

INSIDE:
CORNEL WEST
TURNS RAPPER

THE PRIMARY SOURCE

The Journal of Conservative Thought at Tufts University





photo by Matt Edmundson

THE PRIMARY SOURCE

The magazine of champions
(and runners-up).

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THE PRIMARY SOURCE

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

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Capen House Rules

I recently learned with great sadness that the party responsible for the theft of at least one print run of the SOURCE last semester was the Pan-African Alliance, led by Carl Jackson. Although others may have defaced our issues with stickers, I would not have expected a group of college students to resort to theft after merely one article with which they disagreed.

But first let's get one thing straight: the Pan-African Alliance (PAA) represents no one but the interests of the Pan-African Alliance. The color of their skin notwithstanding, the PAA is just another group of students with an ideological agenda. While they may claim to speak on behalf of the entire black student population here at Tufts, dissenting voices will tell you otherwise. For the PAA to have an ideological slant, even one that favors the quotas of affirmative action, is perfectly allowable—let's just not confuse "the PAA" with "the black student population."

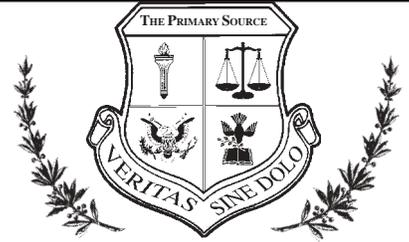
THE PRIMARY SOURCE remains resolute in its stance against affirmative action. A policy that purposely looks at skin color is the very definition of discrimination. If Tufts takes into account the race of high school applicants in order to produce an artificial diversity in its student body then it is not judging students by "the content of their character." It is sad that the folders in Dowling holding undergraduate applications prominently display only three things about each applicant: name, hometown, and race. Although the majority of students here at Tufts, black and white, are so academically qualified as to be unaffected by affirmative action, it is those students who just barely *didn't* get in who feel the discrimination. Tufts should not use affirmative action in its admissions practices; but the way things are going now, it will only be a matter of time before the federal government forces an end to this prejudicial system.

It was this stance that the SOURCE elucidated in our November 22 issue, in the article entitled "Ideas, Not Colors." Unfortunately,

the PAA took such offense to this that they decided not only to fill a *Viewpoints* page with three nearly identical pieces, but also to resort to theft. In a post to the black alumni listproc on December 18th, Graduate Assistant in the Africana Center Lisa Karanja posted a message from PAA President Carl Jackson in which Carl writes "Thus far we have written counter articles and *engaged in magazine dumpings*." [emphasis added]

In an earlier post, dated December 17th, Ms. Karanja implored the black alumni to write the Tufts Administration because "[t]he literary style of the PRIMARY SOURCE promotes hate and intolerance on our campus." Evidence of this was scarce, however, aside from a link to the online version of the aforementioned article. (It's a good thing we got our website working again, or Ms. Karanja wouldn't have much to work with.) Ms. Karanja further writes "we ask that you assist us in writing letters of formal complaint and disgust to the administration of Tufts University. We ask that these letters condemn the content of THE PRIMARY SOURCE as well as demand the University to uphold is [sic] policies of combating ignorance and promoting tolerance on campus." Note to PAA: if there's one thing the SOURCE has learned, it's that letters, even hundreds of emails to President Bacow, don't accomplish much.

Fortunately for us, and the PAA, rumor has it that Carl Jackson will soon be leaving to study abroad in Africa. A self-avowed Marxist, Jackson was bound to bring disgrace on the PAA, and, with the theft of thousands of copies our magazine, he has done just that. It is my sincere hope that under the leadership of Abdul Farah, the PAA will engage the SOURCE in intelligent dialogue on the topic of affirmative action, and make the organization more than a group of petty thieves.



THE JOURNAL OF CONSERVATIVE
THOUGHT AT TUFTS UNIVERSITY

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Letters

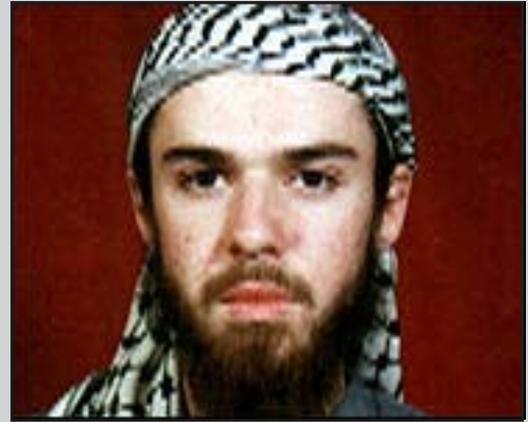
Maternal Thoughts

To the Editor:

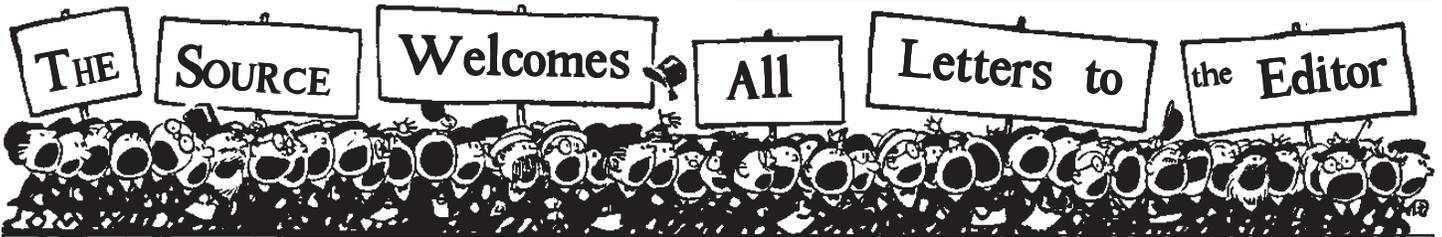
As the mother of a previous SOURCE editor I read with interest the recent article in the *Globe* regarding the cannon painting. It seems the struggle for freedom of speech continues on campus. I always find it curious that those who claim to want a diverse, accepting student body and campus atmosphere are always the first to deny a voice to those who might disagree with them on some point.

Keep up the good fight.

Maureen Delaney



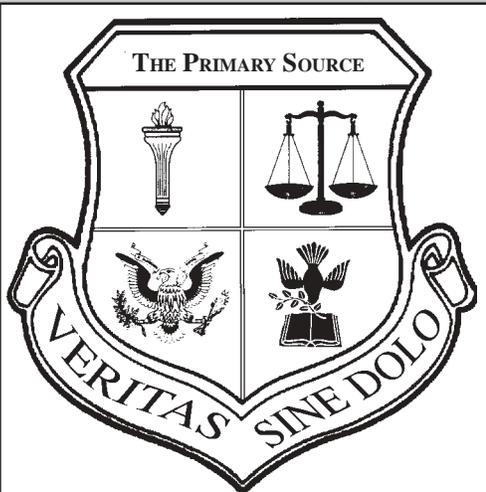
John Walker: Not a SOURCE Subscriber



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Commentary

The Lion's Share

Anyone who was worried about living conditions in Afghanistan can breathe a sigh of relief. The zoo animals are now well taken care of thanks to the generous donations of bored, guilty Americans with screwy priorities. The World Society for the Protection of Animals (WSPA) has successfully raised nearly a half a million dollars in aid for the Kabul Zoo thanks to the nauseatingly sad picture of the zoo's one-eyed lion that has graced a recent WSPA's publicity campaign.

Marjan, the maimed lion, got into a fight with a Taliban soldier a few years ago—and won. The man was eaten by the starving lion while showing off his bravery to his friends in an astounding display of stupidity. The next day, his brother threw a grenade into Marjan's cage, seriously wounding the animal. Shortly thereafter, Marjan's modeling career debuted.

To WSPA's credit, the organization repeatedly asked the zoo's (unpaid) administrators to close the zoo because the animals were being treated inhumanely by visitors. The Afghans politely refused, noting that torturing caged animals was the only permissible form of public entertainment under the Taliban. What a shock. Instead, WSPA has raised funds to provide sufficient food for the animals and to refurbish the zoo with heated cages. That's more than most human residents of the city have. In addition, some of the money is going toward inoculating livestock against disease and neutering stray animals. These actions, spokesmen for WSPA assure Americans, will help the people of Afghanistan as much as just giving *them* the money would.

Let's hope so. Six million Afghans face possible starvation this winter with, surprisingly, no cute, one-eyed spokesperson to deliver their plight to wealthy Westerners with big hearts.

Sadly, the beastly beneficiaries of America's collective animal-rights-activist-induced guilt complex will be one prominent face less this year. Last week, Marjan sorrowfully passed away from old age. His neighbor, the zoo's noseless bear, will stoically carry on in Marjan's absence, forging this new path in the absurd history of animal rights.



Arafat's Responsible Leadership

The frustrating thing about the violence in Israel is that no major push exists to adapt the doctrine of separation of church and state and to form a single unified government over the whole territory that would be secular, welcoming all religions equally. Instead, since two sides both believe their respective gods gave them exclusive rights to nation-states in the area dedicated to their religions, both with capitals in Jerusalem, violence is probably inevitable.

Given this set-up, taking sides would be about as confusing as taking sides in the unending religious wars of pre-Enlightenment Europe, except for the actual methods of warfare used by the two sides. The Israelis have generally targeted military facilities and terrorist leaders rather than civilians. Their government realizes that violence is best used against violent perpetrators. When civilians attack Israeli military units, Israelis use rubber bullets and other non-lethal means of protecting themselves. The Palestinian terrorist groups, on the other hand, opt for easier targets than military installations, like bat mitzvahs, and use live ammo and very lethal suicide bombers. There is no moral equivalence between these two tactics; one is self-defense, the other is murder.

