

## Somerville named among most walkable U.S. cities

BY DANA GUTH  
Daily Staff Writer

The City of Somerville was earlier this month voted the seventh most walkable city in the nation — up from its previous position in 10th place — as a result of successful ongoing initiatives by the city to encourage walking and biking.

Walkscore.com, an organization that promotes walkable neighborhoods as a solution for environmental, health and economic problems, compiled the ratings. Somerville was also announced as the ninth most transit-friendly city in the nation.

In the past few years, the City of Somerville has developed large-scale projects that reflect a desire for a safer, cleaner and more close-knit community, according to Representative Director of Somerville Communications Jaclyn Rossetti.

“The mayor [Joseph Curtatone] and the administration are really committed to creating a community that’s an exceptional place to live, work, play and raise a family,” she said.

“A lot of our policies are created around these orienting values. We want it to be more pedestrian-friendly all-around.”

The largest of these projects involves continued construction of the Lower Broadway area in East Somerville, Rossetti said. The city is working to widen sidewalks, create more space for pedestrians and cut the number of driving lanes by half. Smaller initiatives include installing longer walking signals at crosswalks, as well as adding brighter and longer lasting road paint.

Rossetti added that many community members are enthusiastic about efforts to make Somerville more walkable.

“Our residents are conscious of the effort and really want to be more active,” she said. “We really want people to get out and learn more about our business centers and small neighborhoods that make our city unique. Each one has a different flavor, a different culture, and people can learn just by walking through them. We hope this will make Somerville more of a destination.”

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CAROLINE GEILING / THE TUFTS DAILY

University administrators last Thursday restored custodians’ normal vacation time after a misunderstanding with custodian contractors DTZ.

## Professor discusses Egyptian, Roman cultures

BY DANIEL BOTTINO  
Daily Editorial Board

Caitlin Barrett, assistant professor in the Department of Classics at Cornell University, spoke yesterday evening on the topic of Egyptianizing iconography, as seen in the Pompeian house of the upper-class Roman Publius Cornelius Tages, a freed slave.

Barrett began with a short overview of the Roman Empire’s appropriation of ancient Egyptian culture after Egypt became a province of the empire in 30 B.C. Barrett said that one of the most prominent aspects of this cultural transfer was the Romans’ adoption of “Nilotic scenes,” or paintings depicting the Nile River during flood.

In the lecture, Barrett focused on the Nilotic scenes found in a Pompeian house called the Casa dell’Efebo.

“The Nilotic scenes from this house are not only among the most elaborate of Pompeii, but can also have some evidence of the house’s probable owner, which may help us situate this iconography within its social context,” she said.

Barrett stressed that the Nilotic scenes of the Casa dell’Efebo reveal not only elements of Egyptian tradition, but also aspects of Roman culture.

Before examining the Pompeian house in detail,

Barrett presented an overview of the general content of Nilotic scenes. Pygmy human figures — usually depicted playing music, fighting river animals, drinking, fishing and engaging in sexual activities — are a common motif in such scenes, she said.

These pygmy figures, although sometimes vulgar, have many connections to Egyptian myth, Barrett said. One myth surrounds the Nile’s annual fertilizing floods, when the “wandering goddess,” often interpreted as either goddesses Isis or Hathor, would return to Egypt.

“Depictions of pygmies engaging in sex on boats or on river banks ... have Egyptian parallels,” she said. “In Egyptian inundation festivals, sexual imagery recalls the returning Isis /Hathor’s reunion with her spouse.”

Barrett next described the Casa dell’Efebo and its symbolic design. Since Nilotic scenes are associated primarily with the celebration of water and the returning of the Nile flood, she said, many scenes found within the house are located near fountains or baths and contain pygmy figures.

“The eastern side of the bench depicts another riverbank with buildings and shrines,” Barrett

see POMPEII, page 2

## Students organize to guarantee holiday time for custodians

BY SARAH ZHENG  
Daily Editorial Board

Members of Tufts Labor Coalition (TLC) took action to ensure that Tufts custodial staff would not have to work during Christmas and New Year’s Eve last Thursday after a misunderstanding between university administrators and the custodial contractor caused custodians to have their vacation cut.

Upon learning that custodians would lose two of their four days off during winter break, TLC quickly organized a rally for the following day and urged students to send emails to the administration showing their opposition to the cut vacation time.

Administrators responded quickly to the student protests. University President Anthony Monaco commented on the rally Facebook page around 5:20 p.m. that same day, referring students to a statement from Vice President for Operations Linda Snyder on the Department of Facilities Services website.

“We want to correct a misunderstanding about time off for Tufts custodians during the December holidays,” Snyder said. “As always, Tufts custodians will have the same

days off as Tufts employees, including Dec. 24 and 31.”

Co-chair of TLC Rae Axner explained that she first learned about the apparent vacation cut during an event with Tufts custodians, who had cooked lunch for TLC members in order to thank TLC for a previous advocacy event.

TLC then reached out to the student body through Facebook and email, Axner said. Within hours, the Facebook post about the student rally had been shared about 41 times.

“It’s powerful what social media can do, especially when you make it known that it’s an urgent situation,” Axner, a senior, said. “A lot of people shared the information via Facebook, and it reached a lot of people. When you see something and can tell that it’s something that you can have a great effect on just by taking a small step and that you should do it right at that moment, I think it really gets to people.”

Custodial service provider DTZ had apparently provided Tufts custodians with misinformation regarding the days that they would be getting as holidays, according to Snyder.

“A message from the president dated Oct. 30 explained

what paid time off Tufts employees would receive around this year’s holidays,” Snyder told the Daily in an email. “On Nov. 21, we learned that a DTZ employee had mistakenly informed custodians who work at Tufts that they would not be entitled to the usual paid time off. We don’t know why this happened; it was not based on any information that Tufts had provided.”

At the administration’s direction, DTZ informed all Tufts custodians in person by Nov. 22 about the error and assured them that they would receive the same paid time off as had been specified in Monaco’s email, according to Snyder.

Axner said that many custodians were extremely upset when they had believed that they were not going to get the same paid holidays as last year.

“They’re really appreciative of our help with this,” Axner said. “They know that the students are in a more powerful position than they are in terms of advocating to the university.”

According to an Oct. 30 email posted to the Office of the President website, Monaco

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TCU Senate works for positive change this semester.



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Captivating ‘Hunger Games’ sequel excels in tone and character development.



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## Somerville implements successful green transit programs

### SOMERVILLE

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Somerville placed just behind New York City, N.Y., and Cambridge, Mass., at fifth and sixth places, respectively, according to the City of Somerville website. Scores from the most recent census also show that about 12.5 percent of the city's population walks to work, which is the 11th highest percentage in the United States.

According to Fannie Koa, communications and outreach specialist for the Tufts Office of Sustainability, the movement toward a more environmentally friendly transit system extends far beyond Somerville, with systems coming into place all around Massachusetts to increase walkability.

Many of these efforts — including Massachusetts' Car Free Week in September and the annual Bay State Bike Week in May — are run through NuRide, an organization that offers a reward program for using green transportation methods. Participants can exchange points for coupons, tickets and retailer discounts, Koa said.

She encouraged Tufts students and Somerville residents to participate in the program.

"Everyone who lives in Massachusetts can build up points and cash in for walking," Koa said. "The program rewards trips that don't use cars, like walking to the library or the grocery store."

According to Koa, Tufts works with the surrounding community to facilitate easy transit through programs like Hubway, a Boston-based bike share.

"All the squares around us, including Davis, Packard and Powderhouse, have Hubway stations owned by the City of Somerville," she said. "The area is really good about making all of these options available."



KYRA STURGILL / THE TUFTS DAILY

Walkscore.com this month ranked Somerville as the seventh most walkable, as well as the ninth most transit-friendly, city in the country.

## Custodians gain back vacation days after misunderstanding

### VACATION

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announced to staff colleagues that Dec. 31, 2013 would be a bonus day off for all staff.

"This bonus day will be in addition to the previously unannounced university holidays on Tuesday and Wednesday, Dec. 24 and 25, 2013, and Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2014," Monaco said.

The email stated that the provision of necessary services would require some staff to work on Dec. 31.

"Supervisors will be in touch with those of you who need to come in that day, and will determine whether you can identify another day to take as a

bonus day or will receive comparable pay," Monaco said.

Director of Public Relations Kim Thurler, explained that these same words were also sent out to staff colleagues in 2012.

"The wording of this year's announcement about holiday time off was apparently exactly the same language as was used in the past, but for some reason the company employing the custodians misunderstood it and then provided inaccurate information to the custodians," Thurler told the Daily in an email.

Axner believes that the incident shows a lack of communication between the

janitors as contracted employees and the university.

"In some ways, it was irrelevant whether or not it was a mistake," she said. "It is what [the custodians] were made to believe. They had this information for at least a few days before we did anything about it, and nothing was corrected until we had this flooding of emails to the administration."

The incident was an injustice in that the mistake was not corrected until it was brought to the administration's attention in a very public way, Axner said.

