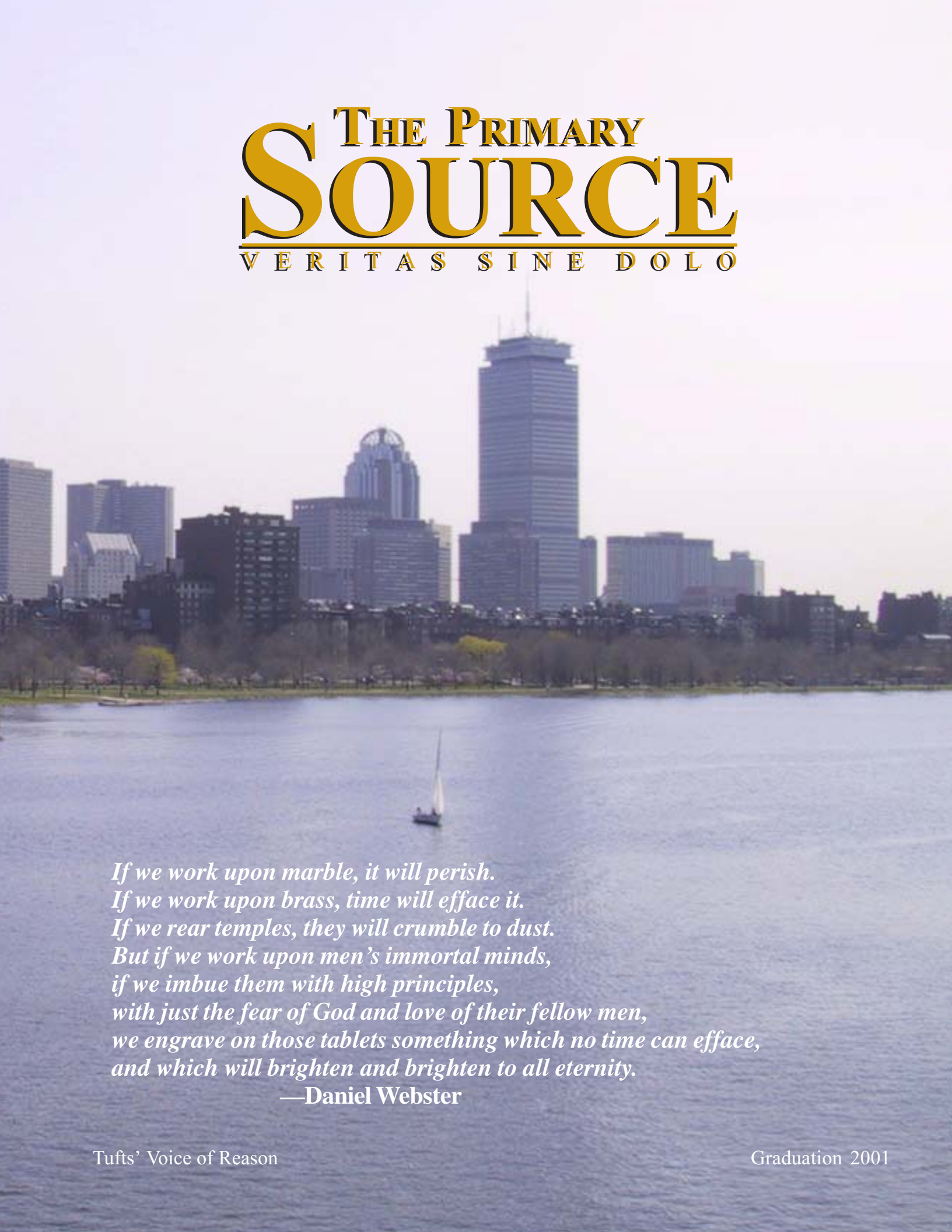


THE PRIMARY SOURCE

VERITAS SINE DOLO



*If we work upon marble, it will perish.
If we work upon brass, time will efface it.
If we rear temples, they will crumble to dust.
But if we work upon men's immortal minds,
if we imbue them with high principles,
with just the fear of God and love of their fellow men,
we engrave on those tablets something which no time can efface,
and which will brighten and brighten to all eternity.*

—Daniel Webster

Justice has a price: only \$30 a year

Subscribe to the **SOURCE** and become a part of the future of **Tufts' Voice of Reason.**

*"I was fascinated by **THE PRIMARY SOURCE**... we shall be seeing a major change on the campuses... and you and your fellows are leading that movement."*

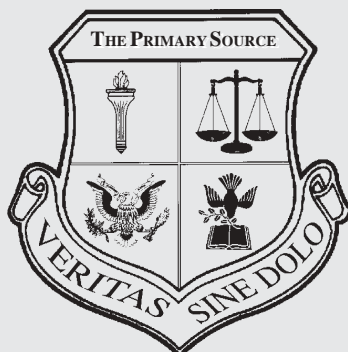
-MILTON FRIEDMAN, Nobel Laureate

*"Through well-written, campus-oriented articles, **the SOURCE** renews standards of academic excellence at Tufts by articulating the case for genuine university learning and American ideals."*

-T. KENNETH CRIBB, JR., former domestic policy advisor to Ronald Reagan

*"**PAX ET LUX! A bright light does shine; it is the beacon of reason by which THE PRIMARY SOURCE sheds light on the truth.**"*

-JOSEPH V. BELLE, E '43



Yes... I will support THE PRIMARY SOURCE's efforts to bring enlightened political discourse to Tufts. Enclosed is my contribution in the amount of:

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$30, <i>Subscriber</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> \$50, <i>Supporter</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100, <i>Donor</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$500, <i>Advisor</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> \$1000, <i>Benefactor</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, ZIP _____

Make checks payable to:
THE PRIMARY SOURCE
Mayer Campus Center
Tufts University
Medford, MA 02155

THE PRIMARY SOURCE

Vol. XIX • The Journal of Conservative Thought at Tufts University • No. 13

DEPARTMENTS

From the Editor	4
<i>A fond farewell to the Class of 2001</i>	
Commentary	6
<i>Bush orders Chinese and the FTAA reconsidered</i>	
From The Elephant's Mouth: A Year in Review	8
<i>THE ELEPHANT recounts some of this year's more memorable moments.</i>	
Jumbo Notable and Quotable	12

ARTICLES

Speech Under Siege	10
by Gerard Balan	
Rights and Responsibilities	11
by Ezra Klughaupt	
Crash Test Commies	12
by Stephen Tempesta	
Communism in the 21st Century	13
by Andrew Gibbs	
Rumor Redefined—The SOURCE Interviews Brian Finkelstein	18
Public Demand	20
by Nick Abraham	
Miseducation on Capitol Hill	21
by Robert Lichter	
Quiet Riot	22
by Megan Liotta	
First Family Values	23
by Simon Holroyd	
No Discrimination for You	24
by Sam Dangremond	
A Cut Above	25
by Tara Heumann	
The New Environmentalism	26
by Adam Biacchi	
Big Government, Small Minds	27
by Jonathan Perle	
All Things Considered	30
by Alyssa Heumann	

Is that annoying leftist speaker *still* yapping about the patriarchy?

Lucky for you there's the Third Annual PRIMARY SOURCE

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Check it out on Page 31!



page 5



page 18



page 28

Farewell and Beyond

In the first issue of this volume of **THE PRIMARY SOURCE**, I dedicated the following twelve issues to combating leftism wherever it appeared at Tufts. Without a doubt, seventeen dedicated staff members and I achieved this goal. But let's give credit where credit is due. Our victory would not have been possible without the boundless foolery of Tufts' activists and protestors. From Tufts Students Against Discrimination to TCU senate culture reps, political correctness has filled our pages with fly-by-night causes, pointless protests, and vacuous PC propaganda. And you, the good reader, have laughed with us at all the leftist insanity.

Unfortunately, with spring's promise of new beginnings comes the end of four **SOURCE** careers, as our senior staff members leave Walnut Hill. Not only the **SOURCE** but also the Tufts drama community will miss our resident libertarian Phil DeVaul. Although he is an accomplished thespian, Phil didn't need to put on an act to endear himself to our readers. The **SOURCE** has missed him during his busy season of rehearsals, and we will continue to honor his love for our nation's simple freedoms after he exits Tufts, stage right.

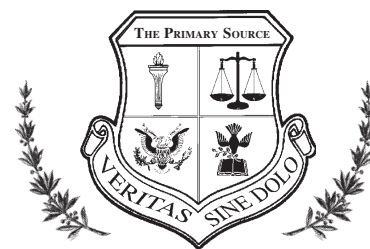
Some readers will always know him as Tufts' buff Cupid, for Jared Burdin once donned a diaper, bow, and quiver to play the love god on one of the funniest **SOURCE** covers in recent memory. Down at the **SOURCE**, we'll also remember Jared for his four years of dedicated service. Tufts will not again soon see such an unashamed and fiercely proud conservative. From dismantling racial quotas to exposing the hypocrisy of librarians too politically correct to shelve a pro-life handbook, Jared's forthright writing and levelheaded politics have made our liberal readers squirm and foam at the mouth.

If you've ever laughed hard at our jokes in recent years, chances are retiring Humor Editor Lew Titterton was responsible. And if you've ever been singled out as the butt of a Fortnight

Top Ten List gag, surely it was he who sighted you in his comedic crosshairs. No one was safe from Lew's biting wit, as TMAV, SETA, and TFA (as well as exhausted chefs at Wing Works) will surely be pleased to see Lew graduate. Tufts' most unabashed eater of animal flesh, Lew-Dogg departs Tufts with the world as his oyster as he takes with him his **SOURCE** memories and a giant jar of cocktail sauce.

Former editor-in-chief Alyssa Heumann is everybody's sweetheart. Even the campus' most militant leftists have never said an unkind word about Alyssa, whose charm has graced the most hallowed corners of the **SOURCE** masthead since 1997. With a seemingly limitless reserve of moxie and brains to match, the woman who will always be known to our staff as "the Chief" brought the magazine to new heights during her tenure. Those familiar with our magazine know that the funnier, classier, brainier **SOURCE** is Alyssa's masterpiece. After graduation, Alyssa is off to law school, the continuation of a career in justice that she founded during four committed years on our staff.

Being at the helm of **THE PRIMARY SOURCE** has been a thrill. I've fought the good fight and produced thirteen issues that have informed, amused, and infuriated you. And I've meant every word of it. Yet, as **SOURCE** tradition ordains, I must step aside and let a fresh pair of hands take the helm. I leave the leadership of this magazine to Sam Dangremond, a staff member whose dedication to the **SOURCE** is only exceeded by his devotion to our cause. Bright and capable, Sam has a keen sense of right and wrong, and he's the ideal man to lead **THE PRIMARY SOURCE** during its twentieth year at Tufts. I wouldn't have it any other way.



THE JOURNAL OF CONSERVATIVE
THOUGHT AT TUFTS UNIVERSITY

JOSHUA MARTINO
Editor-in-Chief

Editorial Department

JONATHAN PERLE
Managing Editor

STEPHEN TEMPESTA / *National Affairs*
SAM DANGREMOND / *Campus Issues*
EZRA KLUGHAUPT / *Commentary*

Production Department

ADAM BIACCHI / *Publishing*
MEGAN LIOTTA / *Business Manager*
LEWIS TITTERTON / *Humor Editor*
CHRIS KOHLER / *Foreign Correspondent*

Contributors

NICK ABRAHAM N GERARD BALAN
JARED BURDIN N ANDREW GIBBS
TARA HEUMANN N SIMON HOLROYD
ROBERT LICHTER N MICHAEL SANTORELLI

ALYSSA HEUMANN
Editor Emerita

Founders

BRIAN KELLY N DAN MARCUS

Special Thanks

THE COLLEGIATE NETWORK

THE PRIMARY SOURCE IS A NON-PROFIT STUDENT PUBLICATION OF TUFTS UNIVERSITY. THE OPINIONS EXPRESSED IN ARTICLES, FEATURES, PHOTOS, CARTOONS, OR ADVERTISEMENTS ARE SOLELY THOSE OF THE INDIVIDUAL AUTHOR(S) OR SPONSOR(S) AND DO NOT NECESSARILY REFLECT THE VIEWS OF THE EDITORS OR THE STAFF. TUFTS UNIVERSITY IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CONTENT OF **THE PRIMARY SOURCE**, NOR IS **THE PRIMARY SOURCE** RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CONTENT OF TUFTS UNIVERSITY.

THE PRIMARY SOURCE WELCOMES ALL LETTERS. WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO EDIT OR TO DENY PUBLICATION TO ANY LETTER BASED ON ITS LENGTH OR CONTENT. ANY LETTER TO AN INDIVIDUAL WRITER CONCERNING WORK PUBLISHED IN **THE PRIMARY SOURCE** MAY BE PUBLISHED ON THE LETTERS PAGE. LETTERS OF 400 WORDS OR FEWER HAVE A GREATER CHANCE OF BEING PUBLISHED. PLEASE DIRECT ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO: SOURCE@LISTPROC.TUFTS.EDU or **THE PRIMARY SOURCE**, MAYER CAMPUS CENTER, TUFTS UNIVERSITY, MEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS, 02155. ALL LETTER BOMBS WILL BE RETURNED TO SENDER. ©2001. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.



Dragon Fire

Tax cuts, spy planes, arms deals—oh my! The first hundred days of the Bush Administration have witnessed a number of national and international policy crises. These recent issues have served as a good test of the new President's ability to handle volatile situations. While every conflict that the President manages will have lasting effects, the recent struggles in Asia may prove to be just the beginning of the next major U.S. foreign policy.

Once considered a buffer country against communist expansion in Asia, Taiwan has been an important political partner of the United States since 1950. Then-President Truman allied with the small nation against Chinese aggression. In 1979, the Taiwan Relations Act was passed by Congress, obligating the United States to insure that Taiwan's "peaceful way of life is not disturbed by force." Thus began the annual arms deals between the two countries.

Much to the dismay of a wary China, President Bush recently decided to sell Taiwan a large amount of military equipment—the most in a decade—including submarines and destroyers. The Chinese feel that a well-armed Taiwan will compromise the military superiority China has used in the past to intimidate the Taiwanese. With over 300 of their own ballistic missiles pointed at the island, China feels that with a large purchase of American weapons, Taiwan will even the playing field.

The current controversy lies not with what the US actually sold to Taiwan, however, but with that which it did *not* sell. The Aegis combat radar system—an advanced missile-tracking system—was what Taiwan originally sought. The Chinese feared that this system could serve as a platform for a regional defense that would shield the island from an onslaught of Chinese missiles. Such concerns would have been exacerbated with the sale of the Aegis cruisers. The hotly debated sale, however, would not allow Taiwan to actually obtain the Aegis ships for another 10 years. So,

in the hopes of quickly and efficiently balancing power in the Taiwan Strait, the US has offered other smaller, yet still effective equipment.

The Bush administration has reaffirmed the United States' backing of China's "one-China" mandate, and hopes to help ease the tensions between Taiwan and China. Yet by not selling the Aegis, the United States comes off as a cowardly superpower, fearfully looking over its shoulder at China. Should this incident serve as a basis for future Asian relations, the United States may one day find itself in a very precarious position between the two countries. If the US wishes to be regarded as the world's supreme power, then it should not have to kowtow to communist China. Instead, President Bush should stand firm and garner the respect of those nations that still doubt the abilities of the United States.

Mandate, Schmandate

One hundred days into his hard-fought presidency, George W. Bush enjoys a higher approval rating than President Clinton did at the same point in 1993. The controversy of the Election 2000 debacle is now reduced a paragraph in a future Political Science text and an entry in the next edition of the *Encyclopedia Britannica* (see: "dimpled chad").