In the midst of these conflicts stands Yasser Arafat, the putative leader of the Palestinian Authority. While suspicion about Ariel Sharon's checkered past is understandable, Arafat's history as a bona fide terrorist precedes him. But people change, and until concrete evidence emerges that Arafat still actively supports terrorism, he should be given the benefit of the doubt (although, the gun-boat discovery certainly makes maintaining doubt that much harder). If he wants to earn the trust of Israel and its allies, Arafat must prove that he is serious about stopping terrorism. This means that he must do more than issue feeble cease-fire announcements and start taking responsibility by actively arresting known terrorists and dismantling groups operating within his territory. If he lacks the resources or support to do it alone, he should say so, and ask for assistance from Israel, the United States, or other members of the international community.

The United States cannot trust any foreign leader who demands it. Arafat, like any other leader of any other group or nation, must demonstrate why he should be taken seriously, and why he is still relevant to the peace process.

Unusual But Hardly Cruel

Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld came under fire last week from human rights groups for alleged abuses at the temporary prison at Guantanamo Bay naval base, dubbed Camp X-ray. Pictures of prisoners bound and gagged and reports of prisoners housed in chain link-fenced "cages" with corrugated steel ceilings have evoked criticism from groups such as Amnesty International, among others. Many critics question whether the detainees are being treated in accordance with the Geneva Convention. Unfortunately, these prisoners are not. These captured Al Qaeda do not qualify for Geneva Convention guarantees because they are not prisoners of war.

The current housing situation at Guantanamo would make

ResLife envious. Prisoners are kept one man to every 8 x 8 cell. The cells are open to the air, but in tropical Cuba, that's plenty warm compared to a walled structure in New England. Meals are plentiful as is medical care. Contrasted with fighting in freezing holes only a few feet in diameter and eating almost nothing and without medical care, imprisonment actually improved the quality of life for Afghan detainees. Although gags and blinders may seem uncomfortable, they are not used without provocation; several detainees expressed the desire to kill an American before leaving the camp. One prisoner even bit a guard on the arm during transfer. Still, these vision-impairing devices are removed, along with arm and leg manacles, when the detainees are in their cells.

Even so, human rights groups are not wrong in their criticism. Detainees are questioned regularly, not housed in permanent walled structures and will not necessarily be released when the fighting is over, all in violation of the Geneva Convention's rules for treatment of prisoners of war. However these prisoners did not carry their weapons openly, wear a uniform or insignia indicative of being a combatant, or observe the rules of war themselves. As such they are not, as Amnesty International contends, POWs but rather "unlawful combatants." Since they did not subject themselves to the guidelines of the Geneva Convention, they do not qualify for the rights granted to POWs.

It is a credit to our military that, despite not being legally encumbered by the rules of war, these rules are by and large being followed anyway. The United States has no interest in detaining foreign prisoners without reason; indeed many of the oldest and youngest fighters were released previously, as were any fighters with no useful intelligence. As such, Camp X-ray is not in violation of the Geneva Convention, but rather a monument to the humanity inherent in a free society, a humanity that was severely lacking under the late Taliban regime.

Four's a Crowd

Queen's Head needs your help. Or so their desperate plea for new members in their fall issue would indicate: "... the best minds of our generation are being destroyed by apathy. There are certainly more people out there who write poetry and prose, who are painters and printmakers and photographers, than are included within these pages."

This outcry, printed alongside the Tufts lit mag's masthead of four members, was not brought on by apathy. Simple economics points to an over saturation of the market; there are currently four literary/art magazines at Tufts. Their content, missions, and readership surely crisscross, which may explain why these publications must beg for contributors in

their issue. This is no indictment of the *Queen's Head* quartet or their competition—blame student government for not enforcing its own rules.

In 1998, the founders of the short story journal *Outbreath* came before the TCUJ (which must approve all new student groups) and asked for recognition. Citing the existence of *Queen's Head & Artichoke* (Tufts' original lit mag), the Judiciary refused the new group. So *Outbreath* appealed to the Committee on Student Life. The CSL approved the new group, naming what amounted to barely distinguishable dissimilarities that allowed the new magazine to exist.

Outbreath, the poetry mag *Optimus Prime*, *Queen's Head*, and the African American journal *Onyx* each publish literature and art. These, plus the occasional publication of a culture-group-driven art magazine, flood Tufts' small readership. The talent pool is spread thin while TCU dollars are lumped upon groups whose missions coincide. No wonder *Queen's Head*, whose staff once numbered over 20, finds itself floating helplessly in the doldrums. And it's going to get worse. The University College of Citizenship and Public Service recently co-sponsored the first issue of a feminist art magazine. Created by SLAM founder Iris Halpern, the magazine will, according to the UCCPS website, include "fiction, non-fiction, poetry, ... photography, pictures, sketches, mixed media, or collages." Presumably Halpern's art magazine will be unique only in its feminist viewpoint. More likely, it will be a little-read anti-conservative screed. Let the reader determine why \$1,150 of UCCPS funds will go towards a publication that has little to do with public service. Let the student government observe how its failed system of checks and balances harms campus artists, writers, and readers. □



Fortnight in ReviewSM

Comedy is allied to Justice.
—Aristophanes

PS Harry Pot? Buckingham Palace announced that Prince Harry, third in line for the throne, had been reprimanded by his father for smoking marijuana. Finally the young prince has earned the right to be called “His Royal *Highness*.”

PS After telling the kids they were going on a field trip, a crazed bus driver armed with an assault rifle took a busload of schoolchildren from Pennsylvania to Maryland before being caught by the FBI. The horrified children described the incident as “the best field trip ever.”

PS Kabul Zoo officials plan on erecting a statue to commemorate Marjan, the injured lion whose tattered face drew \$400,000 in donations from sympathetic animal lovers. A nearby orphanage will be demolished to make room for the statue.

PS Japanese scientists are trying to breed pigs that will yield healthier pork by creating pigs spliced with spinach genes. In a related story, Popeye is now the spokesman for SPAM.

PS Thomas Junta, the father who beat another parent to death after a dispute at a hockey game, was sentenced to 6 to 10 years in prison. His lawyers unsuccessfully asked the jury for five to ten minutes in the box.

PS After numerous suicide attacks rocked

Israel last week, President George W. Bush announced that he was “very disappointed” in PLO chairman Yasser Arafat. Bush is expected to offer Arafat the choice between time out in the corner or going to his office without supper.

PS President Clinton’s dog Buddy was struck and killed by a motorist near the Clinton home in Chappaqua, New York. The Secret Service never saw the driver, but said the vehicle had New York plates reading “KSTARR2HOT.”

PS Top Ten Things You Won’t See at the Upcoming Clinton Lecture:

10. Buddy
9. Vernon Jordan
8. Intern hiding beneath the podium
7. Cigar in the intern beneath the podium
6. Peace in the Middle East
5. Uneaten Big Macs
4. Unimpeached presidents
3. President Al Gore (thanks Ralph Nader!)
2. Whitewater documents
1. Taste, honesty, or character

PS The Michael Jackson Internet Fan Club shut down last Thursday. Readers complained that the website’s once black text had faded and was barely distinguishable from the white background.

PS Attorney General John Ashcroft has ordered that the bare breasts of a statue depicting the Spirit of Justice in the Justice Department building be covered. Gov-

ernment officials plan to cover the indecent statue with a tight, white tank top.

PS Scientists have discovered that a rare form of gangrene of the genitals killed Biblical figure King Herod. Asked why the Judean king met such a horrible fate, one scientist responded, “Hmm... let’s see. Maybe it was the whole ‘let’s kill Jesus’ thing.”

PS Human rights officials denounced the United States for alleged mistreatment of Taliban and al Qaeda prisoners. Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld apologized and added Lifetime and VH1 to the Camp X-Ray cable system.

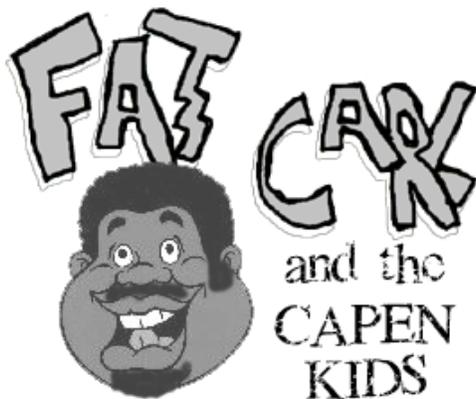
PS Nebraska resident Tim Scott, age 19, outbagged ten other contestants to win the Nebraska Grocery Industry Association’s Best Bagger competition, and he’s on to the national contest next month. If he wins the grand prize, Scott says he’ll use the money to “get a real fricking job.”

PS New Get Real Girl dolls, an alternative to Barbie, come with friendship bracelets. While they look more like real girls, no one seems to care that they promote unrealistic friendships.

PS Top Ten Features in the New Feminist Mag:

10. White: Okay to Wear After Labor Day?
9. Point-Counterpoint: Pads/Tampons

Hey kids! Don’t miss the new cartoon premiering this Saturday on the WB!



8. Why You Can Never Too Many Shoes
7. Our Favorite Soap Opera Hunks!
6. Cooking & Cleaning—Not Just Cities in China
5. The TFA Guide to His Body
4. Your Romantic Horoscope!
3. Behind the Scenes on the Ricky Martin World Tour
2. Spit or Swallow—TCMAV Weighs In
1. Getting in Touch With Your Inner Skank

PS Florida wildlife officials may make it illegal to feed various animals because it encourages them to approach humans,

causing many to die in car crashes and dog attacks. State legislators are considering similar approaches to dealing with the homeless.

PS New Jersey Governor Jim McGreevey will not move into the governor's mansion until lead paint has been removed because the family needs a nursery for their daughter. Which begs the question: if they were looking for a clean environment in which to raise a child, why did they pick New Jersey?

