



ANNIE WERMIEL/TUFTS DAILY

Freshman Eli Seidman uses his ID card to make a purchase at Brown & Brew.

## Students relieved by points change

BY GIOVANNI RUSSONELLO  
Daily Editorial Board

Students said they were confused and frustrated by the murky distinction between Points Plus and Dining Dollars, expressing relief about Dining Services' recent decision to integrate the two systems.

"I think it's long overdue," senior Justin Oldfield said.

Dining Services announced Tuesday that it would conflate Dining Dollars and Points Plus, each of which allows students to charge certain university-related expenses on their identification cards, into one multi-purpose account called JumboCash. The change will take effect next semester.

"I wish I were sticking around to use the JumboCash thing," Oldfield said.

Some students said they had never completely figured out the difference between Dining Dollars, which can buy food at eateries on and off campus, and Points Plus, which can be used for on-campus dining and other expenses, such as paying for laundry loads and library dues.

"I don't really understand

the difference ... I don't understand why they need to be different," sophomore Andrew Glasrud said.

Brian McLoone, a junior, ran into problems adding money to his ID card last year. "I added something one time and then I realized I could only use it for some very specific purpose," he said.

Sophomore Lauren Herstik said she has never fully comprehended the distinction between Dining Dollars and Points Plus. "I know they're different but I can never understand the difference," she said. "Every time I try to do my laundry at the end of the semester, I don't know what it is but I have no money ... I know I put money on there but I have no idea where it goes."

Dining Services also announced Tuesday that it would no longer require students to purchase a set number of Dining Dollars with their meal plans. Starting next semester, students will buy a certain number of meals and then decide independently how much money to add to their JumboCash accounts.

This move is meant to alle-

viate the frequent problem students face after using either all of their meals or all their points before the end of the semester. Often, sophomores on the 160-meal plan prefer to use Dining Dollars, of which they have 600. They frequently deplete these well before their meals.

"I have 12 points left," Glasrud said, referring to his Dining Dollars. "I went through my points pretty quickly. I like ordering food and I like getting energy drinks on the way to class." Glasrud said he still has about 40 meals left.

Last year, McLoone was on the meal plan with 160 meals and 600 Dining Dollars. He said he ran out of Dining Dollars early. "It was a hassle," he said. He would have added more to his account, "if I could have." With JumboCash, students can do this.

Freshman Sarah Nash will have this option. "I think next year I probably won't be eating as much at the dining hall so I'll use more points," she said. Nash will consider adding more than \$600 worth of JumboCash to her account, she said.

## Student alert system's efficiency increases

BY AARON ZUCKER  
Daily Staff Writer

Send Word Now's second emergency notification test reached more students in less time than the first, according to Dawn Irish, associate director of outreach for the University Information Technology (UIT) department.

The March 26 test "was even more effective than the last one, largely due to some tweaking done by the vendor to fix some of the minor issues we had been facing," Irish said.

Administrators can use the Send Word Now system in the case of a campus emergency to immediately contact students, faculty and staff members with automated messages.

During the test, which UIT administered on March 26, 98.5 percent of those signed up received notification within four minutes, a marked improvement from the previous test. That adds up to 16,782 phone calls and

8,535 SMS text messages.

In the first test, administered on Nov. 14, it took 25 minutes to make 16,102 phone calls, and eight minutes to send 8,072 SMS text messages.

Even students who had not signed up for the system received the messages by e-mail as long as they had a Tufts account.

Some registered people did not receive notifications due to issues unassociated with Send Word Now, like technical problems with their own cell phone networks and incorrectly recorded cell phone numbers, Irish said. Other calls went unanswered.

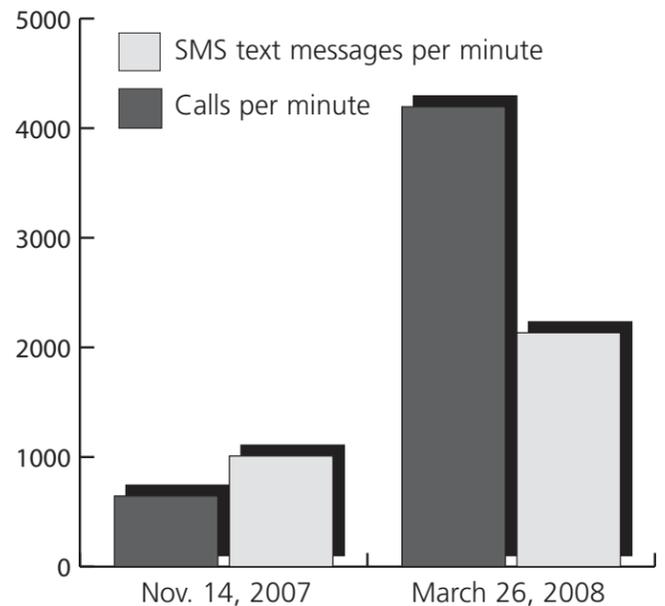
Tufts' emergency system is already working better than those at a number of other schools, according to Mely Tynan, vice president and chief information officer for UIT.

"There are several factors that made ours more success-

see **ALERT**, page 2

■ For a look at other schools' policies after Virginia Tech, see page 2

### Getting the word out



STATISTICS PROVIDED BY UIT

Tufts has performed two test runs of its Send Word Now notification system. The latter, administered March 26, was markedly more efficient than the first.

## Theta Chi raises money for charity at party; AOII to hold arthritis fundraiser tonight

BY JWALA GANDHI  
Contributing Writer

Theta Chi fraternity raised money for charity at a party on Saturday, and Alpha Omicron Pi (AOII) sorority will host its own philanthropic social event tonight, as both groups have looked to blend what the campus sees as the Greek community's knack for partying with its traditional value of philanthropy.

Theta Chi hosted its Red Party to raise awareness and money for the American Heart Association (AHA), an organization that has a special connection to the fraternity, according to sophomore Max Chalkin, Theta Chi philanthropy chair.

"We had a brother not too many

years back who lost his mother to heart disease," Chalkin said. "Ever since then, we've done charity work for the American Heart Association."

The alcohol-free event, which approximately 100 people attended, raised about \$1,500 for the AHA. Chalkin feels the event was a success because it set a positive standard for charitable endeavors in the future.

"I would say it [was] a success much less in the amount of money we raised than the precedent we set by hosting a dry fundraising event on a Saturday night," Chalkin said. "Experimenting with things like this will help bring the Greek community back into Tufts' better graces."

Junior Jessica Snow, vice president

of public relations for the Inter-Greek Council, agreed with Chalkin. "This [was] a very interesting event because it's incorporated the way the campus usually feels about the Greek community — partying and having a great time on a Saturday night — with volunteer service," Snow said.

In addition to charging a \$5 entrance fee and selling raffle tickets, brothers raised money by shaving their heads for every \$100 raised.

AOII will host its annual fundraiser for arthritis research tonight with the "Mr. Fraternity Strikes Out Arthritis" event at 10 p.m. in Hotung Café. The event is designed as a pageant: Female judges from Tufts sororities will select one "Mr. Fraternity" from a

group of male contestants from seven fraternities.

The multiple rounds of competition include a question-and-answer session as well as "Greek Wear" and "Formal Wear" fashion shows. Different judges will be scoring each round, but the audience will cast the votes that determine the winner.

The \$2 admission fee garners one vote, and subsequent votes cost an extra dollar each. There will also be a raffle in which audience members can win Red Sox tickets. All money raised from the event will go toward juvenile arthritis research, AOII's international philanthropy.

see **PHILANTHROPY**, page 2

### Inside this issue

Tufts filmmakers showcased their talents in the seventh annual Campus MovieFest.



see **WEEKENDER**, page 5

About 200 Tufts runners will put months of training to the test at the Boston Marathon on Monday.



see **SPORTS**, back page

tuftsdaily.com

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# Send Word Now system reaches students faster in second campus-wide test

## ALERT

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"First, it was given high priority by Tufts ... being able to notify our community of emergencies or crisis became very clear, following Virginia Tech," she said, referring to the campus shooting there last year.

President Lawrence Bacow announced last summer that he wanted the Send Word Now system in place by the time students arrived in the fall for the current school year. He supported Tynan in association with Mary Jeka, vice president of university relations, and John King, senior director of public safety. According to Tynan, most preparations were completed before freshman orientation.

Although some other schools have similar systems, not all of them have coordinated theirs with their information technology departments, resulting in technical issues.

At one school, "e-mail notification did not get through because it was flagged as a large spam attack by their network," Tynan said. "In another case, the

campus telephone system could not handle the load of the emergency calls."

Tynan said inter-department coordination prevented many of these issues from plaguing Tufts.

"Our groups worked very well together, engaging various contact points across campuses as we selected, tested and implemented the system," she said. "Campus police, PR, web staff, email staff, phone staff, IT help desk — all were engaged fully in this important project."

Jeka feels there are still challenges for Send Word Now. "Faculty and staff were the easy part," she said, "but now we need to get as many students signed up as possible."

Irish confirmed that UIT has not yet received any negative feedback on the emergency system. "At this point we're pretty happy with the performance of the system," she said. "We believe that if there was an emergency tomorrow, we would be able to notify students in time, but we're trying to take advantage of every opportunity we have to improve the system."

The next test will be conducted next semester.



AALOK KANANI/TUFTS DAILY

Some students received text message alerts during Send Word Now's test run on March 26.

## Fraternity, sorority combine fun with fundraising efforts

### PHILANTHROPY

continued from page 1

Sophomore Elizabeth Schaub, vice president of communications for AOII, is optimistic that the event will be a success. "This is our first year [hosting an event like this], but hopefully we'll be able to turn it into an annual event," she said. "We're going to gauge the success of it."

The sorority hopes to earn at least \$500 at the fundraiser, an estimate based on the amount raised at its philanthropy event this previous fall. "We're expecting more people to show up to this one," Schaub said.

*"We want to show that the Greek community is a presence on campus."*

Jessica Snow

vice president of public relations for the Inter-Greek Council

The scheduling of the event has a special significance, according to Snow. "It's going to be during April Open House," she said. "We want to show that the Greek community is a presence on campus."

Snow hopes that the AOII event will also help reinforce a positive image of Tufts' Greeks in the greater community. "The more that we can show that Greek life exists outside of Friday and Saturday nights, the better the image of Greek life will be in general."

Schaub agreed. "It could help foster Greek relations between chapters as well as relations between Greeks and non-Greeks on campus," she said. "Anyone is allowed to come and vote for their friends who are in it."

## Colleges often hesitate to act on suspicions about potentially dangerous students, fearing backlash

STEVENSON SWANSON  
MCT

In the year since a mentally disturbed student went on a shooting rampage at Virginia Tech, federal regulators, educators and legal experts have tried to reach a new understanding of the complex web of privacy laws that came under heavy criticism as one of the reasons no one acted in time to prevent the tragedy.

New regulations, information campaigns and legislation are all part of the effort to make sure that college and university officials realize that in cases of imminent threats, students' safety trumps legal barriers that otherwise would prevent officials from discussing a student's mental state or revealing student records.

"The bottom line is that you'd always rather have a privacy lawsuit than a death lawsuit," said Robert Smith, a Boston lawyer who specializes in advising colleges and universities. "That's my advice to colleges."

By the time Seung-hui Cho, then a senior at Virginia Tech, opened fire on his fellow students a year ago Wednesday, many of his acquaintances on that campus had already picked up warning signals from his bizarre behavior.

But the failure to put all the pieces together resulted in a shooting spree in which Cho killed 32 people before he shot himself, setting off nationwide reverberations as campuses reconsidered security measures and their treatment of mentally ill students.

In February, the Virginia Tech tragedy found a deadly echo at Northern Illinois University when a mentally disturbed former student killed five people and himself. On Friday, officials at St. Xavier University in Chicago closed the campus after threatening

graffiti was found in a bathroom in a freshman coed dormitory.

After investigating Virginia Tech's response to the massacre and the events that led up to it, a state panel concluded there was "widespread confusion about what federal and state privacy laws allow."

Virginia Tech officials were hardly alone in their confusion about what the law does and does not allow in the case of troubled students, according to many higher-education experts.

"A hands-off approach is often seen as the safest method of dealing with these students," University of Virginia Professor of Law Richard Bonnie said at a recent Columbia University conference on campus violence. "Many colleges are using the uncertainties about the law as an excuse to do nothing."

The law at the center of the privacy debate is the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, a 1974 statute known as FERPA. For minors, the law prohibits schools from disclosing a student's educational records without consent from the student's parents. At age 18, that right transfers to the students.

In addition to FERPA, a host of other federal and state laws as well as regulations and court rulings govern the disclosure of educational and health records.

"It was a seed that got planted and grew and grew and grew," said Smith, who was an associate counsel for Boston University for 14 years before joining a Boston law firm. "It creates a freezing, if you will, among campus administrators when they try to act. There's this constant drumbeat of privacy, privacy, privacy."

As a result, college officials may hesitate to contact a student's parents about their child's troubling behavior,

as happened with Virginia Tech in the case of Cho. In the Feb. 14 shootings at Northern Illinois University, it is unclear whether confusion over privacy laws played a role in the shooting spree by former graduate student Steven Kazmierczak, who was attending the University of Illinois at the time.

But several experts said what college administrators often do not realize is that FERPA and other privacy laws have provisions that allow for the disclosure of a student's records in the case of an emergency. A flier that the U.S. Department of Education sent to colleges and universities last year said the law "permits school officials to disclose without student consent education records, including personally identifiable information from those records, to protect the health and safety of students or other individuals."

That came as no surprise to Jan Walbert, vice president for student affairs at Arcadia University in Glenside, Pa. She says the law has never stopped her from taking whatever action she thought necessary to help a troubled student.

"I do think there's this perception that elements of FERPA limit us from doing the right thing," said Walbert, a former president of the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators. This association has called for increased training of faculty members and others who come in contact with students to make sure they do not let the law stop them from speaking up about a troubled student. "The issue is that you need to do everything you can do to make sure that everyone is on the same page."

But even if privacy laws contain exemptions for emergencies, it is not always obvious what constitutes an emergency, she said.

### MARKETS

Yesterday's close

▲ DOW JONES  
256.80 12,619.27

▲ NASDAQ  
64.07 2,350.11

### WEATHER FORECAST

Today  
Thursday, April 17

Mostly Sunny  
Sunrise: 6:00 AM  
Sunset: 7:29 PM

Mostly sunny skies. High 62.

