

INSIDE:
O-K Toys
SOURCE Christmas Carols

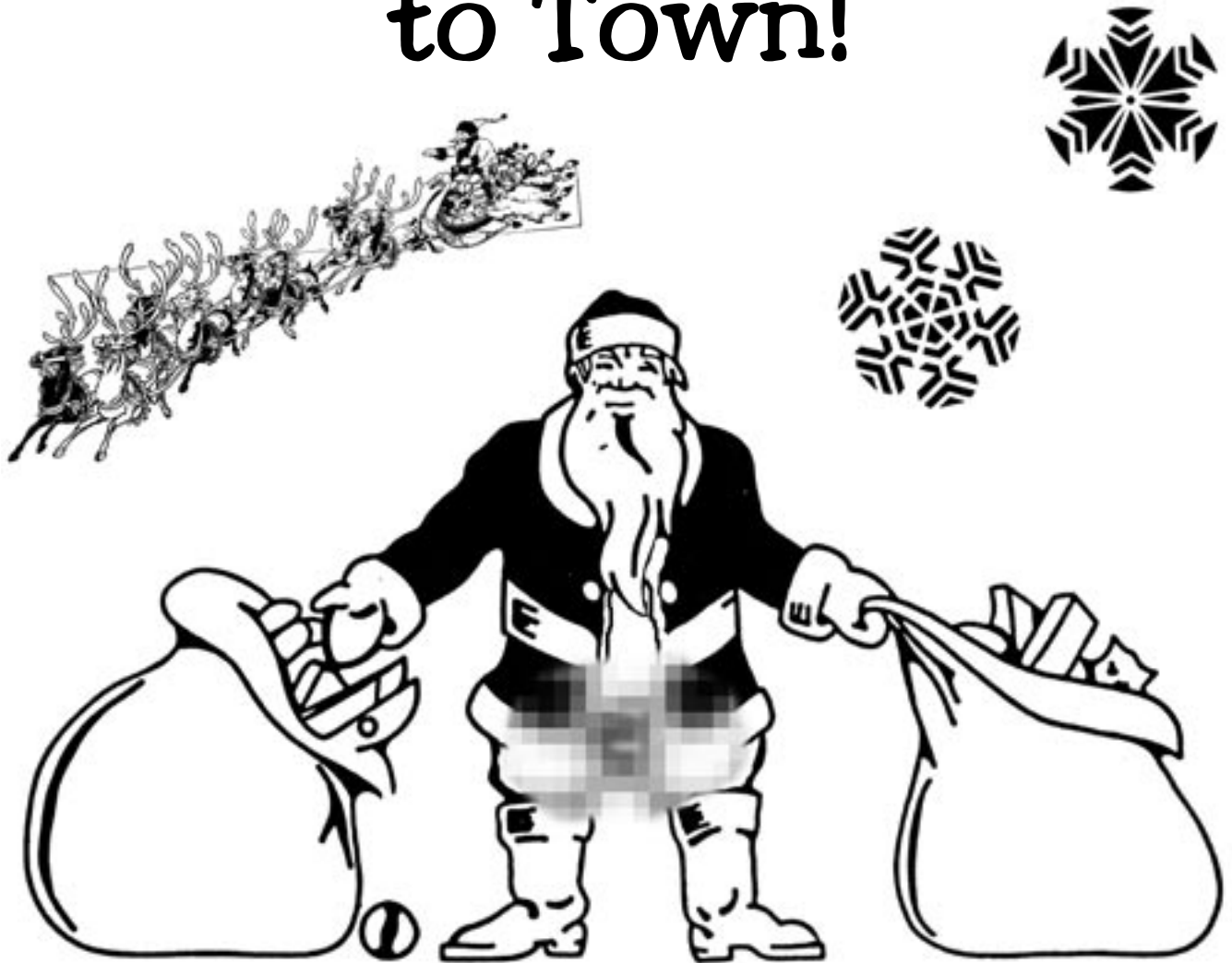
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THE PRIMARY SOURCE

VOL. XXII • THE JOURNAL OF CONSERVATIVE THOUGHT AT TUFTS UNIVERSITY • NO. 6

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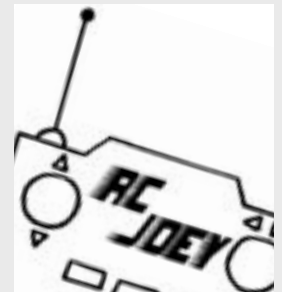
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Fa La La La La

Tis the season to be jolly. As you deck the halls this year, please enjoy our best attempts to brighten your Christmas with a group of six new SOURCE carols. Each year, SOURCERS gather to put a political twist on holiday's best songs. Despite the celebration of baby Jesus, the event is enjoyed by Christians, Jews, and atheists alike. For many, the true spirit of Christmas transcends the religious holiday, and is found with family and friends, alcohol, and most importantly, songs. As Buddy the Elf put it, "the best way to spread Christmas cheer is singing loud for all to hear."

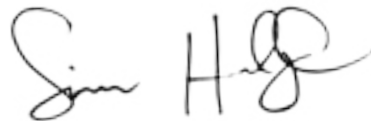
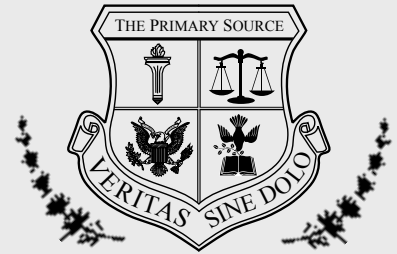
Another important aspect of the season is the focus on giving. Often leftists claim that the holiday is driven by greed and the evil capitalist machine. In fact, the increase in economic activity enables the increase in charitable activity. The Left bemoans the fact that such activity only happens once a year; their solution is to mandate the process. No doubt, some people need encouragement, but obligatory charity subverts the virtue and pleasure in giving.

Taxes are often justified through the parable of the tragedy of the commons. The theory goes that common goods are unlikely to be financed through an entirely free market structure. Government must intervene to ensure that the public has necessary assets like police, firemen, parks, and the MBTA. All too often, however, taxes are imposed to provide uncommon goods, specific funds for specific groups. Taxes are redistributed unevenly to target the poor; our government unfairly funds certain industries. The same is true of our own student government. Our taxes, known as the student activity fee, fund hundreds of student groups designed to benefit the student body as a whole. These groups, the SOURCE especially, donate vast amounts of time to improve student life. The TCUJ does its best to limit these groups to those who will actually provide a unique and viable service to students. By approving TRA and rejecting Tufts Bhangra Club, Queen's Head and

Artichoke, and Tufts Students for Dean, the J ensures that students' funds are put to good use and remain in the campus domain.

Last year, senators approved a bylaw that would also help to ensure that student funds were not co-opted for mandatory donations. Despite their best efforts, this year's senate managed to buy Chinatown students some Aztec rubbed chicken and vegan walnut brownies. While the senate mandates charity, they also devalue the public service student groups provide the campus. Chike Aguh's campaign promise of course credit for TCU group participation effectively suggests that the voluntary work of editors, dancers, LCSers, musicians, and others must be repaid on their transcript. SOURCERS have never asked for compensation for their efforts; the stolen issues, verbal abuse, and physical beatings are thanks enough.

Shortly following the celebration of Christmas, we will welcome in a new year. This transition also marks changes in the SOURCE leadership. I will step down as Editor-in-Chief and leave you all in the very capable hands of my successor, Brandon Balkind. Brandon has exhibited much dedication to the magazine this semester and he will no doubt continue our proud tradition of bringing you intelligent conservative arguments and provocative political satire. Filling his vacated role of Production Manager, Jordana Starr has rivaled all SOURCERS in her sheer enthusiasm and motivation to the magazine. Much too maligned TRA president Nicholas Boyd will become News Editor. His firm conservative stance on national and campus issues will surely be an asset to Brandon. I am certain this new staff will continue to battle valiantly for free speech, free thought and free markets, while volunteering their time and effort to improve our University, one issue at a time.

THE JOURNAL OF CONSERVATIVE
THOUGHT AT TUFTS UNIVERSITY

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Downtown to Chinatown

In last issue's "From THE ELEPHANTS' Mouth" section, it was printed that "Both the UCCPS and the senate will pay for Chinese high schoolers to eat Dewick stir fry." This sentence incorrectly states that the high school students are from China, whereas they are actually from Chinatown in Boston.

Missed the Bus

Last issue's article entitled "Bus Boys," incorrectly states that the GPS system for the Joey would require "several \$3,000 screens to display the shuttle's position." In fact, the GPS system would use existing flat screen televisions from around campus. The article also states that senators have not added shuttles during peak hours. This is incorrect; the shuttle increases in frequency during peak hours. Finally, to clarify: though the senate's advocating and pursuing the GPS system, it would be funded by the University's budget, not by TCU resources.

