

THE PRIMARY SOURCE

VERITAS SINE DOLO

Orientation 1998 . . .

Connected to the future?



Exclusive Interview:
Dinesh D'Souza on
Diversity and its
Discontents

PLUS:
Indoctrination Blues
Hip to be Square
Why We're Here
Safe at 25th

Join the Battle in the War of Ideas



THE PRIMARY SOURCE'S 1998 recruitment drive has begun.

If you're interested in putting your writing, art, photography, editorial, or layout skills to work, we invite you to attend "Meet the Press" on Friday, September 11, at 3:00 pm in Curtis Hall.

Or come to our first staff meeting of the year on Wednesday, September 9, at 9:00 pm in the Zamparelli Room of the Campus Center.



1997-98
Collegiate Network
Incentive to
Excellence Award

**For more information about THE
PRIMARY SOURCE, or if you're interested
in joining but can't make a meeting,
call Keith at 629-0223 or send e-mail to
SOURCE@sardoynx.tufts.edu**



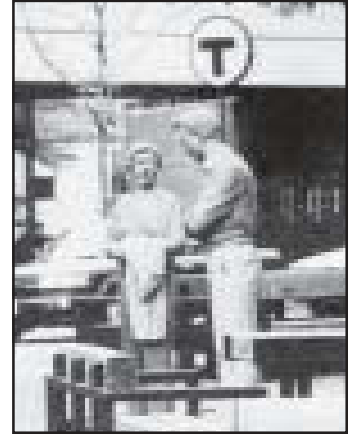
1997-98
National Review
Best Campus
Journals Competition

THE PRIMARY SOURCE

Vol. XVII • The Journal of Conservative Thought at Tufts University • No. 1

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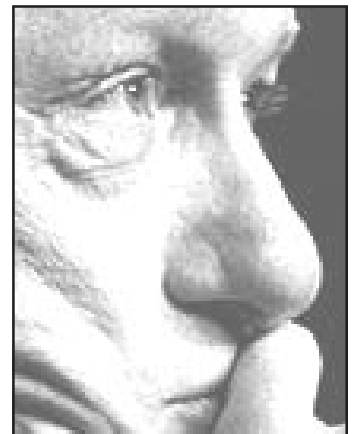
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FROM THE EDITOR

Each year in this space the editor of THE PRIMARY SOURCE is faced with the somewhat daunting task of explaining exactly who we are and why we're here to over a thousand students who are familiar neither with our journal nor the political atmosphere on campus which makes our journal necessary. This is no easy job, especially because, even during the relatively short period of Orientation, the SOURCE's reputation sometimes proceeds it—despite the fact that we're always the first student publication to hit the racks. As such, it seems insufficient that I only have two-thirds of a page to dispel the myths that surround Tufts' conservative student newspaper and introduce the new freshman class to THE PRIMARY SOURCE.

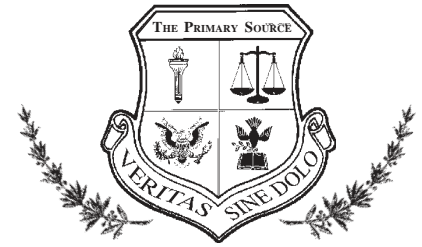
Tragically, this is an uphill battle. Two years ago a handful of rogue Explorations and Perspectives leaders cautioned their advisees not to join the SOURCE or they'd make a bad name for themselves. The reason why is unclear, especially given that one of the main things the Ex College encourages these peer leaders to do is to make sure their students get involved in on-campus activities. Nor is this the only recent stumbling block the SOURCE has faced on the starting line: a speaker at last year's "Many Stories, One Community" let fly an unqualified accusation of racism at the SOURCE in the middle of her planned remarks. When asked to elaborate by a student, she could describe only a few political squabbles, like the SOURCE's opposition to a University-funded shuttle-bus to a black church in Roxbury. But it is difficult to undo the damage from an *ad hominem* attack lobbed in front of an audience of hundreds.

What's more, old habits die hard. Several weeks later, the director of Tufts' Hispanic House, Rubén Salinas Stern, authored an opinion piece for *The Tufts Daily*. It didn't really have anything to do with us; it was mostly an attack on University of Texas law professor and affirmative-action opponent Lino Graglia. Yet, midway through the piece, Stern dropped a grotesque non-sequitur. "Universities, in fact, have a tradition of protecting everyone's right to say and print whatever they want even if the

statements are racist," quoth Stern. "Here at Tufts, for example, THE PRIMARY SOURCE continues to print its newspaper and continues to receive University funds in spite of its often offensive and racist statements." Not another word on the subject. Cornered the next day by a SOURCE editor who demanded an explanation, Stern admitted, "I actually don't read THE PRIMARY SOURCE." Still reeling from this shocking admission, we were given a real serendipitous treat on the next *Daily Viewpoints* page when a third party came to our defense. Mathematics Prof. Richard Stone dismantled Stern's shaky arguments pillar by pillar and then asked, "What should we make of the character of a man who can level such a deeply serious charge against fellow members of the Tufts community without feeling the need to provide a single piece of substantiation, and who so plainly aims by such defamatory accusations to intimidate those with whom he disagrees into silence rather than to engage them in rational debate?"

Ay, there's the rub. And that, in fifty words or less, is why we're here. As long as the SOURCE is cranking out issues on its faithful two-week schedule, left-wing demagogues will understand they cannot hope to monopolize the debate and cannot even dream of hearing their follies greeted only with silence. We're here, and we're making noise.

The SOURCE was created in 1982 under the belief that all the University's talk about diversity didn't amount to anything unless students were encouraged to *think* differently. And the dearth of conservative thought at Tufts hasn't changed much since then. But for sixteen years THE PRIMARY SOURCE has served as a refuge for victims of political correctness and lovers of liberty. One of our big secrets is that our writers disagree with each other as rabidly as we disagree with just about everybody else. If you have something to say and it doesn't seem to fit anywhere else, there's a pretty good chance it belongs here. Consider this an invitation to come to one of our meetings and see what we're about. At the very least I can guarantee that it's probably not what you'd expect.



THE JOURNAL OF CONSERVATIVE
THOUGHT AT TUFTS UNIVERSITY

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Letters

Radio Days

Just a quick comment for all of you at THE PRIMARY SOURCE to say that I am sorry you have been having such problems with the TCU. When I used to do my talk show at the Tufts radio station WMFO, I enjoyed reading the SOURCE as a counter to the other publications at Tufts.

While I very rarely agree with any of your opinions, I have always found the writing intelligent, challenging, and sometimes quite hilarious. The strange thing about the left these days is that they cannot fathom that there is a Bill of Rights, yes, even for conservatives, and that this blessed document must be defended at all costs.

And yes, that means having to tolerate sometimes juvenile,

insulting, or mockingly toned descriptions of student leaders and causes. Lord knows what they will do when they enter the real world.

Also, you may want to consider, in the future, printing pictures of your individual writers above their byline. Who knew that after all these years of reading Jessica Schupak that unlike most of the conservative young women I know, she is quite a dish. I know since you decry political correctness you will allow me that semi-sexist comment to go by.

In closing let me say that I hope you can continue the work that you do and contribute something to the discussion of political thought and ideas.

—Anthony Schinella

Mr. Schinella is the former host of "Real Talk" on WMFO.

THE PRIMARY SOURCE welcomes all letters to the editor. Please address all correspondence to: SOURCE@sardonyx.tufts.edu.

THE PRIMARY SOURCE hereby issues

A Challenge



to the Office of "Equal" Opportunity and
the Admissions Office at Bendetson Hall

We were just curious . . .
...and were wondering if you would be
interested in releasing the following statistics:

- ✓ The average SAT score of the Class of 2002.
 - ✓ The average black SAT score of the Class of 2002.
 - ✓ The average white SAT score of the Class of 2002.
 - ✓ The average Asian SAT score of the Class of 2002.
 - ✓ An answer to the question, "Are some Jumbos more equal than others?"
-

You may post the
data to

The Primary Source
Mayer Campus Center
Medford, MA 02155

Commentary

A Tall Order

By definition, cities have buildings in them. But groups in the provincial city of Boston are fighting the construction of a new high-rise, in which Tufts has a significant financial stake, at South Station. Tufts, which owns the air rights over the bus terminal, has formed an alliance with Houston-based developer Hines Interests. The University's for-profit Development Corporation hopes to raise revenue and gain research space for Tufts Medical School in the business agreement. Meanwhile, "Friends of the Public Garden and Common" is complaining that the proposed structure is too high and will cast unwanted shadows over the city's parks and outdoor spaces. Joining the pro-planning fanfare was the ever-statist *Boston Globe*, which complained in an August editorial that a skyscraper would detract from South Station's apparent status as an "urban oasis."

In reality, urban oases are difficult to come by, and they seldom pass through a *Boston Globe* planning commission. True urban centers are the result of spontaneous order: the government and neighborhood elites sit back and let the market



Urban Oasis I: the proposed Tufts/Hines skyscraper above South Station

take care of itself. In time, commercial and residential spaces get constructed to fulfill market needs. Constant repetition of the process yields a city. It is difficult to imagine how Boston can compete with cosmopolitan, international cities like New York or London if locals find the idea of a high-rise so offensive. The condescension with which the *Globe* thumbed its editorial nose at the tower for having "more than a whiff of Manhattan about it" shows that the paper just doesn't get it.

Boston succeeds only where it has the resources and sophistication of Manhattan without the crime and dilapidation which mar the Big Apple; it fails in places where it is less a *petit* New York and more a *grand* Somerville. Boston should welcome with open arms any sort of new construction, as buildings are the heart, soul, and muscle of any city. Likewise, Hines and Tufts should stand strong behind their project and refuse to compromise its architectural and urban integrity for the sake of bureaucratic planning. Hopefully, Tufts' for-profit arm has more faith in the market than its academic cousins.

Hip to be Square

Incoming freshman and returning students have something to be excited about when they arrive on campus. This summer, *Swing Generation* named Davis Square one of the best and hippest places to live in the country—making it the second national magazine this year to bestow such on honor on the already congested shopping and entertainment center just a short walk away from campus via College Avenue. Lauded by these publications for its youthful population, "cool" hang-outs, and lack of chain stores, Davis Square is undergoing a befuddling renaissance of sorts, making cameo appearances in the film *Next Stop Wonderland* in addition to its recent magazine awards. Yet, despite its newfound hip image, it's difficult to imagine that the people on the cutting edge of the fad of the moment understand exactly what Davis has to offer.