The most recent Gallup poll shows that 62% of Americans think Dubya is doing a good job. That's pretty good for a guy who earned less than half of the popular vote. And that's very good for an incoming President who spent his first weeks in office overshadowed by Clinton's last minute pardons and the media's drippy nostalgia for the outgoing chief. George W. Bush has been successful in surviving comparisons to his predecessor because he epitomizes everything that Clinton was not—most importantly, responsibility and candidness. Members of the White House press staff have noted that Bush is always on time, while Clinton was notoriously behind schedule. Running a tight ship, Bush's administration has quite handily put aside early turmoil (like the Linda Chavez appointment and Dick Cheney's unreliable heart) while similar early crises (remember Jocelyn Elders and "don't ask, don't tell"?) haunted Clinton for months.

Most impressive is that Bush has convinced Americans that Saturday Night Live was wrong—he is not, in fact, a moron. "I've expanded the definition of words themselves, using 'vulcanized' when I meant 'polarized,' 'Grecians' when I meant 'Greeks,' 'in-ebriating' when I meant 'exhilarating,'" Bush said at an annual dinner sponsored by the Radio-Television Correspondents Association. "You know what? Life goes on." Bush has used his public perception as a mishandler of words to spearhead a national literacy campaign. Even Democrats, all too familiar with Clinton's propensity for lies, find Bush's candor quite refreshing.

During the campaign, Dubya called himself a "uniter, not a divider." Bush's bipartisan spirit has been the bane of many ardent conservatives, for he appears to be waffling on his tax cut figures to appease Democrats. However, his early compromises will no



doubt lay the foundation for a cooperative spirit on the true focus of the Bush campaign: education. The President has made improving education his priority, and since make-or-break challenges to public schools are his most controversial domestic issue, his current concessions will only help him win the future support of congressional Democrats.

President Bush has been far more conservative in his treatment of international issues. He has already refused to sign global initiatives on the environment, land mines, and weapons testing. Liberals are infuriated. Even so, Bush's handling of the China crisis impressed many of his detractors. With a firm grasp of the facts, Bush never compromised with propaganda-ridden Beijing and made the communist dragon look foolish for playing its waiting game. Flexing even more muscle, Bush agreed to sell key defense equipment to Taiwan, but avoided a Sino-American conflagration by refusing to sell Aegis warships to democratic China. Many European leaders see Bush's early focus on Asia as a slight to E.U. issues, so the President may find his policies coldly received during his first trip to the Old World.

Ultimately, Bush's frankness and good humor will not make him a good president; only his treatment of the issues can do that. But if his first 100 days are any indication, the next three years will be marked by progress under strong conservative leadership. And at the end of a successful four (or eight) years, Bush will owe it all to the tenacity of Ralph Nader.

Protest Du Jour

After years of watching Mexico emerge with a flourishing economy under NAFTA, other nations in the Americas who are still far behind the technological evolution of first-world countries have collectively demanded a more inclusive trade agreement for the Western Hemisphere. The solution proposed: the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA), a gradual elimination of trade barriers from the northernmost points in Alaska to Tierra del Fuego. For the third time since 1994, national leaders from around the Americas (with the purposeful exception of Cuba) convened last month in Quebec to discuss the logistics and regulations of such a tremendous undertaking. Joining them were approximately 5,000 protesters, a number that swelled to nearly 30,000 by the next day.

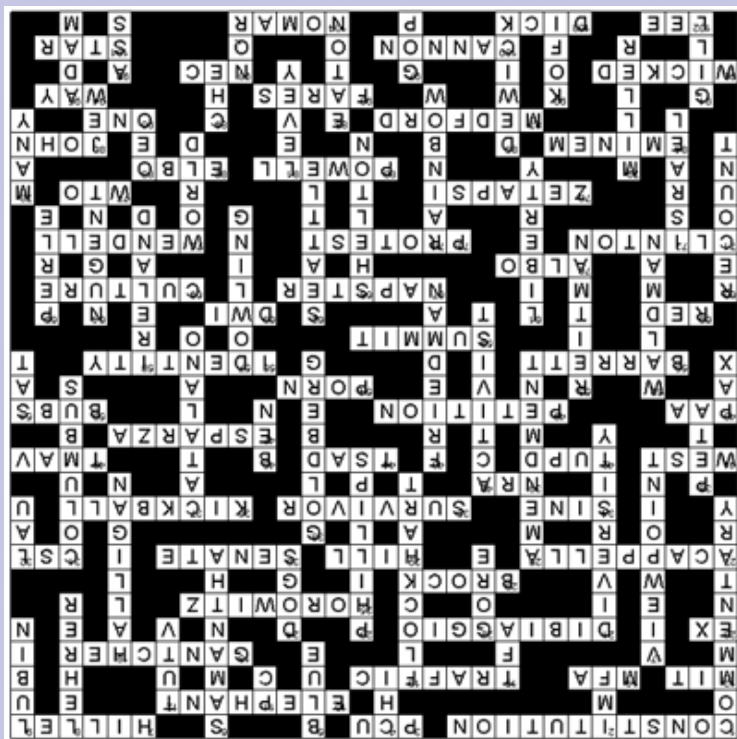
Protesters surrounded fences put in place to protect the dignitaries. Sections of it soon came tumbling at the hands of violent demonstrators, and police had to form a human barricade in order to prevent unauthorized individuals from entering a restricted area. Rocks and bottles began flying toward the police, who returned with tear gas canisters and rubber bullets. But what were the protests about? While police authorities commented that demonstrators were more sophisticated in protecting themselves (many donned gas masks and other defensive apparel), examination of the events in Quebec reveals that the protesters were no more unified or justified in their complaints than were the antagonists at the WTO meetings in Seattle. None of those interviewed seemed to have much to say about the

FTAA but spoke mostly about the physical clashes with police instead. The event was just another protest for them to attend, another activist orgy. No real issues were raised, and questions that *were* asked had ready answers if one were inclined to listen.

The only major complaint voiced uniformly was that elimination of trade barriers would only fuel multinational corporations in their quest for venue. While abolishing tariffs and other obstacles will indeed help companies that are already established in other nations within the Americas, it will also greatly help smaller companies become multinational and will fling open doors to whole new markets. In addition, all participating nations will be forced to adhere to strict human rights regulations and must promote basic democratic liberties, or they will not be allowed to partake in the trade agreement—the two reasons why Cuba has already been excluded from the cooperative. Regulations will be set by the strongest economy in the group, which at present means the United States where people enjoy more freedoms and rights than any other nation in this hemisphere.

The protesters in Quebec proved yet again that they were present for the party and not for the cause. Official formation of the FTAA can only help developing nations in the Americas and will, of course, benefit US business as well. No nation will be excluded unless they are doing harm to people; and countries will have the opportunity to provide their citizens with a higher standard of living. □

Answer Key to the PRIMARY SOURCE Crossword Puzzle (page 31)





A YEAR IN REVIEW

The TCF Debacle: Pray for Change

☞ A poster seen around campus last fall reminds disabled people, minorities, homosexuals, and women that “the **non-discrimination policy** is about you.” All of the above,

however, are free to discriminate against straight, white, Christian men... We've got to pray: anti-TCF rhetoric returns to campus as the cannon and sidewalk are chalked “**TCF is not safe.**” Lies, propaganda, and leftist dogma, however, are all quite safe at Tufts... Ambiguity is also not safe: The beleaguered **TCUJ** declares that TCF violated the non-discrimination policy but that TCF should also be re-recognized. TCF senior leaders tell the *Daily*, “We won! Kinda. Maybe. We think... yeah.” ... **Mario Paduano** pens a letter to the *Daily* hoping to start a “John Rocker Fan Club” and “**The Fred Phelps Barber Shop** [sic] Quartet” in light of the TCUJ decision. Great idea—finally a chance for **SOURCE** members to display our singing talents!

☞ What's the definition of irony? The much-maligned **Tufts Christian Fellowship** hosted a seminar called “A World Safe for Diversity.” The **SOURCE** asks TCF, how much did you guys get for your souls? ... A senior fed up with **TSAD** vandalism cuts down the group's banners from trees in the quad. Huzzah! The **SOURCE** is also offering stickers that read, “Imagine a Campus Free From **Vandalism.**”

Campus Media: No Experience Needed

☞ The *Observer* changes its publication schedule, coming out on Fridays as “**Tufts' Weekend Newspaper.**” Ashamed and embarrassed, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday officially change their names when they hear the news... In other *Observer* news, **David Moon** pens a parody in the *Observer* telling new senators to supply a “**racist caricature** of self for **PRIMARY SOURCE.**” Good thing he was joking—we almost fired our cartoonist... **President DiBiaggio** sees a **SOURCE** member's mom at a legacy party holding our Orientation issue and says, “**You shouldn't read that.**” Looks like some magazines aren't protected under that non-discrimination policy... When confronted about the incident, DiBiaggio said he was only trying to protect the parent from “all the big words.” ... A gay personals site suggests that a certain Tisch bathroom is a **male-on-male hot spot**. Meanwhile, male library patrons have since perfected the practice of “holding it in.” ... Who let the dogs out: **The**

Feminist Alliance holds its anti-rape **Take Back the Night** rally last fall. The **SOURCE**-sponsored Take Back the Tisch Bathroom rally is canceled due to a “**Frasier**” marathon.

☞ Roll out the barrel: **TUPD** begins a crackdown on campus parties, breaking them up at midnight and earlier. Students sob while manufacturers of fake IDs rejoice... Spartacus Youth Klub Kommissar

Jan Bayer complains to the *Daily* that the **SOURCE** is hostile to Marxism. We would have responded, but we were too busy mercilessly beating this **North Korean kid**... In a *Viewpoint*, Laura Israel tells Jumbos to vote Democratic because Joe Lieberman is Jewish. In a similar article, the **SOURCE** urges all **coke-fiend frat boys** to vote for George W. Bush... “Dear Santa, I don't believe in you any more. You didn't bring me my **Colin Powell GI Joe** action figure. Thanks for nothing, fatty. Sincerely, an unsigned **SOURCE** member”... Chemical Engineering prof **Jerry Meldon** says in the *Daily* that the University ought to bring more speakers who aren't conservatives. A note from the **SOURCE**: in the past four years, we've had four conservative speakers. In that same period, **NOW Prez Patricia Ireland** alone has spoken at Tufts twice... Who next? **Lyndon LaRouche**? ... The **SOURCE** wins an online poll asking, “Which organization would you be most interested in reading a book from?” Thanks, but we're still waiting



The hippie dream, defunct: SOURCE editor-in-chief Josh Martino at the GAP store on the corner of Haight and Ashbury in San Francisco.

for the novel from the creators of the “**All Your Base Are Belong to Us**” cartoon... **Brian Finkelstein** cancels his website RumorsDaily.com, where students have been posting their anonymous opinions for two years. The crisis was not as severe as expected, as the *Daily* reports that several of RumorsDaily's most frequent users have already made their **first friends**.

+ Members of the English department hang a photo depicting then-candidate Bush as *MAD* magazine's **Alfred E. Neuman** in East Hall. Finally the English profs have found literature at the reading level of most Tufts students... **Ariana Wohl** complains to the *Daily* that DTD rush posters are “sexist and misogynistic.” The Delts invited Wohl to their house to talk it over, and boy was she surprised when she showed up and **they asked her to vacuum**... Dispelling rumors of their illiteracy, campus leftists band together and form **Radix**, a left-wing counterpart to the **SOURCE**, which founders say will not have an editor-in-chief, but a body of leaders that will make all decisions together. The **SOURCE** Swami predicts an ill-fated game of Russian roulette between **Lou Esparza** and **Adam Carlis** for masthead supremacy... *Observer* editor-in-chief **Erica Goldberg**

writes in an editorial that she likes to be hit by her male friends to prove that she is their equal. And to think until now her friends had only been slapping her on account of her intensely stupid editorials... Somebody set us up the bomb: A note found in the SOURCE office from *Radix* members reads, "Some of us have been doing our best to create **slightly witty, fun little pranks** on you guys... Unfortunately you guys appear either too intellectually inept, or too humorously challenged, to come back in any way. Now, we know that Conservatives are born losers, but come on guys give us something here." Our comeback: 316 pages of bona fide conservative thought this year. And *Radix*? **Zero and counting.**

When Activists Go Bad

☞ Campus leftists protest **Dewick televisions** for showing scantily clad women and portraying blacks only as rappers and basketball players. **College Television Network** officials protest, noting that men look bad in bikinis and white people suck at basketball... *US News* ranks Tufts #29 among the nation's universities. Despite not moving up from the previous year's rankings, Tufts is still #3 in *US News*' "**Damn Dirty Hippie Crap**" category. Congrats... The Tufts-in-Ghana program is canceled following four incidents of sexual assault on Tufts students. To replicate the experience of study-abroad in the Third World, Tufts initiates the **Tufts-in-Southie** program... A Northeastern student offers his seat to Green Party candidate **Ralph Nader** at the presidential debates, but Corvair-bashing Ralph is still barred from the event. To show his appreciation for the Nader candidacy, however, President Bush has offered Nader a night in the **Lincoln bedroom**.

☞ Members of the commie cadre, **the Coalition**, interrupt Colin Powell during his Gantcher lecture in November, shouting, "Generals can't make peace." Since becoming Secretary of State, Powell has ordered Tomahawk missile strikes against **Oxfam Café**... The Coalition for Social Justice and Nonviolence loses a kickball game to the SOURCE's own conservative champs. **Fighting the Man** leaves Tufts' pinkos no energy for athletics, reaffirming our stance that communism and sports just don't mix... Fans of leftist drama are thrilled last December when the school announces it will host a performance of **The Vagina Monologues**. Students not familiar with the leftist performance art are surprised to find that vaginas cannot actually speak... Fifteen Jumbos who schlep to Fort Benning, Georgia to protest the **School of the Americas** are arrested. As punishment, the students are used as models in an SOA course entitled "Interrogation Tactics—Your Friend, **The Cigarette Lighter**." ... Desperate TSAD flunkie Lou Esparza emails every leftist on campus, imploring "Dearest members of the Coalition, TFA, TTLGBC, TMAV, ECO, PAA, Amnesty, TU3, ALAS, Oxfam, and friends, **we should run for senate!**" Lou gets no responses, however, because everyone he



Victory is ours: The SOURCE team not only whupped leftists in our mag, but also on the kickball diamond.

emails is already a **senate culture rep.**

☞ When SOURCE **Megan Liotta** corrects TFA's knowledge of anatomy in her article, the feminists change the name of their **Vulvapalooza** game "Pin the Clitoris on the Vagina" to "Pin the Clit on the Vulva." The SOURCE protests, as giving sharp objects to blindfolded, anatomy-ignorant feminists is a threat to campus safety... The SOURCE and the **Tufts Republicans** co-sponsor a trip to New Hampshire to be trained in the fine art of handgun usage. Tuftonians take comfort: should the campus be overrun by Communists, our editors are now dead-on accurate with a **semi-automatic**

from 500 feet... My vagina is angry: When the **LGBT Safe Colleges** comes Tufts, Brown & Brew hosts a poetry reading where a young poetess recites a touching ode to female masturbation. SOURCE members only realize it was a **poetry reading** when the speaker refuses to take folded dollar bills in her garter.

