

Hoop, there it is



Sophomore Liz Copeland throws a hula hoop at Monday's Leonard Carmichael Society and National Student Partnerships life-size Game of Life in front of Tisch Library. Participants competed for jobs and learned about difficulties getting employment. JEFF CHEN/TUFTS DAILY

Senate to be minus one at final meeting

BY BRIAN LOEB
Daily Editorial Board

"I just didn't go," junior Ivan Nurminsky said.

Nurminsky was removed from his position on the Tufts Community Union (TCU) Senate last week because he missed too many meetings.

A senator is automatically removed after four unexcused absences, according to the Senate bylaws. An entire Sunday evening Senate meeting counts as one absence, and missing part of a meeting or a committee meeting counts as half an absence.

Nurminsky had a total of 4.5 absences. "I don't know how the rest of them do it, but it's kind of hard to keep coming every Sunday night," he said.

The TCU Historian is required to inform a senator at three absences. Historian Ed Kalafarski, a senior, spoke to Nurminsky early in the semester about his attendance, but at the time Nurminsky provided an excuse for one of his three absences.

When senators returned from Thanksgiving Break, Nurminsky was up to 2.5 absences. He quickly missed a committee meeting and the Nov. 27 Senate meeting, bringing his total to four.

By the time TCU Vice President senior John Valentine e-mailed Nurminsky last Tuesday, Nov. 29, Nurminsky had missed two full Senate meetings, two partial Senate meetings and three committee meetings.

Valentine said he had trouble getting in touch with Nurminsky and only reached him by phone Sunday. "He apologized and kind of put it on himself," Valentine said.

see SENATE, page 2

Identifying Tufts cheaters gets a high-tech upgrade

BY KRISTEN SAWICKI
Daily Editorial Board

The vast number of resources available to students on the Internet makes cheating in today's academic environment both tempting and easy. This fact is prompting discussion of extending the University's use of software that catches plagiarizers.

The Web-based software, called Turnitin, uses an algorithm to process student papers and search for similarities between them and works in its database. Its database consists of material on the publicly accessible Internet, commercial pages from books, newspapers and journals, and over ten million student papers.

Turnitin is used by both high schools and colleges, including the University of

Iowa and the University of Colorado.

At its meeting on Nov. 22, the Educational Policy Committee (EPC), one of the University's student-faculty committees, discussed the pros and cons of the software.

"There was a diversity of opinions," Chemistry Professor Samuel Kounaves, the chair of the EPC, said. "We're investigating the issue right now."

Kounaves said a subcommittee of the EPC has been formed to do further research on the software and to get input from the administration, faculty and students. The subcommittee will present its findings to the EPC at its next meeting on Jan. 24, at which point the EPC will decide whether or not the University should purchase the software.

The biology department is using Turnitin in its Biology 13 course this

semester and used it in Biology 14 last spring. Both courses are core requirements for biology majors.

Each student in Biology 13 is registered for an individual account with Turnitin and has an identification number, and the course itself is registered for one large account.

Professor Michelle Gaudette, the lab coordinator for Biology 13 this semester, said Turnitin "seems to be very helpful."

Students in the class submit a hard copy of their lab reports to their lab instructors, but they also electronically upload a copy to the Turnitin Web site. The software then processes each paper and creates an "Originality Report" for each paper.

This report ranks the originality of the

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Indigenous Ecuadorians helped by crafts, chocolate

BY YOLANDA FAIR
Daily Staff Writer

For the past eight years, the Kichwa people of Ecuador have improved their living conditions through a cooperative that sells locally made handicrafts and organic cacao.

Three members of the Kallari cooperative spoke about the indigenous people and their movement Monday at the Fletcher School.

Kallari founder and Development Coordinator Judy Logback, Production and Natural Resources Director Diego Grefa Salazar and Head Accountant Netty Cayapa Tapuy discussed the Amazon economy and brought the collective's handicrafts and chocolate for attendees to

purchase.

The proceeds of the cooperative's sales go toward promoting rainforest conservation, sustainable development and the preservation of indigenous culture. The Kichwas' land has been used by the government to transport oil without returning the profits to the people, so the collective is trying to make cacao bean production more sustainable.

For the last 45 years, Salazar said, the Kichwa have fought for their rights as Ecuadorian citizens, specifically for cultural and property rights.

Salazar presented the history of the cacao bean and its use by the Kichwa. He spoke in Spanish.

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Senate tries to link off-campus students

New Web site, boroughs expected to 'kill the stigma of junior year'

BY JUDY WEXLER
Daily Editorial Board

Two projects in the works for next semester may make living off-campus easier and more enjoyable.

The Tufts Community Union (TCU) Senate is putting the finishing touches on a Web site that lets student rate their off-campus houses, landlords and facilities.

The site — part of jumboAccess.com, which operates the professor and course rating site tuftsreviews.com — is awaiting approval from the administration and the University's counsel, but a preliminary version is up and running in the meantime.

TCU Parliamentarian sophomore Harsha Dronamraju, who is spearheading the project, said the site should be approved within a week.

Student frustration with off-campus housing, he said, "was something that we felt was really glaring, and we felt that it was something we could fix."

The Senate is currently working with the registrar to create a questionnaire for juniors to collect addresses.

No database currently exists of students' off-campus residences. Senators tried tabling on campus to try to get off-

campus residents to sign up, but they did not get much response.

"Juniors don't chill on campus," TCU Vice President senior John Valentine said.

The questionnaire asks off-campus residents to rate their landlord, utilities and location on a scale of one to five.

Off-campus residents will also be able to comment on other aspects of their house, such as if the building is conducive to parties, or if the neighbors are especially sensitive.

The Web site may also include a list of off-campus addresses with the e-mail addresses of current and past residents. This will allow students in the market for a house to e-mail past residents and get a more complete picture of life in that house.

The system would be modeled after Tufts' career network, which allows Tufts students to contact alumni in specific work fields.

Senior Chris Eager, who lives on Mason Street in Somerville, said he would post on the Web site. "I would definitely let people know about our landlord currently and what I know about our house compared to other houses," he said.

Valentine is also targeting

off-campus residents, with what he calls the "Five Boroughs Project."

He identified five areas of off-campus houses in Medford and Somerville, and he expects to organize gatherings on campus for each area. He said the project would encourage students in the same area to interact and "kill the stigma of junior year."

"I lived off campus last year and you don't even know the people who live two doors down, let alone your community," Valentine said. He expects to hold a couple trial gatherings by the end of next semester.

Eager, whose house is directly across Powderhouse Boulevard from South Hall, said he does not feel especially disconnected from campus life.

But junior Danny McGee, who lives on the other end of campus near the Science and Technology Center in Medford, said his location has decreased his interaction with other students.

"Where I am I know only my roommates and two other kids in other houses," he said.

Dronamraju said the goal of the two Senate projects is to ensure that "when you go off campus your junior year, you don't have to feel like a commuting student."

INSIDE

The Daily goes behind the making of 'Syriana'

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Tufts' men's swimming team improves to 5-0

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tuftsdaily.com

No election for open Senate seat until spring Elections Board is in place

SENATE
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Nurminsky provided the first test of changes made to the bylaws at the Senate retreat early this semester. In past years, Valentine said, if a senator missed three meetings, another senator could propose impeachment.

"This takes all the 'do we do, do we do not' out of the game," Valentine said. "It's more concrete."

The Senate did not have to approve Nurminsky's removal.

"If you're not coming to meetings, it's assumed you've resigned from the body," Kalafarski said. "His decisions constituted his resignation. There was no decision made on the part of anyone on the Senate."

Nurminsky was elected to the Senate last April and began serving this semester.

He served on the Senate's education committee and on the Allocations Board. He said the Allocations Board — which works with student organization budgets and recommends to the full Senate how the student activities fee should be divided — was the only part of the Senate he

would miss.

As for his education committee meetings, Nurminsky said, "I just didn't think it was worthwhile."

There will not be an election to replace Nurminsky's Senate seat until next semester.

New members of the Elections Board — the group that oversees Senate elections — assume office every semester. Valentine said the Senate will try to have elections for next semester's Elections Board before Winter Break ends so Nurminsky's replacement can be elected immediately after students return to campus.

"We're going to go as fast as possible, but the new senator may miss as much as two meetings of the next semester," Valentine said.

Sophomore Senator Alexandra Pryor was elected at Sunday's meeting to fill Nurminsky's Allocations Board seat. There is only one Senate meeting left this semester, but Pryor will be on Allocations Board next semester as well.

Asked for Nurminsky's phone number Monday, Kalafarski said he had already deleted it.

Anti-cheating software in trial period

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paper as a percentage, with a ranking of 0 percent indicating a perfectly original paper and 100 percent indicating a completely plagiarized paper. It also color-codes the text of the paper, with blue indicating original text and red indicating plagiarized text.

Gaudette said an advantage of the software is that it makes students more aware of plagiarism, which she said is usually unintentional. "Sources often say things more eloquently," she said. "It [Turnitin] forces them [students] to develop their own style."

She said that by being more conscious of the need to explain concepts in their own words, students spend more time processing material and achieve a higher level of understanding.

Sophomore Veronica Coppersmith, a student in Biology 13, said at first she was "sketched out" by the Turnitin software. "Of course you're going to have similar lab reports [as other students]," she said.

The software flags all similarities between student papers and published works, but Gaudette said most of the similarities are innocuous. Phrases like, "The rate of photosynthesis is..." are bound to occur in multiple papers," she said.

One issue that came up at the EPC meeting in November was intellectual property rights. "Some people feel there are issues of intellectual property," Kounaves said, "If you are a student, your paper will be on the system for a number of years."

Kounaves said the EPC discussed whether use of the software was necessary, or whether it was sufficient to rely on an honor code for academic integrity. He said he wondered to what extent students were aware of the University's plagiarism policy.

The University is currently in a trial period with Turnitin. If the University decides to purchase the software, it will cost \$5,000 per academic year for University-wide use and an unlimited number of accounts.

According to senior Jason Bauer, one of the students on the EPC, any department that wishes to use the Turnitin software next semester will be able to do so through the Dean of Students Office. He said the psychology department has expressed interest in using the software.

Coppersmith said she now feels comfortable using the software and is glad that people who cheated on lab reports in the past now have to work to earn the grades.

Indigenous Ecuadorians get together

KICHWA
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The bean is part of the secondary forest of the Kichwa people, and for the past three years the price has risen but no more money has gone to farmers.

The cooperative exports the beans directly to Europe and North America. The marketing strategy stresses the beans' origin, the bio-diversity of the rainforest area in which the beans grow and the high quality of the beans.

In 1995 farmers were only paid \$15 for one pound of beans. Now they get \$75. The collective hopes to raise the price to \$150 per pound by 2010.

Over 660 families take part in the cooperative, making handicrafts from 200 species of plants and harvesting the cacao bean for chocolate products. The handicrafts include necklaces, bracelets, anklets, chokers, baskets, woven handbags, soaps, teas, wooden canoes, bowls and trays. All of the handicrafts are certified by the Free Trade Federation.

The event was sponsored by the International Development Group, the Human Rights Project, the Environment and Sustainability Initiative, Net Impact and the Fletcher Latin America Group.

Freshman Marcelo Norsworthy said he enjoyed the presentation. "I've always been interested in this type of business — the social and political aspects. And with this presentation I was able to learn the economic part of it," Norsworthy said.

OFF THE HILL | BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY

This college student finds time for work, classes... and 10 kids

BY JENS DANA
The Daily Universe

On an average day, she slips out of bed at 2:30 a.m., quietly creeps out of the room to avoid waking her husband and begins the one-hour drive down the dark, windy road through Hobbie Creek Canyon in her Chevy Suburban.

By 4 a.m., Fauna Smith, a 47-year-old custodian, is hard at work, supervising student custodians cleaning the Joseph F. Smith Building at Brigham Young University until noon. She said she wanted her children to develop a work ethic, so she teaches them by example.

"She likes to teach her kids to work hard," said Jeremiah Smith, her second-oldest child. "She herself is a hard worker."

If the constant grind of a full-

time job and taking care of 10 children and a disabled husband doesn't sound like enough, throw in the fact that Smith is also registered for six credit-hours at BYU. Needless to say, her hectic schedule can take its toll.

"I go to class, but I'm asleep through half of it," she said. "There has to be a program where people can get an education [even] with all the difficulties."

A while ago, midterms were closing in on her, and the load she carried became too much. She was swamped with work and family issues and didn't have time to do the reading for her classes. She said she was just about to drop her classes and stay content with her custodial job, but then she had an innovative idea to get through her class

reading.

She went to the Learning Resource Center and found all the tapes she could on the subjects that challenged her. Instead of sleeping through the next class, she was able to participate.

Smith is now applying for an grant to make books on tape for all classes available to all students who don't have the time to read three or four hours a day.

"I've got custodians who could be listening to a tape while they are working," she said. "There are mothers who could do homework and get an education."

Smith has never been a stranger to challenges. Sandra Jackson, her college roommate, said for all her challenges, Smith is able to see the sunlight through the rainclouds.

"Fauna has had many strug-

gles in her life and still remembers who to turn to and thank for her blessings," Jackson said.

Smith's long college adventure began when she came to BYU in 1976. Along the way, she's taken time off to serve a mission in New York City and to take care of her grandmother, who suffered a stroke. She took another detour in 1982 when she met her husband, Rex Smith, at a church dance in Mancos, Colo. About a week and a half later, Rex proposed to her on a bridge above a drainage ditch, in Kirtland, N.M.

"With my charm and good looks, I was sure I'd sweep her off her feet," Rex Smith said. "She almost passed out on me. I didn't know whether to be real insulted or not. She almost fell off the bridge, and I grabbed her by an arm, but she wasn't falling for me."

OFF THE HILL | UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

Birth control patch higher risk than the Pill

BY STEPHANIE TAYLOR
Daily Illini

The Food and Drug Administration approved updated labeling for the Ortho Evra contraceptive patch in November.

Ortho-McNeil Pharmaceutical, Inc., the manufacturers of the contraceptive, now place a warning on the product indicating it contains higher levels of estrogen and progestin hormones than most birth control pills.

Women on Ortho Evra are exposed to 60 percent more estrogen than women taking a 35-microgram birth control pill, said David Lawrance, medical director at McKinley Health

Center. Products with increased estrogen levels heighten the likelihood of blood clots and strokes for some women.

Denise Watkins, a nurse practitioner in the Women's Clinic at McKinley Health Center, said that Ortho Evra was marked originally as a 20-microgram dosage product.

"The labeling is being changed in order to make providers aware that it's not a 20-microgram dose method and to be aware that if you want a lower dosage method that it's not a good option," Watkins said.