Tallulah's is out of business and McDonald's is firmly established, as well as Dunkin' Donuts, Radio Shack, and Au Bon Pain, but the Square still manages to maintain a franchise-free reputation among the anti-corporate types. *Swing Generation* recommends the Square to those for whom "grunge is [the] aesthetic of choice," which is little more than a fancy way of saying that it's run-down, slipshod, and, to put it mildly, in need of a little gentrification. But left-wing aesthetics, like left-wing politics, generally shun standards and praise mediocrity for mediocrity's sake, so it isn't surprising that the grunge faction of *Swing Generation* and the liberal faction of *Utne Reader* should find so much to like in Davis. But for most Tufts students it will remain a place to catch the T in pursuit of the more interesting areas of Boston.

Food for Sport

New TCU president Jack Schnirman worked long hours this summer on new ideas for the upcoming school year. Among them is an idea to convert Hotung Cafe from a poorly-attended lukewarm-pizza parlor into a sports pub. Although Jack gave very few details about the plan to incoming senators, it's reasonable to expect that the senate will be inclined to repeat the mistakes it made with the Brown & Brew coffee house in Curtis Hall. Perhaps the SOURCE can offer a few suggestions about what not to do.

Time and time again, greedy for dollars, the University

short-sightedly insists on running its own microbusinesses on Tufts property, neglecting to take advantage of the awesome power a Tufts location can command in the marketplace. When Brown & Brew was still in its planning phases, more than a few students observed how easy it would be to simply lease the space to Starbucks (or another high bidder) and let the situation take care of itself. Instead, Dining Services passed up the opportunity to have a seasoned professional run the facility and took it on by itself.

As a result, the coffee house looks a bit more

like a dining hall and a bit less like the promised *Friends*-style hangout that students had come to expect from conciliatory articles in the *Daily*. At least Brown & Brew is proving an economic success for TUDS (according to some figures), albeit one can chalk this up to its simple snacks at *haut couture* prices. Other University operations—Jumbo Scoops and the ill-fated Tufts Computer Store come to mind—quickly find themselves in Chapter 11.

When considering what to do about Hotung, the senate keep these failed experiments in mind. Senators should at least *consider* leasing the space to a private business, particularly one with valuable experience in the local bar scene. Of course, putting a professional in charge of the facility would result in the senate doing less planning—and give senators less power. The six-figure patio behind the campus center showed that last year's senate was more concerned with flexing its muscle than looking out for the student body. Staying in sound mind this year will distinguish the 1998-99 crowd from the typical crop of senators. It may even make Hotung a more enjoyable place to pass the hours.

Public or Private?

Waves of approval from so-called “progressives” greeted President Clinton's admission two weeks ago that his sexual behavior might have been wrong but “private.” The most offensive aspect of the defense is that it doesn't square at all well with Clinton's political philosophy. If liberalism and Clintonism are about anything they are about making individuals' private lives a matter of public political concern. When



Urban Oasis II: Davis Square?

Clinton sicced the wrath of Drug Czar Barry McCaffrey on California cancer patients who dared to seek life-saving medical treatment with marijuana, it is difficult to imagine they would have achieved much success were they to counter to Clinton that what they chose to smoke in the privacy of their bedrooms was their own business. It is similarly difficult to imagine that the Clinton Administration has a good deal of respect for privacy given Clinton and Gore's support for legislation that would deny Americans the right to ensure the privacy of their electronic communications. One can identify the same undercurrent in Clinton's economic program. When the President opines on the importance of maintaining the bloated Social Security behemoth, does he listen to taxpayers' protests that how they choose to invest for their retirement is a private matter and their own business?

Clinton and his supporters are asking America to accept that what the President does in his private life is a matter of concern to nobody, but what Americans choose to do in *their* private lives are implicitly political acts of immediate concern to the EEOC, the FDA, the IRS, and a host of other three-letter bureaucracies that dictate to Americans on a daily basis how they live their lives. Perhaps Clinton is not suffering the consequences of the nation's lingering Puritanism, as many in the liberal elite assume, but rather the logical conclusion of what the left has always preached: that “the personal is political.” Those who find Clinton's woes emblematic of a cultural problem should crave a return to better days when Americans enjoyed a sphere of privacy that enveloped not just the bedroom but home, work, and family as well. Hopefully, we will not run the danger of living in a nation in which the only truly private acts are those which involve the President's genitalia.

Fortnight in ReviewSM

Comedy is allied to Justice.
—Aristophanes

PS Catching a cue from a *real* conservative, Wm. F. Buckley, Jr., former Massachusetts Governor (and spineless sell-out) William Weld has given up politics to become a novelist, authoring *Mackerel by Moonlight*. Unfortunately, midway through the yarn, Weld stopped writing to start working on a more prestigious book and the tale is finished—poorly—by Paul Cellucci.

PS The family of a Baton Rouge frat pledge who drunk himself to death filed suit against LSU's Sigma Alpha Epsilon chapter as well as a local bar. They maintain there should have been a warning label on the beer bottles that said, "Don't be a dumbass."

PS Nearby MIT has responded to its own dead-pledge problem by announcing a new policy requiring all freshmen to live in dorms. Another policy forbids them from taking rides home from Kennedys.

PS As you gear up for college life it's inevitable that you'll repeat at least some of the stupid mistakes of the past. To save you some trouble, we present the Top Ten Stupid Orientation-Week Questions:

10. Are Tufts Connect's rates competitive?
9. Am I cool enough to get into ZBT?
8. What are Prof. Bedau's views on the death penalty?
7. Is the Womyn's Studies minor hard?
6. Why isn't anyone on the patio?
5. Why did Tufts drop to number 25?
4. Why isn't the *Daily* daily?
3. Aren't there any conservative professors?
2. Do you have to be 21 to drink at frats?
1. Why is Josh Goldenberg sitting outside the senate office and sobbing in the corner like an infant?

PS Hawaii Gov. Cayetano is tinkering with the colors of the state's economic revitalization tourism task force using Affirmative Action. We thought the whole reason people went to Hawaii was that it *didn't* look like America.

PS In more Big Island news, the Kilauea Volcano Cruise opened recently, shuttling tourists to the area where the erupting mountain has been dumping its steaming lava. Although casualties have been in the thousands, the newly appointed members of the governor's economic task force say they are optimistic about the success of the program.

PS East Chicago police officers are fighting a policy which asks them to donate 1% of their salaries to the city Democratic Party. The policy's supporters maintain that if they keep it up for long enough they'll be able to afford a cup of coffee at the White House.

PS Little Rock police are hopping mad over an epidemic of sanitary violations at Arkansas hog farms. Seems there was an improper relationship of some kind.

PS In more Zippergate news, sources close to the Prez reveal that he crawls up with the Bible for inspiration, taking solace from the story of King David's affair with Bathsheba. For those not in the know, the affair ended with David killing Bathsheba's husband, marrying her, begetting Solomon, defrauding a local S&L, and gathering illegal intelligence documents on his political enemies.

PS An Illinois cattle farmer accidentally caused a biohazard spill that killed over a hundred thousand fish. Tomorrow at Dewick: Aztec-rubbed three-eyed halibut.

PS Feminist activists in Des Moines are campaigning to make Iowa's Constitution gender-neutral by changing its preamble to read, "All men *and women* are, by nature, free and equal and have certain inalienable rights." However, local womyn will still be asked to wait in line for upwards of an hour at public restrooms.

PS Arkansas legislators are debating whether to fund the construction of a proposed highway I-69. Good thing Arkansas state troopers are well-accustomed to patrolling 69.

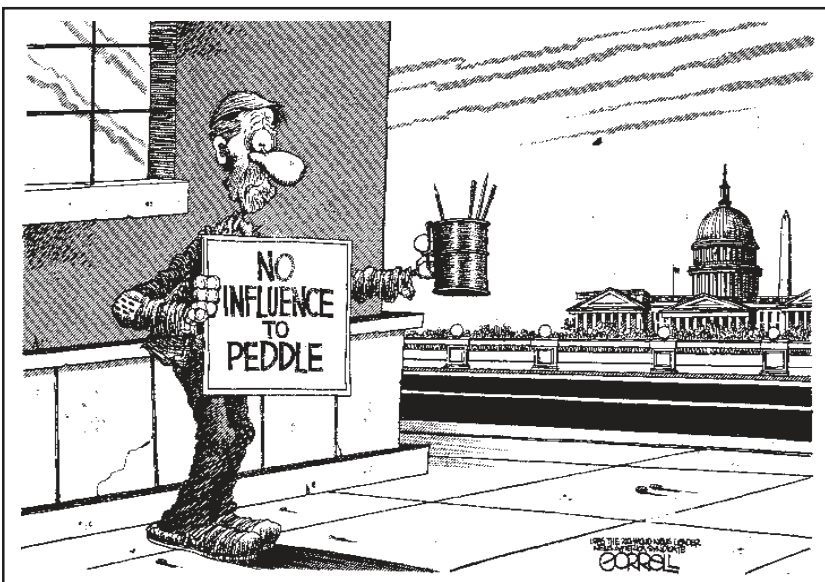
PS Mississippi cops are searching for suspects who set fire to a local public school, causing extensive and irreparable damage to the educational facilities. The trail of bread crumbs leads right to the teachers' union.

PS Rochester, New York, is christening "Not Me, Not Now," a new media campaign to promote teen abstinence. For some unknown reason a record number of teens think sex is no big deal and it's okay for everybody to lie about it.

