

# THE PRIMARY SOURCE

*The Journal of Conservative Thought at Tufts University*<sup>SM</sup>

Volume XIV Number 13

VERITAS SINE DOLO

May 2, 1996

## **Class of '96: You've Come A Long Way, Baby**

Reviewing the  
Tufts Experience  
page 10

Divorce Destroying  
America's Children  
page 15

Inside Tufts'  
Senate of Whores  
page 19

# Save THE SOURCE From Homelessness!



As most of you look forward to summer, we at THE SOURCE are looking ahead to our return in late August. This year we will continue a fourteen-year tradition and publish our first issue on Matriculation morning, making us the sole voice of dissent in a sea of liberal indoctrination. However, each year we are faced with homelessness. Though the University allows sports teams, à capella groups, and numerous other organizations to return before Freshmen Orientation, all media groups are banned from their rooms. The reason: Ballou doesn't want any unmonitored publications around during the most vulnerable time of the year.

Regardless of your political disposition, if you support our right to publish and welcome a free exchange of ideas on campus, please call the following administrators and tell them how you feel.

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Commencement  
~~Spectacular!~~

### A Jumbo Autopsy

*Your Mandatory  
Donation to Tufts*

- ☞ It's that time of year again, and Jumbos are decorating their Mortar Boards.
- ☞ The real world cometh, and so does an autopsy.
- ☞ Not so fast, time to collect a few more dollars.

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# FROM THE EDITOR

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As the school year draws to a close, all can reflect on their respective situations. And for Tufts, it has been a pretty rough year. Even for THE SOURCE. It all began with the destruction of our posters and the national media's surprising visit to Tufts' campus. Although the publication managed to not just survive but thrive, the unsigned letter commenting that an editor should be "horse-whipped" was a little unsettling. And the torrent did not end there; housekeeping recently "recycled" more than half of our press run within hours of publication.

For the institution as a whole, 1995-1996 proved bittersweet. Having finally achieved a top-25 ranking, the University became subject to an avalanche of bad press. The Grant issue aside, America did not need a reminder that Tufts is a fall-back for Harvard, Columbia, and Barnard. Additionally, when the Lifeline system collapsed, the entire Boston area discovered that Jumbos are the most miserly students on the East Coast. Now that esteemed conservative George Will exposed the Carol Wan/Chinese Culture Club debacle, the world knows that a cadre of spineless wimps who cave in to manufactured racism charges populate the Hill.

Of course, the poor exposure the administration garnered included extensive criticism in all campus media. Tufts Connect's failure to provide the services so proudly touted during Matriculation just begins a long list of deficiencies. The criticism that started in THE SOURCE last year when Steve Seltzer chronicled horribly inadequate service in Hotung Café now includes extensive opposition to a Dining Services-managed coffee house. Student outrage over Saul Slapikoff's proposed changes to the add/drop policy also crossed ideological boundaries. And while Vice President I. Melvin Bernstein professes otherwise, observers suspect Dean Ammons' sudden resignation was precipitated by harsh criticism for her attempted execution of the beloved Religion Department.

Unfortunately, campus media also launched extensive, unwarranted critiques at THE SOURCE. Belligerent *Daily* columnist Rémy Stern leveled unfounded slams on SOURCE staffers, and, while describing our coverage of individuals' actions as *ad hominem* attacks, called our staff 'mindless followers.' The defection of failed former SOURCE writers and their illogical ravings in *The Daily* also unfairly placed us in a bad light.

But the publication, having already survived thirteen years on an incredibly left-leaning campus, persevered for yet another. An editorial categorically disproved the former staffers' spiteful charges and Registrar Linda Gabriele lived up to her SOURCE-given "Molasses-paced" moniker with her utter mismanagement of grade reports. And while plenty charged us with incessant and unhelpful complaining, THE SOURCE attempted to organize an intellectual discussion of racial issues and attracted the year's only conservative speaker.

And so, standing before the best Tufts could muster, THE SOURCE pulled together a dedicated staff of the University's brightest and most talented essayists, humorists, editorial cartoonists, and graphic designers. These are the people to whom I owe—and extend—my deepest respect and most heart-felt gratitude. As I retire from my position as Editor-in-Chief, I feel absolutely confident that THE SOURCE will reside in the ablest of hands. Jessica Schupak will carry the standard of Tufts' Voice of Reason next year and has a formidable task ahead. She will undoubtedly elevate THE SOURCE to ever higher levels of achievement even as we lose a crop of valued writers to off-Hill pursuits. And the departure of Steve Seltzer, my predecessor and counselor, will be difficult to overcome. A superb writer with an indelicate disposition and snake-tongued wit, "Shifty" set a model of excellence which few Tuftonians can attain. Nevertheless, THE SOURCE will soon begin what every new year always is—its best.

## THE PRIMARY SOURCE

THE JOURNAL OF CONSERVATIVE THOUGHT  
AT TUFTS UNIVERSITY

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# A Farewell to Dean Ammons

*Well, Liz, you must be disappointed that you've been bumped from your perch in Ballou. There you were, just a year ago, slashing departments in a single bound, attacking the "patriarchy" in your quest to bring about a more perfect order here on Walnut Hill. It was down with the West and up with W.E.S.T. (Women Exploring Sexuality at Tufts) for you. Funny how life is sometimes, isn't it? We still haven't stopped laughing. Tufts—in its finite wisdom—finally began taking the trash out of Ballou.*

*Ah, but what sweet sorrow your parting was! We had just popped the cork on the bottle of Cook's with your name on it when we discovered that you weren't really leaving us, just re-locating back to the belfry in East Hall. Actually, come to think of it, as long as we couldn't get rid of you, what better hole for you than the English Department, where you can perpetrate your "gendered readings" and "feminist interpretations" with impunity and, thankfully, in obscurity. Your noxious chums in the old coop might take seriously your ill-informed rants, but the rest of us will sit back and chuckle at your dog-and-pony show. And don't forget— Tufts kicked you downstairs, but we haven't moved an inch.*

*While you're loading all those copies of Our Bodies, Our Selves into the U-Haul, allow us to heap bitter herbs on your slice of humble pie. The PR flak put out by the smoke-and-mirrors specialists in Ballou might say that you abdicated, but THE SOURCE has it on word from one in the know that you were dethroned— because the faculty demanded your ouster. Don't look to us for sympathy; our only regret is that the bigwigs didn't ask security to show you the Memorial Steps. But as long as you're moving across the quad, make sure not to let the front door in Ballou hit you on your way out. It might kill the brain cell.*

*Have a nice day.*

## Everything You Always Wanted to Know About **Tufts** \* \*But Everyone Else Was Afraid to Tell You<sup>SM</sup>

### The Primary Source



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# Commentary

## Knable's Fables

Dean Bobbie Knable holds The Controversial Speakers Policy close to her heart. She only dispenses it, however, on the rare occasion when a conservative lecturer sets foot on the Hill. According to an anonymous source (with independent confirmation), Knable tried to override Student Activities Director Bill Stackman and excuse Jesse Jackson from the silly regulation. Never mind that Jackson has slandered Jews more than once with comments such as his infamous "Hymie Town" gaffe. *The Pachyderm* specifies that a speaker must be declared controversial if "other appearances by this individual have been marked by... strong and/or vocal disagreement," which is certainly the case with the rhyming Reverend.

Stackman comes out the hero in this tale, as he informed Knable that Jackson must fall under the policy and she could not change it to accommodate him. This is not the first time Knable tried to use bureaucratic chicanery to promote her political agenda. In 1993, the Dean canceled a Lecture Series forum on gays in the military because panelist Terry Jefferies, a policy analyst for Pat Buchanan, was expected to argue against the morality of homosexuality. And last year, loudmouth ex-Surgeon General Joycelyn Elders escaped the controversial label. The bottom line is that the policy is unnecessary, but if the Dean of Students must cling so dearly to her sacred regulation, she should at least honor her alleged commitment to intellectual diversity and apply the rules uniformly.



Controversial(?) Reverend Jesse Jackson

## No ROTC, No Grants

For years, radicals at Tufts University and 150 other colleges nationwide mobilized forces against the Department of Defense's traditional position on homosexuality. Tufts and its fellow institutions have buckled under the pressure of a militant contingent of gays, lesbians, and bisexuals, going so far as to prohibit military recruitment and the presence of the Reserve Officer Training Corps on campus.

As a result, students who benefit from the millions of dollars in ROTC scholarships are inconvenienced by being unable to attend sessions at their own school; Tufts ROTC must drill at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, for example. Despite such a callous display of disrespect to the United States Armed Forces, schools such as Tufts continually seek—and were awarded—millions in grant funds for various Department of Defense research projects.

New York Congressman Gerald Solomon has developed a new strategy designed to counter the universities' nonsensical policy. The House Rules Committee Chairman spearheaded leg-

islation mandating that institutions of higher learning which reject military recruitment and ROTC activity forfeit their annual Pentagon grants. Tufts University stands to lose at least two million dollars, while MIT, which has threatened to reject its ROTC program since 1988, could lose up to two hundred and fifty million dollars.

These anti-ROTC schools should recognize the ignoble motivations of the gay activists who agitate against the military's presence on campus. ROTC students train vigorously to earn the honor of enlisting in the armed forces. The courage, integrity, and selfless sense of duty displayed by these men and women sharply contrast the self-serving, libidinous conduct of the triangle crowd.

To bolster their self-esteem and sense of public acceptance, not to mention tie another notch on their PC belt, these universities have undermined the respect due to the men and women who truly deserve it. Passage of Solomon's proposal will be a victory for those students who dutifully enlist in the defense of the nation and a defeat for the "one-in-ten" who would advance an agenda that bodes ill for ten-in-ten.

## Brown Nosers

Only hours after Commerce Secretary Ron Brown and 34 others perished in a plane crash near Dubrovnik, Croatia, President Clinton was busy converting personal tragedy into political capital. Speaking at the Commerce Department, the President wistfully reported that Mrs. Brown had asked him to tell grieving employees that her husband "fought for the Commerce Department" and they would have to continue his struggle. A request, Clinton added, "which [he] thought was appropriate."

That Clinton feels no qualms invoking the recently departed for partisan efforts should surprise no one; he and his champions in the press used the same strategy to profit from the Oklahoma City bombing last year. And the media have done their part to exploit this calamity as well: NBC's Bryant Gumbel falsely reported that "no Republicans... expressed condolences to the Brown family," suggesting that this lack of sympathy reflected "bad manners" on the part of the GOP. Not to be outdone, Jesse Jackson interjected the specter of racism, calling the absence of Republicans at Brown's funeral an insult to "decency, public service, and African-Americans."