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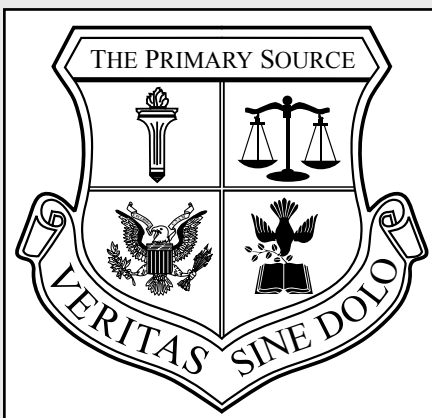
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Larry had a little SLAM

Like *Matrix*-style déjà vu, the Student Labor Action Movement (SLAM) is back. Although the SOURCE fondly remembers their line of protest apparel for Fall 2001, they would probably prefer to be remembered for negotiating a “living-wage” contract for Tufts’ custodial staff. SLAM worked out a deal with OneSource, the company Tufts hires to clean its facilities, that gradually raised workers’ wages from the original \$8/hour to \$11.45/hour by January 2004. The deal also granted family medical insurance to all full-time janitors and converted many part-time jobs to full-time jobs. The deal runs out in June 2004 when Tufts renegotiates its contract with OneSource. SLAM has reemerged to argue that the higher wages and benefits should be maintained and that part-time workers should receive family health insurance. By fighting for what they perceive as fairer wages, SLAM does the janitors, the University, and the students a disservice.

SLAM’s basic philosophy is rooted in the living wage campaign which purports to determine the minimum wage at which a person can support a family using the national poverty line and the cost of living in a given community. Were a living wage universally accepted, only two economic outcomes could result. Either many people would lose their jobs because a company would be unable to pay the same number of people with the same operating budget or inflation rates would rise because there would be more money in circulation. Very few Tufts janitors want to be fired so their co-workers can earn more money and even fewer would like to see the total value of their money drop.

Fortunately, in the real world, most employers do not abide by the living wage because they would soon be put out of business by the cheaper wares of their non-living-wage competitors. When Tufts renegotiates this spring, OneSource will be on the disadvantaged side of that equation. Because of SLAM, the cleaning company will have to depend on Tufts’ benevolence rather than its good business sense in order to

retain the Tufts contract. Tufts employed 200 janitors in 2001 when the previous agreement was made. As of January 2004, Tufts will be paying an additional \$690 every hour to those janitors in raw wages, and more in benefits and extra hours worked. Why would a cash-strapped institution like Tufts pay more money than it has to for clean bathrooms?

SLAM may be correct to point out that janitors cannot support a family on \$8 an hour. A janitor’s low wages should serve to motivate him to acquire a marketable skill and thereby improve his wages and benefits in a way that no negotiation can take away. Wage disparity is an indispensable part of a free economy; it is the motivation for workers to work hard, get trained, and strive to succeed. Students at this University do not attend merely for their intellectual benefit, they are driven by natural competition for wages. Tufts even makes the educational opportunities completely accessible for the custodial staff by offering free English-as-a-second-language classes on Saturdays.

The results of SLAM’s meddling is higher tuition for the students and job insecurity for janitors. If SLAM truly cares about the livelihood of the Tufts janitors, it should sponsor night classes in computer skills, car mechanics, or similar marketable skills to facilitate the janitors finding better jobs.

Johnnie Walker Black Sabbath

Massachusetts is finally starting to do away with its archaic Puritan Blue Laws, with Sunday alcohol sales prohibition as its first step. As an effort to stimulate the Commonwealth’s already slow economy, the Massachusetts legislature passed a bill to allow liquor stores to stay open seven days a week. Mitt Romney is expected to sign this bill, which will create more jobs and maximize profit.

This is not the first time the state has amended the Sunday liquor ban, recognizing the economic difficulties created by this faith-based law. In 1990, liquor stores near the New Hampshire border were granted permission to sell their goods on Sundays, and all stores were extended this privilege from Thanksgiving to New Years in order to prevent residents from deterring their purchasing to another state. The economic advantages in lifting this market control are clear—the fewer market restrictions there are, the more efficient that market becomes in providing consumer goods and increasing profit. Abolishing such restrictions on liquor sales results in better satisfying the demand for alcohol.

Some storeowners, however, have expressed displeasure towards this bill, citing staffing issues as well as competition from other stores. Their complaints merit little sympathy, however. As is the case for any other industry, those who can provide the best goods for their customers at the lowest price will succeed profit-wise. Competition is important in maintaining quality, and producers who cannot meet the requirements are displaced by producers who can. Failing businesses are an unavoidable part of a free-market economy. But this bill will open up so many job opportunities, liquor sellers whose businesses



must shut down will not have to look far for employment—it only makes sense that the more successful liquor stores would seek to hire those who already know the business.

Laws that suppress economic expansion cause more harm than good. In the case of the Sunday liquor-sales ban, the religious intent of the law—detering citizens from drinking on the Christian Sabbath—is entirely unnecessary in a secular democracy. Not only did this law violate the ideals of the separation of church and state, but it also caused a noticeable economic harm. The bill that recently passed through the legislature, essentially repealing this old law, is an appropriate step for both a secular state and a stronger economy.

Crazy Train

The MBTA has passed a resolution banning most forms of live music in subway stations. Beginning December 8, a prohibition of the use of electric keyboards and guitars, microphones, amplifiers, and wind instruments will be placed into effect. The MBTA reasons that this ban will prevent noise interference with important messages on the public address system. Additionally, the MBTA will begin charging the few remaining performers a \$25 annual fee to play their music.

If the only problem with musicians playing in the T stations is that they could potentially drown out PA announcements, there's a much better solution than simply banning most of the music that is currently played. Setting a maximum decibel level that musicians may not surpass offers a fair compromise for musicians and their listeners, while satisfying the MBTA's concerns. Rather than kicking musicians out of the subway and onto the streets, performers could simply turn down the volume knob on their amps or mics.

Live music performances in the subway have overwhelmingly positive effects. The subway is a cheap and convenient venue for musicians to share their art with the public, free of charge. Subway music has become a cultural perk for Boston, with much potential to attract tourism. New York City has already capitalized on this concept in the Metro by instituting their MTA Arts for Transit program, which promotes visual and performing arts through the Transit Poster Program, the Lightbox Project, Music Under New York (MUNY), and commissioned site-specific work. MTA officials consider having the arts underground as rehabilitation for the Metro stations to increase the attractiveness of transit facilities for customers. Any musician can audition

for MUNY every spring at Grand Central Terminal, and are judged by a panel of professionals who rate the quality, variety, and appropriateness of their music. Selected performers are required to go through an orientation program where they are briefed on the program's regulations and receive a MUNY banner to display where they perform. New York even holds special events for MUNY participants, such as theme concerts, multi-day festivals, and holiday occasions.

There is no reason why Boston's T system could not institute a similar program with just as much success. Certainly, Beantown is not lacking for musical talent—as home to Berkeley School of Music, the Boston Pops, legendary rockers Aerosmith, Boston has done quite well in producing talented musical artists. Fierce competition for a program

like New York's would ensure top quality entertainment for passengers, which would in turn provide an entertaining attraction to an otherwise smelly, drab ride.

Not only is the new ban unreasonable, but the MBTA has thrown performers out of the T stations on very short notice. Many subway musicians have grown to depend on the money they earn from tips and CD sales as a source of income. The \$25 fee imposed upon these artists seems somewhat extraneous—these artists are providing

a welcomed and free service to MBTA customers, at no cost to the MBTA.

The MBTA's music ban is hardly a thought-out "solution" to a relatively simple problem. Instead, it shuts out great opportunities for development and tourism and suppresses artistic contributions.



Comedy is allied to Justice.
—Aristophanes

PS A German confessed to killing and eating a willing victim in a case that could make legal history, telling a shocked courtroom the experience was “like taking communion” in a religious service, although he added that “Jesus is much tastier than that guy.”

- PS** Top ten captions for the picture to the right
10. This protester clearly missed a spot.
 9. Michael Jackson’s alternative to plastic surgery.
 8. European protesters were confused when they realized these patches had no nicotine in them.
 7. It was hardly the time to exfoliate.
 6. Unable to afford gas for their automobiles, London activists used their bumper stickers in a different way.
 5. The British often dress up in “whiteface.”
 4. Mummification has made a big comeback with teens.
 3. Tufts students have found a loophole in the facilities postering policy.
 2. The morning after a wild Crafts House party.
 1. Saddam’s latest disguise.



PS An old Kentucky law states that “No female shall appear in a bathing suit on any highway within this state unless she be escorted by at least two officers or unless she be armed with a club.” The law was amended with: “The provisions of this statute shall not apply to females weighing less than 90 pounds nor exceeding 200 pounds, nor shall it apply to female horses.” The legislature also tried to exclude female Senators from New York and a Clinton administration Attorney General, but the legislature was raided with tanks and set afire.

PS Al Sharpton recently appeared on Saturday Night Live, where he participated in a parody of Michael Jackson. Sharpton, who had previously supported Jackson, made jokes that were contrary to his previous stance. Sharpton reportedly “realized Michael was white” and stopped caring.



PS A German vicar inadvertently supplied his parish with dozens of hard-core porn films in an unsuccessful bid to teach people about the life of Christ. Undaunted, he said he was pressing ahead with the life of Christ video campaign. “It’s extremely successful,” he said, adding, “I plan on ordering 500 more copies of *Luke and Jesus: God In Man.*”

PS Dozens of naked Berlin students have braved freezing temperatures to streak through the center of the German capital to protest plans to cut some \$90 million in spending for Berlin’s three universities. This run differs greatly from Tufts’ Naked Quad Run, which showcases students’ small endowment rather than protests it.

PS Italian advertisers face tough challenges after parliament approved a new media law that bans the use of children under 14 years old in television advertising. Michael Jackson empathized with advertisers, saying, “I know just how they feel. It’s not sexual. It’s about love. It’s the sweetest thing in the world.”