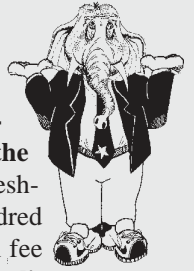
PS Top Ten Rejected Orientation Events:

10. Pie-eating contest at Alpha Omicron Pi
9. TCU senators perform lap dances on the patio
8. Date-rape workshop at Delta Upsilon
7. "Pin the tail on Josh Goldenberg" blind party game
6. Make-out party at the Womyn's Center
5. Bobbie Knable performs the works of Zamfir on widescreen closed-circuit TV—oops, that one made it in
4. "Anonymous" HIV testing with Brian Cathcart
3. UNICCO campfire solidarity sing-along
2. Public unmasking of Diversity-Man
1. PRIMARY SOURCE submit-your-favorite-ethnic-joke contest

PS The ACLU sued New York City on behalf of the Black Israelites, those Times Square loudmouths who use an amplified PA system to propagate their claim that Jesus was black and will return to enslave whites. But the case is on hold since the group took a sabbatical to speak at "Many Stories, One Community."



From the Elephant's Mouth



☞ This year's catchy **Orienta-tion** slogan is "Connected to the Future." As such, entering freshmen will now be billed a hundred dollar surcharge and connection fee from **Tufts Connect**.... Tufts' **Poli-Sci** department circulates an alumni newsletter bragging that retired Prof. **Don Klein** leads the department in wedding invitations from former students. When he shows up, they offer to help him carry the overhead projector.... Crack construction crews *almost* finish the **campus-center patio** in time for students to show up, but **bookstore renovation** proceeds on schedule. Too bad that in the confusion somebody accidentally misplaced the **book**.

☞ University press release tells of Tufts researchers with too much time on their hands who discover that **Saturday morning cartoons** are institutionally racist because villains typically have **German** accents. Yeah, *that* one has no basis in reality.... **Tufts Vet School** students raise money by washing dogs for five bucks a pooch at Boston's **Public Gardens**. Glad to see the **\$400 million capital campaign** is flowing smoothly.... New Media Advisory Board computer consultant **Brian Haskell** works miracles and somehow secures a quintet of free Pentiums for **SOURCE/Observer/Zamboni** use. What the **IRS** doesn't know won't hurt them. Thanks, Brian!

☞ THE ELEPHANT never forgets.

Presenting the Eighth Annual PRIMARY SOURCE Innocuously Offensive Statements

Expression

May the Force be with you
 Once bitten, twice shy
 Knowledge is power
 Get ready to rumble
 Money makes the world go round
 The law of the land
 It takes a village
 Snap, crackle, pop
 Fun in the sun
 It's nobody's business but ours
 Out to lunch
 Hopping mad
 The customer is always right
 Back to school

Whom it Offends

pacifists
 Evander Holyfield
 TCU senators
 epileptics
 gravity
 lawyers
 city-dwellers
 Marion Barry
 Film Series
 the Justice Department
 closeted ascetics
 paraplegics
 leftists
 Tufts students

Category of Offense

Jedism
 carnivorousism
 conservatism
 seizureism
 monetarism
 constitutionalism
 gentrification
 racism
 outdoorsism
 Microsoftism
 heterosexism
 able-ism
 consumerism
 indoctrination

US News & World Report ranks
the nation's top universities. Uh-oh!

Faded Glory

BY JEFF BETTENCOURT

Anyone who's seen the current *US News & World Report* can tell you: Tufts has slid down again, for the second year in a row, this time to number 25. The area in which Tufts ranked lowest compared to the other schools in the Top 25, "academic reputation," represents a serious fault which requires serious change in the way Tufts conducts itself both as an institution of higher learning and, more importantly, as a business.

Tufts prides itself on its small class size, ranking 12th among the Top 25 in "percent of classes with 20 students or fewer." However, simply because Tufts offers small classes does not mean those classes are worthwhile. Because Tufts does not have sufficient monetary resources to attract world-class, full-time professors, part-time, sub-par instructors are hired instead, thus improving the less-than-twenty stat as well as the student-faculty ratio (10 to 1, tied with Dartmouth and Carnegie-Mellon), but leaving Tufts dead last in the "percent full-time faculty" (an embarrassing 79%). Not to say that all part-time faculty members are a miserable waste of University funds, but most have neither the time nor the energy to replace a full-time professor. They are paid less and do not have the sense of commitment to Tufts found in full-time professors who devote a large part of their lives to the University.

Unfortunately, the only way to attract these world-class professors is the one thing Tufts lacks: money. *US News* reports that Tufts ranks a dismal 38th in financial resources, a measure of the size of a given institution's endowment. Equally as disturbing, Tufts ranks only slightly better (32nd) in the "alumni giving rate" category, with only 30% of

alumni donating—this in the middle of Tufts' so-called "aggressive" fund-raising campaign to boot! Without the financial resources needed to lure well-established world-class professors away from other elite schools, Tufts will never catch schools like Berkeley (22) and Notre Dame (18).

The only way Tufts can increase its endowment is by increasing its alumni giving rate. Unfortunately for Tufts, changing alumni attitudes takes time and effort; however, if Tufts would start treating students less like immature high-schoolers and more like future alumni perhaps they would be more willing to give something back to their alma mater a few years down the road. If students were not constantly nickel-and-dimed throughout their undergraduate careers—increased laundry rates, inflated bookstore prices, 25-cent test-prep booklets from department offices, outrageous parking-pass rates, the list goes on—perhaps Tufts' fundraising efforts would not fall on deaf ears.

Tragically, Tufts administrators do not seem to understand that students are more than just annoying obstacles between the parking lot and their offices in Ballou. If this trend continues, Tufts will continue back down the road to obscurity, along with other overpriced so-called "elite" universities.

US News & World Report also investigated alternatives to an Ivy education. As tuition rates at schools like Tufts and the Ivy's continue to outpace inflation, an increasing number of students will consider options outside of the traditional Top 25 national uni-

versities such as state and religious institutions. As more students begin to recognize that the climbing cost of college isn't commensurate with value, elite universities must respond to market pressure and resist rising tuition rates.

This is undoubtedly not an easy task; in order to lower tuition and hire more full-time faculty Tufts needs to increase its endowment. However, by focusing only on current alumni, Tufts' administrators are only perpetuating the problem. If students do not walk away from Tufts on Commencement Day feeling a sense of loyalty towards their alma mater, the University's endowment troubles will only continue. Tufts must become the "student-centered" university it claims to be, but not "student-centered" simply in the sense that there are more students than administrators. Tufts must treat students as paying customers, and, let us not forget, at \$30,000 a year, Tufts is one of the most expensive schools in the country. If Tufts slips further down the *US News* rankings, that \$30,000 figure begins to look more outrageous for a school on par, the magazine reminds us, with Syracuse University.

While Tufts' name may not disappear from the Top 25 in the coming years, only a radical change in attitude from Ballou will stop us from slugging it out with the likes of Rochester for that dreaded 26th spot.

Mr. Bettencourt is a senior majoring in Computer Science in the School of Engineering.



The Primary Source Guide to Who's Who and What's What at Tufts University.

Knable and Reitman form one of Tufts' sorriest dynamic duos. Bobbie Knable is the Dean of Students and the god-mother of political correctness on the Hill. Over the course of her reign, she has instituted a campus speech code, been an ardent advocate of racially segregated housing, championed racial quotas, and been the butt of countless jokes in the SOURCE. Dean Knable is very charming and outgoing as well as a master of deception. She never returns her phone calls. As for Bruce Reitman, last year, the sniveling Ass. Dean whimpered and pleaded with the SOURCE on two occasions to get us to cease distribution of our issues at Orientation events. If you're reading this, it means he struck out.

Irony rating: ★ ★ ... For this year's Orientation, "overflow" for Dean Knable's all-important address will be accommodated by closed-circuit television. Expect a classic "Unplugged" performance: after all, Knable's #1 job qualification is a bachelor's degree in Music.

The Office of Equal Opportunity is the University bureaucratic body charged with discriminating against white people.

Irony rating: ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ... One cannot enter the Office of Equal Opportunity through the main entrance of the admissions building. It has it's own separate (but equal) back door.

The Tufts Daily performs a valuable service to the Tufts community: providing syndicated crossword puzzles to do during boring classes. Aside from that, its only *raison d'être* is to make sorority girls think they're clever by sending each other bubbly classified ads to celebrate Big Sister Week.

Irony rating: ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ... The Daily often gets scooped by the weekly Observer. Good thing nobody ever reads it.

Larry Harris is the TCU Treasurer, which means he is the person most directly responsible for funding student organizations, including this publication. Naturally, we're quite fond of the man. A snappy dresser, a witty companion, and the greatest mind since Galileo, Mr. Harris's rugged good looks are second only to his lovable personality. He seems to be the perfect successor to the Pope.

Irony rating: ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ... We said the same thing about Treasurer Goldenberg last year, and then he tried to

kick us off campus. Speaking of which...

Josh Goldenberg is the former treasurer of the student senate and an *ex officio* member of the vast, left-wing conspiracy that tried to muffle the SOURCE with a chloroform-soaked budgetary maneuver.

Irony rating: ★ ★ ★ ★ ... When Josh ran for senate president last year, he only beat "Block of Wood" on the ballot by fifteen votes.

Jack Schnirman is the president of the TCU senate who honestly thinks he has a "mandate" from the community after Tufts students cast their votes against Josh *en masse*. Near as we can tell, despite his cherubic dorkiness, he honestly wants to do the right thing. Hint: that means making sure the SOURCE gets the rest of its money back.

Irony rating: ★ ★ ★ ... Jack got involved in a campaign-finance scandal last year when the Daily discovered a fishy donation to his campaign from the Tufts Democrats.

The Patio is the six-figure monstrosity under construction outside the campus center. Its passive demeanor belies the fact that it was constructed with a hundred thousand bucks of student activities money, which is supposed to go to clubs that actually give students something to do in their free time.