PS Florida Circuit Court Judge Joyce Julian was arrested last month and barred from her courtroom after she was found wandering a hotel drunk in only a t-shirt. Julian's career is expected to look up in February, however, when *Maxim* names her #4 on "The Ten Hottest Ladies of the Bench."

PS The AIDS virus is set to overtake the Black Death as the worst pandemic in history. A spokesman for the Black Death told the SOURCE, "It's not fair! We didn't have Magic Johnson spreading the Plague."

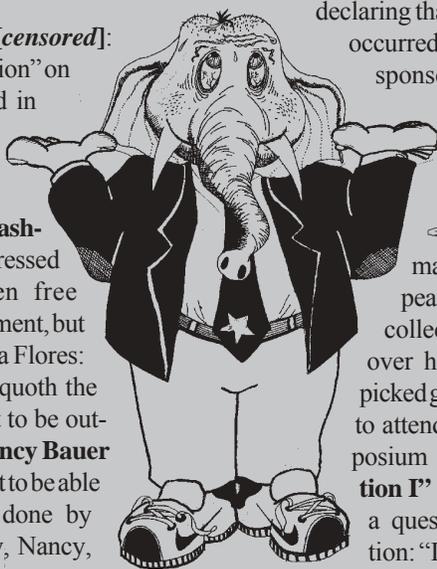
From the Elephant's Mouth

☞ Merry Christmas to Us: the SOURCE gets statewide recognition in a December 25th *Boston Globe* article. The article covered the cannon incident, but then referred to instigator Adam Carlis as merely "a liberal activist." Journalistic oversight, or vast left-wing conspiracy?

☞ The times, they are 'a [censored]: A "community conversation" on sexual harassment held in Hotung Café last December 3rd turned out to be little more than two and a half hours of SOURCE-bashing. Some attendees stressed the difference between free speech and sexual harassment, but not SLAM flunkie Ariana Flores: "Free speech is crap," quoth the censorious Chicana. Not to be outdone, Ass. Professor Nancy Bauer philosophizes: "We ought to be able to prosecute the harm done by words and speech." Hey, Nancy, prosecute this.

☞ "Hot" Carl Jackson berates the SOURCE's "lack of maturity... for Ivy League students" at the Hotung cuddle-fest and tells all "white males" present that they "have no idea what it's like to be a minority." Sadly, none of the attendees had the heart to tell Jackson that conservatives are more of a minority than blacks on this campus... or, for that matter, that the Ivy League is fifteen minutes down the street... The SOURCE later finds evidence that "Mature" Carl master-minded (so to speak) the mass theft of our

issues shortly before taking a leave of absence. Don't worry, Carl: the Dean of Students office will still be here when you get back... Aftershedding her anonymity, the Tufts woman who wrote that she was molested by Iris Halpern was summoned by the Dean of Students Office and asked to sign a statement declaring that the incident had never occurred. The brave girl's response to the purple-haired SLAM maven: "No thanks, I'm afraid of clowns."



☞ Hirsute loser Al Gore made his long-delayed appearance at Tufts last week, collecting Coalition drool all over his lockbox. The hand-picked group of students selected to attend the former VP's symposium included Lou "Probation I" Esparza, who prefaced a question with the observation: "I couldn't help but notice that most of the people in this room are of the white race, or whatever." Gore then singled out Esparza for harassment, Esparza being a student of color... This March, ex-President/adulterer/perjurer William Jefferson Clinton will deign to speak at our fair school. Is there some kind of "Parade of Slimeball Democrats" lecture series going on that we missed?

☞ Tufts Collective for Men Against Spines: TCMAV girly-men Scott Pherson and Kenny William write a sniveling *Daily* letter, apologizing for ever having defended free speech.

They then went back to massaging Peggy Barrett's feet full-time... TCMAV then reiterated that rape was bad... *Daily* editors took their shots in the same issue. An editorial purportedly about Bacow's first 148 days in office contains three paragraphs of below-the-belt jabs at the SOURCE. We weren't going to say anything about *Daily* chief Russ Capone's tight tank tops, but... yum!

☞ An anonymous news forum appears at rumorsdaily.com and is embraced again by bitter Tufts students. How long before Larry Harris quits his job at United Leaders and purchases a cable modem?... Or was that job at Arby's?

☞ Chemistry grad student Jason Epstein writes in the *Daily* that grad students feel a "need for X (X being increased wages, health care, child care, dental coverage)." In response, doctoral candidate Carl Martin opines, with no sarcasm: "I don't appreciate his representing such a need with the variable 'X' - the sign of the unknown and foreign." Irony rating: *****. Martin is pursuing a doctorate in *English*.

☞ Still brimming with holiday cheer, The ELEPHANT has thanks to dole out. First, thanks to Dean of Finance Wayne Bouchard for the new computers in the Media Advisory Board office. The hamsters powering our old CPUs were getting tired... And in all seriousness, thanks to the *Tufts Daily* for reprinting Sam Dangremond's December 6th editorial. After the appalling theft of our holiday issue, it is heartening to know that our message will not be silenced.

☞ THE ELEPHANT never forgets.

West Heads South

by Chris Kohler

Before last semester, only Tufts students were aware that the great Tufts/Harvard rivalry actually existed. Luckily, Harvard undergrads finally started hating us back after comments made by Tufts students and Dean of the Colleges for Undergraduate Education Charles Inouye in a *Daily* article entitled “Easy A’s at Harvard Inflate Student Egos” (10/29/01). (A fine piece of unbiased, investigative reporting to be sure, but this is not the issue at hand.) Inouye’s point was that grade inflation was rampant at both universities — as Harvard professor Harvey C. Mansfield wrote earlier that year, every other grade given at Harvard is an A or an A minus. Indeed, only 10% of grades are below a B minus.

This sort of massive grade inflation, later confirmed by Harvard’s Educational Policy Committee, was one of the subjects that new Harvard president Lawrence Summers wished to discuss when he called University Professor and head of Harvard’s lauded Afro-American Studies department, Cornel West, to his office last December. Specifically, by all accounts, Summers wanted to discuss:

— West’s course, Introduction to African-American Studies, in which most students receive A’s every year

— West’s speaking schedule—he is off-campus approximately 150 days of the year giving speeches and heading Al Sharpton’s presidential campaign

— The fact that West has not released a scholarly publication through a university press since 1989 and that his last major “work” was a rap CD entitled *Sketches of My Culture*.

Valid questions all, especially when posed to a University Professor—of which, including West, there are only 14 out of a faculty of 2,000. But West took Summers’

Mr. Kohler is a senior majoring in Japanese.

remarks as an “insult.” He threatened to leave Harvard for Princeton and take the rest of the Af-Am Studies “dream team” with him. Al Sharpton filed a lawsuit (alleging that the character of his chief presidential advisor had been clearly impugned). He enlisted Jesse Jackson to speak on his behalf. He riled up the African-American student body sufficiently enough that signs reading “GET UPPITY ON MASSA SUMMERS’ PLANTATION,” among others, were posted around campus.

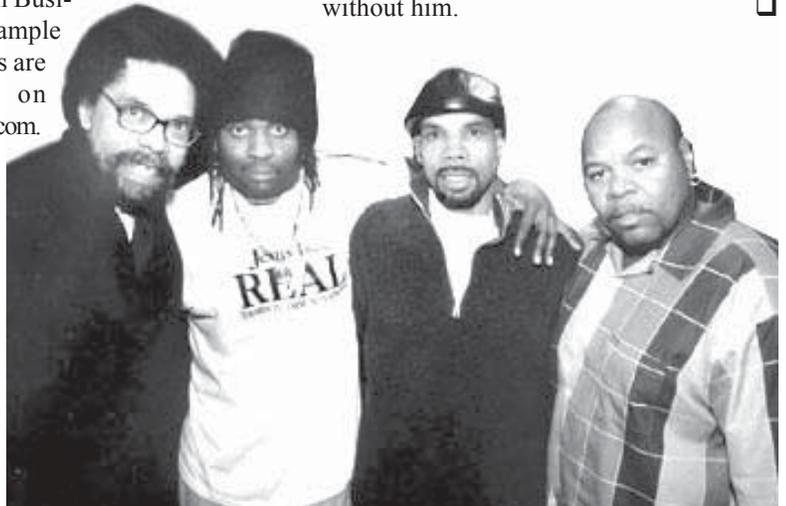
Massa Summers, of course, demurred. He printed an apology in the *Harvard Crimson*, citing his and Harvard’s “compelling interest in racial and other forms of diversity.” This is a remarkable turnaround even for a new university president—just weeks earlier, his “compelling interest” was in academics, as evidenced by his determination to do something about grade inflation starting with perhaps the most inflated class in the core curriculum. Yet West also saw this as an “insult.” Perhaps Summers’ most biting comments—and those which West felt most deeply—concerned his rap CD.

One need not spend money on *Sketches of My Culture*—released by Four Black Men Who Mean Business, Inc.—to sample it, for MP3 clips are available on www.cornelwest.com. While you’re there, read a little bit about West on his front page. West is “one of the most pre-eminent minds of our time,” “a mainstay in the American media,” “a house-

hold word,” and a “genius.” This on *his personal home page*. “In all modesty,” reads the site, “this project constitutes a watershed moment in musical history. The combination of the oratorical passion and unmatched eloquence of Dr. Cornel West with the particular musical genius of Derek ‘D.O.A.’ Allen has produced an auditory theatrical experience.” Hogwash. The invention of the phonograph was a watershed moment in musical history. The formation of the Beatles was a watershed moment in musical history. *Sketches of My Culture* is crap.