PS Democratic presidential candidate Dennis Kucinich hasn’t found love yet. The twice-divorced Ohio congressman said on ABC television that he has been flooded with requests from women wanting to date him. Kucinich said that he “receives emails daily from hot young bisexual Asian twins who want to watch the Paris Hilton video with me.”

PS Recently, bloggers organized a “Google bomb” attack on Google’s page rank system, tricking it into returning President George W. Bush’s White House bio page when users search for the string “miserable failure.” President Bush has reportedly called for the removal of all weapons inspectors from Google’s offices and is planning a pre-emptive strike on the website.

PS A fossil crustacean whose scientific name means “swimmer with a large penis” is the earliest clear example of a male animal, British researchers reported. Found in Britain, the 425 million-year-old, unusually well-endowed ancestor of modern water fleas, is known to the scientific community as *Ronnus jeremias*.

- PS** Top ten captions for picture to the left
10. *Mommy Dearest* reopens next weekend.
 9. Rogaine or rug? You decide.
 8. Michael Jackson has been charged with driving while white, further confusing Al Sharpton.
 7. California has agreed on the format of its new illegal alien drivers’ licenses.
 6. Michael Jackson’s employee ID card from *Monsters, Inc.*
 5. Age: 45, Sex: With little boys.
 4. Remarkably, Jackson eats ice cream and candy all day, yet only weighs 120 lbs. How does he do it? He shows up to boys’ soccer practice every day.
 3. Michael Jackson mentally assesses the age of the photographer.
 2. Jackson was disappointed when his request to be tried as a minor was denied.
 1. Maybe he’s born with it—maybe its Maybelline.

PS The Wayne County sheriff says his deputies had a hard time finding eligible jurors for a murder trial after about half of the 150 jurors summoned for the case were excused. After thoroughly searching the local Dunkie's for unbiased jurors, they sent a desperate request to the sniper trial in Virginia for extra jurors.

PS County supervisors in Sacramento voted to establish no-protest zones outside abortion clinics. The ordinance would require protesters to stay outside a 20-foot radius from the entry of clinics in unincorporated areas. The buffer would also apply to doctors' offices where abortions are performed. Thousands of unborn dissenters have filled the county jail system as a result.

PS Thousands of fans rioted at Sierra Leone's national stadium when authorities substituted two local dwarf comedians for a widely anticipated out-of-town midget duo. In related news, many more experienced midget tossers are advertising services in Sierra Leone.

PS A panel charged with decreasing criminal activity recommended to the Oregon State Legislature that the state give less or no jail time for offenses such as breaking into a car or stealing property worth less than \$3,000. The panel also recommended changing the definition of murder to exclude people who kill other people.

PS Nicole Donkers was sentenced to three months of house arrest for violating child-restraint laws when a trucker saw her nursing her infant while driving 65 mph on the Ohio Turnpike. The arresting officer testified that "they don't call her Donkers for nothing. Whoa, mama!"

PS According to Dennis Kucinich's campaign website, the classic children's book icon, Grandfather Twilight, broke twenty years of silence to endorse the Congressman for President in 2004. Unfortunately, Twilight had confused Kucinich with one of his fairy tale friends, the communist elf.

PS Former Raymond Allen Gray Jr. legally changed his name last month to reflect his childhood nickname. His new name? Bubba Bubba Bubba. Much to Mr. Bubba's disappointment, the county limit for "Fabio" and "Optimus Prime" had already been met.

PS An Oregon State University poultry scientist thinks turkeys aren't really dumb. Said Tom Savage, a professor of Animal Science, "I've always viewed turkeys as smart animals with personality and character, and keen awareness of their surroundings," Savage then looked up and choked as he tried to swallow the falling raindrops.

From the Elephant's Mouth

☞ Stealing our thunder: The Monday before our last issue, the *Daily* ran their own parody issue, including a **crossword** without all the clues and charts instructing copyeditors to insert a title. They even incorrectly identified Tufts alum Bill Richardson. THE ELEPHANT IS **speechless**... The *Daily's* publisher reprinted Wednesday's front page last Thursday. Friday marked the only time you will ever see corrections make Page 1... Two Sukkahs were knocked over, causing a massive uproar on campus, even making *Daily* headlines—**one month later**...

☞ After the embarrassingly randy reception at Gifford House last December, President Bacow has planned a cleaner, safer, sexier orgy... er... Naked Quad Run. Beginning at 8pm, the carnival offers entertainment and food, including whipped cream, chocolate syrup, and **Sukkahs**...

☞ Anderson lost a handful of pricey overhead **projectors**. Townies prepared **PowerPoint** presentations arguing for a PILOT program, and set up big screen TVs for NQR videos...

☞ **Josh Belkin** complains about Alex Allen's article on the Joey's GPS. Belkin lost enthusiasm for the program when he discovered the buses would be equipped with **Goy Pride Seats**... Prediction: Bored senators propose a resolution opposing **Heisenberg's Uncertainty Principle**, asserting we can, in fact, know both the exact location and momentum of the Joey...

☞ Senator **Jeff Katzin** was a runner-up in the Mr. Jumbo competition. With any luck Patti Lee Klos will replace the Points machines in time for Jeff to wash his **lucky boxers** before next year's competition...

☞ Gender is a social construct, and facilities has ordered repairs: Oxfam Café has closed, and the University promises a newer, flashier eatery with **Fair Trade Coffee**, synthetic leather couches, and transgendered, vegan animal crackers... So-Lame: Fletcher students complain of undergrads occupying No-Name Café. THE ELEPHANT gives up all hope for **peace in the Middle East**...

☞ Tufts **enginerrds** gathered in Hotung to find out who had less of a life. SOURCER **Rob Chirwa** came in third. Cubs Manager Don Baylor explained that Chirwa lost because of the cold weather...

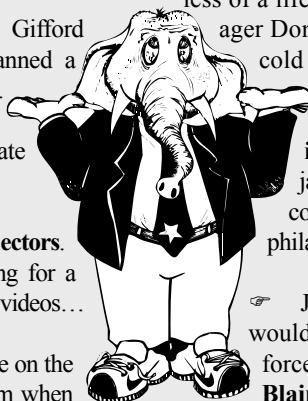
☞ Sigma Nu prez **Joe Cerra** was arrested for **taunting** TUPD officers. Cerra spent a rough night in the jail, but managed to avoid the **Sukkah**... He plans on converting his community service time into a house philanthropic event...

☞ Junior Jonathan Kruesi complained President Bush wouldn't meet with him in London. Kruesi was instead forced to spend Thanksgiving with a starving **David Blaine**, who held his breath until he got another helping of white meat...

☞ Matt Pohl **resigned** from the senate. THE ELEPHANT eagerly awaits an uncontested election to fill his seat...

☞ Sophomore **Mauricio Artinano** praises Costa Rica's **defenseless** state. Unfortunately for Mauricio, all their base are belong to US...

☞ THE ELEPHANT never forgets.



To the World, from Tufts, with Love.

Merry Marxist Christmas

by Robert Lichter

The holiday season has arrived, and national charities are asking for your money. As always, the United Way kicked off their annual campaign for cash at the Packers-Lions halftime show on Thanksgiving. Pop star Jessica Simpson, who doesn't know Chicken of the Sea is not *actually* chicken, told viewers to give to the United Way. One wonders if she knows what the organization does or can name even one charity it benefits.

Unfortunately, many Americans know as much about the end beneficiaries of their largess as Simpson does about tuna. After 9/11, when Americans became exceptionally generous, even the Red Cross was stockpiling for future use money that donors intended for WTC victims and families. Jesse Jackson's Rainbow Coalition used donations for hush money so he could father children on the sly. Donations made to large organizations are hard to track, and much may go to administrative or personal expenses.

Each year, we pay taxes to the government. I can only hope mine helped pay for the ammunition used against Uday and Qusay Hussein, rather than farm subsidies for rich absentee owners. In reality, however, I know that I paid for part of both, but will now pay less overall thanks to President Bush. (His tax cuts did not benefit only the wealthy, unless you define a married kindergarten teacher and a cop as the idle rich.) As college students investing in education, we look forward to well-paying jobs. If we do better than average, we'll pay a hefty sum; the top 50% of wage earners pay 96% of federal income taxes. Except for the very top, most of those 50% are people raising families and spending most of their earnings

Mr. Lichter is a senior majoring in Mechanical Engineering and Quantitative Economics.

on basic necessities. The problem arises when we decide that the wealthiest one percent don't "need" their wealth.

Liberals today pretend the wealth does not and never did belong to top earners. Tufts' Global Development and

Liberals want us to think money is only really ours when we "need" it.

Environment Institute research associate Brian Roach, told *The Christian Science Monitor* the wealthiest one percent "really don't need tax cuts

because they have been doing extremely well in recent years." Roach suggests that if their tax cuts were instead given to the other 99% of Americans, each household would get \$613.

Liberals want us to think money is only really ours when we "need" it. When I got my first paycheck from the local burger joint, I was disappointed to see the difference between earnings and take-home pay, but I quickly learned to factor Uncle Sam into my expected earnings. Thus, when Bush proposed tax cuts, the Democrats claimed that the money we *kept* was a gift. Nevertheless, as economist Walter Williams says, the money we earn belongs to us, and a government that demands money from one citizen to give to another citizen who has not earned that money is engaging in theft as much as the thief who takes someone's wallet. This policy of "robbing Peter to pay Paul" removes all meaning from the concept of charitable giving. Peter does not know Paul, nor does he care much about his welfare.