PC Blooms in Spring

☞ Oy, he's so *meshugah*: Israeli journalist **Israel Shamir** graces the Hill with his Zionist-bashing propaganda. Anyone know how to say "**Uncle Tom**" in Hebrew? ... Shamir tells students "Israeli people represent a virus form of a human being because they can live anywhere." Too bad the PLO **can't afford vaccines**... I like to be in America: Ruben Salinas Stern complains that "**West Side Story**" unfairly portrays Puerto Ricans as gang members and thugs. Tufts Hispanics complain that Salinas Stern unfairly portrays Latinos as morons... The Tufts cast of "West Side Story" paints the cannon. The event is a blast until **Ruben Salinas Stern** and 13 members of the Latin Kings show up and knife all the Jets... A forum sponsored by **TTLGBC and TCF** dispels myths and rumors about the two communities in order to repair the rift caused by the Fellowship's leadership debacle. LGBT members are surprised to learn that taupe can indeed be a fall color and **Evangelicals** are surprised to learn that gay people do, in fact, have souls.

☞ The **African-American Center** has changed its name to the Africana Center. All copies of THE PRIMARY SOURCE located within the Capen House, however, will still be known as "toilet paper." ... I am Jack's smirking revenge: In the irony to beat all ironies, members of the *Radix* vandalize the SOURCE office then ask our editor-in-chief for a handout to pay for publication of the lefty rag. Do we give 'em the cash? Don't be surprised if next week you see *Radix* editors selling copies of **Spare Change** in Harvard Square... The **Pan-African Alliance** abandons plans to protest guest speaker Tommy Hilfiger for racist remarks he made on *Oprah* after they discover the charges are false. In a related story, the PAA planned to protest Fletcher Commencement speaker **Kofi Annan**—until they found out he was black.

☞ THE ELEPHANT never ever forgets.

Will your free speech still exist by the time the paint dries?

Speech Under Siege

by Gerard Balan

When the founding fathers took the bold step of declaring their independence from British rule, they introduced the world to a revolutionary new concept: freedom of speech. Never before had a country been established where its citizens could openly express their ideas and criticisms of government and society without fear of incarceration or harassment. As centers for enlightenment and education, one would assume that today's colleges and universities would promote this ideal

and allow their students to grow and question their beliefs through the free exchange of ideas. Unfortunately, for many educational institutions, including Tufts, this is not the case.

On several occasions during the past decade, Tufts has consistently censored and silenced under the guise of tolerance and "safety." The trend can be traced back all the way to the early 90s when affirmative action opponent Dinesh D'Souza visited the Hill to speak about the issues raised in his controversial book *Illiberal Education*. During the lecture, a band of disgruntled black students shackled themselves to the front row and rattled their chains disruptively whenever D'Souza said something they disagreed with. Afterwards, an African-American studies professor approached D'Souza to declare his intention to use the lecture in class as "clinical evidence of racism." Unabashed, D'Souza responded by stating that he hoped the professor would allow his students to

challenge that assumption in class and form their own opinions. Not surprisingly, the professor emphatically replied, "No!"

Anti-free speech actions were taken to the next level a few years later, when a group of students produced T-shirts that read, "Why Beer is Better Than Women at Tufts." The administration's response was

swift and severe. Not only were the shirts banned for creating an "offensive" and "sexist" environment, then-president Jean Mayer also divided the cam-

pus into "free-speech" and "non-free-speech" zones. After the student body's widespread outcry against the speech policy, Mayer changed his mind. However, the message was clear: free speech was only protected as long as it did not offend anyone.

A few weeks ago, Mark Sutherland, a senior at Tufts, spotted a "Kids Day" advertisement on the Tufts cannon with a rainbow spray-painted in the background. In interpreting this message as the LGBT community forcing their ideology on young children, Sutherland protested by painting the cannon with a message of his own: "Don't ideologically molest my kids with your rainbow propaganda." A few Jumbos were offended by the message and called the TUPD to complain. Before the paint could dry, Tufts' finest cleared the area and had a maintenance worker paint over the message.

Yet until some chalkings were mysteriously erased late this semester, no such action was taken when, for instance, the TTLGBC littered the campus with sexually explicit statements, such as "I Love a

Good Flamer," "Lesbians love Bush," "Get a kiss from the fag hag," or the more subtle "Jumbo the Gay Elephant: Wanna Take a Ride?" Where was the censorship Gestapo when pictures of ejaculating penises were drawn all over Memorial Steps? It is quite hypocritical that Sutherland's tactics be censored when the administration turned a blind eye to TSAD's antics, which include violating school policy in plastering the campus with anti-TCF propaganda when they were not (and never have been) recognized as an official student group, and of course, in hijacking Ballou Hall with their infamous sit-in. Despite all the conflicting messages throughout the years, the administration has made it clear that the only speech tolerated at Tufts is liberal speech and any idea that deviates even slightly from leftist ideology must be promptly silenced and eradicated.

George Santayana the philosopher once said, "Those who do not remember the past are condemned to repeat it." Some Jumbos may consider it ludicrous to suggest that Tufts is going back to the days of the implementation of the free-speech zones, but the incident at the cannon demonstrates this is exactly the direction in which we are headed. Hopefully, a new trend will start. When he heard of the latest anti-free-speech incident, Tufts sophomore Lorenz Sell bought a can of spray paint and plastered the cannon with a long overdue message: "stop censoring our speech." Sell later remarked, "I felt that any decent institution allows its students to develop their minds in their own way. Tufts made a choice for students that day. Tufts decided what was appropriate or not appropriate for students to read."

It is puzzling how on one hand, Tufts prides itself in providing a quality education, yet on the other hand, it practices censorship, which is the very *antithesis* of education. The more knowledge a student has access to on a subject, the better decisions he or she is likely to make regarding that subject. To censor is to slow intellectual progress, as Tufts shirks its responsibility in preparing its students for the ideas and ideologies that they will encounter in the real world.

As important as diversity may be, it is fruitless if we are ultimately encouraged to think the same. If Tufts is truly serious in providing a quality education, then it should stop the censoring and start advocating a true diversity: diversity of ideas. □

Mr. Balan is a sophomore majoring in Psychology.

Rights and Responsibilities

by Ezra Klughaupt

Liberty is rarely taken away directly—after all, what politician would overtly campaign against free speech or economic freedom? Most often, liberty is taken away in the name of fear, in an attempt to protect the populace. Often this results from a public unwilling to claim responsibility for its problems that searches for scapegoats and easy solutions. For example, alcohol prohibitionists eliminated the right to drink in the name of protecting alcoholics. Drug prohibitionists attempt to do the same. However, both policies have led to nothing but crime and have done little to curb substance abuse.

A less direct attack on freedom has come from those who seek to eliminate personal responsibility through excessive litigation. Consider the recent lawsuits against tobacco companies. Whether or not tobacco companies admitted it, Americans have known for years that cigarettes are dangerous, addictive, and often fatal products. The Surgeon General prints a warning on every pack of cigarettes that is also displayed on countless billboards and recited by parents and teachers everywhere. That anyone could smoke cigarettes in the past two decades unaware of their harmful effects is preposterous. Why, then, could a jury possibly award such a large award to those who choose to smoke?

The answer is simple—in front of a jury, a corporation does not stand much of a chance against a group of sick elderly people. Trial lawyers know that no matter how irre-

sponsible their arguments, they are still likely to win on the basis of emotional testimony by plaintiffs who were poisoned by tar and smoke. The payoffs are large enough that big-name attorneys can afford such ambulance chasing—there will always be a ready supply of “victim” clientele.

Another recent example of how litigation is eating away at basic rights is the suit filed by Linda Sanders, the wife of a murdered Columbine High School teacher. This multibillion-dollar class action suit is directed at 25 media compa-

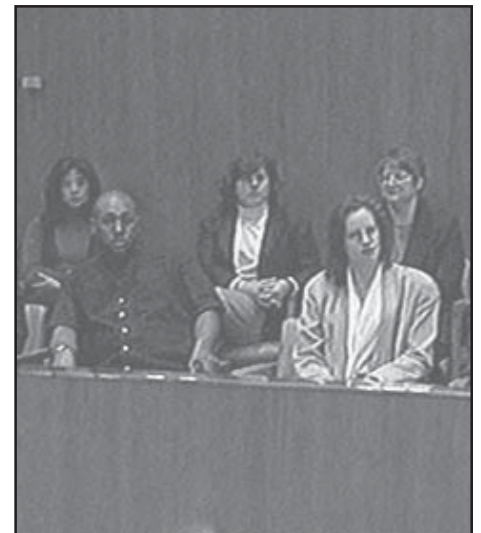
nies, most of which sell video games. The plaintiff asserts that these companies are liable for the tragedy at Columbine because their video games corrupted Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold, the two students who brutally murdered 12 students and Sanders’ husband. While games like Doom™ are rife with cartoon bloodshed, it is preposterous to suggest that these games turned two sane schoolboys into cold-blooded killers. The real blame for the Columbine tragedy rests on the killers and *only* the killers.

Hopefully the Columbine lawsuit will soon be dismissed, though the success of similarly frivolous lawsuits suggests that other outcomes may be likely. Perhaps the defendants will choose to settle with the plaintiff in order to avoid bad publicity, or to ensure that a larger judgment would not cripple them. Our fickle and unpredictable legal system has led many companies to choose this path. However, whenever an unworthy accuser cashes in because a company wants to avoid bad PR, justice is not served.

The lawsuits against the tobacco and

video game companies are not just breaches in good judgement by an ordinarily just judiciary system; they are serious attacks on our freedom. Whenever a poor judgement is made, even against a large corporation, there are victims. People lose their jobs, stockholders lose their money, and consumers lose choices. After all, if cigarette companies can be held liable for use of their legal product, then these products will no longer be sold. A few more lawsuits against cigarette companies may result in outright elimination of the tobacco industry. A similar assault on the video game industry could conceivably end the creation of violent games a few years down the line. Some may applaud the removal of these products from the market, but if we do not have the right to use them, regardless of whether it is by law or fear of litigation, are we really free?

There is hope, however, in the fight against frivolous lawsuits and the system that makes them possible: Bill Clinton, a willing pawn of the trial lawyer’s lobby, no longer controls the White House. President Bush has shown his opposition to this harmful special interest when he eliminated the American Bar Association’s special advisory role in the selection of federal judges. Hopefully the President will move farther and push for tort reform that would protect Americans from frivolous lawsuits. Our nation’s obsession with pointing fingers is harmful not only by robbing innocent companies, but also by discouraging people from taking responsibility for their mistakes. If Americans fail to claim responsibility for their actions, they may find their choices quickly disappearing, one lawsuit at a time. □



Pity can often move a jury to a decision that facts cannot.

Mr. Klughaupt is a sophomore majoring in Computer Science.

Old Chinese proverb: in shallow waters, shrimps make fools of dragons. Wang Wei was too close to shore.

Crash Test Commies

by Stephen Tempesta

At the beginning of April, President Bush faced his first true diplomatic test: gain the release of the 24-member crew of the propeller-powered EP-3E Aries II reconnaissance plane that made an emergency landing in China. The plane collided in mid-air with a Chinese fighter during what the U.S. Navy says was a routine patrol flight. The EP-3 had to make an emergency landing in Hainan Island, property of the People's Republic. What followed was the boarding of the plane by Chinese military personnel, the removal and detainment of the crew, and a cold standoff between the United States and one of its main adversaries.

The Chinese government believed it had the upper hand in the crisis. They had the crew, the plane, and a witness. The wingman of the pilot killed in the collision with the EP-3 returned safely to China and told his superiors that the American plane had made a sharp left turn and flown into the Chinese fighter. The Chinese were quick to assume the role of victim in the crisis; however, the United States stayed its course and waited for the facts to be gathered. American patience paid off. In a startling revelation, authorities discovered that the US plane was on autopilot during the collision, completely disproving the Chinese sharp-left turn theory. Also, the United States had gathered video proof of what they called "risky flying." In the video, Chinese pilots, including Wang Wei, the pilot who collided with the American plane, flew dangerously close to American reconnaissance planes. One clip shows the Chinese fighter so close that you could read Wang Wei's email address, which he had written on a

Mr. Tempesta is a sophomore majoring in Chemistry.

piece of paper and held up on his canopy.

All the facts seemed to indicate that the Chinese were at fault, and that the United States, in fact, was the victim. Yet the Chinese persisted with their propaganda campaign—if they couldn't win with facts, then they would win their peoples' hearts and minds with emotional pleas. Wang Wei's

wife wrote a letter to President Bush calling him a coward. She also said his attacks on Wang Wei's flying record were baseless. The Chinese government ex-

onerated Wei, calling him a national hero and naming him "Protector of the People of China." This title seems out of place, however, for a pilot who risked his and many other lives repeatedly while pestering American reconnaissance planes.

After the US crew was detained in China for several days, some American and UN officials said that China's apparent lethargy was just the way they do business and that they like to consider all the facts before making decisions. One must ask why the Chinese would immediately accuse the Americans without any facts at all? They detained the crew, demanded an apology, made numerous personal attacks on American leaders, and they dead wrong all along. President Bush was well-prepared for the waiting game. He repeatedly told the Chinese that they would not receive an apology, for the United States was not at fault. "We have expressed regrets and we have expressed our sorrow," Bush said. "And we are sorry that the life was lost."

President Bush quickly discovered that diplomatic relations would only go as far as money with the Chinese. Surely America's stance as one of China's premier trading

partners affected the squabbling that occurred between the Chinese military and the Chinese government. At first, the government was in full support of the military's claim that the American plane veered off course and struck Wang Wei's fighter, which was flying straight. The government stuck to this belief and virulently attacked the United States in the early stages of the crisis. When the truth arose, the Chinese government suddenly had to rethink its stance or possibly risk a political standoff with one of their biggest trade partners that they could not win. Some American lawmakers, such as Rep. Henry Hyde demanded the return of the crew and a review of recent trade agreements made with China. Beijing was caught between admitting that their pilot was at fault, losing popular support, and alienating the military, or sticking to its guns and losing its American trade partner. After American offered another weak semi-apology, China folded.

The Chinese government acted like a greedy kid in a candy shop, wanting to take everything. The US learned more from the crash aftermath than from the EP-3's reconnaissance mission: the Chinese government is in disarray. The military and the government of China obviously have separate agendas and will do whatever is necessary to appease their comrades. They stumble slowly to conclusions, because the government and military struggle to reach a consensus. One might call their sluggishness Old World thinking—in America, we call it communist ineptitude. □



Wang Wei: Protector of China or menace of international air space?

Will the real John Galt please stand up?

Communism in the 21st Century

by Andrew Gibbs

It was the best of times, it was the worst of times. So might a future historian describe the present state of the world. Never before has there existed such a potential for peace and prosperity. Yet coexisting with this potential are dangerous ideas and philosophies that threaten to undermine that which has made the United States the great nation that it is. While the number of officially communist countries has declined, there exists an even more insidious form of government: the socialist government that

pretends to respect personal freedom. It is commonly referred to as democracy, but is more accurately described as tyranny of the majority. The votes of the large groups are bought by politicians with promises of the money of smaller groups,

all in the name of "the public good." The road to Hell is paved with good intentions.

People frequently expound on the evils of communist China, but at least the Chinese government is up front about their blatant disregard for personal freedoms. The United States, on the other hand, preaches one thing and practices another. The United States government began as an entity charged solely with the protection of its citizens' life and property. Over the past couple of centuries it has grown into a bloated entity obsessed with redistributing wealth, imposing morals, playing Big

Brother, and acting as nanny from the cradle to the grave. The government of a truly free society would perform no such functions. Excessive regulation not only forces individuals and corporations to spend more time contemplating whether they are following laws, and less time actually producing, but also robs them of the right to the fruits of their labor.

