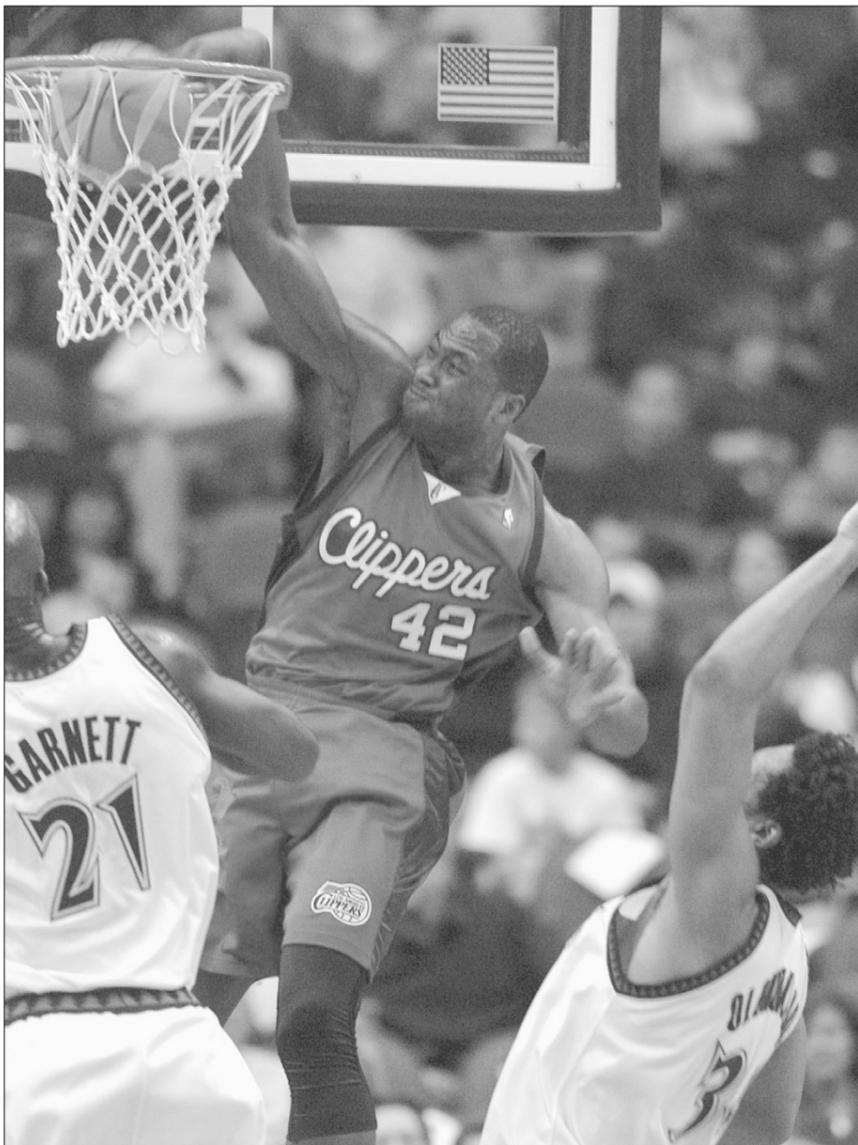
If the Clippers have become a surprise contender for the NBA Finals, Brand has become the surprise MVP candidate. Through 17 games, Brand has averaged 24.9 points, 10.6 rebounds and 2.8 blocks per game, shooting 56.6 percent from the floor. Brand has scored at least 30 points in his last three games.

The win over the Heat came on the heels of an equally impressive win over LeBron James and the Cavs. On Saturday night, the Clippers rode a big first quarter to a 102-90 victory. Brand played a big role again, dropping 30 points on the Cavs. The win got the Clippers back on the torrid pace they set early in the season, when they won nine of their first 11 before dropping three of four. With 12 wins already, the Clippers are virtually assured to surpass last year's 37 wins.

While Brand has been the leader for the Clippers, changes in the backcourt have been crucial to the team's improvement. In the offseason, the team added Sam Cassell and Cuttino Mobley to man the backcourt.

Both Cassell and Mobley had rough years in 2004-2005. After being traded away from the Houston Rockets in the Tracy McGrady-Steve Francis deal, Mobley went to the Orlando Magic. He barely had a chance to get comfortable before being shipped to the Sacramento Kings for Doug Christie. Although Mobley still managed to have a decent year, he never got a foothold anywhere, and it showed on the court. In the offseason, Mobley ignored conventional NBA wisdom and signed with the Clippers.