Though the estrogen levels of Ortho Evra have proven to be higher, both Planned Parenthood and McKinley Health Center are not con-

cerned about taking anybody off of the patch.

"Ortho Evra has just started being studied and checked for problems — as of now, no problems have been recorded in scientific literature," Lawrance said.

Kathie Spegal, director of community affairs at Planned Parenthood in Champaign, said that Ortho Evra users' health has been carefully evaluated and that the increased estrogen levels shouldn't cause health problems for users originally screened as Ortho Evra candidates.

Spegal said when screening the women, Planned

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FROM THE DAILY ARCHIVES
| DECEMBER 6, 1982

Get out of jail free... letter

Members of Tufts' Amnesty International (AI) organization were credited with aiding in the release of several "prisoners of conscience" — citizens who were accused of violating the 1948 Declaration of Human Rights, which their respective countries had signed. The prisoners came from Argentina, Taiwan, El Salvador, Chile, Paraguay and South Korea. Tufts AI members were credited with writing over 300 letters to the various governments of the prisoners.

MARKETS

Yesterday's close

▼ **DOW JONES**
42.50 **10,835.01**

▼ **NASDAQ**
15.73 **2,257.64**

WEATHER FORECAST

Today
Tuesday, December 6

Snow
High 33
Low 24

Snow showers likely, mainly before noon. Cloudy, then gradually becoming partly sunny, with a high near 32.

Tomorrow



Sunny
32/20

Saturday



Partly Cloudy
37/29

Thursday



Sunny
31/23

Sunday



Partly Cloudy
43/31

Friday



Partly Cloudy
34/25

Monday



Cloudy
42/31

QUOTE OF THE DAY

“The Whitestrips and the paint taste nasty. They are the grossest thing ever.”

Ashley Van Wormer
Sophomore

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Is that the library roof on your handbag?

Senior with fashion flair launches handbag line inspired by Hill nightlife

BY LIZ YATES
Senior Staff Writer

It's early on a Saturday night, and the festivities are just beginning. Throngs of people collect slowly, first along the bar, then filling the room. Smiles are shared over the pouring of drinks, and eyes meet in glances through the crowd. The night is young, and no one knows exactly where it will lead.

It is this sense of excited anticipation that senior Heather Tamarkin has tried to capture. Combining her interests in art, fashion and business, Tamarkin has started her own handbag line, creating evening purses adorned with hand-painted images of college life — such as the party described above.

"I wasn't happy with the bags that were out there," Tamarkin said. "A lot of it was me wanting to create my own bag."

But making a personal bag for herself was only the first step for Tamarkin. Over the summer, she made 30 more bags. She sewed the bags out of denim and then individually painted each with one of three scenes: an evening party, a fireworks display or a sunset viewed from the library roof.

The bags will be on sale for \$30 each in the campus center this Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The event will serve as the first official sale of Tamarkin's line, which she has dubbed Soiree Handbags.

"This will be our first foray into the business," said senior Jenna Dreher, Tamarkin's friend and official public relations consultant.

Tamarkin and Dreher plan on using Friday's sale as a test-run for their future operation. "I need to gauge the customer reaction, just to get a feel for what people think," Tamarkin said. "If I get a good response, I can tailor it to what people like and come up with the best product."

The initial inspiration for the handbags' design came to Tamarkin during an art history course she took in Talloires two years ago.

"I was very inspired by the way Renoir portrayed the lighting in the painting 'Bal du Moulin de la Galette,' which features a large group of people at a party," she said. "Later that summer, I decided to make a modern-day version based off parties that my suite had in Latin Way during my



Tamarkin's handbags depict scenes familiar to Tufts students — including a sunset viewed from the Tisch Library roof.

sophomore year."

Tamarkin then painted this image onto a bag she sewed using the denim of old jeans. "Denim was the perfect fabric because it absorbs the dark colors and makes the lighter ones really vivid," she said.

The other two designs also reflect an emphasis on light and color.

"My favorite one is the library rooftop scene — it's something I can really relate to," said senior Nila Mitra, a friend of Tamarkin's and a fan of the collection. "She based the three scenes on the bags around actual places at Tufts, so that is what makes them so meaningful to Tufts students."

Tamarkin said that the library rooftop image was inspired by the "homesickness" she felt for Tufts over the summer. Yet all of the images are consistent with a collegiate theme of youth and excitement.

"The images represent an idealized view of nightlife," Tamarkin said. "I associate them with the feeling of anticipation while you're getting ready to go out and the sense that tonight anything can happen."

If the initial sale is successful, the next step for Soiree Handbags will be to develop manufactured versions. "I can only make so many of these hand-painted,"

Tamarkin said.

In order to take production to the next level, Tamarkin is planning to attend a workshop on product manufacturing over winter break in New York City. The workshop will describe the specific process of how one "goes about producing something," Tamarkin said.

Developing Soiree Handbags is part of Tamarkin's plan to eventually professionally run a personal business. "I like the idea of having my own business because I think it's so fulfilling to create something from scratch and have people respond to it and buy it," Tamarkin said.

Tamarkin has been interested in fashion since sophomore year of high school. As a result of her fashion flair, she took two classes at the Fashion Institute of Technology before she began her Tufts career.

A psychology major with a minor in drama, Tamarkin is involved in costume design and has worked on three productions at Tufts.

Tamarkin further pursued her interest in fashion with an internship at DKNY over the summer. There she was involved with global licensing, which she found very interesting.

"It's exactly what I want to do — it combines fashion and business," Tamarkin said.

BY THE NUMBERS



COMPILED BY PATRICE TADDONIO
Daily Editorial Board

Boston drivers are notoriously rude. But according to a recent Associated Press-Ipsos poll of 1,001 people, that brand of rudeness is part of a national trend: In fact, 55 percent of Americans say they've "frequently" encountered "drivers who are reckless or aggressive on the road." In this installment of "By the numbers," the Daily explores the current state of politeness — and whom the public blames for Americans' lack of manners.

- ◆69% Americans who think people are more rude today than they were two to three decades ago
- ◆4% Americans who think people are more polite today than they were then
- ◆74% Urban-dwellers who say they encounter bad manners
- 67% People from rural areas who say so



- ◆38% Americans who think "celebrities, athletes and public figures behaving rudely and being poor role models" deserve "a great deal of blame" for widespread rudeness
- ◆69% Americans who think "parents not teaching good manners to children" deserve "a great deal of blame"
- ◆44% Americans who think "TV shows and movies that show rude behavior" deserve "a great deal of blame"

- ◆55% Americans who say they frequently encounter "people using their cell phones in a loud or annoying manner in public"
- ◆8% Americans who say they, personally, have "used their cell phones in a loud or annoying manner" over the past few months
- ◆48% Americans who say they frequently encounter "people using rude or offensive language in public"



- ◆37% Americans who say they have "used a swearword in public" over the past few months
- ◆28% Americans who say they frequently encounter "salespeople in stores ignoring customers or treating them rudely"
- ◆44% Americans who say they frequently encounter "children behaving rudely in public"
- ◆13% Americans who say they have "made an obscene gesture at another person while driving a car"
- ◆22% Americans who have "made a formal complaint about someone behaving rudely"

The information cited above comes from the Associated Press, Ipsos and USA Today.

When it comes to smiles, students want 'em white

BY EMILY NEGER
Daily Editorial Board

"I want them white like the snow on that window," freshman Kate Mattern said.

Mattern was describing her teeth. She had her teeth professionally whitened but still doesn't think they're white enough.

She's not alone. In today's world of self-help perfectionism, the number of people looking to make their pearly-whites sparkle

— even beyond what is natural — is growing.

According to a 2001 survey conducted by the American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry, teeth-whitening has become the number one cosmetic procedure of choice for people under 20 years old. The sale of over-the-counter teeth-whitening products has increased 54.7 percent in the past decade. It will bring in an estimated \$346.9 million this year, Information Resources

Inc. reports.

Teeth whitening is even being touted as an incentive to quit smoking: In November, the American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry (AACD) recommended that former smokers celebrate nixing nicotine by visiting an AACD dentist for a professional teeth whitening treatment.

The organization claims in a survey last year that yellow or discolored teeth was rated the most unattractive thing about a smile.

As more and more people employ teeth whitening procedures, researchers are evaluating the consequences.

According to Associate Clinical Professor David Bardwell at Tufts' School of Dental Medicine, the effect of the hydrogen peroxide chemicals in these products can make teeth feel weaker and more sensitive to pain.

"There can be tooth damage and soft-tissue changes when excessive bleaching occurs," Bardwell said.

Teeth-whitening was never intended to be a daily activity — but for some individuals, this is what it has become. Just as people can become addicted to tanning, dieting or exercising, once they start on teeth-whitening regimens, some can't stop.

Marc Liechtung, a dentist from New York, recently told the New York Times that patients of his would "come back like drug addicts pleading, 'Doc, sell me more just this once.'"

The Times also reported there have been cases of people wanting their teeth lightened to such an extreme point that dental supply companies do not have caps and



SARINA BAINS/TUFTS DAILY

Popular teeth whitening products now fill the shelves of any local pharmacy, but their over-use can cause damage.

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Overusing tooth-whiteners can be a dangerous habit

TEETH
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fillings to match.

According to Bardwell, teeth have been over-whitened when they take on chalky appearance, which is caused by dehydration.

In his research on teeth whitening, Baldwin has found that "dentist-prescribed tray bleaching" is the most effective way to a white smile.

"Every [type of whitening] lightens, but at different rates," Baldwin said. "Some have to wait longer to achieve the best result. Slower, lower-dose treatment over a longer period is more effective at retaining a lighter shade than high-dose, one-visit treatments."

This method is more effective than those involving lasers or lights, which "have little or no effect on the effectiveness of speed of the hydrogen peroxide," Baldwin said.

"Only two things drive or accelerate the breakdown of peroxide [and] the oxidation reaction: They are heat and pH," he added.

While heat can accelerate the reaction of the peroxide, it can also "cause greater sensitivity than no heat and can potentially damage the nerve of the tooth," Bardwell said. "The best approach is seeking professional consultation for long-term whitening."

But professionally-administered treatments — which are not covered by dental insurance — can cost hundreds and even thousands of dollars, an amount that's impractical for the typical college student's budget.

Many students — including freshman Kelly Moran — have turned to cheaper alternatives

including Crest Whitestrips, the most popular whitening product on the market. Advertisements for the product show people whitening their teeth while driving to work, doing their makeup, working or walking the dog — taking no extra time out of their presumably hectic and busy lives.

"I drink a lot of coffee and tea, and I wanted to counteract the effects," said Moran of her reasons for whitening her teeth. She chose Crest Whitestrips over other methods because "they looked the easiest." Moran uses the strips 15 minutes each day.

But for some students, remembering to wear the Whitestrips daily can be a problem: "I only used them for one day and then I forgot," sophomore Ashley Van Wormer said.

Freshman Hannah Robinson tried using Crest Whitestrips, but stopped immediately.

"The Whitestrips and the paint taste nasty," Robinson said. "They are the grossest thing ever, and [they're] not worth it."

But other students are willing to sacrifice comfort for beauty. When asked if the potential negative side effects of overusing the strips worried her, Moran didn't seem concerned. She had a prediction of her own.

"In a couple of decades, the technology will be so good that desensitization won't be a problem," Moran said. "Everyone will have all fake teeth."

According to Baldwin's research, however, Moran has little to worry about. He's found that it is safe to use Crest Whitestrips twice a day for a six-month period — as long as the six months are followed by a substantial break.

Birth control patch higher risk than the Pill

BIRTH CONTROL
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Parenthood looks for specific risk factors that would make the women ineligible for Ortho Evra — regardless of the product's estrogen level.

The main risk factors are "being older than age 35, tobacco use, high blood pressure, diabetes, and high levels of cholesterol," Spegal said.

Watkins said that the McKinley Health Center is also very cautious about examining women's health.

"We're being cautious and give careful consideration to putting someone on a method," said Watkins.

Some factors considered during screening are menstrual history, high lipid profiles and family health history.

When it comes to Ortho Evra, McKinley sees no immediate apprehensions with current users but will discuss concerns and switch to pills if the patient desires. Women have to come in

yearly for a screening examination to see if their health conditions have changed and if a different type of contraceptive is more fitting, Watkins said.

Ortho Evra's estrogen levels remain at a constant level compared to typical birth control pills, which allow the level to fluctuate, said Spegal. While on Ortho Evra, the patch is changed weekly for three weeks and releases the same levels of estrogen from day one to day seven. The fourth week is a "patch free" week.

"Ortho Evra maintains a higher level of estrogen in the body," Spegal said. "The hormone never drops off and stays at a constant level."

Women who take the pill must take it at the same time each day because the level of estrogen in the body decreases as the days go by.

Planned Parenthood carries all FDA forms of birth control. There are 560 women who have chosen the Ortho Evra patch as

their birth control since January of 2005, Spegal said.

At McKinley, students can choose from the pill, the Ortho Evra patch that goes on the skin, and Nuva Ring, an inter-vaginal contraceptive, Watkins said.

Recently, the FDA also has suggested that warnings be written on condom packages explaining that condoms do not eliminate the risk of acquiring certain Sexually transmitted infections.

Sexually transmitted infections that are transmitted by fluids can be prevented with the use of a condom, but the infections caused by contact are only preventable if the condom covers the entire infection, Spegal said. Sexually transmitted infections like genital warts, herpes and the human papilloma virus can still be acquired.

McKinley Health Center and Planned Parenthood both offer free condoms for students.

OFF THE HILL | WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY

Architecture students get new material: snow

BY JACOB JONES
Daily Evergreen

Architecture students at Washington State University woke early Friday morning to find building material for their next project falling from the sky.

Assistant professor Matt Taylor took his students out in the cold to explore the insulation, energy and design characteristics of the time-tested igloo.

"They're designers and builders," Taylor said. "This is a natural thing for them."

He challenged his Architecture 432 class, environmental control

systems, to build snow shelters that could retain heat from its occupants and a small candle to reach room temperature.

"Mostly it's just a chance to screw around in the snow," Taylor said. "We just have a lot of building material."

The rules were simple: Every component of the shelter needed to be made of snow — walls, doors and, in some cases, pillars.

And everyone who helped build had to fit inside.

"It's just a spur of the moment thing," Taylor said.

The class of 90 students started

construction at 8:30 a.m. Friday as snow continued to pile up. By noon more than a dozen icy domes stood on the hill north of Carpenter Hall.

Students built some shelters out in the open, while others used buildings, retaining walls and trees to support their structures.

Many collected snow in garbage cans to make bricks for their walls and arches.

Junior architecture majors Erik Tremain and Josh Williams crouched next to a four-foot tall igloo and packed snow around bricks for an entryway.