Friday  
Partly Cloudy  
67/49

Monday  
Partly Cloudy  
57/46

Saturday  
Mostly Sunny  
61/46

Tuesday  
Mostly Cloudy  
57/50

Sunday  
Few Showers  
52/46

Wednesday  
Partly Cloudy  
61/46

### QUOTE OF THE DAY

*"I still enjoy running and try to be a visible presence with the members of the President's Marathon Challenge."*

Lawrence Bacow  
university president  
see Sports, back page

# Features

THE TUFTS DAILY

Thursday, April 17, 2008

## Campus gossip blogs become increasingly prominent in modern age of Internet anonymity

BY SARAH BLISS  
Daily Staff Writer

With the allure of anonymity that is increasingly available on the Internet, handwritten journals and dining hall conversations no longer suffice as the primary outlets for Tufts gossip.

A steadily rising number of students have started turning to anonymous online blogs like the Tufts section of CollegeOTR.com (TuftsOTR.com), Boredatttufts.net, and the new Anonymous Confession Board on LiveJournal.com to divulge confessions, noteworthy campus happenings and scandalous gossip.

Samuel Sommers, an assistant professor of psychology currently teaching social psychology, has found that anonymity can have a profound effect on people's actions.

"When people are highly self-aware, they are really focused on the ways in which they fall short of their goals," Sommers said. "The opposite of self-awareness is anonymity, where there is freedom associated, the focus is off of yourself and whatever disappointments you see in yourself are off the table."

According to Sommers, this absence of self-awareness can cause individuals to take actions normally outside of their typical comfort zone.

"Blogging and anonymous posts have some of the spirit of anonymity in a 21st-century way," he said. "People think, 'No one knows who I am; I can say and do whatever I want,' and I think that can be very liberating."

TuftsOTR is one campus blog that rests on the shoulders of a handful of mostly anonymous students paid by the site to post noteworthy gossip seen and heard on the Tufts campus.

The majority of the site's writers submit posts under pseudonyms in order to protect their identity and maintain the tradition of OTR, according to a sophomore TuftsOTR blogger who posts under the handle "The Peasant."

"Money aside, the anonymity factor was something that, from the time we signed up, the writers and the blog itself wanted to maintain," he said. "Part of the fun of OTR is that you don't know our identity, and you wonder, 'Who are these mysteriously titled people writing about things that are relevant to my life? I either agree with them or I disagree with them.' Either way, it has the behind-the-curtain effects, like in 'The Wizard of Oz.'"

While "The Peasant" remains anonymous, junior Meredith Turits, another TuftsOTR contributor, revealed last month that she posts as "The Philosopher" and plans to assume the position of TuftsOTR editor-in-chief next semester.

As one of the first students from any college to be asked about writing for CollegeOTR, Turits said anonymous blogging both as a writer and reader has its advantages; it provides a comic outlet for on-campus happenings, stories and gossip.

"At first, being anonymous was an extreme incentive because you didn't have to worry about offending anyone and you felt like you could write what you wanted, when you wanted," Turits said in an e-mail. "In a college environment — especially at a top university like Tufts — where our outward media image is so policed for PR reasons, something like an alternative OTR outlet is extremely refreshing."

Aside from TuftsOTR, another series of anonymous blogs has sprouted up, including Boredatttufts.net, an arm of the original site Boredatbutler.com. In February 2006, then-senior at Columbia University Jonathan Pappas began the anonymous confession

The image shows three screenshots of anonymous campus blogs. The top screenshot is from CollegeOTR.com, featuring a post titled "Machetes: Deadlier Than You Think" by "The Peasant" (Chief Contributor). The middle screenshot is from Boredatttufts.net, showing a post titled "who are the coolest lesbians or bi girls you know on campus?" with several replies. The bottom screenshot is from the Anonymous Confession Board on LiveJournal.com, showing a post titled "Tufts ACB I" with a list of instructions for users.

FROM TOP: TUFTSOTR.COM, BOREDATTUFTS.NET, LIVEJOURNAL.COM

Campus blogs are becoming increasingly prevalent among Tufts students.

board while unoccupied at the university's Butler Library.

Pappas created the site because "he wanted to see what would happen if people were allowed to post whatever they wanted, anonymously," according to Boredat.net, the mother site to Boredatttufts.net. All students are allowed to post on the site, and unlike on TuftsOTR, the student-written content is not edited.

Another site, the Anonymous Confession Board on LiveJournal.com, has become a hub to discuss anything from the third band Concert Board is enlisting to play at Spring Fling to complaints about friends and roommates.

However, both The Peasant and Turits claim that the posts at sites like Bored at Tufts are a far cry from those written at TuftsOTR.

"The rise of certain sites brings up the darker side of anonymous blogs," The Peasant said. "OTR is a paragon for what anonymous responsible blogging can be, but other sites like Boredatttufts are not journalism, but really just posting what you talk about with your friends behind your other friends' backs."

Turits also takes offense to the comparison of TuftsOTR with other blogs that have notably contained malicious content.

"I think putting OTR and slander blogs on the same tier is both incorrect and completely insulting," Turits said. "A slander blog is not a source of funny news, silly gossip, or stories that kids are looking to share with other people on campus happenings — it's strictly for the purpose of being mean. That's not what we are about, and if we were, none of us would have ever started blogging in the first place."

But some students have noticed an increase in malicious content posted on TuftsOTR. Sophomore Courtney Hsieh, once a frequenter of the site, now finds the content similar to that of other anonymous sites.

"Last semester, I thought OTR was really funny because they talked about things that went on around campus and funny little things that don't get into the mainstream news, but still insignificant things that are very reflective of Tufts," Hsieh said. "Since winter

KATE PECK | THE TRAVELING LUSH



### The Lush on a whim

After going out so much in Boston, I'm seeing a bit of a pattern. I plan each night to death.

Each weekend it's the same — I call around and see who's going where and when, and figure out where and when I'll meet up with others. I obsess over everything from designating drivers to making reservations and finding MBTA directions.

So this Friday, I decided to boycott planning. I would be — gasp! — spontaneous. I would not have anything to do with the destination for the evening, and I would let my Significant Other — aka "The Sig O" — and the night lead me. Sort of.

Here's how the night started. Note the Sig O's infinite patience.

Lush: "Ok, I'm here, are you ready to go?" Sig O: "In a few, wanna have a few drinks before dinner?" Lush: "But it's 7:30! You said we'd leave at 7:30!" Sig O: "There's no rush; let's have a martini or two before we go." Lush: "Are you wearing that? Am I underdressed? Can we go now?" Sig O: "Here. Drink this."

About a million years later, we visited the sushi bar at Taipei Tokyo, stuffing our faces with spicy salmon and struggling to stay atop our ultra-modern barstools. Fueled by those dirty martinis, I badgered the Sig O. Where would we go next? They didn't serve here! Did we want to stay in Davis? Then we wouldn't have to take a cab later, but I wasn't up for Redbones after sushi ... The Sig O had something else in mind.

We went to the Somerville Theater and watched 21 with Harpoons in hand (Sig O had the IPA; cider for me). Excuse me for dropping a little math here: Alcohol + movie theater = awesome. But if you're looking to make the Somerville Theater your new hangout, think again. There's a one-drink maximum, and if you didn't like the movie, you've paid a pretty hefty cover charge. Also, there's that whole bladder issue thing, which will inevitably become rather pressing at the most confusing part of the movie.

It was well before midnight when we left the theater, and the Sig O brought us to meet up with friends at the Enormous Room. But after emerging aboveground on Mass. Ave. and seeing the outrageously long line for a bar that, in the Lush's opinion, is highly overrated, we had to rethink our plans. Er, rather, our un-plans. Suddenly, our group — now four instead of two — all had different ideas. One didn't want to take a cab, one wanted a drink now, and one didn't want to drop a lot of cash. Then they all looked at me. "You know Central, right?"

After only three hours of "spontaneity," the Lush was back to the Planning Committee. I remembered hearing that Phoenix Landing had '80s nights on Fridays, and I led our party toward the Irish pub. Between rounds of tequila and B52s, we danced to Madonna, R. Kelly and Michael Jackson. Best part? Watching the bartenders sing to Material Girl. Worst part? When a young man expressed a keen interest in touching my face and the Sig O had to 'discourage' him. Then again, it was kind of hilarious.

When last call came, we sauntered over to my favorite Central spot — Moody's Falafel Palace. At the end of any night out, I always kind of hope to end up there with a giant hummus wrap in hand. So in the end, predictably, the night of Un-Planning went away — with favorable results.

So how about the Lush's plans for this weekend? Don't ask.

Kate Peck is a senior majoring in English. She can be reached at Katherine.Peck@tufts.edu.

## Many Tufts students unaware of Patriots' Day's historical origins

When the "Shot Heard 'Round the World" was fired at the Battle of Lexington and Concord on April 19, 1775, the first battle of the American Revolution began. This historic event is now commemorated with a Massachusetts-exclusive holiday: Patriots' Day, celebrated this year on April 21.

While Jumbos get the day off of school in honor of the battle, most out-of-state students view the holiday simply as another day off, with few seeming to know the historical origins of the holiday.

Kristen McCabe, a senior from Lynbrook, New York, said that she only became aware of Patriots' Day after coming to Tufts and noticing that on one day she "had no school every year."

McCabe explained that she is uncertain exactly what the day stands for. "I assume it's about being patriotic," McCabe said. "But I don't know much else about it."

McCabe said that the question of the origins of the day is not something that particularly troubles her. "I haven't really thought about it much," she said. "To comment on whether the day is meaningful or not, I'd have to know more about it, but, obviously, I haven't done my own research."

Berrak Siper, a junior from Turkey, was similarly unaware of the history behind the long weekend. "I have no idea," she said. "I mean, people drink, right?"

Siper said that, because of her international background, her first encounter with the holiday was during her freshman year at Tufts.

Adham Azab, a freshman from Watertown, Connecticut, said that he only heard of Patriots' Day two weeks ago. According to Azab, his reaction to seeing the holiday on the calendar was to think, "Patriots' Day, what's that?"

"I know absolutely nothing about it," he said. He added that he has not encountered any Patriots' Day enthusiasts during his first semesters at Tufts.

"I assume that there are such people. I don't know any of them personally," Azab said. "Or if I do know any of them personally, they haven't said anything to me about it."

Dan Millstein, a sophomore and



MCT

Massachusetts native from Belmont, said that he was familiar with people celebrating Patriots' Day and that he feels the holiday has meaning to his fellow Massachusetts residents.

"It's clear that it's a big deal to some people," he said. "It [Patriots' Day] makes more sense than some of the days we get off."

According to Millstein, a typical way to celebrate Patriots' Day might involve going to see the battle reenactments that take place around Lexington and Concord.

"I did actually go to the reenactment at Lexington once," he said. "You have to get up really early."

Millstein cautioned that the reenactments do tend to be over quickly. "I do remember it's really, really fast," he said.

Millstein said that there's no typical way for Massachusetts natives to celebrate the day.

"It depends on who you are, certainly," Millstein said. "The people who live in that area [Lexington and Concord] do it [attend the reenactments] a lot ... there's a big reenactment society in that area."

Many college students seem to appreciate the fact of the long weekend more than the history behind it — Siper said that in the past

she has used the long weekend provided by Patriots' Day to leave one of the few places in the country where the holiday is actually celebrated. "I either go to New York or somewhere else outside Boston because it's a long weekend," she said.

Millstein plans on using the long weekend to just work or sleep, although he did express an interest in going to the Boston Marathon, which is run on Patriots' Day every year. "I'm gonna probably ... [be] catching up on work or sleep," Millstein said. "It'd be great to go to the marathon."

McCabe plans to do just that this year, although it's a departure from her traditional Patriots' Day activities. "This year I'm gonna go down to the marathon, but, in the past, I've usually just done homework," McCabe said.

Regardless of whether people know about the holiday's connection to the American Revolution, most seem to feel the spirit of freedom with the extra liberty given them by the long weekend.

"Just for the long weekend, everyone's happy," Siper said.

Millstein agreed. "Maybe it's just a day off from classes for a lot of people."

—by Luke Burns

## TuftsOTR different from slander blogs, according to posters

### BLOGS

continued from page 3

break, I realized that it had gotten a lot more personal, and the comments bloggers would write were really catty."

Having visited Boredattufts, Hsieh says that she doesn't plan on contributing to the site.

"Even though it's mildly entertaining, I don't see the point of complaining about something you can change," Hsieh said. "If you're bored here, you can change that."

Another student, freshman Julia Stimeck, admits to occasionally indulging in the blogs.

"I do kind of like them," she said. "I think it's a guilty pleasure to look at what people want to say when it's not attached to any other part of them, with no repercussions or background information."

Stimeck similarly is turned off by the occasional rudeness, but also finds entertainment value in some of the posts.

"I hate to see the ones that say, 'Oh, that girl is so skanky,'" Stimeck said. "I can't help but think that every time there is one that says, 'Oh, that person is so hot,' it was written by that person."

Sommers, who likened blogging to graffiti, said he feels that the growing appeal of anonymity both on and off the Internet is related to the current status of human relationships.

"We live in a society now where we are able to communicate with each other several levels removed from face-to-face interaction," Sommers said. "It's easy to be the big man who talks a lot of trash, even in print in newspapers, as opposed to somebody's face. The further removed we are from someone, the easier it is to say certain things and adopt certain personas."



# SENIORS - VOTE!



*For Our*

## Class of 2008 Alumni Council Reps!

18 seniors are running for 4 positions on the Tufts Alumni Council.

CAST YOUR VOTE for Class of 2008 representation in the Alumni Association.

**VOTE ONLINE** – it's easy! You need to register for the Alumni Online Community to cast your vote. Membership is free and now open to the class of 2008. Register today and vote before the election ends on April 30!

**REGISTER & VOTE:**

**[www.alumniconnections.com/tufts](http://www.alumniconnections.com/tufts)**

*The Alumni Council is the governing board of the Tufts University Alumni Association.*

Sponsored by the Tufts University Alumni Association - [www.tufts.edu/alumni](http://www.tufts.edu/alumni) - **Get Involved!**

## Tufts students take the director's chair in Campus MovieFest

BY JESSICA BAL AND MIKE ADAMS  
Daily Editorial Board

Move over Spielberg. Tufts students are now in the movie-making business. Thanks to Campus MovieFest (CMF), an annual event and the world's largest student film festival, amateur filmmakers at Tufts were given the tools necessary to create their very own short movie masterpieces.

The brainchild of former Emory student Vijay Makar, Campus MovieFest provides each student who signs up with an Apple laptop and camcorder. The contestants must scramble to translate a story concept into a five-minute feature film within just one week.

The movies are screened for a panel of ten people at each participating university, made up of a mixture of students and faculty. The panel contains individuals from various departments and majors to represent the audience watching the films on each campus, rather than a room full of Robert Eberts. The top 16 short films from each school involved in the Boston program are selected and screened at their respective universities for the campus community.

The driving inspiration and main idea behind the program is that "everybody has a story to tell," said Dan Costa, the manager of school partnerships for CMF. "We just give them the equipment and tools to do it."