The TCU works like the federal tax system. At the beginning of the year Jumbos "voluntarily" pay an activities fee, which is distributed to all student clubs, and sometimes outside the university, or even to foreign countries. Senators voted to send \$800 in disaster relief to India three years ago. This year, the senate treated kids from Chinatown to a Dewick meal, never mind that "treat" and "Dewick" don't belong in the same sentence. Also, senators conceal the fact that neither of these are Tufts *student* activities. What matters is that student leaders have the money; it is no longer yours.

Last Spring, the TCU senate passed a bylaw preventing student groups from giving student activities money to charity. This news, however, was not well received by the Leonard Carmichael Society (LCS). In the past, with a semi-formal fully funded in their budget, LCS donated ticket revenue to charity. Without the enforced charity, donations dropped dramatically. It is sad to see that Tufts students are not as generous as suggested by LCS's past proceeds, but at least we're no longer hiding that fact.

The Student Labor Action Movement (SLAM) wants to enforce more forced charity. Two years ago, SLAM demanded Tufts increase wages for OneSource janitors. Now SLAMmers are telling Tufts administrators that *you* want to offer more money to overpay a cleaning staff in the upcoming OneSource contract negotiations. Before we know it, the janitors will make more than many recent Tufts grads, and they'll still be "underpaid." While students are unlikely to leave Walnut Hill because of the subsequent tuition increase (so much for need-blind admission), they will not feel any better because the janitors are earning more.

From Washington to Medford, the virtue of charity has been degraded. By adding the middleman, donors are far removed from the recipients.

SLAM and LCS have good intentions, but must remember to give of themselves, not be the middlemen relying on the tuition or student activities money of others to fund their charitable causes. It is only by promoting charity on a personal level that we strengthen our social infrastructure. ■

The Primary Source

PRESENTS

T'was the Night Before Quad Run

T'was the Night Before Quad Run
But Tufts had no cheer,
For from Lewis to Miller
The kids had no beer.
No parties, no hook-ups,
No hangovers to fight.
Nary a drop of Red Dog,
Busch, or Natty Light.

No Nightrain to catch,
No Mad Dogs to tame.
No frats to go to
Has left the party scene lame
No Keystones or Sammys,
No High Lives or Buds.
Jumbos tasted nothing
Of these life-giving suds.



Frat brothers punished
With "double secret" probation.
Naked drunks outside West,
At Bacow's location;
A Nighttime Reception,
With "The Swinging Johnsons,"
Newsom's Special Olympians,
And snow from Wisconsin.

So the night finally came
When naked revelers dash,
But from my dorm room window
There came a loud crash.
I put down my pipe,
And with a hard, bloodshot gaze,
I saw Santa emerge
From the cold snowy haze.

He said, "I bring cheer not
With gifts, nor carols.
But I've loaded my sleigh
With forties and half-barrels.
A keg in each hallway
Every lounge, every suite.
Invite the RA, the proctor
And the cops on the beat.

"For this is the season
Of celebration divine!
So put down your homework
And raise high your stein!"
Santa heaved from his sleigh
A keg of Genuine Draft.
I screwed in the tap.
The keg hissed—Santa laughed.



"The deans who stole Christmas—
They should know their role!
I'll fill all their stockings
With large lumps of coal."
And before Old Saint Nick
Left with his bounty of beers,
We cracked open some cold ones,
And to Tufts toasted "Cheers!"



Christmas Carols

GPS

Sung to the tune of "Jingle Bells"

Dashing through the quad
On the way to Davis Square
Gonna blow a wad
Of cash while shopping there

But Joey's never here
He's nearly always late
Can't somebody tell us please
How long we'll have to wait?

Oh, GPS, GPS
Though you cost a lot
Wasteful spending gets approved
More often than it's not

But GPS, GPS
Is needed 'cause it makes
The drivers do their job instead
Of frequent smoking breaks



Token Mi-no-ri-ty

Sung to the tune of "The little Drummer Boy"

Token Mi-no-ri-ty,
Pa rum pum pum pum
Admitted easily,
Pa rum pum pum pum
Give us diversity,
Pa rum pum pum pum
To Hell with unity,
Ba rum pum pum pum, rum pum
pum pum, rum pum pum pum.

Poor white engineer,
Pa rum pum pum pum
You are not welcome here,
Pa rum pum pum pum
Unless you say you're queer,
Pa rum pum pum pum
Your special housing's near,
Ba rum pum pum pum, rum pum
pum pum, rum pum pum pum.

Token Minority
Pa rum pum pum pum
Won't you please come?

Twelve Days of Christmas

On the twelfth day of Christmas,
The right wing gave to me:
Twelve Hummers gas-guzzling,
Eleven snipers sniping,
Ten tons of MOAB,
Nine strippers stripping,
Eight maids a-cleaning,
Seven fawns for eating,
Six police a-beating,
Five hundred bucks,
Four million free Kurds,
Three Mont Blanc pens,
Two sons of Saddam,
And a cartridge in an UZI!

Fab Five, the Gay Men

Sung to the tune of "Frosty the Snowman"

Fab Five, the gay men, were a jolly trendy bunch
With a Prada bag and a cashmere blouse and calls of "Let's do brunch."
Fab Five, the gay men, lived up to the clichés.
Overacting for the show,
But the straight schlubs know
That they saved their lives one day.

The aloe-vera face cream makes your complexion glow bright
And after Memorial Day your shoes better be pure white!

Oooh, Fab Five, the gay men, were as super as can be,
And their fabulous decoration skills are far better than you or me.

Hark! The Campus Liberals Sing

Sung to the tune of "Hark the Herald Angel Sing"

Hark! The campus liberals sing,
"Let's bring down the Tufts right wing!
If we don't stop them they'll run wild,
So we'll kill their unborn child!
We'll ensure they'll hear our cries
And swear by the *Daily's* lies.
On the J we'll place the blame,
Because we leftists have no shame!"
Hark! The campus liberals sing,
"Republicans will feel our sting!"

Can't you hear their tired roar
As they still protest the war?
They really gave Tufts men a fright
When *womyn* took back the night!
You too can SLAM the bourgeoisie
With your quarter-million buck degree!
Fair Trade Coffee's great to sell
If you don't much mind the smell.
Hark! The campus liberals sing,
"Bathing's not really our thing."



Thumpety hump rump
Thumpety hump rump
Stripes with plaid, no go....
Thumpety hump rump
Thumpety hump rump
At being gay they're pro!



Barrel of Diverse Monkeys

Free these chimps from their barrel of white oppression! Now in multi-cultural technicolor!



~~\$8.88~~



O-K Toys

Naked Quad Bacow

This hunky action-figure bares it all, Tufts-style. With special "endowment raising" action!



69¢

Trustees sold separately.



Tufts Daily

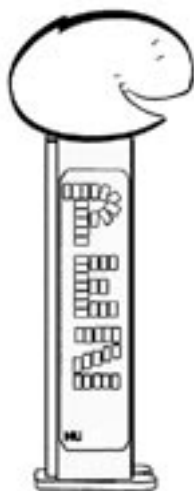
Speak 'n Spell

~~\$95.32~~

You'll never spel the same weigh twice!

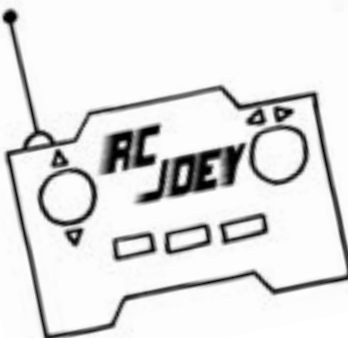
Zoloft

Pez Dispenser



Chronic over-diagnosing got you down? Now you, too, can devour anti-depressants like candy!

Free from Health Services



Who needs a GPS when you can remote-control the Joey right to your front door?

RC Joey

~~\$38,000~~



The TCU senate misappropriates our student activities fee.

Fee-feeding Chinatown

by Jordana Starr

Every year, each Tufts undergrad is required to pay a mandatory student activity fee, currently \$216, which is allocated to various campus student groups within the Tufts Community Union. Historically, student activity fees were established in colleges and universities as a means to provide funding for co-curricular activities, which were not otherwise covered by tuition. The presence of athletic organizations, publications, performance groups, competitive academic teams, service organizations, and other student groups unquestionably contribute to the overall quality of

student life. But when the student activity fee designated to support these organizations is spent outside the TCU—that is, on projects that do not directly benefit Tufts undergrads—the money taken from students' pockets becomes a forced donation to another community.

Last year, the TCU senate approved a bylaw that essentially prevents student groups (read: the Leonard Carmichael Society) from charging admission to events where proceeds go to charity. The exact wording of this bylaw reads, "Any organization which does not budget income for an event may not sell tickets or charge money in exchange for admission to the event." The intent behind this rule is to prevent abuse of the student activity fee; for example, students pay LCS to organize and hold their annual semi-formal, and it is unfair to charge an additional admission fee in order to donate funds to charity. The senate deemed the allocation of student

Miss Starr is a sophomore who is majoring in Political Science and Philosophy.

funds to charity impermissible because the student activity fee is designed to serve the student body, not create a means for outside groups to receive donations.

At the November 16 senate meeting this year, however, the TCU senate did just that. By voting to cosponsor the

Although the providing of free Dewick stir-fry to these students is permissible if funded by University departments, the TCU budget cannot be applied to programs that extend beyond the scope of the immediate Tufts community.