Several recent events have shown in a revealing light the deleterious effects of the United States' socialist leanings. One such

The United States government began as an entity charged solely with the protection of its citizens' life and property. Over the past couple of centuries it has grown into a bloated entity obsessed with redistributing of wealth, imposing of morals, playing Big Brother, and acting as nanny from the cradle to the grave.

occurrence is the recent power crisis in the state of California. In the past few weeks, California officials have been forced to implement rolling blackouts in order to keep the entire power grid from collapsing. Such a measure wreaks

havoc on those who must endure it. The whole disaster is the result of California's gradually tightening strangle hold of regulations on the utilities. No modern amenity's loss can have a more drastic effect than that of electricity. If the California power crisis does not elucidate the danger of regulation, nothing will.

What, then are the causes of this crisis? It is easy for conservatives to say "too much regulation," but a closer analysis is required for a more convincing argument. A free market works on the principle that something is worth what someone is willing to pay for it. If something is not a viable commodity at the present price, it must either adjust in quality, quantity, or price. Failure

to do so dooms it to a quick demise. Free markets thus bring out the best in both labor and products. Regulation strips the market of its inherently competitive nature, which results in shoddy workmanship and dwindling supply. This is the essence of a planned economy, and has been the result of California power regulation.

Presently in California, government sets the retail price of power, thus nullifying all the principles of market demand. The normal response to rising demand is an increase in prices so as to lower consumption. With their hands tied by the government, California utilities can not react to market pressures. Worse yet, power wholesalers from out of state are bound by no such regulations. Their prices fluctuate in response to demand, resulting in retailers being forced to sell at staggering losses during times of high demand. Unable to generate sufficient revenue, the utilities have gone into massive debt, owing a great deal of money to the state. California is threatening to impose penalties equal to the amount owed, disregarding the fact that the companies have no means to pay. The government has effectively made it impossible for the utilities to run a profitable business, and now wants to punish them for failing.

Despite the utilities' mounting debts, protesters have the audacity to complain about rate hikes. Rallies and riots have taken place to protest the "injustice" of the situation. What they fail to recognize is that the only injustice that has been committed has been *against* the utilities, not by them. One woman at a rally held a sign that said, "We won't pay!" Apparently, she thinks that the utilities are her indentured servants obligated to serve her needs, even at expense of their own ruination. If the people consuming the power are not going to pay, then who should? It won't be industrialists because excessive regulation has made it unprofitable for them. That leaves federal bailout as the only other option, forcing other states to pay for the damage caused by California's reckless and shortsighted regulation frenzy. The root cause of all this misery is very simple: a lack of power. This situation will not resolve until government backs off and allows the utilities to once again run as profitable businesses.

Another particularly nauseating example of communism in the United States is the recent attempt by Napster to get Congress to enact what is known as compulsory licensing. Compulsory licensing would strip

Mr. Gibbs is a junior majoring in Computer Science.

record companies of all copyright privileges. Congress or the U.S. Copyright Office would set a flat fee for music distribution that would be non-negotiable. Its proponents say that it would expedite the creation of Internet music distribution channels. What they don't mention is that compulsory licensing is stealing, aided and abetted by the government. If a thug on the street holds someone at gunpoint and forces him to sell his gold watch for \$25, this is not a sale, but rather a thinly-veiled extortion. When the government does the same thing, however, it is called a law, and is upheld by the

courts. A sale is an exchange of goods that requires the consent of both the buyer and the seller. When goods exchange hands without the consent of both parties, it is a theft, plain and simple. The words "compulsory" and "licensing" completely contradict one another. If someone is forced to part with something, it is not a sale.

An environment in which the government grants the right to steal undermines the need to compete to be the best producer, or to make the best offer. Instead, lobbyists compete in what Ayn Rand termed in *Atlas Shrugged* as "The Aristocracy of Pull." Instead of businessmen competing to make the best product or provide the best service, Washington men compete for the favors of legislators, pleading their cases. Such is always the result of a socialist society. The chief tenet of a socialist society is simply: "from each according to his ability, to each according to his need." Such a system brings out the *worst* in people. No longer do people devote their efforts to being the best producer they can be, but rather fight to be the best at demonstrating need. Productive individuals realize that putting forth their best effort only results in their punishment; the looters continue to demonstrate more and more "need," while the producers are called upon to make heroic efforts to supply the needs of others.

Napster has tried to assume the role of freedom fighter, pretending that it is standing up for the rights of the people. The only thing that Napster is fighting for is the right to steal from others. They are trying to

legitimize their crimes by lobbying the government "on behalf of the people." Had Napster not created a channel for theft in the first place, legitimate online music services could have flourished. Now people resort to stealing, or, as they like to envision it, fighting the evil corporations. Napster, the

alleged champion of online music, has killed it in the cradle.

Of all the suffering at the hands of looters, scientists and engineers endure a particularly large share. This fact has become evident in the

recent tirade against the developers of prescription drugs. The AIDS epidemic in Africa has gone far beyond chronic and requires a solution. Nobody can argue with that. There exists a desperate need for affordable medicine. However, the behavior and strategies of such political bodies as the South African Communist Party have been highly inappropriate. The SACP has consistently portrayed pharmaceutical companies as evil, price gouging corporations that are the bane of the world.

Accusations have been levied that companies are selling far above cost in an attempt to bleed people for all they are worth. The problem with this assertion is a misconception about the definition of cost. The price of the physical ingredients of a drug is perhaps a few cents. However, the estimated cost

of bringing a drug from conception to the market place is \$500 million to \$800 million. The cost of appeasing the FDA is staggering. On top of this, for every successful drug, there are several fantastic failures. The losses of these failures must be recouped by successful drugs. Socialists seek to distribute resources and wealth, but have no con-

cept of the process involved in the creation of the commodities in question. They are not men of the mind, as has been made evident by history. Scientific research always suffers under the reign of such men. Socialists have no interest in creation, only in consumption. They are not concerned with the future, only with the here and now.

Bristol-Myers Squibb has graciously relinquished their patent rights to the drug d4T in an act of charity to the suffering African nations, as well as slashed their own prices to African countries. Several other companies have followed suit for various drugs. The SACP's response has been to spit on them as if they were an enemy of war, proclaiming that they have won. They issued the following statement: "The SACP regards the withdrawal of many of these companies as a reminder that the bosses and their system of capitalism are not invincible." The "system of capitalism" that they condemn so freely is the very system that has brought them their salvation from a deadly virus. Their great system of communism that they advocate so obnoxiously has brought nothing but violence and oppressive poverty. With the copyrights to d4T relinquished, generic drug manufacturers can now provide drugs at low cost and are being touted as heroes of the people. Says William Prusoff, co-discoverer of d4T, "Oh, they can be big about it and sell it at a lower cost. They didn't make the tremendous investment that the pharmaceutical firms did."

Now, African countries are widening their war to include all prescription drugs. If they succeed, their victory will be short-lived when the researchers of drugs find their line of work unprofitable and throw in the towel. A man denied the

rights to the products of his mind will cease to bring such wonders forth to the public. The United States government must fiercely oppose the pirating of intellectual property in all forms, or the rapid advance of technology will come to a grinding halt.

The fatal flaw in socialism is the inability to realize that no man is entitled to

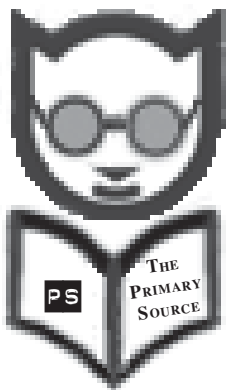
The fatal flaw in communism is the inability to realize that no man is entitled to anything other than the products of his own labors. This false assumption results in the destruction of wealth, not its redistribution.

A man denied the rights to the products of his mind will cease to bring forth such wonders to the public. The United States government must fiercely oppose the pirating of intellectual property in all forms, or the rapid advance of technology will come to a grinding halt.

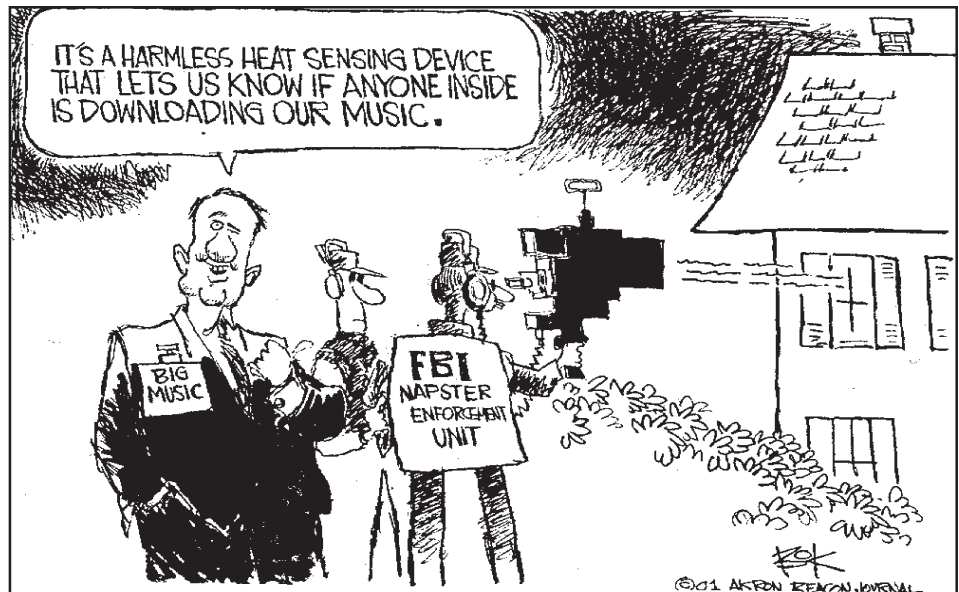
anything other than the products of his own labors. This false assumption results in the destruction of wealth, not its redistribution. All the money in the world is meaningless without producers to give it value. Additionally, one must realize that wealth is not a zero-sum game. Money is *made*, and for men to make it, men must reap the rewards of their own efforts. Ayn Rand brilliantly sums these concepts up in the following passage from Atlas Shrugged:

"Money demands that you sell, not your weakness to men's stupidity, but your talent to their reason; it demands that you buy, not the shoddiest they offer, but the best your money can find. And when men live by trade—with reason, not force, as their final arbiter—it is the best product that wins, the best performance, then man of best judgment and highest ability—and the degree of a man's productiveness is the degree of his reward. This is the code of existence whose tool and symbol is money."

Self-proclaimed pragmatists who realize that socialism cannot work in reality assert that "it is good in theory but flawed in practice." This gives communism far too much credit. Any system in which one man may claim the products of another man's labor without his consent is inherently destructive. Whenever a government extracts money or property for a non-essential function, it acts as a broker for theft. No laws or directives can ever justify such a situation. Only when men trade with one another, exchanging value for value, without coercion by force, may a society claim to be truly free. □



THE PRIMARY SOURCE:
Intellectual property
the feds would love
you to steal.



Rumor Redefined

by Joshua Martino and Chris Kohler

On March 7, hundreds of Tufts web-surfers were shocked to find that one of their favorite websites was gone. In its place they found a website dedicated to sci-fi actor Rembrandt Brown. After two years, Tufts' most popular, innovative, and controversial Internet site was no more.

Created in the fall of 1999 by then-sophomore Brian Finkelstein, *Brian's Rumors Daily* became a Tufts phenomenon within months of its inception. Featuring student-submitted rumors and columns authored by Finkelstein and his friends, the page's audience grew to include everyone from campus recluses to student government leaders. When Finkelstein added a news forum to which visitors could anonymously post text, *Rumors Daily's* fame exploded. The forum became a campus news source, a barometer for student opinion, and an online temple in which nothing was sacred. And when anonymous users began impersonating and slandering other students and campus organizations, the forum became an epicenter for controversy.

Last fall, the page celebrated its 100,000th hit, or Internet visit. As its popularity soared, *Rumors Daily's* original users noticed a change in demographics. Posts on the forum declined from discussion of campus issues to name-calling and online insult-passing between fraternities. Rumors were fewer and farther between. Then, in March the site disappeared as quickly as it was created. *Rumors Daily* author Brian Finkelstein recently spoke to the SOURCE about the rise and fall of his online brainchild.

Mr. Martino is a junior majoring in English and Mr. Kohler is a junior majoring in Japanese.

THE PRIMARY SOURCE: Why did you take down *Rumors Daily*?

Brian Finkelstein: I took it down because of the extraordinary decline in the number of stories and the decline in the quality of the forum. It was noticeable to everyone. It became more trouble than it was fun. The only reason I did the site was because it was a big joke on you—my goof on the school—and when it stopped being funny to me, there was really no point. And so I stopped.

SOURCE: Two months later, do you regret taking it down?

"If I knew their name, they could find themselves on the site. Anyone on the senate was fair game."

Finkelstein: It was the right call, but it's kind of sad sometimes. There weren't many times this semester

when I stopped and said, "This site is something I really need to do." It annoyed people. The best part about taking it down was that people had this reaction: "Hey, the rumor page is down. I gotta figure out what happened on the forum! Oh wait... The rumors page is down. No forum."

SOURCE: What would you tell people who are angry that you shut down the site?

Finkelstein: "Nuts to you." It was my site, and I'll do with it whatever I damn well please. It was there for my entertainment only; I'm glad you enjoyed it, but I feel it's over, so it's over.

SOURCE: In your final column, you said that in the site's younger days you had people in the senate, Programming Board, and Concert Board to provide

you with rumors. Were these people your friends, or did students randomly send rumors to you at first?

Finkelstein: Mostly friends. There were one or two random people who submitted, like certain high-ranking TCU officials [winks]. But it was a couple months before people I didn't know started sending stuff in. Like, [former TCU President] Larry Harris submitting something under a false name.

SOURCE: Larry Harris submitted rumors under false names?

Finkelstein: It was a story about him cross-dressing. I think he just wanted me to put it on the site so he could make fun of me for putting something that was really stupid on there. It was a story about him going to the Natick Mall—somebody saw him there buying women's underwear, and the story was that he went to the lady that was selling underwear and said he was buying it for his mother who was the exact same size. Who else would have written that? It was from him. It might have been before I could trace users, but I am sure.

SOURCE: Of all the rumors posted on your site, what was your favorite?

Finkelstein: I don't think I have one. Jessica Biel was kind of funny—when we found out she was coming. There were some I hated, though. If it was stupid, I usually wouldn't do anything. I would just ignore it. The only time I put really dumb ones up was when I hadn't gotten anything for two weeks and I needed to post *something*. So I'd put up a rumor even though it was lame.



The man, the myth, the legend: just Brian.

SOURCE: What kind of rumors did not make it on your site? What was left on the "cutting room floor"?

Finkelstein: Things that didn't make it were things that were overly personal about anybody, but it went on a sliding scale. If you were famous—if you made yourself Mr. Public Man Number One—pretty much anything would be okay. If it was someone that no one knew, I tried to leave them off the site altogether. Why bother? No reason to be mean to them if they're not a public person. If I knew their name, they could find themselves on the site. Anyone on the senate was fair game.

SOURCE: What was the proudest moment for you as the site's creator?

Finkelstein: I think one of them was when DiBiaggio put that ad in the *Daily* blaming "anonymous email forums" for racism. That was great. I loved that. I was pretty excited about being sued by Larry Harris. That would have been fun. I was kind of bummed out that he dropped it, because it would've been embarrassing for him. He would have looked stupid. He was suing me over being called a "black asshole." Which part of that wasn't true? I don't know.