When it first began seven years ago, Campus MovieFest involved just four students. Since then it has grown exponentially. The idea received an overwhelmingly enthusiastic response, spurring the expansion of the event to eight other campuses in Atlanta.

This year, forty schools — seven of which are located in Boston — participated in the movie-making madness throughout the year. This is the fourth year in which Boston schools, including Tufts, have been included in the event.

### CMF at Tufts

Campus MovieFest initially approached TUTV this year in order to attract those students who had already demonstrated an interest in filmmaking at Tufts. Ultimately, through the hard work of freshman Barb Soleish, TUTV co-sponsored the event and sent senior

Yuna Park and freshman Wyatt Newport to co-host the event. Soleish, the liaison between Tufts and CMF, was unable to make it to the showing, but Park and Newport hosted the red-carpet event as if it were a miniature Academy Awards in the packed Pearson classroom. Park's enthusiasm, paired with Wyatt's deadpan comments, made them an entertaining duo, and the two kept the audience laughing between films with a number of clever quips and asides.

Monday night marked the unveiling of the 16 short films chosen from the Tufts pool. Highlights of the evening covered a range of genres and styles.

Two of the films were library romances, which included the lighthearted "Red like a Book," chronicling one student's enjoyably awkward attempts to catch the attention of an attractive girl in Tisch Library. Apparently, though dedicated, some contestants were unable to completely sacrifice their study time.

More dramatic performances came from movies such as "Release," a story of the tragic actions of a widower, and "The Thin White Line," which can only be described as a gangster movie on the streets of Somerville.

Some students successfully mixed in animation. One student took a fall into a chalkboard for a musical adventure in "Dream Big," resulting in clever interactions with blackboard drawings. "Two Cock Thieves" was a crowd pleaser and involved, you guessed it, genitalia robbing banks. If the title sounds familiar, it's because it was a parody of "Two Chalk Thieves," winner of the 2006 Tufts competition.

"Short Leash" kept students chuckling throughout a humorous parody of a "backstage look" at the dynamics of Tufts' own star musicians Ezra Furman and the Harpoons. Other pieces left a sweet aftertaste, most notably "Oh Darling," a charming look at love and family with nostalgic aged film and a soft soundtrack.

Park and Newport presented awards for Best Picture, Drama and Comedy, as well as an Audience Choice Award, voted in "American Idol-style," with students



texting in their favorite film to be tallied later. Free iPod shuffles seemed to be handed out left and right to the winners, including opportunities for audience members to win a raffle. The winners were as follows:

### Best Drama: "The Usual"

Freshman Justin Binder represented the makers of "The Usual" at the showing with classmates Jay Hennig and Alex Hoffman making up the rest of the team. All three are new to Campus Moviefest, but the novices pulled together a wonderfully quirky and well narrated short film. Their movie focuses on a man who leads a life of regularity and patterns and aspires to simply have a "usual" drink at his favorite coffee shop.

Binder recounted filming one scene that looked rather unusual to passerby on the Somerville streets.

"In the part where [Hoffman] is picking up lottery tickets off the ground and arranging them, we got a lot of weird looks from people nearby," he said. "We had no idea what we were doing since we're new to this."

Binder handled the music for the film while Hennig and Hoffman wrote and acted in it, respectively. Binder stressed that the experience was a great one despite their lack of filmmaking knowledge. He hopes they will participate again in the future.

### Best Comedy: "Jenkem Gangster"

This outrageous comedy about students getting high from sniffing, well, feces was made by sophomores Alex Kahn, Kyle Halle-Erby and Mike Levine. It may surprise some that the inspiration behind their seemingly ludicrous concept is partly truth.

"A lot of people don't realize that jenkem is an actually issue," Halle-Erby said, jokingly referring to the hallucinogenic toxin

found in some human waste. "We thought that maybe our film was more an awareness thing than a comedy ... should have been put in the social justice category!"

The team included an actual YouTube.com clip in the beginning from a newscast about the dangers of jenkem.

"We were going for a sort of 'American Gangster' [2007] or 'Scarface' [1983] spoof," Levine said.

Kahn particularly remembers one moment during the filming process involving a woman from OneSource walking in on their filming and the disaster of a bathroom set, which included a Kool-Aid and brownie mixture that was smeared all over the toilet seat.

"She came in and ... started screaming in Portuguese," he said. "I kept trying to calm her down and explain, but all I could do was point and say 'película' and 'no es real,' which clearly is Spanish, not Portuguese."

Tufts senior Ikenna Anyoku created the movie's soundtrack, an original called "Jenkem Rap," which his teammates said he threw together rather impressively at 4 a.m. in the Eaton Hall computer lab.

### Best Picture: "Patron Addicted"

The winner of the Best Picture award went to a film entitled "Patron Addicted." The premise is relatively simple: A man with a fear of malls undergoes therapy, ultimately turning his fear into an obsession.

The film's narration, told entirely in rhyme sequences, made it stand out to judges. But the really exceptional aspect of "Patron Addicted" was the visual appeal of live-action animation in the style of "A Scanner Darkly" [2006]. According to junior Nick Stepro, who decided to try out frame-by-frame animation, the process took two full

days — that's two all-nighters and 48 hours straight — of work to complete.

"We noticed that in this competition, the people with the best equipment tend to win all the time, so we wanted to do something that would improve the visual appeal of our movie," Stepro said.

Eventually, the team's hard work paid off, as the animation served as a major component of the film's fantastical tone.

### A Grand Finale

"Every year, Tufts students come out with strong films ... they're having fun and learning about the technology that goes into making these movies," Costa said.

He expressed enthusiasm for the many veteran students are who have participated for several years, as well as first-time participants.

"It's really the best of both worlds," he said. "You get teams that are new to filming, and then a lot of people come back. You might have a team that participates for three consecutive years. Sometimes the first year their film doesn't get chosen to be shown, and the second year maybe it doesn't receive any awards. And then by the third year, they've been thinking about their movie and have an awesome idea that makes it very far in the competition."

The award winners and other finalists from the screening at Tufts will move onto the next round, judged by a group comprised of one or two students and one staff member from each university, as well as several Boston community members (such as representatives from the Boston Globe).

Between two and four films from each school will be chosen for the Campus MovieFest Grand Finale in Boston on Saturday, April 26th at the Colonial Theater.



# Questioning the New Public Paradigm: Views on Civic Engagement from Four Public Disciplines

2008 Public Anthropology Roundtable  
Greater Boston Anthropology Consortium

**Friday, April 18, 2:30 p.m.**

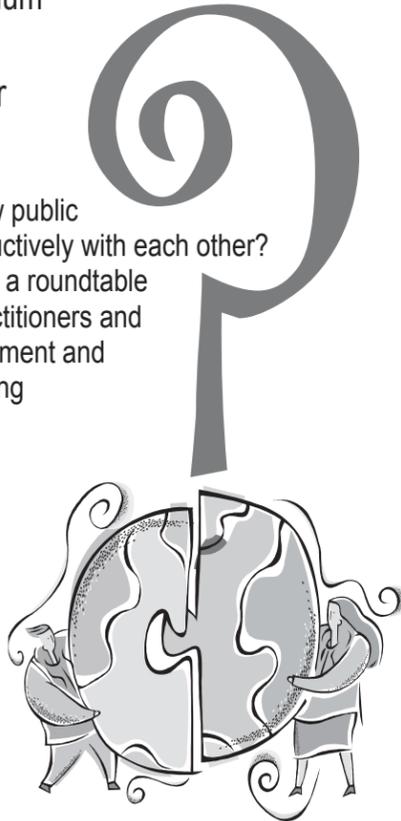
Tufts University Humanities Center  
(48 Professors Row)

How can already-public disciplines and new public initiatives in higher education engage productively with each other?

Join the Tufts Anthropology Department for a roundtable discussion that brings together scholar/practitioners and others who will help us look at civic engagement and active citizenship initiatives from a stimulating variety of perspectives.

Marge Bruchac, anthropologist  
American Studies/Tufts University  
James Green, historian  
University of Massachusetts/Boston  
Ann-Eliza Lewis, archaeologist  
Massachusetts Historical Commission  
Chadwick Matlin, journalist  
Tufts Class of 2007  
Michael O'Connell, artist/curator  
Somerville Museum  
Susan Ostrander, sociologist  
Tufts University

Sponsored by the Tufts Departments of Anthropology with support from the Departments of American Studies, History, Sociology and the Archaeology Program • Opening remarks by Andrew McClellan, Dean of Academic Affairs for Arts & Sciences • Reception will follow



## New Courses in Russian/Judaic Studies

RUSSIAN 125

Russia Today: Society & Culture

Gassel G+ MW 1:30-2:45 (In Russian, Prerequisite: Russian 121 or Placement Test)

Do you know who is the current president(s) of Russia? Want to learn more about 21<sup>st</sup> century Russia? Discuss contemporary societal and cultural topics in RUSSIAN? Read current literature and press and watch original Russian films. For more information contact Tanya Gassel at [tanya.gassel-vozlinskaya@tufts.edu](mailto:tanya.gassel-vozlinskaya@tufts.edu)

JS 92-03/Rus 91-03

Jewish Identity in Russia and Eastern Europe (In English)

Nemirovsky

M+

MW 6:00-7:15

Ever wondered what is it like to be Jewish in Russia and other parts of Eastern Europe? What role did Jewish Identity play in transforming Russia during the 20<sup>th</sup> century? To what extent did Jews preserve their identity as their became Russian writers, artists and musicians? For more info contact [vida.johnson@tufts.edu](mailto:vida.johnson@tufts.edu).

JS 136-01/REL 194-01

King David and Israelite Monarchy

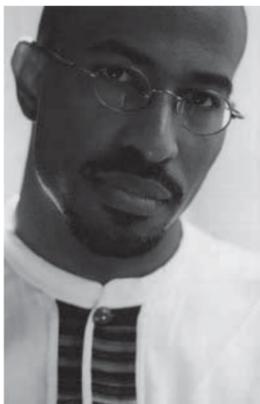
Rosenberg

K+M+

W 4:30-7:15

Who was ancient Israel's most pivotal leader? Who transformed Israel from a loose confederation of tribes to a dynastic monarchy? Read the Biblical narratives about King David. For more information contact [Joel.Rosenberg@tufts.edu](mailto:Joel.Rosenberg@tufts.edu)

## Van Jones Civil Rights Leader and Activist Public Lecture



**Date: Tuesday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2008 (Earth Day)**  
**Time: 6:00pm-7:00pm (doors open at 5:45pm)**  
**Location: Cohen Auditorium**

This event is free of charge

Van Jones is the founder and board president of the Ella Baker Center for Human Rights, a California-based nonprofit organization that works to prevent youth violence and incarceration. Through its 'Green-Collar Jobs Campaign', Jones and the center have expanded their work to address global climate change and advance the emerging green economy by lifting people out of poverty through employment and other opportunities in green construction, clean technology, urban agriculture, and energy.

Sponsored by, and in celebration of 35 years of Tufts Department of Urban and Environmental Policy and Planning (UEP), the Tufts University Office of the Provost, the Office of Institutional Diversity, the Africana Center, the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences and the Office of Alumni Relations.

ALBUM REVIEW

# R.E.M. reclaims its good name with 'Accelerate'

BY GRANT BEIGHLEY  
Daily Editorial Board

R.E.M. is one of those bands that is often mentioned in passing while discussing 1980s new wave music or

**Accelerate**  
REM  
★★★★☆  
Warner Bros.

dropped by the insecure as a hint that they have good taste. But in the new millennium, how many people can actually name an R.E.M. song, let alone an album? The answer, unfortunately, is fewer than one might think.

R.E.M.'s 14th studio release, "Accelerate," makes up for the lackluster late-'90s albums the band produced after the departure of drummer and founding member Bill Berry, who, strangely enough, took up farming as an alternative to drumming.

The albums made in the wake of Berry's departure — namely "Up" (1998), "Reveal" (2001) and "Around the Sun" (2004) — saw the band's members becoming overindulgent in the dreary, depressed state that they had become accustomed to with

hits such as "Losing My Religion." While some of the tracks were certainly more upbeat and energetic than others, none caught on with the public (or R.E.M. fans), and the albums quickly faded into oblivion.

"Accelerate" more than makes up for the band's previous false starts, or, in this case, re-starts. The opening track, "Living Well is the Best Revenge," kicks off the album with renewed energy, an obvious change from the band's despondent course. It becomes clear very quickly that lead singer Michael Stipe has grown more comfortable with his position in life, sounding more self-assured than ever.

"Living Well is the Best Revenge" is injected with the same energy — and surprisingly enough, anger — that made "What's the Frequency, Kenneth?" an instant hit with disenfranchised early-'90s youth. The song opens, "It's only when your poison spins into the life you'd hoped to live/ and suddenly you wake up in a shaken panic," suggesting that Stipe has finally come out of the shell he should have shed long ago.

Stipe's storytelling is still in fine form as well, as is best displayed in the album's first single, "Supernatural Superserious." While the song's cho-



R.E.M.'s newest release, "Accelerate" (2008), finds the band returning to its post-punk roots.

uses are vaguely reminiscent of a '60s British Invasion hit, the rambling bass line from Mike Mills suggests that there's more at work than a simple pop recipe. The lyrics deal with the anger and sadness that accompany the common teenage youth, building up to the declaration that life is "An experience/ Sweet, delirious/ Supernatural, superserious."

The title track, which falls in the middle of the album, is another up-

see R.E.M., page 9

MOVIE REVIEW



Phillippe and Tatum share an intimate moment.

# 'Stop-Loss' follows physical and mental degeneration of soldiers serving in Iraq

BY RENEE LECK  
Contributing Writer

Ten years after her tear-jerking debut, "Boys Don't Cry" (1999), director Kimberly Peirce returns to the film scene with the

**Stop-Loss**  
★★★★☆  
Starring **Ryan Phillippe,**  
**Channing Tatum, Abbie Cornish**  
Directed by **Kimberly Peirce**

Iraq war drama "Stop-Loss." While the public has recently been barraged by an onslaught of Iraq war movies, "Stop-Loss" deals with an issue few people know about: the tendency of today's personnel-starved, post-draft era military to double or triple soldiers' tours of duty, exceeding their original contracts.

The film starts out strong with a home-video style sequence showing the men goofing off in camp that quickly cuts to a scene depicting Sgt. Brandon

King (Ryan Phillippe) and his team of Steve Shriver (Channing Tatum), Tommy Burgess (Joseph Gordon-Levitt) and others as they chase insurgents from an Iraqi checkpoint directly into an ambush. The scene hits the viewer with a gripping intensity that connects us to these soldiers. Five minutes ago they were joking about girls, and now, amidst the carnage, it's unclear how many of them are still alive.

