



AALOK KANANI/TUFTS DAILY

Students came to a rally organized by a mystery man named Michael Canton.

Students rally en masse to save tree — but tree does not need saving

BY PRANAI CHEROO
Daily Editorial Board

About 30 students, apparently called into action by an enigmatic mystery organizer, gathered at noon yesterday beneath the largest tree on the President's Lawn to protest what they thought was the administration's decision to cut it down. But the administration says it was never considering removing the tree.

"Facilities has no plans to remove

any tree on the Medford campus," said Pamela Dill, an administrative assistant in the Office of the Executive Vice President.

Dill said that there had not even been any such discussion about the tree, and that the people who organized the rally were misinformed. "We don't even know how this started," she said. "It seems to be a rumor."

see **PROTEST**, page 2

Kerry: Obama has better foreign policy judgment

BY SARAH BUTRYMOWICZ
Daily Editorial Board

Sen. John Kerry (D-Mass.) roundly praised Democratic presidential candidate Barack Obama's ability to handle global

problems and questioned the direction in which Sen. John McCain would lead the country, during a Cohen Auditorium speech last night.

Kerry garnered energetic applause as he discussed the changing nature of the country's national security concerns and contrasted the two presidential candidates' capabilities to address them in the inaugural lecture of the Fletcher Political Forum.

Although he described both men as "honorable" and referred to McCain as a friend, Kerry, the Democratic nominee in 2004, maintained that Obama has the leadership qualities necessary at this challenging juncture in history. "We have to send him to the White House," Kerry said.

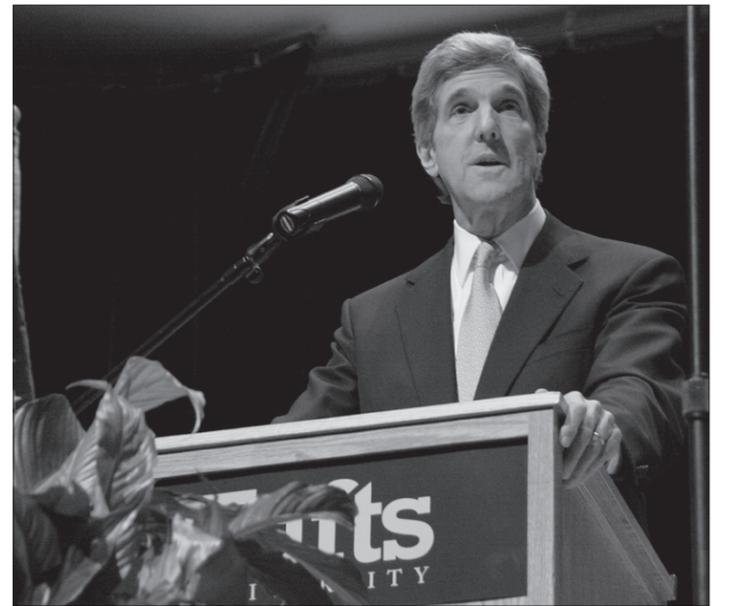
In the question-and-answer section that followed, however, senior Stephanie Brown told Kerry that with "all due respect," she had come to hear the senator talk about foreign policy, not to attend an "Obama rally."

Kerry, who endorsed Obama in January, countered that the

speech was not a rally but an articulation of how he viewed the election. An Obama administration represents "the world I want to be working in," he said.

Kerry, up for reelection himself on Nov. 4, did not address his own

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REBEKAH SOKOL/TUFTS DAILY

John Kerry's speech kicked off the Fletcher Political Forum.

Faculty gave more to Kerry than Obama

BY MATT SKIBINSKI
Daily Editorial Board

Sen. Barack Obama announced earlier this week that he had raised an earth-shattering \$150 million for his presidential campaign in September — the newest record in a fundraising effort that has earned the Democratic hopeful over \$600 million over the past two years.

But according to public campaign financing information, the candidate from Illinois' fundraising dominance has not quite extended to Tufts' left-leaning campus: Federal Election Commission records show that Tufts faculty and staff members gave more to Sen. John Kerry (D-Mass.) in his 2004 presidential bid than they have given to Obama in the current election cycle.

Through August, the most recent records available publicly, Tufts employees had donated \$19,473 to the Obama campaign; through August 2004, Kerry had received \$27,400 from the same group.

Political Science Professor Kent Portney said the difference could stem from a variety of factors, such as Kerry's local ties as a Massachusetts politician.

"I suppose that there are probably a fair number of people at Tufts who have some kind of connection to John Kerry because of his proximity to the university," Portney said.

But he also suggested that the long, drawn-out primary battle between

see **DONATIONS**, page 3



MCT

Tufts faculty and staff gave more to John Kerry in 2004 than they have given to Barack Obama.

Alum, lecturer happen upon groundbreaking insect fossil

BY SAUMYA VAISHAMPAYAN
Contributing Writer

Tufts alum Richard Knecht (LA '08) and Geology Lecturer Jake Benner have made national headlines in the last week after happening upon the oldest full-body trace fossil of a flying insect ever found.

The insect is roughly three inches long, and its impression shows details of anatomical features.

The pair of researchers uncovered the fossil at a site in North Attleborough, Mass., that is packed with rare trace fossils. The find may provide valuable insights into the specialized field of paleoichnology, the study of fossilized behavior that relies on the discovery of trace fossils, which are impressions made on a natural surface by an organism. Tufts geologists began to investigate the location after Knecht and Benner read about it in a master's thesis from 1929.

Knecht, a geology major, was working on his senior project when he and Benner, a senior lecturer and paleontologist, began to investigate the site. Located alongside a strip mall, it is notable because the fossils there are unusually well preserved.

"Usually, everything comes out as small pieces because the rock is so fractured," Benner said. "It's rare that we get a slab of rock this big. Often we have to glue it together."

He said of the fossil, "It's the oldest ... indication of behavior of a flying insect that we have."

According to Michael Engel, a premier

insect paleontologist at the University of Kansas, descendants of this specimen may still be roaming the earth.

"We can tell from the imprint that it has a very squat position when it lands. Its legs are sprawled and its belly is pressed down. The only group that does that today is the mayfly," Engel said in a press release.

Engel will work with Knecht and Benner in the coming months to study the fossil and better understand its significance.

As promising as the flying insect fossil is, Knecht stressed other undiscovered trace fossils at the North Attleborough location that represent a potential abundance of different species.

"We've gone through about a thousand specimens in this one site. [There are] plants, insects, walking trails of insects, walking trails of amphibians and reptiles," he said. "Some are just fantastically preserved."

The collection and comparison of different fossils will allow Knecht, Benner and other researchers to learn about the environment and interactions between creatures during the late Carboniferous era, about 300 million years ago.

One of the other significant trace fossils found at the site features a v-like impression near two interior trace fossils of feet. This implies that the animal was either sitting or leaning back on its legs and dragging its tail, with part of its body creating the impression, Knecht said.

According to Knecht, this discovery could be groundbreaking because it dis-

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Inside this issue

The Daily investigates the origins and customs of Tufts' most popular dance group.



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The volleyball team improved its record to 22-1 with a sweep of Conn. College.



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Recalling Cuban Missile Crisis, Kerry says McCain lacks John Kennedy's judgment

KERRY

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campaign in his prepared remarks aside from acknowledging that a Fletcher alum is on his campaign staff. "So if I don't win, I'm blaming you," he said to all the students in attendance.

He focused instead on Obama and McCain, zeroing in on foreign policy at a point when virtually all public discourse about the presidential election seems to revolve around the economy. Kerry cautioned the audience that although "things look pretty good" for Obama in the polls, "no overconfidence ... is allowed."

In 2004, many exit polls reported on the night of the election that Kerry had beaten President George W. Bush.

"You are looking at the shortest administration in history," Kerry said jokingly.

He praised Tufts for being "one of the best places in America to prepare for leadership." He compared the global leadership that the university fosters to the qualities he sees in Obama.

Kerry also advised that as students look ahead, they should not forget to glance back as well. Exactly 46 years ago yesterday, then-Presi-

dent John Kennedy addressed the country about the Cuban Missile Crisis. Although some were calling at the time for military strikes against Cuba, Kerry said that if Kennedy had taken their advice, it could have led to World War III.

Instead, Kennedy spent "13 agonizing days" considering the situation and ultimately avoided a potential nuclear strike. Kerry believes it is this type of "patient, pragmatic, steeling and wise" leadership that the country needs today.

"We face a complex and urgent set of challenges," he said. "The very definition of national security is being rewritten." This new definition includes problems that stretch beyond borders, such as terrorism, AIDS and global warming.

Kerry argued that at this point in time, the United States faces the greatest need to act but possesses the least power to do so.

"Never before in our lifetime has our position in the world — militarily, diplomatically and morally — been so compromised," he said. He mentioned several issues that need confronting, including the global financial crisis, the proliferation of terrorist organizations

in the Middle East and the genocide in Sudan.

While Kerry said that, especially around this time of year, he tries not to dwell on do-overs, "It is more than important that our country begin a new chapter in foreign policy."

"The American people have a real decision," Kerry said. "Both candidates put America first," but their visions for the country differ greatly.

Kerry said McCain's envisions a unilateral approach that would involve "defense of judgments that have proven to be mistakes," a reference to the Bush administration's foreign policy.

Obama's vision, he said, is broader and involves a greater understanding of all global issues.

"Both candidates have promised change. [But] change is more than words," he said. "It's not an exaggeration to say we know what a John McCain administration would look like," Kerry said. If "you strip away the lip service to change," McCain's record of voting in favor of Bush's policies 95 percent of the time remains, Kerry said.

Kerry stressed that in order to fight terrorism and cut carbon emissions, it is important to reach out to other world leaders.

The senator said McCain "won't even say if he will talk to the prime minister of Spain."

Obama, however, understands the importance of reclaiming our "moral authority." This involves shutting down the Guantanamo Bay detention camp and "making it clear that the United States of America does not torture — not now, not ever," Kerry said.

Drawing on his own military experience, Kerry, a decorated war veteran, reminded the audience that the rules in the Geneva Convention were put in place in large part "to protect soldiers."

Kerry also had harsh words for the Bush administration. "The last eight years have taught us that ideology is not enough to govern," he said. "Judgment is paramount."

He discussed several specific global problems that pose a threat to national security, the most significant of which he believes is our dependence on foreign oil. He called on the United States to break the "Gordian Knot of fossil fuels."

Advocating for an energy revolution starting right now, Kerry emphasized that it is key to build an infrastructure of renewable resources.

"We cannot drill out of this crisis," he said. "We have to invent ourselves out."

Again, Kerry distinguished between the two candidates. He

said Obama recognizes global warming as a man-made problem and has defined a response that would make America healthier.

McCain, he said, voted against renewable energy 23 times in the Senate. In the night's only reference to Gov. Sarah Palin, McCain's vice presidential nominee, Kerry did not mention her by name. He said she "can't see that climate change is man-made but [says] that she can protect America because she can see Russia from her home state."

Kerry then turned to the war in Iraq, where he sees important differences between the candidates. "John McCain still thinks it was a good idea to invade Iraq," he said. "One of the war's earliest cheerleaders has really become one of the last ... Even President Bush has seen the light."

Kerry believes that Obama will be "as cautious getting us out of the war as Bush was reckless getting into it," and that he will turn his attention to Afghanistan and Pakistan after ending the Iraq conflict.

"Afghanistan is a country sliding into chaos," he said. While Obama was for sending more troops to the country early on, McCain was "perhaps the last man on earth" to realize that the troops were needed, Kerry said.

The situation, however, is more complex than that. "More troops on the ground are vital, [but] if that is all we do, we may not stop the problems; we may make them worse," he said.

Kerry expressed the need for the "comprehensive" and "sustained" policy involving NATO allies that Obama would bring to the White House. Policy in Afghanistan is important to Pakistan as well, Kerry said.

On Iran, too, Kerry feels that Obama is the best equipped to develop a plan that would include "a long-term strategy for the country and for the region."

In his last specific example, Kerry discussed Russia and said that Obama not only saw the crisis with Georgia coming but tried to prevent it, and has demonstrated

the type of statesmanship that 21st century leadership needs.

McCain, on the other hand, had advocated signing an arms deal with Moscow, Kerry said. "Good luck, John," he said.

Using some of McCain's own words against him, Kerry quoted a segment from the candidate's book, "Worth Fighting For," that discussed how the Arizona senator makes quick decisions and is sometimes forced to live with negative consequences.

Kerry asked what would have happened if McCain were in the White House during the Cuban Missile Crisis. He questioned whether McCain would have shown the same judgment as Kennedy.

Kerry later turned his talk to the problem of the country's intolerance of Muslims. "The world is watching and waiting," he said. "We need to speak directly to our own Muslim communities ... There is no 'us' and there is no 'them.'"

In a personal appeal to his listeners, Kerry said any president needs help in making American stronger. "The world has changed — and not for the better — and we need you to change it back," he said.

This could include teaching English in China, helping impoverished countries get clean water, rebuilding American cities or even simply living a green lifestyle. "All of this will make America [stronger], regardless of who you vote for," he said.

In his work in the Senate, Kerry has met several world leaders and has found that they are not sure who we are as a country right now. "That's what we get to define in two weeks," he said, calling this election a defining moment in history. "It's up to us what we do with those moments."

Kerry believes that this election is a "moment to shatter boundaries and make history."

"We need to seize this moment," he said in the conclusion of his remarks. "We need to make Barack Obama president of the United States."



JO DUARA/TUFTS DAILY

John Kerry delivered a talk that one student criticized as an "Obama rally."



AUDIO @ tuftsdaily.com

The Trail | Blogging the 2008 Election

The Daily caught up with Sen. John Kerry (D-Mass.) as he was leaving campus after his speech last night. We asked him to outline what he saw as the strengths and weaknesses of Sens. John McCain and Barack Obama. He balked a bit when it came to the Democratic presidential candidate's flaws, but he had plenty in the way of criticisms of McCain.

Log onto the Daily's 2008 elections blog, The Trail, for audio of the exclusive interview.

Barking up the wrong tree: Students rally to save tree that admin. intends to keep

PROTEST

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Justin Birudavol, a senior, said that a number of organizations on campus received e-mails from an individual named Michael Canton stating that the tree was to be cut down. Canton, who is not a Tufts student, was not present at the protest, and no one in attendance could produce his phone number.