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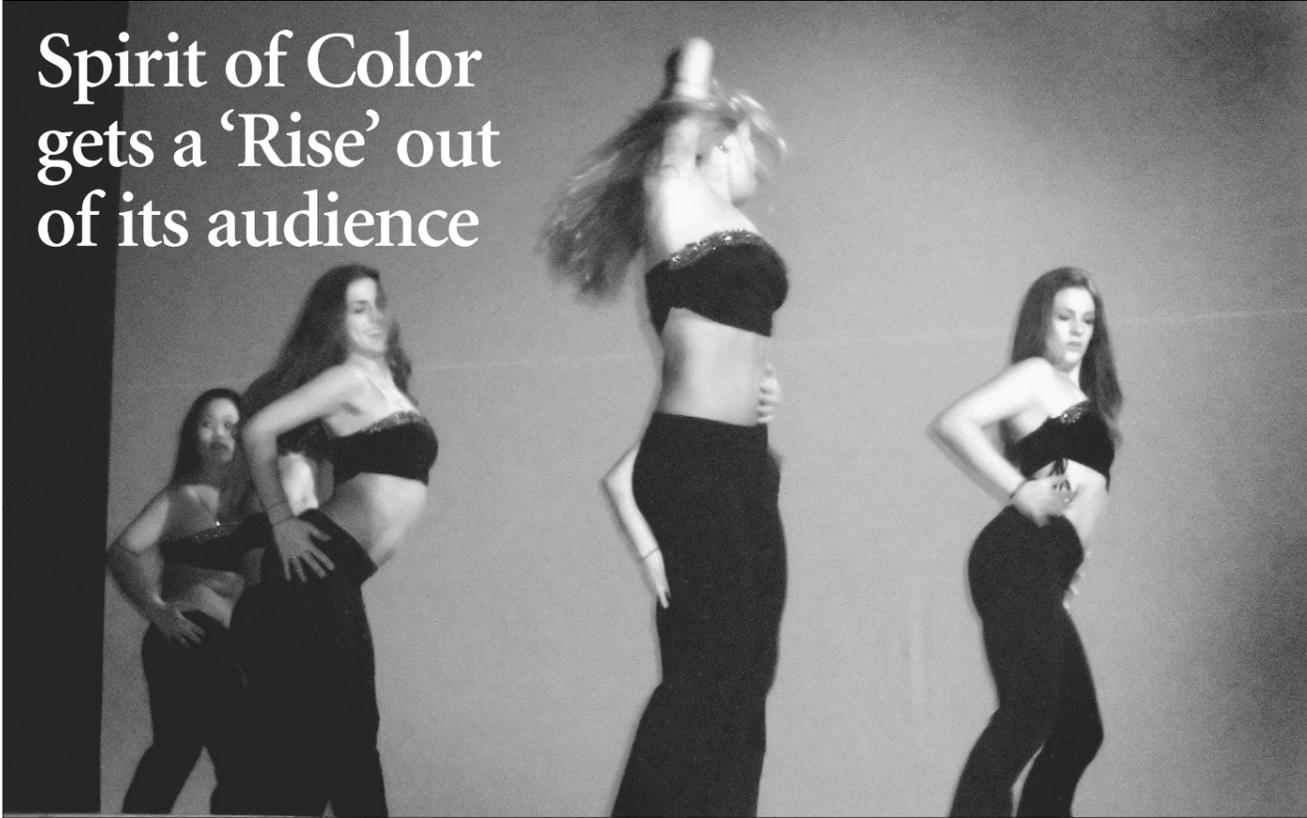
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SHOW REVIEW

Spirit of Color gets a 'Rise' out of its audience



AMAN GUPTA/TUFTS DAILY

Strapless bras were all the rage at the SoC show.

SoC fired up the house at its winter exhibition in the Aidekman Arts Center

BY ELIZABETH MILLER
Contributing Writer

It is a rare and noteworthy dance performance that can incorporate Edenic imagery, flexible gender roles, sexual power struggles and matching underwear sets with the standard plies and high kicks.

In its newest production, "Rise," Tufts' own Spirit of Color (SoC) dance troupe proved itself more than up to the task. But SoC's show was not produced for shock value. "Tonight," said director Tamara Chao in the "Rise" program, "our goal is to make you want to dance."

SoC staged its winter exhibition in the Aidekman Arts Center on Dec. 1 and 2. Both performances quickly sold out, and Cohen Auditorium was packed with hundreds of the troupe's famously vocal fans. The show featured an opening video by Kenny Ritchstad, a dance contest at intermission, skits and, of course, 21 separate dances.

"Rise" showcased an incredible variety of dance styles and ethnic influences. Its opening number, "Pon This," seemed to twist traditional cheerleading routines into an energetic hybrid of athletics and dance. In the second act, "Tainted Illusion" played upon conventional expectations of Broadway-style

performance, punctuated with slyly ironic high kicks and gold lamé costumes.

SoC also explored its own distinct style of balletic hip-hop in dances like "Pump It" and "Rude Awakening." "Jungle Woman," performed to Dianne Reeves' "Endangered Species" was definitely influenced by the tradition of tribal dance; bathed in blue light, the dancers evoked a veritable Garden of Eden to a pulsing beat.

SoC also integrated music far beyond the scope of traditional hip-hop tunes. While pieces like "Sex and Money" and

see RISE, page 7

SARA FRANKLIN | OH MY!: SEX STRAIGHT-UP



You might not be the only one who likes handcuffs

Some people like to keep it private. Some people like to share it with everyone they know. And then there are some people who just like to ask about it. I'm talking about your sex life. I can't just let these questions go unanswered. I like to know that other Jumbos out there are having wild and crazy fun in the sack, and if you're not, maybe these survey results will inspire you to venture out into new sexual frontiers. These are all real answers, and they were all given voluntarily. If you contributed to this in any way, thank you for broadening at least one person's sexual horizons. Real sex like this just has to be shared. Enjoy!

What is your definition of a "hook-up"?

- ◆ Anything more than lockin' lips
- ◆ Making out and running a few bases. Actually having sex is a follow-up question.
- ◆ Making out, some removal of clothing, some heavy petting
- ◆ Hands in pants

see FRANKLIN, page 7

Sara Franklin is a sophomore majoring in history. She can be reached via e-mail at sara.franklin@tufts.edu

ALBUM REVIEW

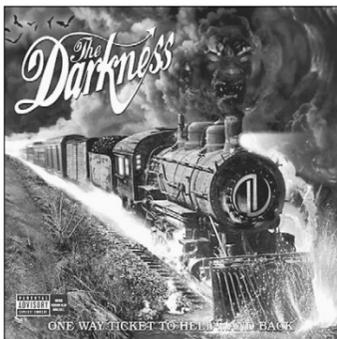
It's OK to lose this 'Ticket'

BY MARTY SATTELL
Daily Staff Writer

When The Darkness' first stateside release, "Permission to Land," hit shelves in winter 2004, audi-

One Way Ticket to Hell ... And Back

The Darkness
★★★★☆
Atlantic/ Wea Records



ATLANTIC RECORDS

ences were wowed by the pomp and vigor of the contemporary quartet from Norfolk, England. Praise for the band's interpretation and emulation of the classic rock sound flooded from media outlets, as did comparisons to myriad bands of the '70s and '80s.

Most remember them, however, from radio disc jockeys' obsession with blasting "I Believe in a Thing Called Love" at all hours of the day or from lead singer Justin Hawkins's infamous falsetto. But they may be remembered; the band has made a name for itself by inciting wistfulness for rock behemoths of yore. By adapting their musical nuances and dressing in spandex, The Darkness pays homage to the unrestrained energy and gusto of their musical predecessors.

Last week, the band released their sophomore stateside effort, "One Way Ticket to Hell...and

If imitation is the sincerest form of flattery, then Meatloaf must be blushing.

Back." In contrast to their previous album (whose songs merely evoked the ghosts of classic artists), in "One Way Ticket" The Darkness wholly impersonate them in sound and instrumentation. Whereas "Permission to Land" combined the originality of The Darkness with that of their influencers to create a uniquely nostalgic sound, their new album sounds as if it were a cover album of classic rock tunes from decades past.

The Darkness scarcely used more than keyboard, drums, bass, guitar, and Hawkins's fluctuating voice to fashion songs on "Permission to Land," but in "One

see DARKNESS, page 7

INTERVIEW

The Daily goes behind the making of 'Syriana'

BY KRISTIN GORMAN
Daily Staff Writer

Last week the Daily spoke with writer/director Stephen Gaghan concerning his newest film, "Syriana," whose subject matter spans from suicide terrorism to white collar crime. As in 2000's "Traffic," for which he wrote the screenplay, "Syriana" traces multiple captivating story lines intertwined to form a moving critique of the United States' current political situation. This time the movie is concerning oil-related endeavors in the Middle East. Gaghan explained the pressures associated with creating and directing a politically-charged film in the wake of Sept. 11, 2001 as well as the cultural and political realizations he experienced while traveling the world and gathering information to comprise his latest political commentary.

Question: Making this movie post-Sept. 11, 2001, do you feel that you had to censor yourself or that you were censored by others?

S. Gaghan: It was actually the total opposite. I felt like in the wake in 9/11 it was really



WARNER BROTHERS

Ben Gaghan models a Khaki jacket, \$205, by Fred Perry. Cotton polo shirt, \$175, by D&G. Khakis, \$285, by Ermenegildo Zegna.

see GAGHAN, page 6

Stephen Gaghan didn't have an agenda or want to make 'Dr. Strangelove'

GAGHAN

continued from page 5

important to feel like you were uncensored. The most insidious type of censorship I find that happens to people, particularly in Hollywood, is that you're sort of a victim of received wisdom, which is how you can never do that. They'll never make a movie like that. Drug movies don't work. You can't make a movie about drugs. You can't make a movie that puts the system on trial. You have to have a hero and a villain. It has to be a victory for the hero. If you don't have that it will never work.

If you listen to these internal voices, you'd never start to do anything. If you sit there and you're afraid ... if I try to write something and it feels true to me, and yet some censoring bodies — say the studio or the government is going to come after me — I think that's exactly the time you would have to proceed. You'd have to just sort of go all right, if I'm really afraid of that, which I wasn't, but if I was I would just respond with full-speed ahead.

Q: In a movie like this, how much sacrifice between making a great movie and making an accurate movie is there? What's your top priority?

SG: That's really interesting. I think you set out — I don't know. I can only speak for myself. I just try to do the best work I can, and that has a whole bunch of different facets to it. What I discovered is that since I do a lot of research and I meet a lot of people, what I've found is quite often what I actually saw and what people actually said just won't work. No one will believe it. It's too broad. It's like too amazing.

I witnessed things and heard

conversations that if I — they were great scenes, but if I stuck them down in the movie people would have said, "I don't believe it. That's bullshit. There is no way," or people would have said, "Oh, you just have an agenda," or they would have said, "This is Dr. Strangelove," and I knew I didn't want to make a satire.

I don't think there's any contradiction between truthfulness and quality or between accuracy and quality, but you always have to be a kind of arbiter for what you think, what the big picture is. I could tell you five anecdotes. You'd be howling with laughter. They're amazing. Unfortunately they don't fit into "Syriana." They would fit into some other movie.

I haven't ever encountered that. I haven't found that going for accuracy would get in the way of quality, I guess. Is that a good way to put it? Yes.

Q: In articles about writing "Traffic," you've said you drew on real-life personal experiences. Do you have any ties that go that deep for you with this film?

SG: Here's what happened to me in the wake of 9/11. I had to travel a lot in early October '01. I'd been thinking a lot about the oil business since "Traffic." I saw this sort of dealer/user paradigm in "Traffic;" I knew from being a user. I knew sometimes you maybe hang out with a dealer, and this guy's got what you want, but he's got kids and the kids are watching violent television, eating sugar-coated breakfast cereal. They're malnourished and there's a handgun on the table, and you're like, "This isn't so great." But you're not going to toss this guy a parenting manual, "Here's a book by Mary

Hartzell: a few great tips," because you don't want to jostle the status quo.

It felt like there was a real similarity in our oil-producing nation: a dynamic. So I was thinking about it. Now 9/11 happens, and after 9/11 I felt scared. I was violated. I had two small children. I was worried for them. I was worried when I'd go to the mall. I had to fly in October of '01 a lot. It was just a completely different experience. I felt it very deeply.

Now what happens, America's response to that act, it felt like this car America was accelerating, like someone hit the gas, shifted to a lower gear, maybe the highlights are off, but we're careening down some hill in the dark, and I'm holding on in the backseat going, "Where are we going?" We're like declaring an axis of evil. We're talking about evildoers. We're talking about crusades. We're going into Afghanistan. We're going into Iraq. We're rattling swords at Iran, Syria. This is precipitous and it really affects us. It affects me.

Q: There are a lot of big name actors in this film. With your past success, did you find that they were coming to you to ask for work on this film?

SG: Two things happened. One, without George Clooney jumping in really strong and saying he would cut his fee... listen, it's a quality problem when you can leave \$20 million on the table, but George could have ... \$20 million and he worked for scale. So that sent a really strong message to everybody, the studio and the world.

But even before that, the script had been leaked out, out of my agency. It has just gotten out



WARNER BROTHERS

Ben Gaghan steps out from behind the camera to ask George Clooney to put his pants back on during filming of "Syriana"

somehow, and it got photocopied and sent all over everywhere, and people really responded well to the material. It was hugely flattering. Great actors were coming forward to be a part of it. The combo of those two things really helped get the movie going, a challenging movie. So yes, I was amazed.

Q: Would you describe this movie as pessimistic?

SG: I would describe myself as pessimistic. I think I'd stand fairly closely aligned with Brent

Scowcroft. He says, "I'm a realist. I believe in the fallibility of human nature. If humans can mess something up they will." And yet, I'm also an American and I'm also an optimist, and I'm ever-hopeful that we can go out in the world and make a difference, that maybe this democracy exportation project will work, not in the short-run, but maybe in the long-run, that we can help make the world a better place, that we can stop the famine in Mogadishu, that we can get fascism off the continent of Europe and World War II.



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Spirit of Color inspires in every way

RISE
continued from page 5

"Hot Like Me" were set to popular contemporary dance songs by Kanye West and the Pussycat Dolls, other dances incorporated rock ("Walk this Way" by Aerosmith and Run-DMC in "Run SoC"), early rap ("Tricky" by Run-DMC in the same dance) and even opera ("Diva Dance" by Lucia Di Lammermoor and Inva Mulla Tchako in "In the Different Light").