Most of the soldiers survive and go to King and Shriver's Texas hometown on leave. The men return with damaged psyches that begin to unravel before the eyes of their wives and families. One night, Shriver gets severely intoxicated, hits his fiancée Michele (Abbie Cornish), digs a fox hole in the front yard and sleeps there cradling a .45.

Burgess's drinking also spirals out of control, and his wife kicks him out. Amidst this emotional upheaval, King discovers that instead of having fulfilled his duty to his country, the army has had him "stop-loss" and plans on shipping him back to Iraq. King,

unlike Shriver, can't imagine "banging out another tour" and decides to go AWOL and plead his case in Washington. Michele joins him on this cross-country excursion after she has a falling-out with Steve over his willingness to sign up for another year in Iraq.

At this point "Stop-Loss" begins to lose steam. Watching Cornish and Phillippe take a road trip simply doesn't exactly engage the audience. In addition, the plot takes an overly melodramatic turn that diminishes the genuine empathy one feels for the characters during the first 45 minutes of the movie. This drawback aside, it is clear that "Stop-Loss" is not anti-war but pro-soldier.

Arguably, the most riveting part of the film involves watching these boys wage an internal war to regain some semblance of normal life. They enlisted with the idea of defending their country after Sept. 11 and now find themselves fighting a completely different war in a different country. This is no grand

see STOP-LOSS, page 11

ROBIN ALBERTS-MARIGZA | BOSTONISTA



## Day trippin'

April is my favorite time to be a Tufts student. Good weather finally comes to stay, spring fever prevents you from caring about your work, and then that glorious three-day weekend arrives almost serendipitously to give you time to enjoy it all.

And, well, for me at least, it's the middle of yet another week in which the absolution and resolutions of the weekend can't come fast enough. Luckily, in addition to being a beloved "long weekend," the weekend also heralds a cherished "holiday" for college students across the country. And no, I don't mean Passover ... the other one.

In honor of this holiday and the long weekend of beautiful weather, I suggest you pack a snack, a brownie perhaps, and extend your celebrations beyond the library roof.

To begin with, a chillaxed day trip into the city needs to have a certain middle school field trip vibe. Museums, aquariums and parks — anything you would have brought a sack lunch to.

One of my favorite day trips is the Museum of Science. Maybe it's the giant dinosaur (I love dinosaurs) greeting you out front, or perhaps it's that crazy two-story marble maze thing, but from beginning to end, I'm as content a five year old. The hands-on exhibits, everything from touching a pig lung to feats of physics, are fun at any age, but you might have to shove around a few 8-year-olds to get your turn.

After you've finished the exhibits, you should definitely buy a ticket for the Omni IMAX, Planetarium or Laser light shows. This weekend's schedule is "Laser Rock 70's" (AC/DC and Boston set to trippy lights), "Into the Unknown in the Planetarium" and the 3D's "World of Sharks!" Can we say saweeet?

The New England Aquarium is another good place to feel like a kid again. But word on the street is that the Penguin Exhibit is temporarily closed. The penguins are still there, but you don't get to touch them; they can only be viewed through a window. Not as cool. But there is plenty of other marine life to enjoy. The Aquarium also has an IMAX theater where you can catch either "U2-3D" or "Sea Monsters."

One lesser-known museum is the Mapparium, located in the Christian Science Center (behind the Pru). The Mapparium is somewhat difficult to explain — a giant globe made out of stained glass is the best I can do. Tours are led every 15 minutes into the globe. The globe is fascinating, not only because of the beautiful stained glass work, but also because it is acoustically 'perfect.' This means that you can stand on one end of the globe and whisper to a friend standing on the other end, but it sounds as if they're right next to you. The Mapparium is a must.

Another one of Boston's hidden gems is the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum. Adjacent to the Museum School and the MFA, the ISGM is the personal home and personal collection of famous patron of the arts, Ms. Gardner. But the ISGM is most infamously known as the site for the largest art theft in American history. Although the sleuths made off with several priceless Rembrandts and a Vermeer, the museum's collection is still impressive. What makes the museum special is viewing the art in what is really a home, not a museum.

Last but certainly not least is the Boston Common. On a long weekend you have no excuse not to soak up the sun and enjoy the city.

Robin Alberts-Marigza is a senior majoring in psychology. She can be reached at Robin.Alberts\_Marigza@tufts.edu.

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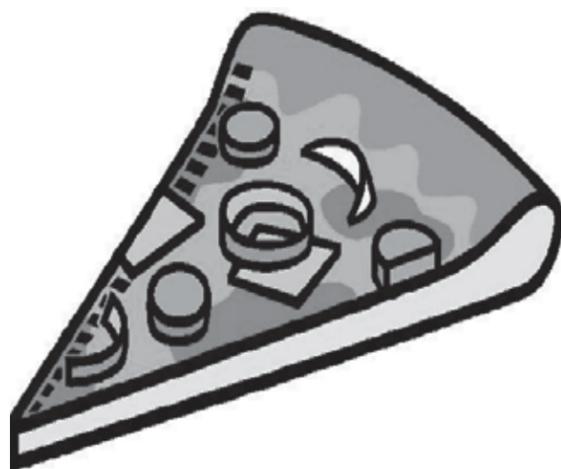
**TODAY**

**Thursday, April 17<sup>th</sup> 2008**

**8:00pm**

**Sophia Gordon**

***FREE***  
***PIZZA!***





R.E.M., consisting of frontman Michael Stipe, bassist Mike Mills and guitarist Peter Buck is two for three on the concept of "chairs."

## R.E.M. makes strides in its newest release

### R.E.M.

continued from page 7

tempo rock standard. Guitarist Peter Buck starts the song with a strange array of discordant guitar noise, but he quickly brings the melody back with the entrance of Stipe's talking-in-tune vocals. The bouncy drum part helps push the piece forward with a dance-like urgency that is accompanied well by Mills' sliding yet steady bass line.

Stipe's subject matter is not completely explicit in its intentions, but most of the songs on the album can be related to his personal struggles with success and image, or similarly, those of the band. In the track "Accelerate," Stipe throws away his regrets by saying, "No time to question the choices I make/ I've got to fall in another direction/ Accelerate."

The song "Horse to Water" brings the band back to post-punk in the most literal temporal sense, beginning with a rapid Ramones-esque drumbeat from Bill Rieflin, the band's touring/studio drummer. Again, Stipe's vocals take the fore, as his distortion-laden voice declares: "You stumble on glass top table/ TV's chewing shock-gone cable/ Pump me up a beanstalk fable/ And I'll call this entertainment/ 'cause Humpty's falling down."

### INTERVIEW | BENJAMIN MCKENZIE

## The Daily had longer than '88 Minutes' to chat with former 'OC' star Ben McKenzie

BY MATTHEW DIGIROLAMO  
Daily Staff Writer

The Daily got the chance to catch up with actor Benjamin McKenzie, the star of "88 Minutes," which will be released this Friday. In the film, Al Pacino plays a professor with a double life as a forensic scientist who lands a serial killer in death row. Before the execution can take place, he receives a phone call warning him that he has only 88 minutes to live and begins a frantic race to investigate many of the people involved, including a strange student played by McKenzie.

McKenzie talked about his experience working with Pacino, cross-dressing and his transition from "OC" star to feature films.

**Question:** Do you have any concerns that it may be difficult for audiences to separate Ryan from other characters that you now will play?

**Benjamin McKenzie:** Television is a very powerful medium, and to be on a show that had some success and kind of permeated the pop-cultural Zeitgeist to a degree, I think, makes people sort of associate you with that character more than they might if it were just a film or a more short-lived experience.

To be honest with you, the way that I have tried to go about doing projects other than "The OC," since "The OC," I've basically picked things that are in my mind quite different, whether it's "Junebug" (2005) or this movie with Al where I get to act with a legendary actor. I've tried to do things that aren't perhaps the sort of film version of "The OC," whether it's a teen thriller or teen comedy or whatever those sorts of things are. So I've tried to do things that are a little bit outside the norm in terms of picking roles that are different from the role I played on "The OC."

But I think that you only have so much power over it. It basically comes down to how other people view you, so yes,

maybe I'll just hole up in a cabin somewhere for a few years and chop some wood, work on my horseback riding or something.

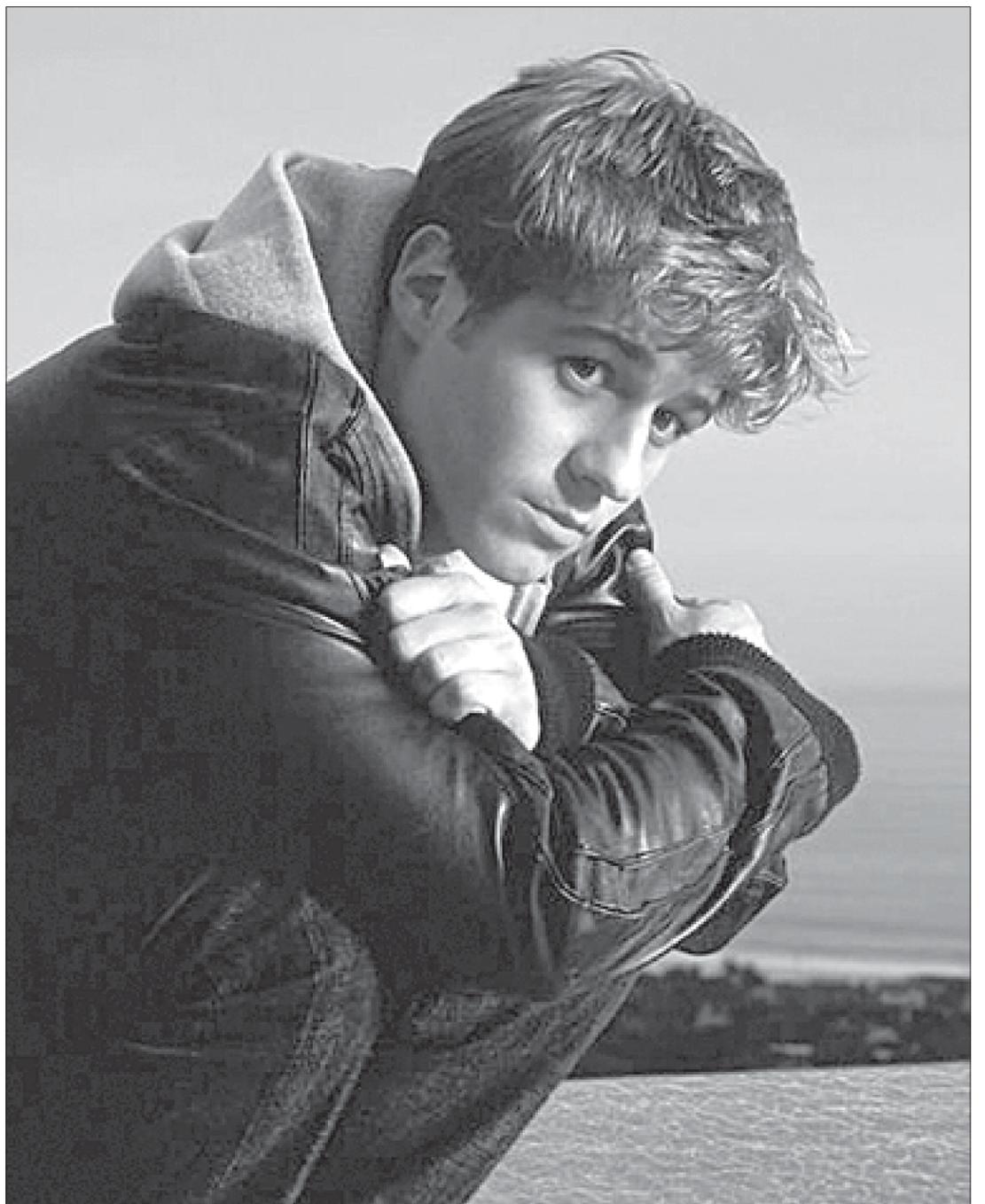
**Q:** What attracted you to this role?

**BM:** My agent called me and said, "There's a role in an Al Pacino movie, and your scene is with Al Pacino." And I said, "Great. When can I start?" It was literally that simple. I actually knew Jon Avnet, the director, socially; I'd met him socially maybe a year before, so we knew each other a little bit. But basically the real question was whether it was going to be able to work out schedule-wise because we were still filming "The OC."

Thankfully, they were on a Wednesday-to-Sunday schedule up in Vancouver, so I literally shot Monday through Friday in LA and then went up on the weekend and shot up there. But any time you have a chance to work with such a legendary figure, you might as well go for it. I mean, what's the worst that happens? And, if nothing else, I can say that I worked with him, and that gives me some pleasure, actually.

**Q:** If someone told you [that] for 88 Minutes you had to play one character that would really change things for you either as a person or change your character, what would you spend that 88 minutes playing? What kind of role would that be?

**BM:** Wow. How would I spend 88 minutes playing a particular character. That's a good one. Maybe Dustin Hoffman's role in "Tootsie" (1982). A little cross-dressing never hurt anyone, really. That would certainly change the perception of me, I would imagine, both in good ways and bad. I honestly have no idea how to answer that particular question ... I hope that was off the radar enough, that that was random enough for you. But I figured, if I'm going to play someone for 88 minutes, I might as well get to



McKenzie warns us that 88 minutes in the Orange County sun may result in a burn.

wear a dress, you know?

**Q:** People are saying that "Gossip Girl" is sort of the new "OC." Having been on a TV show — a really popular show and a teen-oriented show — what advice would you have for them being on the show now

and also transitioning after the show into the future?

**BM:** I would say enjoy it as much as you possibly can. There's a lot of pressures on you when you're shooting a show and shooting it for a long time. It's a lot of work. So I

would say my advice is pretty simple: Focus on that work. Get as much satisfaction out of it as you can. Try to keep it new and fresh and interesting for yourself by working on it as an actor.



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## TOP TEN | MOVIES THAT COULD USE A FEW ZOMBIES

For those who aren't in the know, porn star Jenna Jameson's new movie, "Zombie Strippers," hits theaters this weekend, and if that isn't enough to get you excited to be alive, we don't know what is. As always, that got us thinking: If strippers can be made more awesome by the addition of zombies, what other movies could we up the awesome-factor for?

**10. "Tuesdays with Morrie" (1999):** I saw Morrie today. He couldn't use the bathroom on his own anymore. Also, he bit a large chunk out of my thigh. But it's what he said afterwards that got me: "Mrahhhggzzzz."

**9. "The Sound of Music" (1965):** The hills are alive ... with Nazi zombies!

**8. "Pretty Woman" (1990):** She's a walking-dead prostitute with a craving for brains. He's a successful, wealthy businessman. Can she overcome her lowly background to win his heart? It's going to take more than makeup. (Actually, you could just take the makeup off Julia Roberts, and she'd look the part.)