SOURCE: Is that when you knew the site had really made it?

Finkelstein: Basically, what happened was I watched the numbers go straight up. Every week it would be more. Every week I would go, "Holy cow, who *are* all these people?" The first time it was a hundred people in a week, I was really excited. Next time, it was 400 in a week. And the next time it was 5,000 in a week. At its peak, I was getting about 5,000 total hits a week on the front page. Of course, I knew that could also be one person visiting 5,000 times in one week.

SOURCE: Would you call yourself a journalist?

Finkelstein: No. The only times I ever used that word is when I had to argue about First Amendment stuff. Other than that, I tried to avoid it because it makes me look really unethical if I call myself a journalist. Whereas, if I'm just a goofball, I'm perfectly ethical. The content of *Rumors Daily* wasn't news. Something that *was* news would be in the newspaper within hours, and it wasn't a secret thing. Usually rumors predicted the

future, saying what would happen two weeks from now. Occasionally, they would be something that had already happened but hadn't gotten to the *Daily* yet. So that would be a straight news story, I guess.

SOURCE: Would you say that *Rumors Daily* was a legitimate campus news source?

Finkelstein: Yes. Well, maybe not news, but information. It may not have been reliable, or well informed, or even coherent, but it had stuff on it that was useful once in a while. And anything that I missed always ended up on the forum one way or another. News was always there, no matter how poorly managed it might have been.

SOURCE: When you added the forum to the site, what did you imagine would happen?

Finkelstein: I didn't really anticipate how low-brow it would get. I didn't see that coming, which is kind of dumb on my part. When it started out, it was just the campus literati that were using it. And they weren't really the kind to decline so quickly. It was when the campus riff-raff picked it up, that's when it began to go downhill.

SOURCE: Did you know certain people's identities on the forum? For instance, in your final column, you revealed that Larry Harris was known online as "The Fox."

Finkelstein: I had access to people's IP addresses. But I usually didn't know the identities of other forum users who posted regularly under the same alias. I didn't really care unless it was someone really, really offensive like The Fox. What a jack-ass. Do you remember some of the things he wrote? He was always the person writing about how much of a dork you were for using the forum, and you were the one sitting at home masturbating all night, doing nothing but reading the forum, so go out and be a real person. He was one of them. Most of the other ones, I don't know. Did I ever tell you who my names were?

SOURCE: Who were you on the forum?

Finkelstein: My personal favorite one was Ingen Angiven. I got accused of being all kinds of people. They went on a little quest to figure out who I was. People always accused me of being someone from the SOURCE. They also said I was someone in TCF, which was kind of funny since there is a woman in TCF with a name similar to Ingen Angiven. And they said I was Alyssa Heumann—

notice they were all feminine, which I kind of offended me. I also used "Garth" and "Todd." Ingen Angiven posts were always ones where I wanted to make a political point. Those didn't get the

"The best part about taking it down was that people had this reaction: 'Hey, the rumor page is down. I gotta figure out what happened on the forum! Oh wait... The Rumors page is down. No forum.'"

dumbass responses.

SOURCE: Tell me about the legal problems that the site got you into.

Finkelstein: Larry Harris again. When he was called a "black asshole" on the forum, he wrote me an email complaining that the forum was slanderous, libelous, but he wouldn't delineate exactly what he was being offended by, so I didn't take anything down. A week later he said, "Never mind, I'm sorry, forget it." I was kind of annoyed that he caved in so soon. I wanted a fight.

Some guy at a frat once tried to sue me. Same thing, people were complaining about him on the forum and he emailed me, saying [whiny voice] "Oh, tell them to stop writing about me!" He wanted me to tell him people's IP addresses so he could find them and beat them up, which I thought was a witty way to get my attention.

And the Secret Service came one time. Some forum user threatened the life of Al Gore. I got a phone call at 9 AM on a weekend. He said, "Brian Finkelstein?" and I said "Yes," very sleepily. He said, "This is Officer So-And-So. I'm calling from the Secret Service." And then I woke up really quickly, because it's not often you get that phone call. They said, "We want to come talk to you; are you going to be there for ten minutes?" I said yes, and they hung up. Then I went through my room quickly to make sure there was nothing really illegal there. There was nothing, but you get worried when the

See "Rumors" continued on page 29

Notable and Quotable

I don't know much Spanish, but when they said, 'Kill the gringo,' I knew what they meant.

—Bank Miller

That is PC bullsh*t, you can laugh at anything you f**king want to laugh at.

—Lewis Black

In America, first the government came for the gun owners, and I didn't speak up because I didn't own a gun. Then the government came for the cigarette smokers, and I didn't speak up because I don't smoke. Then the government came for Microsoft, and I didn't speak up because I use a Mac. Then the government came for the SUV drivers, and I didn't speak up because I drive a Geo. Then the government came for me, and by that time no one was left to speak up.

—Sam Dangremond

Was it wrong to pretend that I was a paraplegic black woman on my application?

Not at all. It probably got you a really great room.

—Chris Kohler

Dude, you shouldn't be so angry—you can't start the revolution with anger.

—Adam Carlis

If we consider the possible negatives of affirmative action, we are no better than Klansmen and Confederate lynch mobs. When we decry unpopular words and discussion as "free speech" we are reversing decades of progress. We are guilty of bigotry and gross insensitivity. We are white oppressors. And you, our bigoted parents, allowed us to go eighteen years without repenting.

—Dan Lewis

Technology is the sword and shield of our society, for as it can destroy us, so too can it save us.

—Adam Biacchi

The administration has an obligation to showcase eminent individuals whose points of view lie neither on the right nor the far right.

—Jerry Meldon

If we consider the United States government the amoeba of efficiency, and the private sector in a free market to be modern man, then Dining Services ranks somewhere between a cat and a hamster—which may well be what they are serving.

—Jonathan Perle

It is clear that Tisch Library's acquisition "policy" with regard to primary documents is not only inane, it is a farce. It is hard to understand what led the library to refuse the *Pro Life Reference Journal*, if it purportedly wishes to contribute to the open-minded, diversity-oriented discourse so treasured by Tufts University.

—Jared Burdin

Vegans, quite frankly, have their heads in the sand like so many delicious ostriches.

—Lew Titterton

If a white man owns the Chevrolet dealership in the neighborhood but blacks insist on buying Yugos because they know that the dealership is run by fellow blacks, not only are they condoning and contributing to mediocrity, but they're driving Yugos.

—Phil DeVaul

You don't want to read that.

—John DiBiaggio

The goal of single interest groups is not to exist.

—Lou Esparza

Activism on campus is weakened with every graduating class; orators, experience, writers, and minds are lost, never to be gained again.

—Kris Paddock

There is little doubt that Greek life is the center of what little social scene exists on this campus. Other options might be available to some students, but the vast majority of underclassmen get their kicks at fraternity parties. True, these events often degenerate into nights of drunken debauchery, but come on people, this is college.

—Aren Prupas

I don't have anything against Lars Ulrich. It's just that I would rather have free mp3s than a clear conscience.
—Ezra Klughaupt

If a Tufts sports team suddenly came out and said "no blacks, Jews, or gays" there would be an outrage, and rightfully so. At the same time, nobody cares all that much that sports teams discriminate against slow, weak, uncoordinated people.
—Andrew Gibbs

We're just waiting for the 'TCUJ is not safe' chalkings.
—Eric Krause

Because we are sinful beings, there are parts of our "natures" which should not be embraced simply because we have an orientation (or genetic predisposition) towards them.
—Jonathan Crowe

The Puerto Ricans in the film [West Side Story] are depicted as violent gang members, the first to fight and the first to kill. They are symbolized as sharks, a blood-thirsty fish with large teeth.
—Rubén Salinas Stern

It's a lot easier to be on the sidelines yelling about whatever you're passionate about. It's a lot harder to be the focus, the magnet of criticism. But don't get me wrong. It's fun.
—Dave Moon

Lehrer is neither particularly entertaining nor super intellectual, and for this reason, he was a safe, though not spectacular, choice for commencement speaker.
—Craig Waldman

We are worried about vaginas.
—Thea Lavin

What this world really needs is more truly offensive slurs. If there were slurs against white people equally as sharp and as biting as those against black people, then whites would be far less inclined to use their slurs and blacks would have their own defensive arsenal.
—Brian Finkelstein

I can't wait to be an old, retired Jew living in Miami and playing golf all day. My grandparents have got it made.
—Dan Barbarisi

The death penalty is a tool of conservatives.
—Adam Carlis

Adam Carlis is just a tool.
—The Elephant

Now, I would be really impressed if Tufts' administration thought outside the box when choosing a graduation speaker. For my next proposal, I submit *NSYNC. Now, I know what you're thinking. "They're a group, not a person, silly!"
—Alessandro Terrenzoni

Destroying any semblance of a social scene we have on campus with your whole security force and threatening arrests are not appropriate methods of communication.
—Moirá Poe

The fact that people in my state actually voted for Hilary Clinton makes me want to move to Jersey.
—Stephen Tempesta

One of these days, Laura, I'm gonna punch you in the face!
—TV's George W. Bush

The debate was boring. Nobody watched... well, except for me and all those other political junkies, who, I might add, have already made up our minds. As far as I can tell, the only people discussing it afterwards were me, my mom, and Greg Propper.
—Sarah Molenkamp

The tired dogma of liberalism may satisfy some, but will fail to stand the test of time. With due tenacity, the campus may once again be a hub of progression and accomplishment. It is only through our willingness to stay the course, to persevere and be ever present, that we may find an eager audience for our message of freedom.
—Alyssa Heumann

The authors of several campus editorials on race have insisted that with race comes a responsibility; we must celebrate our differences. However, it has been and will continue to be the opinion of the SOURCE that the day we can ignore these differences will be the day when all Americans are truly equal.
—Joshua Martino

Public Demand

by Nick Abraham

On April 19, 1995, a truck bomb exploded outside the Alfred P. Murrah federal building in Oklahoma City killing 168 people and wounding more than 500 others. The waves of grief, sorrow, and anger that followed could be seen on television, read in our newspapers, and heard on Capitol Hill. The incident was deemed the worst act of domestic terrorism in the United States. Presiding over the case of the accused bomber, Judge Richard Matsch kept strict control of the courtroom, and just two months later the jury convicted Timothy McVeigh of the bombing and sentenced him to death by lethal injection. Usually, the appeals process available for an inmate on death row can span decades. On December 28, 2001, however, a federal judge granted Timothy McVeigh's request to drop all remaining appeals and set the execution date in 120 days, the minimum allowed by federal law. In a letter published in the *Sunday Oklahoman*, McVeigh wrote that he wanted his execution to be publicly broadcast for the nation to see.

Rewind to August 14, 1936. Rainey Bethea was hanged in Owensboro, Kentucky before a crowd of 20,000. Bethea was a man who confessed to stealing jewelry and raping and killing the woman in whose house he lived and worked. The law required the hangman to be the sheriff of the town, at the time a woman named Florence Thompson. Though Sheriff Thompson did not pull the lever, the media flocked to the town to report on what would be the first woman to hang a man. Disappointed, the

newspapers sensationalized the hanging, inventing stories about a "cheering mob that ripped souvenirs of clothing and other articles from the dead man's body." Though public hangings were present since colonial times, the public outrage that followed ended any further public execution in the state of Kentucky and in the United States.

Even today, however, the government permits friends and kin of the convicted and the victims to witness executions. The prison where McVeigh will be executed can only accommodate eight seats, so Attorney General John Ashcroft has agreed to televise on closed circuit television the first federal execution in thirty-seven years. Entertainment Network Inc, an Internet-based company specializing in voyeurism and adult entertainment, requested permission to conduct a live broadcast of the execution over the Internet either from the closed circuit feed or by sending a cameraman to the execution. Federal law allows a small group of reporters (Terre Haute Penitentiary in Indiana is expecting over 1,100 media personnel) to be present at an execution to relate the event to the public but does not allow any sound or video recording devices. Entertainment Network then unsuccessfully sued in federal court for the rights to broadcast the execution, citing an infringement of the First Amendment.

A criminal is defined as someone who has committed a crime against society, and punishment involves repayment to society. It follows then that if the government believes that the death penalty is a fair and viable method for a criminal to repay a debt to society, then executions should be for the

entire public to view. To be consistent we should either fully support public executions, or the death penalty should be eliminated. The government's current stance on public execution questions the legitimacy of the death penalty. The Eight Amendment prohibits the "infliction of cruel and unusual punishments." One must also clearly remember the intentions of the Founding Fathers when they proposed and ratified this amendment. It is true that capital punishment existed during colonial times, and it is true that the Founding Fathers supported capital punishment. However, as Mr. Livermore, a colonial member of the House of Representatives stated, "If a more lenient mode of correcting vice and deterring others from the [crime] would be invented, it would be very prudent in the Legislature to adopt it." Such a method exists. It's called life without possibility of parole.

Revenge—it's the number one reason why public opinion is in such favor of the death penalty and why so many victims of the Oklahoma bombing wanted to see McVeigh die in person. Kathleen Treanor, a relative of a bombing victim, stated about the McVeigh execution, "As long as I get to view [the execution], I'm a happy camper. To see it happen is going to help me realize that this is over." The Federal Government cited "the privacy rights of the criminal," when denying Entertainment Network their webcast of McVeigh's death, but McVeigh was ready to waive those rights. The real reason the courts are unwilling to bring back public executions, a throwback to the days of Rainey Bethea, is that death is cruel. The public favors the death penalty on the belief that it's fair. Only recently, thanks to DNA testing, new evidence shows that the states have killed many innocent people. To avoid this "out of sight, out of mind" mentality, the government must allow public executions on television. □



Mr. Abraham is a freshman who has not declared a major.

Money can't buy happiness, and, in light of national testing results, it also can't procure reading competency.

Miseducation on Capitol Hill

by Robert Lichter

Washington couldn't tell a lie and Lincoln read by candlelight. After two Clinton terms, two great presidents appear more distant to America's children. During the past eight years, federal money spent on elementary education has tripled, according to a senior fellow at the Manhattan Institute, while reading test scores have stayed exactly the same. If these scores had been excellent and remained so, the increased spending wouldn't seem so outrageous, but the scores were abysmal in 1992, and they have not improved. Krista Kafer of the Heritage Foundation notes that America has spent \$80 billion over the past decade and received a flat line in reading score advancement.

Recently released results of the 2000 tests conducted by the National Assessment of Educational Progress, or NAEP, found that 37% of children posted competency levels of "below basic." Educators say this means that nearly four out of ten fourth-graders can't read—not a very promising statistic in a nation where an increasing number of jobs require an ever-expanding array of technical skills. The NAEP is the test that the government uses as a measure of primary education throughout the nation, and the results demonstrate a failing grade in improvement among children from those groups who are often most at risk of dropping out of high school and not receiving the advanced training needed to acquire a family-supporting job when they grow up.

The test results are grimmest for minority children and children in poverty. Of black fourth graders tested, 63% scored below the

basic competency level, and 58% of Hispanics also failed to read at the basic level. Nearly half of children in urban schools cannot read, nor can six out of ten who live in families with incomes below the poverty level.

President Bush rightly wants to tie school funding to school performance. Those schools that fail to educate their students ought to lose out to the schools that get results. Significant outlays of public money

are needed for public schools to provide a quality education. When it comes to science labs, foreign language

programs, computers, libraries, and other amenities by which we judge schools, there is no substitute for an adequate budget and well-trained teachers. But when the subject is reading, money is not the solution. A *McGuffey's Reader: Millennium Edition* would offer no more benefit than the vintage versions. The needed resources exist. The government has tried throwing money at reading scores, and it is not solving the problem. Why not a commitment of time instead?