"This is part of a much larger trend," she said. "The university is one step removed from the workers, and it allows

for the top-level employer, Tufts, to not have accountability for what's going on with their workers."

Axner expressed her gratitude that so many people set out to correct the mistake by sending emails to administrators, organizing the rally and spreading the news throughout the Tufts community.

"This was obviously very successful very quickly, and it's really a testament to the fact that students are powerful in numbers, even with such a small action," Axner said. "This really is a wonderful example of how we can really use our stake in the university to affect real things here."



WAN JING LEE / THE TUFTS DAILY

Caitlin Barrett, assistant professor in the Department of Classics at Cornell University, visited the Hill yesterday to deliver a lecture on Egyptianizing iconography in Roman homes.

## Egyptian myths influence Roman home design

### POMPEII

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said. "The western side of the bench is poorly preserved, but shows traces of a pygmy crocodile battle."

Barrett considered the possible influence of Roman culture on the designs.

"If the Nilotic complex can be read meaningfully in terms of Egyptian theology, it nonetheless conveys another set of messages derived from Roman culture," she said.

Instead of serving as private places of refuge, upper-class Roman houses often served as public places where the owner could impress special visitors with his wealth and good taste, Barrett explained. She believes that the Casa dell'Efebo's owner, Tages, was attempting to imitate Roman villas with his own Nilotic scene.

Barrett emphasized that Tages was concerned with showing off his cultural sophistication, and the Nilotic scenes in his home were important to this effort.

"So for Pompeian audiences, Egyptian [design] need not only or solely signify the other," she said. "Just as the real life Egypt had been at this point incorporated into the Roman Empire, so too could Romans now appropriate Egyptianizing iconography and ritual as acceptable forms for performing Roman-ness."

# Features

tuftsdaily.com

## TCU Senate strives to make change this fall

BY KENDALL TODD  
Contributing Writer

In light of the recent federal government shutdown, it's comforting to know that the Tufts Community Union (TCU) Senate has been working diligently to make significant changes for students at Tufts. This fall, the Senate has tackled important issues, including the alcohol policy, transportation to Boston and residential life.

Generally, the Senate spends the fall researching issues that the student body feels are important and then implements the projects in the spring. TCU President Joe Thibodeau expressed optimism about what the Senate has accomplished so far and hopes that next semester will be even more productive.

"Overall, I think it's been a good year," Thibodeau, a senior, said. "There are a lot of really ambitious people on Senate, including myself. The year always starts off pretty slow, but ... I think we're at a point where we're settled down in what we're doing. This semester has been a big moment of transition in a lot of ways, and I think we're going to see the effects of that come full circle next semester."

TCU Vice President Stephen Ruggiero, currently in his third year in the Senate, echoed Thibodeau's sentiments.

"I think we've made a lot of progress. We hit the ground running at the beginning of the semester with the new alcohol policy," Ruggiero, a senior, said.

The new 'Good Samaritan' alcohol policy separates alcohol-related medical issues from judicial ones, preventing students from being punished for calling Tufts Emergency Medical Services. Already, according to Ruggiero, Tufts has seen a decrease in dangerous alcohol incidents compared to previous fall semesters.

"If you look at the statistics for medical transports, alcohol violations have gone down for the months of October and September, as compared to years past," Ruggiero said.

Another area of concern that senators have recently been focusing on is the accessibility of Boston for students. The Senate recently approved a measure allowing students to purchase discounted Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA) passes from the information booth in the Mayer Campus Center. Student groups can apply to the TCU Treasury for MBTA pass funding as well, which has never been offered before.

TCU Associate Treasurer Adam Kochman, who spearheaded the project, was enthusiastic about the impact this will have on both individual students and student groups.

"That was a big initiative of mine that I made in my State of the Treasury speech, and I'm very happy that we're getting it done," Kochman, a sophomore, said.

The Senate also passed a resolution calling for a Boston shuttle that would run from 9 p.m. to 3 a.m. on Fridays and Saturdays, likely stopping at Harvard Square, Park Street and Kenmore. Senate Services Committee co-Chair Christie Maciejewski expressed confidence that the shuttle will be approved by the administration due to the overwhelming student interest indicated on the Senate Services Survey, circulated online this semester.

"Ninety seven percent of students were interested [in the Boston shuttle]," Maciejewski, a senior, said.

The Senate has also been considering starting a fleet van service for students and student groups. Thibodeau and Ruggiero both noted that the university's two existing OCL vans are old and mostly useless for the majority of the student body. The new vans would be available to a variety of student organizations, including students who need transportation to the Loj.



CAROLINE GEILING / THE TUFTS DAILY

The Tufts Community Union Senate has embarked on a series of projects this semester, successfully instituting improvements to the alcohol policy, residential life and student transportation.

Thibodeau said that he has been looking into van services at other schools in order to determine what system would be best for Tufts.

"There's a working group that's going to be starting in December that's ... looking at this and evaluating what resources we have as a university in terms of transportation, and how we can create some sort of plan," Thibodeau said. "Some schools will just buy a bunch of vans; some schools ... outsource the service. There's a lot of different models."

In terms of improving student residential life, the Senate on Sept. 29 unanimously passed a resolution calling for the expansion of housing options available to transgender students in mixed-gender housing. According to Ruggiero, options have been extremely limited in the past. Dean of Campus Life and Student Leadership Bruce Reitman has been instrumental in moving this initiative forward.

"We've spoken to Dean Reitman about this, and he's been in contact with facilities," Ruggiero said. "They're getting plans ready to go ahead and make some of these physical changes and do what it takes to ... make a living space [accommodating]. It's also something we need to keep advocating for."

Ruggiero also hopes that future freshman classes will be able to express their gender-related housing preferences in a more open-ended way.

"On first-year student request-for-roommate forms, maybe the option should be, 'Who would you feel comfortable living with?' rather than 'What is your gender?'" he said.

Although Thibodeau would like for the housing expansion to take place soon, he remained cautious about promising anything.

"If there's construction that needs to be involved in any way, that can be limiting," he said. "But I'm optimistic, and I'm hoping that by the end of next semester, we will be able to see [progress]."

Other projects that the Senate is considering working on include late-night dining options, later library hours on weekends, free printing services and a trip to Six Flags in the spring, according to Maciejewski, who is particularly optimistic about late-night dining.

"The survey data has really shown a huge interest," she said. "[But] that's not something that we would see until at least next year, because meal plans [and staff contracts] are already in place."

The biggest hurdle that the Senate

faces for each of these projects is funding, Thibodeau said. While frustrated at the limited resources available, he is still determined to accomplish as much as possible with what is available.

"[Everything] requires some sort of funding. We don't control the university budget," Thibodeau said. "But what's key ... is to keep the fight going and to keep [partnering] with different student groups on campus [to] respond to issues when they come up."

The TCU Treasury, separate from the Senate budget, is having no such trouble, however. According to Kochman, the Treasury is currently running a surplus, and the Senate is working on ways to spend it responsibly. The Treasury consists of two funds: the supplementary fund and the surplus. Money for student organizations comes from the supplementary fund, and if that fund decreases, money is transferred out of the surplus fund into the supplementary fund.

"I'm advised to keep a \$100,000 surplus at all times," Kochman said. "Right now, there's around \$211,000 in the surplus, [and] the supplementary fund stands at \$227,899.66."

Though Kochman acknowledged that the surplus seems extreme, he is wary of spending too much of it and advocated a policy of responsibility and caution. In past years, according to the Treasury Procedures Manual, the Treasury was instructed to maintain a surplus of \$150,000 — \$50,000 more than the current target.

"I believe strongly that the surplus needs to be spent down, because it has grown too large over the past couple of years," Kochman said. "It's a tough balancing act ... People have this idea that the surplus is just so big that we can spend it on whatever we want, and that's not true."

Kochman declined to comment on what the Senate plans to do with the surplus, explaining that ideas are still hypothetical at this point.

As the semester winds to a close in the next few weeks, Thibodeau and Ruggiero are looking forward to the spring semester, when they can see more of their ideas pan out.

"You know, they rate [presidential] administrations based on the 100-day period," Ruggiero said. "We as a Senate told ourselves that Thanksgiving is our 100-day period. I'm looking forward to stepping back and saying, 'Oh, this is what happened during our first 100 days.' We've been very ... output-oriented."

PETAR TODOROV | LAB NOTES

## Beyond Earth



Beginning with the launch of Sputnik half a century ago, our scientists and engineers have pushed the limits of what is possible. A lucky few have orbited our planet, experiencing a chance to marvel at the natural beauty of our home from a height of 60 miles. Some have even walked on our moon a quarter million miles away.

The moon is hardly the limit of our interplanetary reach; this September the Voyager 1 probe ventured beyond the solar system and into interstellar space after traveling for 36 years. The spacecraft carries a gold plated copper record engraved with greetings in fifty five languages as well as culturally significant sounds and sights from Earth. Most of us benefit from the fruits of the Space Race when we check the weather, which is forecast with the help of satellites, or when we use the Global Positioning System chips in our phones to map our position and get directions.