Senior Dan Buonaiuto, president

of the Tufts Mountain Club (TMC), came to the protest in a penguin suit. "He just e-mailed student leaders," Buonaiuto said of Canton. "We got e-mails [from] this guy Michael through Tufts Mountain Club."

According to Buonaiuto, his group declined to endorse the protest, although a number of TMC members attended on their own volition.

TMC spokesperson Katie Bond

said Canton sent e-mails to a number of TMC members, but did not go directly through the group. "He contacted some people on TMC, but it was not the TMC e-list," she said.

Sophomore Rob Gleich, who wore a banana suit yesterday and spent the majority of the protest perched on one of the tree's higher branches shouting down to students through a megaphone, said he heard second-hand about the tree's

supposed removal and thought it made for a good outlet for student activism.

"I feel that this is a good opportunity for Tufts students to get behind something. Our big goal here is to get peoples' attention. That's the reason for the ridiculous costumes," Gleich said.

Birudavol echoed Gleich, saying the protest was for a worthy cause.

"It's a movement to promote

social activism on campus," he said. "From what we understand, there were plans to move the tree, so we came together to support the tree," he said.

The administration, meanwhile, feels that it has been maligned by unfounded hearsay from a person who has yet to be identified.

"I would love to find out who the person is who started this terrible rumor," Dill said.

Fossils discovered at site to help further understanding of prehistoric creatures

FOSSIL

continued from page 1

plays behavior not typical of the creature's time period. Since the specimen was alive when the impression was created, it shows behavioral characteristics in addition to physical traits, one of the main advantages of studying trace fossils, he said.

According to Benner, studying trace fossils also provides more information because the organisms that created the fossils actually lived in the area where the fossils are found. This is not the case with body fossils, like dinosaur bones, that can be swept away by river currents to a completely different location.

"There's a distinct advantage to trace

fossils, and that's that they are found on the rocks that represent the depositional environment in which they were made. We have the unique ability to reconstruct the ecological community as it was, right here," he said.

This site is distinct from others in New England because during the Carboniferous era, the surrounding area did not consist

of swampy lowlands. Instead, these trace fossils come from an upper layer, called the alluvial fan, commonly thought to be unable to support communities of fossils because of the frequency of floods and sedimentation there.

The Tufts researchers' discovery proves that life persisted in this area and that trace fossils survived to tell its stories.

Features

tuftsdaily.com

Concussion studies butt heads with assumptions

BY CHRISTINA PAPPAS
Daily Staff Writer

Despite what Looney Tunes reruns might indicate, in reality, seeing stars is far from funny.

Recent studies at the University of Pittsburgh and the McGill University Neurological Institute have linked cumulative concussions to the deterioration of brain function and to mental diseases, including early-onset Alzheimer's and dementia.

"The medical community is really picking up on this," said Dr. Gerald Maher, a Massachusetts dentist and Tufts graduate specializing in jaw structure and trauma. "There are all sorts of studies coming out, and they all say the same thing. The problem is that the public doesn't necessarily read these studies, and people don't see concussions as dangerous."

Maher began studying concussions in the late 1970s after his friend Marvin Hagler, a premier American boxer, asked him to examine why some people suffer severely from blows to the head while others walk away apparently unscathed.

Using his dental background, Maher found that jaw placement significantly affects the amount of damage a person will experience in response to head trauma.

"The jaw should be in the best possible place. This doesn't prevent concussions, but it does lessen the severity," he said.

Concussions occur when the brain violently hits the skull, and they are caused by a blow to the head or to the jaw or by whiplash.

"If someone hits you with a baseball bat over the head, you're going to get a concussion, and there's nothing you can do about that," Maher said. "But a blow to the jaw or whiplash — there's a lot you can do to lessen the impact of that."

According to Maher, whose clients include the New England Patriots, mouth guards may lessen the severity of concussions, but they must fit "perfectly" to guarantee any degree of protection.

"They need to be personalized," he said. "You can't buy a mouth guard at a sporting goods store and expect it to protect you."

At Tufts, before athletes are cleared to play a sport, they must utilize a computer-based program to establish a personal baseline of mental activity. In the event of head trauma, players will not be cleared to play until their mental capacity returns to baseline level, said Mark Doughtie, Tufts' director of sports medicine.

Football, soccer, ice hockey and volleyball players suffer the most concussions, Doughtie

said. At Tufts, the Sports Medicine Department sees at least 10 to 15 athletes per year with concussions.

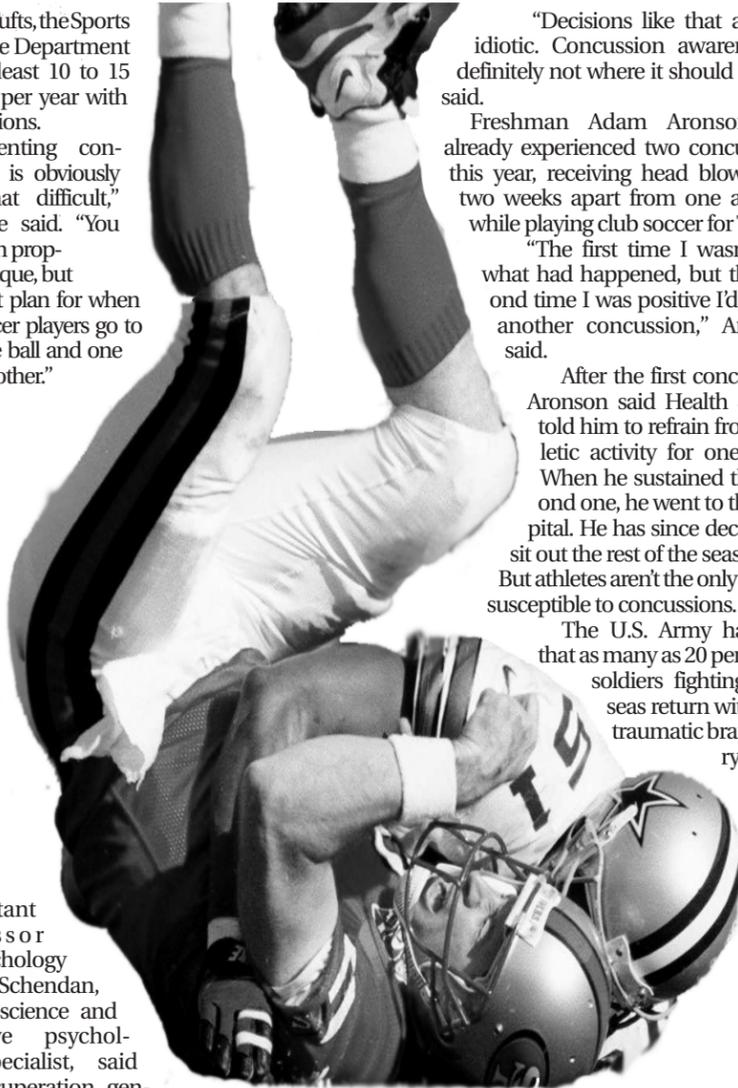
"Preventing concussions is obviously somewhat difficult," Doughtie said. "You can teach proper technique, but you can't plan for when two soccer players go to head the ball and one hits the other."

Assistant Professor of Psychology Haline Schendan, a neuroscience and cognitive psychology specialist, said that recuperation generally takes three months — something that is not conducive to most sports seasons.

"The problem with sports is that they don't encourage rest, but any physical exertion may make the brain more vulnerable to severe long-term damage," she said.

"Most people don't know that when neurons [in the brain] die, under most circumstances the lost cells will not come back," she continued.

According to Maher, most people are unaware of the dangers concussions can pose. He recalled that one private high school in Massachusetts, which he declined to name, recently allowed a football player to drive himself home after he suffered a concussion; he was unable to recall his own name for over one hour after the concussion.



"Decisions like that are just idiotic. Concussion awareness is definitely not where it should be," he said.

Freshman Adam Aronson has already experienced two concussions this year, receiving head blows only two weeks apart from one another while playing club soccer for Tufts.

"The first time I wasn't sure what had happened, but the second time I was positive I'd gotten another concussion," Aronson said.

After the first concussion, Aronson said Health Service told him to refrain from athletic activity for one week. When he sustained the second one, he went to the hospital. He has since decided to sit out the rest of the season.

But athletes aren't the only people susceptible to concussions.

The U.S. Army has said that as many as 20 percent of soldiers fighting overseas return with mild traumatic brain injury, which Maher

attributes to poorly designed helmets.

Maher said that he has contacted the military several times about a collaboration to better protect American soldiers from brain injury after a lieutenant stationed in Iraq e-mailed him asking for help, but his proposal has been repeatedly declined.

"I haven't gotten past first base here; don't ask me why," he said. "I offered to do it all for exactly zero dollars. I volunteered to go over [to war zones] to train dentists. The money we will be paying in disability pensions will be in the billions. People — athletes, coaches, the Army — just don't always consider how devastating the effects of concussions can be, but soon it will be apparent."

Overall donations to Democrats on the rise at Tufts this cycle

DONATIONS

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Obama and Sen. Hillary Clinton (D-N.Y.) might have contributed to the decline, with Tufts donors split between the two candidates.

"Maybe in the timeframe you're looking at, Tufts contributed more heavily to Hillary's campaign than to Obama's," he said. "If you look at since the [Democratic] convention, you might find that that's changed."

In the 2008 election cycle, Tufts employees gave a combined \$11,500 to Clinton, far more than they gave to any losing primary candidate in the '04 cycle. Some of those donations were made as late as August, after the Democratic primary race had been by-and-large decided but just before the Democratic National Convention in Denver. September donation information for the '08 cycle has not yet been added to public federal databases.

If the drawn-out primary race did play a factor at Tufts, it certainly has not been a drag on Obama's national fundraising numbers, according to Portney.

"It doesn't seem to have affected him much," he said. "He's raised an awful lot of money, set a lot of records. It's just astounding how much money he's raised."

Nationally, Obama entered October with \$133.6 million on hand, while Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.) had just \$46.9 million in the bank. According to Portney, this differential has played a huge factor in the race.

"It's the most important issue in a campaign," Portney said. "Right now Obama's campaign is expanding ... [and] buying up

airtime everywhere. McCain is contracting, focusing on a smaller number of states."

According to junior Shana Hurley, president of the Tufts Democrats, Obama's massive fundraising numbers make the difference in Tufts employees' contributions somewhat shocking.

"I really don't know," she said. "I'm just legitimately surprised."

Hurley echoed Portney's theory that Kerry's local connections might have played a role.

"It's probably a factor that John Kerry is from Massachusetts," she said. "He and his staff have relationships with Tufts and Tufts' staff."

While employees gave less to the presidential candidate than in 2004, their contributions to Democrats on the whole have increased. They gave more than twice as much to the Democratic National Committee: a combined \$12,950 in the 2008 cycle versus \$6,410 in the 2004 cycle.

Tufts also gave significantly more to congressional and local Democratic candidates during this cycle, with just over \$25,000 in donations in the 2004 cycle but over \$45,000 in the current one.

Republicans, perhaps unsurprisingly, fared far worse among Tufts employees in both cycles than Democrats, though President George W. Bush received over twice as much through August 2004 as McCain has so far in 2008.

Hurley said that whatever the donation numbers may be for Tufts employees, she's seen an increasing number of students con-

tribute in this election cycle.

The amount students gave to Kerry in 2004 is "paltry compared to what students have donated in this election cycle," she said. "There's an increased awareness that you don't have to be a maxing-out donor to give money and to be a part of the campaign and making a crucial difference."

"If you give \$30, you're considered someone who's important and meaningful to the campaign," she added.

Specific dollar amounts for student donations are nearly impossible to measure, since donors are required to list their employers, but not their educational information, when giving to campaigns. But Obama's campaign has long touted its strategy of reaching out to small donors — a tactic he used to justify his decision to forgo public financing, which allowed him to raise far more than the \$84 million provided by that system.

Portney said that most small-donor strategies face an inherent problem: Many donors simply don't have the resources to contribute.

"It's a combination of enthusiasm and ability to pay," he said. "There are plenty of people who are enthusiastic about Obama who simply can't afford to make contributions — so they don't."

But by and large, Obama has managed to transcend this issue with sheer charisma, he said.

"The fact is that in this particular election, Obama has energized people to give money when they wouldn't have given to anybody in another situation," he said.

MICHAEL SHERRY | POLITICAL ANIMAL



Poll reading 101

Today I'd like to talk about something that's near and dear to my heart: polling. No other subject in politics is more widely discussed with less understanding than the numbers polling firms spit out like clockwork. Cable news is especially guilty of this: Their breathless reports that "Obama's up 6 in New Mexico! McCain's up 2 in Florida!" absurdly oversimplify the actual science of measuring public opinion. The truth is, accurately reading polls is a blend of art and science that requires a bit of knowledge, a bit of history and a dash of humility. So if you want to really understand the state of any given race, read on.

The biggest mistake most people make when they try to interpret polling data is that they disregard the margin of error. The MoE is what makes every poll, to one extent or another, "fuzzy." It's what prevents us from ever knowing the precise, actual percentages of the public's preferences. Most reputable polls carry an MoE of plus or minus three points at a 95 percent confidence level. So let's take the latest FOX News poll, which puts Obama at 49 percent and McCain at 40 percent nationally. With an MoE of three percent at a 95 percent confidence level, we can say that we know for a fact that there is a 95 percent chance that Barack Obama's support is as high as 52 percent or as low as 46 percent, and that McCain's support is as high as 43 percent or as low as 37 percent. What FOX pegged as a 9 point difference could be as small as 3 points: 46-43 percent.

If you're thinking that all this is sounding like the odds of the success of Sex Panther (60 percent of the time, it works every time), you're not alone. Although a single poll like the FOX one is good at getting "ballpark" figures, when we start getting into closely matched numbers where two points is a huge difference, we need more precision. And that leads us to the second biggest mistake people make when trying to interpret a poll: They look at it in isolation.