Reading can be—and in many places around the world is—taught using inexpensive books. It requires no advanced technology. Paper and pencil or blackboard and chalk are the basic tools. Many years of study are needed to prepare teachers in subjects such as calculus or literature. Elementary teachers also need advanced study, but in teaching reading, they need not work alone. Almost anyone can help. Anyone who can read has the basic knowledge to sit down and teach a child to read. Parents who frequently read to their children often, without really trying, end up teaching the child to read. Older siblings have been known to flaunt their knowledge by teaching their

brothers and sisters to read.

Though education is of great importance when raising a child, far too many parents are willing to hand over their responsibilities to the government's schools. Schools where conjunctions have been replaced by contraceptives. Schools where programs like DARE have earned misplaced trust from parents, misplaced pride from school officials, and only giggles from students. Scrapping these programs would let schools get back to the basics: reading, writing and arithmetic. Teachers who weren't called upon to present the politically correct lesson *du jour* would have more time to spend individually assisting those kids who need a bit of extra help to master reading. Parents and other volunteers could help inside the classroom and outside school as well.

At an even more basic level, those who know how to read can recognize the children around them having trouble. Whether it's a boy at Sunday school, the girl next door or our own siblings, we can reach out. We can all help in a national literacy campaign. President Bush's campaign promise that no child should be left behind is a challenge that every literate American can embrace. If each of us gave a few hours to helping the young children we know learn to read, test scores would improve dramatically. Then we can be assured that in the future, Congress will still have the verbal skills to argue about why children can't do math, a subject in which many of our lawmakers themselves are challenged. But that's a topic for another day. □



\$80 billion later, and our kids still can't read. What's a teacher to do?

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

Cincinnati's youth is putting its elders to shame.

Quiet Riot

by Megan Liotta

Generation X was the era of slackers; Generation Y is the era of overachievers, students who are spread so thin in so many different activities that everything gets neglected. But fear not. Today's junior-high-schoolers, the dawn of the next collegiate generation, have suddenly proved themselves wise beyond their years. And they're making sure everyone hears them. Call them Generation Z.

Amid Cincinnati's most recent civil unrest has emerged a sampling of what America can look forward to in the political arena within the next twenty years. While their parents, older siblings, and perhaps even their grandparents took to the streets, destroying private

property and beating innocent civilians, Cincinnati's teenagers nobly and quietly condemned the unruly behavior. Two days after riots erupted in Cincinnati in the wake of 19-year-old Timothy Thomas's death at the hands of the police, the city's New Friendship Baptist Church held an open forum for its youth to speak regarding the melee. The resulting profundity can only be called astounding.

Thomas died after sustaining a bullet wound to the chest, a wound inflicted on him as he attempted to flee police officers pursuing him for 14 outstanding warrants. Officer Stephen Roach, who fired the fateful shot, asserts that he thought Thomas was reaching for a weapon, though no gun was found at the scene. Tragically, Thomas was

the fifteenth unarmed black male killed by cops in a string of such deaths that started in 1995. These statistics are troubling, and the hastiness of the police warrants investigation. Cincinnati's citizens should not fear those hired to protect them. Adults running amok, smashing, looting, beating, destroying the city and its citizens, however, helps no one, least of all those demanding equal respect in society. And the children of those people making the demands are noticing their parents' hypocrisy.

Without the support of future generations, adults resorting to violent civil unrest will have no foundation for their demands. They will be asking for a society in the name of their children that their children do not want.

as young as thirteen, spoke with eloquent bluntness rarely heard emanating from political microphones.

"The older generation could have prevented this. Our black leaders are not leading us," said Derrick Blassingame, a 14-year-old from the Ohio city. Blassingame finds himself on the same side politically as the rioters on the issue of civil liberties; he is the rather young president of the new Black Youth Coalition Against Civil Injustice. Yet this young man finds violence an unacceptable and impotent attempt at a solution in his fight for personal respect. America has heard these words from a black leader before, namely Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr, one of this country's greatest and bravest leaders. Blassingame finds himself with tremendous shoes to fill, but judging by his premature sophistication, he may very well be up to the task.

At the church's forum, several teenagers took the floor to express their feelings on the violence and tumult in which their role models were active participants. These children, some

"Some of our black leaders just want their faces on TV. They are in this for four things only: reputation, power, politics and money," Blassingame declared, bringing to mind another particular civil rights leader, Dr. King's protégé the Reverend Jesse Jackson. Jackson has epitomized everything King was not, and he was also unfortunately the loudest, pushiest heir to the King legacy, which, some Americans worry, he has nearly destroyed in his quest for personal fame. Unfortunately, the Reverend Jackson is not alone, as many other black leaders, such as Al Sharpton and Kweisi Mfume, have also followed this dishonorable model.

Some of the community's adults are finally beginning to listen, admitting that they have neglected the needs of their youth in the past and there has been no positive result. Despite the pleas of youngsters, Angela Leisure, the shooting victim's own mother, threatened more violence if Officer Roach is not indicted by a grand jury. A mother's wish for vengeance is understandable, but Blassingame's speech has negated the effectiveness of any further violence. He has already made Cincinnati's youth's intolerance of the riots abundantly clear to the community. Without the support of future generations, adults resorting to violent civil unrest will have no foundation for their demands. They will be asking for a society in the name of their children that their children do not want.

Blassingame and his peers have started a new revolution, a peaceful refusal to accept racial inequity, making themselves role models for their elders. They are out to prove that they deserve respect, and already their fight has paid off. They have bravely earned the esteem of people across the nation while those who chose to lose control have lost in a fit of cowardice any chance of gaining widespread respect. Only when the elders realize the wisdom of the youth can both generations find hope for racial harmony in this lifetime. □

Miss Liotta is a sophomore majoring in English.



*A mush-mouthed President with a sidekick named Dick?
That's a recipe for laughs!*

First Family Values

by Simon Holroyd

There is no denying that George W. Bush is a popular target for political humor. By taking office he assumes both political power and his role as the nation's most popular punchline. Though this sort of treatment is not a novel occurrence to celebrities, Bush is an unusual case. A combination of his own trouble with complex thought and language and the circumstances by which he was elected have led to an especially hostile and sarcastic political climate. He is the easiest president to mock in many years.

The stage was set for more powerful and pointed humorous commentary during this president's term. Comedy Central stepped up to fill the role with a new comedy by the creators of *South Park*, Trey Parker and Matt Stone. The idea of the program was to set a sitcom inside the White House. The program was planned long before the end of the arduous election, however, and actually would have focused upon the winner of the election no matter which candidate was victorious. With Bush declared the winner, the show was entitled, *That's My Bush!*

Plans for the show met some resistance from Republicans close to the president. Specifically, the White House was concerned with the portrayal of the Bush family. Rumors that the Bush's twin daughters would be shown as sexy lesbian lovers had the first couple worried. As it turned out, the show does not include characters representing the Bush daughters. Nevertheless, Republicans have argued that such a sitcom was disre-

spectful to the presidential office. Their complaint, however, is invalid as a democracy should be open to any form of political criticism in any medium.

Oddly enough, viewers will not find much political satire or quick-witted criticisms of the President. Nor

As the show is more a commentary on sitcoms than politics, there is little for Republicans to fear in *That's My Bush*.

does *That's My Bush* showcase the obvious jokes to which Bush is liable. Instead, Bush

is portrayed as a whiny buffoon. Although the show attempts to take on a political issue in each episode, there is no ideological message. For instance, the first episode concerned abortion rights. The closest the show came to satirical commentary was through the characterization of pro-lifers as an embittered thirty-year-old almost-aborted fetus and pro-choicers as a butch lesbian. The show instead focuses on Bush's dilemma after agreeing to host a White House summit on abortion rights as well as a romantic dinner with his wife on the same night. Such corny setups are the basis for every episode of *That's My Bush*.

It becomes clear that the creators of the program are far more interested in deconstructing sitcoms than debunking the President. This is evident in the abundance of clichéd situations that befall Bush each week. The characters reproduce one-liners from classic sitcoms. George exclaims, "What' choo talkin' 'bout?" like Gary Coleman on *Different Strokes*, and at the end of each episode the audience joins Bush in reciting a version of *The Honeymooners'* tag line, "One of these days, Laura ... I'm gonna punch you in the face!"

Parker and Stone intended that the show be devoid of political ideology. Their aim was strictly to make fun of the TV show genre that they hate. "*Everybody Loves Raymond* takes a character and makes him into an icon," Parker explained. "We thought it would be so subversive to take someone who's real and maybe a little vilified and try to make everybody love him." The result a show that is so clichéd it separates itself from the actual president. It almost seems like the Bush of *That's My Bush* could just as well be anyone.

As the show is more a commentary on sitcoms than politics, there is little for Republicans to fear in *That's My Bush*. That said, the show's real commentary on the state of situational comedies is belabored and unoriginal. Sitcoms are so hackneyed that it is painful to watch *That's My Bush* put so much emphasis on one-liners, crazy situations and unbelievable happy endings. The programs that *That's My Bush* mocks are already a parody of themselves; they need no deconstruction. □



George and Laura doppelgangers star in *That's My Bush!*

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

This year in student activism shows the ineffectiveness of direct action.

No Discrimination for You

by Sam Dangremond

It's been a banner year for campus activism here on the Hill. While the Republican Party has taken power in Washington, protests and PC antics have shown that the liberal movement is still alive and kicking at Tufts. Chanting their way to infamy, Tufts' student activists certainly made their voice heard. Yet the question remains, did anyone listen? Now that the dust has settled, it becomes clear that student activism served only to make those involved feel better about themselves rather than create lasting solutions. Their causes reeked of self-righteousness, for the lefts took to arms far too hastily and were ill-prepared, making themselves more the butt of jokes than revolutionaries for change.

Let us survey the year of activism so that its failings may be understood. This year in activism began with the debate between discrimination and religious freedom sparked during the previous school year when the Tufts Christian Fellowship (TCF) did not allow Julie Catalano, a lesbian, from becoming a Senior Leader. The TCU Judiciary (TCUJ) held their hearing in mid-October and upheld the validity of TCF's ideological criteria for leadership while citing the TCF for inconsistently applying these criteria. Failing to punish the TCF for thinking differently from the prevailing PC campus culture, the seven members of the TCUJ quickly became notorious targets for student insult. Yet this outrage swiftly organized itself, and the aptly misnamed Tufts Students Against Discrimination (TSAD) was born.

Even before TSAD unleashed its fool-

ish anti-TCF campaign, Tufts' campus experienced a number of alleged hate crimes. By October, these incidents had already provoked both a campus-wide email from President DiBiaggio and a senate ribbon campaign. The Dean of Students Office subsequently published a list of all "hate crimes" that have occurred during the past year. Even a cursory reading of this list exposes the fallacy of the classification "hate crime." Only three of the 22 incidents

Chanting their way to infamy, Tufts' student activists certainly made their voice heard. Yet the question remains, did anyone listen?

listed involved actual crime, while almost half of the incidents involve nothing more than writing on whiteboards. Categorizing violent assault under the same heading with written words not only demeans the victim of assault but also lends

unconstitutional credence to speech codes that seek to turn words into crimes.

Late October brought TSAD into full swing. Angered by the TCUJ's decision to allow TCF to choose leaders based on Biblical tenets, TSAD began their efforts to force the administration to change the University's non-discrimination policy to protect "self-identity" by circulating a petition. Fooled by a petition that was "against discrimination," many unassuming Jumbos eagerly signed. Petition in hand, TSAD then organized a rally on the library roof on October 26th. Much to the pride of its organizers, this rally attracted over 500 people. TSAD forgot, however, that many students attended simply to gawk at the commotion; surely many attendees also openly disagreed with TSAD. This rally was billed as the unification of many organizations, such as the PAA, Hillel, and TTLGBC, against not only the TCUJ's decision, but also against the recent hate crimes. Here TSAD has pro-

vided a model case of how not to build a coalition, for many of these groups quickly dissociated themselves from the unpopular tactics and radical views of TSAD, leaving in the group only 20 or so students who were primarily members of the Coalition for Social Justice.

November brought future Secretary of State Colin Powell to speak in Tufts' convocation center. As one of our nation's premier military, conservative, and minority leaders, Powell should have been warmly welcomed by all Tufts students. Unfortunately, several protestors (including TSAD leaders) chose to interrupt his speech with chants of "Generals can't make peace!" Powell coldly stared down his detractors and was not deterred by the interruption, which was clearly not well-thought-out. As part of the Bush administration, Powell has been the most vocal voice advocating for an end to the sanctions against Iraq. Of course, at Tufts, protesting means never having to admit that you're wrong.

On the one month anniversary of their rally, TSAD regained the headlines as they stormed Bendetson Hall and staged a sit-in protest. Failing to convince anyone of importance of the validity of their cause, TSAD resorted to force. Unfortunately, the Tufts administration quickly caved to their demands, and President DiBiaggio "affirmed" that the non-discrimination policy covers "self-acceptance." In the future, Tufts administrators ought to consider the actions of their Harvard counterparts, who simply let sit-in protestors sit until they give up out of boredom. With the President's capitulation, however, TSAD triumphantly declared victory. Yet when one considers the current campus policy, one finds that not much has changed. The TCF enjoys recognition, the TCUJ's decision remains, and the Committee on Student Life has made no drastic changes to student organization recognition policy. It appears that those fighting for change have affected very little of it.

The year has come to a close, but the activism may never end. With the recent election controversies, the issue of culture representatives may yet serve as the next cause *du jour* for our campus leftists. Forever willing to compromise the freedom of their fellow students in their ideological battles, Tufts' liberals use the tactics of direct action to mobilize and misinform. Will they ever learn? THE PRIMARY SOURCE hopes not, for our staff looks forward to a few more laughs at the expense of Tufts activists. □

Mr. Dangremond is a sophomore majoring in Chemical Engineering.

Bush's tax plan will give the economy the jumpstart it needs.

A Cut Above

by Tara Heumann

From amateur investors to market moguls, everyone is feeling the effects of recent financial trends. Media investigation has raised awareness of the current economic slowdown and the whirlwind of debate and anxiety it has caused. The stock market fell close to thirty percent over the last year. Both the Dow Jones and the NASDAQ have taken sizeable plunges as well. The index of consumer confidence eroded from September to February, and the manufacture of capital goods has decreased rapidly. In total, the economy has seen its net worth decline by more than two trillion dollars just since Election Day—the first decline in nearly two decades. Many of the most reliable leading indicators show a nearly stagnant economy and point to a recession looming on the horizon. It's time to take action.

In addition to the reduction in interest rates currently being enacted by the Fed, what is needed to restimulate the economy is the large tax cut proposed by President Bush. Bush correctly concludes that the fiscal surpluses Congress has seen in the last year belong to the American people. When the New Economy was growing with tremendous speed, a large tax cut could have put the country at risk for high rates of inflation. Now that economic growth has nearly disappeared and globalization has increased, the danger of inflation has subsided. A carefully planned tax cut is more attractive than ever as a way to jumpstart the economy. The government should focus on enacting a front-loaded tax cut for all taxpayers. This would put money back into every consumer's pocket in order to in-

crease spending immediately and provide money for capital investment to revive the economy.