In keeping with this tradition of diversity, "Rise" dealt with a number of distinct themes. "Main Attraction" and "Broken" explored sexuality and the modern courtship process, while second act showpiece "Bodyrockers" seemed to promote a spirit of healthy competition between men and women on the dance floor. In a similar vein, the act two opener "Mix It Up" allowed the women to play a dominant, almost masculine role in dance, twisting traditional ideas of gender roles in hip-hop. Other dances, like the all-female "Jungle Woman" and its all-male counterpart "Mini-Maypayo" probed the possible benefits of gender segregation.

This very diversity, however, contributed to the choppy feel of the performance as a whole. "Rise" needed a truly unifying theme. It seemed more a collection of unaffiliated dances than a cohesive, centered performance. Dances followed dances with little or no continuity, their order seemingly random. In an effort to keep the audience on its toes, SoC sacrificed its consider-

able power to make a forcible and lasting impression.

"Main Attraction" and "Broken" explored sexuality and the modern courtship process, while second act showpiece "Bodyrockers" seemed to promote a spirit of healthy competition between men and women on the dance floor.

But if the success of a show is measured in audience appreciation and enthusiasm, than "Rise" was a hit indeed. "The crowd cheered the whole time, from beginning to end," freshman Rebecca Asthalter said. "Every time the auditorium would quiet down, someone would shout 'Ess-ohh-cccc!' or their class year, and the room would erupt again. It was kind of overwhelming."

And despite trifling concerns about cohesion, at least one attendee — freshman Lelia Chaisson — exiting Cohen after the performance, thought they had achieved its goal.

"I want to do that," she said. "I want to dance."

Franklin teaches that sharing is fun

FRANKLIN
continued from page 5

What do you think is the percentage of virgins at Tufts?

- ◆30
- ◆There'll be about three of them after tonight
- ◆Between 30 and 40
- ◆12
- ◆20

How long is too long?

- ◆9 inches
- ◆30 minutes, but if she's really sexy and crazy, 90 minutes may not be enough
- ◆As long as its wet it's good
- ◆When you start to look at the clock and are like "OK...c'mon"
- ◆Too long?

How many times have you faked an orgasm?

- ◆Zero
- ◆I don't know about faking it, but it seems that when I don't have an orgasm it doesn't seem to affect the other person... they still seem pleased with themselves
- ◆Too many times!
- ◆You mean you're not supposed to?
- ◆I'm a guy so I don't have to, and girls should be honest
- ◆Faking it sucks, just tell the guy he isn't getting you off

Have you ever used a fun prop or costume?

- ◆I dressed up as a naughty nurse with stockings and heels. My boyfriend's eyes lit up and we did it ALL night long. Six times!
- ◆I was a dominatrix — I would highly recommend it!
- ◆At his request, I just kept my heels on.
- ◆I would love to have her dress up as a doctor and have her give me a check-up

What's the deal-breaker in bed for you? What would or does make you say "Um... OK... stop..."

- ◆Extremely hairy pubic regions can be a little intimidating when it comes to oral
- ◆If he said, "Hey, do you mind if I put this paper bag over your head?"
- ◆Really weird, forceful sex talk
- ◆As long as I'm the only one poking, it's good
- ◆Scratch marks all along my back
- ◆Tongue in ear!
- ◆Gratuitous violence
- ◆When he/she can't undo my bra
- ◆If he ever calls me bitch/woman, etc. I'm not having it

- ◆When she doesn't seem clean
- ◆Bad kissing
- ◆If he insinuates that I'm fat, gross or bad in bed, I'm leaving
- ◆When she performs oral sex and won't swallow but holds it in her mouth for like a minute to try to find a place to spit
- ◆"I want to be in a serious relationship with you" or "I love you"

Who's louder?

- ◆Her. I focus and get her loud
- ◆The same — moaning is SO hot
- ◆Her, although I'll be louder if she's louder. It's like encouragement.
- ◆That would be me
- ◆Her, but I chime in now and then

What is the easiest way for you to orgasm with a partner?

- ◆It's gotta be something during sex that the girl does or says that kind of catches me off-guard or that I don't expect
- ◆Vibe on clit and digital insertion = yum!
- ◆Clit stimulation
- ◆Me on top, missionary
- ◆I haven't from someone else thus far, but my battery operated friend gets me there
- ◆Girl-on-top position

Have you ever lied about how many people you've had sex with? If so, did you increase or decrease your count?

- ◆Yes, increase of course
- ◆Sometimes increase with 1 or 2
- ◆No (I got lots of these)
- ◆Decrease so I wouldn't look like a man-whore

If you could give one piece of advice to the opposite sex in regards to sex/technique, what would you say?

- ◆Ask me if you can kiss me to start if off (perhaps in a foreign language)
- ◆Don't be afraid to be forceful. Throw your man down. Be dirty and enjoy what you do to him.
- ◆Girls should stop obsessing over whether or not they look fat.
- ◆Don't use too much tongue when you kiss me. It's NOT hot.
- ◆Guys, get creative and tell me what you like about what I do and how I look naked in your bed.
- ◆Sex itself isn't always the most important part for girls. Hands and tongue can be better than a penis.
- ◆Brush your teeth
- ◆Guys don't like hand jobs from girls. They've been giving themselves hand jobs since they were 13 and they're really good at it.

Mercury rocking, rolling in his grave

DARKNESS
continued from page 5

"Way Ticket" the band expands their repertoire considerably in terms of the variety of instruments and vocal techniques. Sadly, what would appear to be a positive influence on the band proves pernicious as The Darkness uses these musical means to imitate their predecessors too closely.

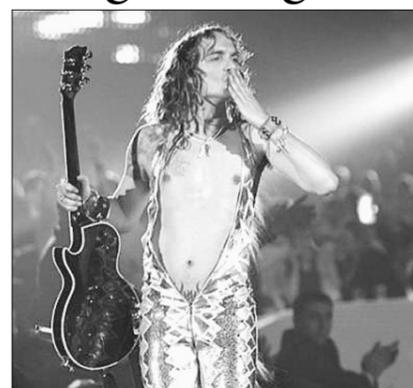
The album starts out with a one-minute pan-flute and Gregorian choir intro on the title track. During that same song, one can hear a consistent cowbell and multi-track vocals that can't help but remind listeners of AC/DC's "You Shook Me All Night Long." The album then shifts to "Knockers," a song appropriately about a woman on which Hawkins screams like Big Star's Alex Chilton in "Don't Lie to Me." The following song, "Is it Just Me?," is transformed into a blatantly Judas Priest-inspired song by dint of Hawkins' vocals and the crisp driving guitar. The same goes for "Bald" later on in the album.

Surprisingly, string and horn sections make it onto the album as well. In "Seemed Like a Good Idea at the Time," "Girlfriend," and the clincher "Blind Man," string and horn sections turn potentially emotional and lyrically potent songs into ones that resemble cheesy seventies Meat Loaf ballads. Something similar happens in "English Country Garden," where the grand piano and Hawkins's Freddie Mercury-esque vocals make the song sound as if it were straight off a Queen record.

Probably the most original song on the album is "Dinner Lady Arms." Still, it sounds as if it could be a B-side off "Permission to Land." That is, they sound like The Darkness on their first album, but it is not up to the standards of the other songs from it.

All of the aforementioned new instruments would seem to be a constructive force for the band. Yet the way in which The Darkness uses them becomes regressive as the band begins to resemble its influencers too closely.

Many of these likenesses can be attributed to the decision by The Darkness to employ producer Roy Thomas Baker.



ATLANTIC RECORDS

The Darkness are staunch advocates of public area tattoos.

Baker was the producer and a great power behind two of Queen's albums (including their seminal hit tune "Bohemian Rhapsody"). By soliciting the ex-producer of a band to which The Darkness is overwhelmingly likened, the band concedes its image as a wannabe classic rock band. This realization not only detracts from the band's credibility as artists but also damages their image as progressive musicians.

However, it would be arrogant not to point out the good in this album. The clarity of their new sound is laudable. The songs are indeed upbeat, catchy, and fun. Also, the varied and new sounds that the band takes on in "One Way Ticket" prove an admirable endeavor. They have a clear, cohesive sound and accordingly, one cannot deride the album for being as insignificant as it first seems.

Eventually it appears that The Darkness didn't actually plagiarize the sound of their classic rock idols, they likened their music to them. The group probably should have been more conspicuous of their appreciation, something that's hard to do with Queen's old producer.

Fans liked The Darkness because their oldness was something new. Hopefully, this relatively lackluster release will allow the band to see that their success emanates from their novelty, and not from their association with '70s rock and '80s hair metal.

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EDITORIAL

No quick fix for plagiarism

Though a new program for targeting plagiarizers may soon be implemented throughout the University, an over-reliance on technology could seriously jeopardize the integrity of the current academic process.

The new software program — Turnitin — which the biology department has been experimenting with, has the potential to finally minimize the mundane task of seeking out cheating students.

The software boasts strong credentials, with content available from the numerous sources most likely to be used by plagiarizers and a live Internet search. Additionally, a database is maintained with student papers to prevent the possibility of cheating with inherited work.

One of the major benefits of this program will be that it automatically provides a check against plagiarism. No longer will students be drawn to cheating with the fallacious logic that everyone is participating, and thus cheating is necessary to maintain standing.

Cheating has always existed on campus and may often slip by professors, further propagating the myth that punishment is evitable. For the small cost of only \$5,000 a year, the threat of automated screening will vastly discourage

those inclined to plagiarize.

The software also has the added benefit of forcing students to adapt innovative writing styles to distinguish themselves from sources. While this may not be the most effective way of teaching writing, so long as students are learning to be creative it serves a purpose, and often helps concretize material in students' minds.

Though the program has so far proven to be a success in the Biology 13 and 14 classes where it has debuted, the implementation of this new tool, University-wide, will require modification of many professors' curricula.

Group work has always been a significant element of a Tufts classroom experience, and this important process will be challenged with the implementation of Turnitin. Cooperation is not synonymous with plagiarism, and it is highly probable that students working together would end up with similar phrasing. This does not necessarily detract from the ultimate goal of learning course material, and in fact contributes to a broader education involving team interaction.

Cooperative work would be threatened because of the use of what Turnitin calls the "Originality Report." A simple numeral is intended to represent how original a

piece is, though it could ultimately end up as a biased indicator leading to grading prejudice.

It is feasible for a student to use common phrasing with no malicious intentions — resulting in a poor score — without any instance of plagiarism. In addition by ranking students based on their Originality Report, professors may be likely attribute higher grades to better scores — a phenomenon which could occur completely by chance.

The necessity of this program also reveals a fundamental problem that infests the Hill. It is disappointing that professors must resort to a computer program in order to catch cheaters. More reliable and effective means of reducing cheating include obtaining the respect of students, and indicating a concern for this problem. Ultimately the most reliable means of discouraging cheaters is professors who put time in to carefully read papers.

While the program does much to promote academic integrity, its shortcomings must be accounted for during its implementation. Technology should not replace honor codes and solidarity among honest students; it must only act as a spot check, designed to provide a rough indication of suspect coursework.

NATE BEELER



CORRECTION

In the article in Dec. 5's Arts section entitled "Taking a trip down 'Glory Road,'" the author was misidentified as Kelly Rizzetta. The article was actually written by Gabriela Jirasek.

OFF THE HILL EDITORIAL | UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS

Texas needs to re-redistrict

DAILY TEXAN

Democrats and Justice Department lawyers may soon have their day in court to argue against the legality of the Texas re-districting plan orchestrated by former House Majority Leader, Tom DeLay, R-Sugar Land. The U.S. Supreme Court is expected to announce this week whether it will agree to hear arguments to overturn the redistricting that took place in 2002.

According to The Associated Press, top agents in the Justice Department ignored a memo that was written by eight department staffers, which concluded Texas has not "met its burden in

showing that the proposed congressional redistricting plan does not have a discriminatory effect." According to The Washington Post, such recommendation memos, while not binding, historically carry great weight within the Justice Department.

Since its implementation, the redistricting plan has been challenged in court by Democrats and minority voting groups claiming it was unconstitutional because changing district boundaries illegally gave one party an unfair advantage.

Burying the memo, which was released by the agency on Friday, is just another example of the across-the-board political corruption surrounding

the Bush administration. Allowing the Texas Legislature to approve its redistricting plan without weighing the testimony in the memo violates the provision of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, which requires Texas to get Justice Department approval for any voting changes it makes to ensure the changes don't undercut minority voting.

Whether the Justice Department never received the memo before approving the redistricting, or whether it chose to ignore the memo, the Supreme Court should rule the redistricting plan illegal and force the Texas Legislature to rethink it and make it more representational for all of Texas before the next redistricting.

In defense of torture

BY PATRICK RANDALL

A good portion of our country is outraged as more and more comes out about the use of secret detention camps in Eastern Europe and the Enhanced Interrogation Techniques used by the CIA for information extraction, including “belly slapping” and “waterboarding.” It’s time to see torture for what it is: a legitimate tool of government for the preservation of national security.

Allow me to treat the moral aspects of this subject and move on, since I’m aware that it’s pointless to focus on the moral case for torture when there are people on this campus who believe that thousands of lives in peril can never justify degrading, hurtful treatment of individuals. Suffice it to say, most of our detainees deserve a lot more than an open-handed slap to the stomach; I’d suggest the insertion of needles beneath their fingernails, for starters. But it’s not about what detainees deserve or don’t deserve. It’s about how and when we can use them for information.

As Charles Krauthammer has aptly pointed out, there are uniformed prisoners of war and then there are terrorists. He notes that according to the Geneva Conventions — which

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CORBIS

were designed to prevent the abuse of civilians by combatants — individuals “would be denied the protections of that code if they broke the laws of war and abused civilians themselves.” This means that torture (and I’ll include things like the

belly slap, even though I’ve been subjected to far worse by my younger sisters) is a legitimate practice of our government and federal agencies for the purpose of information extraction.

I’ll admit, torture is not often

the most effective method of obtaining vital information, and neither are its results always accurate. But this only means that we should be discriminating in its use. To take an option off the table simply because it does not always

achieve the desired result would be to eliminate a tool that sometimes does the job when nothing else can. The Israelis could tell you that.

It is for these reasons that

see TORTURE, page 10

MEREDITH PICKETT | THE EYES OF TEXAS



Finals. Boo.

Chestnuts roasting on an open fire ... Jack Frost nipping at your nose.

Folks may be dressed up like Eskimos, but there are no yuletide carols being sung by this fire. Why? Because it’s finals time, and in college dorms across the country, students are burning the midnight oil rather than burning the Yule log. As I sit here staring at the snow falling outside, I think about how cruel it is that just as the spirit of the season is growing, my semester is blowing.

I hate finals. I always have. Even in high school, while everyone else was studying, I was handing out candy canes and wrapping last minute presents. Who needs math when it’s 65 degrees? That’s almost cold enough to wear a scarf! (I’m from Texas ... we take what we can get.)