Sam Cassell, on the other hand, was



SHERRI LAROSE/KRT

Elton Brand, currently averaging 24.9 points and 10.6 rebound per game, while shooting an inhuman 56.6 percent from the field, has transformed the Los Angeles Clippers from a perennial doormat to a serious contender to take the NBA by storm. Brand's presence on L.A.'s other team has caused *Inside the NBA* to label the Duke alum a serious MVP candidate.

locked down in a mess last year on the Minnesota Timberwolves. Cassell struggled all season on a team that was riddled with internal problems. He was finally relieved of the mess when the Wolves traded him to the Los Angeles Lakers for Marko Jaric and Lionel Chalmers.

Cassell has stepped in at point guard with 16 points and 7.6 assists per game, filling the void left when Andre Miller bolted for the Denver Nuggets three years ago. Mobley has struggled a little bit with his three-point shooting, but he has still been a positive addition to the team, averaging 15 points and five rebounds per game.

Those two have joined Brand and his

former Duke teammate Corey Maggette to form a potent offensive attack. Maggette has averaged 21.7 points per game, as the Clippers have upped their scoring average to 99.5 points per game.

The Clippers sit atop a tough Pacific Division. The Phoenix Suns and Golden State Warriors, two teams with breakneck offenses, are on win streaks and closing in on the Clippers.

It could be tough for LA to hold off those two teams. Phoenix has been playing very well and wants to get Amare Stoudamire back later in the season. Golden State, on the other hand, has been rejuvenated by the addition of Baron Davis. These two Pacific Division challengers will go head-to-head tonight.

BEN SWASEY | FROM WAY DOWN TOWN



HORSE, of course

As this is my last column of the semester, I want to end by imparting some wisdom that you can all use while on our month away from school because if you're anything like me, your Winter Break may consist of a number a pick-up basketball games with old friends at the local gym.

This leads me to my first piece of advice: don't play. I am a typical college student; my diet consists largely of delivery food and booze, and I am continually overstressed and sleep-deprived. As I learned over Thanksgiving Break, this is not adequate preparation to run around a basketball court for any extended period of time. You know those old guys who limp all over the floor and sweat profusely? Well, those years are fast approaching.

This brings me to my next piece of advice. Instead of playing pick-up games, how about indulging in the single greatest game ever invented — HORSE?

HORSE is the classic game that gives you letters if you do not match your opponent's successful shot at the hoop. It combines everything one would want in a game: basketball, spelling and fierce competition. ESPN columnist Bill Simmons has suggested HORSE be played by NBA players during the All-Star Break, and I completely agree.

In addition, HORSE can be played to spell other words. If you're a short on time or really bad at shooting, try PIG. If you want to keep up your Tufts' enthusiasm over break, try JUMBO. If you like prehistoric mammals, try MASTODON.

My third piece of advice is extended, as I will offer strategy (or "stratergy" if you're a George Dubya Bush fan) to winning your HORSE games.

First, I suggest starting off with some easy shots, such as short banks from the blocks or free throws to warm up and establish a rhythm. Also, if your opponent manages to miss one of these "bunnies," you begin the contest with an important one-letter lead.

Next, it is essential to find some "go-to" spots on the floor. These are personal

see SWASEY, page 17

Ben Swasey is a sophomore who has not yet declared a major. He can be reached via e-mail at benjamin.swasey@tufts.edu

Jumbos look to rebound against Amherst

WOMEN'S SQUASH
continued from page 20

the 2005-06 season, yet still managed to defeat the Jumbos. Senior co-captain Joelle Polivy, one of several key players absent from the weekend's round-robin, said that team should have prevailed over the Cardinal, attributed the losses to the relatively weak starting lineup.

Junior Julia Avrutin, who filled the one seed last year, junior Erica Adler, who played two, and classmate Jen Lange, who played at six, eight, and nine, are all abroad this semester.

"We were missing a lot of people," Polivy said. "We would have been a lot better with our players who are currently abroad."

"We were down a few players which hurt us a lot," Rice said. "We had two injured and one out of town. Also, it had been a really long day. We had to play Stanford at 9 p.m."

In the Stanford match, Rice managed to pick up a set against her number one sophomore opponent Brooksie Riley,

but lost 9-4, 6-8, 9-3, 9-7. Barba secured the Jumbos' only victory of the entire round robin playing at number two, defeating senior Ashleigh Pattee 9-2, 4-9, 9-3, 10-9.