Progress seems to have ground to a halt since the bright dawn of the space age. Sure, we have an International Space Station and nice toys like the Hubble Telescope in orbit out there. On the other hand, no one has gone to the moon for over 40 years. A mission to Mars has been in the planning stages forever. The truth is that the nuclear threat that drove these advances has fizzled. NASA's funding has shriveled tenfold to a meager 0.5 percent of the national budget. Russia and the United States are no longer vying for technological supremacy or actively menacing each other — the two nations even share their latest spacecraft.

As detailed in a Washington Post article last Friday, older aeronautic companies such as Lockheed, Boeing and Northrop Grumman are experiencing difficulties with respect to funding. Luckily, this instability has created an opportunity for newcomers in the race to private space travel. Over the last five years, a handful of companies developing new technology that will enable humans to visit space have sprung up.

The most mature of these is SpaceX. Founded by serial-entrepreneur Elon Musk, who also established PayPal and Tesla Motors, the company has already built its own spacecraft and rocket and used them to deliver supplies to the International Space Station (ISS). Orbital, another promising space startup, has also resupplied the ISS as of this September using a craft of its own design.

Other newcomers have set their sights on space planes instead of rockets and capsules. For example, Virgin Galactic, belonging to Sir Richard Branson, is concentrated on bringing tourists to the edges of the atmosphere where they can ogle the Earth and experience weightlessness for a few minutes before landing again. As one might expect, a ticket on this amusement ride is not cheap: the cost is \$250,000 per person. In addition, Virgin Galactic has a competitor, XCOR, whose engineers are building a smaller space plane that seats only two people. This petite craft called the Lynx has not flown yet, but tickets to ride it are on sale for \$100,000, including the requisite medical examinations and training.

Although space appears to be opening up, the majority of checks are written by governments, scientific organizations and large corporations. The cost of placing material into orbit, at \$5,000 per pound, makes it prohibitively expensive to launch anything but space station supplies, scientific instrumentation or commercial satellites. However, new actors are entering space, including a diverse crowd spanning from rich private citizens who can afford to do so to groups of high school students launching their own experiments to the ends of our atmosphere. This is just the beginning of a more democratic, private exploration of outer space as humans move towards becoming an interplanetary civilization.

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MOVIE REVIEW

## 'Catching Fire' is compelling, entertaining

BY KUMAR RAMANATHAN  
Daily Staff Writer

When we last left Katniss Everdeen (Jennifer Lawrence), she had just won her dystopian state's Hunger Games,

**The Hunger Games: Catching Fire**



Directed by **Francis Lawrence**  
Starring **Jennifer Lawrence, Josh Hutcherson, Liam Hemsworth**



COURTESY MURRAY CLOSE / LIONSGATE

Jennifer Lawrence brings an impressive range and depth to her performance as Katniss Everdeen in 'The Hunger Games: Catching Fire.'

where she defied the rule of the totalitarian Capitol by saving her fellow contestant Peeta Mellark (Josh Hutcherson). In "The Hunger Games: Catching Fire," the forces of the Capitol — led by President Snow (Donald Sutherland) — are forced to celebrate Katniss' victory, while simultaneously attempting to suppress the revolutionary sparks she has ignited. Now the political powers of the Capitol have decided to send Katniss and Peeta into yet another Hunger Games, hoping that this time the population will see her as a conniving opportunist rather than the revolutionary hero she has inadvertently become.

The challenge for director Francis Lawrence ("I Am Legend" (2007), "Water for Elephants" (2011)), who takes over from previous franchise director Gary Ross, is to create a film that delivers on the popularity and promise of 2012's "The Hunger Games" without falling prey to repeating the first film beat-by-beat. Part

of the problem is embedded in the source material, which throws the protagonists into another Hunger Games by the second act of the story. Though this installation fails to fully capture the internal dialogue of the book, Lawrence manages to refocus the film in a way that gives it renewed thematic energy.

From the very first scene, "Catching

Fire" wraps its characters in a sense of dread, allowing them little respite from the last movie. The grim political overtones of the previous chapter carry over, and this relentless atmosphere creates a compelling subplot — different enough from the first film (where Katniss remained mostly

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TV REVIEW

## 'Grey's Anatomy' still strong in 10th season

BY LANCY DOWNS  
Daily Editorial Board

When "Grey's Anatomy" premiered in March of 2005 as the midseason replacement for "Boston Legal"

**Grey's Anatomy**



Starring **Ellen Pompeo, Sandra Oh, Patrick Dempsey, Chandra Wilson**  
Airs **Thursdays at 9 p.m. on ABC**

(2004-2008), hardly anybody could have predicted that the show would still be on the air eight years later. But as the medical drama wraps up the first half of its 10th season, it shows no signs of stopping. Despite several seasons plagued with ill-conceived storylines and unpopular characters, "Grey's Anatomy" has been experiencing somewhat of a creative renaissance in the past few years. Fans who abandoned the show when it went

downhill are missing out; "Grey's" has rebounded nicely and is now — arguably — better than ever.

This upswing has continued into season 10, as characters new and old are faced with fresh medical challenges and increasingly complicated romantic entanglements. Fortunately, though, romantic quandaries no longer define the core "Grey's Anatomy" relationship. Meredith Grey (Ellen Pompeo) and Derek Shepherd (Patrick Dempsey), now married with two children, have the most stable relationship on the show.

This development has been a wise one, and creator Shonda Rhimes deserves credit for allowing this once turbulent pairing to evolve into a mature, realistic marriage. There was a time when the show's central drama hinged on their coupling, but now, these characters have been given room to breathe and to experience

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DAVID MERRETT VIA FLICKR CREATIVE COMMONS

'Grey's Anatomy' has allowed Patrick Dempsey's iconic Derek Shepherd to settle into a realistic partnership with Meredith Grey (Ellen Pompeo).

ALBUM REVIEW

## Daughtry's new release is tired, offensive

BY VERONICA LITTLE  
Daily Editorial Board

Just when you thought that Chris Daughtry had disappeared from the music scene completely, he's decided

**Baptized**



Daughtry  
RCA

to reinsert himself in not-so-spectacular fashion. Attempting to justify the fame that accompanies a stint on reality TV is a predicament unique to the modern age. Indeed, for many of the contestants from the various talent shows that have become so integral to the American television experience, this is an insurmountable challenge. So, it's no surprise that "American Idol" (2002-present) fifth season finalist Chris Daughtry has struggled to reach mainstream audiences ever since the initial excitement surrounding his music began to wane. Known for his hard rock persona — of course, only on "American Idol" is Chris Daughtry considered hard rock — Daughtry's band, ingeniously called Daughtry, released their similarly self-titled debut in 2006. Since then, the band has been relegated to universal scorn, second only to Nickelback and Dane Cook.

"Baptized," the group's fourth studio album and most recent release, sounds like pure desperation — reminiscent of the wails of a neglected child in the aisles of a Costco. Each track is loud and explosive, with Daughtry producing his trademark gruff growls, singing senseless lyrics with hackneyed musical progressions. This record is nothing

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MEGAN CLARK | WHERE'S THE CRAIC?

## 'Father Ted'



"Father Ted" was a popular British-Irish sitcom that ran from 1995 to 1998 and featured three deadbeat priests living on the fictional Craggy Island. The show follows Father Ted (Dermot Morgan), a disgraced priest sent to the exaggeratedly bleak Craggy Island as punishment, as well as Father Dougal (Ardal O'Hanlon) and Father Jack (Frank Kelly), two other incompetent priests who live with him. Much of the show's humor comes from Father Ted's interactions with the sweet but slow-witted Dougal and the incoherent, alcoholic Jack. While Father Ted mainly acts as the show's straight man, his egotism and lack of reverence for the priesthood often lead him into embarrassing, comedic situations himself.

The show, with a predominantly Irish cast and set of writers, also plays upon Irish and Catholic culture for laughs. Another recurring character is Mrs. Doyle (Pauline McLynn), the priests' housekeeper, whose constant refrain is "Ah, go on," as she forces tea upon the priests and their guests. Doyle's catchphrase is indicative of the typical Irish tendency to offer one's guests tea and react in incredulous manner if it is refused. When I was in Ireland, my family and I visited the house that my grandmother's grandmother grew up in, which is currently occupied by a new family. When we showed up — completely unannounced and feeling rather embarrassed — the family invited us in for a cup of tea. They even offered us biscuits. We are now Facebook friends.

In addition to satirizing Irish hospitality, "Father Ted" also makes fun of Catholic theology and customs, as well as its religious hierarchy. Father Ted is always at odds with his superior, Bishop Brennan, most notably in the episode "Kicking Bishop Brennan up the Arse," in which Ted loses a bet and — this is rather self-explanatory — has to kick Bishop Brennan up the arse.

As indicated by the Bishop Brennan episode, "Father Ted" mixes outrageous silliness with subtle wit. Much of this wit, however, comes from cultural references that could be lost on the American viewer. I frequently find myself having to look up some of the allusions and there are many that only make sense to me because of my time abroad in Ireland. One of my favorite moments in the series is an allusion to Roddy Doyle, whose famously foul-mouthed novels are blamed after Dougal suddenly develops a penchant for profanity.