Instead, the best way of ascertaining public support levels is to not give credence to any one poll (especially since people tend to cherry pick the ones that show their candidate ahead), but instead to combine all polls you trust into one rolling average. This greatly diminishes the impact of an "outlier" and minimizes the margin of error considerably. Fortunately for us, there are a number of sites out there that combine all the different results of various pollsters to try to form one coherent number. Check out these polling aggregators, which I'll list in order of worst to best:

RealClearPolitics.com: These guys were doing it first. They combine tons of national and state polls to create an average that's far more reliable than even the best single poll. Some controversy has erupted over whether or not they cherry pick certain polls to make things look better for Republicans, though, so you may want to try:

Pollster.com: Pollster.com doesn't have the issues RCP does because of a very simple philosophy. They take every poll they can get their hands on and throw it into the mix. Very effective, very well run and complete with great graphs visually depicting public opinion trends.

Fivethirtyeight.com: This is the gold standard, in my opinion. The guys running this site know statistics and sabermetrics inside and out, and they've turned their exhaustive knowledge of running numbers to politics. I firmly believe that the closest we will ever get to knowing the true level of support for any issue or candidate can be found at 538.

There's also a whole host of other, lesser things to keep in mind. Examples include knowing which pollsters have "house effects" (a lean to Democrats or Republicans) and even what's being polled. But if you only remember what I just told you, then congratulations — you probably know more than Bill O'Reilly or Wolf Blitzer.

Michael Sherry is a senior majoring in political science. He can be reached at Michael.Sherry@tufts.edu.



Domestic Politics

Lunchtime Speakers

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Weekender

ARTS & LIVING

tuftsdaily.com



Dance group kicks exclusivity in favor of fun

BY EMMA BUSHNELL
Daily Editorial Board

It's safe to say that most Jumbos know someone in Tufts Dance Collective (TDC), if they are not members themselves. Boasting over 400 members, this student group phenomenon has taken over studio spaces and conversations across campus.

The origins of TDC are hazy, but rumors abound. It began in the 1970s, and, according to senior and board member Matt Horner, focused largely on classical dance and most likely had no audition process. TDC continues the zero audition policy today.

TDC rapidly expanded after its birth around 30 years ago. For the upcoming show, there are 39 choreographers rehearsing 20 dances. Although any dancer who wants to get involved is guaranteed an opportunity, the group is careful not to let its dances be bogged down by the large number of participants.

"We limit the dances to 28 dancers each," said board member Chelsea Goldstein-Walsh, a senior. "That way choreographers don't get overwhelmed."

Cutting out dancers, however, is not a serious problem. If you want to dance, chances are you will find a way to dance. Although there are no formal auditions, if a group exceeds the 28-person limit, TDC's filtration process takes over. In the spirit of the group, however, this process is less than daunting.

"We have a questionnaire with just a lot of fun questions on it," explained Goldstein-Walsh. "For example, you might be asked to write a haiku about dance. It's just an easy way to see who's actually committed, and who just wrote down their name."

Why are these large numbers of students flocking to dance with TDC? The most significant reason is the sheer enthusiasm of the group, not its elite technical prowess. Most dancers and even choreographers in TDC have little to no dance experience prior to joining

the group.

"I have never, ever danced ever before," said sophomore Juliana Slocum, currently involved with her first semester of TDC. "I did this to hang out with my friends for an hour and surprise my family by dancing!"

Slocum's family will be one of many flooding the campus for TDC's semesterly showcase. Though the group's main focus is the experience of rehearsing, the effort put into the dances leads to a polished performance than can be enjoyed by outsiders.

"We have a lot of fun, but that doesn't mean our dances are bad," Horner said, amid emphatic nodding from the rest of the board.

Getting involved

Surprisingly enough, TDC consistently generates strong interest without spending much effort promoting the group. When asked how they advertise, the board members merely looked around at one another quizzically.

"Student Activities Fair ..."
"Postering sometimes ..."

TDC does not perform in any kind of orientation show, nor does it spend money to recruit new members. Most of its members simply find out about it through word of mouth: a real testament to the feeling of community within the group.

"People come to see a friend, and end up enjoying the show so much that they join the next semester," Goldstein-Walsh explained.

This trend shows the extreme enthusiasm for the organization in the Tufts community — Jumbos seek the group out, not the other way around. The only prerequisite for becoming a choreographer is at least two semesters of dancing in the program. This means that most of the choreographers are not seasoned, trained virtuosos, but rather TDC veterans making up fun dances as they go along.

Though the choreographers are the authority figures of the group, they are open to collaboration in rehearsal.

"Many times, a choreographer will

ask the dancers, 'Can anyone here do a trick?' and then work it into their dance," said Goldstein-Walsh. For some, this may seem like a loosely structured system lacking an authority figure.

"There's definitely a mutual respect," said Horner. "You're having fun, but you're also working."

The level of difficulty varies greatly among the dances as well. Through an arduous selection process, the board creates 20 different groups of choreographers specializing in a diverse group of dances. These dances range from huge groups dancing at very basic levels to smaller, more technical dances.

Emily Spooner, a sophomore in her third semester of the program, has taken full advantage of the range of dances offered.

"I've been dancing for seven years," she said, "but I love doing TDC as much as less experienced dancers because of the variety in the kinds of dances you can do. If you're looking for something hard, you'll be doing the more technical dances."

Diversity among the dances goes beyond level of difficulty. Each semester's show is carefully crafted to showcase a wide range of dance genres. Spooner, like many TDC participants, has benefited from this variety, having performed in hip hop, modern and ballet dances through the program. "You can figure out what you want or like to do by getting involved," she said.

Finding the time

Tufts students lead very busy lives. In fact, you're probably reading this while walking from your general interest meeting about a public service trip to Peru to your weekly Chinese conversation night. So how can so many Jumbos have time to devote to a dance collective when they're not even dancers to begin with?

TDC has always prided itself on a fairly small amount of commitment time. Dancers meet once a week for an hour with their choreographers to rehearse. Though there is a strong feeling of com-

munity, members are not smothered by commitment to the group.

Many dancers and choreographers are also involved with other on-campus dance groups, and choose to stay involved with TDC because it's just plain fun.

Tuftonian tradition

Like any well-established student group, TDC has formed its own traditions. In the spirit of the organization, these traditions are usually very, very silly. "Well, there's the Mandance!" senior Li Mei Kwan, a board member, quickly pointed out. The legendary TDC "Mandance," begun by alum Steve Leichman (LA '06), is, as the title would suggest, a comical performance choreographed for a stage full of men.

"It's really not serious," said Horner. "There's not a lot of guys in TDC ... I mean, it's dance." In addition to the Mandance, TDC's choreographers have developed "typical TDC moves," recycled in many dances. "These are moves you wouldn't necessarily see in a normal dance," explained Goldstein-Walsh. "There's lots of jumping [and] high-energy stuff."

Sign of the times

More than anything else, being a part of the Tufts Dance Collective involves lots of fun. But this fact isn't solely responsible for the very steady rise in membership.

"More movies have been coming out with dancing in them," said Horner. "So people have become more interested in dancing."

"We've been seeing more diversity in dance styles too, and the dances have become slightly more technical," Goldstein-Walsh added.

Whatever the reason, TDC has become an undeniable presence among student groups on campus. For readers who have somehow been out of the loop on this phenomenon (all two of you), make sure to attend TDC's fall semester show on Dec. 6. You'll find yourself pirouetting in a studio in Jackson by the end of the week.

GALLERY REVIEW

Whiteread's MFA exhibit creates a disquieting mood for visitors

BY ADAM KULEWICZ
Contributing Writer

The best museum exhibits are those that elicit an emotional response from the viewer. Whether it's inspiration, humor, joy

Rachel Whiteread

At the Foster Gallery through Jan. 25
Museum of Fine Arts, Boston
465 Huntington Avenue
617-267-9300

or sadness, museums can ask for nothing more than to have their visitors affected by the art on display. The Museum of Fine Arts, Boston's (MFA) exhibition, "Rachel Whiteread," certainly elicits emotion, but one not usually expected during a typical visit to the MFA.

The exhibition, which runs until Jan. 25, includes several sculptures (mostly plaster castings) and drawings, as well as an arrangement of 201 vintage doll houses made from 2006-2008 titled "Place (Village)." Located to the left of the main entrance to the exhibition, "Place (Village)" is the highlight of the show.



An eerie, empty glow emanates from miniature homes in the mysterious "Place (Village)" (2006-2008).

Rachel Whiteread is an award-winning contemporary British artist whose pieces range from installation art in places such as London's Trafalgar Square to relatively small items. Many of her works are castings of ordinary objects of all sizes made out

of materials such as plaster, concrete and resin. One of her most famous public works is "House," which was installed in London in 1993.

see **WHITEREAD**, page 8

WEEKENDER INTERVIEW | DANNY BOYLE

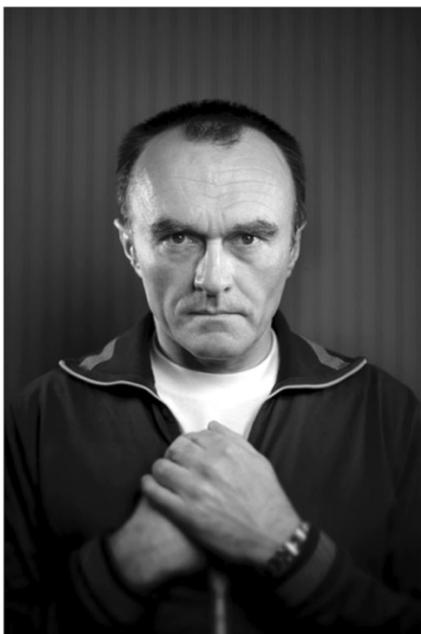
Director Boyle talks about his new film and the experience of shooting in India

BY JORDAN TEICHER
Contributing Writer

The Daily sat down with renowned English director Danny Boyle as part of a roundtable interview at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel in Boston. Boyle put himself on the map with his 1996 hit "Trainspotting." His new movie, "Slumdog Millionaire," which opens on Nov. 12, is based on the book "Q&A" (2006) by Vikas Swarup. The film follows an Indian teenager who gets onto the Hindi version of "Who Wants to be a Millionaire" and is suspected of cheating when he keeps getting questions right. Told in a flashback style, the movie showcases the incredible story of Jamal Malik, starting from his early childhood and going until he is a young adult.

Question: How did you get involved with the movie and what made you want to make it?

Danny Boyle: Well, it was the script, really. They sent the script and they said it's a film about "Who Wants to be a Millionaire." And, although I had watched the show a lot at home, I'd never want to make a film about it. Why would you want to make a film about that? It's on TV and it's not really a film and I wasn't going to read it even. Literally, I wasn't going to read it, because you get a script and it takes you like three hours to read but I saw the name on the front, it was Simon Beaufoy, who I knew had written "[The] Full Monty" [1997], and I respected him as a writer, a British writer. So I said I should read some of it, I'll read 50 pages of it so at least I could write to him. As soon as I read it, I knew I wanted to make it ... I remember reading "Trainspotting," the book [1993], before we ever did the script and I just knew I wanted to make the film of it after chapter one. And like "28 Days Later" [2002], I remember reading the script of that and there was a little paragraph in the beginning saying he walks around London on his own and I just thought [scoffs] and you don't even get to the end. I think when you get to the end of a script, it's not a particularly good place to judge it because then all these other questions come in like: Who could be in it? What's it going to cost? Who will distribute it? While when you were reading it, you were lost in it, really, you weren't thinking about all these practical things, and that's the



Danny Boyle is seriously excited about his latest film.

best time to make the decisions about what you're doing. Because I think it's closer to what the audience will experience then, that instinct you have, the first time you read it, it's close if you can do it well, hopefully.

Q: How did you go about filming in a different country, and how did you feel about it?

DB: Have you ever been to India? It is a really extraordinary place and it demands of you a very kind of different approach. It is so complicated and complex and busy and everything is inseparable: poverty, wealth, dirt, cleanliness, everything. You can't separate things at all. It just comes at you the whole time. And what directing is about often is control. In fact, Bollywood movies are made in the studios there because they don't try and go out in the streets because it's uncontrollable. And especially in their cases, if you have a big Bollywood star in the movie, the place goes nuts, completely nuts, because they adore their stars. So you have to find a different way of approaching it ... I didn't want to just make a film about some white guys ... so I wanted to try and tell it from the point of view of the characters, like insider, very subjective, and

see **BOYLE**, page 8

ALBUM REVIEW

New album leaves listeners hoping their 'senses fail'

BY GRANT BEIGHLEY
Daily Editorial Board

Senses Fail has long been a staple of the emo-core (screamo, regular old emo, what have you) scene, and for about five

Life Is Not a Waiting Room

Senses Fail



Vagrant

years now they've been dividing listeners into camps of those who adore them and those who abhor them. With its latest album, "Life Is Not a Waiting Room," the band further entrenches itself in the mediocrity of the post-screamo rock world.

The album kicks off with "Fireworks at Dawn," a song that, for the first time in the band's history, is increasingly upbeat and hopeful, even though singer Buddy Nielsen whines, "Fireworks at dawn as I sip for assistance/ This flask keeps me calm, it reflects back my bent image/ Of someone who's lost, growing older by the minute."

While these lines are certainly far from upbeat, the chorus brings in the rest of the band blasting away as the lyrics take a turn for the better. "So get on your feet, wipe the dirt off and get with it/ Destiny waits at your door/ It's time to move on, because the past can't be your passion/ So what if you did something wrong?/ Find someone who hasn't."

This first song gets the listener excited for an album about redemption, moving on and finding optimism long since forgotten. But unfortunately for everyone involved, the album immediately reverts back to the self-pitying ways that fall neatly within Senses Fail's comfort zone.

"Lungs Like Gallows," the second cut off of "Life Is Not a Waiting Room," explodes with a barrage of massively EQ'd bass drum hits and overly simple guitar riffs. Simply put, the song sounds like something that was cut from the band's previous release, "Still Searching" (2006), because it was just too generic. When a new release sounds like rejected material from a previous project, you know you've got problems.

The real kicker is that "Lungs Like

see **SENSES FAIL**, page 8

MIKEY GORALNIK | PAINT THE TOWN BROWN



10.21.2008,
The Egg

When I saw The Egg next to stellar acts like The New Deal and !!! on the Camp Bisco VII bill last summer, I assumed that festival organizers/namesakes the Disco Biscuits were trying to save a little money by filling out the excellent schedule with crappily named bands from their local Philadelphia.

