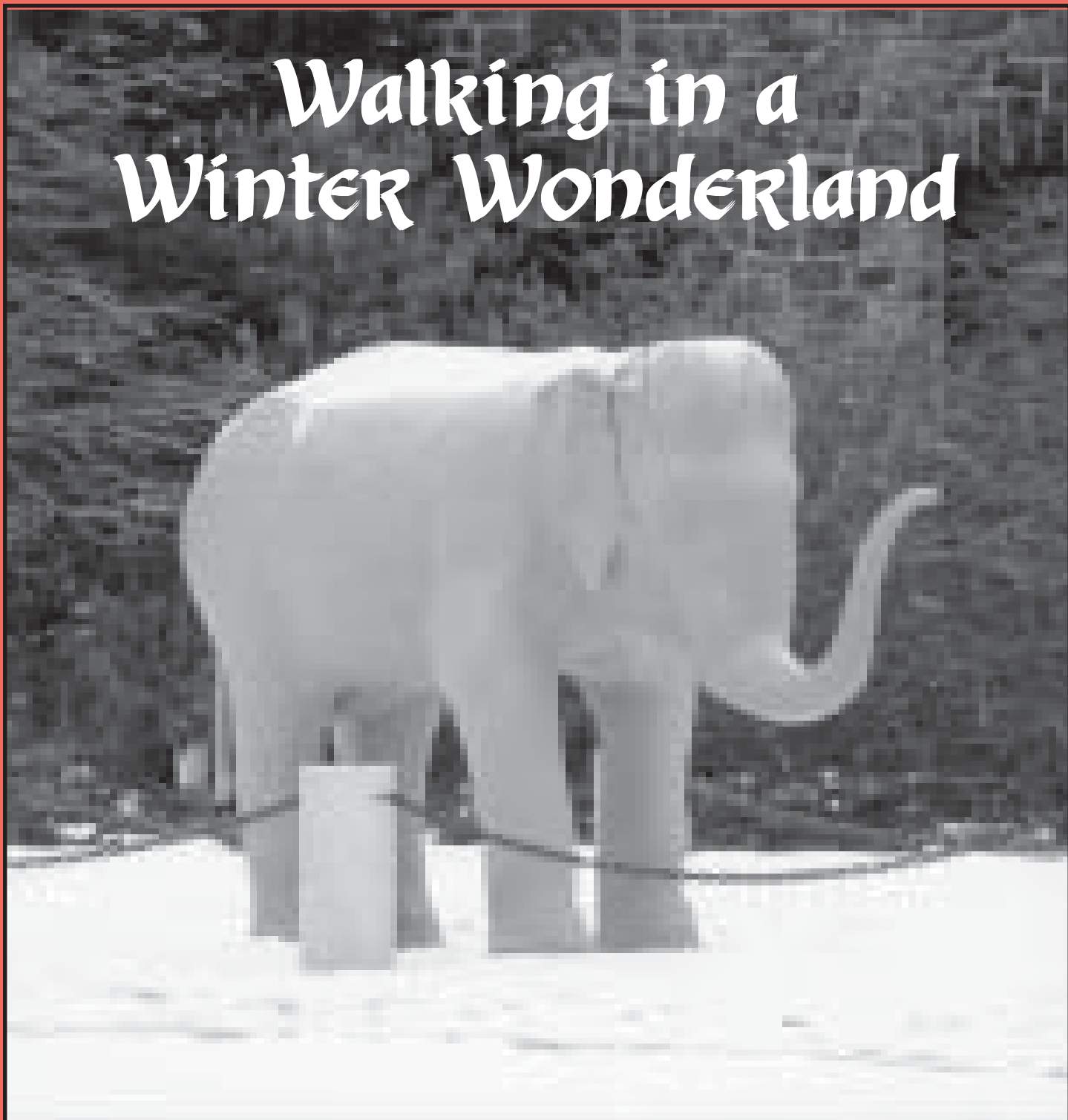


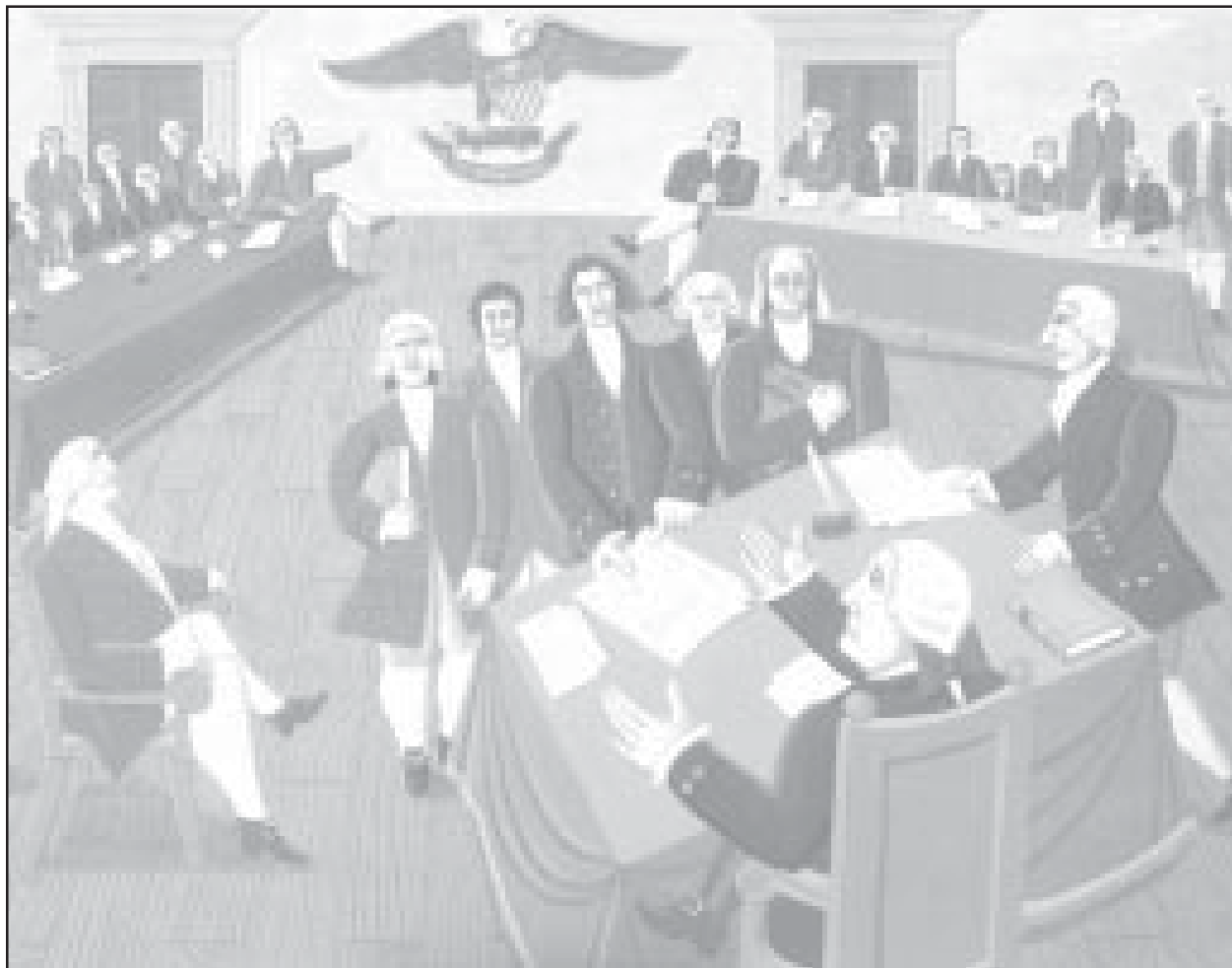
THE PRIMARY SOURCE

VERITAS SINE DOLO

Walking in a Winter Wonderland



*The price of Liberty
is Eternal Vigilance*



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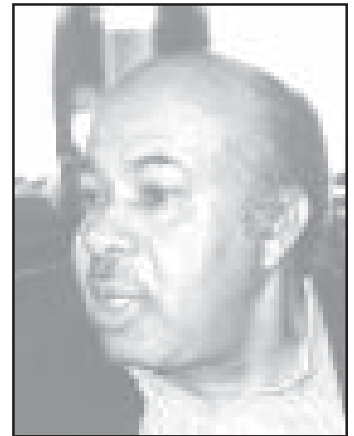
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THE PRIMARY SOURCE

Vol. XVII • The Journal of Conservative Thought at Tufts University • No. 7

DEPARTMENTS

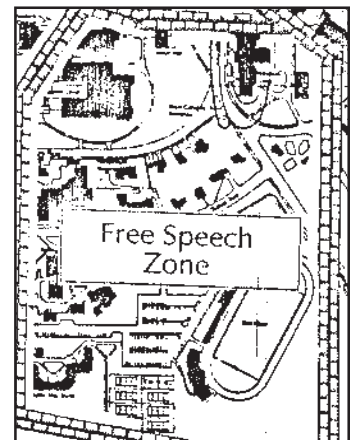
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A Final Examination

If you *really* wanted to find out what Tufts is all about, you would:

Write a term paper disagreeing with everything your professor ever told you. You can't in good conscience fill out the "fairness and objectivity" bubble on the course-evaluation form without trying this. Anticipate massive grading penalties if you're coming from the right; at the very least, anticipate having to do twice as much work as everyone else in the class, even the sycophants. Consolation: your work will be four times as good.

Appeal a TUPD parking ticket. I don't know if it's ever been done. But I'd be curious to know what happened if somebody tried. Tufts' men in blue don't realize that they work for us rather than govern us. If you want to see what happens when you give somebody a small amount of power over another person, visit the TUPD station-house and explain, in calm English, why you don't think you deserved the ticket. Now imagine what happens when somebody has a *large* amount of power over another person. (It might make it hard to vote Democrat.)

Accuse a professor of being insensitive to students of other political orientations. He'll smile. He'll chuckle. He'll laugh. Then: **Accuse a professor of being insensitive to students of other races.** He'll whimper. He'll beg. He'll crawl.

Pay attention when somebody begins a sentence with, "As a..." The left does a lot of complaining about insensitive professors (see above) who expect "students of color" to speak as representatives of their race. It's worth noting how many "students of color" do so of their own volition.