From the first track, *The Journey*: “From the heights of rich African humanity, to the depth of sick American barbarity, in the whirlwinds of white supremacy, black people preserved their sanity and dignity... No other people in the modern world have had such unprecedented levels of unregulated violence against them.” Writes *National Review* columnist Rod Dreher: “This—after Auschwitz, after Cambodia, after Rwanda.” A musical discussion of the word “nigger” follows, with one female singer opining, “I use it in my lovemaking... when I call my man ‘nigger’ he works hard.” Derek “D.O.A.” Allen’s musical score is—if possible—even more irritating and juvenile than West’s lyrics. If you’ve ever wondered what it would be like to listen to racist nonsense and 70’s porn video music at the same time, wonder no longer.

If West truly feels that his CD is a watershed moment in Afro-American culture, his department should be ashamed. If West thinks this passes for scholarship, then it’s no surprise that Summers called him in for a chat. If West is truly ready to leave for Princeton, Harvard would be far better off without him. □



Harvard Professor Cornel West (left) and his posse.

EDITOR'S NOTE: In response to criticism that THE PRIMARY SOURCE has been "too negative" as of late, our staff is pleased to offer...

The **HAPPY THOUGHTS** page!



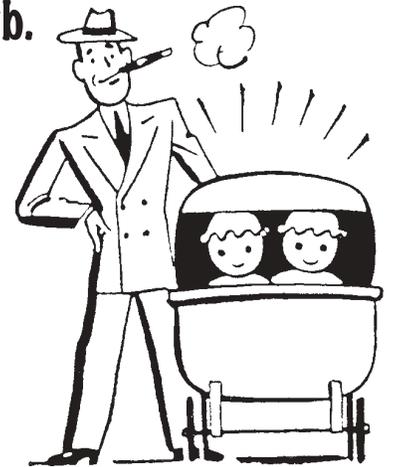
Kittens are soft.

In Boston, you can find the freshest seafood on the East Coast.

Somewhere a newborn baby is smiling and cooing playfully in her crib.

Tufts didn't drop like a stone in the US News rankings this year.

The American GDP is higher than that of any other nation.



Sometimes, they serve chicken tenders at Carmichael.



Mandy Moore turns 18 on April 10.



TOP SECRET

S.L.A.M.
stupid losers and morons

FOR YOUR EYES ONLY

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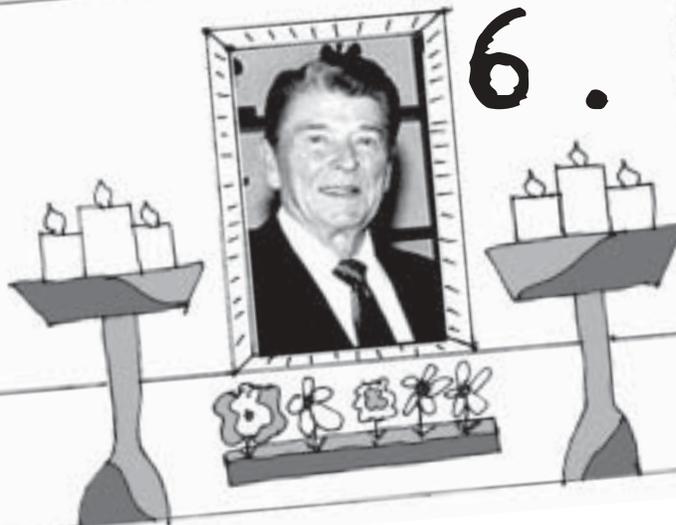


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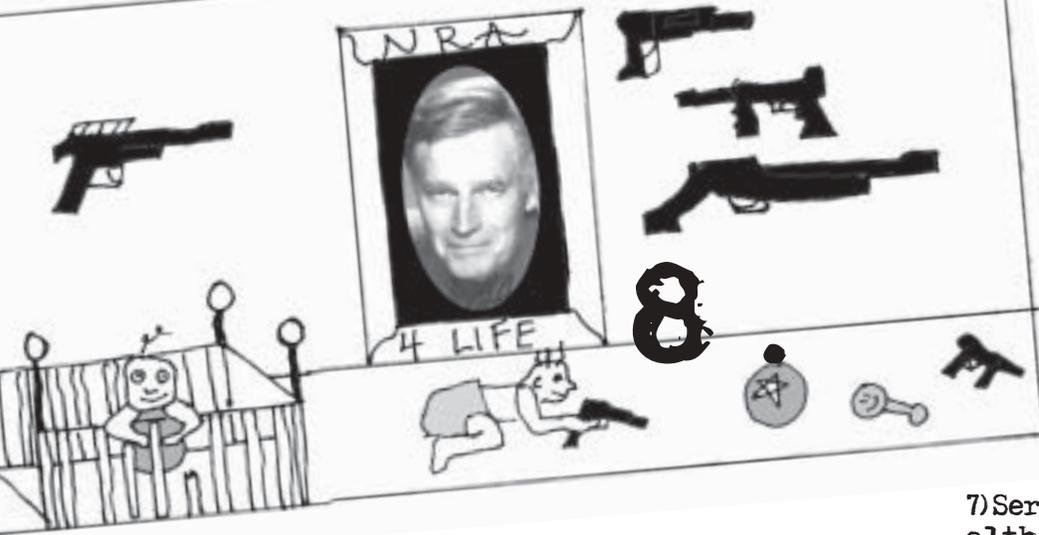
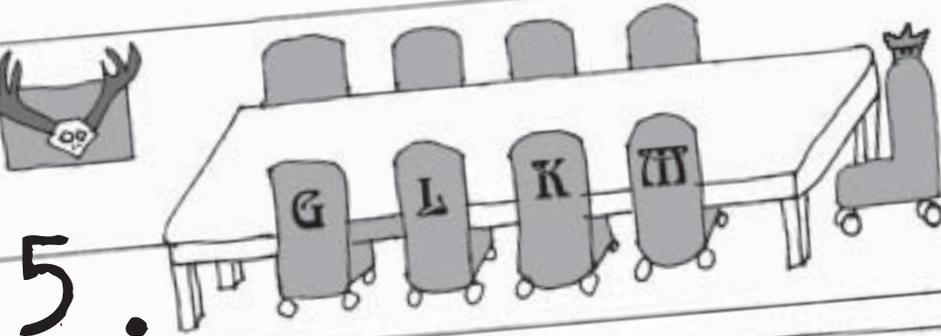


7 .



me especial cerca
Investigador Ariana Flóres
 ade Flores showed a deep understanding of the conservative menace at our
 ol when she admonished THE PRIMARY SOURCE, screaming "When you go back to
 conservative compound, you'll have to think about what you've done." Armed
 this knowledge, we sent Flores on a dangerous mission...

INSIDE THE CONSERVATIVE COMPOUND



8) Day Care Center/Gun Room. I was in awe of the scene that laid before me: THE PRIMARY SOURCE does, in fact, support working mothers. The children had plenty of recreational games and learning tools to occupy them while their mothers worked under slave-labor conditions to reinforce the patriarchy and unwittingly sexually harass their fellow wimpy.

FINAL ANALYSIS: Free speech is crap.

Findings:

1) White-Bread Sanctuary. I had anticipated a dormant volcano with the leering face of Sam Dangremond carved into the side, but this ranch-style home was just as obvious a disguise, as only the rich, white elite live in such one-family buildings.

2) Transportation. I expected to find the bed of the truck filled with money, but instead found a hound dog and a gun rack. The dog seemed well-fed.

3) Secret Ladder. Moving aside a cleverly placed stack of National Reviews, I descended into their hidden base.

4) Walk-in Humidor. I was pleased to find that at least some members of THE PRIMARY SOURCE supported the Cuban economy.

5) War Room. Past the endangered species that lined the wall. A larger chair, crafted from a giant sea-turtle shell and purposefully placed at the head of the non-diverse table, indicated the hierarchical structure of the organization. The smaller rear-end prints were on the farthest chairs, indicating that women or perhaps smallish men are kept in positions of inferiority.

6) Ronald Reagan Shrine. The knee-jerk worship of dead white men is appalling.

7) Servants Quarters. Not very clean, although I suppose that is their own fault.

Advocating Justice

by Michael Ferenczy

For many students, the workings of the Student Disciplinary System never need become an issue. Unfortunately, for those drawn into it, this system is fatally flawed and requires a serious overhaul. Before addressing a solution, however, some basics of the system must first be explored.

According to the Student Disciplinary System handbook, more than one hundred complaints are filed each year. There is a full time employee—Dean of Judicial Affairs, Veronica Carter—whose main priority is

to deal with these complaints and to oversee the disciplinary system. This employee is overseen by Dean of Students Bruce Reitman. Ostensibly, the Dean of Students' main goal is to look out for the best interests of the students.

In fact, the Dean of Students is an employee of Tufts University, and his main goal is to look out for the best interests of Tufts University. Herein lies one of the major failings of the system. His main priority, in any situation, is to minimize the impact of an incident on Tufts University. He does not get paid to ensure fairness, or to make sure students are given all the information and help they need to make the best decisions in the system. No, Tufts pays Bruce Reitman to keep Tufts from getting sued.

For example, in September 2000, a student at Brandeis sued the school for denying him due process. The Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court found in *Schaer v. Brandeis* that Universities have

Mr. Ferenczy is a senior majoring in Chemical Engineering and Biotechnology. He is the chair of the TCU Judiciary.

an obligation to uphold a minimum standard of fairness in their disciplinary procedures and that the student disciplinary handbook is a contract between school and student, by which the University must abide. Dean Reitman was so paranoid at being vulnerable to lawsuits because of

this that he spent his summer rewriting the Student Disciplinary System Handbook. As you may have guessed, he wasn't spending his time trying to improve the disciplinary process. He was removing all the "legalese" in an attempt to reduce the ability of students to sue Tufts.

Deans Carter and Reitman are good people, and they do their best to advocate for students to the rest of the administration. They are, unfortunately, trapped in a conflict of interest between the two roles of the Dean of Students. When a student walks into Dowling Hall with a complaint, he first speaks with Veronica Carter. He fills out a complaint form against a member of the Tufts community. Dean Carter then contacts the defendant, who has two days to respond. During the course of the disciplinary proceedings, the main advisor to both students is either Dean Carter or Dean Reitman. Does this sound fair? The same administrator advises both the

plaintiff and defendant.