Not the case. It wasn't quite the British Invasion, but it was apparently a gigantic deal when the Biscuits managed to snag similarly techno-jammy London band The Egg for their annual summer festival. The notoriously passionate Biscuits nation no doubt collectively soiled themselves when it was announced that this longtime runner of the UK live-band electronica game was coming to the United States.

Luckily, I was not one of these incontinent folks as, like most of the nation, I had never heard of this stupidly named band. But trusting the Biscuits' tastes, I decided to use the magic of the Internet to track down some of its recordings and see what all the fuss was about.

Not much. Though the group has some stellar moments, on record The Egg is pretty average — it kind of sounds like the Disco Biscuits if the Disco Biscuits didn't like to party, or conversely, Air if the Frenchmen partied like hedonists. So when I saw that the band was coming to town, I didn't exactly have to reach for my Depends. But, being a certified painter, I figured some show is better than no show, so I went back for round two.

Now I know what all those Biscuits kids were geeking about on the Internet last summer — The Egg is awesome live. Funkily electronic but not passé, housey but not cheesy, The Egg combines professional cohesiveness with Ben Cullum's filthy bass playing, catering to a rowdy dance party and doing the Disco Biscuits proud.

None of this is to say that the group didn't indicate why its records are underwhelming. Except for Cullum, no one in The Egg is that good. The keyboards are repetitive, largely un-improvised, and technically un-wowing. The drumming is all of these things but more so, with Maff (lol) Scott ceaselessly banging out the same rhythms song in and song out — like the Energizer bunny, only with much worse teeth.

That said, The Egg performs with the savvy and cohesiveness of a band with nearly 15 years of touring experience. Effortlessly segueing between songs and visibly communicating transitions to each other on stage, The Egg may not have displayed impressive chops, but it definitely maximized its abilities. The criminally small but obviously appreciative "crowd" seemed to enjoy the limited lag time between songs — I haven't seen the Middle East's wooden floor so covered in sweat since that nightmare I had a few years ago where the club was turned into a sauna and I sat around sweating with Chris Matthews and Pat Robertson.

As impressed as I was with the group's professionalism, I was equally impressed with its bassist. Ben Cullum can play — anything from groovy funk rhythms to propulsive house to relaxed noodling, he got the crowd's collective booty shakin' almost right away and never really stopped. While the drums were mindlessly interminable, Cullum's sustained bass rhythms shifted rationally, creatively and dynamically, and, at points, threatened to steal the show from the whole band.

More often though, The Egg's whole was substantially greater than the sum of its parts. The Egg might not be amazing, but it's professional, smooth, and polished (obviously — the band's from the same country as James Bond), it has a killer bassist, and it throws down live. If the Egg ever comes back to Amurrica, I guess I'll need those Depends after all.

Mikey Goralnik is a senior majoring in American history. He can be reached at Michael.Goralnik@tufts.edu

TOP TEN | HIGH SCHOOL MOVIES THAT SHOULD BE MADE INTO MUSICALS

With the release of "High School Musical 3" just around the corner, waiting to shank you and take your hard-earned money, we here at the Daily started thinking that many of our favorite classic movies have dealt with high-school issues — why not turn those into musicals as well? At least you'd end up with an interesting plot. After compiling this list, we decided that it's probably best if we just leave the music to the "HSM" crew...

10. "Dead Poet's Society" (1989): The bittersweet ending of this prep school classic would truly be capped off by a requiem for the dead kid, sung by Robin Williams.

9. "The Emperor's Club" (2002): Excellent opportunities for a ballad by Kevin Kline backed by a boy's chorus ... and a lot of jazz hands in togas during the school-wide competition.

8. "Radio" (2003): While it's not exactly a high-school movie, it does tell the heart-wrenching story of a boy who just wants to play football. If we say anything more about this one, we'd just be guaranteeing our place in hell.

7. "Can't Hardly Wait" (1998): The only way Seth Green's character could get any better in this movie if all his lines were rapped instead of spoken. Also, the soundtrack would be loaded with rocking tunes by Loveburger!

6. "Porky's" (1982): You would need someone with a good falsetto to nail the notes during

the most... grabbing... scene of the movie.

5. "Teeth" (2007): Not only does it bite, it sings. Poorly.

4. "High School Musical: The Musical": Much like video game "Street Fighter: The Movie" (1995) or "The Producers" (2005), it's a show within a show within a show. It's so meta, man. Trippy.

3. "Juno" (2007): The hip, quick-witted language of this pregnant teen would make for catchy lyrics, and who wouldn't love to see Michael Cera breakin' it down in knee-high socks? Coordinated dance moves practically invent themselves with motions such as "The Kraken from the Sea," "The Sea Monkey Ultrasound" and "The Stink-Eye."

2. "Ten Things I Hate About You" (1999): While the movie already has one musical number, imagine it with choreographed dancing, a light show, and a zombified Heath Ledger — What? Still too soon?

1. "American Pie" (1999): Though the cast, excluding Eugene Levy, is loath to return to the series, let's face it — a musical is a much better idea than "Beta House" (2007). What better underscore that intensely awkward scene when Jim's dad walks in during the pie ... scene? I think you get the idea.

— compiled by the Daily Arts Department

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE TUFTS DAILY

Dear Producers of "Saw,"

"Saw v?" Really? The last series that shamelessly pursued this many sequels was probably "The Land Before Time," (remember installment twelve, when the dinosaurs survived again?), and that's saying something. For a series to continue, there must be some evolution in the story, something worth delving into for five-times-90 minutes. We're shocked that a pair of producers such as yourselves can find any more plot points to explore in this soon-to-be quintuplet of films. Wait, scratch that. Most surprising is that you believe that "Saw" had any plot to begin with.

Sure, the deranged jigsaw has some crazy karmic scheme to make people appreciate their lives by bringing them to the brink of death. But everyone knows that these films are just an excuse for you to play out your most twisted torture nightmares on a host of disposable C-list actors, nightmares which are far more gruesome and detailed than those of the average American. You're not fooling us. There isn't much more to these movies than blood and guts and the occasional pig mask.



Edgar Allen Poe is rolling in his grave over your lack of poeticism. You make Keats cry.

At this point, we'd rather do a 50,000-piece puzzle of kittens than listen to jigsaw breathe "Wanna play a game?" one more time. Not to mention the misleading taglines in the commercials: "You won't believe how it ends." upon hearing this from the television, we thought "Oh, thank God!" only to find out that Tobin Bell is slated for a "Saw VI" (2009).

Oh wait, what was that? Crackle, crackle. Hello producers, I want to play a game. It's called: Get rid of this series once and for all or you might wake up to find yourselves chained to a sink, sitting in a pit of needles with a bear trap firmly locking your head in place and only 60 seconds to simultaneously eat your own ear and solve an algebra problem. Will you sacrifice your dignity for the money of sadomasochistic teenagers across the nation, or put jigsaw to rest? Make your choice.

Sincerely,
The Daily Arts Department



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Who beefed? If it were me, I'd own up it guys.

Stilted lyrics bring 'Life' to new lows

SENSES FAIL

continued from page 6

Gallows" contains the precious line, "I've been breaking mirrors since 1984" as well as "I give blood, but not for a cause" and "I open my umbrella even when I am indoors." What makes it even sadder is that apparently this band takes itself, as well as these absurd lyrics, quite seriously.

The generic emo nature of this music doesn't stop at lyrics either; the guitar work of Garrett Zablocki and Heath Saraceno is, if anything, a regression from "Still Searching." The simplicity of barre chords and syncopated palm-mutes is an art form best left to bands such as Underoath or Atreyu.

It only gets worse from there. The rest of "Life Is Not a Waiting Room" plays like a therapy session gone wrong. "Garden State," a song presumably about the band's glorious home state, opens with "The Garden State has never looked so pitiful and gray/ As I awake to the garbagemen today." What's that, you say? This would be the perfect place for a wasted-life metaphor? Not to disappoint, the

next line reads, "I hope they take all my old mistakes/ Because I can't seem to face them on my own."

The first single from the record comes in the form of "Family Tradition," another snappy little jingle about depression — what else is new? Although lyrics have already made up a good percentage of this review, it's correctly so, because with lines that read like "So help me, please someone come quick, I think I am losing it/ Forgive me, I inherited this from a stranger I'll never miss/ I'm sick," it's impossible not to get a good laugh out of the stilted high-school heartbreak.

If this were a band's debut album (and it were 2002 instead of 2008), lines such as this might be excusable, but seeing as Senses Fail is now on its fourth LP release, each of which has been progressively more self-indulgent and self-loathing, it is utterly unforgivable to release an album of this drivel with any serious intentions. Undoubtedly, it won't be long before Senses Fail "mutually" parts ways with its record label as a result of this album.

Boyle speaks on working with kids and transcending language barriers

BOYLE

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so lots of stuff we shot you had no idea whether it worked, really, because you can't control things ... just unbelievable things happened and you can't let it drive you mad and you've got to kind of embrace it and love it really in a way, and I did, I really got on with it.

Q: Has the author of "Q&A" seen the film yet?

DB: No, he has not actually. I never read the book originally, I read the script and it was an amazing script, I thought. Then when I read the book — it's so different, the book; it wasn't the book I related to, it was the script — so I never did that thing. Normally I get in touch with the writers and I want them around a lot; even the writers of the book, like Irvine Welsh, who wrote "Trainspotting" [the book], is in "Trainspotting" as an actor, and John Hodge, the screenwriter, is often in the films I make and Frank Cottrell Boyce, who wrote "Millions" [2004], is the teacher. So I always try and have them around a lot but I didn't want Vikas around because I wanted to relate only to Simon and to the screenplay because it felt like a very different screenplay to a book and he's quite happy with that it seems.

Q: How is it that you are so able to tap into the vivid inner world of children that you have done in "Millions" and "Slumdog Millionaire"?

DB: I like kids. I have three of my own; they are a bit grown -p now. I'm a bit of a big kid myself, which helps. It helps relax everyone and it says you're in an imaginative world rather than a precise, economic, kind-of realistic factual world and that helps in making films. So I have always loved working with them. When they're very young in India, they don't speak English; they pick up this 'Hinglish', this mixture of Indian English when they get in their teens and lots of people can speak English after that.

When they're seven they speak Hindi really, and the local dialect. So I had this woman with me who was originally the casting director, and then I had to run the set the whole time and then I sent her off with my second units so she is effectively the co-director of the film and she was incredibly helpful to me. But kids are kids: They know what you want because you show it to them and they can get the feeling of you of what's necessary. And they are good actors in India. It's got such a culture and tradition of acting that it comes very natural to them, it feels very natural to dance and act and sing, all those things; they find it very natural.

Q: What sets this apart from all the other rags-to-riches stories?

DB: What's different about it? Well, I think a lot of it has to do with the [setting] that separates it. It uses this vehicle of Western expansion and capitalism, which "Who Wants to be a Millionaire," is the epitome of, isn't it? It's offering people the ultimate dream and it's offering it to them on a plate and it turns out to be a slightly poisoned chalice because the guy gives him the wrong answer ... It's got a forked tongue, but whatever you say, it's not quite the dream. What that does, is it puts it back on the underdog and says there are no easy lift-ups, these are all illusions and it's up to you and your dream and you've got to stick to that. So, it's the purity of that, it is an underdog with a dream and he will get there. His riches are not to do with money; although he wins it, he's not really focused on the money, he's focused on the girl. That's really why he's on. That's probably why he wins the money. They would say that in India, and that's why he wins — because he is relaxed. If you chase the money, it runs away from you. If he were really there for the money, he probably would have accepted the guy's answer as being correct. He's there for the girl; he wants to stay on there as long as he can.

'Tufts Unplugged' sparks on-campus musician community

For any aspiring singer/songwriter, it's hard to imagine the long road ahead scrounging for gigs and taking every opportunity for promotion. A college campus, where opportunities in academics and extracurriculars seem endless, is a more supportive environment for musicians than the so-called "real world." The lack of opportunities for Tufts musicians to play to an audience has been a glaring problem on campus, and though there are a few places to see fellow students play — like Brown & Brew and Oxfam Café — a new student group has formed called The Musicians Collective at Tufts to solve the problem.

This Friday night, "Tufts Unplugged," produced by the Musicians Collective, will be the first-ever songwriter showcase featuring Tufts musicians. Including 15 performers, the show is two hours, starting at 8 p.m. in the Distler Recital Hall in the Granoff Music Center. Performers will include the co-founders of the Musicians Collective, seniors Debbie Neigher and Bekah Gilbert, along with seniors Doug Pet, Ben Broderick and Kate Rizzolo, juniors Jake Stern, Josh Zeidel, Jeremy Strauss, Tara Vaughan and Jesse Kohn, sophomore Ben Anshutz, freshmen Steph Vasquez and Cody Hochheiser, and Tufts band FORT.

The Musicians Collective, which was founded just last year, now has over 200 students on its mailing list, and seeks to create an open forum for an exchange of information on upcoming concerts, collaborations between musicians, sharing of equipment and gen-



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Tufts junior Tara Vaughan, a featured songwriter for the Musicians Collective, will perform at 'Tufts Unplugged.'

eral advice. According to Neigher, "Tufts Unplugged" fills a critical need on campus. "There are few opportunities at Tufts for composers and songwriters and people who do spoken-word. There are really no occasions right now for a large number of Tufts musicians to showcase their own work at one time and at one concert," she said.

Co-sponsored by the Tufts Music Department, "Tufts Unplugged" is part of the Musicians Collective's aim to bridge the gap between musicians inside and outside of the department. Neigher said she feels that the Collective can provide a much-needed community for musicians on campus, "I felt like there were so many people

that had talent both in and outside of the music department but there was no way for them to connect with each other on any level, be it musically or logistically — and I often hear people saying, 'I want to form a band but I don't know how to find people.' There was no structure or place that would embrace musicians campus-wide," she said.

To get a preview of Friday's show, keep an eye (and an ear) out for rogue performances on campus all week by featured songwriters. To get involved in the Musicians Collective, contact tuftsmusicians@gmail.com.

—Sarah Cowan

Barbie wouldn't feel welcome in Whiteread's doll houses

WHITEREAD

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"House" is the casting of the interior of a terraced London flat. It remained on the site of the structure after the structure itself was demolished. Other homes on that London street were also demolished by the local council, so the piece now stands alone.