Take several classes that deal with Karl Marx. But drop them fast. Try writing about one professor's interpretation of Marx in another professor's class. Your prof may have told you there's no such thing as right and wrong, but he'll mark you wrong on this one

pretty quickly. To the left, Marx, like anything else, means whatever you want it to mean. But to a pompous professor, it only means whatever *he* wants it to mean. For a similar experience, take several classes with the word "modern" in the title.

Wander into the Office of Equal Opportunity. It's easy. You don't need to go through the standard Office of Admissions door to get there; it has its own separate (but equal) entrance on the side of Bendetson Hall. White students beware: the receptionists won't be happy to see you.

Read *Submerge*. Beyond the ivory tower, the left likes to think of itself as Santa Claus. These guys are far more sinister. Liberals talk a lot about tolerance; they accuse other people of "hate." *Submerge* has about as much hate as you can pack into sixteen pages. They hate whites, men, accessories ads, "hets," and who knows who else, and they would rather confront social problems with revolutions than resolutions. They do a lot of finger-pointing, too. I don't know what made them so angry at everybody. But I have a feeling that accusations of "mean-spiritedness" against the PRIMARY SOURCE are going to start to ring a little bit hollow from now on.

Read the PRIMARY SOURCE. And not just the quotes page. It's a good rule to follow that when people get really, truly *incensed* that you're reading something, there's a pretty good reason you should keep reading it. (It worked for *Huck Finn*.) Our motto is "veritas sine dolo": truth without sorrow. It's no wonder that people who don't want us around always talk about their feelings being hurt, never about our being *wrong*. We'll never apologize for the truth. And you shouldn't, either. That's a good place to start if you want to find out what a university education is all about.



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KEITH LEVENBERG
Editor-in-Chief

Managing Editors

AIMEE PESCHEL / *Campus Affairs*
CRAIG WALDMAN / *National Affairs*

Production

JEFF BETTENCOURT / *Manager*

Arts and Graphics

MIKE ABELSON / *Manager*

Business

PHILIP DE VAUL / *Manager*

Contributors

JONATHAN BLOCK • JARED BURDIN
PAUL EWENSTEIN • ALYSSA HEUMANN
JACOB HALBROOKS • RALAN HILL
DAN LEWIS • JAMES LUBIN
JOSHUA MARTINO • KATY MCCUNE
JONATHAN PERLE • IAN POPICK
ANDY SILVERMAN • KERSTIN NELSEN STROM
LEW TITTERTON

Founders

BRIAN KELLY • DAN MARCUS

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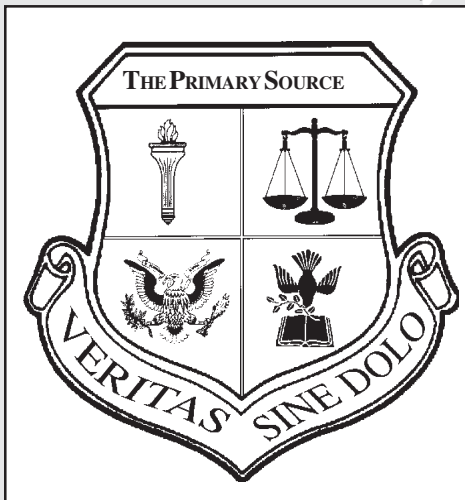
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in the Year to
Come



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Commentary

There's No Such Thing as Free Speech

Attention maligned, marginalized, and misbegotten Jumbos: Will no one listen to you? Tired of your hallmates ignoring your views on Mumia, Maulana, and Marx? Do your classes remind you of crypto-fascist indoctrination sessions? Well, don't whittle your valuable hours away in Oxfam when you could be out airing your rants to the entire TCU!

Thanks to the visionary participants in "Many Stories, Building Community," Jumbos will soon be afforded the opportunity to speak loudly and publicly on the Tufts University soapbox. Although the particulars of the soapbox have yet to be ironed out, its proponents feel it will be an invaluable asset to Walnut Hill. Envisioned in the form of a stone elephant, the soapbox would be a forum for students to share their views with the general public and campus passersby. "We want to help people feel like they have more of a voice on campus," explained pro-soapbox Republican (!) Jesse Levey.

Some even feel that the soapbox should merit the creation of a "free-speech zone" on campus, indicating a scary regression to Tufts' speech-code days. Just as the SOURCE has portended, this idea merely highlights the fact that there currently exists no area on campus where a student may speak freely. Classrooms, dormitories, dining halls; even the Campus Center is an area where students are expected to impose self-censorship. The recent application of Tufts' "bigotry policy" to a private function at a fraternity illustrates that on the Hill no speech is free speech.



Tufts Unconnected

Imagine that in recent weeks you had been unable to make outgoing telephone calls or log on to the Internet despite the fact that you had paid your telecommunications company in advance for these services. What would you do? In any part of the country but Tufts the obvious answer would be to demand your money back and choose a more efficient and customer-friendly service provider. But that is not an option for Jumbos living on campus who are only allowed the services of the sadly lackadaisical phone, Internet, and cable monopoly Tufts Connect. In past weeks when students were unable to use the services they had paid for in advance, including staples of life in the 20th century such as the telephone, they were not compensated in any way for their inconveniences, or even able to talk with a customer-service representative at times when the dismal service occurred.

While Tufts is saddled with a contract with Tufts Connect this is no excuse for the company to be so inefficient in providing all services paid for at all times. University administration claims that the contract with Tufts Connect was necessary to provide Internet service to all buildings on campus, making Tufts one of the "most wired" universities nationwide. But what good is the hype of these services if students find them inaccessible. When students have come to rely on e-mail to communicate with professors and classmates, the Internet as a research tool, and the telephone to contact other students who live off campus, the inadequate services provided by Tufts Connect are unacceptable. The company owes its customers an apology as well as a pro-rated refund. And the university owes its students enough respect not to use them as pawns to achieve a "wired" status more beneficial to Tufts' ratings than the students who continue to pay for it.

Breakfast Out?

Tufts truly lacks any form of school spirit. Unsurprisingly, the only time each year that the entire school comes together is not at Homecoming but at the Naked Quad Run and the following Midnight Pancake Breakfast in the dining halls. With the cancellation of the breakfast this year, Tufts has lost one of its last remaining traditions, one that it cannot afford to lose.

The food fight last year was certainly immature; however, other measures could have been taken to alleviate the problem. Tufts needs to hold onto as many of its traditions as possible. With so few left, each one means a lot to the students. Cancellation of a favorite event will force students seeking a good time to look off-campus: hardly a way to encourage happy college memories and instill in students a desire to give back to the university once they graduate. The university could have done something as simple as expanding the size or hours of the Pancake Breakfast to control crowds. At the very least it could have informed the shamefully rude event staff that students who are treated like junior high-schoolers tend to act like junior high-schoolers. But the tradition should remain.

License to Annoy

The business decision to license school emblems to outside vendors proves very profitable for many colleges. Major manufacturers purchase the emblem and use it on all sorts of items from golf balls to T-shirts. Last year alone, colleges pulled in more than \$2.5 billion from licensing contracts.

However, severe political problems are on the horizon. The labor used by many of these companies—which makes the goods affordable to consumers and profitable to the universities—is in the Third World. At the University of Wisconsin, more than 150 protestors stood outside and then invaded the campus bookstore. A group of independent outsiders have begun to visit other colleges nationwide to attempt to spur the same type of action.

Universities are looking into the problem and some are currently looking to institute ethics policies that their partners would have to follow. But still the activists are not content. What they fail to realize is that universities nation wide are looking to ease the cost for students, realizing the top priority of making education more affordable for Americans. Universities are in the business of educating, not appeasing Third World “proletarians.”

Foiled Flush

The latest liberal half-wit to give equal rights a bad name is Craig Yarde, president of Yarde Metals, a metals distribution firm in Connecticut. After observing the unisex bathrooms in the popular TV show *Ally McBeal*, Yarde decided to install the concept in the office of his own company. An admirer of the boob tube’s egalitarian bathrooms—which likely exist more as a plot device than a political statement—Yarde defended his decision by declaring all his employees equal and thus entitled to such equal treatment as unisex toilets. Construction of the unisex restrooms, consisting of six toilet stalls, a shared sink, but no urinals will begin next year. This scenario used by conservative women in the 1980s as an *argumentum ad absurdum* against the Equal Rights Amendment now threatens to become a reality.

Many of Yarde’s employees are upset, and for good reason. Fundamentally, the unisex bathrooms raise the issue of privacy. Forget the privacy of presidents, interns, and heavy breathing in the Oval Office: Yarde defies our culture’s customs regarding one of our simplest biological functions. His noble notion of gender equality has been misled by liberal idealism. There is no public outcry to eliminate the “separate but equal” bathrooms in this country. No



woman ever went into a lady’s room and felt oppressed by its lack of urinals. Yarde’s supporters, however, defend him by saying that we share bathrooms with the opposite sex in our homes. But at work people are surrounded by strangers. From the moment we graduate from diapers, the bathroom becomes the sacred sanctuary of privacy in the home, at school, and at the workplace. Segregation now, segregation tomorrow, segregation forever!

Does life imitate art? One of society’s oldest inquiries may never be solved. Do fools imitate TV? The decision of the Yarde Metals president easily answers this question.

The Power of Purchase

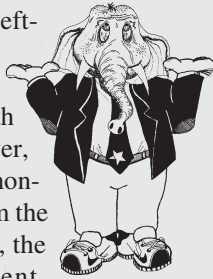
The FBI and the National Rifle Association are embroiled in a classic showdown. The problem focuses not on the Brady Law, an act that requires a federal background check on each individual purchaser of a handgun and rifle, but instead on the amount of time for which the FBI may hold the records of the check-up.

Recently, the NRA filed a federal lawsuit against the FBI in order to prevent them from keeping records on the instant background checks that one must go through when purchasing a firearm. The NRA sees this action as “a violation of federal law, an invasion of privacy” and an action that “constitutes an illegal national registration of gun owners.” It goes against the basis of gun ownership, not by forbidding people to buy guns but by infringing on the whole idea of owning a gun. (Previous leaders to support such a measure include Hitler and Stalin.) One must be suspicious of the FBI’s defense that it is a necessary part of the background check. Background checks are supposed to be instant, unobtrusive, and respectful of the purchaser, not a presumption of criminal guilt.