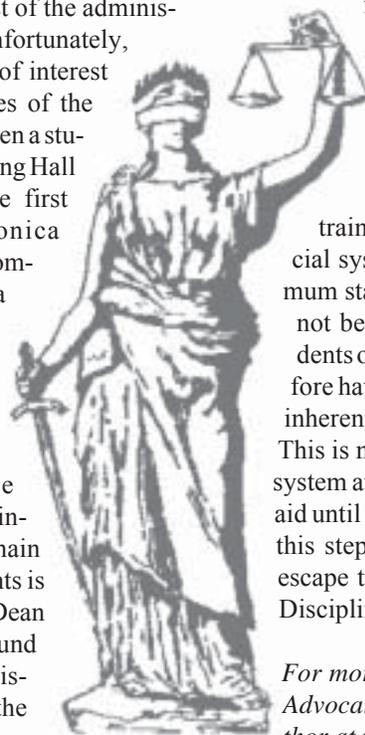
Therefore the Dean of Students office usually pushes for mediation, regardless of whether it serves the interests of anyone involved. Often, the only interests it serves are those of Tufts. Mediation keeps down the number of complaints filed. It especially keeps down the statistics concerning students found guilty of violent crimes such as assault or rape. In fact, this push for mediation could be one of the single largest factors in the underreporting of rape on this campus.

This may seem a bleak description of our judicial system, but it need not remain so. The major source of all these problems is the assignment of the titles of judge, judicial system organizer, and counsel for both the prosecution and defense to the same office. If we were to follow grand Tufts tradition, we would identify the problem and stop there.

Dividing the powers among several offices, then the system would become more fair. With this, and the rights of students, in mind, the Tufts Community Union Judiciary (TCUJ) has proposed and will soon be implementing a system of student advocates, answerable solely to the TCUJ and responsible only for advising any student who has been drawn into the disciplinary system. The group will be composed of faculty, staff, graduate students and undergraduates. Members of this group will offer free advice about the disciplinary system and will act with the best interests of the student in mind. They may also act as advocates in judicial hearings.

Student advocates will be trained by the TCUJ to know the judicial system, and will be held to a minimum standard of competence. They will not be answerable to the Dean of Students or Tufts University, and will therefore have none of the conflicts of interest inherent in the Dean of Students position. This is not a final solution to the judicial system at Tufts, but it will serve as a band-aid until the system can be reformed. With this step, we can begin to help students escape the trap known as Tufts' Student Disciplinary System. □

For more information about the Student Advocate System, please contact the author at mferen01@tufts.edu.



After dozens of appeals and two decades, Death Row's most famous inmate is still the center of controversy.

Mumia : Twenty Years Later

by Gerard Balan

While most people have returned from the holidays with memories of being with their loved ones, Maureen Faulkner had no such joy. For the past twenty years, she has been an unwilling passenger on a heart-wrenching joyride that took another swerve last month when a federal judge threw out the death sentence of Mumia Abu-Jamal, the former Black Panther and cab driver who was convicted of killing her husband, Officer Daniel Faulkner, in 1981. The judge assigned to the case, US District Judge William Yohn, cited problems with the jury charge and verdict

form in the 1982 trial that ended with Jamal's first-degree murder conviction. Former Abu-Jamal lawyer Leonard Weinglass, who worked on his post-conviction appeal, argued that the trial judge wrongly led jurors to believe that they had to be unanimous on both aggravating and mitigating circumstances, contrary to the findings of a 1988 US Supreme Court decision that said they only have to be unanimous on aggravating circumstances. Consequently, Judge Yohn ordered the state either to conduct a new sentencing hearing within 180 days or sentence Abu-Jamal to life imprisonment.

Mrs. Faulkner was outraged, not only in receiving the news right before the holidays, but also in having to relive her ordeal all over again. In addition to being haunted by her husband's murder, she has been forced to periodically relocate because of repeated death threats and harassment from many of Abu-Jamal's supporters. As she asked CNN,

Mr. Balan is a junior majoring in Psychology.

"is there any regard for the survivors of crime?"

While Faulkner's supporters have dismissed Abu-Jamal as an unrepentant cop killer, he is also revered by a world-wide "Free Mumia" movement made up of African-American activists, anti-death penalty crusaders, and even members of the celebrity left, including Susan Sarandon, Paul

Newman, Ossie Davis, and Alec Baldwin. They contend that Abu-Jamal was railroaded by a racist justice system because of his controversial Black Nationalist beliefs and have been working to

free him since his conviction. So convincing is their story, the city of San Francisco proclaimed a day in Abu-Jamal's honor and Venice, Italy awarded him the key to the city. Twenty-two members of the British Parliament called for a new trial, and recently, the Paris City Council made Abu-Jamal its first honorary citizen in 30 years. The last one was Picasso.

The Mumia saga began in the early-morning hours of December 9th, 1981, when Officer Faulkner pulled over Abu-Jamal's brother, William Cook, who was driving the wrong way down a one-way street. For reasons never explained, a scuffle ensued between Faulkner and Cook and Abu-Jamal ran over to help his brother. According to police reports, Abu-Jamal then drew his .38-caliber revolver and fired, hitting Faulkner in the back. Faulkner spun around and shot Abu-Jamal in the chest, who then returned fire and fatally shot Faulkner in the face. Abu-Jamal disputes this report, claiming that he ran over to defend his brother from Faulkner, who was allegedly hitting

Cook over the head with a flashlight. Yet, Cook later plead guilty to assaulting Faulkner and has never claimed to have been attacked that night. Nevertheless, Abu-Jamal also contends that Faulkner shot him as he approached the scene and that a third gunman, not himself, ran to the scene and fatally shot Faulkner.

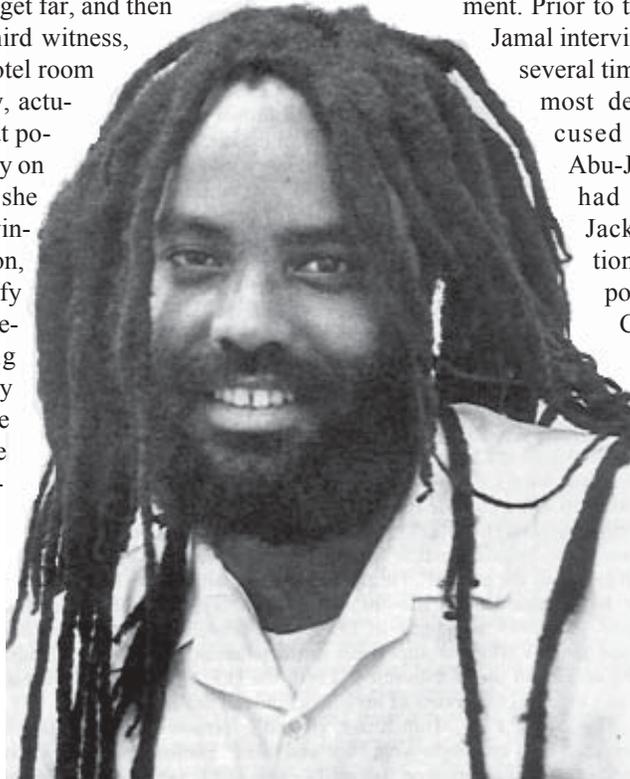
In 1982, the jury found Abu-Jamal guilty and sentenced him to death despite his claims that the prosecution's case was marred with holes. One common claim of Abu-Jamal's supporters is that the ballistics experts never matched any of the bullets found in Faulkner's body to the gun that allegedly belonged to Mumia. Rather, they contend that the bullet in Faulkner's brain was a .44-caliber, whereas the gun police say belonged to Mumia was a .38. This assertion stems from a note made by Assistant Medical Examiner Dr. James Hoyer, which accidentally found its way into the 1981 Medical Examiners report. Mumia's defense bases its contention on this note, which simply states, "44 Cal." Having measured the bullet with nothing more than a common ruler, Dr. Hoyer observed in his note that the bullet that killed Officer Faulkner might have been .44 caliber. However, Hoyer is only a medical doctor without formal ballistics training and testified in 1995 that his notation was not meant to be part of his final report; he had intended to discard it. He further admitted that, in retrospect, the measurement was consistent with a .38 caliber bullet, not a .44. Ballistics tests indeed verify that a .38 caliber bullet killed Faulkner and it has also been proven that the gun used to kill Faulkner had the same general rifling characteristics of Jamal's Charter Arms .38 caliber handgun. Furthermore, Mr. Abu-Jamal's own ballistics expert, George Fassnacht, has twice stated under oath that the bullet that killed Officer Faulkner was not .44 caliber and was most likely a .38.

Abu-Jamal's supporters also assert that the testimony of many of the witnesses to the crime should be examined more closely. Of the more than 125 witnesses interviewed by police, prosecutors found only two who identified Mumia as the person who shot Faulkner. More alarming, both were facing other criminal charges, making them vulnerable to threats—and deals—from the prosecution. One witness, Cynthia White, changed her story several times before implicating Mumia in the killing. One defense witness, Veronica Jones, testified that po-

lice offered her and one of the prosecution witnesses a deal: if they agreed to testify that they saw Abu-Jamal commit the murder, they could continue to work as prostitutes without being arrested. However, the judge ordered these remarks stricken from the court record. In addition, four witnesses said that they saw a man other than Abu-Jamal flee the scene of the crime.