"House" is bold but also haunting, and as such it is a good representation of Whiteread as an artist. It also shows her interest in making use of "negative" space and projected an air of emptiness and melancholy that is rather disquieting.

These themes of emptiness and melancholy pervade in the MFA's exhibition, particularly in "Place (Village)." The work is not a casting of an ordinary object like "House," but it draws on the same themes. It is installed in a dark gallery, and consists of 201 vintage doll houses arranged on multiple levels of crates, which also serve as storage containers for the doll houses. The only light in the gallery comes from the small lights inside each doll house.

The initial impact of "Place (Village)" is dramatic, as the illumination inside hundreds of tiny windows breaks the darkness of the gallery. Up close, however, each of the doll houses is empty, and the minimalist, haunting ideas behind the piece become clear. These are not the doll houses of a typical childhood. They are devoid of all warmth and project an image of melancholy, sadness and emptiness (as the artist intended) that becomes increasingly unsettling with each additional

minute spent in the gallery.

This is the first time that "Place (Village)" has been displayed in its full form, though a partial installation was in Naples at the Museo d'Arte Contemporanea Donna Regina. According to the exhibit curator, Cheryl Brutban, museumgoers in Naples commented on how closely the piece resembled the buildings of Naples itself, and it is ironic that in its full form, the piece is similarly reminiscent of the Boston neighborhood, Beacon Hill, particularly as seen from the Red Line on the way to the museum from Tufts. However, Beacon Hill is decidedly more lively and cheerful than the eerie arrangement of doll houses in "Place (Village)."

While the works in the rest of the exhibition provide good background on "Place (Village)," it is best to visit it before viewing the rest of the exhibition because "Place (Village)" overall effect is the most dramatic of all the pieces in the show. The other works, including "Double-Doors II (A+B)" (2006) — two plaster castings of doors — highlight Whiteread's extraordinary concern for detail and ability to "transform the ordinary into the extraordinary," as Brutban stressed.

"Rachel Whiteread" is certainly worth a visit to the MFA, as its emotional impact stands apart from the museum's other artwork. It is — as a result of the extensive, ongoing renovations — part of the relatively small amount of contemporary art currently on view at the museum and is at once thought-provoking and disquieting.

THE TUFTS DAILY

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EDITORIAL

Jumbos get short end of the stick in national polls

The Daily doesn't typically use this space to trumpet the causes of its sports teams, but we could no longer ignore how the National Field Hockey Coaches Association has shortchanged the Tufts field hockey team of its rightful place atop the national rankings.

The Jumbos defeated a historically strong Williams squad 3-1 on Saturday to improve to 11-0 on the season and remain the only undefeated team in the nation. But rather than being rewarded for its continued flawless play, Tufts remained stalled in the No. 5 spot in the NFHCA rankings for the second week in a row, behind three teams with one loss and another with two.

In a banner fall sports season on the Hill — one that has seen the women's tennis team produce a national championship in doubles, the volleyball team jump out to a 22-1 start and the football team beat Williams for the first time in 21 years — the undefeated field hockey team has stood out as the best of Tufts athletics. It's too bad the

NFHCA hasn't noticed.

It's not that we necessarily think the Jumbos should have climbed all the way to No. 1 by now, particularly when it still has games against No. 9 Trinity and No. 2 Bowdoin to play over the next two weekends. But to keep the team locked in the fifth spot just doesn't seem to do justice to what it has accomplished this season, having managed a spotless record against a schedule that has included No. 16 Babson and No. 3 Middlebury.

That's not to mention the rest of the Jumbos' schedule, which features teams from easily the most competitive region in the nation. No conference has had a more palpable presence on the national scene than the NESCAC, which has sent three representatives to the 24-team field at the NCAA Tournament in each of the past two years. Last season, the national championship game was an all-NESCAC affair between Bowdoin and Middlebury, and who would be

surprised to see something similar happen in 2008, considering that the NESCAC boasts four of the top nine teams in the NFHCA rankings?

As the best team in the best conference in the country, Tufts surely belongs at or near the top of the national rankings. That basic logic seems to have eluded the NFHCA, which continues to reward teams from the Mid-Atlantic region at the expense of the Jumbos.

In the current polls, The College of New Jersey, Ursinus and Messiah are all ranked higher than Tufts, despite the fact that the Mid-Atlantic's dynastic stranglehold on Div. III field hockey is long over. It's time for the NFHCA to recognize that the balance of power in the sport has shifted to New England and to give the Jumbos their due.

As Tufts closes in on its best regular-season finish ever, it continues to rack up program records and make its mark in the NESCAC. But as for the respect the Jumbos deserve? That's something they'll apparently have to live without.

DON WRIGHT



OFF THE HILL | OHIO UNIVERSITY

Fairness Doctrine is fundamentally unfair

ASHLEY HERZOG
The Post

Let's hope Barack Obama's campaign was telling the truth when it said the candidate has no intention of reviving the Fairness Doctrine if he's elected. This Truman-era piece of legislation is not simply outdated — it's also part of some congressional Democrats' plan to control speech on the radio.

The Fairness Doctrine was enacted by the Federal Communications Commission in 1949, long before the existence of the Internet, cable TV or satellite radio. It required FCC-licensed stations to "afford reasonable opportunity for the discussion of conflicting views of public importance." While that might indeed sound "fair" on paper, the Fairness Doctrine was used by both Republican and Democratic administrations to harass critics on the radio and TV. In the 1980s, with a growing number of media outlets voluntarily offering diverse viewpoints, President Ronald Reagan's FCC had the good sense to stop enforcing it. Most people were cool with that — until Rush Limbaugh came along.

Limbaugh is by far the most successful radio personality in America,

broadcast on hundreds of stations to a daily audience of more than 20 million. Part of his show's early success was that he was one of few alternatives to network TV news, which was dominated by liberals like Dan Rather. As Ann Coulter described the early-1990s' Rush Limbaugh Show, "It was finally possible to hear something other than press releases from the Democratic National Committee."

Throughout the '90s, liberals kept looking for the "answer to Rush Limbaugh." They put a string of left-wing radio hosts on the air, most of whose shows were canceled within a few months because of lack of interest. As an article in Public Interest magazine reported, "Mario Cuomo, Gary Hart, and Alan Dershowitz had their own talk radio programs, each of which proved to be low-rated and short-lived." After liberal Texan Jim Hightower's show was canceled, he told Mother Jones, "These stations say ... 'hey, Rush Limbaugh seems to be working, I need a Limbaugh, too.'"

To date, no liberal radio host has approached the success of Limbaugh or other top-rated conservative hosts, including Sean Hannity and Laura Ingraham. According to TALKERS Magazine, as of spring 2008, the five

most popular talk radio shows in the country were all hosted by conservatives.

Unable to succeed in radio by actually attracting audiences, some liberals now see the Fairness Doctrine as a tool to force people to listen to them. Nancy Pelosi, John Kerry and Al Gore have all voiced their support for the law. Kerry even supports the old "equal time" rule, which would require radio stations that air conservative shows like Limbaugh's to grant equal time for a liberal talk show — regardless of whether or not anyone wants to hear it.

"A new Fairness Doctrine would drive political talk radio off the dial. If a station ran a big-audience conservative program like, say, Laura Ingraham's, it would also have to run a left-leaning alternative," New York Post reporter Brian C. Anderson wrote on Monday. "But liberals don't do well on talk radio, as ... liberal efforts in the medium to date show. Stations would likely trim back conservative shows so as to avoid airing unsuccessful liberal ones." This isn't fairness; this is the government dictating who and what we're allowed to listen to.

Some "civil libertarians" these Democrats are.

Small island, big threat

BY MICHAEL A. FERNANDEZ

As the November election approaches, we are hearing an ever-louder chorus of voices from the left calling on the United States to normalize relations with the oppressive Cuban regime. Advocates of a rapprochement between the United States and the regime claim that our policies have been a failure. They insist that closer economic ties between the two countries would better serve U.S. interests than our current approach toward the regime. Contrary to the assertions of some academics, pundits and talking heads, the embargo has not been a failure. It has been a proven and effective means of keeping the United States safe. Curiously, those who support closer ties with the Cuban regime never discuss the Castro brothers' long record of anti-Americanism. In view of that oversight on their part, a brief discussion of the historical record might serve to shed some light on why we should maintain the current U.S. policies against the regime.

The embargo was first put in place following an act of aggression on the part of Cuba's communist leadership. Shortly after the Castro brothers' rise to power in 1959, the Cuban regime stole close to \$2 billion worth of privately owned U.S. properties (close to \$14 billion in current dollar terms). In response to these unwarranted actions, the United States chose to impose an economic embargo aimed at protecting the interests of its citizens. In 1962, the Castro brothers called on the USSR to launch a nuclear strike against the United States. In Fidel's own words, "I wrote to Khrushchev [on October 26, 1962] ... It was my opinion that, in case of an invasion, it was necessary to launch a massive and total nuclear strike [against the United States]." To get at its enemies, the Cuban regime was willing to risk nuclear annihilation. Fortunately, the USSR ignored the Castro brothers' crazed call for Armageddon and removed its nuclear missiles from the island — perhaps out of fear that the Cubans might take over the weapons facilities and use the missiles without Soviet approval. Undeterred, the Cuban regime sponsored numerous "internationalist" campaigns in Latin America and Africa during the 1960s, 1970s and 1980s, with the goal of undermining United States' interests in those parts of the world.

Following the loss of Soviet subsidies in



MCT

the 1990s, the Castro brothers were forced to adopt a different approach. Despite the crippling economic downturn that resulted from the collapse of the USSR, the Cuban regime was able to maintain its exports in one important area: spies. Naturally, there have been numerous high-profile incidents over the past decade involving Cuban-linked spies. For instance, shortly after Sept. 11, the FBI apprehended Ana Belen Montes, a high-ranking official at the CIA with access to classified information about our battle plans against the Taliban, for spying on behalf of the Castro brothers. Frighteningly, who knows how many more casualties our brave men and women in the armed forces would have sustained in Afghanistan had our battle plans been leaked to our enemies on the ground? At present, the regime is thought to have more than 200 well-placed opera-

tives in the United States — many of whom are doubtless in positions of power, like Montes. In addition to its own intelligence-gathering efforts in the United States, the Cuban regime also assists other (less-than-friendly) countries with their espionage activities. Of particular note, the Chinese maintain a spy base on the island with the blessing of the Castro brothers.

Far worse, however, is the fact that the Cuban regime has chosen to provide succor and material support to terrorists. Cuba is a safe haven for members of terrorist organizations such as the ETA, the FARC and the ELN. It has refused to track, block or seize terrorist assets. Meanwhile, Cuba has allied itself with state sponsors of terrorism such as Iran and Syria. During a May 2001 visit to Iran, Fidel Castro said that "Iran and Cuba, in cooperation with each other,

can bring America to its knees." Given the two countries' "peaceful" biotechnology exchange program, there is more than ample reason to be concerned. Beyond its strategic ties with state sponsors of terrorism, the Cuban regime maintains close ties with a large number of nations who are hostile toward the United States. Recently, for example, there has been growing concern that the Russians are planning a return to Cuba. That Russia's renewed presence on the island should come just months after its unwarranted and aggressive actions in Georgia is another indicator of how far the Cuban regime is willing to go to undermine and thumb its nose at the United States.

To this day, Cuba is not a responsible member of the international community. It is a locus of anti-American activity. Cuba may be a "small country," as Senator Barack Obama claimed this summer, but it's big enough to pose a threat to U.S. security. As such, reversing the travel ban and the limitations on remittances, which have deprived the Cuban regime of the material resources with which to militate against the interests of the United States and our allies, would be irresponsible. The travel ban and the limitations on remittances are no different from our efforts to freeze al Qaeda-linked bank accounts. In both instances, our government is simply acting to stop the flow of dollars that would go abroad to sponsor the killing of U.S. citizens. Indeed, our sanctions on Cuba are as valid and as justified as the ones we still impose on Iran and imposed on North Korea.

In these dangerous times, it is disturbing that the left would be more concerned with permitting Americans to drink mojitos in Havana than defending this great nation. By seeking closer ties with Cuba's regime, which has been on the list of state sponsors of terrorists for more than two decades, the left is proving once again that it is disinterested in protecting the interests of the United States. Sadly, this is not an isolated incident, for the left also seeks ties with other rogue regimes — Cuba's closest allies.

There is a clear choice this November. We must elect John McCain to keep our policies toward Cuba's rogue regime in place.

Michael A. Fernandez is a master's candidate at the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy.

The truth about Sarah Palin

BY MAX WINOGRAD

Over the past two months, followers of both John McCain and Barack Obama have closely examined the vice presidential candidacy of Sarah Palin. When McCain named Palin, the little-known governor of Alaska, as his running mate, he sparked a frenzy unlike any that had come before Palin's selection, as millions attempted to determine (as Palin, curiously, now wonders of Obama), who is Sarah Palin?

Perhaps no puzzling snippet from Palin's biography — and we now know there are many — says more than the August article in *The New York Times*, "Conservative Ire Pushed McCain From Lieberman." Detailing the selection process of the McCain campaign, the *Times* revealed that McCain very much wanted to select close friend Sen. Joe Lieberman (I-Conn.), while his advisors preferred Mitt Romney and Gov. Tim Pawlenty (R-Minn.). Palin was the only candidate they all agreed on.

So if you're wondering how John McCain and his close circle of advisors and friends (specifically Steve Schmidt and Rick Davis) could believe Sarah Palin was the right choice for vice president, well, the answer is simple: They didn't.

From the perspective of the McCain campaign, Palin's can-

didacy had several pros: She is a woman, which would hopefully attract disenchanted Hillary Clinton supporters. She is a "maverick," which is to say she isn't afraid to ruffle the feathers of fellow Republicans, a theme of McCain's own candidacy. She has executive experience as a governor. And, like Obama, she is a young, exciting newcomer, someone who could generate enthusiasm for the McCain ticket. However, McCain and his advisors made a crucial mistake. In their desperate attempt to steal headlines from media darling Barack Obama, they compromised everything McCain stands for and, with a victory, might very well threaten the well-being of the United States of America.