A reduction in taxes would stimulate the economy by allowing individuals to hold on to more of their income, encouraging them to spend, save, and invest. The lowering of marginal tax rates would serve as an incentive for people to work harder. More income taken home means more money to spend, and spending motivates increases in production. After all, without reasonable expectation of consumer spending, why

A strong economy requires both healthy levels of consumption and the energetic creation of business capital.

would any producer invest in a new factory or increase output? Besides becoming larger consumers, stimulating the economy in the short-run, people can use extra money to save and invest, funneling capital into the stock market, mutual funds, 401Ks, IRAs, and other vehicles for long-term growth and security. A front-loaded tax-cut policy should be made retroactive to January 1, 2001 so that Americans will realize the effects of the new fiscal policy immediately. By the summer, people would become aware of their receipt of additional cash and the reduction of marginal taxation rates and would begin to increase their spending and investment decisions accordingly.

Democrats, eager to jump ahead of Bush on his own plan, favor an immediate rebate that would give sixty billion dollars back to taxpayers. They also favor reducing the lowest tax rate from fifteen to ten percent right away. The Democratic plan focuses on giving the largest rebates to those taxpayers in the lowest bracket. A rebate would quickly get money back into people's pockets and would increase spending, but it would do little in terms of increasing people's motivation to work harder and thus little to

provide for long term growth. Only a reduction of the highest marginal tax rate would encourage investment. Democratic arguments for a wholly demand-side policy quickly weaken under finer examination. Consumer spending, which amounts to approximately two-thirds of our GDP, is not the sector in the biggest trouble. It is investment and capital formation that have taken the most notable economic dives. Business investment is expected to fall in the current quarter. In addition to keeping consumption rates high, the government should look to prop up rates of saving.

Some Democrats argue that the Bush tax cut will go largely to the rich. The rate reduction may favor the wealthy, but this is only because the poorer half of taxpayers coughs up less than three percent of total personal income taxes. Giving large cuts to the rich is the only way to stimulate investment in new business and industry. After all, it is the wealthy who have the money to start new businesses that will provide jobs and incomes to the rest of the population.

The Fed can replenish investment capital by raising after-tax rewards and lowering rates on capital investment. Tax-rate reduction for upper-bracket income earners is a tax cut on capital, whereas reductions for those who earn lower incomes are tax cuts on consumption. The best antidote for our economic woes is one that provides relief for spenders as well as investors. A strong economy requires both healthy levels of consumption and the energetic creation of business capital.

Regardless of which nuances of his tax cut Congress passes into law, President Bush hopes that the cuts will serve as "instruments of fiscal discipline." An equally important government action is to limit spending so that the tax cuts do not create a large budget deficit. Just as the President proposes, we should approve a budget that reduces marginal tax rates across the board, but may need to arrive at a compromise somewhere between Bush's \$1.6 billion figure and Congress' \$1.2 billion. Surplus funds would be returned to the American people to encourage the average worker to spend more and pay his bills and to induce the wealthy businesspeople to invest. By returning money to taxpayers, the government shifts production power back into the hands of the people, giving them the oil needed to grease the wheels of the economy for a speedy recovery and the opportunity to invest in their future. □

Miss Heumann is a freshman who has not yet declared a major.

Conservatives and environmentalists are not necessarily strange bedfellows.

The New Environmentalism

by Adam Biacchi

Though conservatism and conservationism share their origin in the same word, one does not traditionally associate the two ideas. Indeed, to think of someone as a "conservative conservationist" would seem to be a contradiction in terms. I would argue that not only *can* conservatives act as conservationists, but that they should. I'm not suggesting that everyone should exchange their suits and briefcases for tie-dye shirts and bullhorns. There are environmental problems that affect us all, however, and government is obligated to address serious environmental issues without impeding on the rights of the individual or business.

Of late, mainstream environmentalists have given conservatives a bad reputation. This is mostly because conservatives have not traditionally supported legislation that would aid the environment through government regulation of business. Yet, conservatives realize that the government does have a vested interest in protecting the well-being and individual rights of its constituency, through intervention if necessary. Measures such as the Consumer Product Safety Act and the Clean Air/Clean Water Acts have become such fixtures in our life that it would be hard to imagine our society without them. Every citizen has a right to safety from the pollution of others, and it is the role of the government to ensure that these individual rights are not infringed

upon by businesses, government, or private citizens. When water is so polluted that it catches fire (such as on the Cuyahoga River in 1969) and air pollution is so thick that streetlamps are needed to provide light at noon (as was the case in Pittsburgh for years) the government has an obligation to protect its citizens' health. The same obligations hold today, be they reducing emissions to prevent ozone layer depletion and the skin cancer it causes, or reducing greenhouse gases to prevent citizens' beach houses from being washed out to sea.

The government's role, furthermore, extends beyond the mere protection the individual citizen's right for private property free from the pollution of others. Government obligation also extends to reasonable conservation of public land. Regardless of whether you believe in the Julian Simon-esque confidence in human ingenuity to solve all problems as they arrive or the Paul Ehrlich "population bomb" theory, sooner or later the growing population is going to lead to smaller amounts of available resources and open space. Conservatism has always promoted the wise use of resources (as in the privatization of Social Security) and reduction of government waste (as in the elimination of much of the welfare state). The same principles should apply when deciding the fate of public property.

One must realize that the human presence will inevitably expand in both population and the accompanying property. To guilt society into believing that humanity is some sort of virus (i.e. *The Matrix*) is unproductive, and to foretell doom and de-

struction due to overpopulation, as was proposed in the '70s, has proven inaccurate. Society can't help changing the environment through its very existence, but it can try to minimize harmful and irreversible damage.

The fate of a society is often concomitant with the fate of the environment. Those civilizations that did not care for their physical surroundings and resources, from tribes in Mesopotamia to the inhabitants of Easter Island, inevitably foundered. The government is charged by the people with conserving portions of open land for future use and enjoyment. All citizens have a right to relish the beauty and majesty of nature in our national parks, and our national preserves should remain protected until a time comes when there is a dire need for them. For instance, the imminent decision by the conservative legislature to not drill in the Arctic Wildlife Refuge is wise because the gains of drilling for oil there are not significant enough to warrant tampering with an untouched piece of wilderness—at least not yet. If, for example, in times of war the government decides that the need for oil is great enough to outweigh the negative repercussions, then they will be thankful that we saved our resources for a time when we truly need them.

Big business has traditionally posed the greatest threat to the environment, but can also potentially be the greatest savior. Government bureaucracies such as the EPA bog down the private sector with their stringent fines and punishments. Instead, the government needs to work with businesses at a local level to conserve the environment, rather than focus all of its resources on penalizing big business. In most cases, businesses should want to take environmentally friendly steps. It actually costs less to recycle aluminum than it does to mine for new aluminum. If a company reduces the packaging size of its product, it creates less waste along with saving money on production, shipping, and storage. Each state should encourage competitive contracting based in part upon how environmentally friendly the business is. When government works with businesses, focusing on progress instead of punishment, the pollution level reductions that government is obligated to pursue can finally be achieved.

See "Biacchi," continued on page 29.

Mr. Biacchi is a sophomore majoring in Chemistry and Environmental Studies.

On campus and inside the Beltway, big government is the conservative punchline.

Big Government, Small Minds

by Jonathan Perle

If there is one defining difference between conservatism and liberalism it is this: conservatives believe in a smaller, less powerful government and liberals believe in a larger, more powerful government. This basic difference in opinion stems from the fundamental belief held by liberals that government makes better and fairer decisions than people, while conservatives see the people

making better decisions than the government. Liberals hail the government for instituting civil rights acts and furthering the cause of minority rights, while conservatives remember it was the government who trampled those rights in the first place.

The problems of government are the problems of humanity itself: pride, gluttony, envy, wrath, sloth, greed, and jealousy. Government is nothing more than a congregation of human beings. And like all religious zealots, they believe they know the true path to God—through them. And once you get a hundred like-minded such people in a room, they may actually believe they are God. The problem, however, isn't that people may believe that they are prophets; the problem is that they are likely to be your friends. And, do you really want your pot smoking, beer guzzling buddies deciding your future? Imagine a fraternity. Talk to any one guy in a fraternity at any given point, and you can have an intelligent, thoughtful conversa-

tion. Now put him a room with 30 other brothers and a keg.

To put your faith in government is to acknowledge that a group of people knows what is best for you. Now, this may work if you're deciding on the how to balance the budget or something really important like the size of holes in Swiss cheese, which, you will be happy to know, the federal government regulates. But do you really want the government—meaning the guy sleeping next to you in class—to decide your life?

Excessive pride was considered the worst of the seven deadly sins in ancient Greece, and so too it may be with government officials today. People in government, especially those who advocate big government, tend to suffer from the same mental deficiency as the crusaders, Marxist revolutionaries, and Rosie O'Donnell—not only are they assured of the moral superiority of their cause, but they desire to force that cause upon others.

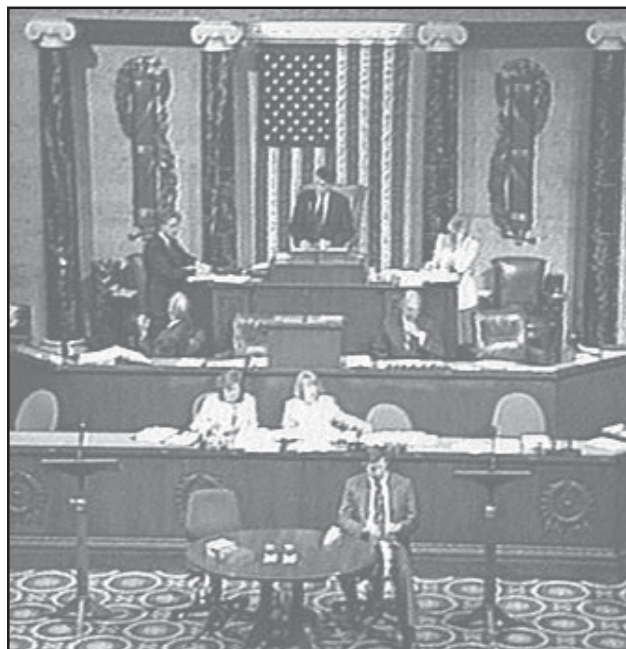
Take our own institution. This past TCU presidential election, we had a number of culture groups—not all of them, just the ones with the proper amount of diver-

sity—lobby hard so that the school could give them extra rights (a full vote in the TCU senate) for years to come. The culture representatives, not content to place themselves alongside the rest of the unwashed student masses, seek power and privilege at the expense of the rights of the rest of the campus. Just because some students might actually vote to allow such a change to the constitution, does not make it right.

The letter that former culture reps Tracy Butler, Kat Cheung, and Anabella Nieves published in the *Daily* on April 25 is a mixture of the comic and the tragic: comic because it is so laughably unfair and tragic because I might actually be friends with some dunderhead who voted for it. The open letter contained in it such gems as: "Essentially culture reps have as much influence as any other member of the student body." Damn right they do. When culture reps pay more student fees, get canonized, and start winning Nobel prizes then *maybe* they should get some more influence.

Or how about this: "Senators are elected by the student body and their objective is to represent the entire student body. However, they represent the views and demands of the Caucasian straight community at Tufts and at large. In the average senate meeting, minority issues are almost exclusively brought to attention by culture reps and those actively

People in government tend to suffer from the same mental deficiency as the crusaders, Marxist revolutionaries, and Rosie O'Donnell—not only are they assured of the moral superiority of their cause, but they desire to force that cause upon others.



"Mr. Speaker, I will yield my time to the White Trash Culture Representative. Mr. Duke, will you proceed?"

Mr. Perle is a junior majoring in Political Science.

involved in CECA, the Culture, Ethnicity, and Community Affairs Committee." Excuse me, but isn't that their *job*? When the non-playtime senate actually conducts its business, it isn't the Foreign Relation Committee that brings up health regulation issues. And why do culture reps need a vote in order to bring up those issues anyways? The letter states that they already have the ability to voice their concerns. Is their ability to prattle on like the rest of us somehow improved by having a vote as well? If we give them a vote will they magically become more articulate, invent social harmony, and stop bothering us? Hmmm... maybe we *should* give them a vote.

"Policies are a reflection of a community's values and commitments. By not allowing culture reps a full vote, we are implying that the Tufts community is not fully committed to the issues and concerns of minorities on campus." The logical fallacy in this statement aside, the question becomes "What the f***?" We have over a half dozen culture houses, cultural committees, diversity committees, affirmative action, and I. Melvin Bernstein. While some people, myself included, may not be fully committed to minority concerns on campus, that is our right as individuals. The university as a whole, however, has proven its dedication. Furthermore, implying that non-elected culture reps be given power and privilege in a student senate to compensate for the university's lack of commitment is tantamount to arguing that SOURCE members should be placed on the senate because of the university's lack of commitment to conservatism.

Government, on the whole, whether local or national, is not a devious force, but neither is it a benevolent one. Government is made up of the people around us and shares our vices and our virtues. Often the people who participate in government do so because they think they can accomplish good. They write laws and pass regulations because they believe that they know more than the rest of the world about how things should be run. Sometimes, such as in the case of national defense, the government must take charge. But in other cases, we should always remember to limit the power of government. After all, any idiot can make it into government... even me. And that should be enough to frighten anyone. □

A story two semesters in the making—an annoyance that will last a lifetime...

The TSAD Diary

by Ahck T. Vist

The TSAD Diary

The memoirs of Tufts' most discriminating students

"Day 1, 12pm: Dear Diary, So Nicole says to me, 'Bendetson is like, cold. This protest is totally gay. Let's go chill at the Meadow Glen.' And I was like totally sad so I said 'No, Nicky. We should stay here. This is like, totally a good cause.' And then, like right when I was talking, this super-cutie TUPD officer walked in..."

—an excerpt from Chapter 2, "The Dilemma."

The critics are raving about it!

"This book is great. Especially the parts about me. The rest ain't so bad either. Wait, I removed those parts. No, I'm not an egomaniac."

—Adam Carlis

"Umm yeah, the book is good. And it is totally protected under the University's non-discrimination policy. I think."

—President John DiBiaggio

"Me really like this book. My mommy read Harry Potter to me once. That was a book too. I am a Muggle. Heehee."

—a TCU culture rep

Available now in hard and softcover, Braille, audio, pop-up, and scratch-n-sniff.

Only
~~\$29.95~~
\$1.99!!!

Hot!

The Girls of Tufts Feminist Alliance 2002 Calendar

**Do you like girls who know
how to handle a bullhorn?**

**Do you drool over a lady that
can sock it to the patriarchy?**

**Then take back the night
(and all 365 days) with The
Girls of Tufts Feminist
Alliance 2002 Calendar!**

Order yours today! \$19.99

Send check or money order to Tufts University Press, Medford, MA 02155

"Rumors" continued from page 19

Secret Service is coming. I thought they might take away my computer, so I erased some stuff off, like some MP3s and TV shows.

Then they came and they questioned me, and I showed them the guy's IP address and then they left. I felt very dirty. The kid called me later that night, almost in tears. I had written, on the site, the story of the Secret Service coming to my room. He begged me to take down the story because he was afraid someone was going to link my story to the Secret Service to threatening Al Gore. At first I felt bad, but then I realized he was a jackass and I didn't care.

SOURCE: Do you hate frats?

Finkelstein: Hate? No. I hate the jackasses. Who doesn't hate jackasses? Live wherever you damn well please. It's a libertarian thing. I don't care if you live fifty midgets to a room.

"Heumann" continued from page 30

to respect the beliefs of others. SOURCE members also play active and prominent roles in student government and campus political organizations and contribute greatly to campus dialogue both in and out of the journal's pages. Disagreements that arise on campus provide a fertile environment for intellectual

"Biacchi" continued from page 26.