Fortnight in Review SM

☞ Second issue of left-wing newspaper *Submerge* hits the stands complete with a “Free Mumia” cover, thanks to generous monetary assistance from the **History** department, the **English** department, Dean **Walter Swap**, Dean **Bobbie Knable**, Prof. **Gerald Gill**, and others. Total amount of funds Tufts’ departments, deans, and professors have contributed to the **PRIMARY SOURCE** since 1982: **\$0.00**.... Articles of note include **Jen Dodge**’s take on The Rules: “If for some reason he [sexualizes you when you don’t want to be] and starts to escalate the situation, call in whatever arms are at hand— books, fists, guns, knives, or the cops if you don’t want to get your hands dirty.” What about the **five-day waiting period**?... Jen opens “Radical Feminist” manifesto by exhorting other chicks to “stop making yourself look like an idiot,” and then proceeds to make herself look like an idiot in a tirade against **Ally McBeal**: “Don’t you find it even the least bit suspect that everyone wants you to embrace an anorexic just because she’s a lawyer and a woman?” A sexy woman, that is.... Other *bon mots* occur in a story on “sexuality and racism” by “**Anonymous**,” who invites students to e-mail responses to “**gczarn01@emerald.tufts.edu**.” (Don’t finger him, kids.) Quoth **Anonymous**, “No white person in this country can escape being racist,” continuing, “Because I have a **Mapplethorpe** poster in my room and I lust after black d*ck, then I’m somehow free of prejudice and societal privilege? Like **Lauryn Hill** says, come again.”

☞ **Delta Tau Delta** suffers a massive penalty for selling tickets to an event where it served alcohol, something virtually every frat on campus does on a regular basis. (Oops, were we not supposed to say that?) Punishment issued by Kampus Komissar **Bruce Reitman** bans all alcohol from the DTD house “whether for personal consumption or that by guests” until May 31, 1999.... Sophomore **Brian**



Comedy is allied to Justice. —Aristophanes

PS We suspend our regularly scheduled Fortnight in Review to look back fondly on what made this past semester special.

PS Top Ten Fall Senate Accomplishments:

10. Preventing the SOURCE from printing all its issues... oh, wait...
9. Tufts Polls, in the tradition of Strike Commander and System 7
8. Threatening Josh Goldenberg with those photos so he’d resign
7. Funding all nine necessary poetry/short-story publications
6. Kweisi Mfume, Maulana Karenga, George Mitchell, and other fair, bipartisan speakers
5. Larry Harris’s affirmative-action Viewpoint
4. Mark Lipson’s “I’m So Pretty” Viewpoint
3. More board games for Oxfam Café
2. More students who give a damn about Oxfam Café— well, they tried
1. Fall Fest

PS Top Ten Surprises in the Upcoming *Star Wars* Prequel:

10. Spaceship mechanic Leo Schmelnikov changes his name to Han Solo after reading Jocelyn Elders’ autobiography
9. Darth Vader was a Democrat
8. Leftists of the future protest R2D2 because of Microsoft Internet Explorer built into his memory

7. Death Star malfunction all Tufts Connect’s fault

6. Luke Skywalker suspended from high school for using the Jedi mind trick to pick up girls

5. Young Yoda actually is Kermit the Frog

4. Years after TFA members stopped buying her albums, Tori Amos performs at teenage Chewbacca’s bar mitzvah

3. Andi Friedman beats young Jabba the Hutt in intergalactic pie-eating contest

2. Fur-raising NC-17 scene with C3PO and sixteen Ewoks

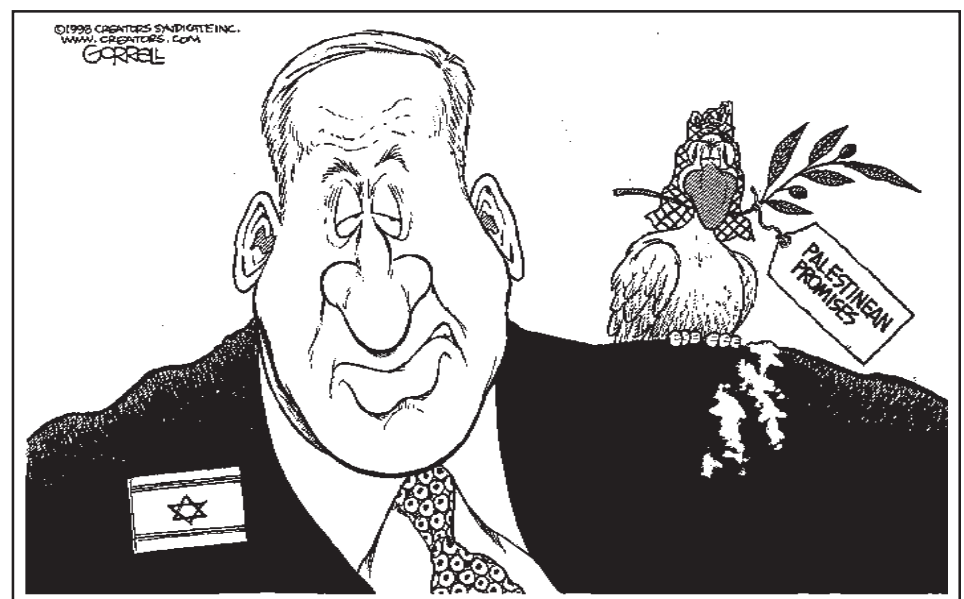
1. Ben Kenobi: gay as a pink tambourine

PS Top Ten Articles Rejected By *Submerge*:

10. “Tufts Republicans Get No Respect”
9. “The Wonders of Electrolysis”
8. “Senator Packwood: A Poetic Tribute”
7. “Liberté Pour Pee-Wee Herman”
6. “Do You Love Black People? Support the Flat Tax”
5. ZENITH Interview Series: “Larry Flynt, First Amendment Crusader”
4. “Jen Dodge’s Top Ten Pick-Up Lines”
3. “*Submerge* Movie Review: Jenna Jameson in *Busty Night Nurses 4*”
2. “Fry Mumia”
1. “Calista Flockhart’s Cooking Tips”

PS Top Ten Things You Did Instead of Seeing Kweisi Mfume Live:

10. Stayed in your dorm feeling guilty for being white



9. Still waiting for Run DMC to show up
8. Spent that evening making copies of your "Fastball Comes Alive at Dewick" bootleg
7. Glued to the tube watching videotapes of Kenneth Starr's testimony
6. Surfing the web, desperately trying to find a picture of a girl with a "unity"
5. Bumping and grinding with Julie Lee at Start House party
4. Submitting Larry Harris jokes to "Brian's Rumors Page"
3. Baking a cake with a file inside to send to Mumia Abu-Jamal
2. Watching pro-wrestling with Kweisi's chauffeurs and the governor of Minnesota
1. Didn't need to go, you've read the last fifty *Daily Viewpoints*

PS Top Ten Reasons We Cut Fortnight Last Issue:

10. It wasn't very nice
9. Too many damn Marion Barry jokes
8. Disruptive MAB Office shoot-out after intra-SOURCE gun control debate
7. Too busy cleaning up Capuano-movie-induced vomiting
6. Too busy cleaning up Capuano-induced vomiting
5. Coming to terms with our sexual identities
4. Cigars, fine wine, and porn
3. Titterton and Waldman got food poisoning and yakked all over campus
2. Comedy wasn't allied to justice
1. Extra page needed for article, "I. Rigoberta Norm Daniels"

PS Top Ten Reasons the Jumbos Lost the Homecoming Game:

10. Team had to look like America
9. No Field House, no play
8. Wide receiver mistaken for Tufts administrator by Capuano sharpshooter
7. Thought they were playing the Homcoming Game
6. The second string played both halves, starters were waiting on line for Outkast tix
5. Tight end protested the game because the football was made by Indonesian children
4. Running-back broke his ankle after tumbling off a TCU soapbox
3. Defensive line suffering from malnutrition due to an Oxfam Fast
2. Jen Dodge was the quarterback, and she throws like a girl
1. Students at the 25th best college in the country are too damn smart to play football

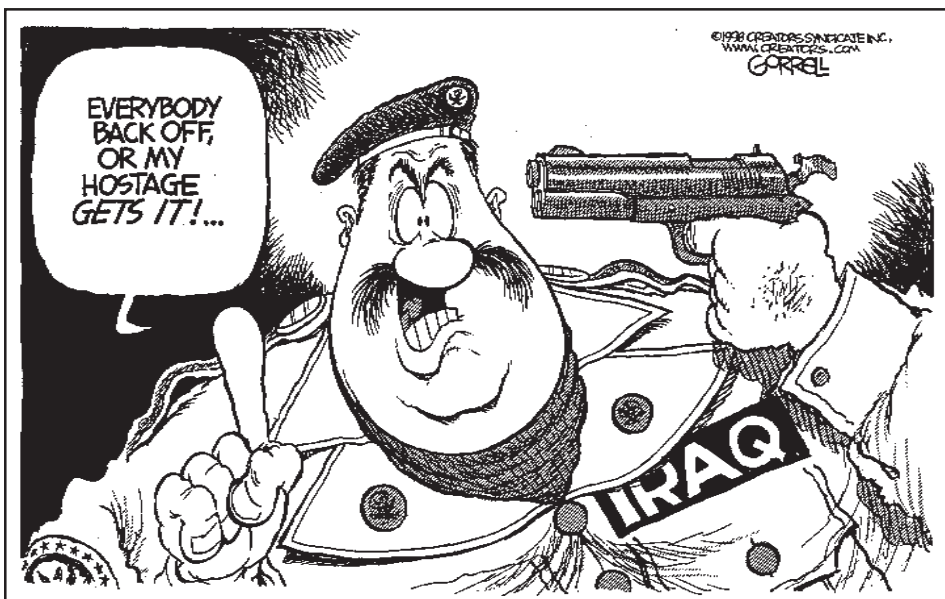
PS Top Ten Buzzwords by Which to Remember Fall '98:

10. "Mistakes were made"
9. "Apathy"
8. "Unity"
7. "Many Voices"
6. "Soapbox"
5. "Racism"
4. "I'm a rich white boy from Long Island"
3. "Ho Chi Minh"
2. "Bitch"
1. "Double Stuff"

Finkelstein puts up a **Jumbo Drudge Report**, "Brian's Rumors Daily," at <http://www.tufts.edu/~bfinkels/rumors/index.html>, featuring tidbits about when **Alex Shalom** went down to Georgia (for a protest against the military-industrial complex) and the time TCU treasurer **Larry Harris** went postal with a **VCR**. Shalom and *Daily* "acting editor" **Jason Cohen** discuss the prospect of legal action against Finkelstein for his *faux-DailyHTML*. Time to bone up on civics: look up USSC case *Skywalker v. Acuff-Rose Music* and suck it up... Business or pleasure? Neither: **Clinton/Gore** director of opposition research **Eric Berman** visits Tufts.