As we watch Palin sweep the country, questioning the character and credentials of Barack Obama, it is very difficult not to laugh. As she wonders if Barack Obama is unstable, she fails to explain why she needed to attend five different small colleges before graduating (with an intention to become a broadcaster, no less). As she tells the media she wishes the McCain campaign would explore Obama's connection to his "dangerous" pastor Jeremiah Wright, she declines to discuss her own religious beliefs, including the notion that abortions in cases of rape should be illegal. The

hypocrisy of her rhetoric crested during the Republican National Convention as she and Rudolph Giuliani openly mocked Obama's credentials, with Giuliani going so far as to sarcastically wonder if being mayor of a town like Wasilla, Alaska, "isn't cosmopolitan enough" for Senator Obama (because if there's one thing Rudy Giuliani isn't, it's "cosmopolitan"). "A small-town mayor is sort of like a community organizer, except you have actual responsibilities!" Palin declared to ravenous applause, even though she has only been governor for less two years and mayor of a small town for two terms.

Palin's time as mayor of Wasilla is often pointed to by her supporters as the type of "executive experience" that trumps Barack Obama. What her supporters fail to mention is that at the conclusion of her second term, Wasilla had 6,300 residents. To put this into proper perspective, Tufts' combined undergraduate and graduate enrollment is well over 8,000. While she rails against unethical behavior by politicians, Palin was sued for wrongful termination by the police chief she fired in her first month (she fired him as well as the town librarian almost immediately because she felt she did not have their full support as mayor. The

librarian was quickly rehired). This experience foreshadowed her dismissal of the public safety commissioner years later as governor. Maverick, indeed.

Even more worrisome than her persona as a maverick with executive experience are troubling comments Palin has made about her vision of America. This has been a chronic concern, but Palin outdid herself recently when she told a crowd in Greensboro, North Carolina, "We believe that the best of America is in these small towns that we get to visit and in these wonderful little pockets of what I call the real America, being here with all of you hard-working, very patriotic, um, very, um, pro-America areas of this great nation."

Palin later (as all politicians tend to do) clarified her remarks, but the message was clear: Small towns are the "real America." The implications in this statement for big cities are unclear. But what is it about these small towns that Sarah Palin likes? Could it be the disproportionate number of white and Christian citizens? Maybe. That would certainly explain why 34 of the 44 cities Palin had visited until she made these comments had higher white populations among voters than the national average. Or it could be that they have fewer fast food restaurants. It's hard to say. It warrants mentioning here

that Palin has given addresses at her church as recently as this summer characterizing the Iraq war as "God's plan" and also said that "God's will has to be done in unifying people and companies to get that gas line built, so pray for that." Her senior pastor has professed that the Sept. 11 attacks were part of a war over Christian faith and that Jesus Christ has called upon his followers to die in the name of this war. But yes, Governor Palin, tell us more about Jeremiah Wright.

The real shame in this is that, for all the scrutiny McCain gets among Tufts students, he was a very good alternative to Barack Obama. His tax and health care policies are arguably superior to Obama's, and his years in the Senate have revealed a capable and principled leader with experience that Obama simply doesn't have. Yet as he and his advisors argued over the selection of his vice presidential candidate (one of vital importance, as McCain is 72 with his fair share of health concerns), they were forced to reach a compromise. In Palin, McCain got the maverick he wanted, and his advisors got the social conservative. It was a win-win. The only loser? America.

Max Winograd is a freshman who has yet to declare a major.



Finance

How We Got Into This Mess

Calvin Kwon
TFG Journalist

Whichever news source one uses, be it electronic or paper, a new set of words is noticeable: SUBCRIME CRISIS, CREDIT CRUNCH, or BAILOUT (typically more emphasized). It is probably a good thing that the media is spending so much time covering this topic because... well... it's only the greatest financial crisis since the Great Depression.

So, who can we possibly blame? There are so many people, institutions and government officials to blame that it is really difficult to know where to begin. Blame can be placed on the irresponsible, greedy financial institutions for their blindness to short-term profit; the SEC Chairman, Christopher Fox, for not recognizing the extraordinary use of high-risk leveraging used by financial companies; the current Federal Reserve Chairman, Ben Bernanke, for not acting aggressively to stem this crisis and ourselves for taking advantage of easy money to borrow beyond justifiable means (at least some of us). The easy alternative would be to blame Bush.

While the honorable mentions above are integral parts to the problem, the credit crisis has deeper roots. It took decades of deregulation of the financial industry, introduction of "enhanced" financial instruments and years of low interest rates and 'easy money' to create the perfect storm for a massive meltdown of the U.S. financial industry and the global economy.

The crisis traces to the year 1994, when groups of JP Morgan bankers celebrated their success for developing a new use of an old monetary instrument, "Credit Default Swaps," or CDS. CDS is a sort of insurance policy against risks associated with loans, similar to insuring a car against accidents to

avoid huge upfront cost of replacing your vehicle. The bankers devised a way to involve a third-party insurer to protect loans against default so that they could free up capital, which federal law required banks to maintain in case of defaults. The only catch was these "insurances" were unregulated private dealings. Hedge funds could collect hundreds of thousands a year from "protecting" a \$100 million bond, even if lacked funds to cover such losses. To make matters worse, CDS was applied to riskier forms of investments than before, such as mortgage backed securities.

Fast forwarding to 2003, the economy is in a state of recovery from the effects of the dot-com bubble and the hosts of bankruptcies resulting from Enron and Worldcom's accounting scandals. Responding to the slow economy, then Federal Reserve Chairman, Alan Greenspan, lowered the Federal Funds Rate, used to set interest rates for home mortgages and credit cards, over a three year period, from 6% to 1%, the lowest levels seen since the 1960's.

Responding to such favorable interest rates, the American people and financial institutions found unique opportunities in real estate investment. On annualized basis, real estate values appreciated 9% annually from 2000 to 2006, compared to a mere 3% throughout the 90's. Such returns brought more buyers into the market, and financial institutions devised methods such as Adjustable Rate Mortgage with attractive "Teaser Rates," to allow persons with questionable credit-history or no proof of income to take mortgages. The dollar volume of mortgages in the United States rose from approximately \$1 Trillion to over \$3 Trillion in 2005, as the share of subprime mortgages increased.

But where did all this money come from?

With rapid apprecia-

tion of real estate properties, investors, globally, were more than willing to buy mortgage securities and collect their interest rates. Since most of these mortgages were insured through CDS by major financial institutions like Bear Sterns, Lehman Brothers, and American International Group (AIG), these securities were "essentially" risk free until people began defaulting. Misguided beliefs that the boom was infinite combined with perceptions of safety over mortgage securities allowed for the boom and the bust.

As subprime mortgages with "Teaser Rates" began resetting to higher interest rates, defaults began to rise and "insurers" witnessed tremendous losses. Without the large cash reserves to meet the defaults, companies like Lehman Brothers failed or like Bear Sterns, Merrill Lynch and AIG sought government funds or sponsored merging. Credit standards have tightened and lending has virtually come to a standstill. That means business can't borrow money to expand; that means students can't borrow to attend college; that means the bloodline to the US economy and for that matter, the global economy, is shutting down.

World Investment Report: Mixed News for Financial Sector

Daniela Ramirez
TFG Journalist

The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, otherwise known as UNCTAD, released the World Investment Report 2008 on September 24th. This year's report is subtitled "Transnational Corporations and Infrastructure Challenge." In the midst of the current economic crisis, the report stands out in that it presents more favorable results than it has in previous years, yet predicts a FDI drop of 10% this year.

According to the report, Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) reached a record of \$1.83 trillion, which represents a 30% increase from last year. However, it is important to note that the depreciation of the American dollar inflated the invested amounts: when calculated with more stable currencies, the increase in FDI appears to be 23%, which remains a reasonable increase but is much less than the outstanding 30% previously stated. The UNCTAD also reported that 30% of FDI inflow resulted from the reinvestment of earnings from profitable foreign affiliates in developing countries. It appears that consolidation through mergers and acquisitions greatly contributed to this

upsurge, concealing the US financial crisis that emerged in August 2007 and that is currently affecting the United States.

Another aspect that contributed to the increase in foreign investment was the action of policymakers around the world. In previous years, Bilateral Investment Treaties were the most common policies enacted controlling international trade. Last year, most policies consisted of Free Trade Agreements, in a direct effort to increase the allure of the international investing climate. Only a few South American countries (namely Ecuador, Bolivia, and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela) increased restrictions on international investments.

Even after exploring the factors that led to changes in Foreign Direct Investment, a decrease is expected due to the ongoing finance crisis. For 2008, experts expect to see the effects of the crisis in a decline of about 10% in FDI flow to \$1.6 trillion. However, it is predicted that transnational corporations have enough liquidity to finance their investments and that developing countries are growing at a sufficiently high rate for the expected decline not to cause permanent damage to the world economy.



TUFTS FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financials

Booms and Busts: When Will It Ever End?

Contributing Writer
Calvin Y. Kwon

The short answer is never. These boom and bust cycles, like the current crash of United States' real estate market, will continue to repeat again and again. But with so much pain that comes with these bubbles, do we not learn at all from our lessons? The short answer is again, never. To find out exactly why, we just have to look back and study the repeated cycles of booms and busts. It may seem surprising to you that one of the earliest speculative boom and bust stories can be traced back to 1593.

The center of this speculative craze. Tulips. Yes. Tulips.

In 1593, a botany professor brought a collection of tulip flowers from Turkey to the Netherlands. In couple of decades, tulip flowers became one of the must-have additions to Dutch gardens, and they commanded a hefty price. Tulip mania, however, did not begin until 1534 when tulip flowers contracted

a non-fatal mosaic virus that altered tulip petals to have "flame" like patterns. The Dutch were fascinated by these alterations and began demanding premium on already rare and expensive tulips based on their unique patterns.

As people sought to reap enormous profits from rapidly appreciating tulip bulbs, more people jumped onto the get-rich-quick investment bandwagon. As prices began to rise wildly – as much as twenty-fold in one month – people began to bet everything from jewelry to entire estates to buy these tulips. At one point, twelve acres of land was offered for a single tulip bulb! With all the speculative crazes, however, someone decided that prices had gone too high, too fast and sold their bulbs. Soon everyone sought to rid themselves of their bulbs. Prices plunged and many lost entire fortunes. Attempting to prevent a total collapse, the Dutch government intervened by offering to buy tulip

bulbs at 10% of their face value. Just four years after Tulip mania began tulips could be bought for no more than the price of a common onion.

If people were willing to bet their entire estate for a beautiful tulip flower, I am convinced that people can be swept by speculative fever involving anything else. To analyze a boom and bust cycle that is more relevant to the current state of U.S. economy, one should study one of the largest boom and busts of the twentieth century – the Japanese real estate crash.

Alls busts are preceded by phenomenal growth and the Japanese economy was no exception. Japan's post-war economy grew ten-fold from 1955 to 1990. Accompanying such growth during the period was a 75-fold increase in Japanese real estate and 100-fold increase in the Japanese stock market. By 1990, the total value of Japanese property was estimated at \$20 trillion, which was equal to about



20% of world's wealth and about double the size of the combined value of world's stock markets. The excess and speculative craze was highlighted by the fact that the combined real estate value of Japanese golf courses was greater than the value of Australia's stock exchange. Similarly, even though Japan's land area is less than 5% of United States, Japan's entire property value was appraised to be more than five times its American counterpart. Given these astronomical valuation, ambitious Japanese businessman could have theoretically bought all of the United States by selling metropolitan Tokyo or if slightly less ambitious, bought the entire state of California by selling Japan's Imperial Palace. In the last trading days of 1989, the Japanese stock market hit its all-time high of 38,957.44. By 2003 after a decade long recession, the market bottomed out at

7603.76, or an 80% decline.

As we look back and wonder at the foolishness of our previous generations, let us not forget that we are just one irrational fad or one new technology away from another spectacular bubble and a inevitable crash. As long as markets are dictated by human irrationality, greed and fear, the cycle of 'Boom and Bust' will never end. We can only prepare for the next one.

In preparing for the next big bubble, I will leave you with a sound advice that circulated the internet after the tech bubble in 2001:

If you bought \$1,000 worth of Nortel stock one year ago, it would now be worth \$49. If you bought \$1,000 worth of Budweiser (the beer, not the stock) one year ago, drank all the beer, and traded in the cans for the nickel deposit, you would have \$79.

My advice to you... start drinking heavily.

JP Morgan Chase Acquiring as Always Despite Tough Times

Contributing Writer Amanda McDavid

It has been all over the news that JP Morgan Chase and its larger than life Tufts Alum CEO James Dimon have been acquiring banks on a grand scale. First in March 2008 with its acquisition of failed Bear Stearns, despite the Federal Reserve Bank of NY's efforts to help it stay afloat with emergency loan assistance. Then more recently, Chase acquired Washington Mutual after the subprime mortgage crisis left it with insufficient liquidity to meet its obligations. The FDIC (Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation) stepped in to broker this acquisition, since Washington Mutual had been the largest savings and loan bank in the US and its failure would have been catastrophic.

Many are quick to forget, however, that JP Morgan Chase has always been a product of mergers

and acquisitions, in good or bad economic times. In its current form, J.P. Morgan Chase is the product of nearly 1,000 companies. Other famous mergers and acquisitions in JP Morgan Chase's history include the Chase Manhattan and J.P. Morgan merger in 2000 and the buyout of Bank One by J.P. Morgan Chase in 2004.

This latter acquisition was especially important for J.P. Morgan Chase, since it brought with it the leadership of James Dimon, current CEO and President of JP Morgan Chase. Dimon began his career on Wall Street as the protégé of Sanford "Sandy" Weill at the company that would become Citigroup. He has become a kind of maverick on Wall Street and is largely credited for the successful integration of the markedly different companies

that Bank One and J.P. Morgan Chase were before their integration.

Yet, even Wall Street mavericks such as Dimon cannot be immune to the subprime mortgage crisis. Despite how J.P. Morgan Chase has been weathering the storm better than most, including Merrill Lynch and Dimon's alma mater Citigroup, it still faces, like all of its competitors, the looming threat of the impending credit card debt crisis. It also is now facing an 84% plunge in its third-quarter net income due to its acquisition of Washington Mutual, write-downs tied to illiquid assets, and rising loan-loss provisions.