I have never come out of finals with higher grades. Does this mean that I am a bad student? Does this mean that my future is doomed, because I can’t convince my head that it is better to cram for tests than to spend time with my friends and family?

I say no. What do finals do for you? Nothing. I hold fast to the idea that taking finals is not a life skill. I am not going to be a professional student, so why am I per-

see PICKETT, page 10

Meredith Pickett is a sophomore majoring in history. She can be reached via e-mail at meredith.pickett@tufts.edu

OFF THE HILL | UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

Death penalty demands certainty

BY MIKE SKELLY
Badger Herald

Even death could not end the death penalty debate.

Since the federal moratorium on the death penalty ended in 1976 there has been sustained and increasing use of the highest punishment that American courts are allowed to mete out. The death penalty has come under additional scrutiny lately, as the 1,000th execution to be carried out after its reinstatement looms near. The state of Wisconsin stands to move into the middle of this imbroglio as state legislators consider legislation that would legalize the death penalty in one of the 12 states that still has a ban on the sentence.

If a death penalty bill were to pass, it would be the first time since 1853 that Wisconsin would have capital punishment in its law books. Why — after all this time — is this issue being rekindled? There is no crime wave, nor a particularly visible crime that has shocked the state. If the state of Wisconsin is to seriously consider this, it is essential to look at all possible ramifications that could arise from its implementation.

The death sentence has two ostensible purposes. The first is to deter serious criminal activity. The rationale for this argument is rather syllogistic: If a state has the death penalty, criminals will be more reticent to commit crimes that qualify as capital cases, thus causing a decrease in the targeted criminal activity. It is of a dubious nature. According to the Death Penalty Information Center, the murder rate in states with the death penalty is dispro-

portionately higher than in those states without it. Furthermore, this disparity has been increasing, even as murder rates have fallen. In 1990, the difference between the two stood at 4 percent. By 2003, the gap had increased to 44 percent.

Current counts put the number of death-row inmates exonerated of their crimes at more than 110, and there have admittedly been innocent men put to death.

The second — and more cogent — purpose is that some crimes are, by their nature, so heinous as to invalidate even the possibility of an attempt at reform, thus necessitating a punishment that is commensurate with the offense. Through the winnowing of history, murder remains the only crime in this country with the requisite egregiousness to merit even consideration of the death penalty. There are some very specific instances where the death penalty would be applicable and would serve justice in a way that an ordinary punishment could not. A prisoner serving life who kills a guard is probably not too concerned with having extra years added onto his or her sentence.

Although there are valid points supporting the use of the death penalty for select crimes, the most salient problem arises from the fallibility of the persons responsible for its application. Current counts put the number of death-row

inmates exonerated of their crimes at more than 110, and there have been innocent men put to death.

Marquette University political science professor John McAdams claims this is merely a result of realizing policy. “The mass public isn’t particularly deterred by the notion there may be some innocent people on death row,” said McAdams. “No public policy works perfectly ... so they’re realistic about policy.”

This margin of error is due to overuse of capital punishment. While murder should remain the standard at which crimes become capital, there should still be reluctance in applying the death penalty. Cases that are especially horrific, or where other types of punishment would not serve justice in an equal way, are the instances when capital punishment should be sought.

The requirements to seek and convict on a capital crime should become more stringent. These requirements should include conclusive DNA evidence and not hinge on circumstantial evidence.

The absoluteness of the death penalty leaves no margin for error. To look to what foreign governments suggest or statistical studies indicate should be an irrelevant factor for what Wisconsin decides on the death penalty. The basis for evaluation should begin with one’s sense of justice, personal liberty and value of life. If the death penalty can achieve justice without endangering personal liberty through insufficient investigative means and error-prone decisions, then maybe reversing 150 years of history might not be out of order.

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.

Torture off of U.S. soil is a legitimate and necessary tool to secure our country

TORTURE

continued from page 9

the wide-sweeping amendment banning all torture that was pushed through by John McCain is dangerous and foolhardy. The vital operations of our military and government, which have already demonstrated inefficiency and miscalculation in the area of intelligence, should not be further hampered by the indignant opposition of Congress or the public.

The military, FBI and CIA know best what information they need, and they know best how to get it. Where there are incompetent interrogators, Congress should be making it easier for the government to implement programs that will produce interrogators who are well-trained and well-versed in the art of torture and the laws surrounding it. This will allow our men and women on the ground to receive timely, accurate intelligence that will save American lives at home and overseas.

Many Americans fail to understand that not everyone has the same rights, and that those rights change based on circumstance. It is a fundamental prin-

ciple of American jurisprudence that those who act in violation of the law forfeit certain rights. Has a convicted prisoner ever gotten out of jail for complaining that he wasn't allowed the pursuit of happiness? Due process of law is another necessary component of our legal system. That is why the cases of some of our detainees should never reach the legal system to begin with.

Torture (and I'll include things like the belly slap, even though I've been subjected to far worse by my younger sisters) is a legitimate practice of our government and federal agencies for the purpose of information extraction.

The beautiful thing about American democracy is the ability of each individ-

ual to vote; anyone who abhors torture in all its forms and uses can vote to elect legislators and a president who share those views. The beautiful thing about the CIA is that it doesn't care what the public thinks. Secrecy is a vital aspect of the Agency's work; affording every detainee the gamut of our legal services is costly and counter-productive. The public doesn't need to know whether an architect of the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks is having his belly slapped pink, and neither does Congress.

As long as the treatment of high-level terrorists is left to the CIA, national security won't be compromised by the tedium of the judiciary. This is why secret detention camps in Europe are an excellent solution. Because they are located on soil outside American jurisdiction, recent rulings of the Supreme Court that ensure *habeas corpus* petitions for prisoners held in places like Guantanamo Bay do not apply. As long as the law of the host countries doesn't create obstacles, we can hold terrorists indefinitely, interrogating them for the rest of their lives if need be.

But remember this if you take nothing else away from the article: our government is going to use torture whether you like it or not.

Some of you reading this will be horrified at the moral callousness, disregard for international norms, and disdain for governmental transparency that must characterize anyone who defends torture. If you take nothing else away from the article remember this: Our government is going to use torture whether you like it or not. It gives me a warm sense of satisfaction to know that regardless of the public outcry, regardless of the inhibitions of senators, our country will continue to torture. As long as there are people who hold these views, America will preserve its security by whatever means necessary.

Falling asleep during your final might land you in the Napping Hall of Fame

PICKETT

continued from page 9

fecting my final-taking abilities?

Finals are cruel and unusual. They take place over a few days. It's snowing and cheery outside. Students are homesick, especially those who didn't go home for Thanksgiving. They can count for half of your grade. At the same time, we start to realize that we won't see our friends for a month and want to spend every moment with them. And who wants to memorize note cards and write millions of pages? Not me!

Finals are not about who is smarter or will be more successful in life. They are about who hates life more.

I like that in many classes, you don't

even know how you are doing in the class until finals.

"Hey Meredith, how are your classes going?"

"Well, I don't know. You see, I've been working and working all semester, but that doesn't matter, because it all comes down to this one paper which I have to write at the same time that I write two other papers and take two tests! That sounds fair, doesn't it?"

It's nice knowing that we are all in the same boat, but it is disheartening to know that the same ones come out of finals doing worse. The ones who come out with A's at some point during the week will break out in hysterical fits of laughter, cry in the library, or fall asleep mid-conversation. It's

entertaining to watch but sad at the same time.

Last year when I came home for winter break, I was in a semi-vegetative state. I had written 12 pages and taken two finals in two days. I was in my insomnia stage. It was the era of the famous seven-hour nap, which I'm pretty sure is immortalized in the Napping Hall of Fame. I actually fell asleep during one of my finals. And what did I have to show for all of this agony? Equal or worse grades in all of my classes. When I got back from my first semester of college, I looked like a train wreck with darker hair and pasty white skin. I had not seen the sun in weeks.

In middle school, we took finals to prepare us for high school. In high school, we

took finals to prepare us for college. Why do we take finals in college? To prepare us for the outside world? I don't think so. If I ever apply for a job and one of the qualifications is to be a good finals taker, I won't take it.

Finals are awful, and I'm awful at taking them. They ruin an otherwise awesome semester. I know there is nothing to be done about finals, but I would just like to let all you students know that I, too, am sympathetic to the horror of finals.

But since this is my last column for a while, I want to wish everyone a good finals time and a great break. And if you want to reach me, I'll be in the library, staring out of the window looking at the snow falling and wishing I were in Texas.



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Bright lights, but no clear favorite, in GOP presidential race

BY KATHERINE M. SKIBA
Knight Ridder Tribune

Only two men — Republican Warren G. Harding in 1920 and Democrat John F. Kennedy in 1960 — have captured the White House while serving in the United States Senate.

But never mind history. When veteran GOP consultants put their heads together last week, two senators, John McCain of Arizona and George Allen of Virginia, emerged as today's top

Republican candidates for 2008.

Others names were mentioned, including those of Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, former New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani and former House Speaker Newt Gingrich.

Two governors also came up: Mitt Romney of Massachusetts and Mike Huckabee of Arkansas.

So did Sen. Rick Santorum of Pennsylvania, providing he wins what is regarded as a tough reelection bid in '06.

Then there's what consultant

Linda DiVall called the race's "great unknown": Will Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice throw her hat in the ring?

DiVall and four other consultants, all leading political strategists or pollsters, spoke on a panel, "Seeing Red: What's Next for the Republicans," at a conference hosted by University of Virginia's Center for Politics and The Hotline, a political news service.

McCain brings star power to the race, a record of voting

against excessive spending and a war record so potent that the Bush-Kerry fight in 2004 over whose military credentials were better would "go out the window," said Kellyanne Conway of the polling company inc.

She acknowledged that some conservatives still are smarting over McCain's leadership on campaign-finance reform, believing that the reforms he and Sen. Russ Feingold, D-Wis., helped enact are unconstitutional and prevent them from getting

out their message.

Yet, she said, "any Republican would be proud to have John McCain running."

She wasn't shy about singing Allen's praises, either, noting that Republicans say he reminds them of George W. Bush. Allen is likable, youthful but tough and has a conservative voting record, Conway said.

Tony Fabrizio termed Allen "remarkable," an "excellent campaigner" and a "great fundraiser."

see **GOP**, page 12

Urban schools argue in favor of debate, if only to keep students on right track

BY DAHLEEN GLANTON
Knight Ridder Tribune

Two years ago, just as she was about to become a teenager, Michelle Parks' life was at a crossroads.

Her friends in the public housing development where she lived were engaged in an all-out effort to recruit her into their gang. And at school, teachers who saw potential beneath her tough, street-smart exterior were urging her to join a debate program that was about to get under way.

"It was a big decision," said Parks, now 15, speaking with the confidence of someone twice her age. "I had to listen to my conscience. I knew the gang was going to keep me in trouble and debate was going to keep me out of trouble. So, in the end, I followed my own mind."

The decision to take up debate changed her life. A girl who had never been much farther than the boundaries of her public housing apartments now has been places she never dreamed of seeing, including the White House at the invitation of First Lady Laura Bush.

Parks has become a poster child for urban debate teams, a trend that has taken the art of debating from the clutches of wealthy private schools and spread it to public



JESSICA MCGOWAN/KRT

Debaters Gerald Norwood (from left), Joshua Simmons, Shavarious Render, Robin Ayers and Ron Shirley rehearse in Atlanta, Ga.

schools. Across the nation, in cities such as Chicago and Atlanta, thou-

sands of mostly black and Hispanic

see **DEBATE**, page 12

Coast Guard boarding teams part of post-Sept. 11 security

BY JUSTO BAUTISTA
Knight Ridder Tribune

On a recent November morning, Petty Officer Tim Fosdick and his eight-man team scrambled down a ladder from the Coast Guard cutter Spencer, boarded a small swift boat, and raced to a giant cargo ship anchored south of the Verrazano-Narrows Bridge in New York Bay.

The Coast Guard had been tracking the ship — the CP Kanha — for days, so its arrival was not unexpected.

There was nothing sinister about the Kanha, a new 850-foot-long ship registered in Hong Kong and carrying thousands of brightly colored brown, green, blue and gray containers to Port Newark.

But because the ship was making its first visit to a U.S. port, it was automatically deemed a "high interest vessel" by the Coast Guard, warranting a boots-on-the-deck inspection.

The boarding teams are part of the Coast Guard's expanded post-Sept. 11 anti-terrorism program under the Maritime Transportation Security Act of 2002 to ensure U.S. ports are safe from terrorists.

Two teams are stationed at Fort Wadsworth on Staten Island

in Sector New York, the Coast Guard's busiest field command in the nation.

"This is rooted in 9-11," said Lt. Patrick Gallagher, chief of the tactical operations section at Sector New York. "We've become a much more robust program. Before 9-11, marine inspectors would go out and do safety compliance exams. They were not armed."

Boarding teams are armed with 9mm Berettas and also take along a shotgun or an M-16.

Even before the Kanha was boarded, Fosdick knew all about the ship and its crew, thanks to new Coast Guard security measures that now require ships to give U.S. ports a 96-hour advance notice of arrival instead of 24 hours as in the past. Each ship is also required to have an identifying transponder that allows the Coast Guard to track them.

Arrival notices must include details about the ship's country of registry, call sign, general description of the cargo, and date of departure from its last port. The names of all persons on board — crews and passengers — their birth dates, nationalities and passport numbers are also in the notice.

"We want to account for everybody," Fosdick said.

The lion, the witch and the sermon: Disney hypes 'Narnia' to Christians

BY DAVID O'REILLY
Knight Ridder Tribune

Attention, pastors: You have just four weeks remaining to work a lion, a witch or a wardrobe into your next sermon.

Walt Disney Pictures is so eager for churches to turn out audiences for "The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe," which opens Friday, that it's offering a free trip to London — and \$1,000 cash — to the winner of its big promotional sermon contest.

The only catch is that the sermons must mention "Narnia," based on the hugely popular children's books about four British children who walk through an uncle's magic armoire into an enchanted kingdom.

Sermo-mercials are just one of the ways promoters hired by Disney and its production partner, Walden Media, are peddling "Lion" as a kind of Christian-themed "Harry Potter."

Hollywood has been doing this sort of thing since "The Ten

Commandments" in 1956, when Cecil B. DeMille had study guides sent to schools.

With "Narnia," producers have an epic that works both as religious allegory and secular fantasy.

The question is whether "Narnia" can capture both audiences — combining the box-office power of "The Lord of the Rings" with "The Passion of the Christ."

Tacky or not, Disney's goal is to create the kind of buzz among Christians — especially evangelicals — that made Mel Gibson's "Passion" such a box-office smash in 2004, with more than \$600 million in worldwide ticket sales.