Missing amidst the hysteria were the facts. Republican National Committee Chairman Haley Barbour telephoned in his "deepest sympathy" to the widow Brown; Bob Dole held a moment of silence for the late Commerce secretary at a campaign stop in North Carolina and proposed a Senate resolution to memorialize the crash victims; Newt Gingrich waived House rules so that Brown's body could lie on the same catafalque that once held John F. Kennedy. Republicans did skip the funeral (many were out of town), but as House Majority Leader Dick

Arney explains, "Republicans don't attend funerals, which should be solemn events, for purposes of making political statements." Sadly, the President, Bryant Gumbel, and Jesse Jackson do. Such grandstanding, not insufficient Republican mourning, is the true "insult to decency" that has followed Brown's death.

### A Regulation a Day Keeps the Doctor Away

The United States Senate has once again proven its commitment to big government by unanimously passing the Kassebaum-Kennedy health care reform bill. This legislation necessarily hobbles insurance companies with socialist notions of fairness. Thanks to the "employees' health status provision," insurance providers cannot use their discretion in granting coverage to businesses. Despite its supporters' label of "modest," the Orwellian law "guarantees access to health insurance for those who suffer from pre-existing medical conditions." Such a mandate is akin to forcing insurance companies to grant fire coverage to an already burning house. Making firms struggle under inane regulations is nevertheless business as usual for Congress nowadays.

The unanimity with which the bill passed belies Senate Republicans' claims that they support smaller government. Clearly, the group of opportunists we call our representatives have no interest in dismantling its power base. When Republicans in Congress proclaim that they want to reduce government while uniting with Democrats to promote radical bills, they expose their doublespeak and shameful self-interest. The GOP seized both houses in 1994 with promises to create a freer country. Now, their true colors fly again.

### Selective Enrollment

Jumbos perusing the Fall 1996 course listings noticed a difference in class registration options. Many introductory-level courses have places set aside for incoming freshmen, shrinking the amount of slots available to upperclassmen. PHIL 1 has an entire 20-person section marked "freshmen-only" while upperclassmen scramble for the remaining five sections consisting of only twelve seats each. Numerous other departments have as much as half of the seats in sections of core courses reserved for incoming students. One of only two sections in "Classics of Greece" has just 16 of 30 seats available for upperclassmen.

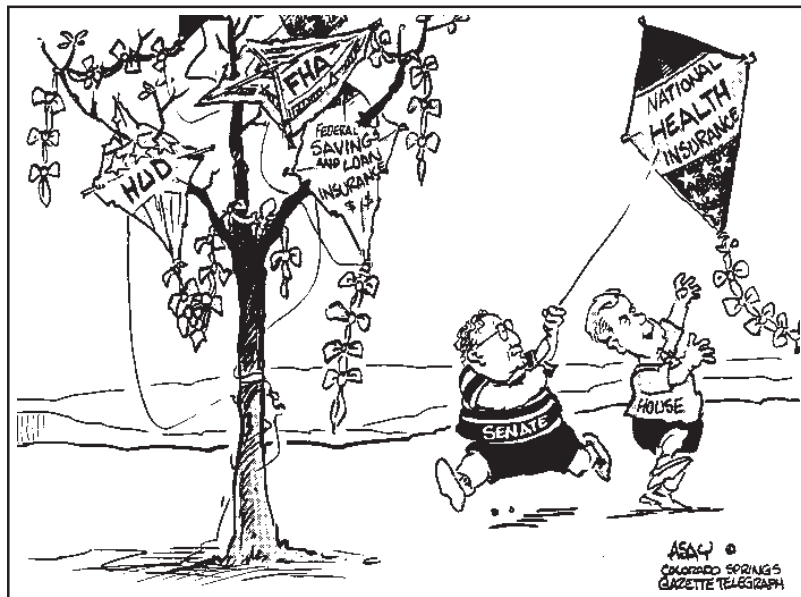
According to the Registrar's Office, the change aims to allow incoming students to begin taking core introductory courses as early as possible, giving them ample time to choose a concentra-

tion. Unfortunately, this is little consolation for upperclassmen who, after years of being blocked from courses by their chronological superiors, learn that classes are closed so that younger students may sign up.

Besides basic seniority, upperclassmen are permitted to register first because they have fewer semesters remaining to take necessary courses. No matter how much freshmen may benefit from reserved seats, the fact remains that upperclassmen were closed out when they first arrived and consequently need to be ensured enrollment.

If the administration finds that freshmen are too frequently turned away, the logical solution is to create additional sections. That is, hire more faculty. While President DiBiaggio claims there are not enough funds to do so, his underlings frequently waste tuition dollars on pet projects. Surely money can be reallocated to more important areas than "Beyond Melanin."

Another provision of the new policy mandates that the freshmen who register for these special sections assume the professor as their advisor. Although some incoming students coincidentally had their advisors as professors in the past, some instructors will now have upwards of ten advisees in their class. This will make them more prone to inflate grades in hopes of keeping more freshmen in the major, securing fives on course evaluations—not to mention Dean Wu's new advising survey. The University would be wiser to expand its meager faculty than to employ faulty, unfair regulation.



### Mississippi Mud

The Supreme Court recently upheld the decision by the State of Mississippi to raise admissions standards at that state's traditionally black universities. The change drew fire from proponents of affirmative action who claim that the policy discriminates against minorities. But it is the malcontents' assertion, not the measure, that is racist.

The disgruntled mob should welcome assessment based on merit rather than melanin. Minorities have the same potential to achieve; the only obstacle is hard work. Moreover, only by eliminating preferential policies will society ensure that minorities can take pride in their accomplishments.

Jackson State President James Lyons carps that the policy's institution should be gradual so that prospective students would 'know what to shoot for.' That is precisely the problem. Students should not aim for mediocrity—they should always perform to the best of their ability. Perhaps if we let down the affirmative action guard, America's youth will return to the disciplined, intellectual body it once exemplified instead of relying on hand-outs.

# Fortnight in Review<sup>SM</sup>

*Comedy is allied to Justice.*  
—Aristophanes

**PS** If the CCC budget includes funding for takeout, what do you think the TLGBC spends its money on?

**PS** It seems nobody taught the folks at Housing about PR. The very day pre-frosh arrived for April Open House, *The Daily* ran a story explaining that up to 40 of next year's freshmen will have to live in triple-doubles. Next fall's orientation slogan: Come and knock on our door, try a room that is new, and you'll find the beds are yours and hers and his, three's a double, too.

**PS** Now that the Menendez brothers' lives were spared by a California jury, Dave Cuttino is rushing to San Quentin to extend his warmest invitations.

**PS** Yeltsin aides have discovered that the Kremlin's control of voting machinery could erase as much as an 18% opposition lead in the upcoming elections. But if Boris' vote-counters are anything like ELBO, he could still blow the race.

**PS** According to a study in the *National Enquirer*, the average American male watches twenty-eight hours of TV a week, buys four frozen pizzas a month, and thinks sex gets better all the time. Other earth-breaking finds include: senior citizens eat prunes and women dally in the restroom.

**PS** Rhode Islander Virgil Almeida has changed his first name to Santa Claus. His gay dentist brother has changed his name to Tooth Fairy.

**PS** Top Ten Dole campaign slogans:

10. Out with the old, in with the ancient
9. America Depends on Dole
8. Are you better off today than you were 33 years ago?
7. Bob Dole: He's no Bob Dole
6. Give Bob Dole a hand: He needs one!
5. Stop the Contract with America: Dole '96
4. Elect the hick from ~~Ar~~Kansas
3. Get on the Dole— before he does
2. Engler '97
1. Dole-Thurmond '96

**PS** Governor Bill Weld inadvertently referred to his "seven children" while answering a question about dependents on his tax return. The father of five must be including the ones he's aborted.

**PS** If you thought Tufts had it bad, Miami University of Ohio has recognized a student masturbation society. Then again, we have *The Zamboni*.

**PS** Bangladesh hosted this year's international muggers' conference, which drew over 100 notorious attendees. Good thing the South Asian country did not experience one of its infamous floods— we'd be out a telecommunications analyst.

**PS** An Argentinian felon had such a bad case of BO that police literally sniffed him out, locating the smelly suspect in a church cupboard. His *aires* were not so *buenos*.

## Look what we found!

Tufts gets rid of hated Dean Liz and we think we've seen the worst of it.

Then we find that the name atop the short list of replacements belongs to none other than Faculty Committee apparatchik *Vida Johnson*.

Oh, joy.



**PS** Three Buffalo policemen answered a late-night burglar alarm at a quickie-mart only to find the perpetrators long gone. So the men in blue took some notes, pictures, and some soda and chips for the road— without paying. Fortunately, they left the curry untouched.

**PS** Although qualified for federal matching funds, the FEC will not recognize Libertarian presidential candidate Harry Browne as such because he refuses to accept them. Fair enough. No one opposed to ripping off tax payers could possibly be fit for public office.

**PS** Why does the University refuse to allow Starbucks to operate the new Curtis Hall coffee house, but has no problem sharing space with the US Post Office? Guess great monopolies think alike.

**PS** Or maybe it's because the Post Office makes the University seem fast and efficient by comparison.

**PS** Callers to NYPD headquarters were greeted with a message saying that cops were "too busy eating donuts, drinking coffee, and masturbating" to help them. The message went unchanged for nearly twelve hours. The deskbound deputies must have been too busy to change it.

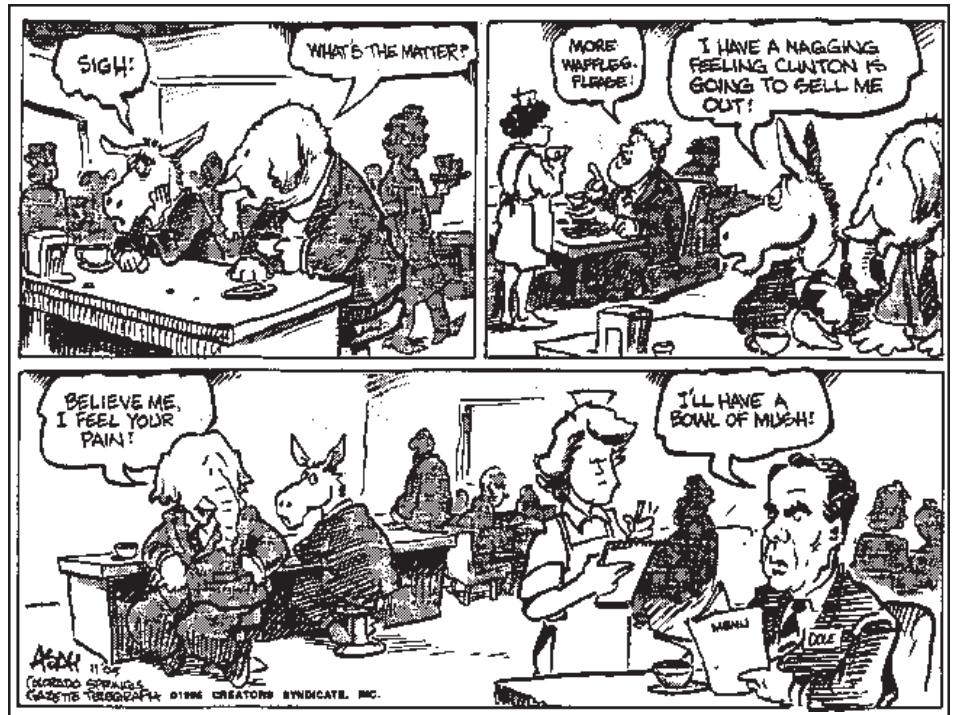
**PS** As part of April's National Take Your Daughter to Work Day, Massachusetts corrections employees brought their female offspring to prisons. Watching grown men sodomize one another must have done wonders for their self esteem.