☞ Fresh from his speech at **National Coming Out Day**, new chaplain **Father David O'Leary** appears at a discussion about homosexuality and the **Catholic Church** and will be teaching a course this spring on "sexuality and religion," presumably in the **Experimental College**... Tufts' 1998-99 application for admission brags about esteemed campus lectures by listing **Margaret Thatcher** under "Other Cultural Events," then goes on to discuss campus media: "**Politica**, presenting a spectrum of opinion, and the **PRIMARY SOURCE**, submitting a conservative point of view, are published periodically throughout each semester." Number of years since the last issue of *Politica*: 6. Approximate number of **PRIMARY SOURCE** pages published "periodically" since the last issue of *Politica*: 1,528.... Students walking to class the morning of December 1 are greeted with the slogan, "Cover your willy" in celebration of **World AIDS Day**. **Health Services** hands out condoms on cue in the Campus Center— hope they're not expired this year.... Jumbos rejoice: Philosophy professor **Norman Daniels** will use a \$250,000 grant "to be freed from teaching duties for other research," according to the *Tufts Journal*. He will study (groan) health care, including such questions as, "Why should [private organizations] have the ability to affect our welfare in so many ways?" Better question: Why should Norman Daniels?

☞ The Elephant never forgets.



All hope is not yet dead, but who can save the Republican party?

The State of the Mess

by Craig Waldman

Those presently griping about the state of the Republican party don't understand is that there is much to be excited about. They see, however, the party continuing to dig itself into a hole from which it gets tougher each day to escape. The complete inactivity of the Congressional party over the last two years has created more harm than any other single factor. Republicans have passed almost no legislation and have been vocal about no issues. They must learn from the election that a quiet party that does nothing while in control will certainly falter in future elections.

Traditionally one Republican issue which attracts voters is tax cuts. However, with liberal Republicans trying to "save Social Security," the party failed to issue any tax cuts last year. Even with a tremendous budget surplus, the GOP did nothing but stall. If Republicans are to become active again, tax cuts are an important issue on which to focus. Nothing attracts the attention of voters better than offering greater freedom to spend their money as they wish. Likewise, Republicans failed to pounce upon the badly damaged state of the Presidency. Instead of rallying around a platform of family values and vocalizing the need for a role-model President, the GOP remained quiet and lost seats for it. Congressional Republicans should have jumped on Clinton's "photo-op foreign policy." Moreover, Clinton has reduced the size of America's armed forces and severely weakened its ability to defend the nation. He continues to fail in dealing with the world's most dangerous threats, from Saddam

Hussein to North Korea. The Republicans must once again make defense an issue of extreme importance.

But, even with all of the current problems, there is still some hope, especially in the enormous talent pool for the 2000 Presidential election. The Republican party can

look to make a comeback with such strong candidates as John Ashcroft, Steve Forbes, and George W. Bush. Ashcroft, a true conservative, has been extremely vocal over the last year. One of the first

to criticize and call for Clinton's resignation, Ashcroft has made himself into a champion of moral issues. He also realizes the need for America to continue building its defense while maintaining strong fiscal responsibility.

Former 1996 hopeful Steve Forbes is distinguishing himself as a viable candi-

date for the election. Originally hailed as a one-issue candidate, he has begun to speak publicly of his very conservative social philosophy. He openly stands for a renewal of family values as well as strong national defense forces; both issues make him very popular in the party. These conservative values coupled with his common-sense economics make him an excellent candidate for office.

Likewise, Texas Governor George W. Bush is positioning himself for a run at the presidency. Following in his father's footsteps, he is very much a moderate but still appeals to most of the party. He continues to crack down on violent criminals and make enormous spending cuts in his home state. However, his pro-choice stance and some other liberal social policies make him a tough bet with the more conservative members of the party. While these liberal tendencies may hinder his chances at the nomination, his moderate stances will very likely appeal to voters in the general election.

What the Republican party is in dire need of is a true leader; one much like Reagan who will set the conservative agenda for years to come. None of these great candidates will be able to do anything significant unless the party first puts some ideas on the table. They must begin to unite behind the central issues of fiscal responsibility, personal responsibility, and family values that got them elected in 1994. If the Republican party can accomplish this, it stands a good chance of picking up seats in both houses and regaining the Presidency. □

An issue which always attracts voters to the GOP is tax cuts. But with liberal Republicans trying to "save Social Security," they failed to fight for a single tax cut.

Mr. Waldman is a sophomore majoring in History.





'Twas the night before Kwanzaa, and all through the 'hood
 Not a person hung stockings, no menorahs there stood.
 The church bells were silent, the TV blared loud,
 In hopes that Maulana Karenga be proud.

Shopkeepers hung signs proclaiming, "Buy Black,"
 Instead of The Man hawking CIA crack.
 "No latkes," said Pop, "No yule logs," said Mama,
 "Only the flame in our plastic kanara."

Outside where Marion's hookers be hanging
 We heard a commotion with clatters and banging.
 Out to the streets I dashed in a flash
 In case Santa had brought me some presents or cash.

A man fat as Albert stood fixing his collar,
 But no reindeer stood, just tinted Impalas.
 "Who are you?" I asked. "Kwanzaa Kweisi," he said,
 And prepared to unravel a tale festive Red.



'Twas the Night Before Kwanzaa

"Christmas and Chanukah never include you.
 AmeriKKKa's holidays exist to exclude you."
 He continued and said, "Burn those dreidel pajamas!"
 "O Holy Night! The word is Ujamaa."

"Amidst all the season's gay spirit and cheer
 We scream our political message of fear.
 Co-op Economics, segregation for all,
 We be buying our own, so the white market falls."

"The United States is governed by racists
 Who hate us based simply on hues in our faces.
 There be no hope for changes, you see,
 Because now our own people shun equality."

"Kwanzaa is here, racism the reason
 That instead of embracing each other this season,
 We retreat to our enclaves, bid farewell to glee.
 Who'd pick religion o'er diversity?"

He sighed, then he said, "Young man, I must go,
 The holidays be racist, 'cause I said so."
 With a poof from my house Kwanzaa Kweisi was gone,
 In his place sat a book by my man, Farrakhan.





The Primary Source Presents

Larry Baby

sung to the tune of "Santa Baby"

Larry Baby, stick some funding under the tree, for me,
I'll be your sig-na-to-ry,
Larry Baby, and say you'll fund my buffer tonight.

Larry Baby, a category transfer will do, from you,
A Gnomon Copy form, too,
Larry Baby, and say you'll fund my buffer tonight.

Think about the TFA,
The SOURCE could use their budget better any day,
Optimus Prime could be oh-so-good,
If you'd throw that thousand-dollar cap away,
Boo doo bee doo.

Larry Honey, save some office hours for me, dearie,
For something bud-ge-ta-ry,
Larry Baby, and say you'll fund my buffer tonight.

Larry Cutie, my ALBO chair is being a pain, it's plain,
Co-sponsorship's down the drain,
Larry Cutie, and say you'll fund my buffer tonight.

Larry Baby, I need a patio, too, from you,
A soapbox simply won't do,
Larry Baby, and say you'll fund my buffer tonight.

Hearing Cornel West does it for me,
Kweisi Mfume's who I wanna see,
Fund some activists, and when we're through,
Maybe they'll make me an R.A. too,
Boo doo bee doo.

Larry Baby, I'm checking off my own Christmas list, I missed,
I need my own hyp-no-tist,
Larry Baby, and say you'll fund my buffer tonight.

Say you'll fund my buffer tonight.
Say you'll fund my buffer tonight.



Knable, Knable, Knable

sung to the tune of "Dreidel"

We have a Dean of Students
Who trumpets censorship.
To her the First Amendment
Is a smelly pile of <censored>

Oh, Knable, Knable, Knable
For you there's fighting words
We'd say them to your face
Except <censored> <censored>



O Double-Stuff

sung to the tune of "O Christmas Tree"

O Double-Stuff, O Double-Stuff,
Thy office hours amuse me.
O Double-Stuff, O Double-Stuff,
Thy policies confuse me.

Can we respect a president
When all his buffer funds are spent?
O Double-Stuff, O Double-Stuff,
Use the Force, be competent!

O Double-Stuff, O Double-Stuff,
You barely beat the Block of Wood.
O Double-Stuff, O Double-Stuff,
Is your intern any good?

Although you won, 'gainst Goldenbe
Your student "mandate" is absurd.
O Double-Stuff, O Double-Stuff,
The TCU flips you the bird.

nts: Christmas Carols 1998



Dreidel, Dreidel”



>
,
ds,
< censored >

Kissing Ass

sung to the tune of “Silver Bells”

Late-night phone calls, office hours,
“Can you read my rough draft?”
You’ve gotta do it for Dean’s List.

Flirt with TA’s, hit the Brown & Brew,
“Let me carry the projector.”
Make believe you think it’s enriching.

Shov’ling fast,
Kissing ass,
Actually listening in class.

Doing busy-work, unpaid internships,
“I just read your new book.”
Don’t think there’s a chance that they’re fooled.

Second drafts,
Kissing ass,
Anything for grade inflation.

They don’t care,
You don’t care,
But you must think of employment!

e”
g,

Starvin’ Around the Christmas Tree

sung to the tune of “Rockin’ around the Christmas Tree”

Starvin’ around the Christmas tree,
It’s an Oxfam holiday!
Hear the tummies rumbling merrily,
No food for you today!

Starvin’ around the Christmas tree,
It’s the Yuletide way to go,
Where ten percent get a catered meal,
And the rest sit on the flo’.

You might get, an oppressive feeling,
When you see,
UN-ICC-O on unemployment,
Pro-test-ing for our enjoyment!