UCCPS Building Bridges program, a portion of the student activity fee was granted to a charitable departmental project. As part of this project, high school students from Chinatown were brought to the Tufts campus to participate in a number of activities planned

by UCCPS. When UCCPS requested cosponsorship from the TCU senate, the department indicated in its letter that the funds would go to provide dining hall lunches for each of the non-Tufts students participating in the event. Although the providing of free Dewick stir-fry to these students is permissible if funded by University departments, the TCU budget cannot be applied to programs that extend beyond the scope of the immediate Tufts community. Doing so would be a violation of Tufts' students reasonable expectation that their activities fees will somehow come back to benefit them, as well as breaking the spirit of the by-law passed last year.

Additionally, the ALBO by-laws as stipulated by the Office of Student Activities state, "meals provided for students using

student activities fee funds must be net to zero, whether the income comes from student payments or meal plans. Exceptions may be made by the Treasury on an individual basis for certain meals such as those held on retreats or student/faculty dinners." If it is not permissible to extend the student activities fee to provide meals for Tufts students, then it is certainly beyond the scope of the student activities fee to fund meals for students who are not a part of the Tufts community.

During the discussion as to whether or not to cosponsor the Building Bridges program, a number of senators pointed out that it was beyond their jurisdiction to appropriate student activity funds to cover the cost of meals for non-TCU members. Another senator noted that the TCU treasury funds Halloween on the Hill and Kids Day, both of which are service-based projects. The inherent difference between these projects and giving non-Tufts students a free lunch is that Halloween on the Hill and Kids Day are student activities; Tufts students use the materials purchased by the student activity fee to serve children from our surrounding communities. Tufts participants do not, for example, buy arts and crafts supplies to hand out to the children, but rather, sit down with these kids to create projects together. Without the funds to pay for these required materials, the mission of these activities could not be fulfilled. Giving a group of high school students a meal card to swipe at Dewick, however, is not an integral part of the aim of Building Bridges, but rather a free give-away that UCCPS would like to offer with the invitation to come to Tufts. Even if Building Bridges was entirely centered around providing free food to students outside the Tufts community, it is not up to the discretion of the TCU senate to allocate student activity funds to provide for this program.

The allocations bylaw is a responsible measure to protect Tufts students. It is not meant to prevent students from giving to charity, just prevent forced donations. The free lunch may benefit the Building Bridges program and the students may really enjoy their chicken grilla, but charity is voluntary. There is no such thing as a free lunch. ■



Is the ruling of the Commonwealth's court a turning point?

Peter, Paul Married

by Brandon Balkind

The Commonwealth took center stage in the drama of national affairs last month, when the state's supreme court effectively ended prohibition of homosexual marriage. While the gay rights lobby has raised its sword in triumph, the issue remains. The population-at-large is not opposed to some form of gay civil union, but many in the state fear the destruction of the traditional definition of marriage. The religious movement is definitely a source of dissent, but the preservation of marriage is something that concerns the secular masses as well.

In the controversial ruling of the Massachusetts Supreme Court, the justices chose to ignore thousands of years of unwritten precedent and the traditional definition of marriage. The Massachusetts legislature is now charged with a difficult decision between increasing individual liberty and reinforcing traditional social norms.

The effects of the court's ruling are not confined to the Commonwealth, however. Other states that do not have explicit definitions of marriage in their constitutions will see similar cases, in what is forecasted to be a countrywide "domino effect." It is expected that the Massachusetts state legislature will follow the precedent of the Federal Defense of Marriage Act, and will try to define marriage in legal terms as a union between man and woman. In the case of Massachusetts, this must be done through a constitutional amendment—a process that takes years.

The gay lobby asserts that "equal protection" of the 14th Amendment affords them the right to marry under the premise that the government cannot limit their right to life, liberty, and pursuit of

justice. This is certainly not the case. The government has enacted policy that limits or even punishes citizens who are not directly infringing on others' rights. For example, drunk driving is a misdemeanor in many states. Drunk driving alone does

Gays cannot achieve general acceptance through a court decision or amendment.

not infringe on the rights of other citizens. Using illicit drugs and gambling are all potential "pursuits of liberty," but have been made illegal in many states. It is not these acts alone that the state seeks to avoid, rather it is the social ramifications of these acts. If the state feels there are negative social consequences to granting gays marriage rights, it has already shown that it has the authority to make that behavior, among others, illegal. The people, through the government, could even outlaw recognition of traditional marriage if they felt it was detrimental to society.

Instead, the US government, with varying degrees of effort, has actively protected the family unit for years. The gay rights lobby purports that a dysfunctional traditional family unit would be much worse than a homosexual family. There is no evidence to support this, as homosexual families have never substantially existed in America. In fact, homosexual family units may be inherently dysfunctional from the perspective of the child. Having a sexuality that differs from one's parents/offspring is statistically a major source of friction in families—sometimes even leading to suicide. Given that most children are born heterosexual, the likelihood of creating a family conflict is very high for gay couples that seek to adopt. Of course, this assumes that sexuality is genetic.

Though men and women are ultimately responsible for raising their own children in a suitable manner, the state should not be obligated to grant equal adoption rights

until the effects of homosexual parenting are more fully understood. The protection of the family and children is the primary motive of conservative opposition to gay adoption rights. The children of America should not be guinea pigs in this generation's newest social experiment.

On the other side, it is important to recognize the potential positive effects of allowing gay civil unions. By allowing more Americans greater freedom to achieve happiness and by giving them equality in many social situations (such as hospital visits, etc), society as a whole will benefit. Where there is no detriment to society, gay rights should be advanced so that America can continue to be a beacon of freedom in the world.

Granting the right of civil union to gays has been on the table for the past few years. By hijacking the gay rights movement, liberals have pushed their agenda and delayed progress for just as long. Americans, as a whole are not interested in questioning their sexuality, nor do they want to confuse their children. Liberals have made the issue into a broad counter-culture movement. Civil unions might have been old news if the Left was not simultaneously pushing for the destruction of traditional marriage.

Gays cannot achieve general acceptance through a court decision or amendment. They must prove they are willing to accept and coexist with the long-standing, cherished traditions of American society. Homosexual behavior is different from heterosexual behavior and it is unnatural for society to ignore this. Civil unions allow for differences while they greatly increase the ability of gays to pursue happiness. There is no reason, however, to define heterosexual marriage and gay civil unions in the same manner. So long as citizens' behavior differ, the government may respond to them in different ways. ■



Rosie wishes she lived in MA.

Mr. Balkind is a junior who is majoring in Computer Engineering.

For Tufts undergrads, good advice is hard to find.

The Pitfalls of Advising

by Tara Heumann

Tufts' incredibly demanding set of requirements is meant to enrich the undergraduate experience and encourage students to study across a broad spectrum of disciplines. Accompanying the tremendous number of major and distribution requirements, however, are responsibility and red tape. Students do not take the time to inform themselves and are often sloppy in their planning and registration. The advising system forces faculty members to be at once specialists and generalists, simultaneously knowledgeable about their field of study and all applicable Tufts policies. Even after they declare their majors, advising problems persist for many students. They mistakenly take courses that do not fulfill requirements, withdraw from classes they need to complete their majors, and complain that they do not receive high-quality mentorship from their professors. Though some faculty members are exceptionally competent at teaching and advising, the system can certainly be improved.

Freshmen often complain that their assigned advisors know nothing about their anticipated area of interest. Some advisors cannot even explain the registration process to overwhelmed first-year students and do not know which courses to recommend or which even fulfill distribution requirements. The peer advising system often disintegrates once orientation is complete. Some freshmen learn about SIS online and the registration process for the first time when they choose their fall semester courses. If they mistakenly select a class that does not count for fine arts or fulfill world civilizations, they must eventually correct their error by taking potentially less preferable course later in their four years.

Miss Heumann is a senior who is majoring in International Relations, Economics, and Spanish.

Oversight tasks that are wholly administrative should be removed from current major advisors' to-do lists.

Regardless of whether the blame lies with the student, faculty member, or both parties, advising system failures occur frequently and upperclassmen have the least room for slip-ups. This semester, one senior mistakenly registered for and took Principles of Microeconomics for the second time. Her advisor approved her for registration and SIS online allowed her to enroll in a class she had already completed. A non-advisor faculty member informed another senior that she needed to take an additional science class to graduate with honors, even though that information was absent from the bulletin and the student's advisor was unaware of the requirement.

A few weeks ago, a frustrating issue arose for a number of IR-Economics double majors, who learned that they were allowed to double-count only four courses instead of the widely understood five. The error was on the Economics Department's major checklist, which incorrectly listed both principles classes (Econ 1 and 2) as "required" rather than "prerequisite" courses for the last two years. Several IR-Economics advisors told students that the correct number was five. The Department's solution was to allow the IR office to send out an email warning students that they might fall one course short of the graduation requirements. The email arrived on a Friday afternoon, less than one week before registration. Even seniors were not exempt from the additional course requirement. Many who had studied abroad, planned their schedules meticulously, had other requirements to finish, or looked forward to taking electives during their final semester at Tufts were aggravated by the unexpected class addition.