When examined more closely, one must question whether the witnesses that back Abu-Jamal's story are credible after all. According to Weinglass, Abu-Jamal's former attorney, four people saw the real killer running from the scene. His number-one witness, William Singletary, waited more than a decade before finally coming forward with his version of the events of that night. Singletary asserts that the shooter emerged from a Volkswagen, shot Officer Faulkner in the head, and ran away. Abu-Jamal then approached the scene and said, "Oh, my God, we don't need this," bent over Faulkner, who had been shot between the eyes, and asked, "Is there anything I can do to help you?" Then, according to Singletary, Faulkner's gun discharged in his lap, hitting Jamal in the chest. Weinglass also argued that the second witness, a cab driver, was in plain view of the murder and as the police arrived, he told one of the officers that "the guy ran away." However, the report from which Weinglass quotes goes on to say that shooter "didn't get far, and then he fell." The third witness,

who was in a hotel room one block away, actually insisted that police were already on the scene when she looked out her window. In addition, she did not testify that she saw someone running away; she simply stated that she saw someone running. The final defense eyewitness, Veronica Jones, was standing two blocks away from the murder. After 14 years of si-



lence, she claimed she saw two men jogging from the scene. Yet, she also admitted being "half a nickel bag high."

Finally, Abu-Jamal claims that he was unable to adequately defend himself because of financial constraints and an incompetent attorney. However, receipts that were produced at the 1995 PCRA (Post Conviction Relief Act) hearing verified that Abu-Jamal actually received over \$14,000 to mount his defense in 1982 and continues to receive an undisclosed amount of funding from various private groups. During the trial, he also had a criminologist, a ballistics expert, a personal court stenographer, and several individuals functioning as "legal runners" that worked on his behalf. This was well in excess of the customary level of support offered to an accused murderer. In addition, the trial record exposes that Jackson was an experienced attorney who came highly recommended by Abu-Jamal's friends. For five years prior to graduating from the prestigious University of Pennsylvania Law School, Jackson worked as an evidence technician for the Philadelphia Police Department. Prior to the trial, Abu-

Jamal interviewed Jackson several times and unlike most defendants accused of murder, Abu-Jamal himself had input in Jackson's selection as court-appointed Defense Counsel. At the 1995 hearing, contrary to what Abu-Jamal's supporters portray as fact, Jackson himself testified that prior to Abu-Jamal's case, he had defended no

less than 20 murder cases. Of those 20 prior cases, he lost in only six instances and never had a client sentenced to death. If Jackson proved to be ineffective in Abu-Jamal's case, it was not because of inexperience or incompetence, but rather, it was the result of

After 14 years of silence, she claimed she saw two men jogging from the scene. Yet, she also admitted being "half a nickel bag high."

Abu-Jamal's outrageous conduct before the jury and his refusal to cooperate with Jackson as he attempted to mount his defense. For four weeks, Abu-Jamal disrupted the courtroom, insulted the jury, humiliated his attorney, and threat-

ened the judge with violence. In fact, he had to be removed from court thirteen times. Clearly Abu-Jamal's own actions weakened his defense and helped to seal his fate.

After exhausting his last appeal two years ago, Abu-Jamal has added another amenity to his saga in a last ditch effort to save his life. In a 1999 affidavit, a man named Arnold Beverly claimed that he was hired by the mob to kill Faulkner because the officer had interfered with mob payoffs to police. Abu-Jamal's attorneys, Weinglass and Williams, thought the confession was not credible and refused to order Beverly to testify on Abu-Jamal's behalf. Abu-Jamal subsequently fired them after Weinglass refused to "embarrass [himself] by running with such a patently outrageous story on the most visible death-penalty case in the world." A judge ruled in November that she did not have jurisdiction, scuttling his hopes for another round of state court appeals.

Whether Mumia Abu-Jamal dies naturally in his jail cell or prematurely with a lethal injection, the world must still address the underlying themes that categorize this case, particularly the judicial system's continued failure of treating people equally before the law. This scandalous fact ignited and fueled Mumia's now legendary status. Until this issue is seriously dealt with, more people will suffer, whether the innocent people who truly are wrongfully convicted or the victims of crime who are forced to watch as the guilty evade justice. Though the readers will have to debate among themselves whether the death penalty is ever a justifiable punishment, there there should be no debate over Mumia Abu-Jamal's guilt. □

Business as usual...At the point of a gun.

Gangster Government

by Andrew Gibbs

In this country there are two basic ways to make a living. The old fashioned way involves the creation of a product and its subsequent exchange in the free market. However, if one is lazy, corrupt, and devious there exists an alternative. Instead of laboring to create a product that people actually want and engaging in trades of mutual consent, groups of people may band together and lobby the government for funding. To put it simply, this grant allows one to perform useless work, create an unwanted product (or in some cases no product at all), and still reap financial benefit. Typical words used to describe such transactions include theft, coercion, or racketeering, but in polite company and under the auspices of government it is referred to as subsidy.

Government subsidy assumes a variety of shapes. Often it comes in the form of direct cash handouts, but far more subtle and insidious methods are frequently employed. Protectionist trade restrictions often serve to subsidize businesses in ways that are damaging to competitors. Instead of working to bring the best product to market at the best price, many companies engage in what Ayn Rand dubbed The Aristocracy of Pull, competing instead to be the best at winning favors from Congress. Most disastrous is that any particular subsidy comes with diffuse costs and concentrated benefits. Recipients of a subsidy stand to receive absurdly large benefits, while taxpayers may

Mr. Gibbs is a senior majoring in Computer Science.

only have to pay a few dollars for any given program. As such it is in the best interests of the recipients to lobby aggressively and the taxpayers to submit to their will. However, while the cost of any particular subsidy may prove miniscule, the sum of them all is the staggering billions of dollars paid out by the US government in corporate welfare every year.

Many particularly egregious cases of government subsidy for what should be private

enterprise exist in the United States, ranging from the support for the US Postal Service, to farm subsidies, to a veritable plethora of programs for

various manufacturers. All of them should be abolished and replaced with the free market system.

With all the fuss being made about monopolies, one of the worst ones has somehow managed to slip through the cracks. It is a federal crime for private suppliers to transport and deliver messages on physical media and charge prices as low as the USPS does. If that doesn't scream protectionism, then nothing does. The USPS expends substantial resources on spy technology to verify that other shippers are not violating these laws. If these spies should find anything, the USPS sends agents to perform audits, resulting in the imposition of hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of fines. Of course, letter mail is rapidly be-

coming a moot point, as electronic communications have virtually eliminated the need for the aptly dubbed "snail mail." That would explain why in the seventies the USPS made a valiant push to exert its monopoly control over email communications. Fortunately they failed abysmally. Now in the wake of the terrorist attacks the USPS has petitioned for billions of dollars of federal subsidy to cover their operational losses. This subsidy, however, is only a cover-up for the \$1.35 billion shortfall that existed *before* the attacks. Anthrax only exacerbated their troubles. Furthermore, why should the USPS get a huge federal bailout to deal with attack-related costs when private industries such as Federal Express and United Parcel Service must shoulder the costs themselves? The extra costs of FedEx and UPS get passed onto the customers, but with the USPS the costs get handed off to taxpayers. There is no justice in such an arrangement. Clearly the USPS must go. Either privatize it, or abolish it altogether. It is a dinosaur that not even oppressive government regulation can save.

Perhaps the single biggest waste of federal money is the Agricultural Department which last year had a whopping budget of over \$35 billion. Subsidies handed out to farmers consumed nearly half of that budget. In many cases, farmers literally get paid *not* to farm. At other times farmers get paid to produce crops that are already in overabundance and thus worthless. An oft-cited justification for farm subsidy is to help farmers deal with the low prices of

crops that are overproduced. To help out, the government buys up the surplus at an artificially inflated value. Of course this further inflates the supply, resulting in an even lower value of the crop and further need



"Neither rain nor sleet nor anti-monopoly legislation can stop me!"

of subsidy, creating a vicious cycle of dependency.

What the federal government ought to do is allow the supply-demand relationship to settle naturally. Why should taxpayers be forced to pay for a product that they don't want? The most frequently exercised argument is that farming is an industry that has to deal with unpredictable and violent swings. Of course, this is utter nonsense. One could apply such reasoning to just about any industry. Look at the tech industry for example. The demand swings for tech products is probably greater than in any other industry, yet the government doesn't pay chip manufacturers not to manufacture chips. Lastly, proponents of farm subsidies argue that the subsidies help provide for the poor farmers. This is just simply not true. In fact, the largest ten percent of farms receive seventy percent of the payments. It is big business that has bought off the government and gets paid to produce unwanted products at taxpayer expense. Until the American people wake up and realize the extent to which they are being swindled, such crimes will continue.

Perhaps the most subtle yet effective form of subsidy is that of trade barriers. Import tariffs result in artificially ballooned prices for foreign goods, which allow local manufacturers to mark up their own prices accordingly. The burden of the increase is, of course, passed off to the consumer. The purported logic behind such legislation is that it "saves" American jobs. The truth, however, is that it gouges American consumers while protecting inferior American products. To make matters worse, this leads to an arms race between nations to protect their own industries, resulting in everyone having highly protectionist legislation, and making it prohibitively expensive for anyone to enjoy imported goods. Everyone loses, except for the businesses who bought off the government.

Rampant government subsidy is a deep-rooted problem that can not easily be solved. The hands of politicians and business executives are firmly planted in one another's pockets. Any particular subsidy program is of little consequence to taxpayers, yet the sum of the system is almost unbearable. Citizens must learn to say "no" almost reflexively to every would-be parasite, or the system will inevitably collapse beneath its own weight. The battle cry of the US taxpayer must become the simple phrase: "If you want it, you pay for it." □

books

The New Thought Police

by Tammy Bruce

Prima Publishing, \$23.95, hardcover

ISBN 0-7615-3404-0

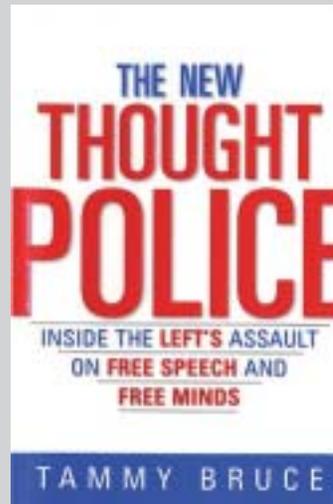
When I sat down to review this book, I dog-eared the pages containing important points to which I wanted to return when I actually sat down to write. By the time I had finished reading, I had marked nearly 40 pages in Tammy Bruce's short book *The New Thought Police*. Clearly she has a lot to say worthy of a second look.