**PS** In addition to a pink slip, Tufts has presented demoted Dean Ammons with the Arts and Sciences Faculty/Staff Multicultural Service Award in honor of her “significant efforts to define Tufts as a multicultural environment in which race, ethnicity, religion, class, gender, and sexual preference are not barriers to the full enjoyment of community membership.” Too late Tufts: we’ve already given “Ammo” the very same prize. It’s called Fool on the Hill.

**PS** Michael Jackson’s new attorney Johnnie Cochran has conned Lisa Marie into signing an agreement that she won’t write a never-kissed-and-tell book about her marriage to the pedophilic pop-star. Forget Lisa Marie—Johnnie needs to obtain Webster’s John Hancock.

**PS** So do Ma’am and George.



**PS** Kennedy kids may have to pay up to \$25 million in taxes on their proceeds from the famed Sotheby’s auction. Looks like they might have to hock Jackie O’s buttocks.

**PS** According to *The Daily*, Dining Services would serve food at Spring Fling “between 12 p.m. and 4 p.m.” But by our estimation, the grub slingers were gone by 2:30. TUDS, home of the whopper.

**PS** Top Ten Registrar clichés:

10. A bureaucrat is a wonderful thing to waste
9. Liar, liar jumpsuit’s on fire
8. Sticks and stones will break her bones but work will never move her
7. She’ll huff and she’ll puff and she’ll slow your grades down
6. Twinkle, twinkle, Registrar, how your ego’s gone too far
5. How does she spell relief? First she needs a dictionary....
4. Haste makes waste, but not in her case
3. Linda G. is slowing down, slowing down, slowing down
2. In the basement, the dirty basement, Linda sleeps tonight. Aweemaway Aweemaway....
1. We pay her money for nothin’ and she leaves by three. I want my, I want my, I want my transcript please.

**PS** The MBTA ran the T for free on Earth Day weekend to encourage use of public transportation. Next year, the city will close all public bathrooms to encourage use of the Charles River.

**PS** Cops arrested two California ball fans who chose the wrong place to get amorous—namely, Dodger Stadium. Enjoying the seventh-inning stretch, no doubt.

**PS** While leafing through Tufts’ *Black Student Handbook* we came across a listing of local “Soul Food Restaurants.” Given this penchant for stereotyping, we expect to soon see a Jewish handbook complete with plastic-surgeon listings, an Irish guide with a liquor-store index, and an Asian directory of local ping-pong and volleyball leagues.

**PS** Senior malcontent Jayne Wellman protested the TCU Senate presidential elections as “not fair.” After all, there was no free pizza this year.

**PS** And since we’re on the subject of programs-abroad employees, one such non-working studier wrote us an anonymous letter to denounce our parody of the Deans’ daily buffet. No fat job, no danish.

**PS** Drug arrests and seizures are up for the third straight year on college campuses. So are sick days at Tufts’ administration offices.

**PS** Seventy-four-year-old Mary Verdev tried to sue her church after a 300-pound bingo scoreboard fell on her head. The accident, she claims, has caused her to have “spontaneous orgasms.” The geezers now have a new acronym: Bernadette’s Involuntary Nasty Geriatric Orgasms.

**PS** Bassmasters watch out. To scare fish away from gaming competitions, PETA, the group for those tired with the moderation of Greenpeace, plans to cruise around rivers in speedboats and throw rocks in the water. People for the Ethical Treatment of Rocks plans to stage a counter-protest.

# Little Things Mean a Lot

Steve Seltzer

When Dan Marcus founded THE PRIMARY SOURCE in 1982, he created a journal that would fight Tufts' dominant current of liberalism. Marcus would no doubt applaud his once-fledgling publication's progress over the past fourteen years. Its transformation from a homespun monthly newspaper to a polished bi-weekly magazine has enabled THE SOURCE to profoundly influence campus affairs. Amidst the tumult surrounding speech codes, falsified racial attacks, Hydro-Quebec, the fall and rise of the Religion Department, Joycelyn Elders' textbook display of intolerance, and Ballouophobic posters, a dedicated contingent of conservative students has powerfully defended their principles in an all too hostile environment. But these, and the many other TCU-wide controversies of years past, do not fully explain the state of the Hill. With my tenure as a conservative misplaced in academia nearing an end, it has grown evident that commonplace occurrences and little-known personal anecdotes are truly the best indicators of Tufts' plight.

Go for a stroll past Ballou Hall at 3:45 PM on any given afternoon and you will witness a group of people who have mastered the art of laziness. That is, if you can see through the exodus of secretaries and deans that consumes the academic quad well before the completion of normal business hours. When the mob finally dissipates, look into any first-floor window and discover administrators diligently nodding off at their desks while student employees do their homework. The fun continues at the front desk where the receptionist earns her keep by reading a novel, pointing to a sign when people ask directions, and handing copies of *The Daily* to her brethren. Better still, countless workers congregate at her station to conveniently ignore the rigors of office labor.

The Balloureaucrats' indolence, however, pales in comparison to their outright nastiness. On one occasion, I ventured upstairs to speak with Provost Gittleman but found the entire office empty, save for one of President DiBiaggio's many secretaries. Although she was busy clipping articles from *The Boston Globe*, I dared to ask her if I could somehow contact the Provost. She looked up from her 'work,' frowned, and coldly informed me that she answers only to the President and would make no effort to provide any assistance. Deans Ammons and Glater, though, take first prize when it comes to mistreating those who pay the bills. After they spotted me delivering issues of THE SOURCE to their building, the dynamic duo purposely crooned over the latest copy of *The Observer*. Maybe they wanted to hurt my feelings. Or perhaps they made the little-read "Cheers" section.

For all its rhetoric about being a "student-centered" institution, Tufts fosters a culture in which administrators and their underlings take priority. Scotty McLennan

not bring his dog to work and fawn over it all day, like one department secretary does. Rather than trim down its magisterial bureaucracy and channel the resultant funds into legitimate academic departments, the University coddles a self-absorbed and incompetent staff.

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**Workshops, sensitivity sessions, and invalid disciplines impress only those 1960s radicals who possess neither the courage nor the ability to venture beyond the artificial universe that animates today's college campus.**

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Money alone, though, will not solve Tufts' educational woes. While professing an authentic concern for improving instructional quality, the Medford illuminati gnaw away at the University's intellectual constitution in order to satisfy their own selfish quirks and preferences. Those who carefully read the comments section of any course evaluation will find a paragraph that encourages students to address the topics of race, gender, and sexuality. These superficial categories may stimulate feelings exchange in an American Studies course, but they add nothing worthwhile to the learning process.

Nor does intra-department back-slapping. Professors rarely criticize their colleagues' teaching abilities, even when a student seeking educational quality asks for an honest appraisal. When I asked a professor to evaluate several of his peers, he could only use adjectives no worse than "great," "ter-

rific," and "brilliant." But the very same faculty member who earned the title



may enjoy his Chaplain's Tables, but he has no business chowing down at a weekly free dinner while discussing such politically correct topics as "Diversity and Community: Can We Have Both?" Yet even the arrogant and condescending Reverend does

*Please see "Little Things,"  
continued on page 20.*

Many Tuftonians have a bit of fun at Commencement by putting masking tape or glitter glue on their caps so they can send everyone a little message. A crack team of investigative reporters for THE SOURCE spied a look at a few of these merry pranksters and brings you...

# Tufts' Favorite Mortar Boards



When Tuftonians finally make it to the real world, they usually don't last more than five minutes. In the spirit of post-graduation blues,

PRIMARY SOURCE presents the coroner's report on the major causes of death stemming from L.A.S.T., Liberalism Syndrome at Tufts.

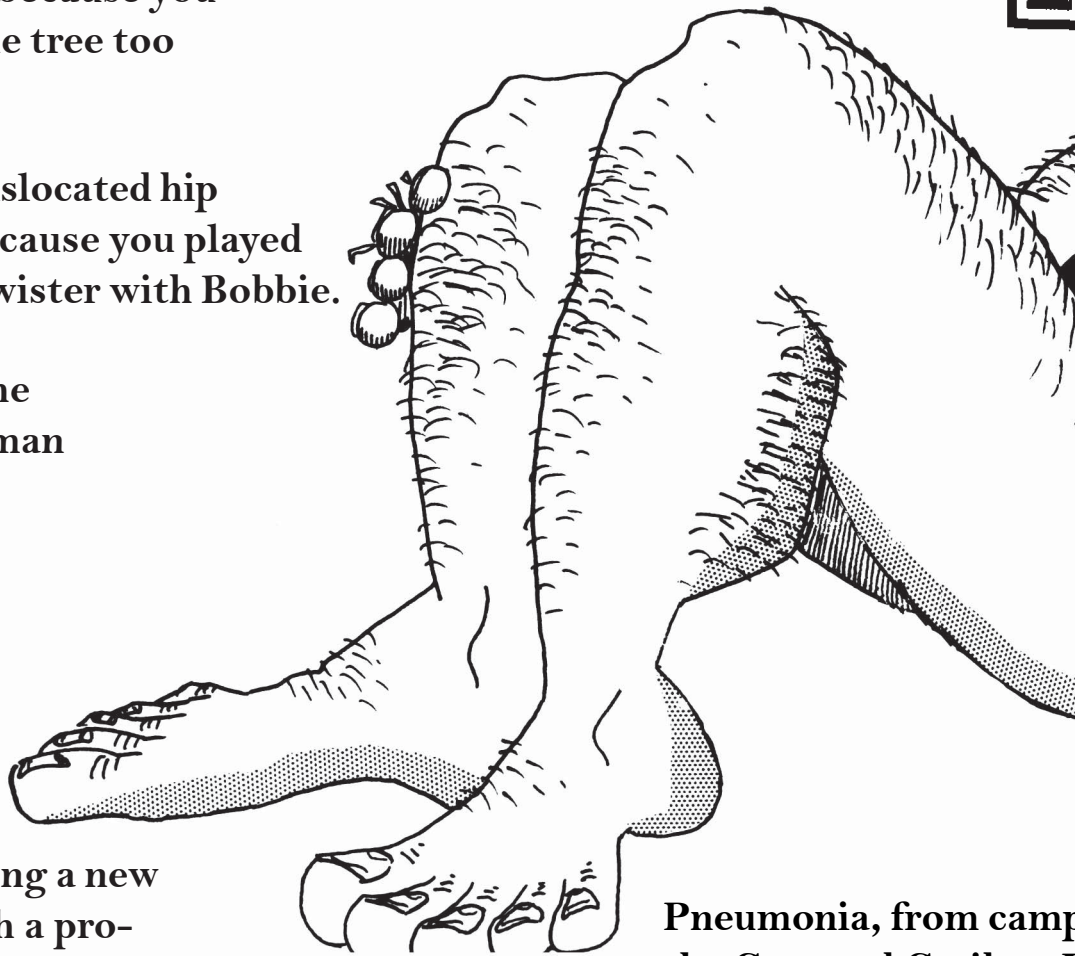
# A Jumbo Autopsy

Splinters, because you hugged one tree too many.