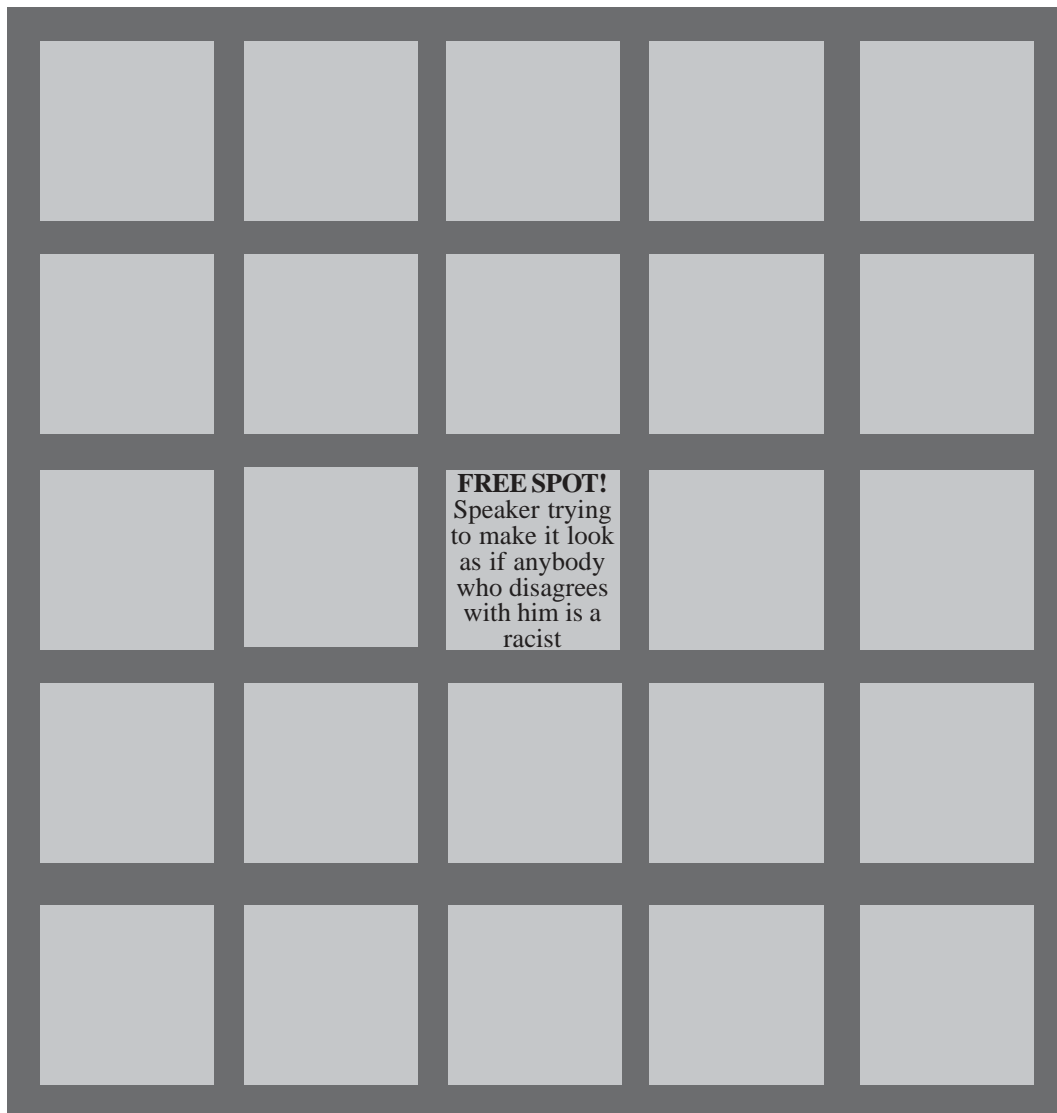
Irony rating: ★ ... The moolah was only in the senate budget in the first place because a few incompetent treasurers accidentally bungled a \$335,000 surplus two years ago. We're lucky it didn't disappear down the toilet altogether.

The Tufts Bookstore was the University's other big summer project, but at least it paid for this one through its own purse-strings. The actual space dedicated to books is smaller than it was *before* the renovation, but consumers can take advantage of a luxurious "Sorry, We Tried" addition: a well-appointed Godiva Chocolatier confection stand. The perfect impulse item for sycophants to bring as a first-day gift to their Poli Sci professors.

Irony rating: ★ ★ ★ ... The lowest prices paid during the end-of-the-semester book buyback bonanza go to books written by Tufts faculty. Twenty-five cents for Norman Daniels' Am I My Parent's Keeper?, and still three times as valuable as the book.

Many Stories, One Community

BINGO!



Instructions: The game is simple. After you sit down but before the speakers open their mouths, write the letters corresponding to the diversity-panel events (adjacent page) into the Bingo squares however you choose. As each one occurs, cross the letters off your game board until you hit Bingo! Declaring your victory in the middle of the panel is optional, but not recommended.

Fill your board with the following...

- A. Mood music: Bobbie Knable warbles out the notes to Kumbaya while Brucie plays along on his rubber-band banjo
- B. A triple-entitlement speaker, such as one who is black, Hispanic, *and* crippled
- C. Profound use of the statement, "If you're not part of the solution, you're part of the problem" or other bumper-sticker gem
- D. Numerous plugs for other lame multi-culti events, including wear-jeans-if-you're-not-a-hatemonger days, Kwanzaa parties, and National Condom Week
- E. Guilty white boy from Long Island tells eerie tales of crying himself to sleep at Camp Wanekapo
- F. Jihad on the loose! Crazy Arab womyn makes a few close stabs at her Jewish classmates and, in a fit of rage, pledges to take her cultural revolution from Cohen to the White House
- G. Speaker's use of a light and utterly unfunny ethnic joke about his own heritage
- H. TTLGBC plant: quizzical outrage at heterosexual couples who show their affection in public
- I. Rubén Salinas Stern appearing about to cry
- J. Self-serving reference to the virtues of "educating the community," callously implying that this is it
- K. Token gay speaker warming up the audience with yuks and giggles for three minutes before finally announcing his sexual preference
- L. Bad joke designed to make non-laughers feel guilty and insensitive
- M. Below-the-belt jab at THE PRIMARY SOURCE followed by ignorant sheep-like applause
- N. Frat boy acting completely out of character in order to wangle his way onto the panel
- O. Sycophant audience member trying to make friends with diversity panelists via stomach-wrenching questions
- P. Bruce Reitman sending an underling to recycle all the SOURCE issues at the door
- Q. Row of administrators looking as if they'd like to adopt the panel as their grandchildren
- R. Somebody else in the audience playing this game
- S. Audience member disposing of this magazine in an obvious and conspicuous manner
- T. Token Asian speaker who for some reason endorses affirmative action despite its dire consequences for his people
- U. Empowered womyn suggesting that females are actually a minority group
- V. Someone vowing to write an angry letter to THE PRIMARY SOURCE
- W. Speaker, on purpose or spontaneously, introducing a new PC term for an ethnic group
- X. Audience members falling asleep in droves



RE-ORIENTATION 1998

Sunday, August 30

1:00 pm: Sprocketsfest! Euros invade.... Come see why the EU is a lousy idea.

Monday, August 31

6:00 pm: Reception for parents of international students. *Don't mention the war.*

Wednesday, September 2

8:00 am: American freshmen herded into dorms while amused Euros watch. They've already taken the good side of the room and the clean mattress. Transfer students: arrive early to get the best refrigerator boxes.

9:30 am: Coffee for Commuting Students and Parents.

9:35 am: Stop the exploitation of Juan Valdez! Send commuters home.

11:00 am: "The Tufts Experience" with Mel Bernstein, Walter Swap, Bruce Reitman, and Bobbie Knable. Couldn't have said it better ourselves.

Noon: "Luncheon on the Lawn" plus Dining Services Information Booth. Be sure to check out the *hors d'oeuvres* and the wine list.

1:45 pm: Matriculation. It won't cause blindness or hairy palms.

2:45 pm: Meet the chaplains. The only time you'll see Scotty McClellan outside the context of a free meal.

3:00 pm: Jockfest! Tufts athletes get together for fall sports meetings, group showers, and pats on the ass.

8:30 pm: "College Life," featuring make-your-own ice cream sundaes. The truth hurts.

Thursday, September 3

7:15 am: Breakfast. Your first and last.

1:00 pm: Appointments with Faculty Advisers. Earliest chance to start memorizing their signatures.

4:00 pm: "Why No Means No: Respecting Choices," followed by "Why Yes Means Yes" and "Why Maybe Means Maybe." Note: any reference to sex, anywhere on campus, at any time, to anyone, is now considered date rape.

5:00 pm: Deadline for Shabbat dinner reservations. Attn. goyim: the only good eats you'll find on campus— just don't mix up the plates.

7:00 pm: "Many Stories, One Community." Many communists, much idiocy.

8:30 pm: "Many Stories" encore presentation. Whitey beware.

9:45 pm: Live entertainment at Brown & Brew, featuring lap dances from Dining Services kingpin and Lord of the Fries Patti Lee.

10:15 pm: Film Series presents *Little Shop of Horrors*, followed by a tour of the campus bookstore.

10:30 pm: Comedy Club Night. All material written by Mike Barnicle.

Midnight: Midnight Madness at Cousens Gym featuring weightlifting, hoops, volleyball, and beer pong.

Friday, September 4

7:15 am: Breakfast. No, really.

11:00 am: Studying to Excel. To save time, we present these tips:

1. Use Tisch card catalog for padding citations.
2. Print papers in Courier, 12 point.
3. Major in English.
4. Begin papers with "I feel..." or "My purpose..."
5. Only read the back cover of your textbooks.

12:45 pm: "Make a Difference: Kickoff for Community Service Week." Just wait until you see the community you'll be serving.

8:45 pm: Convocation. Fire! Fire!

11:00 pm: Midnight Café at Oxfam. No food, no folks, no fun.

Saturday, September 5

9:00 am: Register for classes. Oops. *Attempt* to register for classes.

Noon: ECO Beach Clean-Up. Hint: the

next time you want to clean up trash in Somerville, don't go to the beach.

10:00 pm: Monte Carlo Night. Let it ride.

Sunday, September 6

8:00 am: "Continental Breakfast" at Dewick-MacPhie. Best bet: Aztec-rubbed flapjacks.

9:00 am: Leonard Carmichael Society "Make a Difference" Program. Or make a *real* difference and subtract yourself.

11:00 am: Hillel Bagels and Lox Welcome Brunch followed by a diversity panel on shattering stereotypes.

1:00 pm: Trip to the Museum of Fine Arts. First chance to meet snotty Museum School students. They're the ones pretending to be gay to pick up chicks. Beware any reference to "my art."

10:00 pm: Film Series presents *Deep Impact*, starring Monica Lewinsky.

Monday, September 7

2:00 pm: Crafts and Field Day. Tilton isn't cool; neither is the field behind it.

7:00 pm: *A cappella* concert. Suddenly the beach clean-up doesn't sound so bad.