**7. "Take the Lead" (2006):** Antonio Banderas is a teacher assigned to an underprivileged school of zombies. When he realizes that these kids have no chance of academic success, he gives up and tries to teach them to dance instead. Mix hip-hop, ballroom dancing and zombies, and you've got a full length feature version of "Thriller."

**6. "Cool Runnings" (1993):** The first zombie bobsled team attempts to make it to the Olympics, but its members fail repeatedly when

their arms come off while trying to push the sled at the start. Far-fetched though it may be, did anyone actually believe the story when it was about Jamaicans?

**5. "Philadelphia" (1993):** Andrew Beckett is fired from his position at a prestigious corporate law firm for his being a zombie. Now, he must team up with a former zombophobe to take on the system and defend his rights.

**4. "Titanic" (1997):** Surely the only way to create a sequel for this epic drama would be to make the poor passengers zombies. Just imagine zombie-Jack rising from the water and screaming, "You said you'd never let go ... WTF, man?"

**3. "Miracle" (2004):** So they beat the Soviets ... what's next for the underdog Team USA? A team of zombies might prove to be worthy adversaries. They might not be very good skaters, but they don't exactly play by the rules.

**2. "West Side Story" (1961):** What's better than a forbidden love affair between a greasy New York gangster and a Puerto Rican immigrant? I think you see where this is going. Sure the Jets have some decent moves, but can they compete with "Thriller?" We can only speculate.

**1. "Passion of the Christ" (2004):** And on the third day, Christ did rise to partake of the brains of mankind, that repentance of sins should be preached in his name among all nations. It's like Easter, only with undead Jesus. We're all going to hell, we know.

—by the Daily Arts Department

## McKenzie moves from California beaches to Seattle slayer movies

### MCKENZIE

continued from page 9

Then, in terms of the parts that you choose to take outside, my advice is to go and stretch yourself as an actor, but I think it really depends on sort of your philosophy. I think people can have different opinions, and ... people can be right and disagree with each other, and they can still be right. Some people want to swing for the fences and get a bit movie and star in it and ride that horse, and I think they should. But for me it was about kind of switching it up a little bit.

**Q:** Since "88 Minutes" takes place in real time on the screen, were the scenes shot in order, or was it done like a regular movie where you did one scene one day and a different scene ... out of sequence?

**BM:** It was done out of sequence. I think it was logistically too difficult to try to shoot it sequentially. That being said, you did have to be kind of aware of the fact that pacing-wise, the movie needs to start ramping up pretty quickly, and it needs to start at a certain level, which is already relatively high, as soon as Al's character is getting the phone calls. It needs to start at that level, but it needs to get more and more sort of intense and faster and faster-paced as you go along. So we

sort of always had to be aware of the fact that it was taking place within a very limited time span, taking place theoretically live for the audience. That's the idea.

**Q:** You started off onstage and doing some stage shows in college. Do you hope to get back to stage someday or are you planning on staying in TV and film permanently?

**BM:** No, I would love to, I really would. The closest that I've really come to it since doing "The OC" was this film that I shot, this "Johnny Got His Gun" (2008), which is basically a one-man play that's filmed, so it's sort of a hybrid. But to be honest with you, I really would. The opportunity just hasn't really arisen. When I was shooting the TV show, we just literally didn't have enough time in between seasons for me to really do a play because there wouldn't be enough time to rehearse and do enough shows for the investors to recoup their expenses. So it was an impossibility while I was shooting, and now that I'm off, the right thing hasn't come along. But I would love to. It's been a dream of mine to go back to New York where I lived for a little while and ... theater acting is very good for the soul and good for the old acting chops. I think it really makes you a better actor in the long run.



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## 'Stop-Loss' is a powerful study into the psyche

### STOP-LOSS

continued from page 7

war fought on the vast expanse of desert. Battles take place in urban dwellings, hallways, rooftops and alleys where every other person is an innocent civilian. The effects of such a war are visible in Philippe's eyes, which have a haunted look, and Tatum's involuntary jaw clench.

Tommy Burgess shows the strain most clearly. He looks the youngest, which makes the image of him toting a gun the most jarring. He also relies the most on the structure the military life gives him. When a senior officer calls him in to rebuke him for excessive drinking, Levitt breaks down, pleading with the officer not to discharge him. The scene highlights the irony of being a soldier: You sign up to protect home and country, but the experience forever alters your ability to function in those places. The longer you are enlisted, the more dependent you become. Because it destroys everything else, it becomes the only place where you belong.



IMDB.COM

Tatum is unhappy because his latest film doesn't include any breakdancing.

## 'Fashion for Change' helps an orphan with a little help from Marc Jacobs



DANAI MACRIDI/TUFTS DAILY

Caring for orphans has never been this sexy.

Tonight at 10 p.m., students in Dewick-MacPhie will serve up more than pizza and hamburgers. "BLUSH: Fashion for Change" will transform the dining hall into a runway show of 20 Tufts students modeling a variety of looks from three different labels.

But in this case, dressing well is about more than looking good. Benefits from "BLUSH" will go to Tufts China Care and the Tufts HIV/AIDS Collaborative. Tufts China Care hopes to use its share of the profits to fund surgery for Pan Chen, an orphan baby with spina bifida. Sophomore Riti Kanthan, chair of Funding for China Care, said the group chose to do a fashion show because there was a "great amount of interest on campus," and they wanted to try something new.

Two of the labels featured in the show are centered in Boston. Harvard Square's Desinvolte offers trendy, European-influenced looks. Almost all of the pieces

in the boutique have a sexy flair, whether it's black see-through lace on a vest or curve-hugging pleats on a seemingly prim and proper skirt. The looks from Irresistibles, located on Newbury Street, have a more comfortable, casual feel. The highlight of the show will undoubtedly be the 10 outfits donated by Marc Jacobs. The label is known for its edginess and the cult of personality centered on its namesake.

In addition to the runway show, "BLUSH" will feature performances by Tufts Fusion and the Tufts Ballroom Team. There will be a DJ playing music all night. Organizers encourage students to dress up for the event, as digital glamour shots will be taken for \$3. There will be a raffle for Marc Jacobs items, finger food and a presentation on AIDS. Tickets to the event are \$8 at the Campus Center Information Desk.

—by Naomi Bryant

## from the office of the TUFTS DAILY



Dear J.K. Rowling,

We at the Tufts Daily Arts Department heard about your recent legal battles over the lucrative Harry Potter franchise, namely the creation of a Harry Potter encyclopedia. We have complete faith that you will win, achieve domination of everything Harry Potter-related and add another \$100 million to the stockpile of cash we're sure you sleep on every night.

However, there are many more interesting ways for you to get rid of the hoards of people trying to jump on the Harry Potter bandwagon. You could knock them in the head with a Quidditch bludger, or you could send one of those dragons that a certain unnecessary Weasley brother works with. You could also send that ogre Hagrid to put the fear of Dumbledore in them, or, as a last resort of course, you could just pull out your wand (yes, we know you are a witch J.K.) and avada kedavra their butts to kingdom come.

At the same time, though, it is your own fault for not having thought of a Harry Potter encyclopedia/dictionary. We're talking close to 5,000 pages of reading material here, so there is no way that the normal Harry Potter fan can remember every spell or every shenanigan Harry Potter and his happy band of misfits got themselves into. At your lawsuit on Monday, you claimed you weren't upset with this book because of the money it would take away from you, but then you also said you were working on your own Harry Potter encyclopedia. Apparently there isn't a spell for logic.

The point is while we appreciate Harry Potter and all it has given our pop culture-addicted lives, you should learn to share the Harry Potter love and wealth. Besides, none of us wants to wait three years for you to write your so-called encyclopedia, and we're pretty sure yours would still make big bucks, so quit worrying.

Sincerely,

The Daily Arts Department



HUFFINGTONPOST.COM

## Bistro 5



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## EDITORIAL

## Carter's Hamas visit is misguided

Last week, the Arabic-language newspaper Al-Hayat reported that former President Jimmy Carter was planning a trip to Syria for mid-April, during which he would meet with Khaled Meshal, the exiled head of the Palestinian terror group Hamas, on April 18. That is a terrible, terrible idea.

A former head of state meeting with Hamas affords the terrorist group the kind of legitimacy that even Palestinian President, Mahmoud Abbas has sought to deny them. While Carter continues to express his belief that there is a "good chance" that Hamas could become a nonviolent organization, it seems irresponsible (and, frankly, obtuse) to meet and commiserate with a group that continues to actively work for the violent destruction of Israel.

This isn't the first time that Carter has caused frustration in America. He raised protests when he visited Cuba in 2002 and was photographed shaking hands with Fidel Castro, and he earned the wrath of Presidents Bush I, Clinton and Bush II due to his free-

lance diplomacy with North Korea. In August 2006, Carter criticized former British Prime Minister Tony Blair for being "subservient" to the Bush administration, and later that year he publicly called Bush's presidency "the worst in history." He also offered to negotiate with the terrorist group ETA, a Basque separatist group primarily located in Spain, and, just a few days ago, provoked outrage by laying a wreath on the grave of Yasser Arafat.

It's the kind of idealism that would be almost endearing if it weren't giving ulcers to every Democratic candidate in America who will be forced to denounce or disown the former president or be pummeled by attacks from the right, left and center.

That's not to say that Carter hasn't done some good things. As president, he brokered a 1979 peace agreement between Israel and Egypt at Camp David—an effort that helped earn him the Nobel Peace Prize. Through his work at the Carter Center in Atlanta, he regularly does good work abroad by monitoring foreign elections. The former presi-

dent has also gained international plaudits through his work with Habitat for Humanity International, providing low-cost housing to people in need.

So Jimmy Carter likes to help people. But his brand of help in this case is worrying; it seems to consist solely of trying to show the world that these murderous terrorists aren't so bad after all.

To call him a lightning rod for controversy is imprecise, since a lightning rod attracts dangerous electricity in order to prevent harm to others. Rather, Carter appears to stand on top of a roof with a coat hanger during a storm, handing it off to an innocent bystander the moment before the lightning strikes. In short, his visit will almost certainly ensure that someone gets hurt and the rest of us will have to clean up the mess.

While we at the Daily admire Carter's energy and enthusiasm, we join the majority of America in respectfully asking the former president to please, and with all due haste, put a sock in it.

## ROXY SPERBER

## TRYING TO FIT TOO MUCH?



## OFF THE HILL | OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY

## Caution and awareness, not paranoia, is the answer

The Daily O'Collegian Editorial Board would like to remember those who fell in last year's Virginia Tech massacre.

Hopefully such events will not happen again, but given the long history of such attacks, it is hard to be so optimistic.

The anniversary of this terrible event came yesterday, as universities and schools across the country tried to reevaluate their security procedures. More importantly, reevaluating how institutions deal with troubled people on their campus — before a crisis situation develops — is taking place as well.

Putting up security perimeters, remote sensors, inside locks, electronic entry and

various other measures to supposedly boost security on campus is important in conveying an outward sense of security and makes us feel safer.

But how effective are these procedures when we can't put monitors and locks into the mind of a would-be attacker?

A common thread in the attacks over the past decade is a deeply troubled person who has somehow eluded the intervention of others, whether intentionally or by accident, which could have prevented his or her ultimate meltdown.

An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure, but in situations such as the Virginia

Tech shooting, there seems to be a breakdown in the schools' methods of handling students' personal crises.

The warning signs were obvious. The steps to ensure this person was doing OK failed because of bureaucratic problems. Also, ignorance could have been the culprit.

We have seen clearly the damage that ignorance can do in our society — but that ignorance can also extend to one another. If we are not aware of our neighbor, or have no love or care for them, then we may be just as unaware of other dangerous forces in the world. Caution and awareness, not paranoia, is the answer.



## Green-collar jobs: environmentalism and the economy

BY LUCY MCKEON

Do you have no idea what you want to do after you bid farewell to the plush President's Lawn and wrought-iron gates of Tufts? Don't worry — there are plenty of opportunities in the field of efficient and renewable energy. In fact, eight million people are employed in energy efficiency, as well as 450,000 people in renewable energy, in the United States alone.

A recent nationwide survey of 7,718 American workers ages 18 years and older reported a less-than-ideal account of employee satisfaction. According to the survey by Harris Interactive for Age Wave, "more than half of American workers question the basic morality of their organizations' top leaders and said that their managers do not treat them fairly." Only 45 percent of workers report being satisfied, and 12 percent report being extremely satisfied with their jobs.

I know the ideal job can seem pretty impossible sometimes. And yes, we all have to make compromises. I'm coming to accept that I might not become the rock-star drummer, part-time veterinarian and weekend crepe chef I once aspired to be. But working for an environmentally responsible organization is something that we should not be willing to compromise. A survey of young workers reports that 80 percent would prefer a job that has a positive impact on the environment, and a large 92 percent would choose to work for an environmentally friendly company.

Green jobs are not only good for the planet, but also tend to establish good employer-employee relationships and positive worker morale. Of course, there are exceptions, but even if your environmentalist boss is a jerk, at least you'll have the fulfilling feeling of coming home each night from a job that is helping, not hurting, the necessary task of undoing the damage of global warming.

One often-overlooked truth is that the transition to a clean-energy economy is an opportunity for big business to make money in the long run. Not only could this move benefit environmentally aware college graduates like us, but it also creates a huge employment opportunity for working-class Americans.

Van Jones, civil rights lawyer and founder and executive director of the

Ella Baker Center for Human Rights, recognizes this opportunity better than anyone in his "Green Jobs, Not Jail" campaign. He and the Ella Baker Center worked with House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) to pass the Green Jobs Act of 2007, which will provide \$120 million in funding to train 35,000 people a year in "green-collar jobs."

Based in Oakland, Calif., the Oakland Apollo Alliance is a coalition of organized labor, environmentalists, higher education systems, social justice activists and businesses with a common goal: to create jobs in a modern energy economy and, as a result, to stimulate and strengthen underprivileged communities while improving the environment. The alliance proposes the adoption of two new policies to the City Council of Oakland: to fund a "Green Economic Development Plan" and to establish the Oakland Green Jobs Corps.

Integral to the movement are youth training programs, which would teach green-collar job skills for the future, like solar-panel installation, wastewater reclamation, organic food production, material re-use, recycling and the development of greater energy efficiency. Another idea in the works between the Apollo Alliance and the Campus Climate Challenge is the creation of a "Clean Energy Jobs Corps," like the Peace Corps or AmeriCorps — but devoted to modifying the economy and, essentially, reinventing it based on a clean energy infrastructure.