The \$150 million epic is being pitched to the skateboard-and-mallrat crowd with ads featuring scary-looking battle scenes and a scowling lion who looks as if he might eat a 10-year-old for breakfast.

For the Christian devout, however, the approach is downright lamblike.

"Invite your community to explore the inspirational truths



MINDY SCHAUER/KRT

Pastor Tom Holliday of the Saddleback Church in Orange, Calif., is taking members of his congregation to a special advance screening of "The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe," which is based on the series of books by devoutly Christian theologian C.S. Lewis.

found in "Narnia," reads a promotional magazine sent recently to tens of thousands of Christian congregations.

Through hired agencies, Disney is encouraging churches to paint lion faces on their preschoolers; show preview trail-

ers to their congregations; discuss "Narnia" in Sunday school, and develop "Narnia"-themed Christmas pageants.

No clear GOP front-runner in the 2008 presidential race

GOP
continued from page 11

Allen is the type of candidate people immediately like — “his politics become almost secondary to his personality,” said Fabrizio, of Fabrizio, McLaughlin & Associates.

But there are the downsides.

For McCain, a fourth-term senator who lost the 2000 GOP nomination to Bush, it was positioning himself as a moderate.

As midterm elections near in 2006, there was little hand-wringing. Fabrizio was the exception, believing it possible that the GOP could lose control of the U.S. Senate, though he feels its majority in the House is secure.

For Allen, a first-term senator, it was inexperience in a national contest.

From Fabrizio, on McCain: “His problem is that he has a disconnect with the largest segment of the party — and that is the moral conservatives.”

From DiVall, on Allen: “A candidate with great potential, but let’s face it, running in Virginia is one thing versus running in roughly 30 primary contests.”

Usually front-runners win because they’ve been around the track before, as McCain has from

the 2000 contest, said DiVall, with the firm American Viewpoint. McCain “has been around the track, he’s learned a lot of lessons, is a conservative candidate, has a great story to tell,” she added.

One matter of agreement: The GOP is a party with a number of wings.

There are fiscal conservatives, national security conservatives, moral conservatives (opposed to abortion and gay marriage) and social conservatives (concerned about education, health care and Social Security), according to the consultants, who urged GOP candidates not to ignore two other groups: libertarians and independents.

John Brabender, of BrabenderCox, said the potential loss of moderate Republican women voters was a danger for the party. The war on terror had been about keeping your family safe, he said, but now the discussion has become, “Should we even be in this war?”

He pointed out that health care and energy were becoming important issues, “which, frankly, our party has yet to appropriately address.”

As midterm elections near in 2006, there was little hand-wringing. Fabrizio was the exception, believing it possible that the GOP could lose control of the U.S. Senate, though he feels its majority in the House is secure.

None of the strategists, though, embraced the return of indicted Rep. Tom DeLay, R-Texas, to the position of majority leader.

“If he’s exonerated, fine,” said Fabrizio, saying DeLay had gone from a non-entity to a lightning rod for the left.

At urban schools, debate teams teach students to solve problems with words, not violence

DEBATE
continued from page 11

students from poor neighborhoods are learning to use words as a weapon in their personal war against poverty, underachievement and violence.

While debate teams were prevalent in all-white urban public schools prior to the 1960s, they had for the most part vanished by the 1980s when those schools became predominantly black and faced severe budget cuts.

Since Emory University started the first Urban Debate League in Atlanta in 1985, the program has spread to 335 high schools and middle schools across the country, involving more than 3,750 students.

“Debate teams have always been like the lacrosse of academic competition in prep schools, private schools and affluent suburban schools,” said Les Lynn, executive director of the National Association of Urban Debate Leagues, based in Chicago. “It has been rediscovered by urban education leadership because it engages and motivates kids and brings about competition the way sports do.”

In Atlanta, a program began last year targeting middle-school students from public housing developments in the city.

Parks was one of the earliest students to participate in the Computer Assisted Debate program, which has been selected as a signature program for the first lady’s Helping America’s Youth initiative.

Bush visited Benjamin S. Carson Honors Preparatory School, one of the two schools in Atlanta where the program takes place, last spring to view the pro-

gram. Parks, who gave the introduction during the visit, was invited to speak at a White House summit in October.

Recently Parks, now a 9th-grader at another school, returned to Carson to talk to younger students about her success. She promised them they could go just as far if they worked hard.

Already, some of them were clearly on their way.

During the group session, held twice a week at the school, about two dozen 6th-, 7th- and 8th-graders studied their research on topics ranging from the war in Iraq to the USA Patriot Act. They stood and read aloud, practicing their enunciation and preparing themselves for a well thought-out argument defending their positions.

On this day, the subject was whether the United States has the right to torture suspected terrorists to gain information. Thirteen-year-old Shavarious Render, an 8th-grader who thought there could be a benefit in limited torture, defended his position against 12-year-old Ron Shirley, a 7th-grader, who was against torture.

“We should have the right to torture if they have information we need. You need to try to get it out of them,” said Render. “That is what the police do when they take you into that room. They do that to get information.”

Shirley countered that there is a historical pattern of torture.

“Many people did this. The Nazis tortured Jewish people because they didn’t like them,” Shirley said.

A year ago, Shirley and Render were more likely to have been in a fight on the playground than

arguing over torture. But since joining the debate program, they have gained more confidence and are looking to the future.

This is exactly what Marvin Nesbitt of the Atlanta Housing Authority had in mind when he approached officials at Emory University, Georgia State University and the Boys & Girls Clubs about starting a debating program for public housing students after learning about a program in Baltimore on CBS’ “60 Minutes” program in 2003.

“Debate is not typically used as intervention, but I thought it was time to try it,” said Nesbitt. “Our

Across the nation, in cities such as Chicago and Atlanta, thousands of mostly black and Hispanic students from poor neighborhoods are learning to use words as a weapon in their personal war against poverty, underachievement and violence.

inner-city instinct is to argue, and that is one thing debate allows them to do. It’s almost like a trick. You present it to them in a way they are used to, and once you get their attention, you sneak the learning in.”

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Throng crowd to see Mao's embalmed body, 29 years later



DOUG KANTER/KRT

Mao memorabilia for sale near Tiananmen Square in Beijing, China on Nov. 30. As China careens into the modern age, the Communist Party clutches to Mao Zedong as a monumental figurehead, 29 years after his passing.

BY TIM JOHNSON
AND FAN LINJUN
Knight Ridder Tribune

Mao Zedong is a national hero in China — but to some Chinese his steadfast allure also presents a business opportunity.

On all but the most inclement days of the year, tens of thousands of Chinese line up in central Beijing at Mao Zedong's memorial hall to walk past a likeness of him lying in waxy splendor.

Nearly three decades after his death, his embalmed body lies in a crystal coffin, draped by the red flag of the Communist Party, looking rosy-cheeked and rested. Authorities claim it's the actual body, not a wax effigy, and the dim lighting and distance from the coffin make it hard to offer an

assessment.

Most provincial Chinese visitors, wearing the clothing of poor farmers, come with an attitude of reverence.

"As the songs we sang in our childhood go, there was no new China without Chairman Mao," said Xia Xinchun, a visitor from Henan province to the granite memorial hall in the center of Tiananmen Square. "I admire him a lot."

It can take one to two hours in line to gain entrance. As visitors enter, they're asked to spend about 37 cents each to buy plastic carnations to place at the foot of a huge white statue of Mao. The flowers are later gathered and resold.

Others also seek to make a profit off Mao, who despised capitalists.

Chinese cities have restaurants with Mao themes that

specialize in the spicy cuisine of his native Hunan province. Mao trinkets, hats and little porcelain statues also are widely hawked.

Gui Ying, 54, runs a market stall crammed with Mao pictures, posters, ceramic statues and other artifacts. During the Cultural Revolution (1966-76), Chinese everywhere had Mao's picture on their walls, read his books, heard his quotations on public loudspeakers and wore his image on pins.

"Most of my customers are foreigners, especially Americans," Gui said.

Many older Chinese visit, too, and ask for the prices of this and that.

"I know clearly they are not true customers," Gui said. "They probably have the same thing in their home and just want to know the price."

Kazakh president easily wins re-election, exit polls indicate

BY ALEX RODRIGUEZ
Knight Ridder Tribune

Kazakhstan's only post-Soviet leader, Nursultan Nazarbayev, appeared poised to handily win re-election Sunday, giving him another seven years at the helm of a regime that has nurtured Central Asia's largest economy but failed to bring the oil-rich republic any closer to democracy.

Blessed with vast oil and gas reserves, Kazakhstan's economy under Nazarbayev has grown by up to 10 percent in each of the last six years. The Central Asian state has a burgeoning middle class, a rarity in a region saddled with rampant poverty.

However, like other apparatchiks who went on to lead their nations after the 1991 Soviet collapse, Nazarbayev has a track record of suppressing political opponents, controlling the media and manipulating elections to ensure he and his allies stay in power.

That pattern appeared to continue through the run-up to Sunday's election. International observers say the campaign was marred by the government's seizure of pro-opposition newspapers, a ban on any public discussion of oil-related corruption allegations involving Nazarbayev, and charges that opposition activists were arrested and beaten by Kazakh security forces.

The campaign also was clouded by the murder of Zamanbek Nurkadilov, a prominent opposition activist found shot to death at his home Nov.

13. Though he had two bullet wounds to his chest and one to his head, Kazakh authorities suggested he committed suicide. Nurkadilov once worked in Nazarbayev's government, but left last year after accusing the Kazakh leader of corruption.

"When it comes to the development of democracy, we haven't seen any real steps in this direction," said Erkin Tukumov, head of the Central Asian Foundation for Democracy Development. "In Kazakhstan, we can only talk about cosmetic changes."

Nazarbayev's four opponents were never regarded as strong contenders. His chief rival, Zharmakhan Tuyakbai, is a former speaker of Kazakhstan's lower house of parliament and leader of the For a Just Kazakhstan Party. His platform included a promise to channel half of Kazakhstan's oil and gas revenues directly into the bank accounts of Kazakh citizens.

Results of exit polls late Sunday showed Nazarbayev winning by an overwhelming margin. An exit poll by the Moscow-based Center for Political Technologies gave Nazarbayev 87 percent of the vote, compared with 8.5 percent for Tuyakbai. Another poll gave Nazarbayev 86.9 percent of the vote.

Speaking to reporters after voting in Astana, the Kazakh capital, Nazarbayev said he did everything he could to "hold this election in an open and competition-based way."

see KAZAKH, page 15

Terror strikes Israel



YOSSI ZAMIR/KRT

Investigators gather outside Hasharon shopping center in Netanya after a Palestinian suicide bomber killed himself and five others and wounded many more on Monday.

Venezuelan official may have aided insurgents

BY STEVEN DUDLEY
Knight Ridder Tribune

A Venezuelan diplomat in Quito arranged to send members of a fledgling Ecuadorean rebel group for guerrilla training in Venezuela, two Ecuadorean military reports say.

The reports, obtained by The Miami Herald, added that the diplomat, political attache Gustavo Bastardo, advised the newborn Alfarist Liberation

Army, known by its Spanish acronym as ELA, that the Cuban Embassy in Quito also could help.

Venezuela's embassy here and its Foreign Ministry in Caracas did not reply to Herald requests for comment.

But leftist President Hugo Chavez has denied prior allegations that his supporters provided guerrilla training in Venezuela for Ecuadorean and other Latin American radicals.

"Not one of those accusations has been proven ... because they are absolutely false," Chavez declared in a speech last month, blaming the allegations on U.S. "disinformation."

But if the Ecuadorean intelligence reports prove true, they would bolster U.S. allegations that Chavez is trying to destabilize Latin America by aiding subversive groups in the region.

see INSURGENTS, page 15

New parliament members ignore Koizumi's call against factions

YOMIURI SHIMBUN
Knight Ridder Tribune

Against the urging of Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi, nearly one-third of the 83 Liberal Democratic Party members newly elected in September's House of Representatives poll have joined party factions.

According to sources, 26 of "Koizumi's kids" had joined LDP factions as of Saturday, and more are expected to do so.

Their move came despite the prime minister and LDP Secretary General Tsutomu

Takebe, who advocate the abolition of factions, having told the new faces that the factions are redundant.

Koizumi advised the political freshmen not to rush to join factions before the party's presidential election next autumn when he spoke to about 40 of them Friday at a luncheon meeting at his official residence.

"Factions will lose power. It's better for you to carefully consider the issue for the coming year or so while watching developments," Koizumi told them, as LDP factions — are expected to battle for power leading

up to the presidential poll.

Koizumi also said, "I promise you that the secretary general and I shall establish a system in which you can work effectively as politicians and contest elections without having to join factions."

But a sizable number of Koizumi's proteges are expected to rely on factional support over such matters as the next lower house election, and also due to their lack of knowledge about handling petitions over the fiscal 2006 budget.

Of the 26 new faces who have joined factions, seven, the largest number, have

joined former Prime Minister Yoshiro Mori's faction, from which Koizumi emerged and to which Chief Cabinet Secretary Shinzo Abe — a leading candidate to succeed the prime minister — belongs.

Five each joined the faction led by Taku Yamasaki to which Takebe belongs, and one led by Economy, Trade and Industry Minister Toshihiro Nikai, the former LDP Election Bureau Director General who ran the last election campaign for the party.

Takebe is trying to make other internal

see PARLIAMENT, page 15

Popular uprising to topple authoritarian leaders unlikely in Kazakhstan

KAZAKH

continued from page 13

Observers with the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe are expected to release their conclusions about the election Monday, an evaluation likely to be watched closely by the Bush administration.

Like last month's tainted parliament elections in Azerbaijan, the Kazakh presidential election puts Washington in the uncomfortable position of balancing its energy interests in the region with President Bush's push for democracy development throughout the world.

Western oil companies have invested heavily in Kazakhstan, expected to become one of the world's leading oil exporters in 10 years. By 2015, production is supposed to triple to more than 3 million barrels per day. Overall, U.S. companies provide about a third of the foreign investment coming into Kazakhstan.

In years past, Washington muted its criticism of Nazarbayev. However, in October, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice included Kazakhstan on her swing through Central Asia and reminded Nazarbayev's regime that democratic

advances had to accompany economic reform. "Wise statesmen know, and history shows, that political and economic freedom must advance together and complement one another," she said.

While former Soviet republics Georgia, Ukraine and Kyrgyzstan have seen popular uprisings topple authoritarian leaders, Kazakhstan is seen as an unlikely candidate for revolution, in part because the country's economic gains have made Nazarbayev popular among the nation's 15 million Kazakhs.

"The country is prospering, and those who are smart will make money now,"

said Aliya Askarova, a 36-year-old business owner from Almaty, Kazakhstan's largest city. "He's a smart man — he doesn't disturb businesspeople, and that's exactly what we need. We don't touch the politicians, and they don't touch us."