Dislocated hip because you played Twister with Bobbie.

Foot blisters, from the walk to save the old man in the library's job.

Exhaustion, from joining a new club, having lunch with a professor, getting to know your RA, and sleeping with someone of the same sex.



Pneumonia, from camp the Cree and Caribou in the good ol' days of Hydro-Quebec.

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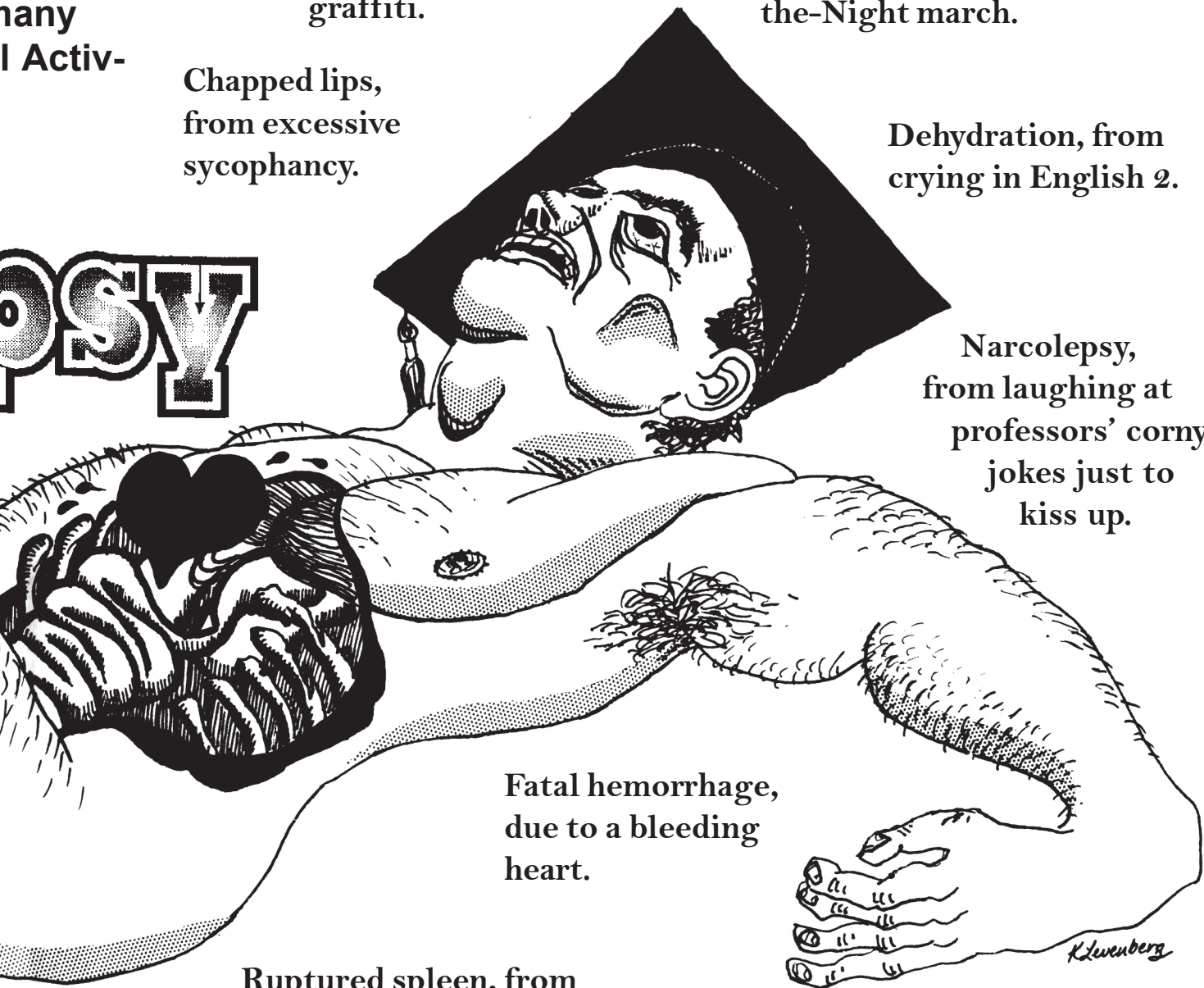
Shock and indignation,  
caused by the Carmichael  
graffiti.

Deafness, from banging pots  
and pans at the Take-Back-  
the-Night march.

Chapped lips,  
from excessive  
sycophancy.

Dehydration, from  
crying in English 2.

OSY



Narcolepsy,  
from laughing at  
professors' corny  
jokes just to  
kiss up.

Fatal hemorrhage,  
due to a bleeding  
heart.

Ruptured spleen, from  
getting trampled by the  
3:45pm secretary  
stampede from Ballou.

ing out with  
Lou during

Blisters, from participating  
in Hands Across Hodgdon.

# Mandatory Gift to the UniversityForm 1040

*Due to historically low alumni donations, all graduates are now required to make an annual contribution to the University. Graduating seniors should use this form to calculate their minimum contribution. Be aware that failure to comply may result in repossession of your degree.*

<b>Name:</b>	<b>ID number:</b>
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<b>Line 1:</b> Your Projected Annual Income.	Please enter your annual income here....	
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<b>Line 2:</b> Student Group Adjustment. Deduct \$1000 for membership in each of the following: Burma Action Group, Human-Animal Mutualism Society, Harambee Coalition, <i>Free Association</i> , Tufts Democrats, <i>The Observer</i> .		
	Write this number here.....	

<b>Line 3:</b> Student Group Adjustment Part B. Add \$1000 for membership in each of these: Tufts Republicans, a fraternity, a competitive sports team, THE SOURCE.		
	Enter here.....	

<b>Line 4:</b> Housing Adjustment. If you ever lived in Haskell or Wren, you may claim one-half of your room fee as a deduction. If you ever lived in Stratton, West, or the Hillside, you must enter a \$3,000 charge on line 4.		
	Enter your Housing Adjustment here.....	

<b>Line 5:</b> TCU Senate Embezzlement Adjustment. Enter the amount of money you managed to swindle from the TCU Senate during your Tufts career.		
	Enter the amount here....	

<b>Line 6:</b> Add lines 1-5 and enter subtotal here.....
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<b>Line 7:</b> If you are white, add line 6 to line 1. If you are also male, double it. If you are a recognized minority, enter a zero for line 7.		
	Put the damn figure here.....	

<b>Line 8:</b> Major Adjustment. If you majored in American Studies or Sociology, you may claim your entire tuition as a deduction. After all, your degree is worth less than the paper it's printed on.		
	Ha ha what a fool enter here.....	

<b>Line 9:</b> Meal Plan Assessment. Just because you graduated doesn't mean you don't have to buy a meal plan.		
	Enter cost of 20 meals/week plan here.....	

<b>Calculation:</b> When the moon is in the third house of Jupiter, subtract line 8 from line 7. If you have a negative number for line six, subtract that too. Add three teaspoons of sugar and bake for one-half hour at 350°. Multiply by the inverse of the number of years you spent at Tufts.		
	Enter your result here.....	

This number is your minimum contribution. Send a check payable to the Trustees of Tufts College, the Office of the Registrar, Medford, MA, 02155. If your result is negative, you are entitled to a refund, which will be given to you in Dining Dollars; allow 6-8 years for delivery. **NOTE:** This form costs approximately five dollars to process. You will be billed a fee of \$100, regardless of the amount of your gift. Failure to pay constitutes an offense against humanity and the Dean's Buffet, and you will be tried at Model Hague by fifteen IR majors. Alternatively, you may do community service as the PR man for Marjorie Minnigh.

# Dismantling the Union

Jessica Schupak

Meet the typical American family: First there's Mom and Ken (Mom's live-in boyfriend), Mom and Dad's kids, and Ken's kids from his first marriage. Then there's Dad's kids and wives from marriages number two and three. Dad's first kid is now 32; Dad's new girlfriend is 29.

The Census Bureau reports that between 1970 and 1990, the domestic divorce rate increased by 34%, making the US the global leader in marital-bond breaking. Today, about half of all American marriages end in divorce. The rise in dissolution is unprecedented; between 1639 and 1692, the Massachusetts Bay Colony granted a mere 40 divorces. Today, long-lasting marriage is the exception rather than the rule. Disunion has surpassed death as the leading cause of family break-up.

America's divorce culture and the sorry state of the "typical American family" are the products of thirty years of ill-conceived liberal thought and policy. Americans no longer wed their fiancées knowing—or even expecting—they will be partners for life; instead, they only hope. If the arrangement does not work out, they can easily break what was once considered an eternal vow. Disaffected couples no longer face social stigma when they choose to forsake their mutual commitment, and existing divorce laws eliminate all legal and financial disin-

centives. "No-fault divorce" has debased marriage to the point that the institution is the same only in name.

The consequences of this trend have been disastrous for everyone—women and children in particular. Fortunately, holy matrimony is not beyond salvation. To

rescue the most fundamental unit of civilization, society must first acknowledge that marriage has been dissolved. The next step is more difficult; it requires a moral reawakening, and the abolition of the laws that caused the disintegration.

## Love the One You're With

The lackadaisical approach to modern marriage is the direct result of 1960s free-love liberalism. The Woodstock mentality endorsed jettisoning society's traditions for the sake of deserting convention and the pursuit of infinite "personal freedom." The counterculture viewed traditional nuptials, which demand unflinching love, monogamy, and deference to the needs of one's offspring, as a restriction on the individual's ability to explore his personal self-

interest. For feminists, rejecting the sanctity of marriage was a strike against the "patriarchy" and the notion that a woman's life-long fulfillment requires a single male partner. In retrospect, this venture endeavored to permit irresponsibility and recklessness. The outcome was pervasive selfishness, as people acted without regard for others.

To redefine the traditional family, the counterculture first removed the centuries-old shame of a failed marriage. Matrimony, once re-

garded as a contract with one's spouse, society, and God, is now merely a whimsical agreement. Ironically, a businessman risks a multi-million-dollar lawsuit for a simple breach of contract, but he can break the hallowed covenant and evade society's contempt. As James Q. Wilson notes, "It is

now easier to renounce a marriage than a mortgage; at least the former occurs more frequently than the latter." "Till death do us part," stripped of its literal definition, now means "until we don't feel like it anymore." "For better or for worse" succumbs to "for better or forget it."