Like the works of Roddy Doyle, "Father Ted" leaves a huge cultural legacy. Just a day after shooting for the third and final season ended, Morgan tragically died of a heart attack at age 45. His death deprived the public of any hopes of a "Father Ted" reunion or special. In my opinion, this only increased the cultural mystique surrounding the series, which remains immensely popular today. In 2007, Inis Mor and Inis Oirr, two of the Aran Islands, got into an argument over which one was the real-life Craggy Island. It seems odd that anyone would want to claim their home as the inspiration for Craggy Island because, throughout the series, it is depicted as having bad weather, strange inhabitants and a lack of culture. The competition over the seemingly unwelcome title of "the real Craggy Island" just proves how beloved "Father Ted" has become.

It's definitely more fun to watch comedy than to read about it, so I suggest that you put this paper down and go watch an episode of "Father Ted." Ah, go on.

Next week's film: "Some Mother's Son" (1996).

Megan Clark is a senior who is majoring in English and history. She can be reached at Megan.Clark@tufts.edu.

## Religious imagery on 'Baptized' is noticeably insincere

### DAUGHTRY

continued from page 5

ing more or less than a hopeless plea for another shot at the quasi-fame and fortune that Daughtry was propelled to after his 15 minutes of reality talent show exposure.

Musical quality aside, there are also many offensive aspects of "Baptized" — a major one being that the band shamelessly borrows innovative sounds that other musicians have been creating for years. Many of the tracks on the album are incredibly similar to songs by Taylor Swift, Lady Antebellum and even Bruno Mars. In particular, the boring and trite singles "Waiting for Superman" and "Baptized," are strikingly reminiscent of songs off Swift's 2012 release "Red." Both songs attempt to incorporate dub-step electronic undertones and shiny guitar riffs — techniques that were so successful on "Red" because, when Swift's album was released, they were still unique.

What's more, the album is littered with heavy-handed Biblical references. Now, there's certainly nothing wrong with Biblical imagery in modern music. In fact, Lady Gaga and Katy Perry, among others, have incorporated religious elements into their music in tasteful and thought-provoking ways. However, Daughtry's utilization of Christian symbols feels espe-

cially tactless simply because nothing on this album is sincere. The group is so eager to capitalize on the same methods that catapulted bands like Mumford & Sons and Train into the spotlight — they want to produce music with a message. Unfortunately for Daughtry, in order for this to work, the music has to be good.

Clearly anxious to relive their 2006 fame, "Baptized" is the band's pitiable attempt to hit every base of popular rock music and prove that they've still got it. The album has a feel-good anthem in "Long Live Rock & Roll," a more sentimental ballad in "High Above the Ground" and even a head-banging number about revenge at the end of an embittered relationship in "Traitor." It is truly shocking how formulaic Daughtry is committed to being. If they were brave enough to reach out of their prescribed role, the group's music could potentially be interesting. Indeed, this overwhelming flop is not merely the inevitable result of the band's semi-charmed origins — artists like Kelly Clarkson and Carrie Underwood have demonstrated the kind of success that can come from the "Idol" namesake.

In the end, bands like Daughtry and Nickelback are not bad because they're uncool or outdated; it's not even that they're bad musicians. Where they seem to fail, time and again, is in the execution of their own music. These groups continue to



COURTESY SUZIEQZI VIA FLICKR CREATIVE COMMONS

Heavy-handed, disingenuous biblical imagery mars Daughtry's latest release.

produce embarrassing and heavy-handed tracks that are tired, grating and devoid of any semblance of originality. To say that

it is difficult to listen to "Baptized" in its entirety is an understatement. However, a hate-listen just might hurt so good.

## 'Catching Fire' expands on themes from first film

### CATCHING

continued from page 5

unaware of what was happening behind the scenes) to keep us interested.

That consistent sense of atmospheric trepidation keeps the film interesting as we inevitably hurtle back into the realm of the Hunger Games. Though it lags a little during the Games portion of the film, Lawrence luckily opts to focus more on the interpersonal interactions between the veteran contestants and the lingering backroom politics, instead of the vague CGI elements of the actual competition.

It is in this character development that "Catching Fire" finds its brilliance. An unexpected yet impressive feat, the film manages to explore the humanity of each of its main characters, despite how antagonistic they may have been in the previous film. As President Snow and the Capitol become more prominent, we slowly watch once-opposing characters realize that they are actually on the same side, drawn together by the hope that Katniss has inspired. Portrayed by an assembly of powerful character actors, these roles prevent the film from slipping into poorly constructed and repetitive action-based mechanics.

Ultimately, the film hinges on the one thing that brings all of these political over-

tones and character development together: Katniss Everdeen. Here, Jennifer Lawrence delivers spectacularly. Throughout the film, she expertly channels the torment Katniss experiences with a range that makes many of the veteran actors around her pale in comparison.

It is also worth noting the many ways in which "Catching Fire" avoids cliché. Peeta and Gale (Liam Hemsworth) set up a classic love triangle for Katniss, and while her affections for both characters reflect on her development, her story is never solely dictated by them. Katniss repeatedly acts to save the two men, and her actions are met with respect and admiration. It is rather rare to see such strong expressions of sophisticated female empowerment in film, and "Catching Fire" deserves credit for its unapologetic front-and-center portrayal of Katniss.

An emphasis on political resistance and individual humanity — despite the sometimes-plodding action — prevents the film from feeling like a repeat performance of the first. Eventually, the final part of the series will help define how we judge the second's success, but for now "Catching Fire" successfully sets the stage for the series to take its place in the canon of science-fiction and fantasy cinema.



COURTESY MURRAY CLOSE / LIONSGATE

The tense political atmosphere that 'Catching Fire' successfully portrays helps differentiate it from the first 'Hunger Games' film.

## Despite minor hiccups, 'Grey's' delivers compelling stories

### GREY'S

continued from page 5

the trials of married life together. There may be fewer dramatic speeches and on-call room rendezvous for these two, but the on-again, off-again aspect of their relationship is hardly missed. "Grey's" has opted to give Meredith and Derek much more adult storylines — and often saves the scandalous sex for its younger, perhaps more carefree characters.

That's not to say there isn't any substance to this new crop of doctors. While their roles are certainly less iconic than Pompeo's and Dempsey's, these characters are still entertaining to watch.

Their professional and personal mishaps bring both humor and sorrow to Seattle's Grey Sloane Memorial Hospital, often recalling the issues original cast members faced in the show's early seasons. "Grey's" has struggled in the past to introduce new characters — Brooke Smith's Dr. Erica Hahn only lasted seven episodes as a series regular in season five — but lately Rhimes has created fresh personalities that click with each other, and most importantly, the rest of the cast.

Season 10 has been most distinctly marked by the disintegration of one its central relationships: Arizona Robbins (Jessica Capshaw) cheated on wife Callie Torres (Sara Ramirez) in the season nine finale, and the couple, facing serious marital woes, has had to navigate the challenge of working together and raising their daughter amidst talk of divorce. Although it seems that the pair may be headed for reconciliation, their arc thus far has been thoughtfully done.

In fact, the show's strongest episode of the season was a flashback-filled hour that intertwined a malpractice lawsuit against Callie with the anguish and heartbreak surrounding her divorce. Hector Elonzo reprised his role as Callie's stern yet loving father — a rare treat — and Ramirez held her own in an episode that revolved entirely around her character.

With 15 series regulars, the show often struggles to give everyone both equal screen time and compelling storylines. This Callie-centric episode paused other plots in favor of an in-depth exploration of her character. Episodes like this break up the season and help the audience to better understand the sometimes-overlooked characters, and "Grey's" shouldn't shy away from creating more like them in future.

That being said, not every charac-



THE HEART TRUTH VIA WIKIMEDIA CREATIVE COMMONS

Sara Ramirez has had ample material this season, as the show explores her character's professional and personal struggles.

ter is done justice — Chandra Wilson's Miranda Bailey has been straddled with various less-than-gripping storylines. "Grey's" has always had difficulties writing for the no-nonsense, assertive doctor, and season 10 is clearly no different.

The writers never seem to know what to do with her — she is either relegated to insignificant supporting roles or burdened with problems that arise out of nowhere and fail to effectively incorporate other characters. This year has seen her struggle with what appears to be a severe case of OCD, yet Bailey has somehow lost touch with every other aspect of her character. It's unfortunate that the writers treat her with such carelessness; Wilson's role has the potential to be incredibly substantive, if only she had the opportunity.

All things considered, "Grey's Anatomy" is faring well as it continues its 10th season. There are more shakeups in store for the future, however, with Sandra Oh, one of six remaining original cast members, set to leave after the season ends. Her absence will likely have a significant impact on the show's dynamic, but for now, fans should be grateful that "Grey's" is back in its groove — a reward for loyal viewers who have stuck with these characters for close to a decade.



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## EDITORIAL

## Take a break this Thanksgiving

As everyone on the Hill is painfully aware, Thanksgiving Day falls rather late this year — at the very end of November. As such, the Thanksgiving recess, overlapping with Hanukkah, cuts short the penultimate full week of classes, leading many students to anticipate typing final papers and studying for tests over their turkey.