Starvin’ around the Christmas tree,
Coalition’s on its way.
Struggling with diversity,
There’ll be no free speech today.

Starvin’ around the Christmas tree,
Feminists are up in arms
Protesting Ally McBeal,
And her anorexic charms.

Jumbo, you might feel a little guilty,
When you hear,
Sasha Baltins hits the ceiling,
Time to get in touch with feelings!

Starvin’ around the Christmas tree,
It’s a SETA holiday,
Oops! Minks died when we set them free,
But they’re better off that way.



Wore Christmas Carols

“Unknown,” the Racist White Oppressor
sung to the tune of “Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer”

You know Carver and Hitler and Disney and Dave Duke,
 Wallace and Thurmond and Rob Lee and Pat Buke,
 But do you recall
 The most oppressive whitey of all?



“Unknown,” the racist white oppressor
 Went to bum a Newport Light,
 But the smokes that Julie gave him
 Turned out to be un-Lucky Strikes.
 All of the other Jumbos
 Bought a soapbox to scratch an itch
 On which they can speak freely
 Unless they say, “Ho Chi Minh bitch.”



Patio, Patio, Patio
sung to the tune of “Let It Snow”

Oh, the cost of this thing is frightful,
 But an empty porch is so delightful,
 And since we got the extra dough,
 Patio, patio, patio.

At one commie workshop night,
 Reitman came to say,
 “‘Unknown,’ you ain’t safe at home,
 Next time try a free-speech zone.”
 Then how the lefties hooted,
 And shifted to a feelings mode.
 “Unknown,” the racist white oppressor
 Had to smoke an old speech code.

It doesn’t show signs of stopping
 Careless senate money-dropping.
 Attendance will be so low,
 Patio, patio, patio.

 We’ll level the Hotung floor,
 Give a few grand to Mfume—
 Although they never sang a chord,
 For Run DMC we’ll still pay.

The Twelve Days of Workshops
sung to the tune of “The Twelve Days of Christmas”

At the twelfth “Many Voices” workshop, Sasha gave to me:
 Twelve packs of Kleenex,
 Eleven Maoist thugs,
 Ten Trotskyite thugs,
 Nine interpretive dances,
 Eight songs by Tori,
 Seven Shalom Viewpoints,
 Six TMAV putzheads,
 Five fawning deans!
 Four rape whistles,
 Three pink tambourines,
 Two Mumia posters,
 And a “bipartisan” committee.

No one sits on the costly landing,
 But with another surplus handy,
 Where will all the money go?
 Patio, patio, patio.



“I’m a Minority of One”

THE PRIMARY SOURCE sits down with California quota-crusher Ward Connerly



THE ZENITH



INTERVIEWS

Last in a series.

THE PRIMARY SOURCE: Let’s introduce your work to our readers. Could you give us an overview of how you got involved in the movement to end affirmative action in California and what that movement was all about?

Ward Connerly: I’m on the Board of Regents of the University of California. I was appointed in 1993, and during my first year on the board I became chairman of the finance committee, which has jurisdiction over virtually all major issues of the board—including the issue of admissions. It shares that jurisdiction with the educational policy committee which I now chair.

I had a parent—two parents actually—who approached me and had rather compelling evidence that their son was being discriminated against in his application to the UC medical schools solely because he was white. I read the report, I met with the parents, and I approached the administration of the university and I asked them to confirm or deny whether the fact that this student was white entered into the admissions process. And they confirmed that indeed it did, but they rationalized that by saying that the university needed diversity.

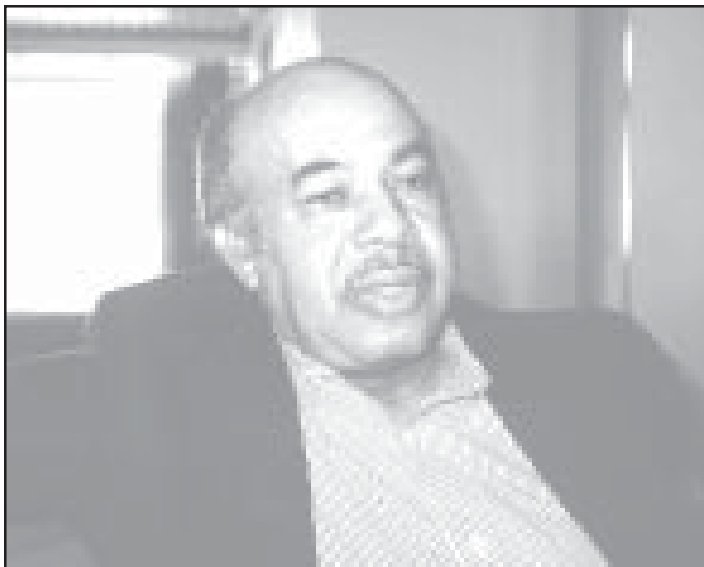
I felt that this was unconstitutional. We were not using race as the *Bakke* decision allowed, as one of many factors, but rather we were using race as the sole factor. And so I then told my colleagues on the Board of Regents that I was going to offer a resolution that would end the practices we were engaged in: racial discrimination against Asians and whites in preference to blacks and Latinos. That resolution I put forward in June of ’95—it was voted on on July 20 of ’95—and passed.

After that I became convinced that the pressures would continue to have the Regents rescind that resolution. [Proposition] 209 at that point was called the California Civil Rights Initiative and was gathering the signatures to go on the ballot for the November ’96 election—and it was in real trouble. It wasn’t gathering the signatures, they were unable to raise money, and it looked as if the initiative was never going to make it to the ballot. I was asked if I would take over the chairmanship of the campaign. I decided after a lot of agonizing that yes, I would. I got involved in that and got the initiative passed.

The initiative is really modeled after the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Thirty-seven words, very simple, very direct: “The state shall not discriminate against or grant preferential treatment to any individual or group on the basis of race, sex, color, ethnicity, or national origin in the operation of public employment, public education, or public contracting.” That’s it.

SOURCE: Has anyone ever charged you with deception for going about it that way rather than addressing affirmative action directly? I remember in Houston last year a race-preferences ban was on its way to victory until the mayor [Bob Lanier] re-wrote the proposal to read specifically that it would end

Ward Connerly was the chairman of the campaign for Proposition 209 in California. For THE PRIMARY SOURCE, Keith Levenberg is a senior majoring in Philosophy. For THE AMHERST SPECTATOR, Ross Cohen is a senior majoring in Economics.



SOURCE: It's only now the second year that UC is operating under Proposition 209, and the numbers are in, and of course there's a whole new debate about that. But there are stories floating around that suggest that even though race preferences are over, minority students are still being wooed with other forms of special treatment once they're in. Do you think that 209 will eventually be successful at ending the attitude that some students are more equal than others?

Connerly: I think we *have* changed the culture. It's one year since the passage of 209, but it's almost three years since the passage of my resolution which kicked in before 209 did at the university.



Implicit in your question is whether we have changed the culture of the university. Not totally. But I would say about 90 percent. They're constantly trying to come up with new ways to achieve through the back door what they're unable to achieve through the front door.

For example, there's a proposal to admit the top four percent of high school graduates from every high

“affirmative action”— and then it lost. Why did you choose to express 209 in the way that you did?

Connerly: That was the typical argument of the opposition: that we have somehow hoodwinked the American people by our refusal to “end affirmative action.” The courts have said that “affirmative action” is not a term of art. It means different things to different people. And the fact that the term was not included in 209, the courts in California ruled, was accurate. Because we weren't trying to end *all* affirmative action— we were ending racial preferences.

And the only way the opposition can prevail is by engaging in this Orwellian tactic of changing the language. And that's exactly what they did in the city of Houston. Polls show that about 80 percent of the American people oppose preferences, but when it comes to the term “affirmative action” there is maybe a 55 percent, 45 percent opposition to affirmative action because they don't understand what “affirmative action” means. They don't understand that it's in many cases a system of preferences. At the University of California we were giving black and Latino students bonus points. At San Diego the minute that you applied you automatically got 300 bonus points. There is no means test to that; there is nothing except you get the points by checking the box.

And that can be as much as 1500 bonus points in an 8000 point system. So it's a *profound* preference. And so 209 really was accurate and precise in its use of language, and the court validated that language. The opposition, however, realizes that they cannot win the argument by debating it the way we're debating it. They have to try to confuse people by using fuzzy terms like affirmative action. Affirmative action is not defined in statute. It can be any kind of program you want.

school to the University of California. But not all high schools are equal in terms of the product that they turn out. At my own high school, for example, where I graduated, you can be in the top 4 percent there and not even be in the top 20 percent at Bella Vista, which is a Sacramento high school. And so the whole idea of admitting the top 4 percent is just a devious way of trying to achieve, as I said, through the back door what racial-preference policies won't allow them to achieve through the front door.

But I think in the most part we have changed the culture. One of the things that we discovered is that there is a greater level of support among the faculty than there is opposition. Most of the support for these policies is coming from the administration, the deans of admissions, the multicultural centers, maybe Sociology professors. But the change there has caused a redistribution. Students who are UC-eligible, who in the past were getting into Berkeley and UCLA with the preference, are now applying to Riverside, Santa Cruz,

and Santa Barbara and getting in *without* the preference. In terms of actual numbers there has been a substantial decline in the number of what we call historically underrepresented minorities at Berkeley and UCLA. The numbers have just gone down dramatically. But that's because of the extent of the preference that we were giving. If somebody has a crutch, you kick off the crutch, they're going to fall. And that's precisely what's happened.

“We're here to admit the best. If you want us to admit more black, Latino, purple, green— you prepare them. When they come to the university we won't discriminate against anybody. We're not going to tinker with the system to effect some arbitrary outcome.”

We're now doing more legitimate outreach. We're going to high schools that we've never gone to before. We're calling attention to the deterioration in K through 12 and saying, "We're here to admit the best of those who apply. If you want us to admit more black, Latino, purple, green—you prepare them. When they come to the university we won't discriminate against anybody. But we're not going to tinker with the system and engineer it to try to effect some outcome that you arbitrarily define as diversity."

I think all of us need to get out of this box-checking business. I am seriously thinking about an initiative in California that would prevent the government from soliciting information about racial and ethnic classifications except for law enforcement and medical research, to stop asking about it. To the University of California, if I applied, I'd be a code 14. That's the classification they have, and they have about seventeen different classifications.