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**"Till death do us part," stripped of its literal definition, now means "until we don't feel like it anymore." "For better or for worse" succumbs to "for better or forget it."**

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The regrettable condition of modern marriage is evidenced by the increasing popularity of prenuptial agreements. Engaged parties often feel the need to protect what was theirs before the wedding day, which is testament to the way they think about marriage before they embark on its course. The obsession with prenuptial agreements is illustrative of Americans' view of marriage as temporary. If one anticipates that he might leave his spouse somewhere down the road, or vice versa, the necessary level of love and trust to say "I do" is absent. That husbands and wives can harbor such concerns while vowing by law and God to stay married forever suggests that they do not mean what they say.

If they were raised before the 1960s' revolution, perhaps couples would not take their commitments so lightly. In times of discontent, they might even opt to work things out. But today, breaching Holy matrimony—the lazy man's route—is the more popular way out of a disagreement.

## To a Fault

The only comfort in current divorce statistics is that, since its peak in the early 1980s, the rate has been in moderate decline. Unfortunately, misguided counterculture-inspired laws slow the shift in popular attitudes. In the late 1960s, California became the first state to institute "no-fault divorce" which requires neither party seek-



He starts his second,  
as she second-guesses her first.

*Continued on the next page.*

*Continued from the previous page.*

ing the divorce to cite reasonable grounds. In theory, no-fault would decrease California's divorce rate and dissuade couples from perjuring themselves to obtain divorce. Moreover, the authors sought to prevent wives from "taking husbands to the cleaners" and reduce animosity in di-

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## Marital devotion once meant that the husband and wife remained loyal to each other forever—regardless of lost figures.

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orce proceedings. Instead of increasing personal happiness and fostering greater equality between the sexes, however, the policy has destroyed the Western concept of family.

Before the introduction of no-fault divorce, states granted marital dissolution only on grounds of adultery, willful desertion, impotence or infertility, bigamy, or cruelty. By removing such moral judgments from the divorce proceedings, the legislation treats virtuous and ignoble spouses equally. Thus, even though marriage is a mutual contract, one party can dissolve it without obtaining the other's consent or demonstrating good reason. And since the law no longer ties financial awards to fault, it denies the bargaining power formerly accorded to the virtuous spouse. If the husband, for example, commits adultery and decides to divorce his wife for his mistress, the state honors his request and divides marital assets equally—the guilty partner is not subject to punishment. In the four years after no-fault divorce's institution, permanent alimony awards dropped from 62 to 32 percent.

### Women and Children First

Proponents describe no-fault divorce as a humane way for the truly hopeless to get out of doomed marriages. But because the courts have neither the time nor the inclination to determine if a marriage is truly irreconcilable, the legislation serves as a quick exit for the indolent and selfish. Feminist claims that divorce liberates

women by giving them the freedom to shed their lesser halves bear little resemblance to reality. After divorce, the average woman's standard of living declines by 73%, whereas the man's rises 42%. Furthermore, because no-fault divorce stipulates "equality," it ignores the inherent differences in familial roles and thus denies motherhood its due respect.

Law professor Robert Plunkett describes marriage after the institution of no-fault divorce as a prisoner's dilemma. A woman used to be able to marry and assume the position of the household's primary caretaker, thereby giving up some potential income, confident that her husband could not leave her when he became rich and she old. Thanks to no-fault divorce, society now has "legions of discarded older ex-wives [with insufficient work experience] of now successful men," Plunkett explains.

Marital devotion once meant that the husband and wife remained loyal to each other forever—regardless of lost figures. Current law perpetuates a sad, formerly uncommon phenomenon: the trophy wife. The first wife, who suffers both emotionally and financially, has no recourse, and the second marries (in the contemporary definition) a man of little virtue. Thus the only freedom women reap from no-fault divorce is the freedom to be abandoned.

But the greatest victims of the divorce culture are the over one million children whose parents separate each year. When a husband and wife make marital vows, they implicitly commit themselves to future progeny as well. Psychologists are virtually unanimous that divorce adversely affects children, and most concur that the healthiest environment for child-rearing is the traditional two-parent, married household. Children who live in single-parent homes are two and a half times more likely to drop out of school, get pregnant before they marry, abuse drugs, and commit crimes than those from intact families. Additionally, because the mother retains custody in the majority of divorce cases, children of

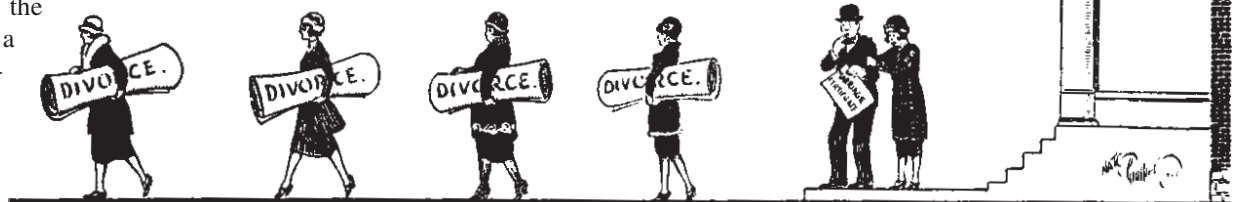
divorce are five times as likely to live in poverty than their more fortunate peers.

Children suffer considerably when parents re-marry or, worse yet, maintain live-in lovers. After divorce, fathers increasingly become estranged from children with whom they no longer live. Maggie Gallagher, author of *The Abolition of Marriage*, asserts that step-fathers rarely invest significant time in children and are far more likely to abuse them than are biological fathers. The dire consequences of an absentee dad cannot be overstated: Gallagher notes that even children of widows fare much better than those of divorced or never-married mothers. The pseudo-parent oddity has proven calamitous.

With popular approval, the state revokes custody from parents who intentionally mistreat their children. But society finds "no fault" with parents who divorce, even though doing so is indisputably harmful. Easy divorce is a license for selfishness that places individual happiness above parental obligation and personal responsibility. It makes penance and sacrifice obsolete, thereby rendering commitment worthless as soon as it becomes too inconvenient. Marriage used to be the ultimate compromise; now it is the ultimate ultimatum. It has been reduced to an intense love affair.

Currently, many states are considering the elimination of no-fault laws, which would make divorces considerably more difficult to obtain. To restore marriage, all fifty states must return to the old criteria for divorce, and couples must begin to take their promises more seriously. Feminist diehards who liken the cornerstone of civilization to slavery—and balding husbands with wandering eyes—will no doubt resent the abolition of their escape clause. But far more people are hurt than made better by divorce. Besides, feminists should not be so eager to help unfaithful husbands or champion policies that brand women as helpless and irresponsible.

*Miss Schupak is a sophomore majoring in History.*





# A Worthless Observer

Colin Delaney

For quite some time, *The Observer*, Tufts' weekly newspaper, has sustained biting SOURCE jokes about low readership and a leftist political slant. By the same token, many students wonder exactly what place that newspaper has on a campus which already supports a widely-read if not well-written daily publication. Given *The Observer's* complete inability to scoop *The Tufts Daily* on news coverage, the paper which claims to offer "more than your daily fill" reverts to serving as a mouthpiece for the administration and a vehicle for liberal groups to gain publicity. Moreover, "Tufts' Newspaper of Record" regularly commits the worst mistake journalists can make: editorializing in news stories.

But the story of embarrassingly sub-standard quality at *The Observer* begins even before writers type the first word. By virtue of the fact that THE SOURCE shares space with Tufts' weekly, we can attest that *The Observer* relies extensively on other newspapers for story and design ideas. A few weeks ago, SOURCE staffers caught layout artists looking through *Boston Globes*, searching for a front-page layout to copy. Worse yet, one Monday as they started putting together their next issue, a group of editors perused a stack of *Tufts Dailies* for the stories they would assign to writers.

Regardless of the source of its information, *The Observer* abuses its position as a medium for the transmittance of information. Indeed, the most egregious offense editors Ray Graves and Eric Fleisch made was publishing an article comprised of quotations from various administrators commenting that "Affirmative Action [is]

an Asset to Tufts" (11/2/95, reprinted here). Rather than stating, as an ethical reporter would, that certain people have this opinion, the headline and story editorializes in its favor, with the subhead reading: "Pro-

***The Observer*, "Tufts' Newspaper of Record," regularly commits the worst mistake journalists can make: editorializing in news stories.**

gram More Than Quotas and Numbers, Enhances Educational Experience."

As if it were not enough to dish out front-page articles to such P.C. nonsense, *The Observer* opened up its "Observations" page to the inane musings of University President John DiBiaggio. The Hypocrite-in-Chief then used his allotted column inches to plead for help in his crusade to keep federal financial aid flowing into Tufts' coffers, to criticize those engaged in amorphous "irresponsible speech," and to comment on the activities of the student senate, a group which won a quorum in elections

past year, *The Observer* supported affirmative action's race-based preferences, heaped extensive praise on the academically worthless Experimental College, and advocated keeping Hodgdon Dining Hall open at any cost. Nonetheless, all editors have the right to hold and espouse their particular convictions, but the grossly irresponsible way in which Graves and company allow personal opinion to color headlines and articles invalidates their claim of objectivity.

In writing and titling his story, a reporter must take care not to allow innate biases to skew the work. When covering a prominent individual's statements on matters of the day, editors must put the subject's thoughts in quotations, so as not to endorse his position. Thus, had Graves titled the affirmative-action article "Prez: 'Affirmative...'", there would have been no problem, except of course that the piece itself was an un insightful chronicle of administrators' comments. Regardless of writing quality, the article which actually ran in their issue could not, in good conscience, be placed in the news section; it could just as easily have been a page-four editorial.

Most of the mistakes (or perhaps, deliberate transgressions) *The Observer* commits seem innocuous enough. On the whole, few people could find any problem with—or even recognize—these errors. Nevertheless, a reporter's code of ethics requires absolute adherence to the standards

## Affirmative Action an Asset to Tufts

Program More Than Quotas and Numbers, Enhances Educational Experience

by KATHLEEN YAUS  
Observer Staff Writer

Part of Tufts' mission to maintain a diverse community includes the carrying out of the affirmative action laws set forth by the government. It also includes the voluntary commitment the university has to be more reflective of the world we live in.

Affirmative action has become a controversial issue over the past year, especially with the plans of California Governor Pete Wilson to discontinue the policy of affirma-

tive action in state funded organizations. Many people hold misconceptions about what affirmative action is and what it aims to do.

"Many people think of quotas and those who are under-qualified when we speak of affirmative action," said Michael Powell, special assistant to the President for Affirmative Action. Powell explained that affirmative action is actually about ensuring that those historically underrepresented groups are identified, employed and promoted in our society.

Affirmative action, as a law, does not include the admission process here at Tufts, but an individual's background and ability to increase the diversity of the campus may be a part of his qualification in the case of employment. The ability to diversify is part of what an individual can offer, just like athletic ability or artistic talent.