Overall, Saint Lawrence won 27 games in their sweep of the Jumbos, while Tufts tallied only two.

Freshman Jessica Herrmann fought hard at the number four slot, battling to five sets against Stanford sophomore Rachel Deming but ended up with a tough 9-4, 5-9, 8-10, 9-7, 9-6 loss.

The Jumbos go into today's match against the 11th-ranked Lord Jeffs hoping to end their three-game losing skid, but a victory over Amherst might prove difficult, Polivy said. "In the past, they have been a

tough team," she said. "It will be tough but it should be a good way to end the first half of the season."

Rice said that the team will have some of its non-abroad members who were absent from the Wesleyan Round Robin back and that their addition will help the Jumbos greatly.

"Amherst has a really deep lineup," Rice said. "It'll be a really close match though, and they're not as strong a team as last year. We're going to go out fighting."

Polivy said that although the Jumbos have suffered some early season losses, the matches played during the second semester are more important because they determine the rankings for the Howe Cup tournament, which will be played at Harvard in late February.

"We really have a solid team," Polivy said. "We have a lot of really good freshman and great returning players, and the abroad players [who are returning next semester] will really help our team."



DAILY FILE PHOTO

Currently the 17th-ranked team in the nation, the men's squash team is looking to crack the top 16 before the national tournament in order to play in the second division.

Winter Break: Cayman Islands

MEN'S SQUASH
continued from page 20

"Right now there is at least one team ranked higher than us who we know we can beat, that team being Colby," Maxwell said.

Over the winter, the team is heading to the Cayman Islands

to train in quality weather. Keidel and his teammates hope the time down south will be helpful heading into the stretch run.

"The chemistry on our team is great right now, and we hope to strengthen this bond with sand and sunlight," Keidel said.

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To 'swish' or not to 'swish'? Try not

SWASEY
continued from page 19

places in which a player makes a high percentage and can almost guarantee they won't miss. Some people like the top of the key; I prefer spots just behind the elbows for my 16-foot jumper. If you're struggling with more difficult shots or need to stop your opponent's momentum, move to your "go-to" locale. This shot will help you get your shooting confidence back.

Third, while some people step into a game looking to copy that old McDonald's commercial in which Larry Bird and Michael Jordan played HORSE, this is, unfortunately and realistically, not the path to success. You know what I'm talking about — those "from the third row of the bleachers, off the wall, off the scoreboard and in!" attempts. They nearly never work, and they're likely to maim innocent children who just happen to be mulling around the gym.

Instead, try hard, but not crazy, shots. These include deeper, Tim Duncan-style bankers and NBA-range threes. If you can make your attempt, odds are your opponent won't make his or hers.

Also, though I advise against ridiculous shots, I do believe that at least one manageable trick shot should be mastered and attempted each game. The granny-style free throw, shooting with your weak hand, eyes closed attempts and the famous Larry Bird-over-the-backboard-shot all fit into this category. For example, an old friend of mine mastered the "one-arm hurl." Actually, he didn't master it, he was

just a quarterback in football so he would basically chuck the ball at the hoop.

If you want to spice up your game, I suggest reenacting famous basketball shots. Do the "Christian Laettner at Duke" by throwing the ball off the far backboard and having it come back to you, fake one way, and nail a turnaround foul-line jumper. Try the "Michael Jordan against the Cavs" by dribbling once to your left and making a 15-footer, then jumping in the air approximately five feet and punching the air numerous times in celebration. Or do the "Kareem" by putting on large Rec-Specs and hitting a baseline sky-hook.

Finally, there are some other options to consider, including the "to call swish or not to call swish debate." Personally, I don't usually like calling "swish" before attempting a shot. It may be good for an easy shot like a free throw, but it is frustrating to make a shot of some difficulty and have it slightly nick the rim.

Another thing to consider is the mental aspect of the game. Try getting in your opponent's head by going back to shots they missed earlier or attempting a free-throw to get that final "E," thereby testing if your opponent can be clutch on this slowed-down shot.

With all these strategies in place, you should have no problem whooping your friends from home in HORSE, provided, of course, that you have some semblance of basketball shooting skills. Either way, my last piece of advice is to play HORSE often and enjoy your Winter Break.

East vs. West competition is a rarity

NHL
continued from page 20

players: 26-year-old Patrick Marleau and 25-year-old Jonathan Cheechoo. Both have spent their careers in San Jose and have emerged as dominant young talent in past years. With Thornton now as the Sharks' center, watch for a dramatic increase in their offensive production.