This is *stupid*. This is literally *stupid*. And the more the American people say, "We're not going to play this game," then at that point identity politics come unraveled. We start saying we're individuals. That's really what the business about inalienable rights is all about. We're individuals. And the more we do that, the more we say that, the more we practice that, the culture becomes changed.

SOURCE: What about other forms of preferences which some left-leaning moderates such as Jeffrey Rosen at the *New Republic* have suggested as a compromise between color-blind treatment and quotas— preferences for low-income students, and so on?

Connerly: Surrogates for race, proxies for race in some cases. I think that in a public institution if two students are equal: one has a 3.6, 1200 SAT, low income, and another has a 3.6, 1200 SAT, upper income, I'd give the preference to the lower-income student. That student has

in fact overcome some obstacle. That student has fewer choices than an upper-income student. But I evaluate the upper-income student the same as I would evaluate the lower-income student, because there might be something in there that would cause that bias, if you will, not to apply. The problem with what we've been doing up until now is that we've been giving the preference to the upper-income black student over the lower-income, higher-achieving Asian student. That's the irony of the whole thing.

But why do we create public institutions? We create them largely for those who economically can't do it on their own. If it

weren't for that, we wouldn't even need to be in the education business. So if you're looking at merit and you're looking at people overcoming obstacles, that's a valid condition for admissions people. I think there is something to be said for giving a tiebreaker to a student who comes from a lower socioeconomic income status. *But* you don't lower the standards. They have to earn it academically just like everybody else.

"If you look at Tufts' admissions application, at the bottom it'll say that the university does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, color. But it's a complete contradiction. It's just that when you're discriminating against a white or an Asian, that's called diversity."

SOURCE: The next battlefield in the debate is at private universities, which wouldn't be covered under anything like Proposition 209. They can discriminate if they want, and almost all of them choose to. Do you think we can be successful trying to dismantle race preferences in the private sector?

Connerly: I think you can. The first problem, though, is to really find out what's going on at the institutions. It's awfully hard to get reliable information, and most of the private institutions will tell you, "We don't engage in any kind of preferences." And you have no way of validating what they're telling you. Although I doubt that there's an institution in the nation that isn't engaged in some sort of preference. I'm just convinced that they are. Once you define the magnitude of the policy and what its effect is then that is going to suggest the response that you have for it. If they're giving bonus points then I think that you go after the bonus points. You demand that every student be treated equally. But you have to find out whether they're

giving bonus points.

The ultimate answer here is for the federal government to live out the true meaning of its creed, which is that it's not going to fund institutions that discriminate. Discrimination is whenever you treat any student differently. I'm sure if you look at Tufts' or Amherst's admissions application, at the bottom it'll probably say that the university does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, color.... *I know* it'll



say that. But it's a complete contradiction. Because they, in fact, *do* discriminate. It's just that when you're discriminating against a white or an Asian that's called diversity. If you're discriminating against a black or a Latino, then it's discrimination.

SOURCE: Is there anything in the works to tackle the issue nationally?

Connerly: We're trying to get Congress to adopt language that would essentially say that any time you treat an American citizen differently on the basis of race, sex, color, ethnicity, national origin, or religion, you are in fact discriminating. You can't have a different name for it and call it diversity: you are *discriminating*. If we just had the institutions do what they say they do— actually *listen* to their policies— this would all be moot. The fact is that they *lie*.

I don't think Congress will pass the bill, and certainly Clinton would veto it. But we have had two amendments that came up this year, one sponsored by Mitch McConnell, and it didn't pass— and it was *Republicans* who defeated it primarily: John McCain, Pete Dominici. A number of Republican senators defeated this initiative. We had a bill in the House that came up in connection with the transportation bill. That was defeated because 35 or 40 Republicans voted against it.

SOURCE: A lot of the national dialogue on this issue seems to be dominated by the sentiment that a color-blind society is somehow a racist position. You're a conservative, and you're black, and you've dedicated a good part of your career to fighting for this. What do you say to people who call your position a racist one?

Connerly: This is not an ideological issue. It is not a gender issue. It is not a racial issue. It is an *American* issue. And if you believe in the Declaration of Independence— all of us are created equal, we're endowed by our Creator with certain inalienable rights— then you cannot escape the notion that to treat any American differently because of some trait with which he's born is in fact un-American.

It is so clear to me that this issue is one that transcends all ideology. We have no choice but to treat each other as equals. This isn't a matter of conservatism or liberalism. It is fundamental to the nation. And I, for one, don't walk around with color on my sleeve. So it makes it easier for me to ignore the inane stupid comments that many hurl my way. I'm not a black conservative. I'm an

American citizen, who happens to be conservative, who is classified as black, who has Indian, Irish, African, and French ancestry. And I think of myself as a minority of one, just as you're a minority of one.

I don't belong to any group. You're not part of any group. I don't *want* you to belong to any group other than groups that you can choose to get out of and in— Republican, Rotary, whatever, those are

the kinds of groups that all Americans should belong to. But the day we start classifying ourselves along physical lines, then the whole American experiment comes unraveled. I don't think you wake up in the morning and say, "Well, let's get together as white guys."

And so that's the attitude I bring. I'm a minority of one, this is my nation, and I make my contributions. □

Tufts' social engineers present their scheme for racial justice— again.

Everyone's a Victim

by Jacob Halbrooks

A recent student/administration forum featured another series of demands for "racial justice" at Tufts. Among these were more funding to the African-American Center, campus-wide "distinctions between Asians and Asian-Americans," and, most importantly (and most predictably), increased enrollment of minorities. A theme common to forums held this year is the alleged injustice minorities endure, implemented by both cultural oppressors (whites) and an unsympathetic administration content with the status quo. As a result, vague and pointlessly symbolic solutions are suggested: a campus soapbox, a course on bigotry, more "tolerance" and "diversity," and of course, more forums.

Those who cry for social justice through higher minority enrollment choose to support quotas, bringing enrollment statistics to bear in their arguments. As a result, they often contradict their self-proclaimed philosophy of equal opportunity. The claim that the administration has not made enough efforts at "diversification" often accompanies the volley of statistics. The administration counters that it in fact

Mr. Halbrooks is a freshman who has not yet declared a major.

admits many blacks and minorities. Amidst the debate over questionable administrative efforts to admit more students of whatever color, one question comes to mind: "Who cares?" If the effort of the admissions process is to promote true equality of opportunity, race should not be listed on the application form at all. Although the administration claims not to enforce quotas, there is no question that being white is a

Amidst the debate over questionable administrative efforts to admit more students of whatever color, one question comes to mind: "Who cares?"

definite disadvantage when applying to schools. Even so, if quotas are not the issue, why would Director of Diversity Education and Affirmative Action Officer Margery Davies boast that "almost 50 percent of the hires for last year were people from underrepresented groups" in addition to 11 of the 19 faculty hires? Why would other administrators brag that 40 percent of admitted students are "students of color"? And why would activists bemoan that Tufts' black population only comprises 3.6% of the student body? If these people at the forum were not talking about quotas, what were they talking about?

Equality of opportunity is achieved by looking at each person as an individual and judging him based on his merit and character. Equality of outcomes, which many at Tufts seem to strive for, implies

There's no such thing as racial diversity, and it's a good thing, too.

Any Color You Like

by Jonathan Perle

quotas that judge a person based not on his merit but on his race. However, equality of outcome also entails the admission of individuals who are poorly matched to their schools, setting students up for failure. In "Mismatching Students for Dollars," Thomas Sowell writes, "Minority students with all the qualifications for success have been artificially turned into failures by being put into settings where the great majority of white students would also fail if they were admitted. However, white students who lack the rare qualifications to be in the thin top layer of high-pressure institutions are unlikely to be admitted to such places." Sowell proceeds to argue that institutions are hesitant to admit students based on merit because of government grants schools receive through their employment of affirmative action. Admitting a person into an institution for which he is unqualified hurts him, the student who would ordinarily have been admitted, and the system as a whole. The only beneficiaries are the universities who receive the grants and the social engineers who pushed the ideas through in the first place.

Part of their agenda is to facilitate the welfare mentality of being *given* status rather than earning it. The demands for minority recognition and funding from the administration fit this philosophy perfectly. An integral component of the welfare mentality is the treatment of everyone as a victim. So-called "open forums" on race issues seem to degenerate into everyone complaining about how they have been oppressed in some way. And while last month's forum featured activists complaining that white "oppressors" stereotype minorities by asking them to speak as representatives of their race, the latest forum featured Ramana Lee reading "a prepared statement relating the feelings of the Asian-American community on a number of campus issues."

Instead of viewing people as victimized members of oppressed groups, individual merit must prevail. However, this philosophy is counterproductive to one who wishes to manipulate people and statistics to fit his social schemas. In the way that the best regulator for the market is free trade and capitalism, the best regulator for equal opportunity is to look at someone as an autonomous individual. Treating everyone as a victim can only lead to more victimization. A person is bound only by his own ability and ambition. □

In a country that generally upholds the idea that the individual is as important as any group, affirmative-action programs are an aberration. They promote the idea that laws are simply made to pander to special interest groups. In a fair and just world, people are judged "not by the color of their skin but by the content of their character," as one crusader for equality once preached.

The best place to begin talking about affirmative action is with the issue of fairness. In a country which is supposed to ensure equality of opportunity— not equal outcomes— how can affirmative action be justified? By their very nature, affirmative-action programs are discriminatory. Both the college-admissions and job-hiring processes are zero-sum games. There exist only a limited number of spots in a freshman class and a limited number of jobs in a company. Giving an advantage to one group necessarily means crippling another.

That is not to say that advantages for more skilled people in certain areas should not be awarded. A college that gives an advantage to a skilled athlete, for example, is justified in doing so: an athlete works hard to achieve the status which will make him desirable to colleges. But to give an advantage to a student simply because he is black or Hispanic is wrong. These are not traits which a person creates for himself, such as high grades or athletic skills. A program which gives a person an advantage simply on the basis of race or gender certainly violates the spirit of the Constitution, and it is only because personal biases have affected Supreme Court rulings that affirma-

tive action does not also violate the letter of the law.