Powell believes that this is "important because discrimination is still prevalent in our society." This, however, does not necessarily mean that the most qualified per-

Please See ACTION Page 3.

From *The Observer*, 11/2/95, treating administrative opinion as unbiased news coverage.

only after years of trying and could not even find enough interested students to contest a single seat.

Naturally, the paper's hallmark is its editorial inclination, a position which places it far outside "the mainstream." Over the

broke the rule—several times. Violations of this code include "Athletic Facilities Not Yet Up to Par" (9/17/95), "Verdier Sets

*Continued on the next page.*

*Continued from the previous page.*

Forth With the Winning Team” (9/21/95), “Verdier’s Vision Still Strong” (1/25/96), and “Lavalley Leads the TCUJ Down Path of Justice” (2/15/96). Even the announcement that a rock ‘n’ roll band would soon play Tufts received the normal dose of commentary: “Letters to Cleo Won’t Disappoint” (12/7/95).

Of course, these slanted headlines just reflect the quality of the stories below them. As a result, *The Observer* fails to cover the news, rather it condescendingly tells readers how to think about the issue it hand. True or not, a newspaper should not tell people that Ancy Verdier is leading “the winning team” on the TCU Senate—unless the story is clearly labeled “News Analysis” or appears on the editorial page. But *The Observer* puts stories like “Verdier’s Vision Still Strong” front and center on page one.

The problems with “Tufts’ Newspaper of Record” run deeper than improper editorial comments. The very subjects editors choose to cover reflect the leftism that envelops the entire publication, thus undermining any claim to fairness. The story noting athletic facilities’ inadequacy marks an unusual departure from *The Observer*’s usual toady coverage of TCU senators and administrators. Although the level of sycophancy with respect to senators’ irrelevant procedural motions is greater in *The Daily*, *The Observer* nonetheless writes at length about such inconsequential subjects as “CSL [Committee on Student Life] Slow Out of Starting Gate” (10/12/95), and “Tufts Home to Many Creatures” (11/9/95), an imperti-

nent story about the albino squirrel which, the article notes, is not albino at all.

Other politically-driven stories passed off as news include an article concerning “Women and Engineering” (11/30/96) and one about “Feminism on the Hill” (4/4/96). The latter even carried a photo of a campus speaker, one of the Framingham Eight, who had killed her husband only to be released from jail and tour the radical feminist circuit espousing liberation from marriage and roundly condemning men.

Of course, the uncritical tone of stories extends to administrative decisions. When Dean of Arts and Humanities Elizabeth Ammons announced her resignation after just eighteen months of working with friend and partner Dean of Natural and Social Sciences Marylin Glater, *The Observer* tacitly endorsed the two-dean system in a sloppily-written article full of disconnected quotations (2/29/96). Author Luke Brennan completely disregarded the fact that Vice President and Dean of the Faculty I. Melvin Bernstein chose two deans instead of one with the understanding that the partnership would be a close and lasting one. The author failed utterly in his duty to question Bernstein on this crucial point and instead accepted the administration’s suspect explanation that Ammons never intended to serve more than two years.

Similarly, a page-two profile of Dean of Students Bobbie Knable’s Bridge-Metcalf Program failed to offer critical analysis of the four-year-old communal living arrangement (“Metcalf Bridges Social-Academic Gap” 9/14/95). Rather, the story—like all other second-page profiles—included a haphazard array of quotations which allowed the interviewees to espouse their respective positions. Given the tone and subject matter of the responses, the author’s questions could not have been any more interesting than “Tell us about the program.”

Other profiles offer the same degree of insight into

### **Observer Headlines for ‘News’ Stories With an Editorial Slant**

- Athletic Facilities Not Yet Up to Par, 9/7/95
- Metcalf Bridges Social-Academic Gap, 9/14/95
- Verdier Sets Forth With the Winning Team, 9/21/95
- CSL Slow Out of Starting Gate, 10/12/95
- Key to Golden Future Lies in Honor Society, 10/12/95
- Affirmative Action an Asset to Tufts, 11/2/95
- Letters To Cleo Won’t Disappoint, 12/7/95
- Verdier’s Vision Still Strong, 1/25/96

various campus non-personalities. A sampling from this year includes stories about the office secretary in the Experimental College (10/26/96); the Tufts’ leading gay activist who “Puts Plenty into Activities” (11/16/96); the Hemp Coalition, which is “Not Just Blowin’ Blue Smoke” (10/5/96); Michael Powell, the President’s new affirmative action officer who made “Increasing Diversity [the] key to [his] Vision” (10/19/95); and the details that “Make Hecht’s Job Exciting” (10/12/96). In typical fashion these stories do not challenge their subjects, and, worst of all, the Hecht story failed to note that she was hired as Assistant Provost after Sol Gittleman decided that an individual holding a Master’s degree had to replace his outgoing secretary of 47 years.

In all, *The Observer*’s position as a mouthpiece for the administration and liberal student activists nullifies claims to fairness. Indeed, the newspaper’s sloppy and uncreative writing might, when combined with its subject matter, help pass it off as Tufts’ viewbook for prospective students or the Communications Office’s *Tufts Journal*.

At a university where waste and bureaucratic indolence reaches epidemic proportions, the student body does not need a newspaper to echo administrators’ irreverence for student needs. However self-important it might be, *The Tufts Daily* reports controversies and events. *THE SOURCE* keeps a watchful eye on leftist activists and Tufts’ immoderate spending. While the campus might welcome a liberal journal, one passing itself off as a student-run newspaper does a great disservice to readers and non-readers alike.

*Mr. Delaney is a junior majoring in History, Classics, and Political Science.*

### **The Diversity of Profiles from The Observer**

- Life at Tufts Getting Very Ancy, 8/31/95
- Gaming Society Takes a ‘Risk’ to Have Fun, 9/21/95
- ‘Ex-ceptional’ Addition to the Ex-College, 10/26/95
- Living by the Power of Humor, Ex-College Co-founder Simches, 3/28/96
- Aloha State Culture Flowering on Hill, 3/28/96
- Feminism on the Hill, 4/4/96
- Women and Engineering, 11/30/95
- Professors Feeling Overworked, 1/25/96
- X-Men, Gargoyles, and Taking Lots of Naps: Pan-African Alliance President Has Fun While Staying Involved, 2/1/96
- Harambee Coalition a ‘Catalyst for Action’, 2/1/96

# Senate of Whores

Colin Kingsbury

Once again, the Tufts Community Union Senate has proven itself incompetent. Hangovers from Constitution victory parties had not even worn off when reports of numerous improprieties in the presidential election began rolling in, not to mention the Elections Board's bumbling of the ballot for Amendment One. Such a level of ineptitude might seem surprising, but to anyone familiar with the TCU Senate, it's all in a day's work. And it hardly stops there. Other than the TCU Treasury, which has a laudable record of service to the student body, the TCU Senate serves solely as a playpen for senators' nursery-school egos and infantile plans. New President Andi Friedman wants to know what students are thinking; she should look at voter turnout rates. The answer is simple: no one cares.

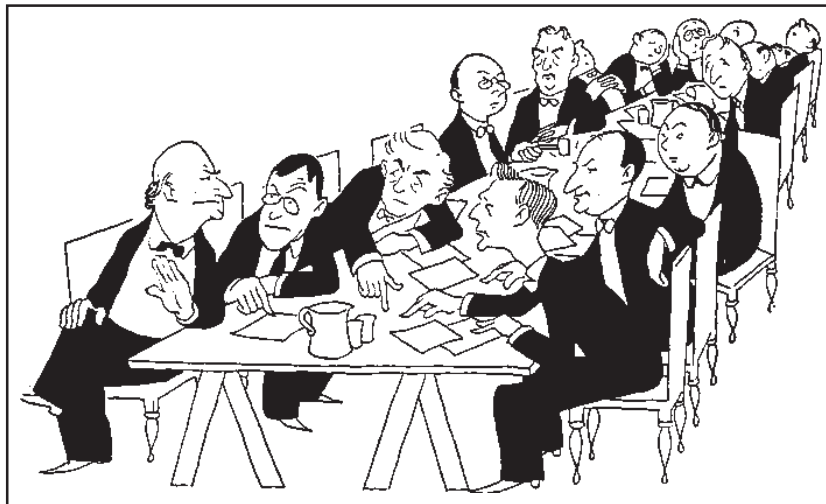
## Tremendous Accomplishments?

Surely, however, senators believe that they do great things and perform a valuable service to fellow students. Former President Ancy Verdier said that this year's senate has "accomplished tremendous goals," a theme he harped on relentlessly. When asked by THE SOURCE to enumerate some of those accomplishments, Verdier first cited the passage of the revised TCU Constitution, a goal which eluded last year's body. A victory for the Senate, however, was most likely a net loss to the student body. Verdier estimated that the Senate spent 30% of this year debating the same constitution that consumed the majority of last year's sessions. The end result was a document almost identical to the previous one. What were they doing all that time? While a cursory examination of the previous document would have been entirely proper, senators spending close to one-third of their time discussing an issue only they could possibly care about is inexcusable.

But the former president does not think this diminishes the luster of the TCU. In fact, he believes the Senate's reputation improved this year. For that to be true, however, it should follow that interest in the Senate—and particularly in seats on

**Andi Friedman wants to know what students are thinking; she should look at voter turnout rates. The answer is simple: no one cares.**

it—would be higher as well. If Verdier was right, elections for the twenty-eight senate seats would have been hotly contested. But ELBO had to cancel elections, due to a complete lack of interest. While a large number of freshmen ran, so few upperclassmen jumped in the fray that even after redistributing the seats to next year's sophomores, unfilled seats still remain. Regarding this pathetic level of involvement, Verdier said, "I don't know how to explain that."



The reason, however, is quite clear: the TCU Senate just does not matter. While no one questions the role of the Treasury, few students take the rest of the Senate seriously. Consider Verdier's "Winning Team." Whether motivated by too many Political Science classes or delusions of grandeur, senators do little more than come up with new constitutions and snappy slogans. This is not for want of meaningful

issues. While University President John DiBiaggio claims we are a "student-centered university," the only thing Tufts seems centered on is our wallets. Whether it be in the form of Dining Services' legalized extortion, innumerable and excessive fees such as the \$100 charge to transfer credit from a non-Tufts program abroad, or pathetic safety-shuttle service, Tufts provides the senators with myriad issues for concern.

Senators, however, prioritize feel-good events over students' real needs. While they were gloating over the success of the Homecoming Pep Rally and debating last year's constitution, we were trudging home from Davis Square through a foot and a half of snow because the safety shuttle will not run during inclement weather conditions. Where are our senators in the contract renewal negotiations with Barnes and Noble? The same question could be asked about Tufts Connect, the faculty's decision to shorten the add/drop period, and the administration's ludicrous poster policy.