Jones and others have perceived the frequent disconnect between the environmentalist campaign and the movement to combat social inequality, addressing concerns of low-income workers and those without a steady income at all. It's easy to understand the division between eco-elitism (on one extreme side of environmentalism) and a struggling low-income youth. A common ground often feels unreachable, as there is seemingly little that allows the two groups to relate or understand one another. But Jones explains the tactic for joining those with privilege and those without: "For people who have a lot of crisis already, they don't want to hear about another big crisis. They've got sick parents, no health care, all that kind of stuff — they don't want to hear about it. The rhetoric has to change. For people with a bunch of opportunity, you

tell them about the crisis. For people with a bunch of crisis, you tell about the opportunities ... You've got to engage the majority of people on terms they understand and they're excited about."

It is time to see environmentalism as a counter to American poverty instead of as a discouraging or fatalist complaint. And in turn, green job opportunities stimulate the economy and further equality while addressing drastic climate issues. The issue, then, isn't only environmental sustainability, but the creation of a sustainable economy as well.

On Tuesday, U.S. Representatives Edward Markey (D-Mass.) and Hilda Solis (D-Calif.), members of the Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming appointed by Speaker Pelosi, held the special hearing "Economic Impacts of Global Warming: Green Collar Jobs." Jones provided testimony at this hearing in which Solis directly addressed the opportunity for environmentalism to aid economic problems: "We must ensure both that workers are skilled on this new technology and that this technology presents a pathway out of poverty for our nation's unskilled workforce and underserved communities."

Without getting into hair-splitting distinctions, the term "green-collar job" can apply across both of its collar-color predecessors. It can refer to employment that would clearly identify with the "blue-collar" label, such as solar installation or retrofitting buildings to be more energy-efficient. But it can also apply to "white-collar" work including engineering, entrepreneurship, marketing, finance and more.

So if you're one of the 92 percent who wants to contribute to the global warming solution, now is the right time. Check out the Environmental and Energy Study Institute's comprehensive fact sheet that explores the increasing trend of renewable energy and energy-efficient jobs and links you to said major organizations. And don't forget to come hear Van Jones speak in our very own Cohen Auditorium on Earth Day, this coming Tuesday, from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m., sponsored by Tufts Urban and Environmental Policy and Planning.

Lucy McKeon is a sophomore majoring in English.

XANDER ZEBROSE | GET OFF MY LAWN



### No to fat acceptance

On Tuesday, the Daily published an editorial supporting a bill that would ban discrimination based on height or weight.

It is currently stuck in the Massachusetts Legislature and is sponsored by Tufts graduate and Somerville State Rep. Carl Sciortino.

I hope it never gets passed.

Since at least two-thirds of Americans are overweight, practically everyone could have some grounds to sue if this becomes law. This bill would give most Americans an excuse to sue their employer if they don't get a raise. If an employer encouraged his employees to exercise or control their diets, he could be sued for creating a hostile workplace. If a lower proportion of overweight job applicants were hired than thin applicants, a business could be forced to create an affirmative action program. Never mind that there could be a correlation between weight and responsibility; the costs would be astronomical.

Of course, there are obese individuals with medical conditions that make it impossible for them to attain a healthy weight. However, not every obese American has a thyroid condition. Certainly the number of Americans with genetic conditions that predispose them to obesity hasn't skyrocketed in recent decades. Many obese individuals are in no way responsible for their condition — but some are.

Supporters of the bill compare weight and height discrimination to sexism and racism. This is ridiculous. There have been short and fat presidents. (Taft weighed over 300 pounds, Madison was 5' 4".) Clinton administration Secretary of Labor and former gubernatorial candidate Robert Reich is only 4' 11". Many successful people are short or overweight — it is clear that the obese and height-challenged can get ahead without government intervention. There is no glass ceiling. The discrimination and abuse faced by women and blacks cannot honestly be compared to the obstacles faced by the short and overweight.

This bill would encourage the acceptance of unhealthy, dangerous dietary practices. It is supported by the National Association to Advance Fat Acceptance (NAAFA). NAAFA is a self-described "human rights organization" that seeks to "promote acceptance of fat people within society." But the fact is that obesity predisposes individuals to life-threatening conditions such as heart disease and diabetes. We should not let political correctness endanger people's health.

NAAFA has vocally opposed public health campaigns encouraging children to lose weight. It sued a police department in Southern California over a "No Fat Cops" poster, claiming a hostile workplace was created for a "plus-size sheriff's deputy." These activists will be bringing more lawsuits if this bill passes.

We need fewer fat cops. Obese children should be encouraged to lose weight. Efforts to achieve these common-sense goals could be blocked if this bill is passed.

Bullying in the workplace isn't something anyone wants to see happen; employees shouldn't be belittled because of their stature or girth. But that does not mean that they should be going to court and settling for millions, which would happen if the bill were to pass. It is in the interest of a business to keep their employees happy and productive. If someone feels unfairly treated, he should talk to his boss about it. This solution, while imperfect, is better than wave of frivolous lawsuits.

This bill would let practically every disgruntled worker sue his employer. Everyone who's been passed over for a promotion, they could take their case to court in Massachusetts. It might be baseless, but it would still waste a lot of time and money. Even if a business might decide to just settle and avoid the hassle, the costs will be passed on to consumers in higher prices and lower quality services. That isn't good for anyone.

Xander Zebrose is a sophomore majoring in economics. He can be reached at [Alexander.Zebrose@tufts.edu](mailto:Alexander.Zebrose@tufts.edu).



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## With training behind them, PMC members hone their mental fitness for Monday

### MARATHON

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little bit easier to imagine that, but it's still really intimidating for sure to imagine the end of the marathon."

With a mere four days separating the PMC team from the marathon itself, one might think that the members would be pushing themselves as hard as ever with respect to training for the long 26.2 miles that lie in their future. But Megerle encourages them instead to take things easy in the final days before the race.

"From Wednesday through the marathon, we encourage them not to run," said Megerle, who is in his fourth year as Tufts' PMC director. "Some will run, though, but I tell them to stay off their feet and rest their quads. If you run on tired legs, they stay tired. If they don't do that, then the fatigue masks what's inside them. They'll get through the marathon, but not nearly like they would if they rested."

Some PMC participants have battled injury and other obstacles during the training process, including stress fractures, shingles, knee problems and even heart attacks. While Tufts usually manages to field virtually all of its 200 runners, this year has been particularly difficult in terms of runners lost to ailments, possibly whittling the team's final tally down to about 190 runners. But the resilience of the PMC team members might yet overcome.

"We had a rash of injuries at the end," Megerle said. "We had probably 10 runners three weeks ago who I thought were down and out, and those 10 ran nine miles last Sunday. [Trainers] Nick Mitropoulos and Kim Mace brought them through training regimens, physical therapy, rest, muscle stimulation, massage, stretching, and all those runners ran nine miles last Sunday. We credit Nick and Kim for bringing these people from the depths of nowhere and resurrecting their training."

While each runner will have to rely on his or her own two legs once the marathon itself begins, the support the PMC participants have received — most notably from Megerle — has helped keep them mentally fueled and motivated both during training and for the final run on Patriots' Day.

"In September I started with four miles, and I got through it, but it wasn't really a piece of cake," Hirsch said. "At first, it was really daunting to think that by the end of training we'd be running 20 miles. But Don has always helped us raise our confidence and been very assuring, and sure enough the 20 miles came and went, and it's gone smoothly. I think that more than anything, he's a life coach, and he makes you think you can do things that you never thought could be possible."

"He's very realistic, but he's also very excited about people running it and wants people to run it," Blackman added. "So there's a good balance between him being

very considerate of the realities of something this big and also making sure people finish and making sure people themselves are able to be happy about it."

For Megerle, his position as coach from September through the end of April is something he thrives on.

"It's in some ways indescribable," he said. "You spend the whole year with them, you see them in the morning when they leave at 5:00 to go to Boston on the yellow BAA bus that's driven out to Hopkinton, and then I see them coming through at mile nine; them coming through at mile nine is about as exhilarating for these runners as you can imagine.

"It blows you away," he continued. "I tell people, it's like they're running to meet me; I'm their oasis in their long 26.2 miles, and I think a lot of them will say that the most exciting is to see me at the finish. And these kids are transformed in

ways that nothing else could do but running a marathon."

With so few days remaining, the time for physical training is over, but mental conditioning and preparation for the task ahead remains at the front of the PMC members' minds.

"At this point, I figure I've put in the work and now it's rest week," Hirsch said. "It's really not on my mind because over the last few months it's been a huge part of my week, getting up early and running, but now I'm starting to get back into the college routine of staying up late and waking up a little bit later. It hasn't really hit me that the marathon is just several days away. But it's exciting; I'm waiting for that day to finally be here."

"I try not to fire them up," Megerle added. "I'm not one of those guys who wants to get them too keyed up; I'm pretty calm but confident, and I assure them that we're going to get them through it."

## THIS IS YOUR MOMENT



Photo by Meena Bolourchi (A'08)

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INSIDE THE NHL

# Bruins put up a good fight, but it's not enough against the Habs

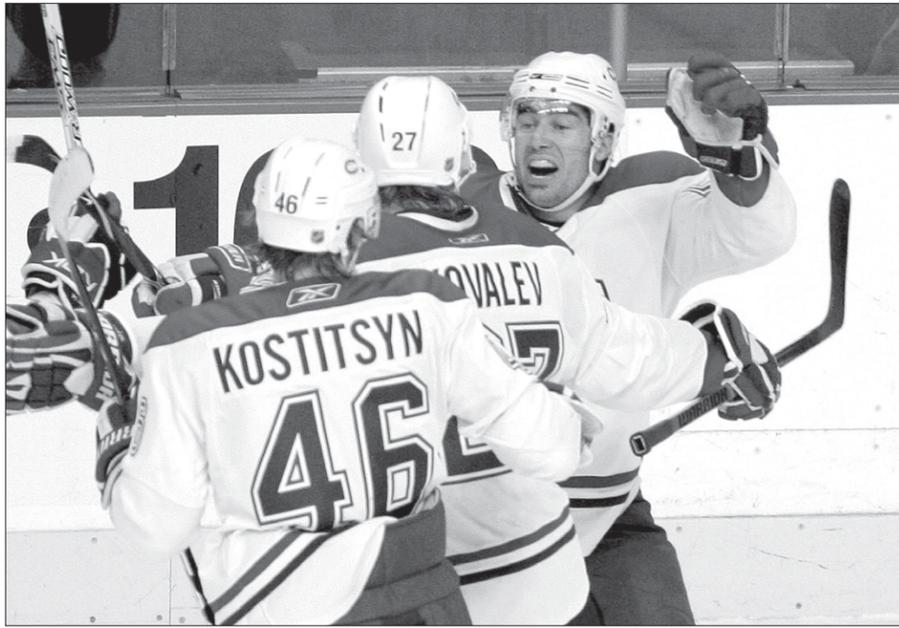
BY ADAM SILVERBERG  
Daily Staff Writer

The **Boston Bruins** shouldn't hang their heads if they get eliminated from their first-round playoff series against the **Montreal Canadiens** tonight. Aside from the opening period of Game 1, the Bruins have played spectacular hockey. Unfortunately for them, they have only one win to show for it.

This series is exactly what Boston needed in order to revitalize the spirit of the sport in Beantown. There have been all the ingredients fans want to see in a hockey series: vicious checks, some fighting, tremendous goaltending and two overtime games. The series is a lot closer than it appears, despite the 3-1 edge the Canadiens have after four games.

Based on history alone, the Bruins should not have a chance in this series. They are the eighth seed against a divisional foe that has absolutely owned them in the recent past. The Canadiens beat the Bruins all eight times in the regular season and the previous three games before that dating back to last year.

This trend continued into the first two games in Montreal, extending the streak to a stunning 13 games. However, this series does not feel like a one-sided battle. In fact, after Game 1, it could be argued that the Bruins have physically outplayed the Canadiens, yet they just cannot put the puck in the net.



Andre Kostitsyn, Alex Kovalev, Francis Bouillon and the Montreal Canadiens opened up a 3-1 lead on the Boston Bruins in the first round of the Eastern Conference playoffs Tuesday. The Habs will look to close out the series tonight at the Bell Centre.

After the first blowout loss of 4-1, the Bruins responded with an all-out effort in Montreal in Game 2. Led mainly by its rookies, Boston looked poised to even the series in Game 2. The fresh legs of the 20-year-olds

proved to be a beneficial factor, as a power-play goal by David Krejci with 11 minutes left evened the score at two.

Along with Krejci, fellow rookie Milan Lucic is making a name for himself as an

enforcer on the ice. Lucic never gives up on a play, leading to checks and turnovers. He has found himself in the right spot on more than one occasion and has been the Bruins' MVP through four games of this series.

However, two bad penalties to end regulation and to start overtime in Game 2 gave the Bruins no chance to recover, as Alex Kovalev slapped home his first goal of the postseason to put his team up two games to none.

The Bruins returned home and finally took care of business. They took their first lead against Montreal all season with a goal by Lucic, and they controlled much of the game. Marc Savard's first career playoff goal was the game-winner in overtime after a delayed penalty call let him jump onto the ice. It was the Bruins' first win of the season against the Canadiens.

The battle continued Tuesday night, and although the Bruins looked sharp yet again, they did not seem to be getting the shots they wanted. After taking over the starting job after the trading deadline in March, rookie goaltender Carey Price has been almost impenetrable for the Canadiens. So far this postseason, he has let up only five goals in four games, including overtimes.

The Bruins are getting their open shots from the point on the power play, but Price has been too good. He reads everything extremely well and has not let up any easy goals. It looks like the Bruins' time is running out in this postseason.

## Challenging matches coming up against Amherst and Williams

### MEN'S TENNIS

continued from page 19

got easier, and then I got an early break in both sets and that just set the mood."

To round out the singles results, Vinh Tran dominated his match at No. 6 to win 6-1, 6-0.

After back-to-back wins over teams that are below the NESCAC's typically high standards, the Jumbos will now prepare to face two of their toughest opponents of the season in Amherst and Williams. The team will get three days to rest before traveling to Amherst on Sunday and then out to Williams on Tuesday.

With just a 2-4 record thus far in conference play, the Jumbos will need solid performances against both of these teams to strengthen their postseason hopes. Both teams are ranked in the top 15 in the country

by the Intercollegiate Tennis Association, as Williams sits at No. 9 and Amherst hovers just below at No. 14. The good news for a Tufts team that has fallen out of the top 30 is that Amherst may not be playing its best tennis of the season.

"Amherst just lost to Bowdoin," Eng said. "Amherst always seems to have a little lull, and most years we catch them at their hot point, but right now they are not playing their best. We just have to go in there and play hard, and we have a shot. We have to play very, very well, elevate our doubles and play tough singles."

The Jumbos have confidence and poise heading into the coming matches and expect to have both Trott and Rosen back and healthy to complete their already potent singles lineup and improving doubles squad.