As citizens of our communities, we should take pride in what our home looks like. Littering is completely inexcusable, since it is simple to avoid and is usually a result of mere laziness. These foreign objects damage our environment and a portion of our tax dollars go to cleaning up a mess that we could have easily avoided. When you toss litter, you might as well be tossing your own money away, the ultimate travesty to a true conservative.

As a global citizen, the time has come for the United States to do its fair share for the environment. If the US is truly dedicated to breaking down trade boundaries and promoting globalization, then it has to be prepared to assume its share of responsibilities. This includes approving a treaty similar to the Kyoto Protocol; though the terms might not stand to benefit the United States directly, we hold an obligation to do our part to solve this impending pollution crisis. In

SOURCE: Do you think the site changed the way people viewed Tufts?

Finkelstein: It certainly made Tufts look slightly more negative, I would say. That's what I liked. I liked a more open, less pamphlet version of Tufts. If you were looking at the site from outside Tufts, you might get a really bad impression because you see the "seedy underbelly."

SOURCE: What we saw on the site, do you think that was the truth or just our more anti-social classmates with chips on their shoulders?

Finkelstein: Are they different? It's a partial truth. It's better to get more parts of the truth than less.

SOURCE: You've seen what happened to the replacement to your site, Tuftstalk.com. The forum usage there is really modest.

and social growth—and are made that much richer and more productive through contributions from both sides of the political aisle.

I have seen my reasoning ability and personal convictions evolve dramatically over the past four years, and I count involvement with THE PRIMARY SOURCE among my valuable personal and educational experi-

ences. Through my work at the SOURCE and active membership in the Tufts community, I have been exposed to and appreciative of a vast number of new and challenging ideas. Now, better equipped with a more broadminded and flexible curiosity, I eagerly anticipate both my own future and that of conservative politics on the Tufts campus. □

the long term, such legislation will greatly benefit us all, and government certainly has an obligation to see that the Earth is safe for future generations.

Humanity now stands at a crossroads. Our species is multiplying and developing our planet with unparalleled speed. If we are not careful, deliberate, and conservative in our expansion, we will find ourselves confronting far greater problems than the already significant ones we now face. Technology is the sword and shield of our society, for as it can destroy us, so too can it save us. We must constantly strive to find better ways to do things, and fix the mistakes of the past and the present. We still have no clean, efficient way of powering our great civilization, and probably won't until cold fusion is discovered. Society remains far from the ultimate goal of sustainability outlined in the 1987 Brundtland Report, but our attention shift from the "end of the pipe" pollution cleanup to actual pol-

Finkelstein: I believe the word you're looking for is "lame." It was an idea that was just dead in the water. Just a bad idea. Because you can't start something like that without the readership. You need numbers to make that work and just getting the *Daily* to mention it once does not get those numbers. The only way it's going to work is if you have something else for people to go to, for some other reason. There's no reason to go back.

SOURCE: What advice would you give to someone who wanted to start a page similar to *Rumors Daily*?

Finkelstein: You have to have a hell of a lot of information when you start it up, or else you won't make it through the lean times. I didn't advertise – I spread it by word of mouth – and you need to have that infrastructure, that substance. Don't just do it to be ambitious. It has to be fun for you, or else it won't work. □

lution prevention is a step in the right direction.

Ultimately, government would do well to take the more conservative approach of learning to work with business as opposed to the liberal "business is evil, make them pay" approach. Government's primary role in environmental concerns need only be significant enough to prevent a tragedy of the commons. Through working with those who cause pollution, promoting environmental responsibility among business, regulating only when absolutely necessary and taking the initiative for fixing the problems we have caused, the government can best meet its obligations. It is important; however, to remember that all governmental actions will end badly without concerned environmental grassroots organizations and education of the general public about the importance of environmentalism. Unless our society embraces the conservation paradigm, no amount of government intervention will save humanity from certain terrestrial ruination. □

A SOURCE legend says farewell and thanks for the memories.

All Things Considered

by Alyssa Heumann

Any man who is under 30, and is not a liberal, has not heart; and any man who is over 30, and is not a conservative, has no brains.

—Winston Churchill

Colleges have long been the bastions of progressive politics. The undergraduate years are when the idealism of youth collides with the realism of adulthood, creating a volatile mixture of radical ideologies and energetic populations on campuses nationwide. In the past and at present, collegiate politics have been notoriously left leaning—in confirmation of Churchill's assertion. The political and ideological experiences that have defined my four years, however, have been a departure from archetypal liberal consciousness-raising. Despite this contradiction, my political opinions are no less strong or earnest than the rest of the college community. My experiences as a budding conservative on the Tufts campus have borne out an entirely different hypothesis, and I now consider Churchill's quote a poor assessment of political affiliations. Conservative politics warrant prominent representation in populations of the young as well as old, and it is now in these young communities that presence of conservative ideals is most vital.

Arriving at Tufts in 1997, I was appalled at the contradictions in many of the prevailing campus ideologies. The same women who spoke so fervently about "equal jobs for equal pay" and "our bodies, our choices" were eagerly shedding clothing in the guise of performance art and espousing permissive sexual attitudes. Students who publicly sought social justice and demanded workers' rights were loath to treat their fellow classmates and professors with respect. Most disconcerting of all, however, was that some of Tufts' most active and enlightened academics were also those least committed to freedom of expression. This was not liberalism as I had come to know it; this "progressiveness plus" was certainly not an agenda I felt comfortable adopting. Joining the SOURCE provided a small group of peers who supported my evolving convictions as well as a forum for political discourse.

At this New England university (named by *Mother Jones Magazine* as one of the top 20 activist colleges), conservatives were few and far between. Though a Jewish and half-Chilean female, I have never considered myself a minority; ironically, it was my identity as an emerging conservative that left me without the benefit of majority status. Out to dinner with my freshman year English class, I casually mentioned that I had joined the ranks of THE

PRIMARY SOURCE. I was chastised harshly, and the friendly relations I shared with my classmates were instead replaced by attitudes filled with trepidation. To be sure, these other first-year students felt comfortable expressing their political affiliations and must have presumed that everyone shared their liberal ideologies. When I came down firmly on the opposite side of the aisle, however, the response was not what I, a naïve freshman, expected.

Such enmity toward right-wing ideologies was not limited to my English class. I soon found that the prevailing campus attitude (especially toward the more vocal members of the SOURCE) was one that ranged from avoidance to outright hostility. Members of the magazine staff were threatened, professors openly condemned the

publication, and the student senate attempted to de-fund our organization, all during my tenure. On a campus where activities such as "anal sex talk" and occupations of Bendetson Hall are not only tolerated, but celebrated, one would think that there would be ample ideological room for a single conservative journal. The tolerance so proudly proclaimed at Tufts, however, is little more than pretense—left-leaning organizations and speech are exonerated, but a moderate right-wing journal

is vilified. Illustrative of this attitude was a parents' reception at which Tufts' President told parents, "THE PRIMARY SOURCE—you don't want to read that." If the University President conveys such an attitude openly, one can only imagine the more subtle extent of such animosity throughout the Tufts community.

Despite this inhospitable environment, the SOURCE continued to flourish as a publication. And as my involvement with the journal grew, so too did my critical thinking abilities. Bi-weekly magazine production required me to consider my political and social views on a regular basis. As editor-in-chief, I encouraged my staff to express their ideas in interesting written form, backing up their opinions with hard facts. At the same time, open-mindedness and tolerance became vital aspects of my position as editor and of my life at Tufts—from classroom discussion to dining hall debate.

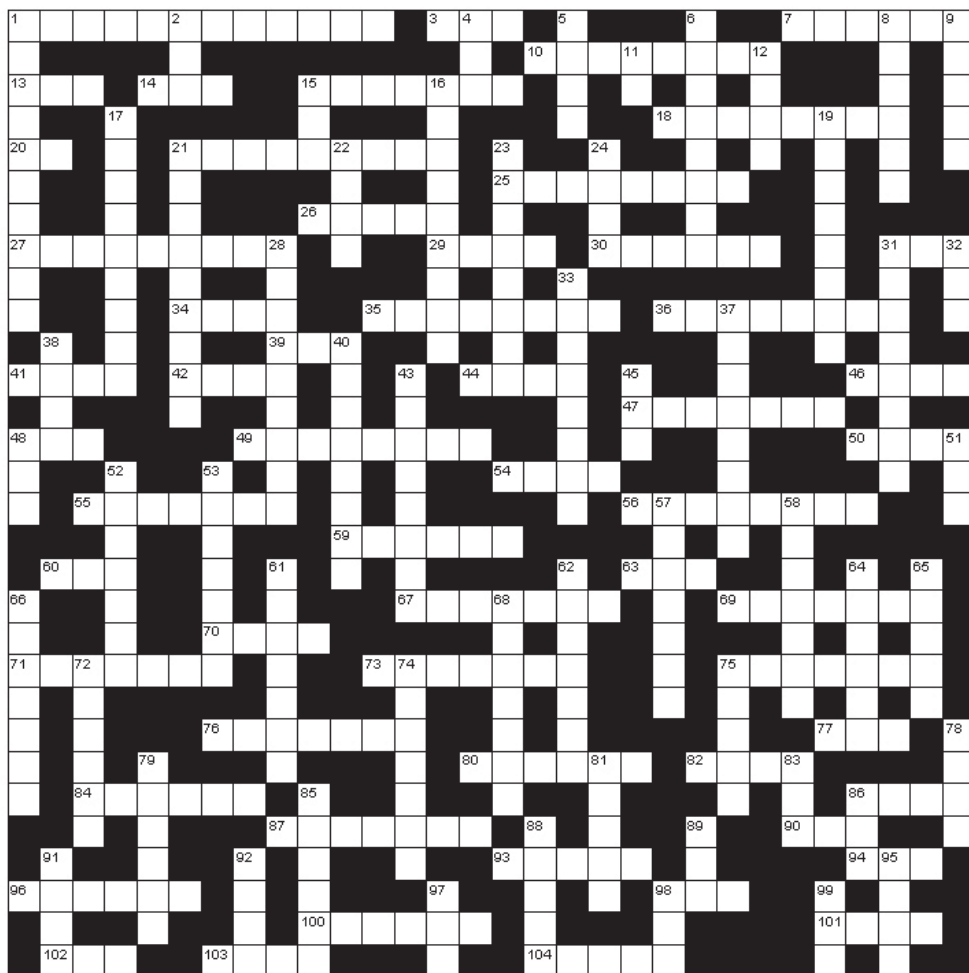
Editing THE PRIMARY SOURCE has given me a new appreciation for ideological diversity. While campus authorities believe that the SOURCE is comprised of people of the same mind, many of my most energetic and productive debates have been with other members of the staff. It is rare that we can reach a true consensus, as emerging conservative ideologies are just as dynamic and contentious as those of the Left. SOURCE members vary in their political affiliation, race, ethnicity, and religion. As part of the staff, I have been encouraged to closely examine my own beliefs but, at the same time,

Arriving at Tufts in 1997, I was appalled at the contradictions in many of the prevailing campus ideologies. The same women who spoke so fervently about "equal jobs for equal pay" and "our bodies, our choices" were eagerly shedding clothing in the guise of performance art, and espousing permissive sexual attitudes.

See "Heumann," continued on page 29

Miss Heumann is a senior majoring in Psychology and Child Development.

The Third Annual PRIMARY SOURCE Crossword



Across

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Supreme law of the land | 56. Discrimination based upon this is not allowed |
| 3. Conservative college film favorite | 59. Hillel's clergy-in-chief |
| 7. Famous for yummy Shabbat dinners | 60. Communists' favorite crayon |
| 10. Never forgets | 63. On our President's criminal record |
| 13. Dork-central; Will Hunting's employer | 67. Brought Tufts network to its knees |
| 14. Tufts students admitted free here | 69. Reps recently offered senate vote |
| 15. Best picture nominee; I93 staple | 70. Senate cash flow controllers |
| 18. Warehouse/conconvocation center | 71. Harlem newbie |
| 20. Basket-weaving college | 73. Common library roof activity |
| 21. Outgoing Tufts prez | 73. "We're not gonna ____!" |
| 25. Anti-reparations advocate | 75. Phillips award winner speaks at commencement |
| 26. Observer editor McCormack | 76. Soon-to-be-evicted fraternity? |
| 27. Bubs, Jills, Mates, Shir Appeal | 77. Head to Seattle to protest this org. |
| 29. Light on the ____ | 80. Fares lecture series General |
| 30. Self-important student reps | 82. Abbreviation for Elections Board |
| 31. Chooses Wendell Phillips speaker | 84. First-Amendment-challenging rapper |
| 34. Veritas ____ Dolo | 86. Holmes, porn star or poet laureate |
| 35. Voyeurism in the Outback | 87. Tufts' hometown |
| 36. Coalition trounced at this sport | 90. Number of conservative speakers this year |
| 39. Heston's org. | 93. Lecture series benefactor Issam |
| 41. Quad Run origin | 94. Drug den cum co-op Latin |
| 42. Campus party poopers | 96. Exclamation of New England natives |
| 44. Short-lived campus protest group | 98. Musical Jumbos take classes here |
| 46. Men who pledged not to rape | 100. Site of painted censorship? |
| 47. Catholic-hating Observations writer | 101. Frat party theme "ghetto super ____" |
| 48. Capen regulars; Hilfiger accusers | 102. Alleged Los Alamos traitor |
| 49. Sign one of these to boycott Kraft | 103. First name of Bush's VP |
| 50. Instrument-free Goddard performers | 104. ____ Garciaparra |
| 54. Most frequent Internet download | |
| 55. Head of Women's Center Peggy | |

Down

1. Short article found on page 6 or 7
2. Another Seattle target (see 77 across)
4. ____ Omega
5. Tufts color
6. "Fresh" overpriced smoothies
8. Famed Presidential debate moderator
9. Zamboni magnate, TUTV personality
11. The rule at most American universities
12. Home to Jumbo Love Match
15. Broads who take back the night
16. Anorexic prime-time star
17. Daily opinion pieces
19. EECS refuge
21. A half million bucks for this?
22. New Columbia Law professor
23. Prestigious Tufts alum Wendell ____
24. DiBiaggio has two of these
28. Shooting trip celebrates Second ____
31. Discoverer of the new world
32. Kee Kar ____
33. Observer editor; punching bag
37. TTLGBC pin-up girl
38. Rabid animal rights org.
40. Student following a cause du jour
43. Source subscriber, Nobel laureate economist
45. Capitalist, gameshow-host Stein
48. ____ et lux; Tufts motto
51. Racially biased or indicator of academic aptitude
52. Calling Strikes author
53. Dean of Students; amateur rapper
57. Visit here for deans/elevators
58. NOW leader and frequent Tufts speaker Patricia
61. Give me ____, or give me death
62. Site of WTO protests
64. Conservative rocker Ted
65. Source missile defense expert
66. Object of Florida post-election controversy
68. This year's TCU treasurer
72. Middle-East home for Jews
74. Jesse Jackson presides over this coalition
75. Useless requirement ____ Civ.
78. ____ Stories, One Community
79. Houston Hall's mirror image
81. United Leaders promoter Jesse
83. Abbreviation for separate-but-equal Bendetson office
85. Find Aztec-rubbed chicken here
86. Identity of those found at Hillel
88. Spiffy new computer lab
89. ____ Guevara, star of freshman wall posters
91. Favorite Tufts History professor
92. Star of Fletcher commencement ____ Annan
95. Biacchi or Carlis
97. Acronym for Republicans
98. Well-attended, scantily-clad Tufts event
99. Democratic Party symbol

STUMPED?
Check out the
answers on page 7.