There is reason to believe that J.P. Morgan Chase will recover soon enough, however. It now holds first place for nationwide deposits after its acquisition of Washington Mutual, and though this acquisition has made Chase see losses, it inspires confidence in its strength and

inspires many to place their holdings in what is seen as a safer option than many other banks. Chase has even managed to enjoy continued revenue growth in areas such as commercial deposits and loans, retail customer accounts, and prime brokerage. It will also be one of nine banks that receive bail out money from the federal government.

Dimon certainly retains his optimism and ambitions for J.P. Morgan Chase's fu-

ture. With Chase's recent vast US expansion, Dimon would perhaps like to expand customer operations beyond the US to increase Chase's international presence. However, this does not mean that Dimon or many others believe that the US economy is getting better anytime soon. As Dimon said, "The train is going to hit us again... we are unable to make the decisions to make this country healthy."

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Playoff berth alive for Tufts

MEN' SOCCER

continued from page 16

"I think we failed to pressure the ball around our penalty box, and they were able to get good shots off," Wesleyan coach Geoff Wheeler said. "In the second half I thought they stepped it up, and we kind of expected it. They hit two great shots, and unfortunately, despite our opportunities, we didn't get a second one in."

The Jumbos will complete the regular season with road contests at Trinity and Bowdoin, games that will determine whether Tufts will be playing in November.

"We need at least one win, maybe two, to make the tournament," McKeon said. "We've got to keep playing hard like we've been playing these last two games, and if we can keep it going like this we can win one or two."

"They're both going to be really tough games," DeGregorio said. "And as long as we keep bringing the intensity, we have a good chance."

Jumbos can clinch regular season crown on Halloween night

VOLLEYBALL

continued from page 16

back to win the match. There was considerably less drama on Tuesday as Tufts rolled to a decisive victory.

"We were a lot more efficient with our serving and passing," junior Brogie Helgeson said. "We kept our own rhythm. When it went to five sets last time, we let them control the pace, and they took the first two. But this time we came out from the get-go. We served aggressively and passed well."

"We didn't start very strong when we played them the first time, so they took us to five," Goldstein said. "This time, we were very calm and composed throughout the entire match, while Conn. College was up and down. Our steadiness and aggressive serving kept them off of their offense."

Tufts was once again without sophomore Caitlin Updike, who was named MVP at the MIT Invitational and recorded 20 kills against Conn. College during that match. Yesterday, Helgeson paced the Jumbos in kills with 12.

"We've been working a lot on running a faster offense, and that's a personal strength of mine," Helgeson said. "We're getting to be more successful all-around by getting more hits on the outside and establishing

the middle."

Senior tri-captain Stacy Filocco also notched double digits in kills, while recording seven digs. Goldstein and fellow senior Maya Ripecky led the Jumbos in digs with 19 and 14, respectively.

"Our defense has been one of our strongest assets," Helgeson said. "It allows us to run our offense. Defensively, we've become a lot scrappier and more consistent as the season's gone on."

Down two sets at 12-4 in the third, Conn. College almost extended the match beyond three games, storming back to take a 23-22 lead. But the Jumbos sealed the deal, taking the final three points to secure the straight-set victory.

"We had a pretty big lead, but a couple of things broke down," Helgeson said. "When one thing starts to slip, it's hard to change the momentum. We knew we wanted to finish it in three, and we knew we could. We let them back in, but it's great we were able to shut the door."

The Camels were led by the reigning NESCAC Player of the Week, sophomore setter Marissa DeMais, who distributed 25 assists. But the second-year was outdone by Tufts' own setter, junior Dena Feiger, who tallied 37 assists along with two service aces.

Even though its sterling 22-1 record has yet to earn it a spot in the national polls, Tufts retained the top spot in the latest New England regional rankings, released yesterday by the NCAA Div. III Women's Volleyball Committee.

"It's great to be the best team in New England, but it's even better to be the best in the NESCAC," Helgeson said. "It's such a competitive league. Being at top of the NESCAC is more pressure than just in New England."

"It's fun to overtake the better teams, and now everyone else wants to play their best against us," Goldstein added. "They're motivated against us, and I love it. It makes for really good matches, and beating teams at their best shows how good we are."

On Friday, the Jumbos will hit the road for the third-straight weekend when they head to Northampton, Mass. for the Hall of Fame Tournament. The following weekend, Tufts will take on Wesleyan and Trinity in a pair of conference matches that will decide its finish in the NESCAC standings.

"We have a lot to look forward to," Helgeson said. "It's a big weekend, and then [the] next weekend we have Wesleyan and Trinity to finish up the league. It's crunch time and everyone's getting ready for playoffs. Everyone's feeling the pressure."

Middle-of-the-pack showing for golf team at NEIGA champs

GOLF

continued from page 16

end of an up-and-down season for the Jumbos. After some middling and lower finishes during the first half of the season before posting a pair of runner-up showings at the Husson Invitational and Nichols Invitational a few weeks ago.

"Playing golf at Tufts has really been my favorite part of college," said Haslett, who along with Benjie Moll and senior Jesse Shapiro will be graduating this spring. "I've developed a lot since I entered the program, and though I'm sad it's over, I'm happy with what we've accomplished in the past few years."

The underclassmen on the team view the season's results as motivation for improvement.

"We had a lot of fun this year," Heffernan said. "But Danny, Brett and I didn't play up to our potentials this year. Ending up in the middle of the pack [this week] was kind of indicative of our season. We aren't satisfied with just being mediocre, so we need to improve for next season."

Hershman, Heffernan and Danny Moll will look to fill the leadership void left by the graduating seniors. Leading the team to the top will be no easy task, as the level of play in the NESCAC has improved tremendously.

"Golf talent in New England has improved immensely over the four years I've been here," Haslett said. "Team scores from the NESCAC are more than 10 shots lower than they have been in the past."

SCHEDULE | Oct. 23 - Oct. 29

	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED
Football			at Amherst 1 p.m.				
Field Hockey			at Trinity 12 p.m.			vs. Endicott 4 p.m.	
Women's Soccer			at Trinity 12 p.m.			vs. Endicott 3 p.m.	
Men's Soccer			at Trinity 12 p.m.				
Cross Country							
Volleyball		Hall of Fame Tourney at Northampton Mass.	Hall of Fame Tourney at Northampton Mass.				vs. Worcester St. 7 p.m.
Golf							
Women's Crew				Head of the Fish Regatta			

STATISTICS | STANDINGS

Field Hockey (11-0, 7-0 NESCAC)				Women's Soccer (7-4-0, 4-3-0 NESCAC)				Men's Soccer (7-4-1, 3-4-0 NESCAC)				Volleyball (22-1, 8-0 NESCAC)				Football (3-2, 3-2 NESCAC)				NCAA Div. III Field Hockey (Oct. 21, 2008)													
NESCAC OVERALL				NESCAC OVERALL				NESCAC OVERALL				NESCAC OVERALL				W L PF PA				Points (First-place votes)													
W	L	T		W	L	T		W	L	T		W	L	SA		W	L	PF	PA														
Tufts	7	0	11	0	0	Williams	7	0	0	11	0	0	Middlebury	5	1	1	8	1	1	Tufts	8	0	22	1	Trinity	5	0	125	82	1. TCNJ, 581 (11)			
Bowdoin	6	1	11	1	0	Amherst	6	0	1	8	1	2	Williams	4	2	1	7	3	2	Wesleyan	7	1	18	5	Amherst	4	1	115	73	2. Bowdoin, 561 (5)			
Trinity	6	1	10	1	0	Middlebury	5	2	0	6	4	2	Bowdoin	4	3	0	6	4	0	Amherst	6	1	17	4	Colby	3	1	55	90	3. Ursinus, 543 (8)			
Middlebury	5	2	9	2	0	Bowdoin	3	2	2	6	2	3	Conn. Coll.	6	3	15	10	Middlebury	3	2	175	130	4. Messiah, 535 (1)										
Amherst	4	3	8	4	0	Tufts	4	3	0	7	4	0	Middlebury	3	3	8	9	Tufts	3	2	124	84	5. Tufts, 509 (5)										
Williams	3	4	6	5	0	Trinity	3	4	0	7	4	0	Williams	3	3	16	11	Williams	3	2	129	96	6. Middlebury, 424										
Colby	2	5	5	7	0	Wesleyan	2	4	1	6	4	1	Bowdoin	3	4	14	12	Hamilton	2	3	79	90	7. Lebanon Valley, 403										
Bates	1	6	5	7	0	Colby	1	5	1	4	6	1	Trinity	2	6	11	10	Bowdoin	1	4	113	167	8. Johns Hopkins, 378										
Conn Coll	1	6	4	7	0	Bates	1	6	0	4	7	0	Bates	1	5	12	14	Wesleyan	1	4	73	75	9. Trinity (Conn.), 364 (1)										
Wesleyan	0	7	2	9	0	Conn Coll	0	6	1	4	6	1	Colby	0	6	9	12	Bates	0	5	50	151	10. Salisbury, 353										
	G	A	Pts		G	A	Pts		G	A	Pts	Offensive	Kills	SA	Rushing	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	NCAA Div. III New England Women's Soccer (Oct. 21, 2008)													
T. Brown	15	2	32	J. Love-Nichols	4	1	9	D. Schoening	6	1	13	S. Filocco	183	23	W. Forde	132	655	5.0	6	1. Williams													
A. Russo	9	8	26	S. Nolet	3	3	9	R. Coleman	3	1	7	D. Joyce-Mendive	169	0	K. Anderson	27	108	4.0	1	2. Amherst													
M. Kelly	9	2	20	C. Cadigan	3	1	7	P. DeGregorio	2	3	7	B. Helgeson	134	1	D. Ferguson	8	66	8.2	0	3. Springfield													
B. Holiday	4	3	11	F. Gamal	2	3	7	A. Lach	1	4	6	C. Updike	122	5	Passing																		
M. Burke	4	1	9	A. Maxwell	3	0	6	M. Fitzgerald	2	1	5	K. Denniston	107	14	A. Fucillo	60.4	923	9	3	4. Bowdoin													
M. Scholtes	2	4	8	B. Morgan	2	0	4	P. Doherty	2	0	4	L. Nicholas	105	3	Receiving																		
I. Levnard	3	0	6	W. Hardy	1	1	3	M. Blumenthal	1	1	3	C. Spieler	57	17	D. Halas	20	248	12.4	6	4. Middlebury													
T. Guttadauro	2	1	5	A. Michael	0	3	3	B. Green	1	0	2	S. Black	13	295	22.7	1	6. Wheaton																
L. Griffith	2	0	4	A. Puttkammer	1	0	2	N. Muakkassa	0	1	1	Defense				7. Western Conn. St																	
	GA	S	S%		GA	S	S%		GA	S	S%	N. Goldstein	0	358	T. Reynoso	34.0	0	0	8. Tufts														
M. Zak	5	21	.808	K. Minnehan	3	15	.833	P. Tonelli	2	16	.889	D. Feiger	23	238	T. Tassinari	31.0	2	0	9. Eastern Conn. St														
K. Hyder	3	5	.625	H. Jacobs	4	23	.852	D. McKeon	11	54	.831	M. Ripecky	0	237	R. Crisco	31.0	0	2	10. Keene St.														

INSIDE THE NFL

Titans rip Chiefs to remain unbeaten; Cassel leads Patriots to convincing victory

BY ALEX PREWITT
Daily Staff Writer

Believe it. After the first seven weeks of the 2008-09 NFL season, the **Tennessee Titans** are the only squad without a loss on its record. And they're showing very little signs of letting up for anyone, either.

Despite the fact that they won 10 games and made the playoffs last season, the Titans entered the year with a slew of question marks and a particular emphasis on quarterback Vince Young's playmaking ability. Of the 16 "experts" forecasting the season on ESPN.com, just five picked Tennessee to earn a Wild Card berth and none picked the team to win the AFC South.

Young has become a non-factor, but the Titans' stable of consistent and reliable receivers and running backs has made the job easy for his replacement, Kerry Collins. That, coupled with the best scoring defense in the entire league, has vaulted Tennessee to the top of the AFC South standings, a full three games better than preseason Super Bowl contenders like the **Indianapolis Colts** and the **Jacksonville Jaguars**.

So how has Tennessee so easily torched the competition on such a regular basis? The answer lies in its defense, which has yielded only 11 points per game. Tennessee has forced a league-best 14 turnovers and boasts a plus-six turnover differential that also ranks atop the NFL. And don't even think throwing for scores against this team: The Titans have given up just one passing touchdown the entire season.

On the offensive side, Tennessee's dynamic duo of rookie Chris Johnson and bruiser LenDale White has teamed up to form the fourth-best rushing attack in the NFL, averaging 154.5 yards per game on the ground. The two were at it again in Sunday's 34-10 victory over the **Kansas City Chiefs** when they combined to rush for a franchise-record 332 yards and four touchdowns. Each had scoring runs of at least 65 yards in the blowout.

Johnson's incredible speed, coupled with White's scoring prowess, has proven a lethal combination for Tennessee this season. Neither has turned the ball over through the six games, while White has scored in all but one contest, and Johnson is averaging well over five yards per carry.

Still, some doubters will point to the Titans' relatively easy schedule as the reason for their fast start. None of Tennessee's first six opponents, who enter Week 8 with a combined



MCT

Titans running back LenDale White runs untouched for an 80-yard touchdown in the fourth quarter of Tennessee's 34-10 shellacking of the Kansas City Chiefs Sunday at Arrowhead Stadium.

12-26 mark, has a winning record. But with a loaded schedule in the next couple weeks that features home games against the Colts and **Green Bay Packers**, as well as a Nov. 16 date against division rival Jacksonville, the Titans will finally have the chance to prove they are for real.

While the new-look Titans kept their record unblemished, a perennial AFC power reminded the league that it isn't exactly ready to cede its stranglehold on the conference yet. The **New England Patriots** proved they can indeed survive without quarterback Tom Brady, slaughtering the **Denver Broncos** 41-7 on Monday Night Football. Eternal backup Matt Cassel finally had his coming-out party, throwing for 185 yards and three touchdowns and leading the Patriots to 404 yards of total offense in his best game to date. Most telling, though, was Cassel's ability to remain cool under pressure, as the USC product led five scoring drives of over 50 yards.

With a relatively cupcake schedule including games against the **St. Louis Rams**, **Seattle Seahawks** and **Oakland Raiders**,

New England certainly has a good chance at salvaging a playoff berth in a season played without the reigning league MVP. The Patriots certainly have the weapons to do so, and those emerged in full force against the beleaguered Broncos.