Not all of this last-minute scrambling can be blamed on students' procrastination: Some professors have only just released essay prompts and test reviews, anticipating that students will utilize their free time to create nuanced theses, polish group projects and cram those last few key terms into their brains before the final stretch of the week of December.

Bleary-eyed, burnt out students are hardly excited about the prospect of spending their long-awaited free time on final assignments, and who can blame them? The lateness of this fall's recess demands that students persevere for a full academic week longer than last year, without the promise of a restful break as the silver lining.

Nevertheless, students should prioritize rest, relaxation and family time (if so desired) this week. Attending a university as academically rigorous as Tufts demands the occasional mental break, and vacation time (without the textbook open under the table) is linked to better physical and mental health, overall happiness, increased productivity during working hours and even better perfor-

mance overall on assignments once the vacation is over.

So, don't be afraid to turn off your email notifications, leave your iPhone in your bedroom and fully devote yourself to at least a couple of hours of laziness and over-consumption of mashed potatoes and stuffing. If making small talk with relatives and eating until it hurts don't appeal to you, you can even start your Black Friday early, as stores like Target and Macy's are beginning their sales on Thanksgiving Day itself this year. Maybe stampeding with fellow bargain-hunters could be your stress-relief activity of choice this year.

But no matter what you do, remember that this week is ultimately about giving thanks and giving yourself a break.

## JEHAN MADHANI



## OFF THE HILL | UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON

## PG-13 movie gun violence triples

BY CARA SMITH  
 The Daily Cougar

You're 13. You just got out of the sixth grade, and it's growing harder and harder to hide your anxiety about diving into both geometry and puberty next year. You're hoping to finally crack that five-foot height barrier by the time you hit high school, and you're still trying to forget about last week, when your aunt called and thought you were your much younger sister.

Growing up is hard, no doubt about it. It's nice that our youth can kick back with Laffy Taffy and a flick laden with copious bloodshed. Relieve the stress through some good ol' fashioned catharsis.

That's what today's PG-13 movies are allowing our youth to do. A recent study reported by NPR found that gun violence in today's PG-13 movies has tripled since 1985.

The Motion Picture Association of America's ratings system — founded by UH alumnus and School of Communication namesake Jack J. Valenti — began using PG-13 ratings in 1985. According to CNN, PG-13 tells parents that "some material (in the film) may be inappropriate for pre-teenagers."

Just for some perspective, Ron Howard's "Cocoon" came out in 1985. It was rated PG-13. It contained no gun violence, and the rating was mostly given for a scene

that shows a woman stripping down to her undergarments.

The year 1985 also birthed "Silverado," a PG-13 western-themed action movie. A New York Times review of the flick says that Silverado "includes a lot of shooting and not very explicit gore" — a couple of gunshot scenes, perhaps, and some minimal bloodshed.

In stark contrast, 2013 made way for "Iron Man 3," which features scores of terrorists firing automatic weapons on defenseless villagers and homelands. One guy fires a bullet into a photograph of the President's head.

It's tough to recall a film that doesn't contain any gun violence or an allusion to gun violence. Or a gun, even. Movies that are rated PG-13 are typically the highest-grossing films of the year, according to Nielsen's 2012 American Moviegoing Report.

Think "The Dark Knight." Think "The Avengers" and even the aforementioned "Iron Man 3." Think movies that you and I, collegiate 20-somethings, still find grossly entertaining.

That's arguably what's most strange about this study. On the surface, it's saying that films that our 13-year-olds are allowed to see are corrupt with gun violence. That in itself is an issue, but that's not the bigger message sent to us by these statistics.

It's the fact that all of us — not just 13-year-olds, but anybody above 13 —

are demanding triple the amount of gun violence that our predecessors demanded just 28 years ago.

Films wouldn't be rich with violence if it weren't something that was working for them. Hollywood is a business, and a Herculean one at that. They're going to do whatever makes them the most money — whether it be filling their flicks with HD-bellied Teletubbies or unicorn foals or gun violence.

You and I aren't strangers to gun violence. We're college students, and in 2013, it seems like we're faced every day with the risk of seeing our own college campus on CNN. The kind of news we're bombarded with has forced us to become desensitized to gun violence, either as a coping mechanism or as simply a natural progression.

Regardless of why, that news has become a part of our day-to-day routine. We wake up, grab a meal bar and check our mobile notifications for the day's latest tragedy before making our way to Agnes Arnold or Bauer.

If our lives are dominated by gun violence, it's only fitting that violence would eventually come to dominate the very things — movies — that were once meant to provide escape.

Maybe that's why movies have adopted so much gun violence — because all of us, both viewers and filmmakers, have regarded gun violence as an indubitable presence in even the most fictional of worlds.

OFF THE HILL | UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA MINNEAPOLIS



## Black Friday, indeed

BY BRIAN REINKEN  
Minnesota Daily

Last year, American consumers spent a record \$59.1 billion on Black Friday weekend — well above the GDPs of Guatemala, Kenya, Yemen and dozens of other countries worldwide. Clearly, business is booming.

This year, ambitious consumers are already camping in front of their favorite stores, awaiting Black Friday deals. At this rate, our spending this year may be even higher than last year.

But where exactly does all that money go? Can consumers be sure their dollars are well spent? Corporations are rarely as rosy as they would like to appear.

The impropriety of major corporations falls into two broad categories: the socially unappealing and the socially unacceptable.

The bulk of the socially unappealing category consists of corporations' insensitive statements or merchandise. These issues are offensive and often receive a lot of attention from the media, but they aren't severe enough to constitute major abuses of human rights.

For example, CEO of Abercrombie and Fitch Mike Jeffries has boasted that his company markets to only "thin and beautiful" people. In doing so, he attracted a storm of public outrage.

Ironically, a staunchly conservative CEO heads Urban Outfitters, a retailer that targets young, urban hipsters. His political views aren't always in line with the company's liberal and socially aware

image. Accordingly, numerous activist groups representing women, homosexuals, Jewish people and Native Americans have accused Urban Outfitters of selling offensive merchandise.

Forever 21 received similar backlash after it released a line of T-shirts and jewelry decorated with words such as "Holy" and "God." Customers also expressed confusion or annoyance over the store's bags, which the retailer marks with a Bible verse encouraging shoppers to praise Jesus.

These practices range from annoying to offensive, but all are controversial, digestible stories that catch the public's attention without demanding active participation. In other words, they're putty for the media. But the second type of corporate offense — the socially unacceptable — represents a far more serious concern.

Few have heard of coltan. Short for columbite-tantalite, coltan is a metal that is crucial for creating the capacitors found in cellphones, computers and other electronics. It's mined in Congo, where an ongoing war has contributed to the militarization of the coltan mining industry.

Whether inadvertently or otherwise, corporations looking for coltan have intensified the war in Congo, where the death toll has surpassed 5 million. There have also been reports of mass rape, cannibalism and the murder of child soldiers. Meanwhile, massive smuggling rings have sprung up in Congo and neighboring countries. It's estimated that the Rwandan army has made more than \$250 million by selling coltan, despite the fact that Rwanda doesn't house a single mine.

You've probably heard of blood diamonds. What about blood computers?

Sweatshops have become a fact of international business. A recent International Textile Garment and Leather Workers' Federation report revealed 60 brands that rely on sweatshop labor to manufacture their products.

These stores include J.C. Penney's, Old Navy and Walmart. They also include Forever 21 and Abercrombie and Fitch, whose messages suddenly don't seem so bad in comparison.

I have referred to these two strains of corporate misbehavior as "socially unappealing" and "socially unacceptable," but I wonder whether it would be more appropriate to reverse the two. The protests and boycotts following a CEO's ill-considered statement make more headlines than any indignation that arises over international labor disputes.

Disturbingly, we seem to have internalized sweatshops and foreign violence as necessary components to international business. We concede it's perfectly reasonable for a company to brutalize its workers — just as long as that company doesn't offend its customers.

But there's far more at stake than a few consumers' hurt feelings. Black Friday — and global capitalism in general — is built on the backs of foreign nationals. Realistically, there is little we as individuals can do to change this. Today, it's practically impossible to make a purely "ethical" purchase. Nevertheless, while doing this season's shopping, we would all do well to remember what kind of behavior made our holiday possible.

OFF THE HILL | UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON

## Students try to keep their weekends off the web

BY CATALINA CAMPOS  
The Daily Cougar

The most daunting task for a UH senior about to enter the workforce is finding a well-paying job during this difficult economic period.

The University's students pride themselves on working hard in their undergraduate careers but often playing harder on the sidelines.

It wouldn't be a surprise to log in to your Facebook, Twitter or Instagram accounts and see an array of friends partying it up on the weekends with alcoholic drinks in their hands.

It's hard to imagine that this accessibility in the social media-driven age could result in never landing your dream job.

The New York Times recently published an article by Natasha Singer called "They loved your GPA, then they saw your tweets," discussing the rising occurrence of high school students' denied admission into their university of choice because of the admission staff searching through their social media accounts.