Meanwhile, the rest of the league begins to play the opposite coast. With the new NHL schedule, division rivals play each other eight times a season and conference rivals four times a season. This leaves little room for inter-coastal competition. Eastern Conference teams will face Western Conference teams rarely through-

out the season. This has created a National League-versus-American League mentality that most players don't really seem to mind.

Phoenix Coyotes' coach Wayne Gretzky said the best thing about the new schedule — especially for Western teams — was that it minimized travel.

"It's so much easier on the players," he said.

Only in the past week have Eastern Conference teams begun to play those of the Western Conference. The biggest matchup will be the Ottawa Senators versus the Vancouver Canucks on Friday, a battle between the top two spots on the ESPN Power Ranking list.

Blue Jays lock up pitcher A.J. Burnett, eyeing Overbay next

BY TOM HAUDRICOURT
Knight Ridder Tribune

Having committed \$102 million to two free agent pitchers, the Toronto Blue Jays turned their attention Tuesday to acquiring offensive help.

One of the players the Blue Jays continue to pursue is Milwaukee Brewers first baseman Lyle Overbay.

Brewers assistant general manager Gord Ash confirmed that Toronto continued to be aggressive in its pursuit of Overbay in face-to-face meetings between officials of the two clubs.

"They have been from the get-go," said Ash. "They were very upfront at the general managers meetings (in early November) about their interest in Lyle."

The Blue Jays, who committed \$102 million to sign starting pitcher A.J. Burnett and reliever B.J. Ryan, told the Brewers that right-hander Dustin McGowan is off-limits for trades. McGowan was Toronto's first-round draft pick in 2000, when Ash was general manager of the club.

Toronto is believed to have given the Brewers a number of pitchers to consider in the deal, including right-hander Dave Bush, who went 5-11 with a 4.49 ERA in 25 games (24 starts) in the majors last season.

Ash admitted the Brewers' interest was piqued by the discussions and the sides agreed to meet again Wednesday for further discussions.

"I'd describe them as aggressive," Ash said, "but they're not the only club that's been aggressive. Clubs are stepping up. There has been no closure but some progress has been made."

One of the clubs that had showed strong interest in Overbay dropped out of the running Tuesday evening. The Pittsburgh Pirates concluded their search for a first baseman by striking a tentative deal with Cincinnati to send left-hander Dave Williams to the Reds for Sean Casey.

"We had heard that was a possibility," said Ash. "We are discussing some other possibilities with the Pirates."

"We've talked about a number of different scenarios with other clubs."

Ash said the Brewers met with officials from three clubs and talked to three oth-

ers over the telephone. Names and ideas were exchanged throughout the day, he said.

"Today was more like a typical winter meetings day," said Ash. "We're no closer to any finality but conversations were more pointed. We're now getting more meat to them."

"Clubs have to make decisions. You can only put them off for so long."

One Milwaukee official said it still was "less than a 50 percent chance" that Overbay would be dealt at the winter meetings, mainly because the Brewers don't have to do it here. Until they get the right pitcher or combination of players for Overbay, they won't part with him.

Asked what he thought about the possibility of trading Overbay, and thus making way for minor-league prospect Prince Fielder, manager Ned Yost said, "There are no negatives to Lyle Overbay. For me to say, 'Let's get rid of Lyle Overbay,' that's crazy. That's the last thing I want to do."

"But if it improves our team, we feel Prince can come in behind Lyle and get his career started and give us some productivity. And take those pieces that we get for Lyle and make us a better team. That's what we're trying to do."

Ash said the Brewers continue to explore trades as well as free agent signings to acquire bullpen help. He said many officials are waiting until the 11 p.m. deadline on Wednesday night for teams to offer their free agents salary arbitration or forfeit draft compensation.

The Brewers have no intention of offering salary arbitration to their lone remaining free agent, third baseman Wes Helms.

Nothing doing: Despite continued rumors that Angels free agent pitcher Jarrod Washburn, a Wisconsin native, wants to pitch for the Brewers, Ash said there had been no contact with Washburn's agent, Scott Boras. With the market for pitchers again soaring out of sight, Ash said it is unlikely the Brewers could afford Washburn.

Beyond that, if it's true Washburn would like to pitch for the Brewers, Ash said they'd like to hear it from Boras.

"We're of the thinking that if you want to play for the Milwaukee Brewers, make a call," said Ash. "There should be some kind of show of interest on their part."