That so many of Bruce's points seem positively vital to a review indicates that Bruce is preaching to the choir when a reader like me picks up her book. I already know that my freedoms as an American are endangered daily by those who think they know what is best for me. Those who are not aware of this, however, must read this book. Those who have never thought about how trust and responsibility should function in a democratic republic or those who actually support restriction of Constitutional freedoms should be eager to read what Bruce has to say. Confidence in their philosophy should render them unafraid to see what Bruce brings up, and they should be able to bat it all aside if their arguments hold any logic.

And that's where the problem for leftists arises. Bruce's book is based on fact, not opinion or emotion. And most importantly, her message, or more specifically, her personal feminist philosophy "transcends politics," as she herself says. Bruce calls herself an "openly gay, pro-choice, gun-owning, pro-death penalty, liberal, voted-for-Reagan feminist." Though a theoretical contradiction in terms, her refusal to adhere to partisan politics is what makes her one of the most powerful activist voices in the nation. Despite the loaded (and mildly intimidating) title of her book, Bruce simply uses her experiences as a feminist, as the former president of Los Angeles National Organization for Women, and as a formerly registered Democrat to provide the backdrop for her exposé on the motivations arousing the

leftist political arena. She discusses everything from homosexuality to multiculturalism and everyone from O.J. Simpson and Jesse Jackson to Patricia Ireland and Gloria Steinem, peppering her paragraphs with frighteningly appropriate terms from George Orwell's societal nightmare portrayed in *1984*. She even brings up the "speech zone" fiasco at Tufts. And Bruce does not shy away from her own past mistakes but subjects her own blindness to the same ridicule as that of the others she mentions.

Bruce has learned from her mistakes, however. She has embraced classical liberalism, which relies upon freedoms and constant consumer education to enact change. She has successfully held boycotts and protests and personally enacted important social movement because she has depended on the honest tactics of education and personal decision rather than on force, equivocation, and propaganda. In 1990, she led the boycott against the



book *American Psycho*, a fictional story that glorifies a man who sexually tortures women for pleasure. While she never asked Knopf to stop its publication, a technical violation of the author's First Amendment rights, she provided sufficient education to the public about the content of the book to significantly impact its sales. Bruce is an example of what all activists— male, female, black, white, Democrat, Republican— should look to for inspiration in their own actions.

I challenge anyone who identifies himself as liberal, either in the classical definition or in the Tufts definition, to read this book and come away from it having learned nothing about himself and his function in American politics. I am quite certain such a feat is impossible.

—Megan Liotta

Stock of Lies

by Robert Lichter

Perhaps the Enron debacle is still too fresh for political critics to delve into its details; there are weeks of hearings yet to be held and information to be gathered (at least what remains after the Arthur Andersen confetti party.) The fine points of the case may well be out of date by the time this article is published, but an ethical message can be drawn from the Enron affair.

However, the idea now being advanced by many pundits of tightening restrictions on 401(k) employee pension accounts is ripe for discussion. To listen to these talking

heads, one would think that the 401(k) comprises every employee's total net worth and therefore must be diversified. But such an account may be only a fraction of an individual's holdings. Even if the 401(k) is largely in an employer's stock, the total portfolio of the individual may be, like Tufts Admissions' ideal student, very diverse, thus neutralizing the need to diversify the 401(k).

According to the *Wall Street Journal*, the Enron 401(k) plan was not out of the ordinary. Employees could set aside up to 15% of their pretax salary, with an IRS mandated cap of \$10,500, and the company matched half of each employee's contribution, up to 6 percent of base pay. The employee contribution did not have to be in company stock, while the matching funds were in Enron stock. Between 1998 and 2001 the value of Enron's stock quintupled, according to the *Journal*. The problems arose after last January, when company executives apparently painted a rosy picture to employees, one which was far from the truth.

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

Enter Arthur Andersen LLP, the outside accounting firm hired to audit the financial statements. Much is still to be learned about what recently fired partner David Duncan instructed Andersen employees to do, but it could not have been good because the Andersen people were busy shredding documents at the first inkling of an investigation of their Enron work. How can Enron employees and outside investors have any chance of making an educated stock decision when the outside auditor, the supposed check on the system, is an accomplice in deception?

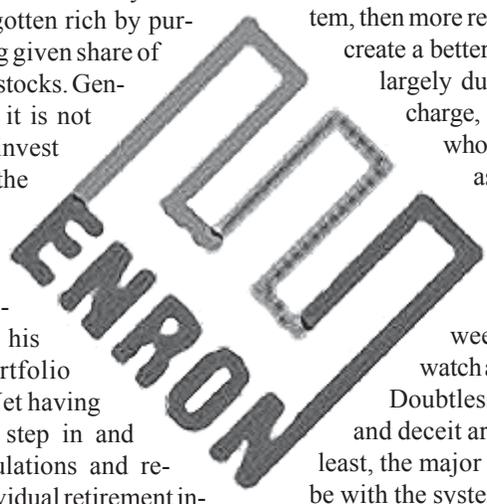
If companies are told they cannot match employee contributions with company stock, the employer may choose not to offer a matching plan at all. This stock is always a good thing, and there are many millionaires who have gotten rich by purchasing and being given share of their employers' stocks. Generally, however, it is not wise for one to invest too heavily into the company for which he works. If the company collapses, he loses his job and his portfolio value declines. Yet having the government step in and make more regulations and restrictions on individual retirement investments insults the average citizen by conveying that he is unable to handle his own finances. Such interference also raises the cost of investing by making people more reliant on an outside regulator.

Through no fault of their own, Enron employees did not have access to a true financial picture of the company. True accounting did not exist because of lies told by Kenneth Lay, Enron's CEO, and other Enron executives as well as the complicity of Arthur Andersen, the independent auditor. We know that the Andersen auditors assigned to the Enron account knew that the books were not accurate because they shredded their documents. What would keep accounting firms from doing this in the future? Prison time for all who knowingly falsified financial reports might help.

What good would more layers of regulation do when the checks and balances that were already in place failed? And what would campaign finance reform do? Enron, according to *The Economist*, was the 12th-ranking contributor to Bush's presidential campaign. But this did not buy the company any favored treatment with either the Treasury or the Commerce Department. The public knows how much Enron donated to the Bush campaign. If such campaign contributions were outlawed, one might suspect that the unscrupulous behavior in which many at Enron appear to have engaged was offering Bush under-the-table contributions. But the Bush team knew that Enron's contributions were public knowledge and thus could not possibly attempt to bail Enron out.

Is it the checks and balances that failed, or did the people who were charged with very specific duties within the system fail to perform? If the breakdown was within the system, then more regulations may be needed to create a better one. But if the failure was largely due to misdeeds by those in charge, aided and abetted by those who were supposed to function as a check on their honesty, then how does adding more regulation and layers to the system improve it?

In the days and weeks to come, the world will watch as the investigation unfolds. Doubtless many more tales of lies and deceit are to be told, but for now at least, the major problems do not appear to be with the system but with the individuals who failed in their duty. If this turns out to be the case, then the best remedy might lie in building an Enron wing on a federal prison, as a message to future executives and accountants who would try to write fiction in a corporate annual report. □



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Al Gore and the UCCPS — one of them belongs at Tufts.

Kissing Babies

by Sam Dangremond

The speech given by former Vice President Al Gore here at Tufts on January 25th was both witty and entertaining. But while Gore's speech displayed his impressive oratory skills and even a bit of humor, the content of his speech was little more than pandering to future voters by telling them how important they are. In fact, Gore's speech could be seen as yet another step down the wrong path this University has taken by emphasizing "active citizenship" rather than academics.

Starting out with a comedy routine, Gore was lively as he played to his predominantly Democratic audience. With stock lines like "I'm Al Gore, and I used to be the next President of the United States," Gore clearly had not overburdened his speechwriters, but his delivery was energetic and his comic timing impeccable. The topic of the speech was "family centered community building," an admittedly amorphous topic that has something to do with your relatives and community service. It was Gore's account of the historical development of scientific reductionism, however, that was most informative and most telling about Tufts students.

In seeking to understand the holistic concept of family and community, Gore first reviewed the history of how Western thought analyzes concepts. Beginning with Descartes, Gore touched upon Copernicus and Newton on his way to complexity theory. Unfortunately, a disturbing revelation came when Gore asked the audience basic questions about Western history. Tufts students, or at least those confident enough to open their mouths, didn't know the answers. When asked about intellectual developments prior to Descartes, one Tufts student offered "Cartesian coordinates," which are named for Descartes himself. Another had to be corrected by Gore after offering that "the sun is the center of the universe."

Are these answers representative of all

Mr. Dangremond is a junior majoring in Chemical Engineering.

Tufts students? No, but it is nonetheless embarrassing to Tufts that any of its students could be so uneducated. The audience of Tufts students couldn't get the right answer to a question that any American eighth grader should have been able to answer. Active citizens and the leaders of tomorrow these are not. Tufts University prides itself on its promotion of citizenship embodied by the University College of Citizenship and Public Service (UCCPS), a major co-sponsor of Gore's speech. Yet the UCCPS never taught those Tufts students that Copernicus discovered that the sun is the center of the *solar system*. Perhaps Pierre Omidyar's money could be better spent on a Western studies program.