If senators were anywhere at all on these issues, it was most likely on some trumped-up *ad hoc* student-faculty committee. Senators take more pride in their chummy relations with university officials than in real accomplishments. Once again, this is unsurprising. Verdier noted that when he joined three years ago, many senators were "egotistical maniacs." Three years later, the social-

climber contingent remains, though Verdier offered that they now commit more to serving the Senate and less to hearing themselves talk. Apparently that judgment does not extend to the 30% of their time spent haggling over bureaucratic minutiae on the Constitution.

*Please see "Senate,"  
continued on the next page.*

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*“Senate,” continued from  
the previous page.*

**Vote Once, Vote Twice, Who Cares?**

The most damning assessment of the TCU Senate, however, comes from their own electoral process. ELBO's failure to include the TLGBC on Amendment One's list of cultural representatives reflects the highest level of incompetence. That this amendment was *the* most contentious issue on campus in the past year only compounds the magnitude of ELBO's imbecility. Then, just when everyone thought the TCU Senate had screwed up everything, they held more elections and proved us wrong. Two of the past three presidential elections have been, at the very least, fraught with improprieties. In addition to the allegations that seniors were permitted to vote, THE SOURCE has learned that numerous students voted multiple times, not only by removing the pen-marks from their bursar's labels but also because ELBO workers failed to mark ID cards in the first place.

In a democracy, elections are the most basic test of a government's legitimacy. In

the past three years, the TCU Senate has had great difficulty holding an election that avoided controversy. While ELBO is obviously the problem, Verdier and others stood by the ineptitude of Elections Board's officials, apparently worried that doing otherwise would make it even harder to recruit students next year. Unfortunately, the Senate fails to realize that holding untainted elections, not organizing events, assembling a "winning team," or drafting constitutions, is the single most important task. Uninteresting, perhaps, but essential if the TCU wishes to appear even partially legitimate.

**No Hope in Sight**

Andi Friedman's election should not raise anyone's hopes. Where Verdier bored us with his "Winning Team," Friedman wants more "Outreach," a theme shared by her opponent, Bryan Krause. Unfortunately, Friedman's "Outreach" appears to be yet another TCU Senator's imbecilic idea of an agenda. While she has yet to articulate exactly what this nebulous buzzword will mean, one can surmise that she wishes to either get more student input, tell students

more about what the TCU Senate does, or, likely, both. The first idea is simply silly. Senators are students, and should thus be intimately familiar with student concerns. The second idea, however, constitutes arrogance beyond compare— even by Tufts standards. The concept that students need to know more about what the Senate does suggests that we are too ignorant to find out for ourselves. Frankly, most students here know exactly what senators do: pass a budget, and nothing else.

The TCU Senate, simply put, is feckless, arrogant, and largely impotent. Given the administration's record with the student body, we not only deserve but truly need something better. With the Constitution thankfully out of the way, there is some hope that next year's senate will focus on issues that the student body actually cares about. Then again, we might all just end up stuck in a room while Andi Friedman tells us about her accomplishments.

*Mr. Kingsbury is a sophomore  
majoring in Economics.*

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*“Little Things,” continued  
from page 10.*

“great” had the audacity to deny a student's assertion that communism was responsible for East Germany's pitiful economy (even though the capitalist West has flourished). After that, someone else called the student “narrow-minded.”

Professorial abuse, unfortunately, has many incarnations. A particularly shameless educator once decided to celebrate the last day of class by tickling the ivories— this was no music course— while his pupils mindlessly observed. The fun continued when one student presented a painting for her final project. To top matters off, the nonsensical affair further degenerated into a bad version of an American Bandstand-Solid Gold reunion when another pupil performed an interpretive dance— no kidding. Naturally, less imaginative students did not have the opportunity to moonwalk their way to an “A.” They had to submit term papers.

Like professors, students have contributed to the demise of the Tufonian classroom. Perhaps the silliest incident of

all took place during a class discussion of absolute truth. Just as the debate gained a semblance of respectability, a brazen individual saw fit to announce that society's morals “are too constricting.” She then pounded her fist on a desk and bellowed that “it's time for a revolution!” So much for rational discourse. Even worse, the young revolutionary plagues the entire campus with her pathetic brand of radicalism. In another class the rebel-imagining-a-cause spuriously maintained that Americans do not understand socialism. No one, she claimed, who defends socialism can receive a fair judgment in this country.

Tufts has learned to accommodate these, and many other, unseemly characters. Condom Pete, Hydro-Quebec veteran Caribou Lou, and union favorite Bud Weasel have all become honorary members of the Tufts Community. Ultra-sensitivity and hyper-tolerance have failed; the academy has as much inclination to challenge senseless ideas as it does to fire unproductive employees. The outside world, however, has recognized the decline of the ivory tower. A Tufts diploma no longer carries weight in the job market. Corporations now prefer to employ holders of more

advanced degrees. Workshops, sensitivity sessions, and invalid disciplines impress only those 1960s radicals who possess neither the courage nor the ability to venture beyond the artificial universe that animates today's college campus.

Clearly, the college conservative has no choice but to challenge liberalism's stranglehold on Tufts' institutions. The virtues of limited government, free enterprise, America's unique culture, and moral rectitude must inspire the regeneration of a commitment to excellence, erudition, and achievement. While the Balloureaucrats take their extended lunches and academic departments grow increasingly illegitimate, THE PRIMARY SOURCE labors to derail the left's failed agenda. But THE SOURCE will succeed only if members understand that absurdity comes in many shapes and sizes.

Of course, most of these inanities rarely warrant serious responses. I have spent much of my time at THE SOURCE joining my colleagues in a hearty laugh at the foolishness Tufts has to offer. Every moment, a great moment.

*Mr. Seltzer is a senior majoring in  
Classics and Political Science.*

# License To Kill

Micaela Dawson

Only a stone-cold heart feels no compassion for victims of terminal illness. When hope finally disappears, the will to live falters. Perhaps no one better understood this tragedy more deeply than Catherine Gilgunn. The 71-year-old suffered from heart disease, diabetes, chronic urinary tract infections, and Parkinson's disease; she even underwent a mastectomy. And during a long hospital stay, she was further burdened with repeated seizures resulting in brain damage.

But according to her daughter Joan, Catherine "made it clear to physicians that she wanted everything possible done medically" to preserve her life. Joan Gilgunn also told a hospital staffer that she would be willing to transfer her mother to a rehabilitation facility, should the hospital deem it necessary. Despite this, the attending physician and the hospital's Optimum Care Committee ordered the words "do not resuscitate" placed on her chart.

Her daughter protested, but in vain, for Mrs. Gilgunn was taken off the respirator. The physician who disconnected her claimed that the respirator "was postponing her death... the intent was to have her go out with some dignity." But human dignity is stolen from the dying by a society which sanctions rules of conduct that give "those who swear an oath to preserve life" the freedom to kill.

Such were the words of New York Attorney General Dennis Vacco, who will challenge the Second Circuit Court's controversial ruling that wrongly granted doctors the legal authority to hasten the deaths of terminally ill patients. The 3-0 New York decision struck down a 19th-century statute that acknowledged human life's sanctity and protected against assisted suicide. The court's ruling also made physician-aided suicide legal in Vermont and Connecticut, because those states fall under its jurisdiction.

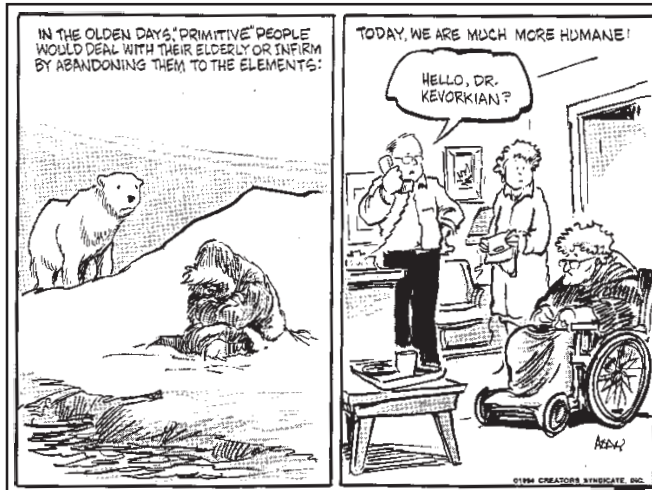
One of the three physicians who brought the lawsuit to trial, Dr. Howard Grossman, actually claimed that the decision "liberated the vast underground of

doctors" who have taken it upon themselves to speed their patients' deaths. To defend that chilling statement, he asserted that doctors have been working all along to perform underground assisted suicides but felt "isolated, alone, and terrified."

**Human dignity is stolen from the dying by a society which sanctions rules of conduct that give 'those who swear an oath to preserve life' the freedom to kill.**

For the torments that the terminally ill suffer, Dr. Grossman prescribes murder. Prior to the recent ruling, physicians who assisted suicide could face manslaughter charges. Such consequences were appropriate; the physician's only choice should be to make the remainder of victims' lives on earth as peaceful and endurable as humanly possible.

A host of troubling questions arises for legislators who try to determine criteria of acceptability for assisted suicide. Who will decide whether a patient is terminally ill?



Who will determine whether the patient seeking help is of sound mind? Can the state ensure that dying people receive alternative treatments for pain before suicide is considered, and, if so, who will pay for those treatments?

If the courts relax or eliminate restrictions on assisted suicide, all of those questions must be answered. A New York State Task Force on Life and Law, appointed by

Mario Cuomo, concluded that there are no clear answers to those concerns, and that New York's ban ought to remain in place. Nevertheless, the defiant judges did not even try to prove the Task Force wrong. They said only that there was "a broad consensus" in the medical community over when a patient is terminally ill.

The original ruling held that New York statutes denied equal protection of the law when they preserved the rights of patients on life support to 'order their plugs pulled' while simultaneously denying that option to other terminally ill, mentally competent patients not on such support. But Dr. Nancy Dickey, President of the American Medical Association, notes that doctors routinely draw a crucial distinction between using technology to keep a dying person alive and using drugs to end a patient's life.

The newest decision comes on the heels of another ruling by the Ninth US Circuit Court of Appeals. That decision held that Americans' right to personal liberty and privacy gives them the right to decide to end their suffering when confronting deadly diseases. Those rights also allegedly find support in a 1990 Supreme Court case establishing the right to reject unwanted medical help. But Michigan's Supreme Court ruled against Dr. Jack Kevorkian, insisting that physician-assisted suicide violates the sanctity of life.

The recent frenzy of activity over assisted suicide almost ensures that the issue will soon be brought before the Supreme Court. If it is, the highest court in the land must salvage the sanctity of life, which recent federal decisions threaten to despoil. It must also restore confidence in the medical profession's moral fiber, now that questions about the abuses arising from doctors' new-found authority have arisen.