The article commented on a high school senior who attended an information session for a university and tweeted

negative things while in attendance.

The admissions staff took note of it right away and denied her entry into the university as a student.

"It was incredibly unusual and foolish of her to do that," said Bowdoin College Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid Scott A. Meiklejohn.

The college ultimately denied the student admission, he said, because her academic record wasn't competitive.

"But had her credentials been better, those indiscreet posts could have scuttled her chances," according to Singer's article.

Although this doesn't apply to us any more, in a way, the potential harm that social media can do could jeopardize UH students entering the work force or applying to graduate school programs.

Social media has been described as a way to build a personal brand around yourself. In the November issue of *Elle*, Alice Marwick, the writer of "Status Update: Celebrity, Publicity, and Branding in the Social Media Age," was interviewed regarding the pros and cons of this new technological age.

Marwick said, "the Internet has amplified (the judgment of our appearance) because it allows for a broader audience.

... It's important to distinguish images for a professional context rather than posting thousands of 'selfies' with cleavage and bikinis. You should be able to do that, but if you do, you're going to be taken less seriously."

When we apply for jobs or graduate school, it's important to clean up your images and content, make your accounts private or simply delete those crazy nights where you're holding two liquor shots in your hands.

You are creating a personal brand around your image, and if a prospective employer reads an angry tweet about a professor, he might think you have a problem with authority.

Not all students agree, however.

Computer science junior Jarrett Hill believes that the two lives should be kept separate and that no prospective employer should judge someone completely based on one small snippet of social media commentary.

"I think it's dumb for a company to read a snippet of a tweet, and it might be judged out of context," Hill said. "They don't and shouldn't know about my life."

Unfortunately, this isn't the opinion most hiring staff members share.

ELOISE LIBRE | FRANKLY CANDID

## Dress to impress



The other day I had my first job interview. The real adult world wanted to know if I was qualified for a job that I thought I wanted. As it turned out, I appeared rather unqualified for a job that I am fairly confident I would hate.

It all started the night before the interview. In preparation, I raided my yuppie roommates' closets in search of anything appropriately business casual. The end result was a fairly conservative orange blouse, a flattering black blazer, dark stockings and what I thought was an edgy, black-and-white pencil skirt that I had bought in high school for college networking events. Nearly an entire undergrad experience and many pounds later, I was shocked and pleased to discover that, by some small miracle, it still fit.

I stood looking in the mirror to assess my situation. The skirt wrinkled audibly and uncomfortably when I moved, and the blazer confined my elbow mobility. The whole getup felt strange, like a costume. I definitely did not feel like myself. I proclaimed to my clothes-providing roommates that the last thing I wanted in the next five years is a life that forces me to wear a costume to work.

In case you haven't already guessed, I have yet to work a job with a business casual dress code. In fact, the only dress code I have adhered to in a paid position is a staff shirt and nametag; I have spent the last five summers working at a sleep-away camp. On check-in days, I was required to wear shorts with a button and zipper. Tough life, I know.

Lucky for me, at least some of my friends have more formal office work experience. Their wardrobes contain plentiful assortments of blouses, pencil skirts and cardigans — because, really, what other variations on the business casual outfit exist?

In my opinion, the getup and lifestyle that goes with it are rather boring. I have the utmost respect for people who love their jobs and tolerate stifling clothing, but, if there is one thing that reveals my incompatibility with that lifestyle, it is the dress code.

Dressing for the interview made me realize a lot about my own values and where I want a career to take me. I want a job that lets me work outside and teach and learn from people, especially kids. For better or for worse, I don't think pencil skirts and being outside are profoundly compatible.

I know that a lifestyle qualified by restrictive outfits and cubicles will not make me happy, at least not in the near future. Sometimes it is frustrating to live in a society and attend a school where this goal seems to be the norm. Deviating from that attitude and seeking a job that doesn't quite fit the mold is not easy, but I have come to realize just how important that is to me. I feel empowered now to have a solid understanding of what I value in a career. It is only by happenstance that a dress code helped me determine that. Maybe one day I will have a change of heart and find myself interested in a job that requires business casual attire, but I see this as unlikely within the next five years.

So, my first interview was a bit of a flop. But it certainly will not be my last, and it certainly helped shape the path of my imminent job search. I am sure that the next interview will be better, and hopefully, as I get closer to my dream job, those interviews won't require me to wear a costume but allow me to feel qualified and confident as myself.

Eloise Libre is a senior who is majoring in history. She can be reached at [Eloise.Libre@tufts.edu](mailto:Eloise.Libre@tufts.edu)

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7 bedrooms-Located on Boston Avenue (corner of Bellvue Ave & across from Wren Hall). Includes 2 baths & 2 living rooms, New modern eat-in kitchen with 2 refrigerators, dishwasher & gas stove. Newly finished hardwood floors throughout apartment. Large outdoor deck. 4 off street parking spaces included. Non Coin-op Laundry in basement. NO FEE, \$6,000. Avail 6/1/14 Call Angela - 617-852-2215 or e-mail:angelam@kssrealtypartners.com	4 bedrooms - \$3,600 Located on Boston Avenue (corner of Bellvue Ave & across from Wren Hall). 4 bed/1 bath apartment. New modern eat-in kitchen with full size refrigerator, dishwasher & gas stove. Hardwood floor throughout apartment. 2 off street parking spaces included. Non Coin-op Laundry in basement. NO FEE, \$3,600. Avail 6/1/14 Call Angela - 617-852-2215 or e-mail: angelam@kssrealtypartners.com	4 Bedrooms - \$3,400 Located on College Avenue at Powder House Circle (corner of Warner Street) Steps to campus. 4 bed.1 bath apartment with updated eat-in kitchen with full size refrigerator, gas stove & dishwasher. Hardwood floors throughout. Non coin op washer/dryer in basement. \$3,400. Off street parking included. Avail. 6/1/14 Call Angela @ 617-852-2215 or e-mail: angelam@kssrealtypartners.com.	\$\$ SPERM DONORS WANTED \$\$ Earn up to \$1,200/month and give the gift of family through California Cryobank's donor program. Convenient Cambridge location. Apply online: SPERMBANK.COM

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## Freshmen shine again in loss to Keene State

### MEN'S SWIMMING

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before the Jumbos are able to finish their races in the same fashion.

"I believe with some more training and keeping our team healthy we'll be able to finish our swims the same way in a few weeks," Hoyt said.

To their credit, the Tufts swimmers showed signs of improvement by posting better times than those of their first meet. The Jumbos had five first-place finishes overall and finished second in both the 200 medley relay and 200 freestyle relay.

Senior tri-captain Johann Schmidt took both diving events for the second week in a row, scoring 314.82 points in the one-meter and 375.95 in the three-meter.

Sophomore Michael Winget, former NESCAC Performer of the Week, had another strong showing, winning the 100 backstroke in 53.03 seconds and finishing second in both the 200 backstroke and 100 butterfly.

Freshmen swimmers William Metcalfe and Spiropoulos built off their strong collegiate debuts with excellent encore performances. Metcalfe won the 100 butterfly with a 52.49 time and also finished second in the 200 individual medley. Spiropoulos won the 200 breaststroke again with a 2:12.60 time.

Spiropoulos said that while he and his classmates feel pressure to be just

as good as the team's more experienced upperclassmen, such expectations are accelerating their improvement.

"The team counts on us more than I could have anticipated, and we never want to let them down," Spiropoulos said. "The fact that we actually matter already definitely encourages us to be even stronger contributors and lead future classes to greatness."

Sophomore Cam Simko is excited to see the freshmen already swimming at such a high level and making key contributions to the team.

"It's great that the freshmen are in shape and getting us those vital points," Simko said. "They light a fire under all [of us] and add some much-needed healthy competition."

It's clear that freshmen are going to be instrumental to Tufts' success going forward. The Jumbos get next weekend off for Thanksgiving before wrapping up the fall semester with the MIT Invitational Dec. 6 and 7. Though the layoff may have a brief negative effect on their strength and conditioning, the Jumbos will come back fully-rested and expecting to close out the semester on a high note.

"The MIT Invitational is a very different kind of meet, but we are rested and allowed to use fast suits for it," Simko said. "It's our final meet of the semester before our training trip, so I'd expect some pretty fast times coming from us."

## Tufts awaits first win, anticipates matchup with Wellesley

### WOMEN'S SWIMMING

continued from back

more NESCAC opponents. Still, the dynamic between the two has been beneficial to the Jumbos' efforts in the first two meets.

"I would say Kylie and I have a big sister-little sister relationship," Bloom said. "We push each other to perform our best, but we also are very excited when the other one does well."

Sophomore Sarah Mahoney turned in another strong performance for Tufts on Saturday, swimming well in the long distance events. She won the 500 freestyle with a time of 5:22.86 and finished second in the 1000 freestyle with an 11:01.68.

"Being a distance swimmer, it's hard to have a good start to the season when we only have been in the pool for about three weeks," Mahoney said. "Being close to my best times this early gives me a lot of confidence about the upcoming few months."