Many Kazakhs believe political upheaval isn't worth risking the stability the country enjoys with Nazarbayev in power. Revolutions in Ukraine and Kyrgyzstan ousted autocratic regimes, but both countries have struggled politically and economically since the uprisings.

Venezuelan diplomat has advised Ecuadorean insurgents, reports say

INSURGENTS

continued from page 13

In turn, Chavez has accused U.S. officials of plotting to topple him because of his opposition to U.S. policies.

Last month, reports by The Herald and the Quito newspaper El Comercio quoted a third Ecuadorean intelligence report as saying that three ELA members and 17 other Latin Americans underwent guerrilla training in Venezuela in April.

None of the three reports could be independently verified. But Ecuadorean military intelligence officers and a top government official confirmed that they were authentic products of the armed forces. They requested anonymity because they lacked permission to talk to the media.

In turn, Chavez has accused U.S. officials of plotting to topple him because of his opposition to U.S. policies.

According to the two Ecuadorean intelligence reports most recently obtained by The Herald, ELA members met with Bastardo three times to discuss traveling to Venezuela to undergo guerrilla training.

One of them says that at a meeting at the embassy on Sept. 28, 2004, Bastardo told ELA militants that he had arranged for them to meet in Caracas with members of ETA, the violent Basque separatist group, who had "specific instructions to coordinate the training that the Ecuadorean subversive group is looking for."

The trip was supposed to occur in December during the "Intellectual and Artists World Meeting," a Caracas gathering of leftist Latin American groups that included the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia guerrillas, better known as FARC.

Bastardo told the ELA members to register at the forum as members of Ecuador's Agustin Cueva Cultural Center, according to the report. The cultural center's goal was described in forum materials as giving "political instruction to Ecuadorean youth ... taking into account the principal revolutionary thinkers embodied in historical figures like Bolivar, Alfaro, Che."

ELA draws its name from Eloy Alfaro, an Ecuadorean general and president who was assassinated in 1912. Andean independence hero Simon Bolivar is Chavez's icon, and Argentine-born Ernesto "Che" Guevara was a hero of Fidel Castro's Cuban revolution.

The second Ecuadorean intelligence report says Bastardo met with ELA two more times in his embassy. On March 17, it says, ELA asked for money to launch a new magazine, but Bastardo told the Ecuadoreans that they could also get assistance from others.

"For this work, there are three defined centers that push, assist, and direct this ideological process in Ecuador, which are: the Venezuelan embassy, the Cuban embassy, and the FARC," the report says Bastardo told the ELA members.

It's not known whether ELA in fact received help from either Cuba or the FARC. The Cuban Embassy in Quito did not reply to requests for comment.

On March 24, the report states, ELA and Bastardo met in the embassy again and talked about obtaining the funding to send four ELA members to Venezuela for "training in urban guerrilla" warfare in April.

The Ecuadorean government of President Alfredo Palacio has downplayed The Herald and El Comercio stories. Chavez has offered to help this country's economy by buying its bonds, providing it with cheap oil and building a refinery here. Bastardo was still assigned to the Venezuelan Embassy here as of early last month.

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Koizumi's anti-factions call ignored

PARLIAMENT

continued from page 13

groupings — such as gatherings of party members based on proportional representation blocs in the lower house election — replace factions' functions.

But one of the freshmen joined the Yamasaki faction, saying, "I was looked after by Secretary General Takebe in my election."

Two of the newcomers also have been participating in meetings of the Nikai faction as observers, though they have not officially joined.

One of the two said, "Though I respect the prime minister's wishes, I can't ignore Mr. Nikai's influence."

Expecting the battle over the party presidential election to select Koizumi's successor will start early next year, LDP factions are aiming to boost their membership, even as little as by one, to increase their influence.

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MEN'S SWIMMING AND DIVING

Blowout wins over Bowdoin, Babson boost team to 5-0

BY STEPHEN JOHANSEN
Senior Staff Writer

It's going to take more than turkey and stuffing to sink the men's swimming and diving team, who, after retuning to

MEN'S SWIMMING
at Bowdoin, Saturday

Tufts 116
Bowdoin 86

at Babson, Thursday

Tufts 166
Babson 104

Medford from Thanksgiving Break, made quick work of its two opponents and has a strong chance of heading into the winter vacation at a perfect 6-0.

The Jumbos defeated Babson on Thursday and Bowdoin on Saturday, winning the two meets by an impressive combined margin of 282-190. The score is actually a watered-down version of the events, as multiple winning races swam by the Jumbos were kept out of the point totals to make the victories seem less robust.

Junior Mike Kinsella sees the mercy rule as a show of good faith and as compensation for the disparities in team size, as Tufts' 42-strong roster often is much larger than those of its opponents.

"I think coaches do it as a common courtesy to the coach of the other team," said Kinsella, who had a hand in four different first-place finishes throughout the weekend. "For example, on Thursday, Babson had 13 swimmers, so it was more a question of how much we were going to win by. If you're crushing a team, you don't just keep running up the score."

Kinsella was a dominating factor in Saturday's meet, taking first in both the 50- and 100-yard freestyle events despite

the presence of Bowdoin freshman David Swanson, a touted recruit who was expected to prove stiff competition for Kinsella. Kinsella won the 50-yard event in 22.08, with Swanson right on his heels for a second place finish of 22.29.

"Swanson was the first real competition I've had in that event this year outside of my own teammates, and it's more fun to have someone you can race, instead of someone you can kill," Kinsella said. "My [teammate] Greg Bettencourt, he's familiar with the Bowdoin swim team, and was joking with them and me all week, telling me how [Swanson] had been saying things. But [Swanson] and I didn't talk after the race, maybe because he lost."

Bettencourt himself played a role in three first-place finishes, taking first in the 200- and 500-yard freestyle events, as well as swimming a leg of the first place 400-yard freestyle relay team along with Kinsella and senior quad-captains Jason Kapit and Brett Baker. Bettencourt's 200-yard freestyle time of 4:52.95 is the fastest recorded by any Tufts swimmer this season, and is thought to be the fastest 200-yard freestyle time to date in the NESCAC. Jumbo senior Jeff Goldberg placed second with a time of 5:12.80.

Kinsella, Kapit and Baker, along with senior Jon Godsey also swam as part of the 400-yard medley team, edging the nearest Bowdoin relay team by 2.5 seconds to take first with a time of 3:39.49. Godsey also finished first in the 100-yard butterfly, Kapit placed second in the 100-yard butterfly and 200 yard butterfly, and Baker finished second in the 200-yard freestyle, behind Bettencourt.

Overall, Jumbo swimmers finished first in ten out of 14 races, placed second in all the races they didn't win and placed second and third in most of the races that fellow teammates also already had won. In addition, senior diver Todd Putnam won



DAILY FILE PHOTO

The men's swimming team is off to a 5-0 start this season, adding two wins with romps over Bowdoin and Babson this past weekend.

both the one and three meter dives unopposed.

The results of the Babson meet were unavailable at print time, but according to Kinsella and Kapit, the outcome was similar, if not more lopsided than, the Bowdoin win.

While the impressive point totals and wins are encouraging, such dominating showings at this stage in the season are not terribly important. Swimming and diving differ from many other intercollegiate sports in that wins during the regular season have less of an impact on the criteria for season success.

"Winning or losing in swimming during the regular season isn't necessarily the main focus as to what creates a successful season," Kapit said. "Rather, when we swim against all the NESCAC teams at the end of the year in [the NESCAC championships], the way we finish at that meet

really determines how successful our season was."

Kapit highlighted the unpredictable nature of the NESCAC championship compared to dual meets during the regular season.

"At this point we usually know how we should fare against each opponent, but at the NESCAC meet it's more difficult to gauge how each team is going to do because everyone has had time to rest," he said. "It's different than the regular season, when you can predict who will win a meet before it actually begins."

The squad returns to action this weekend against Brandeis for its final meet before the winter recess. When asked what the team was expecting of the Judges, Kapit was confident.

"I'd say Bowdoin was probably tougher competition than Brandeis will be," he said.

WOMEN'S SWIMMING AND DIVING

Jumbos dominating opponents while keeping their eyes on the ultimate prize

BY SAM KRUMHOLZ
Daily Staff Writer

WOMEN'S SWIMMING
at Bowdoin, Saturday

Tufts 171
Bowdoin 125

at Wellesley, Wednesday

Tufts 169
Wellesley 129

The women's swimming and diving team picked up two more victories last week to push its overall record to 4-1. The Jumbos visited Wellesley College last Wednesday and emerged with a 169-129 victory. The squad betted that outcome on Saturday as they beat Bowdoin, 171-125.

At Wellesley, the Jumbos won ten of the meet's sixteen events and came up with many strong second-place finishes. Particularly noteworthy were the performances of senior tri-captain Meghan Wallach, junior Chloe Young-Hyman and freshman Michelle Caswell, who all won two events apiece. On top of their individual wins, the three, along with senior Katie Mims, teamed up to win the 200-yard medley relay.

Wallach won the 100- and 200-yard butterfly in times of 1:03.35 and 2:19.54, respectively. Young-Hyman finished first in the 100-yard breaststroke and freestyle with times of 1:08.61 and 55.24



DAILY FILE PHOTO

Junior Chloe Young-Hyman and freshman Michelle Caswell turned in repeat two-win performances in the team's 171-125 trouncing of Bowdoin on Saturday and 169-129 win over Wellesley on Wednesday.

seconds, taking the freestyle event by only .05 seconds over Wellesley freshman Carolyn O'Hara. Caswell finished the trio of Tufts' double-winners with a time of 1:02.46 in the 100-yard backstroke and a 2:16.33 showing in the 200-yard backstroke.

Caswell's success was indicative of an excellent day overall for freshmen swimmers. In addition to Caswell's victories, classmate Katie Swett won the 1000-yard freestyle in 11:17.34, Lily Safran came in second in the 500-yard freestyle, and Julia Borque finished second in the 1-meter diving com-

petition. Freshmen also took home six third-place finishes for the Jumbos.

"We really use our freshman right off the bat," coach Nancy Bigelow said. "We're trying to figure out what the best events for them are in college."

The Jumbos' success continued as they headed north to Bowdoin College on Saturday. The team hammered out its most dominant win since a 177-117 win over Conn. College on Nov. 19.

Both the Jumbos and the Polar see **WOMEN'S SWIMMING, page 18**

FENCING

With two events under their belts, fencers settle into season

BY JONATHAN DINERSTEIN
Daily Staff Writer

Returning much of its roster from a consistent and solid 2004-2005 season, and filling open spaces with some new talent, the fencing team is feeling good about its winter season campaign.

"We've got lots of new freshmen, but we also didn't lose many of our good fencers from last season," said sophomore and men's team captain Dan Tovrov. "We're really optimistic about this coming season."

Tufts has a varsity women's fencing team and a club men's team, both members of the New England Intercollegiate Fencing Conference.

The women's team has already competed in two tournaments, most recently at Fairleigh Dickinson University for the NEIWF Invitational last Sunday. The Jumbos competed against a field of teams which included Temple, the University of Florida, Johns Hopkins, and Drew University. The event was an individual competition, and the team got strong performances from several fencers.

Senior Katherine Zouein placed fourth in sabre, junior Donna Au was the top seed in the epee group, and freshman Christine Lee took second in the foil category with an

encouraging start to her rookie season.

"Christine's a freshman, and she's doing really well," Zouein said. "We're all really excited about that."

The women's team also competed at Harvard on Nov. 30 in a head-to-head team meet, falling to the Crimson.

"Harvard always has an exceptionally good team," Zouein said. "I think we fenced well anyway."

The women's team has many tournaments lined up for the spring semester.

After returning from winter break, the Jumbos will head to the Wellesley Invitational to face Wellesley, Cornell and Vassar on Jan. 28. The next day the team will face Yale and Sacred Heart at Yale.

In February, the women's team will compete against NYU and the University of North Carolina at Brandeis. Until then, the team will keep up its practice schedule of four days a week in Jackson Gym that helps it remain sharp.

The men's team, which participates in the New England Conference, a multi-divisional league fielding teams from schools as diverse as fellow NESCAC member Amherst, Smith, Brown, Dartmouth, BU, and BC, has participated in two

see **FENCING, page 17**

INSIDE COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Despite complaints, BCS system delivered on its promise this season

USC and Texas gear up for Rose Bowl battle to decide who rules supreme in the college football universe

BY NATE GRUBMAN
Daily Editorial Board

Despite all the talk about the controversial BCS system, it did its job in 2005: setting up a national championship game between the two best teams in the country.

After more than three months of play, the two teams that entered the season ranked at the top, USC and Texas, are still there. Both teams rolled over their weekend opponents to set up a Rose Bowl date on Jan. 4 for the national championship.

No. 1 USC faced a tough challenge this week, playing rival UCLA. The Bruins entered the game with a 9-1 record, a No. 11 ranking, and a chip on their shoulder after losing a heartbreaker to the Trojans last season, 29-24. There was nothing close about this game. Instead of exacting some revenge, the Bruins left the field with their heads hanging.

USC junior Reggie Bush ran all over the UCLA defense as the Trojans sprinted to a 66-19 victory. Bush ran for 260 yards and a pair of touchdowns as USC notched its 34th consecutive victory. Bush's backfield mate LenDale White kept pace, running for 154 yards and two touchdowns of his own.

Bush wasted no time punishing the Bruins, taking the second snap of the game and bolting for 28 yards. USC capped off the 70-yard drive with a field goal. The possession proved to be one of UCLA's most successful, as USC charged for nine touchdowns on the day.

Bush is putting an absurdly emphatic exclamation point on a season that will likely end with a Heisman Trophy. Two weeks ago against Fresno State Bush ran

for 294 yards and a pair of scores, adding 68 yards receiving for good measure. Bush wrapped up the regular season with 1,658 yards rushing and 15 touchdowns with an 8.9 yards per carry average.

While Bush likely put the trophy in his pocket with his performance on Saturday afternoon, another Heisman contender, Texas' Vince Young, also added to his resume in a 70-3 massacre of Colorado in the Big 12 Title Game.

The team came out fired up and secured a trip to the Rose Bowl with its first perfect season since 1983. Young led the way for the Longhorns, completing 14 of 17 passes and throwing for three touchdowns. He also ran for 57 yards and a touchdown. Sporting a 42-3 halftime lead, coach Mack Brown pulled Young early in the third quarter, saving his star for the Rose Bowl.

USC junior Reggie Bush ran all over the UCLA defense as the Trojans sprinted to a 66-19 victory.

Yet the damage was done. The Longhorns jumped on the Buffalos for two first-quarter touchdowns, then added four more in the second quarter.