*Miss Dawson is a sophomore majoring in Classics and Philosophy.*

# Qutoas Reborn

Keith Levenberg

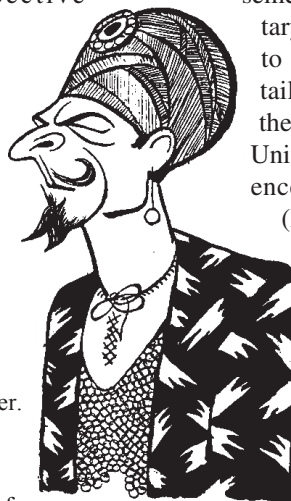
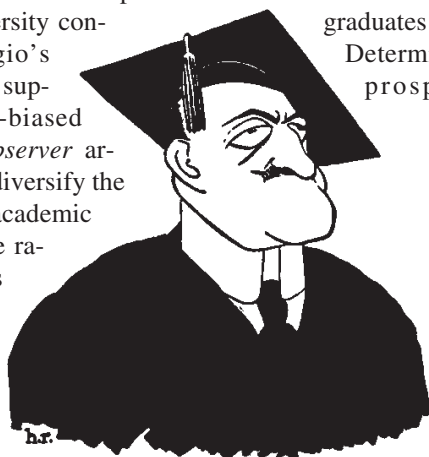
The clamor throughout campus on the weekend of April 18-20 served as a constant reminder to Jumbos that April Open House had arrived. From the temporarily improved dining hall food to the omnipresent celebrations and events such as the quad's Jumbofest to the conspicuous UNICCO campus beautification experiments, Tufts puts on an appealing mask during this all-important weekend. But by far the most reprehensible deluge of misinformation is the University's shameless efforts to construct a façade of utopian diversity and attract token minority students to the Class of 2000. Chief and most secret among the niggling directives aimed at racial balance are a host of events arranged just for preferred groups under the auspices of Scope, the innocuous-sounding Student of Color Outreach Program. And that endeavor falls on the heels of the most sacred University policy of all.

The administration has made it abundantly clear that it voluntarily practices affirmative action. Whether it be the appointment of an official diversity consultant, President DiBiaggio's campus newspaper column supporting the institutionally-biased practice, or a front-page *Observer* article fawning over efforts to diversify the campus at the expense of academic achievement, Tufts has made racial proportionality one of its primary goals for the upcoming year. But minorities should feel insulted by administrators' epidermal diversity requirement. It is deplorable that a nation which prides itself on the self-sovereignty of every individual contains educational institutions which judge students by group characterizations.

Thankfully, a string of recent Supreme Court rulings may make it difficult or even illegal for universities to practice affirmative action as early as next academic year. Administrators know that to preserve cosmetic diversity on campus, they must attract a higher than ever proportion of minority students to next year's class.

Their efforts have been, for the most part, successful; according to *The Daily*, 7% of the accepted students in the Class of 2000 are African-American— more than any previous year. In order to ensure that a large number of Tufts' minority acceptees matriculates, the University resorts to extreme measures that would make the most militant P.C. advocate twitch with envy. The real crime, however, is not that officials endorse these tactics, but that they go to such great lengths to hide it from the current student body.

Scope may be touted as a student-run volunteer organization, but is far more insidious than its benign name implies. Directed by an admissions officer, the group works directly with Bendetson Hall. According to *The Black Student Handbook*, published by the African American Center, "Scope has a very critical [*sic*] mission. A competent and enthusiastic recruitment outreach from current black undergraduates can often be The Determining Factor in a prospective



Tufts prefers one to the other.

student's decision to accept or deny an offer of admission from Tufts."

Taking this mission statement to heart, Scope conducted its own "Scope Weekend," apart from traditional April Open House events. But its particulars were carefully hidden from the Tufts community and publicized only in mailings to minority students. This stealth tactic inexcusably

disenfranchised minority students from the most effective way of deciding whether or not to attend Tufts. Sadly, these students were exposed to the all too common atmosphere of self-segregation. Scope's mailing to racially 'acceptable' students proclaiming its desire to "offer you and your

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**Scope may be touted as a student-run volunteer organization, but is far more insidious than its benign name implies.**

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parents insight into life at Tufts as a person of color" rings with tragic irony.

The weekend's Scope-sponsored events also served the administration's divisive goals. On Friday, April 19, Scope herded all of its minority visitors to an after-hours dinner at Hodgdon Hall, in which the directors of Tufts' various student centers gave speeches espousing the virtues of racial separatism. Of course, the indoctrination does not end when the students actually attend Tufts; before each fall semester, Scope conducts a supplementary, sequestered orientation open only to minority students. Although the details of the event are zealously guarded, the practice itself is despicable. If the University frankly disclosed the existence of this segregationist excursion (President DiBiaggio claims he only became aware of it within the last year), it would certainly win universal derision as inherently racist.

Regrettably, Tufts' admissions policies assume that a student's ability to diversify the community through his skin tone are more important than whatever academic contributions he can make to the University. It comes as no surprise, then, that intellectual achievement and true higher learning is all but dead in America's universities. Such is the price of subjugating platonist values to polychromatism.

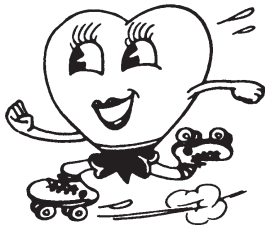
*Mr. Levenberg is a freshman majoring in Political Science.*

# WIN A DATE WITH ZAMBONI HOBGOBLIN ADAM KRAEMER!

JUST FILL OUT THIS HANDY APPLICATION.

1. Are you sick of shaving your back on Friday nights?

2. Do you steal jokes from *Blossom* reruns?



3. Did you ride the small bus to school?

4. Do you have to grow a beard in order to ride the roller coaster?

5. Do you think it's cool to be the only person other than Candace Greenberg to get rejected by ZBT?

6. Are TV's *Friends* the only ones you've ever had?

7. Do you think a ho is a garden tool?

8. Do you think the "f-word" is a joke in and of itself?

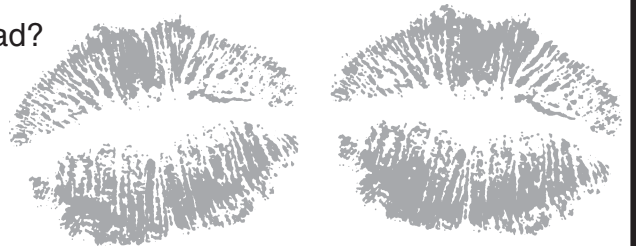
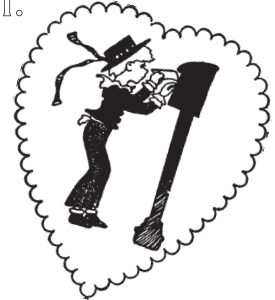
9. Are you ecstatic over Lionel Richie's comeback?

10. Do you know all the moves to "Breakin' 2: Electric Boogaloo?"

11. Does Wilford Brimley quake your oats?



ESSAY QUESTION: Explain why the motion of the ocean is more important than the size of the boat.



Adam says: Apply now! Or later!  
I'm not going anywhere.

## NOTABLE AND QUOTABLE

*It is of the essence of the demand for equality before the law that people should be treated alike in spite of the fact that they are different.*

—F. A. Hayek

*Education is the largest socialist institution in the United States today. As such, it performs like all socialist institutions. It produces a very inefficient product at high cost and benefits a favored few. And there is no way to change it except by competition and choice.*

—Milton Friedman

*The present system may be flawed, but that's not to say that we in Congress can't make it worse.*

—Rep. E. Clay Shaw (R-FL)

*Well-timed silence hath more eloquence than speech.*

—Martin Farquhar Tupper

*If ye would go up high, then use your own legs! Do not get yourselves carried aloft; do not seat yourselves on other people's backs and heads!*

—Friedrich Nietzsche

*When the wines were good they pleased my senses, cheered my spirits, improved my moral and intellectual powers, besides enabling me to confer the same benefits on other people.*

—George Saintsbury

*Do unto the other feller the way he'd like to do unto you an' do it juss.*

—Edward Noyes Westcott

*Most women are not so young as they are painted.*

—Sir Max Beerbohm

*Professional politicians like to talk about the value of experience in government. Nuts! The only experience you gain in politics is how to be political.*

—Ronald Reagan

*There are two good things in life, freedom of thought and freedom of action.*

—Somerset Maugham

*The man who lets himself be bored is even more contemptible than the bore.*

—Samuel Butler

*I call that mind free which jealously guards its intellectual rights and powers, which calls no man master, which does not content itself with a passive or hereditary faith, which opens itself to light whencesoever it may come, which receives new truth as an angel from Heaven.*

—William Ellery Channing

*In matters of sentiment, the public has very crude ideas; and the most shocking fault of women is that they make the public the supreme judge of their lives.*

—Henri Beyle

*There is not a fiercer hell than the failure in a great object.*

—John Keats

*Free trade, one of the greatest blessings which a government can confer on a people, is in almost every country unpopular.*

—Thomas Babington, Lord Macaulay

*There was an Ape in the days that were earlier; Centuries passed, and his hair became curlier; Centuries more gave a thumb to his wrist— Then he was Man— and a Positivist.*

—Mortimer Collins

*When a society is perishing, the true advice to give to those who would restore it is to recall it to the principles from which it sprung.*

—Pope Leo XIII

*The United States themselves are essentially the greatest poem.... Here at last is something in the doings of man that corresponds with the broadcast doings of the day and night.*

—Walt Whitman

*I know no method to secure the repeal of bad or obnoxious laws so effective as their stringent execution.*

—Ulysses S. Grant

*Little drops of water, little grains of sand,  
Make the mighty ocean and the pleasant land.  
So the little moments, humble though they be,  
Make the mighty ages of eternity.*

—Julia A. Fletcher Carney

*Everyone is a moon, and has a dark side which he never shows to anybody.*

—Mark Twain

*The greater philosopher a man is, the more difficult it is for him to answer the foolish questions of common people.*

—Henryk Sienkiewicz

*Or spell his own name.*

—Unknown

*Liberty lies in the hearts of men. When it dies there, no constitution, no law, no court can save it. While it lives there, it needs no constitution, no law, no court to protect it.*

—Judge Learned Hand

*My only books  
Were woman's looks,  
And folly's all they've taught me.*

—Thomas Moore

*There is never an instant's truce between virtue and vice.*

—Henry David Thoreau

*Silence is no certain token  
That no secret grief is there;  
Sorrow which is never spoken  
Is the heaviest load to bear.*

—Frances Ridley Havergal

*I am against government by crony.*

—Harold Ickes

*He spoke with a certain what-is-it in his voice,  
and I could see that, if not actually disgruntled,  
he was far from being grunted.*

—P. G. Wodehouse

*Responsibility's like a string we can only see  
the middle of. Both ends are out of sight.*

—William McFee

*One drink of wine, and you act like a monkey;  
two drinks, and you strut like a peacock; three  
drinks, and you roar like a lion; and four  
drinks— you behave like a pig.*

—Henry Vollam Morton

*Somewhere, behind Space and Time,  
Is wetter water, slimier slime!*

—Rupert Brooke

*Marriage is a damnably serious business,  
particularly around Boston.*

—John Phillips Marquand