Then, of course, there is the problem of the double standard seen throughout the academic world, usually taking the shape of a racially segregated applicant pool. For instance, at Boalt Hall (UC Berkeley's law school), an applicant was turned down and received a note which read, "We can tell you that you are in the bottom half of the Asian waiting list."

Proponents of affirmative action have three main arguments for the use of affirmative action: it rights past wrongs, "diversity" is inherently valuable, and discrimination still exists. Each is fallacious. Most

Certainly differing viewpoints are valuable in the educational realm, but do we seek diversity of ideas or diversity of skin tones?

people penalized by race preferences are not responsible for the wrongs committed in the past. Indeed, affirmative-action programs that use this excuse ignore the fact that the majority of white Americans living in America now are descended from people who immigrated after slavery was abolished. Furthermore, the millions of white immigrants from places like Italy, Hungary, and Russia who came to America during the early part of the 20th century experienced discrimination themselves. It goes against every American principle to force the son to pay for the sins of his father.

The idea that diversity is a valuable educational tool is perhaps the strongest argument in support of affirmative action. Certainly differing viewpoints are valuable in the educational realm, but do we seek diversity of ideas or diversity of skin tones? The argument falls apart further in the business realm. Nobody argues that a team of programmers could write a better word processor, if only it were 10 percent black. That the presence of "institutional racism" justi-

Mr. Perle is a freshman majoring in Political Science.

fies affirmative action is even more erroneous: it presumes either that all non-minorities are racist or that even the non-racist members of the majority must pay for those who are.

Affirmative action is destructive both in theory and in practice. One of the best examples of the way in which affirmative action hurts the individual comes from Donald Werner, the headmaster of Westminster Preparatory School in Simsbury, Connecticut. Mr. Werner recounted the following story. "The University of California at Berkeley made decisions on two of our students, both Californians. Student A was ranked in the top third of his class, student B in the bottom third. Student A had college board scores totaling 1,290; student B's scores totaled 890. Student A had a record of good citizenship; student B was expelled this winter for breaking a series of major school rules. Student A was white; student B was black. Berkeley refused student A and accepted student B."

Paul Ware grew up poor in California. His father had brought the family there in the 1940s to try to gain a better life. Through blood and sweat Ware's father built a steel business, Fontana Steel which faced continual financial trouble during its early years. Eventually, the company grew to five hundred employees, including many second-generation workers. After the state's racial-quota laws kicked in during the 1980s, requiring one fifth of all contracts to go to women- or minority-owned companies, the company shrunk to a hundred and twenty-five employees. Ware lost countless jobs simply because he could not answer yes to the question of whether he was a MBE (Minority Business Enterprise) or a WBE (Woman Business Enterprise). A letter from the Kasler Corporation highlights his problem: "We appreciate your quote for furnishing and installing the rebar on the Chino Hills project.... Although your quote was low, we were unable to use it as we had to accept a higher price from a certified minority in order to meet Caltrans' requirements." Despite the fact that half of Ware's employees are minorities, the company floundered because Ware himself was white.

In the end, affirmative-action programs hurt so many people not because they are badly implemented but because they are unjust. As one Berkeley official said about racial preferences, "Merit is no longer the predominant factor in admissions." Thanks

to Proposition 209, Berkeley has cleaned up its act. If the rest of America is to live up to the same standard, programs that

favor one type of person over another solely on the basis of race must be abolished everywhere. □

Happy New Year. Time to start thinking about the Year 2000.

Late in the Millennium

by Jonathan Block

"We must be Paul Revere. We must tell everyone that Y2K is coming. But we must not be Chicken Little and tell them that the sky is falling."

—Sen. Robert Bennett (R-UT), Chairman of the Special Senate Committee on the Year 2000 Technology Problem

Despite reassurance from White House officials that the federal government is effectively tackling the Year 2000 computer glitch (Y2K problem), there is growing concern among both politicians and technology experts that the Clinton administration has woefully underestimated the effects of this potentially catastrophic problem. Despite the fact that come January 1, 2000, a significant portion of the nation's infrastructure could come to a halt, the

Mr. Block is a senior majoring in Political Science.

American public today continues to go about its everyday life, ignoring the potential dangers of not adequately dealing with Y2K.

The Y2K problem, also known as the millenium bug, is the result of a programming flaw. In the 1960s and 1970s, computer programmers, in an effort to save expensive memory space (memory capacity in early computers were minute compared to today's desktops), abbreviated the year in programming codes, listing only the last two digits of the year. For example, the year "1972" was entered as just "72." When the year 2000 rolls around, many computers will assume "00" means the year 1900, not 2000, causing computers to make critical miscalculations. Some computers may not be able to handle this "return to the past" and malfunction. Even more troubling, financial-data systems, air-traffic-control systems, and even traffic-light controls may crash at midnight, Jan. 1, 2000.



The problem is so serious that entrepreneurs have begun selling a "Y2K Survival Kit."

In an effort to deal with the potentially damaging effects of the Y2K problem, President Clinton earlier this year created the US Senate Special Committee on the Year 2000 Technology Problem. In the House, the Subcommittee on Government Management, Information, and Technology has been given the task of monitoring the Federal Government's progress in solving Y2K. Despite the fact that Clinton has repeatedly stated that the government's "mission-critical systems" will be Year 2000 compliant by March 30, 1999, the reality of the situation is quite different.

In the most recent report card on Year 2000 progress, issued by Rep. Stephen Horn (R-CA), Chairman of the Subcommittee on Government Management, Information, and Technology, the Executive Branch received an overall grade of D. As Horn wrote in a November 23 press release, "We estimate, at the current rate of progress, that nearly one-third of the Federal Government's mission-critical systems [systems which, if allowed to fail, would cause an organization to lose the ability to deliver services 'critical' to their stated 'mission.'] will not be Year 2000 compliant by the deadline established by the President of March 30, 1999. Federal systems need to be updated by this deadline to ensure sufficient testing of multiple systems. This deadline cannot be extended." In other words, there's no way the Clinton administration can fulfill its lofty promise.

Although some might argue that having 69% of government computer systems Y2K-free by next spring is sufficient, ponder this idea: While the Social Security Administration, Environmental Protection Agency, and Commerce Department are all expected to be complete by 1999, the Department of Defense, with 2,965 mission-critical systems, will not be fixed until sometime in 2001. Even worse is the State Department: their systems will not be 100% ready until the year 2034.

Consider what the repercussions would be if, on January 1, 2000, the Department of Defense could not access sensitive files because of a system failure. Imagine the number of individuals who might use the failure of the Defense Department to perform its duties for nefarious purposes. Similarly, what might happen if the US should become militarily involved without the full potential of the DOD while simultaneously dealing with the Y2K bug? Consider the opportunity that would arise for madmen

such as Saddam Hussein to take advantage of a crisis that will most certainly divert attention from foreign policy considerations.

For people who foolishly think that the concerns over Y2K are exaggerated, think again. Major General Edward Philbin, executive director of the National Guard, sees a crucial role for the military come midnight on December 31, 1999: "Considering the possibilities of a large-scale disruption of governmental, commercial, and other routine daily activities, it is certain that the National Guard will be among the first organizations to assist in the revitalization of the nation's computer dependent infrastructure."

The costs to fully fix Y2K are staggering, but well worth it and necessary. A recent report by the Arizona-based Gartner Research Group found that the costs to the global economy just to deal with the problem would be somewhere in the ballpark of

\$300 billion to \$600 billion. In the United States alone, the cost of Y2K to businesses could be \$119 billion. The Office of Management and Budget reports that costs to the federal government to fix the Y2K problem could be as much as \$3.9 billion. However, the OMB cautioned that its original estimate of \$3.9 billion could be as much as 90 percent off when other costs are factored in.

Over the summer, the New York Stock Exchange conducted a simulation to see how its computer system would react to the Y2K bug. Fortunately, the NYSE system passed its test with only a few minor problems. Most other major corporations have made their own systems Y2K compliant. Microsoft and other software manufacturers have done the same. It's time that the federal government address the Year 2000 problem with more urgency. If not, the beginning of the new millennium could be marred by a rocky start. □

*Thought you were safe from the thought
police just because speech codes are dead?*

First Amendment, R.I.P.

by Keith Levenberg

The First Amendment's enemies have struck again. Anyone who thinks speech codes no longer exist simply because Tufts' speech code is now called a "bigotry policy" can now consider the case of the anonymous student who bummed a cigarette off senior Julie Lee at a fraternity party and afterwards referred to her as "some f*cking Chinese Ho Chi Minh bitch" to a friend. The "incident" angered politically correct Jumbos to an extent one would normally associate with the discovery of crosses burning on the President's Lawn. Never before have so many been outraged so much over so little. Now, thanks to "mediation," the individual has been punished for his comment by the Dean of Students Office. His *faux pas*, noted Associate Dean Bruce Reitman, "bordered on the line between protected speech and ha-

rassment. We cannot and will not punish free speech, but we will pursue harassment."

The comment recalls Reitman's less careful assessments of Tufts' responsibility to protect the First Amendment during its speech-code days in the 1989-90 academic year. Explaining Tufts' policy limiting free speech, Reitman had stated, "There may be conflict between somebody's freedom to say what he or she wants and somebody's freedom not to have to hear whatever somebody happens to say.... We cannot support both of those extreme positions." He 'clarified' the conflict in a later statement of principle: "It's unconstitutional to say 'Fags Should Die.' It's not unconstitutional to post a sign that says 'Gays Spread AIDS.' The Constitution protects that. I don't know if I want to see Tufts protect that." For a good part of a semester it didn't. The policy outlined in the *Pachyderm* divided the campus into "free-speech zones" and "non-free-

*Mr. Levenberg is a senior majoring in
Philosophy.*

speech zones,” and Tufts only rescinded the policy after student protestors drew chalk boundaries all over campus identifying the zones and invited the media in. The university was humiliated. “The campus looked like Berlin in 1946,” report Alan Charles Kors and Harvey Silverglate in *The Shadow University*, their recent exposé of illiberal speech policies at American universities. The protest didn’t go smoothly, however. The *Daily’s* headline of September 14, 1989, read, “Police Interrupt Free Speech Protest.” One TUPD officer told free-speech advocates what he would do if one of them didn’t immediately remove the signs he’d posted: “I’ll lock him up.”