Understandably, faculty members engrossed in research, courses, and students' progress have little interest in memorizing the academic bulletin. Major advisors should be spending the bulk of their time with students discussing coursework, research opportunities, and postgraduate plans. Signing degree sheets, approving add-drop forms, and reviewing student schedules before registration *does* encourage interaction between students and advisors and force students to visit their professors, if only for a few minutes. But hunting down the University's policy on high school Advanced Placement credits is hardly a good use of office hours. Administrative tasks make advising a burden for faculty members and the hassle associated with advising strains the relationship between professor and student. As it is currently structured, Tufts' academic advising system does not make the most efficient use of professors' time and expertise.

Undeniably, some responsibility for scheduling mishaps lies with students themselves. They may not read the bulletin thoroughly, pay too little attention to their major requirements, or fail to take initiative to seek out their advisors and other Tufts professors. Every semester the deans invariably find themselves lifting pass/fail notations from the transcripts of liberal arts students who thought it was a good idea to fulfill their language requirement with three Ps in Spanish 1, 2, and 3 when a brief perusal of the bulletin would reveal that students must earn letter grades to complete all Tufts requirements.

Oversight tasks that are wholly administrative should be removed from current major advisors' to-do lists. Tufts administrators in each department or in Dowling can sign add-drop forms. There should be a central information source for rules, requirements, and other academic housekeeping so that professors can spend their time with students in more substantive ways. Improving the advising system does not, however, require a concomitant increase in the university's payroll. Peer advisors could make a yearlong commitment to student mentoring and take office hours in which they could assist any student with questions. Volunteer or work-study seniors could advise underclassmen in their major department, as course requirements are more relevant to and in the recent memories of current students. Professors could save their energy for more meaningful academic interaction with students. ■



New England states are playing Russian roulette.

Strike While the Iron is Hot

by Nicole Brusco

On November 8, a referendum in Maine that promised to bring a \$650 million dollar resort-casino to the economically struggling state met its demise. The facility, only 88 miles from Boston, would have included slot machines, gaming tables, a hotel with convention center, and an 18-hole golf course. This was the latest development in the race to legalize casino gambling in Massachusetts, Maine, Rhode Island, and New Hampshire.

Last session, the Massachusetts legislature voted on this non-partisan issue, which has benefited from the support of Republican Governor Mitt Romney and

Democrat Senate President Robert Travaglini. A Senate bill that proposed the state allow slot machines at its four racetracks and two resort-casinos failed to pass by a vote of 95-59. A revised bill allowing only slot machines at the tracks met a similar fate, but by a smaller margin.

The potential for economic development if Massachusetts decides to legalize casino gambling is both well documented and undisputed. It is, after all, the main motivation for investigating the idea in the first place. The type of gambling option chosen by the state, in addition to its placement, will largely determine the overall economic impact of gambling. A resort-casino in Massachusetts would bring an estimated 9,000 jobs in the first year of operations. A 2001 study estimated one southeastern Massachusetts tribal resort-casino would generate \$170 million dollars in real tax revenue.

Last spring, the largest budget deficit in state history forced Massachusetts to take drastic measures to cut government expenditures. In the words of Senate President

Travaglini, "we're laying off police and firefighters, we're under-funding schools, we don't have enough money for infrastructure." Without an immediate, large source of revenue for the state, that is exactly what the next fiscal year's budget will look like: higher taxes and less state funds to go around

Massachusetts has an overabundance of social programs, which are far less important than emergency services.

Ideally, these unnecessary programs would be cut, but the reality of politics on Beacon Hill is that this conservative goal will never be realized. The projected budget deficit for this upcoming year

is \$1.5 billion. Revenue from gambling has the potential to relieve some of the burden on taxpayers, and it is far better for the state to derive revenue from recreation than from income.

Many believe that casinos cause crime and attract criminals, yet the installation of any business or entertainment venue that attracts a large number of customers will undoubtedly generate an increase in crime volume. The idea that the existence of casinos in the state would initiate a slide down a slippery slope is flawed. Massachusetts has already condoned and promoted many forms of gambling. The state lottery, Keno parlors, horse and dog tracks, bingo, and even certain slot machines are legalized forms of gambling in the Commonwealth.

Many fear the social effects of casinos in Massachusetts, but in fact, the state is already coping with the effects of gambling

and gambling addiction. The many forms of legal gambling within the state, the accessibility of Connecticut casinos (located within two hours of Boston), and internet casinos all result in Massachusetts residents living with the social ills of gambling, but receiving few of the economic benefits.

Research on gambling addictions is hard to come by. It is a relatively new diagnosis, and is often considered a symptom of a larger psychological problem.

An analysis of 160 studies in the US and Canada shows that the prevalence of pathological gambling in a given year is 1.46%. According to the analysis, one-third of the US population reports that they have not gambled in the last year and roughly half of them have never gambled.

Bringing casinos to Massachusetts would improve services for compulsive gamblers. Massachusetts has, for some time, allocated funds for gambling addiction support, yet currently receives no revenue from any casino gambling operations. In 1999, only \$1.1 million, or 23½ cents per Massachusetts adult, was allotted for compulsive gambling services. Legislation approving in-state casinos would allot more money for this purpose to the Department of Health and Human Services.

Allowing a few destination casinos, with hotels, restaurants, and conference centers in addition to the gambling already in the state is not a substantial change in ethics.

Parents should consider the dog tracks and run-down Keno parlors already in their communities when criticizing resort-casinos for sending negative messages to children.

Time is a key factor in evaluating the legalization of gambling in New England, a \$14 billion gaming market and the highest per capita US gaming market except Nevada. Demand for resort-gambling is not being met and the addition of a resort-casino within two hours of Boston is

inevitable. However, once the next casino is built, the incentive to add another to the market will be greatly reduced. Massachusetts should be concerned with keeping its citizens' money in the state. The window of opportunity is closing. Massachusetts must act quickly in order to tap into casino revenues. ■

The potential for economic development if Massachusetts decides to legalize casino gambling is both well documented and undisputed.



Miss Brusco is a sophomore who has not yet declared a major.

New York City needs a new mayor.

Gloomy with Bloomy

by Steve Bleiberg

In the wake of September 11, New York City voters took a chance on a first-time candidate for office and made the Republican nominee, billionaire businessman Mike Bloomberg, the city's mayor. Bloomberg, the founder of a financial information company bearing his name, campaigned on his record of innovative leadership in the private sector and on continuing the popular policies of Rudy Giuliani's administration. It has become apparent, however, that Bloomberg is not the man he made himself out to be. Mayor Bloomberg's approach to governing the city is that of a Manhattan liberal, and the city is suffering as a result. The return of a liberal to City Hall and the continuing dominance of New York City's Democratic Party make one wonder if the success of Rudy Giuliani was just a fluke. Is New York destined to be an essentially one-party city run by liberals?

New York's Republican Party deserves a great deal of the blame for the current state of affairs. Why did the Republicans settle for a liberal candidate after eight years of power in City Hall? There are two reasons for this. The first is that despite Mayor Giuliani's policy successes, little effort was made by his administration to build up a party organization in the city. Giuliani was not particularly concerned with the Republican Party's future and probably did not believe that his personal electoral victories would do much to end the long-term virtual monopoly of power held by the Democrats. The other reason is money. Even though Bloomberg's opponent in the Republican primary, Herman Badillo, was much more conservative than Bloomberg and had decades of political experience, billionaire Bloomberg's ability to self-finance his campaign convinced Republican

leaders that he would be more competitive in the general election. Because Bloomberg was willing to spend \$75 million of his own money, Republicans were willing to overlook the fact that he was a self-proclaimed liberal who had given millions of dollars to Democratic candidates and only wanted to run on the Republican line to avoid the crowded Democratic primary.

Bloomberg was not expected to have a chance of winning the general election. Although he continually invoked Rudy Giuliani's name when talking about how he would govern, Giuliani initially ignored Bloomberg's candi-

dacy and was thought to be supportive of the candidacy of moderate Democrat Peter Vallone. But when the Democratic primary became a two-man contest between Fernando Ferrer, the candidate of race-baiter Al Sharpton, and Giuliani's nemesis Mark Green, Rudy threw in his support for Bloomberg. Bloomberg benefited tremendously from Giuliani's post-September 11 endorsement. In addition, Bloomberg was lucky enough to face a divided Democratic Party. After Fernando Ferrer's primary defeat, many Ferrer supporters refused to back Green, and Al Sharpton continued his attacks against his party's nominee. The combination of Giuliani's endorsement, the divided Democrats, and the general unlikability of Mark Green came together to give Bloomberg the election.

Once in office, Bloomberg turned his back on the Giuliani supporters who gave him their votes. Bloomberg has raised property and income taxes and, despite his entrepreneurial background, refuses to consider experimenting with school vouchers to help children trapped in failing schools. When the city's economy was fac-

ing some of its hardest times, Bloomberg's legislative agenda focused on banning smoking in the city's bars and restaurants and raising taxes on cigarettes. While intended as a public health measure, the smoking ban came at a bad time, driving much needed business out of the city. Unlike the smoking ban, the huge cigarette tax cannot even be justified on health grounds. Taxes are so high that smokers routinely go across the border into neighboring counties to purchase their cigarettes or order them online through one of the many smuggling operations that have sprung up, leading to lower tax revenue for the city. Despite Bloomberg's claims that he is working to cut spending, he has not stood up to the municipal workers' unions the way Giuliani did. Additionally, although New York's crime rate has stayed relatively low, residents have complained that the city feels less safe and that squeegee men and homeless people have reappeared in places they had not been seen in since before Giuliani took office.