9:30 pm: Encore *a cappella*, this time remixed by Puff Daddy.

Tuesday, September 8

8:30 am: First day of classes. Survival tip: if you can't figure out which kid is the ass-kisser, it's you.

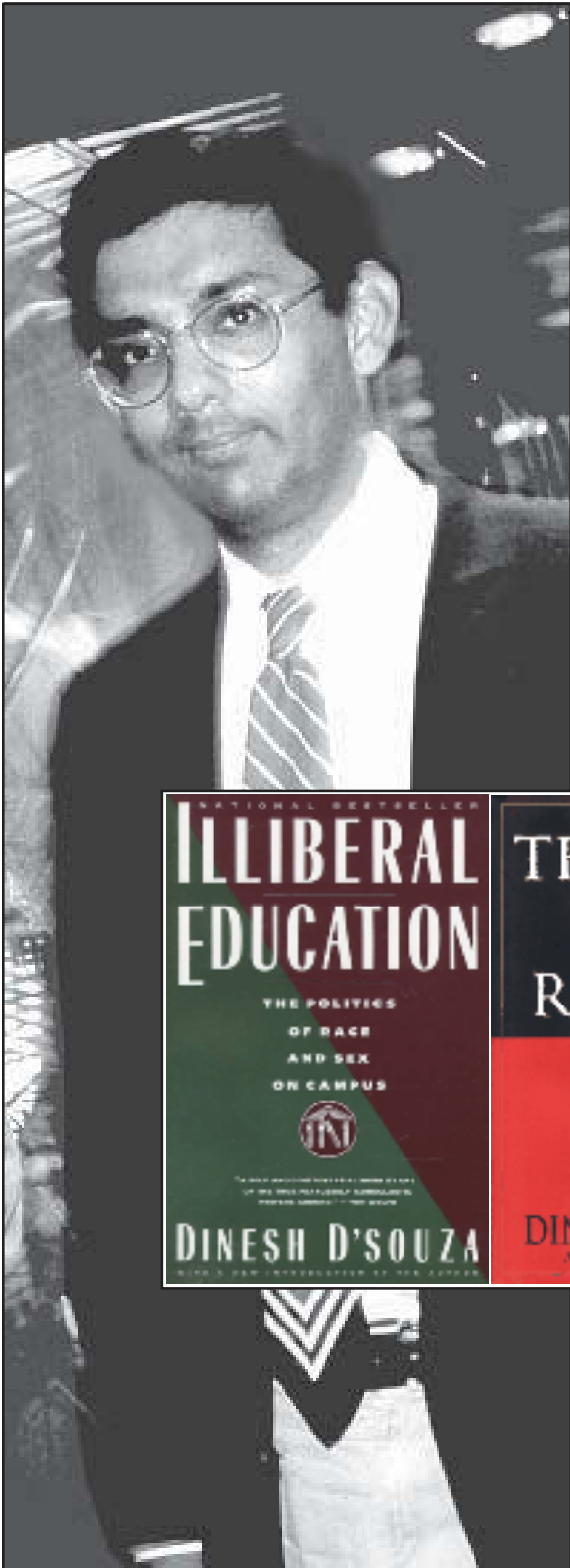
5:00 pm: Better start studying for Perspectives.

Friday, September 11

3:00 pm: "Meet the Press" at Curtis Hall. Chatting with budding young Katie Courics isn't very fascinating, but here's your chance to meet the elite and schmooze with the SOURCE in person, provided the University hasn't muffled us by then. Also featuring... *The Tufts Daily*: Euros fear not, mastery of English not required. *The Observer*: Tufts' newspaper of record, founded and last read in 1895. *The Zamboni*: Almost as many chuckles as a box of sausages.

“We Are In A New Era”

THE PRIMARY SOURCE interviews conservative firebrand Dinesh D’Souza



THE ZENITH



INTERVIEWS

First in a series.

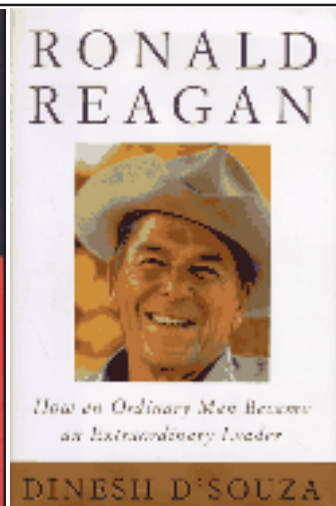
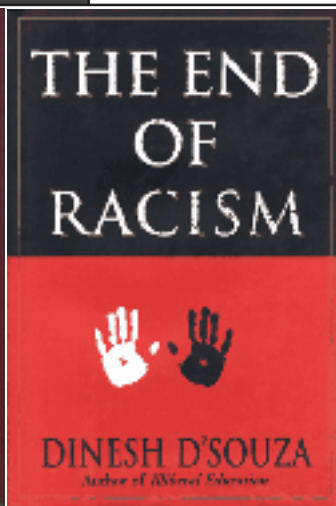
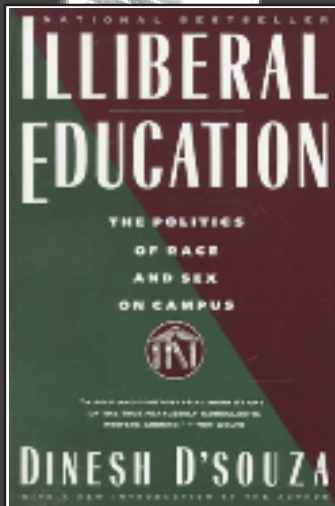
“Dinesh D’Souza *discovered* the phenomenon of political correctness,” observes *National Review* editor-in-chief Richard Lowry. Among the generation of college students weaned on diversity, sensitivity, and relativist gobbledygook, D’Souza’s commonsense observations about the inanity of “PC” in his now-classic 1991 polemic, *Illiberal Education*, ignited a revolution. With frank, plain-spoken anecdotes about the excesses of the academic left, D’Souza proved that the best way to fight entrenched radicals is to expose the truth candidly, sit back, and let their own foolishness do them in. Radical student activists and pompous deep-thinkers in positions of academic authority are seldom used to having their dogmas challenged, and, unsurprisingly, they reserve their vilest venom for D’Souza— when they choose to acknowledge him at all.

To the Tufts community, this trend was hit home some years ago when D’Souza visited the Hill to speak about the issues raised in *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 didn’t like. Afterwards, a black-studies professor approached D’Souza to declare his intention to use the

lecture in class as clinical evidence of racism. Amused, D’Souza responded only that he hoped he would allow his students to challenge that assumption in class and form their own opinions. “No,” the professor replied emphatically.

D’Souza’s career is a catalog of such incidents. And, still in his thirties, he

is young enough to have fun in the midst of it all. We were lucky enough to corner D’Souza on a particularly relaxed occasion: a lazy afternoon on *National Review*’s 1998 Bermuda Spring Cruise, for which we are grateful to *NR* for extending us a complimentary invite. Raw, honest, unguarded, and lively, this discussion is classic Dinesh D’Souza. He was interviewed by Keith Levenberg on behalf of *THE PRIMARY SOURCE* and Ross Cohen on behalf of Amherst College’s *Spectator*.



THE PRIMARY SOURCE: You started your career in the conservative movement as editor of a conservative college newspaper. Now that you've got three widely read national books under your belt, can you tell us how your experiences as an editor prepared you for what followed?

Dinesh D'Souza: I think that joining the *Dartmouth Review* when I did was for me a political education. I was a foreign student when I set my foot on the Dartmouth campus. I had been in the United States for only a year, and it was only when I joined the *Review* that I began to think seriously about politics. And also another benefit was to learn the techniques of journalism and of writing, in particular *polemical* writing. I say that because if you write a paper it is very different from writing on topics where people strongly disagree with you and will let you *know* about that, so you are writing almost in the combat zone.... It's taken me some years to try to develop that as a skill and to try to do it better every time. But the college paper was certainly the very beginning of that.

Dartmouth was very important for me in helping to give me a thick skin in dealing with critics and opposition. When I graduated I as a writer strained toward the dramatic and maybe the outrageous. I came to Washington to work for *Policy Review* where the editor, Adam Meyerson, was very judicious, very sensible, editorially very restrained. And what he taught me was a very important lesson about writing, which is: you want to have a certain amount of power, but you want to use restraint and control it. As a writer you need to balance a willingness to make a strong generalization and then to temper it.

In other words, when I wrote *Illiberal Education* I think the most important thing I tried to do was have the reader be a little angrier than the writer. You don't want the writer to be angry while the reader goes, "Oh, that writer's angry!" You want the writer to be holding back while the reader goes, "Oh, my God!"

So I would describe some outrageous incident which would have the reader hopping mad, and as soon as I finished I would say, "Now, of course we can understand why the administration might want...." And so the reader is to the *right* of me. (laughter) That was an important lesson that I learned.

SOURCE: You still spend a lot of time talking to college audiences, most controversially, I would imagine, about the issues you raised in *The End of Racism*. One of your claims was that racism isn't really a serious stumbling block to success in



"I frequently run into students who say, 'America is a racist society, and I've gotta deal with this every day of my life.' And I turn to them and say, 'Okay, what happened to you today?'"

America anymore. It seems you would encounter the most rabid opposition to this view on campuses, where the liberal orthodoxy still constantly charges institutional racism. What's been your experience talking to students about race?

D'Souza: I think that the racism experienced by students on elite campuses in everyday life is largely imaginary. By that I mean it is the *theory* of racism and the *history* of racism that incenses people—not any actual experience with racism. I frequently run into students who say, "America is a racist society, and I've gotta deal with this every day of my life." And I turn to them and say, "Okay, what happened to you *today*? Did somebody call you a nigger? Did somebody yell epithets at you?" And they go, "Oh, no." Well, what about yesterday? "No, not yesterday, either." Well, when was the last time somebody did that? "Well it's been some years." Or something like: "But my great grandfather was a slave." The point being that now it is less the actual experience of racism and more a mental universe of racism—and the victim claims that it generates—that is driving the politics on campus.