The old policy in the *Pachyderm* stated, “Slurs against a person’s racial, ethnic, religious background, or sexual orientation... are prohibited, whether uttered against an individual or members of the group, whether oral or written, so long as the possibility of their being heard or seen by members of the group was foreseeable.” The speech code reduced a Tufts education to something of a joke. In one instance, a student was disciplined for selling a humorous T-shirt on campus describing “why beer is better than women at Tufts.” On another occasion, a student called out the words “Hey, Aunt Jemima!” to a bandana-wearing friend only to discover that his greeting was considered racial harassment because a black girl walking by was incensed to hear it. The issue, Reitman claimed, was not whether “the student intended to offend the woman.” It didn’t matter whether the comment was directed at her or anyone else. “Panel members nevertheless decided that he still had no right to make his remark a public one by shouting out the window and not knowing who might hear it and be offended or hurt.”

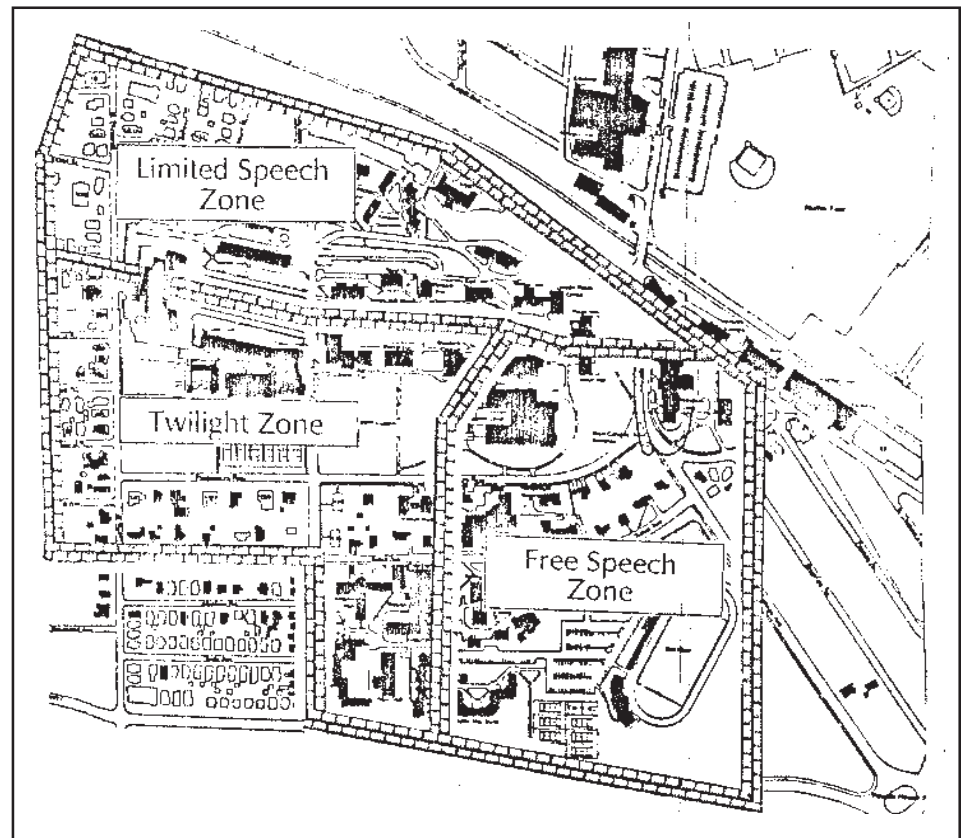
Fast forward to 1998. The student who made his tasteless (and incorrect, unless he intended Ho Chi Minh as a political stereotype rather than an ethnic one) comment to Julie Lee did not do so to her face. She had overheard the offending words spoken to another student. Nor did it occur in a public area, such as the academic quad or a classroom: the utterance was made on private property, in private company. The “philosophy” informing Reitman’s crackdown on free speech in 1989 continues to guide his enforcement of the bigotry policy now, even though the new incarnation purports to only ban “harassing” and “discriminating” behavior.

In the pamphlet outlining the policy, the Dean of Students Office defines harassment as “a range of behaviors, such as intimidation and verbal or physical assault, that have the goal of making an individual feel not only uncomfortable and unwanted but also *unsafe* in the community.” But it isn’t clear what could have put Julie Lee under the impression that she was in physical danger. Nothing in the offending seven words could be construed by any reasonable human being to constitute a *threat* of any kind, and no other words or actions were the subject of the disciplinary crusade against the offender. In fact, the idea that words and words alone can constitute harassment is a fairly new one. Following somebody home every day is harassment. Making prank phone calls at four o’clock in the morning is harassment. Seven tasteless words are not harassment.

And so it seems that Bruce Reitman is using the university’s bigotry policy to enforce the speech code from the *Pachyderm* which was supposedly abolished almost a decade ago. If Tufts had put some teeth into its subsequent refusal to limit free speech by

terminating the employ of Reitman and his superior, Dean Bobbie Knable, the other architect of the policy, things might be different now. Disgruntled students may wish to follow the lead of former PRIMARY SOURCE and Free Speech Movement member James Ellman, who filed harassment charges against the Dean of Students Office in 1989. He wasn’t joking. Perhaps the free-speech contingent of 1998 could convince Knable and Reitman to undergo First Amendment sensitivity training.

The outlook isn’t bright, however. The cigarette-borrower’s punishment included a session wherein he would explain himself to a number of Asian students who felt harassed, after which Julie Lee graciously declared, “I realized after speaking to him... that he’s human, too.” Another victory for “tolerance,” in whose name utterers of offending views are apparently reduced to a status less than human. Here’s hoping that nobody feels “harassed” by anything they read in THE PRIMARY SOURCE. It is in these pages that, as Chuck Marks penned in 1989, “Tufts new policy we bewail and bemoan / But only here in a free-speech zone.” □



When Knable and Reitman divided the campus into “free-speech zones” and “non-free-speech zones” in 1989, Tufts students responded with symbolic posters like the one above and marked off the boundaries with chalk and tape. “The campus looked like Berlin in 1946,” report Alan Charles Kors and Harvey Silverglate.

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NOTABLE AND QUOTABLE

Whenever I watch TV and see those poor starving kids all over the world, I can't help but cry. I mean I'd love to be skinny like that but not with all those flies and death and stuff.

—Mariah Carey

I'm not going to have some reporters pawing through our papers. We are the president.

—Hillary Clinton

The Internet is a great way to get on the Net.

—Bob Dole

Smoking kills. If you're killed, you've lost a very important part of your life.

—Brooke Shields

After finding no qualified candidates for the position of principal, the school board is extremely pleased to announce the appointment of David Steele to the post.

—Barrington, Rhode Island, Schools Superintendent Philip Streifer

If at first you don't succeed, try, try again, then quit and get tanked.

—Steve Dallas

Things are more like they are now than they ever were before.

—Dwight Eisenhower

I would not live forever, because we should not live forever, because if we were supposed to live forever, then we would live forever, but we cannot live forever, which is why I would not live forever.

—Miss Alabama 1994

If someone with a rural accent says, "I don't know anything about politics," zip up your pockets.

—Donald Rumsfeld

If the colleges were better, if they really had it, you would need to get the police at the gates to keep order in the intruding multitude.

—Ralph Waldo Emerson

Life does not cease to be funny when people die any more than it ceases to be serious when people laugh.

—George Bernard Shaw

Don't damn me when I speak a piece of mind, 'Cause silence isn't golden when I'm holding it inside.

—Axl Rose

If the people in a democracy are allowed to do so, they will vote away the freedoms which are essential to that democracy.

—Snell Putney

Man is by nature metaphysical and proud. He has gone so far as to think that the idealistic creations of his mind, which correspond to his feelings, also represent reality.

—Claude Bernard

Like the ski resort of girls looking for husbands and husbands looking for girls, the situation is not as symmetrical as it might seem.

—Alan McKay

If there are twelve clowns in a ring, you can jump in the middle and start reciting Shakespeare, but to the audience, you'll just be the thirteenth clown.

—Adam Walinsky

It's the opinion of some that crops could be grown on the moon. Which raises the fear that it may not be long before we're paying somebody not to.

—Franklin P. Jones

What inner force drove this first athlete? Your guess is as good as mine. Better, probably, because you haven't had four beers.

—Dave Barry

It doesn't matter what color your skin is. It's what color your skin is on the inside that counts.

—Beavis

One cannot make an omelette without breaking eggs— but it is amazing how many eggs one can break without making a decent omelette.

—Charles Issawi

Me-ism: A search by an individual, in the absence of training in the traditional religious tenets, to formulate a personally tailored religion by himself. Most frequently a mishmash of reincarnation, personal dialogue with a nebulously defined god figure, naturalism, and karmic eye-for-eye attitudes.

—Douglas Coupland

A big-legged woman ain't got no soul.

—Robert Plant

There is no refuge from confession but suicide, and suicide is confession.

—Daniel Webster

I've always had an interest in law. Well, pertaining to the money.

—Alex P. Keaton

This isn't right. This isn't even wrong.

—Wolfgang Pauli

America is too great for small dreams.

—Ronald Reagan

Liberals, but not conservatives, can get attention and acclaim for denouncing liberal policies that failed; and liberals will inevitably capture the ensuing agenda for "reform."

—John McClaughry

Men are apt to deceive themselves in big things, but they rarely do so in particulars.

—Niccolo Machiavelli

Personally, I hate sexual harassment laws. The original force behind them were disgruntled lesbians who felt they were not given the same opportunities— along with ugly women, who were jealous of pretty women who got all the breaks in the work force. My cause to action is simple: women are victims. They need special help. Look at the evolution of these sexual harassment laws. What we are really saying is women really should qualify under the Federal Disability Act. They are less able. They cannot cope with romance in the office. They cannot contend with having to do a job and have a man smile at them. It is too much. Look where we used to be, first *quid pro quo*, then hostile environment, and now *Seinfeld* episodes. Women can't take it; they bruise too easily. The laws are here to protect the weak and most vulnerable in society. *She is woman, protect her!*

—Richard Fish

Many might go to heaven with half the labor they go to hell.

—Ben Johnson

On soap operas all whites are in personal touch with (a) a doctor and (b) a lawyer.

—James L. Davis

Sex without love is an empty experience, but, as empty experiences go, it's one of the best.

—Woody Allen

Once a bitch, always a bitch.

—William Faulkner