Bloomberg has lost the support of the coalition of voters that brought him to power. In a recent poll, 62% of city voters opposed Bloomberg's reelection. New York conservatives such as Staten Island's Congressman Vito Fossella are considering challenging Bloomberg in the 2005 Republican primary. New York City's Republican Party needs to stand for something. A party that sells its nomination to the highest bidder will not be a long-term success with voters. Rudy Giuliani won because he ran on conservative themes, and his electoral success can be emulated. The Republican Party must rally around an urban conservative agenda and run candidates against Democratic incumbents. If the Republicans do not create an urban political organization they resign themselves to living under monolithic Democratic rule for the foreseeable future. ■

A party that sells its nomination to the highest bidder will not be a long-term success with voters.

Mr. Bleiberg is a senior majoring in Quantitative Economics.



Bloomifer.

Without the support of Russia, the Kyoto protocol is no more.

Flawed n' Dead

by Nicholas Boyd

The rocky relationship between the US and Europe since George W. Bush was elected president is based on a variety of policy and value differences. Until the Iraq war uproar, arguably the most significant of these differences centered on the Kyoto Protocol—a United Nations-backed multinational initiative to reduce industrial countries' emissions of greenhouse gases, ostensibly to combat global warming.

Like so many other over-hyped international treaties and protocols, Kyoto sounds great, appears necessary, and generally strikes

the average guy as common sense. Yet, it has and continues to encounter major roadblocks—with good reason.

In order to take effect, the treaty needs to be ratified by 55 countries accounting for at least 55% of industrialized countries' 1990 level emissions. While enough nations have ratified the treaty, their total emissions fall 11% short of the required amount. With the US opposing Kyoto, the environmentalists' hopes are pinned on Russia, which must ratify it in order for the requirements to be met.

Kyoto made big headlines recently when a senior Russian government official signaled Russia would not ratify Kyoto in its current form, essentially sounding its death knell. A confusing slew of statements first contradicting, and then reaffirming this stance followed. Russia now effectively holds a veto over the whole treaty.

The hype speaks in favor of Kyoto, but the facts do not. While environmental groups have succeeded in convincing the world that President Bush is the lone man standing in the way of American ratification of Kyoto, in actuality the US Senate in a

95-0 vote unanimously rejected the protocol during the Clinton administration. Yet, despite the decisive stand taken by the US against Kyoto, the efforts to get the US on board have not seen any rest.

The cutbacks in emissions required by Kyoto would likely entail cutbacks of different kinds as well—in jobs, in investment,

and in consumption. The US economy appears to be on the rebound, but some estimates put the yearly cost for meeting Kyoto goals at \$400 billion. It is no surprise then that Russia, with its fragile economy, is hesitant to subject itself to Kyoto's emissions limitations.

Adding to the insult is the fact that many of the Kyoto Protocol's underlying scientific principles are in dispute. Scientists agree temperatures are slowly rising, but there is no consensus for how or why this is occurring. The Kyoto Protocol assumes human activity is responsible, but a good deal of research indicates it can be attributed to a natural, recurring process. Kyoto makes for a very expensive science experiment. It's entirely possible that humans are causing a global warming. It is the opinion of most Kyoto opponents, including the President, that nations ought to understand the problem before they commit vast resources to solving it.

Leftists love their "The US has 4% of the world's population but emits 25% of green house gas emissions" mantra, but how do they like "the Kyoto Protocol exempts 80% of the world, including major population centers such as China and India," as Bush puts it in his reasoning for rejecting Kyoto? Considering China's economy is already forecast to grow at an astronomical rate in the next decade, is there really a need to further enhance their competitive potential?

The governments of Europe have a less than stellar loyalty to capitalism, frequently heeding the calls of starry eyed activists over common sense policies.

Would it be fair to require poorer, developing nations to conform to certain emissions limitations as well? Probably not—just as requiring developed nations to curtail their economic potential isn't fair. It is unreasonable to expect *anybody* to forfeit future wealth and progress to accommodate some uncertain, loftily defined environmental goal.

Some nations, particularly in Europe, have been eager to adopt the Kyoto treaty. Unfortunately, European governments have a less than stellar loyalty to capitalism, frequently heeding the calls of starry-eyed activists over common sense policies and initiatives that could truly help their currently floundering economies and thus, citizens. It should be noted that most European nations are not on target to meet the Kyoto standards they champion.

A more rational world would invest resources in understanding the nature of the problem (if there even is one). This is the alternative the United States is pursuing. While non-activist scientists work to determine the specifics of global warming, the economy will continue to autonomously grow more efficient and environmentally friendly. One need only compare a city like London today and during the height of the industrial revolution to see how an expanding economy eagerly invests resources to become more efficient (and clean)—without the need for any Geneva diplomats or international treaties.

The world owes more than just a clean environment to future generations; it owes them a strong, capable economy that will provide them with opportunities to live comfortable and productive lives and weather future national security emergencies. Future generations should inherit policies based on common sense, not activist propaganda. Russia will decide the fate of Kyoto and thereby influence the economic progress of the rest of the world. Fortunately, they appear to have chosen wisely. It wouldn't be right to burden future generations with an artificial, unnecessary barrier to their potential. ■



Mr. Boyd is a sophomore majoring in Political Science.

He who lives by the Accord...

According to Geneva

by Jason Walker

The recently drafted Geneva Accord signed by unofficial Israeli and Palestinian delegates is strangely treated as though it were an official proposal, when it was actually drafted by two private citizens. Yossi Beilin, the Israeli drafter, was once a prominent Labor Party apparatchik who helped craft the original Oslo Accord. Currently a member of the far leftist Meretz Party, he is so unpopular that he no longer holds a seat in the Knesset. The Palestinian, Yasser Rabbo, is the former Information Minister under Arafat, and holds no position of authority within his government. In essence, this is a treaty between the Israeli equivalent of Cynthia McKinney and the Palestinian equivalent of former Treasury Secretary Paul O'Neil. Nevertheless, adding to the hoopla the document has already received from the UN, on December 5 Colin Powell met with Beilin and Rabbo. After the meeting, the two were "encouraged" that Powell sees the Accord as complementary to Bush's own Road Map.

The Accord proposes that Jerusalem be redivided between an Israeli and Palestinian state, serving as capital for both. The Wailing Wall would remain Israeli, but the Temple Mount would become Palestinian. Settlements that form Jerusalem suburbs would remain Israeli, but all other settlements would be evacuated. Palestine would recognize Israel as a "Jewish state," while Israel would grant a limited right of return to an unspecified number of refugees to be settled by a mathematical average of the proposals of a panel of other countries (though

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Israel itself would have a strong say in whatever the final number would be). Palestine would be demilitarized, but Israel would no longer control Palestine's borders.

In essence, this is a treaty between the Israeli equivalent of Cynthia McKinney and the Palestinian equivalent of former Treasury Secretary Paul O'Neil.

are equally reasonable. Israel's fundamental desire is to live free from the fear of suicide-murderers. A majority of Palestinians, via the so-called right of return, want nothing short of the destruction of Israel as a Jewish state, and a somewhat smaller majority supports terror as a method to obtain it. Unless you're Neville Chamberlain, these are not demands on which one can morally split the difference.

The Accord does not give even treatment to the demands of Israelis and Palestinians. While the right of return is acknowledged in detail in the Accord, the Israeli demand to an end of terror is addressed with the same unfulfilled promises made in 1993 in Oslo. Without removing the enabler-in-chief of terror from power, Israelis have no reason to expect terrorism to cease. If anything, terrorists have every reason to continue, because the Accord represents an even larger give-away than the proposal a smiling Arafat rejected in 2000 from Ehud Barak. In other words, the Accord would justify the Intifada, ensuring that whenever Arafat wanted more from Israel, he would have the proven tools of terrorism readily at hand.

In fact, the only possible beneficiary is Yasser Arafat. The Ac-

cord makes no demands for the reform of his corrupt rule. Of all the major players, Arafat alone has positioned himself as an Accord supporter, albeit a pragmatically ambiguous one. Abdel Sattar Qassem, a member of the Palestinian Legislative Council, claims that Rabbo only acted at the behest of Arafat. Qassem observes, "If it succeeds, he will be the author of its success. If it fails, they are the authors of the failure."

One can support Israel while acknowledging that Sharon's methods of fighting terrorism are imperfect, often oppressive, and unsuccessful. But no defender of the Palestinians can morally excuse the leadership of Arafat. The right of return requires Israel to give up its own existence as a Jewish state. The request is about as reasonable as a Jewish right of return to the Middle Eastern countries that exiled them in past years. For the Palestinians to give up suicide bombing requires no similar national suicide. This is not to suggest that an independent Palestine is unreasonable. However, for that to be fulfilled, the Israeli demand for security must be addressed, which will require the removal of Arafat from power and a major overhaul of the Palestinian Authority. If the Israelis are expected to risk civil war by removing settlers, it is only fair that a reformed Palestinian government take the same risk by seriously fighting terrorism politically and culturally.

The popularity of terrorism makes the task difficult, but a mere good faith effort to curb terrorism would be a huge diplomatic breakthrough. It will also require visible signs of progress on both sides for whatever agreement is ultimately reached. Herein lies the silver lining of the Accord: as flawed as that document is, it has at least revived the debate about what must be done to reach peace, and may prompt forward-thinking Palestinians, and perhaps even the Sharon administration, to get back to the bargaining table. ■



Yossi Beilin, Kofi Annan, and Yasser Rabbo.