We are now living in a society where, particularly in the elite environs of the campus, people bend

over backwards not to be racially insensitive. And, in fact, if anything racial minorities are treated with kid gloves. They're treated more deferentially and are allowed to get away with far more ridiculous things that if they were not black or Hispanic or whatever they would have been openly condemned and abused for. But they are allowed to get away with it both on the part of the administration and other students. So in the face of what can only be described as preferentialism—I'm not talking about affirmative action, I'm talking about the preferentialism of *everyday life*—in the face of that to turn around and claim victimization is nothing short of absurd.

SOURCE: Do you think the university culture has improved as a result of exposés like yours and the growing conservative movement on campuses?

D'Souza: The great success of the critique of political correctness has not been *on* the campus but has been in cutting *off* the influence of the campus on the larger society. So that when I was writing *Illiberal Education* you had all these professors, people like Stanley Fish, who were very influential in *The New York Times*, very influential in elite opinion generally, whereas now if you mention his name even liberals laugh because he is seen as being somewhat clownish. And often

people will say of the campus, “Oh, lots of craziness goes on there,” which is a way of saying they take the campus less seriously. So *that*, I think, has been the great accomplishment of the critique of political correctness.

SOURCE: *Illiberal Education* is already eight or nine years old. When you wrote it speech codes were commonplace, and now we’ve won that battle. But has it made a difference? Is there more free discussion on campus, or has the university culture not yet changed?

D’Souza: I do think that the abandonment of the speech codes or at least their non-enforcement is significant in that it has weakened the resolve of the activists. But the broader effect is even more important, more than the speech codes. A lot of topics that were completely off the table are now discussible. This is not just true in the campus but in the larger culture. Affirmative action was a virtual taboo when I began to write *Illiberal Education*. Now, affirmative action can be openly discussed.

Interestingly, *Illiberal Education* has paved the way for me to discuss quite controversial issues. Such as, is it a pure accident that blacks have dominated the sprint every single year in the Olympics for the last half century? Is that due to genes? Is it due to culture? I mean, I talk about these things pretty freely. Now, I have a little bit of ethnic immunity being a “person of color,” which I take *full* advantage of, but all the same, it’s interesting that these issues are now discussible. That is a bit of progress.

SOURCE: But you’re Asian, which is not really a protected minority group, especially in colleges. Are you extended the same kind of “ethnic immunity” that someone like Thomas Sowell or Ward Connerly has?

D’Souza: I used to think when I started *The End of Racism*, “Wouldn’t it be nice if I were a black guy, then I could raise the curtain on *every* single taboo and be *totally* uninhibited,” but as I began to write the book I realized what I think we now know to be true, which is that, weirdly, if you’re a black guy its even *harder* to address these issues because the forces of excommunication, the powers of stigma, are so strong. A black dissenter is seen as a traitor to his race and is loudly abused. I mean you have to only have walked with Ward Connerly through an airport to see people just come up to him, people who don’t know him, they just say, just in routine ways, “Hey, you suck!” I mean, to get this all the time is unnerving.

Now, Indians in this country— there are a fair number of



“Often people will say of the campus, ‘Oh, lots of craziness goes on there,’ and that has been the great accomplishment of the critique of political correctness.”

us— but by and large if an Indian turns on the television and sees me his general attitude is, “Local boy made good.” (laughter) And so, even if he disagrees with me substantively, if he sees me in an airport he sticks two thumbs up as if to say, “Way to go, can’t wait to see another Indian on the tube.” And so I don’t get that kind of abuse— which makes my life a lot easier.

SOURCE: You do get quite a bit of abuse though, including the incident at Tufts some years ago. What are some of the truly outrageous ways you’ve been protested?

D’Souza: I’ve had all kinds of exotic experiences.... In no case fortunately have I been in any physical danger. Noone has thrown a rock or a projectile at me. But what I get— and initially I was very flustered by it— I would go to a campus, go to the microphone to speak, and some kid who would come and sit in the front row would slowly and deliberately get up, stretch out as if in an *uncontrollable* lengthy yawn, then pick up his backpack and slowly begin to walk out, obviously getting the eyes of everyone in the audience.

Initially, I was flustered and didn’t know how to handle this kind of stuff. And now I’ve just kind of gotten used to it. You realize if some-

body does that you’ve got to absolutely embarrass him in order to get people’s attention back. So you stop him. You go, “Excuse me.” He turns around; he doesn’t expect you to call on him. And then you just say something like, “It’s the third door on the right,” and then you’ve immediately got the audience back— and then you can continue.

When I debated Proposition 209 in California— I debated Jesse Jackson in Stanford, I debated a professor in UCLA— while I was debating this professor, an American Indian in the audience whose body was literally a billboard of buttons— he must have been wearing 82 buttons— began to just shout. Every time I said anything, no matter how benign, he’d say, “You sound just like Hitler!” And I’d say something else completely innocuous, and he’d say, “That’s just what Hitler thought!” And finally I just had to pause and say, “Look, if you keep this up, by the end of this talk, you’ll give *Hitler* a good name.” This shut him up!

Another time I was at San Francisco State, a very left-wing campus, and worse, a very low-brow campus— and when you put left-wing together with low-brow it’s a pretty potent combination! But during my talk— and this was a debate, I had an opponent— a huge woman weighing at least four hundred

pounds came *rolling* down the aisle in the middle of our opening statements, yelling “Stop! Stop! We don’t need a *debate!* We need to mobilize *against 209!*” So a couple of heavy breathing campus policemen then came trudging in, picked her up by both arms, and then dragged her out screaming “Censorship!” as she was let out the door.

This kind of thing doesn’t happen every day, but neither is it unfamiliar territory. And I’m kind of prepared for it. I think I’ve figured out a way to handle it and even be slightly amused by it.

SOURCE: Proposition 209 was promising, but of course it applies only to the state universities in California. Can we expect something like it to ever reach private colleges?

D’Souza: I think that we have a right as citizens to be treated equally under the law, and this is a right, like all our rights, asserted against the government. Our rights are not so much asserted against each other, so that rights in the American conception are limitations on government. What this means is that it is absolutely critical to eliminate state-sponsored discrimination, discrimination by the instruments of government. No other principle is consistent with the Declaration of Independence and with the Fourteenth Amendment. So I think that the elimination of state-sponsored discrimination is our most important goal. It’s going to take us some time, but we’ll achieve it.

Now, the private sphere is more complicated, because in principle my view is that discrimination for and against blacks should be permitted in the private sphere. If Amherst wants to, say, allow blacks to enroll even though they might be three hundred points lower on the SAT, that’s fine. But then, on the other side of the matter, if taxi drivers don’t want to pick up young black males because they reason that young black males, *on average*, pose an unacceptably high criminal risk, that, too, is a judgment in the private sphere and should be allowed.

Right now, our laws don’t do that. They don’t make this important distinction between the public and private sphere. And so as long as they do not I think they should be imposed consistently, so that as long as our laws hold private institutions to governmental standards I would argue that they should not be allowed to discriminate in any direction.

SOURCE: It seems that if the government ceased mandating affirmative action in the private sphere, corporations would have to end the practice or they wouldn’t be able to compete; with some companies searching for the most qualified workers



“I think we will know that we have succeeded in restoring free expression when the ethnic joke makes its triumphant return to the college campus.”

and others trying to build “diversity,” it isn’t difficult to imagine the outcome. But at the university level that doesn’t seem to be the case.... I think many colleges, and definitely most if not all elite colleges, would continue the practice *voluntarily*.

D’Souza: You’re probably right. If you had no legal requirement probably at least seven out of the eight Ivies would continue to have affirmative action, maybe all eight, but let’s say it’s seven: then we have an interesting test case. We have a single university, let’s say, hypothetically, Princeton, that says, “No, we’re going to make sure every kid who gets here can do the work and is competitive.” The number of blacks at Princeton goes down from 110 in the freshman class to 32, a big drop. However, all these 32 black kids know that they’re just as good as everybody else, have done the work, and will graduate in comparable numbers. They won’t be worried that they’re always going to bear invisible quotation marks around them.

Then we are truly in a free market. Some people say to me, “Well, I wouldn’t want to go to an institution where there are only three percent blacks.” But, personally, I don’t feel that way. I would rather go to an institution which let the

chips fall where they may and address other social problems in their place, which is to say, for example, why the public schools are so terrible, why there’s inadequate preparation, and so on. Those are real problems, and they are worth addressing, but I don’t want to address them by setting up a race in which some people get to start ten yards ahead and other people have to start four yards behind. That seems to me to compound the problem.

SOURCE: Earlier you had said that a lot of topics that were taboo are now openly discussible. Where do you see the discussion going, and what happens next?

D’Souza: I think we will know that we have succeeded in restoring free expression when the ethnic joke makes its triumphant return to the college campus. (laughter) And I say that half-jokingly but only *half-jokingly*, because I think that, actually, ethnic humor is a valuable way to diffuse tension and is a way of acknowledging differences while at the same time allowing us to find a way to live with them. It is the criminalization of ethnic humor that is in a way a very apt metaphor for the problem.

Another test of how well we’re doing will be if it’s possible for a white guy to stand up and say many of the things I do and not be run off the podium. That’s the second important index of

progress. And so I see myself as trying, because of my weird position, to pioneer that ground and open up that territory.

SOURCE: Let's talk about your most recent book for a little bit, which was on Ronald Reagan. Most of the people who'll be reading this interview grew up in the 1980s, experiencing the Reagan years firsthand and living through an era of hope, growth, and opportunity. But at the same time we've also been subjected to the Reagan revisionism on the part of the media and education elite practically since birth. So, given this tension, how do you think our generation will ultimately remember Reagan?

D'Souza: I think we might have lived through the most important political event of our lifetimes, the collapse of the Berlin Wall. We're very close to these events and it's hard to evaluate them objectively. But I think as time passes the generation of historians who have an ideological stake in opposing Reagan [will be discredited]... because if Reagan is right everything that they have believed all their lives is wrong. These guys cannot give ground on Reagan. He is too damning an indictment of themselves. And so they will *never* give ground on him. They will go to their graves mumbling about the deficit even as we're thrashing about in a surplus. And they will continue to insist even as Gorbachev gets less than one percent of the vote in the Russian elections that Gorbachev is the liberator of Russia. And this is what you can call *loser's history* in the sense that having been defeated politically by Reagan the intellectuals now want to take revenge on him in the form of the textbooks.