Also contributing points to the team score, junior Samantha Sliwinski took second in 50, 100 and 200 freestyle events, while freshman Cassidy Hubert took second in the 100 butterfly. Still, the Jumbos failed to win either of the relays and only won six of the 16 total events. But there are signs that the team's two straight losses will not be indicative of the rest of the season.

"One thing we tend to struggle with

is being passed in the last 10 yards of the race, and losing so many points by under half a second can be really frustrating," Mahoney said. "I think overall though the team is showing improvement week after week. Considering this is only our third week of training as compared with Keene's third month, I'd say we did pretty well."

The team has gotten off to a slow start this season, and the Jumbos are still looking for their first win. Women's swimming and diving started last season the exact same way, though, before picking up its first win against Wellesley and going on to finish third in the NESCAC and tie for 51st at the NCAA Championships. Many of the swimmers are still confident that the team will only get better as the season goes on.

"The team has improved in endurance and we have been working on a lot of the technical aspects of racing," Hu said. "Swimming in practice is a lot different from racing — racing is really a skill, and one where you can only learn from experience. I know that as the season goes on, the girls will only do better and better as they learn from every meet we swim at."

After taking this weekend off for Thanksgiving, the team looks to repeat its feat from last year and earn its first win at Wellesley on Dec. 4.



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# Tufts aims for consistency in spring

## SAILING

continued from back

how to have more success by starting races faster. Also, as a team we became smarter as the season rolled along about where to go on the course based on what the wind was like on that particular day.”

With such a large team, there is bound to be improvement from the bottom part of the team, and that is exactly what occurred throughout the fall season.

“I thought that the biggest improvement was the development of the freshmen,” du Pont said. “Boat-handling was also a big improvement that the team made.”

However, there is still progress that needs to be made during the offseason if the Jumbos hope to put forth better results in the second half of the year.

“Consistency is the biggest issue that needs to be fixed in the spring,” du Pont said. “During the fall we performed well and then poorly at different regattas. If we hope to sail like we know we can, we need to be consistent and perform well at every regatta.”

The co-ed team looks forward to the change in competition style that will come with a new season of sailing in 2014.

“We are looking forward to doing a lot of team racing,” Grasberger said. “In the spring, the format is three boats versus three boats, as opposed to every man for himself. This makes the races more team-oriented, and we are excited to compete as one team.”

And for a team that will not be sailing for more than two months, most of the sailors are just looking forward to getting back out on the water to compete for championships. The Jumbos know they have the potential, and they are motivated to see where it leads them.

“I’m just excited to sail again,” du Pont said.



The Tufts co-ed sailing team ended its fall campaign after an 18th-place finish at the Atlantic Coast Championships on Nov. 16 and 17. NICK PFOSI / THE TUFTS DAILY

## MEN'S ICE HOCKEY

### Jumbos' struggles in NESCAC continue

The men's ice hockey team continued to slide this weekend, dropping a pair of games at home and falling to 0-4 on the season. In the Jumbos' home opener Friday, coach Brian Murphy's squad fell in its third-straight one-goal decision of the season. Then, in Saturday's matinee, the Jumbos dropped a 4-1 contest to the visiting Williams Ephs in front of a home crowd at Malden's Valley Forum II rink.

In the second part of Tufts' double-header, Williams junior Craig Kitto scored twice to lift the Ephs above the Jumbos and improve to 3-0-1 on the season.

Kitto helped Williams to an early lead when he worked the puck in front of the cage and beat first-year Tufts keeper Ryan Kellenberger one-on-one to put the Ephs on the board just over three minutes in. As the first period wore on, the Jumbos' best opportunity came on a power play, but Tufts was unable to capitalize.

Williams freshman Tyler Young later beat Kellenberger on the back end of the period to push the Ephs' lead to 2-0 and junior Alex DeBaere added a snipe partway into the second period, while Tufts dug itself a 3-0 hole.

Despite an early third-period goal from junior Andrew White, the Tufts comeback immediately diminished when Kitto carried the puck across the rink and finished a top-shelf shot past Kellenberger just 32 seconds after White's. The Ephs would emerge with the 4-1 win.

The previous evening, Tufts played Middlebury tightly, but still came up with the 'L,' while Panthers senior defenseman Robbie Donahoe and junior forward Derek Pimentel each notched a goal and an assist to lift the visitors over the Jumbos 4-3.

Middlebury struck first when sophomore forward Evan Neugold sank a shot off the post and into the cage less than five minutes in. Four minutes later, the Panthers doubled their advantage when Donahoe buried a power-play goal. First year Mike Najjar joined Neugold and Donahoe on the board, notching his first collegiate goal towards the end of the first period.

Just as it appeared the Panthers would



Tufts hockey dropped its third and fourth consecutive NESCAC games, falling to Middlebury and Trinity at Valley Forum II on Friday and Saturday. ALEX DENNETT / TUFTS DAILY ARCHIVES

run away with the game, the Jumbos reorganized and settled their game. With 12 seconds remaining in the opening period, junior Tyler Voigt finished off a pass from line-mate and senior forward Kyle Gallegos to give the Jumbos some momentum going into the first intermission.

In the second period, sophomore James Randaccio nearly added a score to pull the Jumbos within one, but his shot fired off the crossbar and away from the net. The Panthers struck again, however, notching a five-on-three power-play goal.

Entering the third period, the Jumbos had failed to capitalize on three different man advantages in the second period and trailed by three. Three minutes into the final stanza, freshman Mike Leary picked the puck from a Middlebury defenseman at his blue line and cruised down the ice in the opposite direc-

tion, firing off a breakaway shot into the top corner of the net to make it 4-2.

In the final minutes of play, Murphy pulled Kellenberger from the net to allow the Jumbos an extra offensive player. The Panthers nearly capitalized on this, narrowly missing an empty netter while the clock wound down. Instead, however, Murphy's plan worked. Gallegos scored with 44 seconds remaining in the contest, to put Tufts within striking range of the Panthers.

Tufts got no closer, however, and the Panthers managed to skate away the last 40 seconds without allowing Tufts another look at the cage.

On Tuesday, the Jumbos hope to improve to 1-4 when they see their first non-conference action against Becker College.

—by Kate Klots

## AARON LEIBOWITZ | THE FAN

Thank you, A-Rod



I can't say I completely understand what's going on in the Alex Rodriguez versus Major League Baseball saga. Honestly, I don't care much about the details. A-Rod is an immature, con-ning man, and instead of going down as one of the best baseball players ever, he will be remembered as one of the game's most controversial figures.

Of course, MLB and commissioner Bud Selig aren't exactly likable, either. By imposing a 211-game ban on Rodriguez, Selig is clearly trying to make a statement about performance-enhancing drug use, but it's coming across as more of a witch-hunt. Whether Selig has sufficient evidence remains to be seen, but he is arguably just as guilty as A-Rod is.

Regardless of how you feel about either side, there is one thing on which we can now all agree: A-Rod is hilarious. In the past week, his story has taken a turn from obnoxious to immensely entertaining. A-Rod is angry with the way he's being treated. He's speaking up. He's providing some of the greatest quotes of all time.

On Wednesday, A-Rod stormed out of his own grievance hearing after the arbitrator ruled that Selig did not have to testify. Upon leaving, A-Rod slammed his hand on the table and shouted to MLB chief operating officer Rob Manfred, “This is f---ing bulls---!”

That was just the beginning. A-Rod proceeded to go to the studio of WFAN, a New York sports talk radio station, to be interviewed by the notoriously brash Mike Francesa. What ensued was pure gold.

There were a number of gems, starting with a legendary brunch request:

“I reached out to Selig several times early on and I said, ‘Hey, I’ll fly up to you in January, I’ll fly up to you in February,’” A-Rod told Francesa. “I’ll come see your house, we can have coffee, we can have brunch in your house in Milwaukee. Or in a Starbucks.”

Here's how I envision that date going: Alex Rodriguez and Bud Selig walk into a Starbucks (for brunch). The barista says, ‘What can I get you two?’ To which Selig replies, ‘I’ll have a tall latte. And he’ll have a 211-game suspension.’ Rodriguez punches Selig in the face.

A-Rod went on to tell Francesa, “I can't believe that someone would have the courage to make a historical decision on my life — on my daughters' lives. I'm going to have to explain this to my daughters. And the guy [Selig] who Rob Manfred said, ‘It's his decision and his decision only’ ... doesn't have the nerve to come and face me face to face?”

‘A historical decision on my life?’ ‘Face me face to face?’ What language is he even speaking? I understand that the suspension will tarnish A-Rod's legacy, but his daughters will presumably still benefit from the \$252 million contract their father signed in 2000. They should be just fine.

A-Rod showed his angry side: “I'm so heated up and pissed off right now. I can't think straight.”

He flaunted his doctorate: “This is what I have my Ph.D. in: baseball.”

Then, on Friday, he took the quote game to a whole different level.

“Today was nuts,” he told ESPNNewYork.com. “People were jumping out of their f---ing cars. I been coming to New York for 20 years and have never had a more positive reaction in the streets. I couldn't believe this s---.”