Even without Young, the Horns kept up the rout, adding another four touchdowns in the fourth quarter, including a blocked punt returned to the endzone. With 7:36 left in the fourth quarter, the Longhorns had a 70-3 lead. Mercifully for the Buffalos, that's where the scoring stopped as the Horns patiently counted down the seconds until the Rose Bowl.



JON LOK/KRT

USC's Reggie Bush is setting himself up for a Heisman Trophy, racking up 1,658 rushing yards and 15 touchdowns and, along with fellow running back LenDale White and QB Matt Leinart, leading the USC Trojans to an undefeated 12-0 regular season.

The win gave the Longhorns their first Big 12 Championship since 1996. If things go right on Jan. 4, they could earn their first national championship since 1969, when they beat Notre Dame in the Cotton Bowl.

Notre Dame earned a spot in a BCS Bowl this weekend. The Irish will take on fellow wild card Ohio State in a Fiesta Bowl matchup between two traditional powerhouses.

Another intriguing game will take place

when Florida State and Penn State meet in the Orange Bowl. The Seminoles and the Nittany Lions are coached by the two most-winning coaches in college football history, Bobby Bowden and Joe Paterno, both of whom are looking to add some hardware to their collections.

The final BCS matchup will be the Sugar Bowl, featuring West Virginia and Georgia. The Bulldogs defeated LSU this weekend to win the SEC Championship and secure the BCS bid.

Freshmen continue to excel

WOMEN'S SWIMMING

continued from page 20

Bear's garnered eight first place finishes overall, but Tufts' superior depth proved deadly for Bowdoin as the Jumbos cruised to an extremely solid 171-125 win.

"Bowdoin has some great swimmers," Bigelow said, "but we have more depth than they do."

Once again, Caswell and Young-Hyman had terrific meets, both cruising to two wins apiece. The duo was also part of a victorious 400-yard medley relay team. Young-Hyman repeated her victories in the 100-yard breaststroke and freestyle events in times of 1:09.36 and 55.78, respectively. Caswell also won the same events as she had in the Wellesley meet, swimming 1:02.27 in the 100-yard backstroke and 2:16.90 in the 200-yard backstroke.

The Jumbos had some new winners on the board, as senior Meghan Wallach won the 200-yard butterfly in 2:19.15, sophomore Allison Palomaki took first in the 200-yard breaststroke in 2:32.13, and sophomore Renee Nicholas won the 200-yard IM in 2:18.65.

"We didn't want to underestimate [Bowdoin's] strength, so we definitely stepped it up," Wallach said.

Up next on the Jumbos' schedule is Saturday's matchup against Brandeis. While its success early in the season is a good yardstick of the team's skill, Bigelow said that the ultimate goal is to do well at NESCACs as she cautioned against putting too much stock in early regular-season meets.

"The dual meets are indicators along the way for how we are doing," she said.

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
Jonathan Bailey	1	0	1
Jonathan Kestner	0	1	1
Joe Cappellano	0	1	1
Andrew Delorey	0	1	1
Team	17	23	40
Goalkeeping	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)
10. 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. SUNY-Geneseo (12)
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)
12. 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 NFL

It's prediction time as playoff time nears

BY WILLIAM BENDETSON
Senior Staff Writer

The season is now three-quarters gone and there are many things left to be determined in the few remaining weeks.

The New England Patriots look like a sure bet for the playoffs — a fact that should please many hometown fans. Even with their 7-5 record, a far cry from the league's elite, the AFC East is so weak that it would take a near collapse for the defending Super Bowl champs to miss the playoffs.

With that said, the most interesting playoff race shaping up is for the AFC wildcards. There are four teams — the Pittsburgh Steelers, San Diego Chargers, Kansas City Chiefs and Jacksonville Jaguars — competing for just two wildcard spots.

The biggest question mark is how the Chargers and Chiefs will fare down the stretch, as the two face especially tough schedules through the remainder of the season. Both San Diego and Kansas City are better than the Patriots, as evidenced by their respective 41-17 and 26-16 wins over the reigning Super Bowl champs, but will that be enough to distance them from Pittsburgh and Jacksonville?

The Chargers are arguably the most talented offense in football. Yes, Indianapolis Colts fans are probably screaming in protest, but the pieces are all there. Charger coach Marty Schottenheimer recently said that LaDainian Tomlinson was the greatest running back he had ever seen. Combine that with the best tight end in football — Antonio Gates — plus three solid wide receivers in Keenan McCardell, Eric Parker and Reche Caldwell, and you've got a talented offense capable of giving any team in the league a run for its money.

What may sink the Chargers, however, is their tough schedule. After what should be an easy win over the Miami Dolphins on Sunday, they will be forced to play their last three games against Indianapolis, Kansas City, and the Denver Broncos.

Coming away from Indianapolis with a win has looked unthinkable this season, with the Colts easily handling the competition. But if there is one team that can knock out the Colts, it's the Chargers. The Bolts took the Colts into overtime last year at the RCA dome, and their defense was able to confuse the always-collected Peyton Manning for three quarters.

The Chargers' defense is even better this year, thanks to the addition of Shawne Merriman, who, as a rookie, is becoming one of the better linebackers in football. His teammates have been foaming at the mouth over this guy's talent, and with good reason.



San Diego running back LaDainian Tomlinson pulls a fake-out that sends New York Jets cornerback Ty Law to the ground. PAUL J. BERESWILL/KRT

With Wade Phillips as creative game planner, expect the Chargers to come at the Colts with a lot of blitzes. Peyton had better keep his head up, as Chargers linebacker Steve Foley has come into his own this season by forcing quarterbacks outside of the pocket.

The Chiefs, on the other hand, have been tough as nails this year on both sides of the ball. Their offensive power couple of Trent Green and Larry Johnson has made life miserable for opposing defenses, and their defense has been successful at stopping the run all year long.

Coming away from Indianapolis with a win has looked unthinkable this season, with the Colts easily handling the competition. But if there is one team that can knock out the Colts, it's the Chargers.

Kansas City faces a tough schedule as well, however, matching up against the Dallas Cowboys and the New York Giants on the road in the coming weeks. While they have a long winning streak at home in December, the Chiefs are a very different team away from Arrowhead

Stadium, especially late in the season, and these road games might be just enough to keep them out of the playoffs...

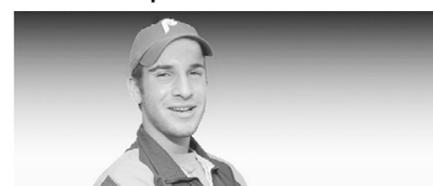
Tim Lewis and Cam Cameron

There are likely to be as many as nine head coaching vacancies in the NFL this offseason and look for these two names to top some teams' lists of potential leaders. Cameron has done an excellent job in San Diego as offensive coordinator, making Drew Brees into a reliable pocket passer (fifth in the league with a 93.9 QB rating) and turning the Chargers' offense into a formidable unit.

Lewis, as the defensive coordinator of the New York Giants, has also set himself up for a head coaching position. With Eli Manning struggling on Sunday, he created a masterful game plan that confused the heck out of Drew Bledsoe and Dallas' offensive coordinator Sean Payton.

The Cowboys wanted to double-team the Giants' lethal combination of Osi Umenyiora and Michael Strahan, and Lewis responded by lining the two on the same side, making the double-team difficult. All season long, Lewis has headed a New York defense that sports two of the league's top four in tackles and sacks. Combine the talent of Umenyiora and Strahan with the pressure of defensive tackle Kendrick Clancy, and the Giants might have the best defensive line in football; a nice line for Lewis' résumé.

ALEX BLOOM | PHILLY PHODDER



Boston has a basketball team, too

So by now, if you've read my column through most of the semester, you probably think that I don't have a very high opinion of Boston sports fans. That's not true. I believe they are ardent fans ... if they're watching the Red Sox.

The only problem is that there are three other professional sports teams in this town. The Red Sox have sold out every single game for almost three years now (over 200 consecutive games). The Patriots, who have won three out of the last four Super Bowls, are second fiddle to a team that took 86 years to win a title. The Bruins, who traded their only recognizable star (Joe Thornton) to the Sharks for Matt Sturm, are smothered by the other three teams in this city, which is understandable considering hockey didn't happen last season.

And then there are the Celtics. I went to see the Celtics play at the TD Banknorth Garden last week. I actually went to watch the Sixers play, and I wasn't the only one. We Philly fans stick together, and about ten of us met up for the game.

And it was a sight to see. I realize that it was a weeknight. I also realize that it is only November, so it's not exactly a playoff atmosphere right now. But the Banknorth Garden holds 18,624 people for NBA games, yet there were a paltry 14,027 people in town to watch two very exciting teams.

The Celtics are young, fast and sharp. Paul Pierce and his supporting cast will be fun to watch this season, as Ricky Davis, Delonte West, Kendrick Perkins, and Al Jefferson mature into a cohesive unit. Until that cohesion happens, fans get the privilege of watching Brian Scalabrine, Dan Dickau, Raef LaFrentz and Mark Blount make fools of themselves (and Danny Ainge) trying to play professional basketball.

The Sixers still have the best guard in the game in Allen Iverson, who is averaging an unreal 34.2 points per game. This season has also seen the resurgence of Chris Webber, who has meshed nicely this season as Iverson's complement, averaging 19.7 points and 10.3 rebounds per game. Add high-flying forward Andre

see PHODDER, page 17

Alex Bloom is a sophomore who has not declared a major yet. He can be reached via e-mail at alexander.bloom@tufts.edu

TOP TEN | REASONS USC IS GOING TO THREE-PEAT

In the final Top 10 of the semester, the witty co-creators of this masterpiece pay tribute to a team almost as phenomenal as the sports department itself...

10. Trojans pride themselves on being effective 99 percent of the time. Especially on defense.
9. "Pete Carroll is great, and happy, just like me," Top 10 co-creator Kristy Cunningham said. Yay.
8. For all you history majors that accidentally stumbled upon the sports pages: the Trojan Horse or a Cow? Let's be honest here...
7. Colorado didn't exactly challenge Texas in the Big 12 Championship Game. Granted, UCLA didn't exactly challenge USC, but at least the Bruins got into double digits.
6. Reggie Bush has no relation to George Bush or any of his esteemed brethren. Phew...
5. Pasadena is in Southern California. So is USC, if you weren't sure. Twenty-five thousand Texas fans vs. 75,000 USC Fans. You do the math ...
4. Matt Leinart has plenty of time to view film of Texas because he's taking one class this semester. That's right — ballroom dancing. Tough life, we know... the man has a new "partner" every night, I mean class.
3. USC Fans — All the beautiful ladies of SoCal would be supremely disappointed if the Trojans lost. And come on, angry ladies aren't as fun as... well, you get the idea.



Texas Bush or USC Bush: is there really even a debate?

2. Matt Leinart — it says something when your Heisman trophy winning junior QB has just as good a season in his senior campaign and ... is the second best player on his team.
1. Reggie Bush is the most electrifying RB to play college football. Ever.

— Aman Gupta, Kristy Cunningham

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					<p>Events</p>

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Two fencers finish tops at Smith's 'The Big One'

FENCING
continued from page 20

events so far this season. The team sent several fencers to "The Big One," an individual competition held at Smith College on Nov. 5. The Jumbos earned two top finishes in the field of 60 foil fencers, as Tovrov took the bronze at third and senior Misha Genin placed sixth.

A few weeks later, the team competed in a conference meet against Brandeis, MIT, and Brown, three of the toughest teams in the conference, which showed in the Jumbos' 0-3 record.

"We were missing a couple of our starters that day, and we played the hardest teams in the conference," Tovrov said.

A few weeks later, the team competed in a conference meet against Brandeis, MIT, and Brown, three of the toughest teams in the conference, which showed in the Jumbos' 0-3 record.

The team will take a long break from organized competition, as its schedule is empty until February, when Tufts will host a conference tournament. In the meantime, the team will work towards its season goal of earning a spot at the club Nationals.



DAILY FILE PHOTO

After some promising individual performances at the NEIWFA Invitational, the women's fencing team will spend the holiday break gearing up for the Wellesley Invitational on Jan. 28.

Bloom: Shame on Boston

PHODDER
continued from page 19

Iguodala to the mix and it's easy to see why the Sixers are in first place in the Atlantic, even if it is with an 8-10 record.

The Sixers are averaging 102.2 points and giving up 102.8 points per night. That's a lot of scoring. One would think that fans would like to go to basketball games where they see a lot of offense.

I guess that's not the case here in Boston. Even when we got there, the atmosphere was so dead that it was almost laughable. I kept trying to compare it to games I've seen in Philadelphia, where the seats are packed and the fans are having fun.

Granted, this year hasn't been the best for attendance for either the Sixers or the Celtics. The Celtics are No. 25 in the league in attendance out of 30 teams, while the Sixers are No. 26 — not exactly what you would expect from two playoff

I guess that's not the case here in Boston. Even when we got there, the atmosphere was so dead that it was almost laughable.

teams from last season.

But fans are still warming up to the new faces on these teams. I was surprised that the highlight package that the Celtics used to pump up the fans to start the game had video of only two players: Pierce and Davis. That's what happens when your team gets gutted in the offseason, as Boston lost GP, Antoine and Tony Allen.

One thing the team has invested in is more fan give-

aways. There were gimmicks during every timeout and the team trotted out a dance team consisting of about three girls doing cartwheels. The halftime show was pathetic, with fans booing as the team tried to run a tic-tac-toe game that kept getting tied. And the team is still getting the hang of highlight reels, preferring to pump up the crowd using footage of the Pats and Red Sox rather than the Celtics.

It's surprising that the Celtics would fall so hard, especially since they've been consistently winning.

This is the same team that sold out the Boston Garden for 15 straight years from 1980-1995. This is the same team who won the Atlantic Division title last season. This is the same team that has made the playoffs for the past four seasons.

What's wrong with you people? Just because Larry Legend isn't trotting out there every night to take on Magic, you can't go see the Celtics anymore? Is it because the Garden is gone? I don't get it.

And I don't think the rest of the country gets it either. Basketball is still popular around the country. Look at the New Orleans Hornets, who are playing 35 games this season in Oklahoma City. They are seventh in the league this season and the atmosphere has been compared to college games.

Charlotte, who lost the Hornets because of a lack of attendance, is now rallying around the Bobcats, who surprisingly have not been banished to the cellar in the Southeast Division and are 14th in attendance.

That should be embarrassing to a proud sports city like Boston. Charlotte and Oklahoma City appreciate their sports teams more than you fans do? This city needs to get its act together and start supporting its team.

Bored, frustrated or otherwise flummoxed? Submit a viewpoint for Friday's paper. Viewpoints are roughly 700-1000 words, and can be e-mailed to viewpoints@tuftsdaily.com