### SCHEDULE | April 17 - April 23

	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED
<b>Baseball</b>		vs. Trinity 3 p.m.	vs. Trinity (2) 12 p.m.				at Bentley 3 p.m.
<b>Softball</b>		vs. Trinity 4 p.m.	vs. Trinity (2) 12 p.m.		at Endicott 12 p.m.		
<b>Men's Lacrosse</b>			at Bates 1 p.m.			vs. Amherst 7 p.m.	
<b>Women's Lacrosse</b>	vs. Babson 4 p.m.		vs. Bates 12 p.m.			at Amherst 7 p.m.	
<b>Men's Tennis</b>				at Amherst 12 p.m.		at Williams 4 p.m.	
<b>Women's Tennis</b>		at Wellesley 2:30 p.m.	vs. Trinity 11 a.m.				
<b>Track and Field</b>			MIT Invite/ Larry Ellis Invite (Men only)				
<b>Women's Crew</b>			at Lake Quinsigamond Worcester	at Lake Quinsigamond Worcester			
<b>Men's Crew</b>			at Lake Quinsigamond Worcester	at Lake Quinsigamond Worcester			

### STATISTICS | STANDINGS

Men's Lacrosse (7-4, 4-2 NESCAC)				
	NESCAC	OVERALL		
	W	L	W	L
Middlebury	6	1	9	1
Wesleyan	5	1	7	3
<b>Tufts</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>
Trinity	3	3	5	5
Conn. College	3	4	7	5
Bowdoin	2	3	6	4
Amherst	2	4	7	5
Bates	2	4	3	7
Colby	2	4	6	4
Williams	2	5	5	5

Individual Statistics			
	G	A	P
D.J. Hessler	15	20	35
Clem McNally	19	2	21
Ryan Molloy	13	2	15
Connor Ginsberg	10	5	15
Chase Bibby	6	3	9
Jamie Atkins	7	1	8
Mike Cortese	5	3	8
Matt Caple	4	4	8
Patrick Devine	5	1	6
Brett Holm	4	1	5
<b>Team</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>163</b>

Goaltending			
	GA	Sv	S%
Matt Harrigan	85	126	.597

Women's Lacrosse (7-3, 3-3 NESCAC)				
	NESCAC	OVERALL		
	W	L	W	L
Middlebury	7	0	7	2
Amherst	5	1	9	1
Trinity	4	2	6	4
Colby	3	3	7	4
<b>Tufts</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>
Bowdoin	2	3	7	4
Bates	2	4	5	5
Wesleyan	2	4	5	6
Conn. College	1	5	6	6
Williams	1	5	3	6

Individual Statistics			
	G	A	P
Sarah Williams	17	17	34
Amanda Roberts	25	8	33
Chrissie Attura	14	12	26
Courtney Thomas	22	3	25
Emily Johnson	19	5	24
Maya Shoham	16	6	22
Alyssa Corbett	9	10	19
Jenna Abelli	12	4	16
Michelle Crothers	3	3	6
Alyssa Kopp	2	3	5
<b>Team</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>212</b>

Goaltending			
	GA	Sv	S%
Sara Bloom	90	95	.514

Baseball (13-9, 4-2 NESCAC East)						
	DIVISION			OVERALL		
NESCAC East	W	L	T	W	L	T
Trinity	9	0	0	24	0	0
<b>Tufts</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>
Bowdoin	3	5	0	11	11	0
Bates	1	5	0	4	12	0
Colby	0	5	0	10	9	0

Individual Statistics			
	AVG	HR	RBI
Steve Ragonese	.473	6	38
Nate Bankoff	.406	0	2
Chase Rose	.404	1	18
Dave Katzman	.393	0	9
Ari David	.371	0	11
Alex Perry	.345	0	16
Ian Goldberg	.337	2	21
Ben Walkley	.333	0	0
Corey Pontes	.326	0	25
Kevin Casey	.314	0	20
Alex Grzymala	.286	0	3
Dave Leresche	.274	0	11
Eric Catalanotti	.269	0	10
<b>Team</b>	<b>.342</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>188</b>

Pitching						
	IP	W	L	ERA	SO	
Pat O'Donnell	35.1	4	0	1.02	18	
Jason Protano	34.0	3	1	4.24	4	
Tommy Hill	12.1	0	0	4.38	9	
Jack Dilday	11.2	0	2	4.63	30	

Softball (19-6, 6-0 NESCAC East)						
	DIVISION			OVERALL		
NESCAC East	W	L	T	W	L	T
<b>Tufts</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>
Trinity	7	2	0	13	8	0
Bowdoin	3	5	0	19	7	0
Bates	1	4	0	4	12	0
Colby	0	6	0	6	10	0

Individual Statistics			
	AVG	HR	RBI
Christy Tinker	.429	6	22
Casey Sullivan	.412	6	23
Samantha Kuhles	.392	0	16
Danielle Lopez	.383	4	26
Megan Cusick	.333	1	16
Laura Chapman	.323	0	4
Cara Hovhanessian	.316	2	13
Roni Herbst	.308	0	8
Heather Kleinberger	.296	1	7
Maya Rippecky	.279	2	15
Jenna Robey	.257	0	0
Alison Drobiarz	.214	0	2
<b>Team</b>	<b>.348</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>153</b>

Pitching						
	IP	W	L	ERA	SO	
Lauren Gelmetti	54.0	8	1	2.85	46	
Stefanie Tong	37.0	5	0	2.27	22	
Izzie Santone	36.1	4	2	3.08	26	
Kim Miner	30.0	2	3	3.97	9	

### USILA Div. III Men as of Apr. 14, 2008

- Ranking, team (first place votes)
- Salisbury (14)
  - Gettysburg
  - Cortland
  - Washington College
  - Lynchburg
  - Haverford
  - Middlebury
  - Cabrini
  - 20. Tufts**

### IWLCA Div. III Women as of Apr. 15, 2008

- Ranking, team (first place votes)
- Salisbury (20)
  - The College of New Jersey
  - Franklin & Marshall
  - Gettysburg
  - Hamilton
  - Washington & Lee
  - Middlebury
  - Union
  - 17. Tufts**

### NFCA Div. III Softball as of Apr. 9, 2008

- Ranking, team (No. 1 votes)
- Texas-Tyler (8)
  - Louisiana
  - DePauw
  - Linfield
  - St. Thomas
  - Lynchburg
  - Redlands
  - Methodist
  - 17. Tufts**

## BASEBALL

# Lowly UMass Dartmouth picks up just third win against Tufts

In tune-up for unbeaten Trinity, Tufts falls flat against midweek LEC opponent

BY AARON FRANKEL  
Senior Staff Writer

The baseball team suffered a stunning 10-9 loss to previously 2-20 UMass Dartmouth Tuesday

## BASEBALL

(13-9, 4-2 NESCAC East)

at North Dartmouth, Mass., Tuesday

Tufts	9
UMass Dartmouth	10

in an out-of-conference clash in North Dartmouth, Mass. Though the loss has no bearing on the NESCAC East standings, the timing couldn't be worse, as the team is gearing up for a three-game series against the nation's No. 5 team, division rival Trinity, this weekend.

"It was just one of those days," senior co-captain Adam Telian said. "Nothing was going right for us. They played better than their record indicated, and we played worse than ours."

UMass Dartmouth entered the contest 18 games under .500, but the Corsairs jumped out to a quick 7-0 lead after the first two innings, knocking sophomore pitcher David Gibbs out in the first.

But Tufts responded, tallying eight runs over the next three innings — including seven in the fifth — to take a one-run lead. Twelve Jumbos batted in the fifth, and the highlights included two-run singles from sophomore catcher Alex Perry and freshman designated hitter

Chase Rose.

But the 8-7 edge was short-lived, as the Corsairs struck for two in the bottom of the sixth to pull ahead 9-8. An RBI single in the eighth by sophomore first baseman Corey Pontes tied the game at nine apiece, but an RBI infield single in the bottom half the inning by sophomore left fielder Tom LaDore proved to be the game-winner for UMass Dartmouth.

*"There's not really much I can point to that they did particularly well. They just outplayed us. They played more of a complete game."*

Adam Telian  
senior co-captain

"We just weren't there mentally," freshman pitcher Jack Dilday said. "We lacked emotion in the dugout, we were too lethargic, and that's when something like this can happen."

Dilday gave up one run in two innings and took the loss for the game, dropping him to 0-2 on the year. Junior Mike Stefaniak went 5.1 innings, giving up five runs, three earned, on 10 hits in relief of Gibbs, who lasted just two thirds of an inning.

On the Corsairs' side, freshman Kyle Merrill got the last two outs of the eighth for the win,



LAURA SCHULTZ/TUFTS DAILY

The baseball team suffered a disappointing 10-9 loss at the hands of UMass Dartmouth Tuesday afternoon. The Jumbos will look to rebound against NESCAC rival Trinity, opening a three-game series against the Bantams Friday afternoon.

his first of the year. Freshman Brian Pedrotti pitched a scoreless ninth for his first save.

"There's not really much I can point to that they did particularly well," Telian said. "They just outplayed us. They played more of a complete game."

Though the loss is damaging, the team knows it has to recover and move on.

"We know that it's just one game," Telian said. "We know we're better than how we played on Tuesday, and now we just have to put it behind us."

This weekend, the Jumbos will face Trinity, a team that sports a 24-0 overall record on the year.

Fifth-year senior Tim Kiely is among the best pitchers in the nation, at 6-0 with a 0.86 ERA. Perhaps more impressive is the fact that Kiely has not walked a batter in 41.2 innings pitched, while posting 39 strikeouts. Kiely threw a perfect game in a seven-inning outing against the Jumbos last year.

Practice this week should be tough, as the Jumbos try to shake the loss and refocus themselves for the weekend.

"We need to make sure we have two really hard days of practice," Dilday said. "Not necessarily physically, but more mentally in preparing for a game. We need

to make sure something like this never happens again."

The Jumbos were scheduled to host Albertus Magnus today, but that game has already been postponed. The extra time gives Tufts the opportunity to rest tired arms for the three-game Trinity series as well as get extra defensive practice and hitting reps outside. Every pitcher on the staff appears to have ample recovery time to be ready to go this weekend.

"Obviously, we have to work on everything we didn't do well on Tuesday," Telian said. "We've just got to get back to the basics."

## Attention Juniors!

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MEN'S TENNIS

# Tufts overcomes injuries, buries Springfield

BY TIM JUDSON  
Daily Editorial Board

Despite missing two starters, the men's tennis team still managed to pull out a convincing 7-2 win at

**MEN'S TENNIS**  
**(8-5, 2-4 NESCAC)**  
at Voute Courts, yesterday

Springfield	2
Tufts	7

home over Springfield College on Wednesday afternoon.

After losing two of three doubles matches, the Jumbos rebounded to take all six singles matches in straight sets, improving their record to 7-5 overall.

The injuries may have hurt Tufts more in doubles than in singles, as one doubles starter, sophomore Jon Trott, remained out with a shoulder injury. In his absence, the doubles teams were remodeled and players were forced to step up the ladder.

At second doubles, sophomore Daniel Landers and freshman Tom Wilmanski fell quickly to their Springfield counterparts 8-3, while junior Drew Frankel and sophomore Bryan Wilner battled hard but dropped third doubles by a score of 9-7.

"We competed decently," Landers said. "But it was a little bit disappointing that we couldn't have had a closer match at two, and I think we probably could have done a little better. We made a lot of easy mistakes that ... we really can't make."

"Springfield plays very good doubles," coach Doug Eng added. "For us to sweep would have been a challenge, especially because we are missing a couple of players, so we had to improvise. We were a little shaky, and I think we just need to get more comfortable and more natural out there. We are working hard at it."

The lone Tufts doubles win came in the one spot from the tandem that usually plays in the second slot on the ladder, senior captain Will Fleder and freshman Paul Kohnstamm. The duo took the match with ease, cruising to an 8-1 victory and improving to 3-1 in its last four doubles matches.

"We're playing great," Fleder said. "[Paul is] so great at volleys, and I'm good at serving and returning and setting him up, and it's really worked out well. We played really well



Freshman Paul Kohnstamm looks to return a shot during the men's tennis team's 7-2 victory over non-conference foe Springfield yesterday afternoon at Voute Courts.

REBEKAH SOKOL/TUFTS DAILY

today, and we think we have a shot at beating Williams' and Amherst's two [next week]."

Though Fleder has recently been suffering from shoulder pain, he reported no pain during either his singles or doubles matches and does not expect it to be a problem in the future.

In singles, Tufts remained unfazed by the absences of both Trott and sophomore Andrew Rosen. The unfamiliar ladder shut out the Pride from winning a single set in any of the six singles matches.

At first singles, Fleder was one of the first players done with his match, as he ripped through the first set 6-0 and dropped just two games in the second.

"My opponent didn't have a great backhand, and I was able to target

that," Fleder said. "Also, finishing off games early in the match was big. A lot of the games were tight, but I was able to pull them out and totally change momentum. I got up 5-0 and didn't look back from there."

Freshmen Jake Fountain and Tony Carucci took care of business at second and third singles by scores of 6-3, 6-4 and 6-2, 6-1, respectively, while Wilner rebounded from his doubles loss with a 6-3, 6-3 win at the fourth singles spot.

At fifth singles, Landers also came back strong after his doubles defeat and gave up just two games in his match.

"In singles, I was able to make that first serve in, which for me is a weapon. As soon as I did that, all the points

see MEN'S TENNIS, page 17

## Games of the Week

### LOOKING BACK (APRIL 14) | DETROIT TIGERS 11, MINNESOTA TWINS 9

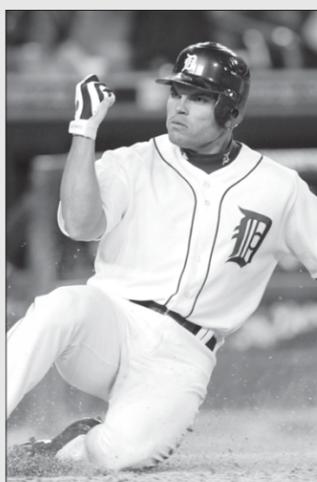
The Detroit Tigers overcame two five-run deficits to defeat the Minnesota Twins on Monday and get their first home win of the young season.

The victory put an end to a two-game losing streak and gave fans something to cheer about in what has been a disastrous start to the 2008 campaign. On the heels of an 88-win season, the Tigers were considered a trendy pick by most experts to contend for the American League pennant. But heading into Wednesday's game against the Cleveland Indians, the Tigers stood at a lowly 4-10.

Still, Monday's victory showed that the Tigers have yet to lose their fighting spirit under manager Jim Leyland. Down 5-0 heading into the bottom of the sixth inning, the Tigers put up four runs on the strength of hits from Miguel Cabrera, Carlos Guillen and Edgar Renteria. The Twins countered with four more runs in the top of the seventh to extend their lead to 9-4. But after a solo home run from Ivan Rodriguez narrowed the gap to 9-5 in the bottom of the seventh, the true heroics came in the bottom of the eighth, when Detroit put up six runs to take an 11-9 lead.