Randy Moss, arguably the most talented receiver in the NFL, hauled in two scores from Cassel, while speedster Wes Welker also found the end zone once. Perhaps the best indicator that New England can indeed inch its way up the AFC standings again and supplant the Titans was found in its rushing attack. Led by Sammy Morris and his career-high 138 yards, the Patriots piled up 257 yards on the ground, all in the absence of Laurence Maroney, who was placed on injured reserve Monday.

Should New England return to the form of its perfect 16-0 2007 season, it will do so behind the emergence of Cassel, who seems to be coming into his own under center. For now, though, the Patriots will have to settle for second fiddle behind the Titans, the current top dog in football.

DAVE HECK | THE SAUCE

One for the books — and TiVo



The World Series hasn't quite lived up to the grandeur that comes with the name over the past few years. Quite honestly, the matchups just weren't that exciting. I mean, Red Sox-Rockies? Was there ever any question? Most of the October drama in the past few years has come in the LCS, as the World Series hasn't gone past five games since 2003.

But that's not the case this year. The Phillies and Rays promise to provide one of the most thrilling and intriguing Fall Classics in years.

I'm not saying it's impossible that one team plays particularly well and dominates the series in four or five games. That can always happen. My point is, with this series, it doesn't even matter.

Was anyone in the country this excited about Cardinals-Tigers or White Sox-Astros? Or how about the seven combined World Series that the Red Sox and Yankees have played in since 1998? Didn't that get a little old?

Of course it did. Nobody wants to see the same team win a championship all the time. As a Yankees fan, sure their run was fun, but as a baseball fan, I recognize that the rest of the country hated us — and with reason.

It's just like when the Spurs make the NBA Finals. Everyone is immediately disappointed, not because the San Antonio lacks talent, not because it has unlikable players, and not even because it plays a boring brand of basketball, though that's what a lot of people will tell you. It's because it seems the Spurs are always there. It takes away something from the Finals when the same team always makes it; how special could it be if there's not even variety or drama in who gets there?

That's why this year is going to be fun. We're seeing two of the least successful franchises in the game compete for the highest honor in the sport. We're seeing one team in the Phillies that has claimed just one championship in its 100-plus year existence versus another team in the Rays that, up until this year, was the least successful franchise in all of Major League Baseball; the fewest losses they had in any season was 91!

But that's not even the thing I like most. Look at both these teams' rosters. Not only do they feature young players who are fired up to be in the Series — players that actually know how to do the little things, like run the base paths, play defense and manufacture runs — but more importantly, they're all franchise-produced players. Both of these teams are almost completely homegrown.

That just doesn't happen anymore. When have we last seen two completely homegrown teams in the playoffs, let alone the World Series? You really have to go back to '97, when the Marlins took on the Indians in an epic seven-game spectacle. That series had everything, from superstar performances to a theatrical back-and-forth — neither team won consecutive games — to a Game 7 comeback. It even pitted two teammates against each other in a longtime feud that eventually led to a pseudo-death threat (Jose Mesa and Omar Vizquel: That's right, look it up).

And you know what the scary thing is? This year's matchup promises to be even better. Look at the names on these teams: Ryan Howard, Chase Utley, Evan Longoria, Jimmy Rollins, B.J. Upton, Cole Hamels, David Price. All of them are homegrown; all of them have a good shot at winning the MVP (my darkhorse pick is Shane Victorino).

These players have never known this kind of national spotlight, which also means they have nothing to lose. There are no A-Rods in this series; nobody's worrying about how they're going to let the team down, they're focusing on how to help the team win.

Look at the players on the mound and in the batter's box. You might see excitement, giddiness and determination, but there's one thing you won't see: fear.

So don't be afraid yourself to watch this World Series. In fact, do whatever you can to make sure you don't miss it. There might not be another one like it for a long time.

Dave Heck is a junior majoring in philosophy. He can be reached at David.Heck@tufts.edu.

Games of the Week

LOOKING BACK (OCT. 19) | TAMPA BAY RAYS 3, BOSTON RED SOX 1

In what will go down as one of the most exciting championship series in recent memory, baseball's recent postseason superstars were supplanted by the new kids on the block. Surprising Rays reliever David Price shut the door on Boston's comeback hopes late Sunday night at Tropicana Field to advance, four games to three, and earn a spot in the World Series.

After allowing the largest comeback in postseason history, when the Red Sox scored eight runs over the final three innings to steal Game 5 and keep their slim World Series hopes alive, the Rays finally closed the door with a tidy 3-1 victory three days later, spearheaded by a solid start from ALCS MVP Matt Garza.

Garza, who scattered two hits over seven-plus innings and notched nine strikeouts in the start, was followed by the young sensation in Price. The Vanderbilt grad and No. 1 overall selection in the 2007 draft left the Sox mystified and helped propel the Rays from a 96-loss season in 2007 to their first Fall Classic berth in franchise history. The squad's young guns, center fielder B.J. Upton and third baseman Evan Longoria, both had monster showings over the seven-game set, with four round-trippers a piece.

Tampa Bay now turns toward to the NL's lovable losers, the Philadelphia Phillies. A far cry from postseason action of the past decade, this World Series promises to feature exciting play from a bevy of budding superstars, and two teams who have nothing to lose and plenty to gain.



MCT

LOOKING AHEAD (OCT. 25) | FIELD HOCKEY AT TRINITY

For the past few weeks, the NESCAC field hockey standings have been shuffling at the top beneath heavyweight Bowdoin, as it, along with Tufts, Middlebury and Trinity, scrambled to outlast each other on the league's undefeated list.

After Bowdoin handed Middlebury its first loss of the season, the Panthers rebounded to do the same to the Trinity Bantams. But a Tufts win over Middlebury put the Jumbos in second before Trinity's 2-0 upset of Bowdoin Saturday — and with the Bantams accomplishing a feat that no team has pulled off since 2006 and the Jumbos solidly in first place, Saturday's matchup between the two teams just got a lot more interesting.

No. 5 in the national standings and the only undefeated team left in the top 20, Tufts will have to hit the road to contend with a Trinity team that has proven it deserves its national-No. 9 ranking. Like Tufts, Trinity wields a balanced offense, with four players boasting five or more goals.

While the Jumbos lead the Bantams in goals per game, both teams have played solid defense this year, holding opponents to under one goal per contest.

The Jumbos will have to summon the offensive firepower that has helped them dominate time and again this season if they want to survive what could be their toughest test this season.



LAURA SCHULTZ/TUFTS DAILY

VOLLEYBALL

Tufts clears NESCAC hump, sweeps Camels in conference showdown

BY JEREMY GREENHOUSE
Senior Staff Writer

The volleyball team is one NESCAC win away from a program first.

VOLLEYBALL
(22-1, 8-0 NESCAC)
at New London, Conn., Tuesday

Tufts	25	25	25	—	3
Conn. College	19	18	23	—	0

The Jumbos picked up a 25-19, 25-18, 25-23 victory over conference rival Conn. College Tuesday night in New London, Conn. to move its perfect NESCAC mark to 8-0 with just two conference tilts remaining. With a victory over second-place Wesleyan on Halloween night, Tufts would clinch its first-ever regular season conference crown and earn the right to host the NESCAC Tournament beginning Nov. 7.

“The goal of this season was to come into the tournament first in the NESCAC,” senior tri-captain Natalie Goldstein said. “It’s quite a turnaround from the past couple of years. “When people always called us underdogs and a young team, it’s kind of a different perspective.”

When the Jumbos last faced the Camels, a Sept. 27 clash that decided the MIT Invitational champion, Conn. College jumped out to a commanding two-set lead before the Jumbos rallied

see VOLLEYBALL, page 14



LAURA SCHULTZ/TUFTS DAILY
Junior Dena Feiger, shown here during last week’s contest against Coast Guard, once again led all Jumbos in assists with 37 during Tufts’ win.

GOLF

Jumbos end season with modest showing

BY DANNY JOSEPH
Senior Staff Writer

The golf team ended its fall season on a bittersweet note, finishing 26th out of 44 teams at

GOLF
NEIGA Championship,
Monday-Tuesday

26th out of 44 teams

80.	Phil Haslett (162)
100.	Luke Heffernan (165)
100.	Dan Moll (165)
142.	Brett Hershman (170)
175.	Benjie Moll (177)

the 77th annual New England Championships earlier this week in Brewster, Mass.

Unlike most tournaments, the event was played on two par-72 courses: the 6,610-yard Port course on Monday and the 6,687-yard Starboard course on Tuesday.

Featuring New England teams from across all three collegiate divisions, the Jumbos had to contend with some of their toughest competition of the season. Div. I Bryant University took home the title, as the Bulldogs fired a two-day total of 604, good for 28 over par. Sacred Heart University senior Matt Belizze won the tournament in a play-off with three others who had finished the 36 regulation holes with a score of 147.

Tufts ended up 58 strokes back of the team title with a total of 662. Windy and cold conditions didn’t help the Jumbos as they tried to take down the best from the region.

“As a squad, we handled the additional pressures of poor conditions quite well,” senior co-captain Phil Haslett said. “We had a practice round on Sunday to prepare for the windy and cold conditions, and we had the mindset that every team had to play through it, not just us.”

The conditions were indeed felt by every team, as scores dipped across the board, even among the Div. I entrants.

“The weather was a huge difference-maker,” sophomore Luke Heffernan said. “The scores were very high with only a few exceptions. On the first day, only 36 people out of 220 broke 80 ... that’s ridiculous.”

Haslett was the only Jumbo to break 80 for the tournament after his Monday round of 78. He followed it with an 84 for a two-day total of 162. Heffernan and sophomore Danny Moll both shot 165, as Heffernan carded 84/81 and Moll registered an 81/84. Junior Brett Hershman shot 84 on Monday and followed it with an 86 for a total of 170. Senior co-captain Benjie Moll checked in with a 91 and an 86 for a 177.

The tournament marks the

see GOLF, page 14

MEN'S SOCCER

Cardinal sin: Wesleyan squanders lead, Jumbos take advantage with two in second

BY BEN WALDRON
Senior Staff Writer

It’s been a while since the men’s soccer team has felt comfortable with its NESCAC postseason chances. But after having start-

MEN'S SOCCER
(7-4-1, 3-4 NESCAC)
Bello Field, Tuesday

Wesleyan	1	0	—	1
Tufts	0	2	—	2

ed their conference slate 1-4-0, the Jumbos scored a key 3-1 victory over Williams on Saturday and came into Tuesday night’s home match against Wesleyan hungry to continue the upward trend in their final regular season home contest.

Confronted with the prospect of missing the NESCAC Tournament, Tufts overcame a first-half deficit to topple the Cardinals 2-1 on Bello Field. With the win, the Jumbos improved to 7-4-1 overall and 3-4 in the NESCAC, tying them with Wesleyan and Conn. College for sixth in the conference. The top eight finishers in the league qualify for the postseason.

The Jumbos looked like anything but a playoff contender in the first half. Wesleyan controlled the tempo throughout the first 45 minutes, creating a number of scoring chances while the home side struggled to get a solid look at the goal. Almost inevitably, the Cardinals broke through in the 31st minute when freshman Harrison Lewin ran the ball deep into the left corner and crossed it to sophomore Geoff Zartarian, who settled the ball and blasted it past Tufts goalie and senior tri-captain Dave McKeon.

In the half’s final few minutes, Wesleyan had a series of good looks at the goal off corners. In one notable sequence, Zartarian volleyed a corner kick off of the crossbar,

and McKeon barely tipped a rebound header from Cardinal junior Asante Brooks over the bar. Meanwhile, Tufts managed just one shot in the half and looked like a team ready to call it quits.

“We looked absolutely dreadful in the first half, without putting too fine a point on it,” coach Ralph Ferrigno said. “I can’t repeat what I said to them at halftime, but we just weren’t in the races in the first half mentally or physically.”

“We just came out on our heels in the first half,” McKeon said. “We didn’t put on a lot of pressure.”

In the second half, however, the Jumbos played with the type of urgency necessary for a squad hoping to extend its season into the playoffs. Senior tri-captain Peter DeGregorio, playing his second straight game at midfield after spending the balance of the season as a defender, blasted a huge right-foot shot from the top-right corner of the box past the dive of Wesleyan sophomore goalie Nigel Stacey to even the game at 1-1.

“[It was the] right place at the right time,” DeGregorio said. “[There was] a little bit of luck on our side tonight.”

Less than four minutes later, sophomore Alex Lach spun neatly in the box and dropped the ball off to junior Dan Schoening, who parked a rocket in the back of the net for his team-leading sixth score of the year.

“I think we started to get out there and run harder and compete harder,” Ferrigno said of the second half. “Even though we didn’t attack much in the first half, I still had a sense that they might be a little vulnerable down the middle, at the back, and that proved to be the case.”

Wesleyan had a few chances toward the end of regulation, but McKeon and the Tufts defense were stingy enough to prevent any last-minute Cardinal heroics.

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Forde tough: Running back given Gold Helmet Award for performance in Div. III



News around the Jumbo football locker room only got better this week as senior running back Will Forde, who led the Jumbos to their third victory on Saturday — a 17-7 win over Williams — was named the recipient of the Boston Globe’s Gold Helmet Award yesterday.

The New England Football Writers Association gives the award out weekly to one Div. I athlete and one athlete from Div. II or III.

Forde is averaging 5.0 yards per carry and leads the NESCAC in both average all-purpose yards per game with 140.2 and total yards on the ground with 655.

The running back posted a standout performance in the team’s underdog victory — its first win against the Eps in 21 years — leading the way with 130 yards on

23 carries and one touchdown. His effort was highlighted by an impressive 70-yard rush that led to his touchdown on the same drive. Forde got in the mix on the receiving end as well, grabbing four passes from junior quarterback Anthony Fucillo.

The award has been given to three other Jumbos who have been part of coach Bill Samko’s program: Dan Morse (LA ’98), Tim Mack (LA ’03) and Andy Henke (LA ’07).

Forde now has 1,320 yards rushing and 13 touchdowns for his career and looks to lead the team (3-2) to its second straight win as it takes on Amherst College (4-1) Saturday in Amherst, Mass. on Pratt Field at 1 p.m.

— by Scott Janes