But I'm not worried about it, nor was Reagan. Reagan came to change the world, and he did. The American people have a simple rule of thumb. What was the world like when the guy got here? 21 percent interest rates, the highest since the Civil War, double-digit inflation, energy crisis, hostages in Iran, a Soviet bear on the prowl. What was the world like when he left? Inflation of three percent, interest rates of seven to eight percent, a tremendous economic boom that has increased the Dow Jones by tenfold over fifteen years, a Soviet Union on the verge of collapse. It's a bit like a diet plan: let's look at a before and after picture, and see if the diet plan worked. By every objective measure it did. So I think history will see Reagan as the turning point, and not just the turning point of the '70s. You can see the whole twentieth century as reflecting the growth of collectivism. Collectivism is the big idea of the twentieth century. Its



"We're now living in a new era which may lack definition, but the absence of a definition shouldn't blind us to the fact that we *are* in a new era. And Reagan did it."

most extreme form was Communism or socialism. But in the more moderate form the welfare state was also collectivism, and Reaganism is the repudiation of collectivism. His policies were critical in vanquishing the Soviet empire, in discrediting socialism, and in arresting the growth of welfare statism. So the Roosevelt era which began in the '30s I think came to an end with Reagan. We're now living in a new era which may lack definition, but the absence of a definition shouldn't blind us to the fact that we *are* in a new era. And Reagan did it. This is on the large canvas of history his greatest accomplishment.

SOURCE: Then there's also the effect Reagan had on our culture. If you look back you can remember even the music was upbeat, movies were fun and whimsical, and there was a general atmosphere of optimism. Did Reagan just happen to come along at that time or was he somehow responsible for that?

D'Souza: The optimism was certainly not starting before Reagan. Reagan was not its catalyst. He was its originator and its most articulate exponent. Now, people responded to him, but he was not preceded by an optimistic surge. It wasn't a wave that he was surfing on; he *created* the wave. We kept hearing through

the '80s that we're living in an era of greed. What's interesting is that in the '90s conspicuous consumption is far greater than the '80s, and yet you don't see Dan Rather going to Bill Gates's house and saying, "This is a \$38 million house; aren't we living in an era of greed?!" In the '80s we kept hearing about the homeless. Apparently, all those guys have found homes since we never hear about them now! (laughter)

I think what we're beginning to see is that many of these ideas are less a reflection of what was going on the '80s and more a reflection of the prism through which Reagan's ideological opponents saw him. We're now living in an era of peace and prosperity, but we are missing what we had in the '80s, which is a unifying moral vision of what it means to be an American. Reagan gave us that, and we sorely miss it now. ♦

Dinesh D'Souza is a fellow at the American Enterprise Institute and the author of three books, including Illiberal Education and The End of Racism.

For THE PRIMARY SOURCE, Keith Levenberg is a senior majoring in Philosophy. For THE AMHERST SPECTATOR, Ross Cohen is a senior majoring in Economics.

*Bill and "that woman" both
have a lot to answer for.*

The End of the Innocence

BY CRAIG WALDMAN

“I want you to listen to me. I did not have a sexual relationship with that woman, Miss Lewinsky.” Six months later: “I had an inappropriate relationship with Miss Lewinsky.” In the months between the previous two contradicting statements one of the most damaging scandals to ever hit the presidency exploded; that damage is irreparable. However, the damage to the nation’s moral fabric, once realized, can be healed.

“Bill Clinton is a reproach. He has defiled the office of the presidency of the United States,” asserts William J. Bennett in his new book, *The Death of Outrage*. This recently published book details why this scandal is more offensive than most people are willing to admit. In his work, Bennett details the reasons and lessons that make this scandal important. The following is a list of some of those lessons and important points about them.

Character in our president doesn't matter. It's the economy, stupid. Despite what some say, good moral character *does* impact a president’s ability to govern. Perhaps those who don’t think a president’s private life matters didn’t take the time to think about other scenarios, such as a president being “privately” racist. The same liberals who are currently imploring Americans to believe that this scandal is a private matter would recoil in horror at a racist president. Most certainly they wouldn’t say, “He’s a racist, but that has no effect on the economy or his ability to govern.” It would be nonsense; Americans should trust and hold in high moral regard the person who leads and represents our country.

Moreover, the president is a role model and figurehead for our nation. A president needs to be respected by his fellow citizens and the rest of the world. Clinton continues to have trouble being taken seriously; almost every action he

takes is questioned for its authenticity and motives. Presidents are also role models for the people they represent and, perhaps more importantly, the children who aspire to hold their office. Deep flaws in a president’s character cannot and should not be overlooked.

It's okay to lie, if the questions are about sex. Clinton lied for more than six months about his relationship with Monica Lewinsky, only admitting the affair after being forced to answer questions in front of a grand jury. Although his most ardent supporters were blind to the obvious facts, almost all Americans thought Clinton’s denials deceptive. Yet since the dawn of the scandal polls continued to show Americans caring less about Clinton’s sex life than the economy. Those people fail to realize that this scandal is about much more than sex; it is about a president who lies to the American people, lies under oath, and is willing to destroy the institution of the presidency to save his own. Clinton’s constant lying is a major character flaw that must be taken seriously.

His denials not only lost him the trust of many Americans, but also of the congressmen with whom he must work. It will be difficult to ever transcend the damage already done to the bond between Clinton and Congress, a bond that makes our government flow smoothly. But, more importantly than Congress, in a time of world crisis (the Russian and Asian economies, Saddam Hussein, and North Korea’s nuclear weapons, to name a few), our leader continues to be embarrassed by his reckless judgment. His inability to be seen as a strong world leader is certainly a threat to our national security.

Secondly, his denials to the American people show that he is not a trustworthy leader. A president, the person charged with setting the course for the country, needs to be trusted. There are times when a president is forced to publicly ask for Americans’ support; if his constituents fret about wading through fact and fiction each time, the president becomes ineffective. And if he lies so vehemently about an issue he considers minor, how can anyone expect him to tell the truth on monumental issues affecting Americans’ lives? In times of sudden domestic and international changes, a liar cannot effectively govern America.

Some powerful people are above the law. Bill Clinton continues to do everything in his power to halt this important investigation. Slick Willie and his thugs incessantly attack those who seek the truth. Each key figure in this case continues to have his name dragged through the mud. Meanwhile, the President continues

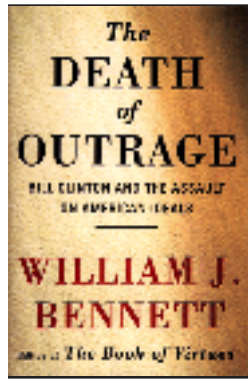


to invoke every privilege on the books in order to avoid answering questions about his activities. Even though these privileges are struck down in every court, Clinton continues to appeal in hopes of weighing down the process. The message this stonewalling sends is simple: because he is the president, he does not need to follow the same rules as everyone else. A president with solid moral character would have answered the questions promptly and insisted that everyone else involved do the same.

Instead, he acts as if Americans are supposed to be outraged at *Kenneth Starr's* behavior, and his spin masters have succeeded in running a very successful smear campaign against the special prosecutor. But Starr is only a lawyer, and doesn't have the resources available to the President of the United States to defend his own character in public. Fortunately for Starr, his character can stand solidly on its own.

Adultery is no big deal. The common defense we still hear is, "These questions are about sex. Who cares about the president's private life?" Yet Clinton did in fact commit adultery. This president cheated on his wife directly outside the Oval Office, and cheating on one's spouse is no accident; it is a severe lapse of judgment. Although the sex itself may be a private act, it is still one of much concern. The President broke one of society's most sacred vows, the vow of marriage, and is responsible for trivializing this tear in our moral fabric.

Even so, Clinton should have put this scandal behind him long ago, freeing up time and energy to deal with major policy issues. Instead, his stonewalling allowed the scandal to grow larger, showing one of Nixon's lessons lost to the current Chief: the cover-up is worse than the crime. By refusing to acknowledge his faults, Clinton dragged the American people through an agonizing scandal—again. In doing so he has demeaned the honor of the Presidency and exploited a fault in America's "modern" values. For this alone, Clinton should resign the office of the presidency and allow someone else to begin reassembling the broken



pieces. Too many Americans have been quick to ignore the facts in this scandal because they believe the issue to be sex and sex alone. In reality, it is about character, honor, and virtue in the man we select to lead the country, and, to a great extent, the world. "The Clinton scandal represents more, much more, than reckless sexual misconduct," observes Bennett. "It now involves very public, very emphatic lies. Breaches of trust. Subversion of truth." Tragically, this scandal repre-

sents a familiar pattern in the Clinton Administration.

The scandal is an outrage. But Americans' mass dismissal of adultery, lying, and obstruction of justice as trivial is even more outrageous. If Americans allow the President's behavior to go unpunished, they have condoned it and invite future presidents to treat their office the same way. Surely the American people are not willing to relinquish the values that have made being an American citizen an honor, and Clinton should not ask them to. He ought to resign.

Mr. Waldman is a sophomore majoring in History.

Lessons on community-building from the ice-cream trough.

Welcome to Camp Tufts

BY AIMEE PESCHEL

Ice cream sundaes, *a cappella* festivals, Tilton Crafts and Field Day, and movie nights. Odd as it sounds these activities are not taken from the schedule of a sleep-away summer camp for ten year olds but are actually part of Tufts' meticulously planned Orientation '98 program.. Leaving little time for activities that might help new students get a start at a "world-class" university, Tufts chooses instead to march new students around campus and the metro area as if they are junior high school students on a very long field trip. Despite the excessive length of Orientation some day's scheduling includes not one activity relevant to academics or registration. Instead, students are expected to frolic in a strange place surrounded by strange people by participating in activities like tie-dying, aerobics, kayaking, and shop-

ping excursions to the CambridgeSide Galleria Mall where the Orientation schedule suggests they can pick up a toothbrush.