The damage was done by Magglio Ordonez's RBI single, Guillen's RBI double and Rodriguez's two-run triple. Closer Todd Jones came in for the save in the ninth inning.

Since that win, the Tigers have posted two more victories, with the latest coming last night over the Cleveland Indians, the squad expected to provide Detroit with the stingiest competition for the AL Central crown.



MCT

### LOOKING AHEAD (APRIL 18-19) | SOFTBALL VS. TRINITY

The softball team will look to clinch the NESCAC East crown and a berth in the conference championships this weekend as they play host to a three-game series against the second-place Trinity Bantams at Spicer Field.

In order to pull off the feat, the Jumbos, 6-0 in the conference and 19-6 overall, will need to take two of three this weekend from the Bantams, who boast a 7-2 conference record to go along with a 13-8 overall mark.

The two teams last met in last season's NESCAC championship game on May 6. The Jumbos limited Trinity to just three hits en route to a comfortable 5-0 victory that earned them their fourth-ever conference title and their first since 2003.

This season, the offenses of both teams are extremely well-matched. Tufts has a team average of .348 to go along with 22 home runs, while Trinity is slightly worse in each category, batting .337 with 18 home runs. However, the Bantams' team OPS slightly edges that of the Jumbos, .924 to .898.

As far as pitching, Tufts has the better team ERA (2.94 to 3.39), but Trinity has an ace that can compete with anyone. Junior Gabrielle Sergi has carried the Bantams' staff, tallying an 8-4 record with a 2.98 ERA in a tremendous 82.1 innings pitched.

The Jumbos counter with junior Lauren Gelmetti, who has surrendered just four earned runs in her last six starts en route to an 8-1 record.



ANNIE WERMIEL/TUFTS DAILY

DAVID HECK | THE SAUCE

## The Finals countdown

The NBA playoffs are around the corner — finally — and there are an outrageous number of teams that have a legitimate shot at winning the championship. So here are the top 10 contenders — sorry, Atlanta Hawks, you didn't make the cut — and their chances of hoisting the trophy come June.

**10. Dallas Mavericks:** Jason Kidd is not what he used to be, and ever since Dirk missed that free throw in Game 3 of the NBA Finals two years ago, I've lost all faith in the man. When your crunch-time scorer relies on a 17-foot fadeaway jumper for most of his points, you're not in a good position. That, and they lost to the Sonics on Sunday. The Sonics!

**9. Houston Rockets:** We all know about their win streak, which continued even when Yao went down. But the playoffs are a whole new game. Tracy McGrady (0-6 in playoff series) can't carry this team alone.

**8. San Antonio Spurs:** The defending champs at number eight?! Am I on crack? Well, no (not right now, at least). This is easily the most experienced team in the playoffs, but at some point they will have to play the Suns, who match up extremely well with them, and it could be as early as the first round. Phoenix has won both games these teams have played since the Shaq trade, as the Big Aristotle held the Big Fundamental — Tim Duncan — to only 37.5 percent shooting. Expect Shaq to give Duncan fits throughout.

**7. Phoenix Suns:** Yes, they have a good shot against the Spurs. But the Lakers, Hornets and Jazz are another story. Plus, even if they make it to the Finals, there's no way they can play with the Celtics or the Pistons (they're 1-3 against them since the Shaq trade). I respect this team a lot, but the big fella is not what he was even two years ago.

**6. Cleveland Cavaliers:** LeBron has the ability to singlehandedly win a playoff series, but the fact that the Cavs are this low just shows the depth of the playoffs this year. The lack of a supporting cast makes a championship trophy for King James unlikely this year.

**5. New Orleans Hornets:** Chris Paul might be the MVP, and David West is underrated, but the rest of the team leaves something to be desired, sort of like this two-sentence analysis. Let's move on.

**4. Detroit Pistons:** You know they're at least making it to the conference finals, and they're always a threat to win it all. This is essentially the same team that went to two straight Finals. I can't really say anything negative about them; I just don't like them as much as the next three.

**3. Boston Celtics:** A 65-win season is no joke, even in the East. Garnett, Allen and Pierce were assembled for one purpose: to win a championship. But you know, so were Karl Malone and Gary Payton on that Lakers team a few years ago. Allen and KG aren't past their primes like those two were, but their lack of playoff experience together is a big detractor.

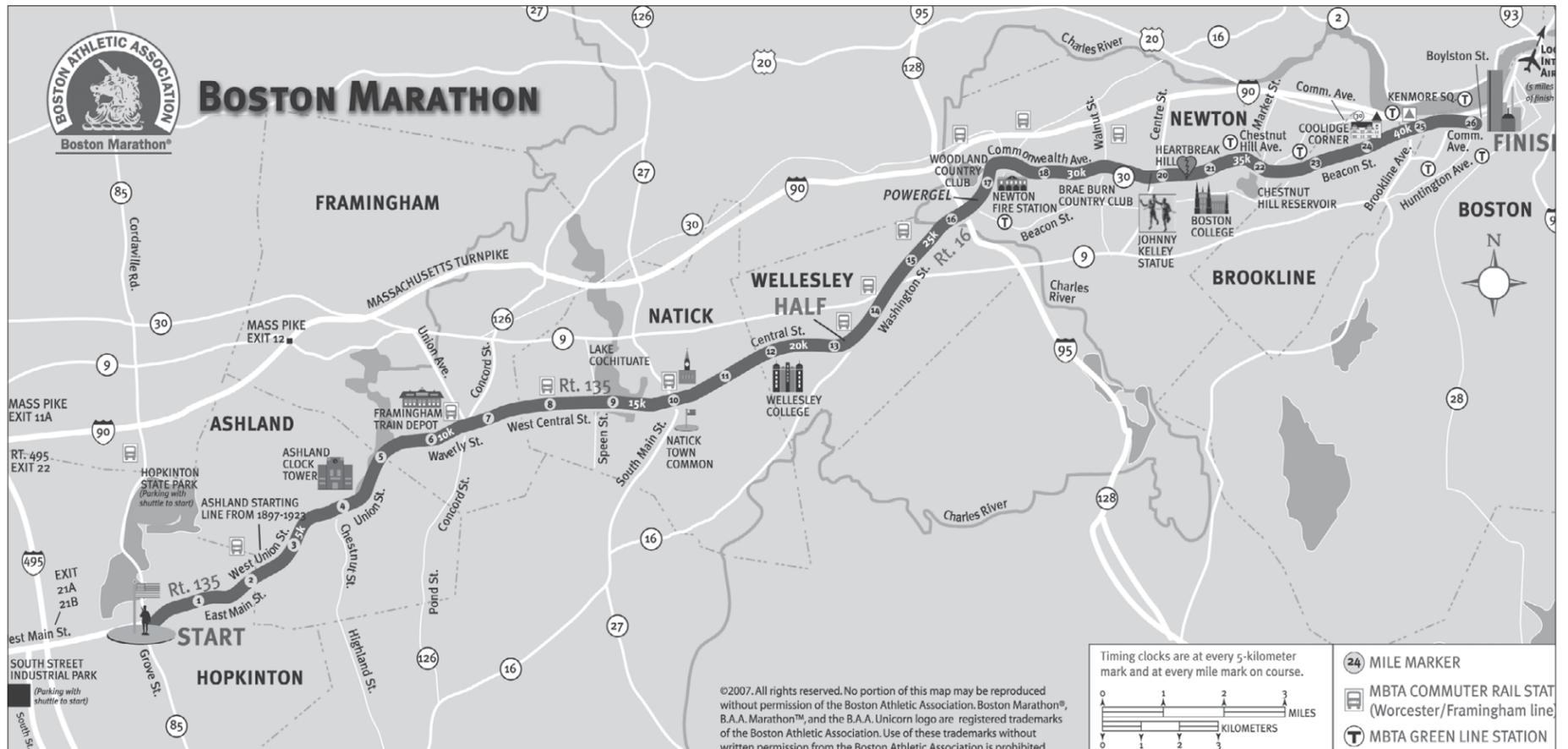
**2. Los Angeles Lakers:** The last time Kobe had a real big man, he won three consecutive championships. He's older and wiser now, the Lakers have the No. 1 seed, and they're so deep that Lamar Odom is the third scoring option and Luke Walton is a bench player. Things have not looked this good in L.A. for a long time. So who could possibly be better?

**1. Utah Jazz:** The more I look at the Jazz, the more I like them. They have all the elements: a true point guard (Deron Williams), a defensive wizard/glue guy (Andrei Kirilenko), an inside banger (Carlos Boozer) and even an outside big man (Mehmet Okur). Their +7.3 point differential is tied for best in the West, and perhaps you forgot, but this team made it all the way to the Western Conference Finals last year. Their blend of talent and experience is nearly unmatched in this year's playoffs. It might seem unthinkable, but in the end, the championship trophy may reside not in the basketball towns of Boston or L.A., but in Salt Lake City.

David Heck is a sophomore who has not yet declared a major. He can be reached at David.Heck@tufts.edu.

## BOSTON MARATHON PREVIEW

## Tufts to send 200 runners to Boston Marathon



COURTESY BOSTON ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

## President's Marathon Challenge team members gear up for Marathon Monday with training, commitment and resolve

 BY THOMAS EAGER  
 Daily Editorial Board

The culmination of a journey that began with weekly training runs in September and pushed participants to achieve both their physical and mental potentials will arrive on Patriots' Day this Monday, when the sixth annual incarnation of the President's Marathon Challenge (PMC) will participate in the 112th running of the Boston Marathon.

Taking part in the grueling 26.2-mile run between Hopkinton and downtown Boston will be a roughly 200-person squad of Tufts undergraduates, graduates, faculty, staff, parents, friends and alumni.

"It's almost incredible what they go through, how they get to the end, what the psychological highs and lows are," said Don Megerle, the PMC's director and coach. "They're absolutely wild."

The reasons for the runners' commitment to such a Herculean feat are numerous. Some members of the team have run the Boston Marathon or other marathons before and want to test themselves again. Others pride themselves in the charitable aspect of running for the PMC.

One alum wants to use her marathon effort as a way to honor her late father. Some join just to keep in shape, and others, like sophomore Alex Blackman, cite no reason in particular.



COURTESY DON MEGERLE

"To be honest, I really have no idea," said Blackman, who will participate in her first-ever marathon this Monday. "In September I just decided to start going to practices, and Don is very inspirational and has a lot of energy. So it's easy to get excited about running a marathon, and it's hard to turn down. It just evolved; I came out normally running four miles, now we're running six, and now we're running 10 and now you're ready for a marathon."

For senior TCU Vice President Bruni Hirsch, also a marathon rookie, joining the PMC offered the opportunity to return to the running lifestyle that she maintained in high school in a structured, team environment.

"I was on the cross country team in high school, and I got to Tufts and got really involved in other aspects of the universi-

ty," she said. "Running went by the wayside other than running as a stress relief. And then I studied abroad last spring in Germany and had a lot more free time considering I wasn't involved in as many student activities. I joined the gym and was in there a lot of the time, so I decided to start running."

"I really enjoyed my lifestyle in Germany and wanted to think of a way to make sure that I would bring a piece of it back to Tufts, but I knew that unless I made it a commitment and built it into my schedule as an extracurricular, I probably wouldn't continue running," she continued. "So then I decided that it would make the most sense to join the PMC team, and not only would I be running — which is what I really enjoy doing because it's healthy and it makes me feel good — but because also it's running for a good cause."



COURTESY DON MEGERLE

Running aside, the PMC raises charitable dollars for the university's nutritional medical research, courtesy of a deal President Lawrence Bacow struck five years ago with John Hancock Financial Services, the marathon's primary sponsor. With 200 Boston Athletic Association (BAA)-sanctioned charity runners, Tufts fields the most runners of any university or college.

"They give us 200 charity numbers to distribute however we please, and the idea is to raise money for the Friedman School of Nutrition and Tufts' Personalized Performance Program," Megerle said. "Last year, they raised over \$400,000. Nobody does what we do; this is special."

After enduring weekly early-morning training sessions over several months, including four special longer runs this semester, Blackman said she feels prepared — if maybe a little nervous — for the task ahead.

"I finished a 20-mile run two weeks ago with the team and that went pretty well since I got the time I was looking for," Blackman said. "It's hard sometimes to get up in the morning and really get yourself going when everyone else is still asleep at 6:30 or 7:30, but aside from that, it's been going pretty well."

"I'm very excited, but I'm also really, really nervous," she continued. "It's hard to visualize the end still. Doing 20 miles made it a

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## After five straight years in the field, Bacow gives legs a respite from marathon

A fixture of the Tufts President's Marathon Challenge (PMC) team for the past five years, University President Lawrence Bacow opted to sit out the Boston Marathon this year, citing scheduling and health reasons.

"I decided not to run this year for a few reasons," Bacow wrote in an e-mail to the Daily. "First, I knew I was going to have a brutal travel schedule ... I have been on the road 26 days just since March 1, which is peak training time. And second, I thought I would give my body a bit of a rest. I have now done five marathons, and at 56, I don't recover as quickly."

Despite not joining the rest of the PMC on the 26.2-mile course

between Hopkinton and Boston, Bacow has remained very much involved with the team in terms of participating during training and providing other support, including a dinner planned for the night before the marathon and a reception scheduled the day after.

"I have continued to train with the team," he said. "However, I have limited my runs to no more than 12 miles. I still enjoy running and try to be a visible presence with the members of the President's Marathon Challenge. I will address the team at the pre-race dinner on Sunday night, and on race day will be helping [PMC director and coach Don Megerle] out at the finish line as we greet

each Tufts runner as they conclude the race. I will also host a post-race gathering for team members on Tuesday afternoon. So while I will not be actually running the race, I am still very much involved."

Tufts Community Union Vice President Bruni Hirsch, who is a member of the PMC, said she understood entirely Bacow's decision and was still glad to have the opportunity to run with him during the training process.

"Running marathons year after year after year really takes a toll on your body," said Hirsch, a senior. "It's one thing if someone's a runner; Bacow is a runner, but he's obviously also the president of the university, and he has a lot on his

plate right now, and if his body is starting to ache, I think it's time to call it quits. And he still gets out on our Sunday morning runs, he's very encouraging, and he runs for as long as he can, but there's no sense in injuring yourself."

"If you had to see what he's got to do, I don't know how he does it," Megerle added. "He's run five [marathons], and last year we gave him a beautiful black [Boston Athletic Association] jacket with the five marathons he's run embroidered on the back. He trained with us, but his schedule, he's all over the freaking world ... But he loves the marathon."

—by Thomas Eager



COURTESY DON MEGERLE