Republicans betray their own values.

Medicare is Megawaste

by Bryan Salvatore

Right before Thanksgiving, the controversial prescription drug benefit bill finally passed the House and Senate in votes that fell almost along party lines, with most Democrats opposing the bill and most Republicans supporting it. The White House had made the bill a priority, pushing the bill to members of both houses of Congress. The legislation would in theory

create a token prescription drug benefit for the poorest elderly people in the country while raising rates for those with more money, starting in 2006. It would also increase funding to rural areas, funnel billions of dollars to private health-care providers to encourage

them to cover seniors, and eventually force Medicare to compete with private companies beginning in 2010.

At first glance, this legislation appears to be a wonderful compromise between those who favor small government and those who favor strong support of the elderly. Privatization of health care certainly seems to give smaller-is-better advocates reason to rejoice, and a prescription drug benefit is something that many health-care reform advocates desire. A deeper examination, however, shows it to be good for neither side. It actually provides only two things: money for the health care industry, and an issue for Republicans to bring to the 2004 election as proof of their support for the elderly.

The actual effects of this legislation on seniors dependent on Medicare would be marginal at best and disastrous at worst. Some experts have

predicted a significant rise in the yearly cost of medical coverage for all seniors by \$2,000 or more upon adoption of this legislation, though that figure has not yet been proven. More concretely, seniors with more money will have to pay more for health coverage under this plan, undercutting the universal nature of Medicare. The thing that has many Democrats most concerned, however,

is the eventual privatization of health care for seniors provided for by the bill. HMO's and other coverage providers could get some seniors to ignorantly sign on to health care plans providing little or no actual coverage or requiring payments for

prescription drugs that the seniors simply could not afford. Those citizens would then have little or no coverage, with no safety net to fall back on, forcing them to go without medications. Even if this did not happen, either because few seniors sign into private health plans or because those companies brought honest intentions to the table, price reductions for most seniors would be very small and disproportionate to the amount of additional money paid out by the government.

This bill provides no more reason for small-government conservatives to rejoice than it does for

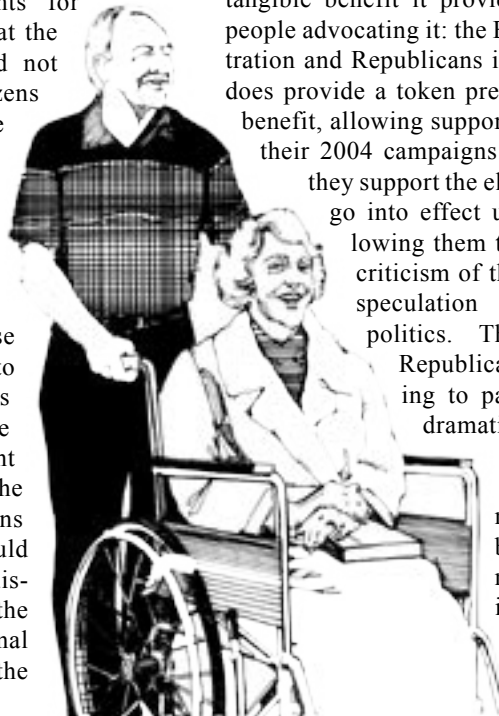
liberals interested in public health care. For the first few years after this legislation takes effect, the federal government will be paying out substantially more money for Medicare than before, most of it directed to drug companies and coverage providers. The bill continues restrictions on free trade and competition with Canada, preventing seniors from crossing the border in order to buy drugs that are far cheaper in Canada than in the U.S. In addition, there is absolutely no indication that private companies would even want to cover seniors; Medicare was established in the first place because private interests refused to cover elderly people, who are obviously at a higher risk of needing costly prescriptions than most Americans. Should that happen, the government would be left covering seniors under Medicare at greatly increased cost. Even if privatization is successful, the government will be left paying money to the companies providing coverage because of this legislation. It is very unlikely that this bill will actually decrease governmental spending on health care in the long run, but it is guaranteed to increase short-term spending once it goes through.

This health care bill is neither fiscally nor socially responsible. The only tangible benefit it provides is for the people advocating it: the Bush Administration and Republicans in Congress. It does provide a token prescription drug benefit, allowing supporters to go into their 2004 campaigns claiming that they support the elderly. It won't go into effect until 2006, allowing them to dismiss any criticism of the bill as pure speculation and partisan politics. The fact that

Republicans are willing to pass legislation dramatically increasing spending for little or no benefit beyond the next election is just another demonstration of how far that party has strayed

from the vision of small government and fiscal responsibility. ■

This bill provides no more reason for small-government conservatives to rejoice than it does for liberals interested in public health care.



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



“SANTA! OH MY GOD!
SANTA’S COMING! I
KNOW HIM! I KNOW
HIM!”

—Buddy the Elf, ‘04



“A track has been created
in case Santa would like
to go for a run. If Santa
decides to run, I advise him
to PLEASE wear shoes.
Stubbed toes hurt.”

—Rafi Goldberg, ‘06



“I think Santa smokes pot
all day. I know I do.”

—Random Guy in Brown
and Brew, ‘06

*Do you think
Santa Claus
would run
in the Naked
Quad Run?*



“Santa isn’t running this
year, but he is donating
\$500 to the Special
Olympics for each of
my laps.”

—Randy Newsom, ‘04



“I believe in the Easter
Bunny. I hear he is running
this year.”

—THE ELEPHANT



“I’m Jewish...I don’t believe
in Santa...But he better
not try to run, or park his
sleigh on my roof while the
trustees are here.”

—Larry Bacow

NOTABLE AND QUOTABLE

George: Tell me about these oppressed masses. What's got them so worked up?

Edmund: They're upset, sir, because they are so poor that they are forced to have children merely to provide a cheap alternative to turkey at Christmas.

—*Blackadder the Third*

The Supreme Court has ruled that they cannot have a nativity scene in Washington, D.C. This wasn't for any religious reasons. They couldn't find three wise men and a virgin.

—Jay Leno

A witty saying proves nothing.

—Voltaire

Conservative, n. A statesman who is enamored of existing evils, as distinguished from the Liberal, who wishes to replace them with others.

—Ambrose Bierce

Give me chastity and continence, but not yet.

—Saint Augustine

The most interesting theory that I've heard so far—which is nothing more than a theory, it can't be proved—is that [President Bush] was warned [of 9/11] ahead of time by the Saudis.

—Howard Dean

Being in politics is like being a football coach. You have to be smart enough to understand the game, and dumb enough to think it's important.

—Eugene McCarthy

The society which scorns excellence in plumbing as a humble activity and tolerates shoddiness in philosophy because it is an exalted activity will have neither good plumbing nor good philosophy: neither its pipes nor its theories will hold water.

—John W. Gardner

I predict that in the years ahead, Enron, not September 11, will come to be seen as the greatest turning point in U.S. society.

—Paul Krugman

In the End, we will remember not the words of our enemies, but the silence of our friends.

—Martin Luther King Jr.

Reports that say something hasn't happened are interesting to me, because as we know, there are known knowns; there are things we know we know. We also know there are known unknowns; that is to say we know there are some things we do not know. But there are also unknown unknowns—the ones we don't know we don't know.

—Donald Rumsfeld

The Middle Eastern states aren't nations; they're quarrels with borders.

—P.J. O'Rourke

One of the reasons [the UN] fails is that it's pretty much designed to. There is no vision, no set of shared values that truly unites the United Nations...You can't have a global organization dedicated to the spread of human rights and democracy with nearly half the members representing barbaric, corrupt regimes.

—Jonah Goldberg

It is not my intention to do away with government. It is rather to make it work—work with us, not over us; stand by our side, not ride on our back. Government can and must provide opportunity, not smother it; foster productivity, not stifle it.

—Ronald Reagan

The urge to save humanity is almost always a false front for the urge to rule.

—H.L. Mencken

We're living in a world today where Republicans push through a huge entitlement bill, and the Democrats are blocking black and Hispanic judges. I feel like we're in the bizarro world.

—Jon Stewart

We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.

—Winston Churchill

The evil of the world is made possible by nothing but the sanction you give it.

—Ayn Rand

There are two kinds of fools: one says, "This is old, therefore it is good"; the other says, "This is new, therefore it is better."

—William Ralph Inge

Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other.

—John Adams

The real community of man, in the midst of all the self-contradictory simulacra of community, is the community of those who seek the truth.

—Allan Bloom

We, in the green movement, aspire to a cultural model in which killing a forest will be considered more contemptible and more criminal than the sale of six-year-old children to Asian brothels.

—Carl Amery

Don't go around saying the world owes you a living. The world owes you nothing. It was here first.

—Mark Twain

In a constitutional democracy the moral content of law must be given by the morality of the framer or legislator, never by the morality of the judge.

—Robert Bork

Nothing is so permanent as a temporary government program.

—Milton Friedman

He that would make his own liberty secure must guard even his enemy from oppression.

—Thomas Paine

The beauty of the second amendment is that it will not be needed until they try to take it.

—Thomas Jefferson

...the *Source* is one of the most well-written, thought-provoking, and humorous publications on campus.

—Adam Pulver, in *The Tufts Daily*

The key is throwing a strike when he's taking and a ball when he's swinging. It can be done. Hitters are creatures of habit. They do things on certain counts and in certain situations that they don't in other counts and in other situations. For a freakin' \$13 million a year, is it too much to ask me to know when that is?

—Curt Schilling