One would initially assume the focus of Orientation to be on academics, with a strong emphasis on helping new students explore fields of study, degree requirements, and other important things they should know before wading through Tufts' daunting red-tape bureaucracy for four years. Instead, scheduled talks in-

Adjusting to college life is difficult, but filling Orientation with meaningless activities and politically correct presentations is not going to make the transition easier.

clude the infamous "Why No Means No: Respecting Choices," a mandatory After-School Special on sex and dating. If someone is of such poor mentality that he doesn't know what rape is until it gets acted out by thespian RA's, he does not belong in college and no hour-plus presentation will make him rise to a higher

level of integrity. To make students thought bright and responsible enough to attend a college such as Tufts attend such a session is insulting. Moreover, its format, which involves a skit of a hypothetical couple on a date followed by a role-playing Q&A with a spatter of plants in the audience asking dumb questions fed to them by administrators, suggests that the purpose of the event is to reduce the incoming freshman class to elementary-school maturity and tell them, "This is how

Tufts students think." But students aren't children unable to understand human relationships and form responsible and thoughtful choices. Making a presentation like "Why No Means No" such an integral part of Orientation is symptomatic of the lack of respect the Tufts administration has towards the minds of its students.

Another example of the condescending tone Tufts takes towards orientating its new students to college life can be found in the forum "Many Stories, One Community." In this session students are introduced to a "diverse" panel of students who explain what it means to be part of a minority as well as students who talk about how great it is to go to a school like Tufts which is so accepting of people from all walks of life. Much like a parent teaching his toddler shapes and colors by pointing at them and repeating their names, "Many Stories, One Community" makes the assumption that students come to Tufts as a *tabula rasa*, devoid of prior experiences and human relations. But a glance at the backgrounds of each incoming class shows that this is not the case. Anyone who has read a newspaper, watched television, or even walked down a public street in his lifetime needs no special introduction to black, gay, or female students— unless the intention is to swindle students into treating them differently than one normally treats his peers. Perhaps a better title would be "Many Communities, One Story."

Adjusting to college and life away from home is difficult, but filling Orientation with meaningless activities and politically correct presentations is not going

to make the transition easier. The only way to learn how to be a student here is by actually attending classes and making friends during the semester. Glorified camp counselors masquerading as Orientation staff are expected to introduce students to each other and hold their hands during the

process of making friends. Is this necessary or even appropriate considering that

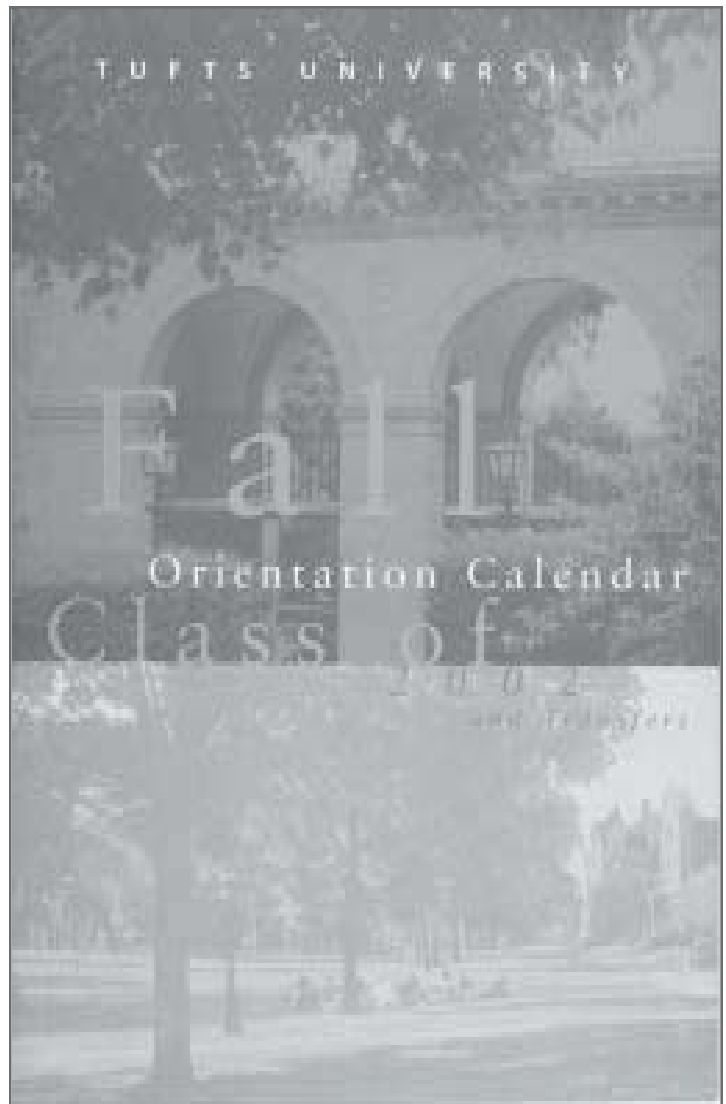
Friendships cannot be forced at ice-cream socials, appreciation of minority students won't be bolstered in a condescending workshop, and dating responsibility cannot be taught in a skit. Last year President DiBiaggio circulated a letter pledging to "increase diversity training during orientation and throughout the year." One would think his priorities would be elsewhere given Tufts' recent backsliding in the all-important *US News* rankings of the nation's universities. Excessive coddling won't make students more sensitive or mature. However, giving the Orientation spotlight to academic programs would help students focus on their real goal in college: becoming a successful student. Tufts administrators could use a little check-up on the "vision thing" as well.

Miss Peschel is a senior majoring in Political Science.

Much like a parent teaching his toddler shapes by pointing at them and repeating their names, "Many Stories, One Community" makes the assumption that students come to Tufts devoid of prior human

most incoming students are legally adults? No amount of acoustic entertainment or "Monte Carlo" gambling with monopoly money will cement students into collegiate life. By including so many inane activities Tufts shifts its focus away from academics and meaningful, foundation-building things like meeting faculty and learning about courses. Instead, social engineering and political correctness becomes the order of the day.

Once a student begins classes things will fall into place, friends will be made, and activities of a student's choosing will fill his free time.



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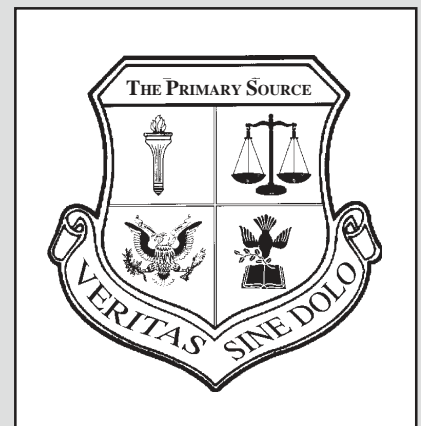
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NOTABLE AND QUOTABLE

Thinking is the hardest work there is, which is probably the reason so few engage in it.

—Henry Ford

Good government generally begins in the family, and if the moral character of a people once degenerate, their political character must soon follow.

—Elias Boudinot

You can get much farther with a kind word and a gun than you can with a kind word alone.

—Al Capone

History passes, but art remains.

—Baroness Philippine de Rothschild

Leadership is a potent combination of strategy and character. But if you must be without one, be without the strategy.

—General H. Norman Schwarzkopf

Americans, indeed all freemen, remember that in the final choice, a soldier's pack is not so heavy a burden as a prisoner's chains.

—Dwight D. Eisenhower

Education is when you read the fine print. Experience is what you get if you don't

—Pete Seeger

As long as people will accept crap, it will be financially profitable to dispense it.

—Dick Cavett

The office of government is not to confer happiness, but to give men the opportunity to work out happiness for themselves.

—William Ellery Channing

History suggests that capitalism is a necessary condition for political freedom.

—Milton Freedman

When authorities warn you of the sinfulness of sex, there is an important lesson to be learned. Do not have sex with the authorities.

—Matt Groening

The death of democracy is not likely to be an assassination from ambush. It will be a slow extinction from apathy, indifference, and undernourishment.

—Robert Hutchins

Don't do drugs because if you do drugs you'll go to prison, and drugs are really expensive in prison.

—John Hardwick

No matter how far you have gone on the wrong road, turn back.

—Turkish proverb

I like thinking big. If you're going to be thinking anything, you might as well think big.

—Donald Trump

A successful man is one who makes more money than his wife can spend. A successful woman is one who can find such a man.

—Lana Turner

Expecting the world to treat you fairly because you are a good person is a little like expecting the bull not to attack you because you are a vegetarian.

—Dennis Wholey

The disappearance of a sense of responsibility is the most far-reaching consequence of submission to authority.

—Stanley Milgram

A little Government and a little luck are necessary in life; but only a fool trusts either of them.

—P. J. O'Rourke

The harder you work, the luckier you get.

—Gary Player

The streets are safe in Philadelphia, it's only the people who make them unsafe.

—Frank Rizzo

If you want to succeed you should strike out on new paths rather than travel the worn paths of accepted success.

—John D. Rockefeller, Jr.

A dress makes no sense unless it inspires men to want to take it off you.

—Francois Sagan

When you get right down to it, one of the most important tasks of a leader is to eliminate his people's excuse for failure.

—Robert Townsend

A man's feet should be planted in his country, but his eyes should survey the world.

—George Santayana

Love all. Trust a few. Do wrong to none. This above all; to thine own self be true.

—William Shakespeare

Discovery is seeing what everybody else has seen, and thinking what nobody else has thought.

—Albert Szent-Gyorgi

Government cannot make us equal; it can only recognize, respect, and protect us as equal before the law.

—Clarence Thomas

It is better to ask some of the questions than to know all the answers.

—James Thurber

Democracy and socialism have nothing in common but one word, equality. But notice the difference: while democracy seeks equality in liberty, socialism seeks equality in restraint and servitude.

—Alexis de Tocqueville

One thing I can tell you is you got to be free.

—John Lennon

History is not going to be kind to liberals. With their mindless programs, they've managed to do to Black Americans what slavery, Reconstruction, and rank racism found impossible: destroy their family and work ethic.

—Walter Williams

You can't be a Real Country unless you have a beer and an airline. It helps if you have some kind of a football team, or some nuclear weapons, but at the very least you need a beer.

—Frank Zappa

You're only as good as the people you hire.

—Ray Kroc

The Lord's Prayer is 66 words, the Gettysburg Address is 286 words, and there are 1,322 words in the Declaration of Independence. Yet, government regulations on the sale of cabbage total 26,911 words.

—David McIntosh