After the tour of Western thought, Gore turned to family centered community building. Gore first introduced a student panel who talked about their experiences with community service. No doubt each of these students felt honored to share the stage with Gore, as he made them and the entire audience feel important with sappy comments like "together, we must heal our hearts." During the following question and answer period Tufts students posed some vague, but well worded questions, to Gore — whose answers consisted mainly of discussion of emotions. Gore isn't a professor, but rather a politician. Unfortunately Gore was not so forward as to suggest that problems of national and international scope may have their roots in government policy, and cannot be solved by college students with too much time on their hands.

All together, it was an honor for Tufts to host Gore's speech. Trustee Alan Solomont's donations to the Democratic National Committee have paid off. But although entertaining, Gore did little more than kiss babies to secure Democratic votes in 2004 by philosophizing about a topic that happens to currently be trendy in academia. Tufts should be above intellectual fads, and (as the students' knowledge of Copernicus demonstrated) should reexamine its academic priorities. □

American heroism knows no shades.

Flying the Colors

by Jonathan Perle

Almost fifty-seven years ago, on a remote island in the Pacific Ocean, the largest amphibious invasion in history, up to that point, occurred. One hundred ten thousand US marines landed on Iwo Jima to dig out the Japanese forces that were in highly defensive and entrenched positions. During the battle, five marines and one Navy corpsman—Ira Hayes, Franklin Sousley, John Bradley, Harlon Block, Michael Strank, and Rene Gagnon—raised a flag atop a hill on the island, and were forever captured by photographer Joe Rosenthal. That image has become the most reproduced photograph in history and a symbol to Americans everywhere.

Recently another photograph, perhaps destined to become as famous as Rosenthal's, was taken by Thomas E. Franklin of three firefighters—Dan McWilliams, George Johnson, and Billy Eisengrein—raising an American flag above the rubble that was once the World Trade Center in New York. This photo, like Rosenthal's, captures a moment in time that will live on in the American consciousness and which represents the best that this country has to offer. This photograph, also like Rosenthal's, is a picture of individuals. The men visible in it have names and histories. They are not an abstraction or an artist's conception.

Now compare this with a proposal the other week (subsequently withdrawn due to fierce opposition), that the \$180,000

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statue to be erected in front of the fire department's Brooklyn headquarters depicting Franklin's photographs be changed so that one of the firefighters is black and one is Hispanic. The purpose of this change, as was explained, was to make sure that the monument reflected all of the firefighters who died on September 11th.

Of course, given the ratios of black and Hispanic firemen to whites, there would have to be thirty-one white, one black, and one Hispanic fireman included in the statue to make it accurate.

But that is irrelevant and misses the point completely. Watching the left alter the truth in pursuit of what they believe an ideal society should be is incredibly sad and disturbing.

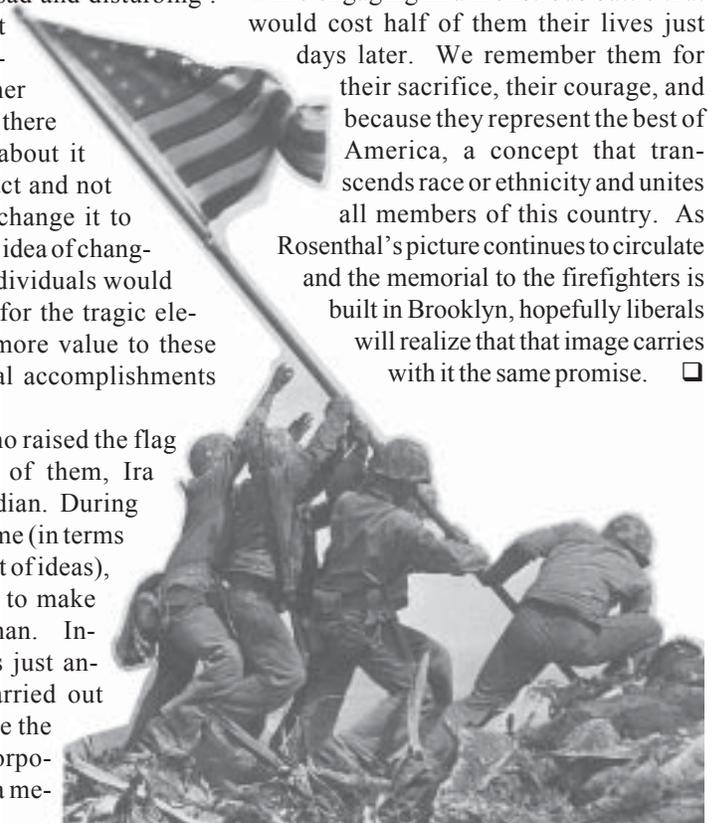
When a fact does not fit in with their particular outlook, they either ignore it, claiming that there is something biased about it (despite its being a fact and not an opinion), or they change it to suit their purpose. The idea of changing the race of two individuals would be laughable, except for the tragic element that race is of more value to these people than individual accomplishments or truth.

Of the six men who raised the flag over Iwo Jima, one of them, Ira Hayes, was a Pima Indian. During a much less tolerant time (in terms of race, but perhaps not of ideas), no attempt was made to make Ira Hayes a white man. Instead, he was seen as just another Marine who carried out the order given to raise the flag, and he was incorporated into the Iwo Jima me-

memorial as Ira Hayes, not a nameless, soulless, white man.

More importantly, why is it that liberals cannot see a person as something more than his race? The three firemen in the picture are being put in front of the firehouse because they are *firemen*; that is their significance. If they were policemen, doctors, or lawyers, no matter how diverse they were, they wouldn't be put in front of a firehouse. The identity of Johnson, McWilliams, and Eisengrein, within the context of the photograph, is that they belong to a special group of people who dedicated and gave their lives for others. Black, white, or Hispanic they should be seen as firefighters first and as anything else a distant second.

Hopefully, one day, liberals will realize that their cause is not served by altering the truth nor by taking away the identity of those who make this country great. While it is important to remember the contributions that different people have made, the idea that such contributions are only worthy if they reflect a certain racial characteristic is a sad and ultimately untrue ideal. The flag over Iwo Jima is not significant because the people who carried it out were mostly one race, but because those who raised the flag did so while engaging in a monstrous battle that would cost half of them their lives just days later. We remember them for their sacrifice, their courage, and because they represent the best of America, a concept that transcends race or ethnicity and unites all members of this country. As Rosenthal's picture continues to circulate and the memorial to the firefighters is built in Brooklyn, hopefully liberals will realize that that image carries with it the same promise. □





“When our days become dreary with low-hovering clouds of despair, and when our nights become darker than a thousand midnights, let us remember that there is a creative force in this universe, working to pull down the gigantic mountains of evil, a power that is able to make a way out of no way and transform dark yesterdays into bright tomorrows. Let us realize the arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice.”

NOTABLE AND QUOTABLE

I know you're a feminist, and I think that's adorable, but this is grown-up time, and I'm the man.

—Peter Griffin

It is time for blacks to begin the shift from a wartime to a peacetime identity, from fighting for opportunity to the seizing of it.

—Shelby Steele

I don't advocate violence, I perform it.

—Ted Nugent

The other day, someone told me the difference between a democracy and a people's democracy. It's the same difference between a jacket and a straitjacket.

—Ronald Reagan

Confucious says that crowded elevators smell differently to midgets.

—Steven Tyler

The only maxim of a free government ought to be to trust no man living with power to endanger the public liberty.

—John Adams

There are good men and bad men of all nationalities, creeds and colors; and if this world of ours is ever to become what we hope some day it may become, it must be by the general recognition that the man's heart and soul, the man's worth and actions, determine his standing.

—Theodore Roosevelt

Being responsible sometimes means pissing people off.

—Colin Powell

A ball player has to be kept hungry to become a big leaguer. That's why no boy from a rich family has ever made the big leagues.

—Joe DiMaggio

I have learned that success is to be measured not so much by the position that one has reached in life as by the obstacles which he has overcome while trying to succeed. Out of the hard and unusual struggle through which he is compelled to pass, he gets a strength, a confidence, that one misses whose pathway is comparatively smooth by reason of birth and race.

—Booker T. Washington

If Al Gore invented the Internet, I invented spell check.

—Dan Quayle

If there is anybody in this land who thoroughly believes that the meek shall inherit the earth, they have not often let their presence be known.

—W.E.B. DuBois

I have a love interest in every one of my films—a gun.

—Arnold Schwarzenegger

I have never thought of writing for reputation and honor. What I have in my heart must come out; that is the reason why I compose.

—Ludwig van Beethoven

It does not take a majority to prevail, but rather an irate, tireless minority, keen on setting brushfires of freedom in the minds of men.

—Samuel Adams

When you can whip any man in the world, you never know peace.

—Muhammad Ali

It's not that I'm afraid to die, I just don't want to be there when it happens.

—Woody Allen

If I'm going to Hell, I'm going there playing the piano.

—Jerry Lee Lewis

Censure acquits the raven, but pursues the dove.

—Juvenal

It is very pious to say and prudent to affirm that the holy Bible can never speak untruth—whenever its true meaning is understood. But I believe nobody will deny that it is often very abstruse, and may say things which are quite different from what its bare words signify.

—Galileo

If liberty means anything at all, it means the right to tell people what they do not want to hear.

—George Orwell

We ought to be able to prosecute harm done by words and speech.

—Tufts Professor Nancy Bauer

Every suppressed or expunged word reverberates through the earth from side to side.

—Ralph Waldo Emerson

The true genius shudders at incompleteness—and usually prefers silence to saying something which is not everything it should be.

—Edgar Allen Poe

A man who doesn't spend time with his family can never be a real man.

—Vito Corleone

When bad men combine, the good must associate else they will fall one by one, an unpitied sacrifice in a contemptible struggle.

—Edmund Burke