In an age when athletes say a whole lot of nothing, A-Rod is providing some of the most melodramatic, outrageous, hysterical lines you'll ever hear. With the baseball season more than four months away, I can't thank him enough.

Aaron Leibowitz is a senior who is majoring in American studies. He can be reached at [Aaron.Leibowitz@tufts.edu](mailto:Aaron.Leibowitz@tufts.edu).

## MEN'S SWIMMING AND DIVING

# Tufts suffers first loss of season

BY TYLER MAHER  
Daily Editorial Board

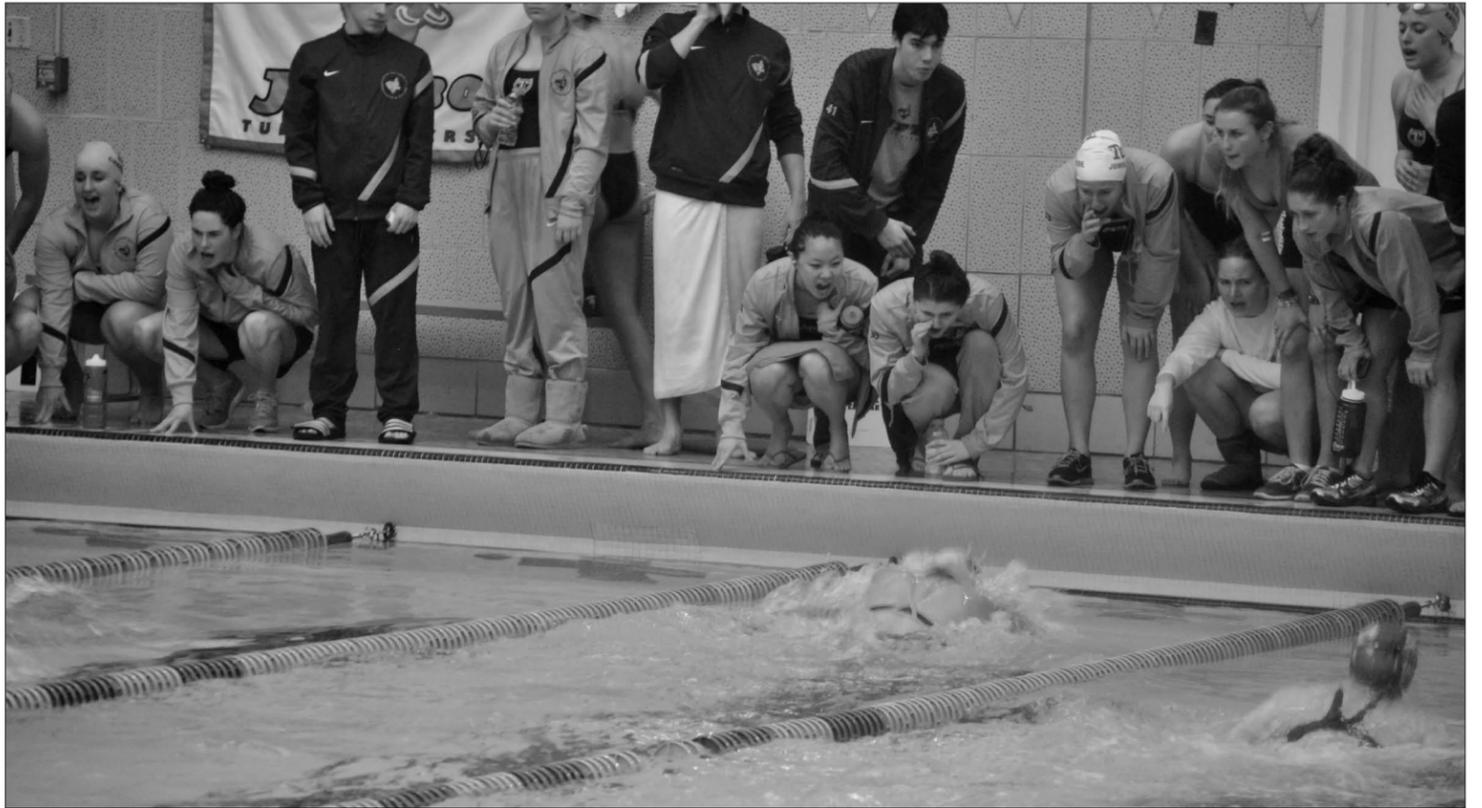
The men's swimming and diving team suffered its first loss of the season on Saturday, dropping its home opener to Keene State College, 178-122.

Though the Jumbos were 2-0 coming into the meet, they were clear underdogs against a sixth-ranked Keene State squad that's been training for ten weeks compared to Tufts' three.

Freshman Greg Spiropoulos felt this disadvantage was most obvious at the end of races, when the Jumbos were unable to keep up.

"[We] fell short on our turns and finishes," Spiropoulos said. "Keene showed us how to race the last 50 like champions. All of those kids caught up to us on the final lap and really got their hands to the wall first when it mattered."

Coach Adam Hoyt noticed this as well but is confident that it's only a matter of time



SOFIA ADAMS / THE TUFTS DAILY

see **MEN'S SWIMMING**, page 10

Tufts men's swimming and diving picked up its first loss of the year in the team's home opener against Keene State at Hamilton Pool on Saturday.

## WOMEN'S SWIMMING AND DIVING

# Hu, divers put forth strong showings in Jumbos' third loss

BY MACLYN SENEAR  
Staff Writer

Despite several strong individual performances, the women's swimming and diving team lost its first home

meet of the season on Saturday to Keene State. In an almost identical finish to last year's 166-132 loss to Keene, Tufts finished the meet down 163-131.

Senior Jenny Hu took first in all three individual events she com-

peted in, claiming half of the team's total wins Saturday. Her performance earned her NESCAC Co-Performer of the Week honors, which she shared with Conn. College freshman Valerie Urban. Hu won the 100 and 200 breast-

stroke and the 200 individual medley, and she swam the breaststroke leg of a 200 medley relay that finished just 0.28 seconds out of first. The senior managed all this despite having just recently recovered from a broken pelvis sustained in September.

"I've made a ton of progress in terms of healing and getting back into shape," Hu said. "I was in a wheelchair five weeks ago, but there is definitely a lot of room for improvement. Not training in my preseason has definitely had an impact, but I am focusing on the things I can control from here on out."

Tufts divers were dominant again this weekend, with senior Sami Bloom and freshman Kylie Reiman going one-two in both diving events. Reiman's score of 208.40 in the one-meter event just beat out Bloom, who took second with a 206.75. But they switched it up in the three-meter, with Bloom's 275.65 taking first and Reiman's 233.75 taking second.

Reiman and Bloom have been pleased with their contributions to the team score so far this season and hope that their success continues, though they acknowledge that the competition will probably ramp up as they start facing



SOFIA ADAMS / THE TUFTS DAILY

Women's swimming and diving once again came up short, falling in its first home meet of the year against Keene State, though senior Jenny Hu had a commanding performance and took home three individual victories for the team.

see **WOMEN'S SWIMMING**, page 10

## SAILING

# Jumbos' season comes to end at ACCs

BY STEVEN HEFTER  
Senior Staff Writer

The Tufts co-ed sailing team wrapped up its fall season at the Atlantic Coast Championships in Charleston, S.C. on Nov. 16 and 17. The Jumbos had worked all season to qualify for and compete in this two-day event, which featured 18 top-level teams from the East Coast in 14 races.

Although Tufts had prepared all season for a chance at the ACC's, the team was overwhelmed by the competition and the conditions. Tufts placed last in the field of teams with a total score

of 349 points, 21 points behind Eckerd College, the 17th-place finisher.

"We could not really figure out how to get a good start off the starting line and how to maneuver our way around the course," senior Paula Grasberger said. "The conditions were somewhat different than what we were used to, and it was difficult to adjust."

Senior tri-captain skipper Will Haeger and crew Grasberger sailed in races 1-6 and 10-14, while senior tri-captains David Liebenberg, at skipper, and Kathleen Kwasniak, at crew, competed in races 7-9 in the A Division. Junior skipper Alec Ruiz-Ramon and

classmate crew Sam Madden started for the B Division.

Although the season did not end as the Jumbos would have hoped, there were great moments that will carry the momentum into the spring season. For example, one of the highlights of the season came on Nov. 3 at the Professor Erwin Schell Trophy at MIT. Tufts came in second place of 18 teams and was leading until the last race when Dartmouth College usurped the Jumbos. The Jumbos qualified for ACCs with the impressive performance.

"From a team perspective, the best part of the fall season was at

the Schell Trophy," sophomore Pierre du Pont said. "We came in second place at the New England Conference Championships, and almost won."

The B Division boat shined at the Schell Trophy, where Ruiz-Ramon and Madden came in first place in their division. They won three of the nine races and came in third or better in four of the races.

"The biggest improvement throughout the fall season has been the progress of the B Division boat," Grasberger said. "At the ACCs, the boat figured out

see **SAILING**, page 11