

# THE PRIMARY SOURCE

V E R I T A S S I N E D O L O

## Happy Holidays!

*Inside:*

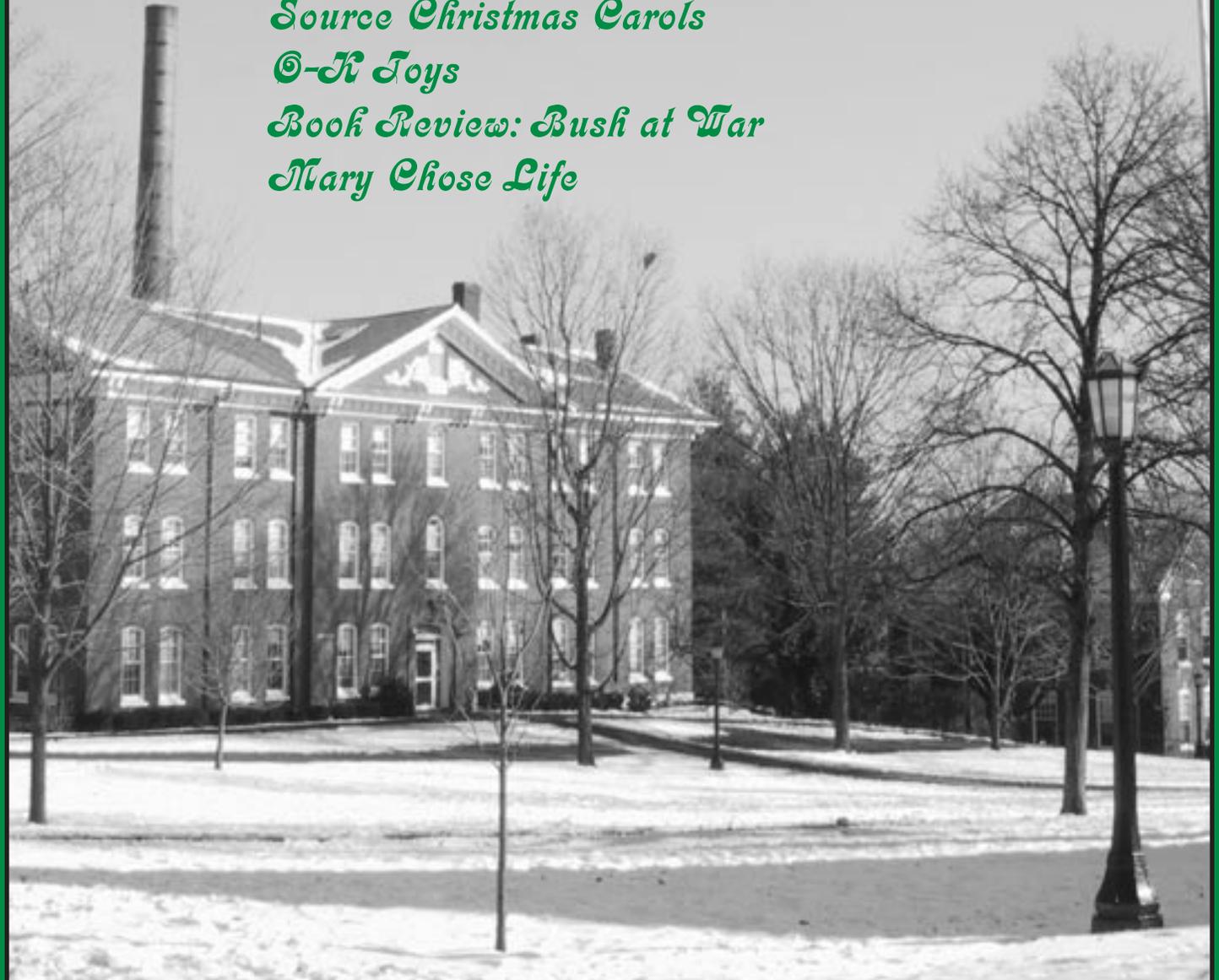
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*Source Christmas Carols*

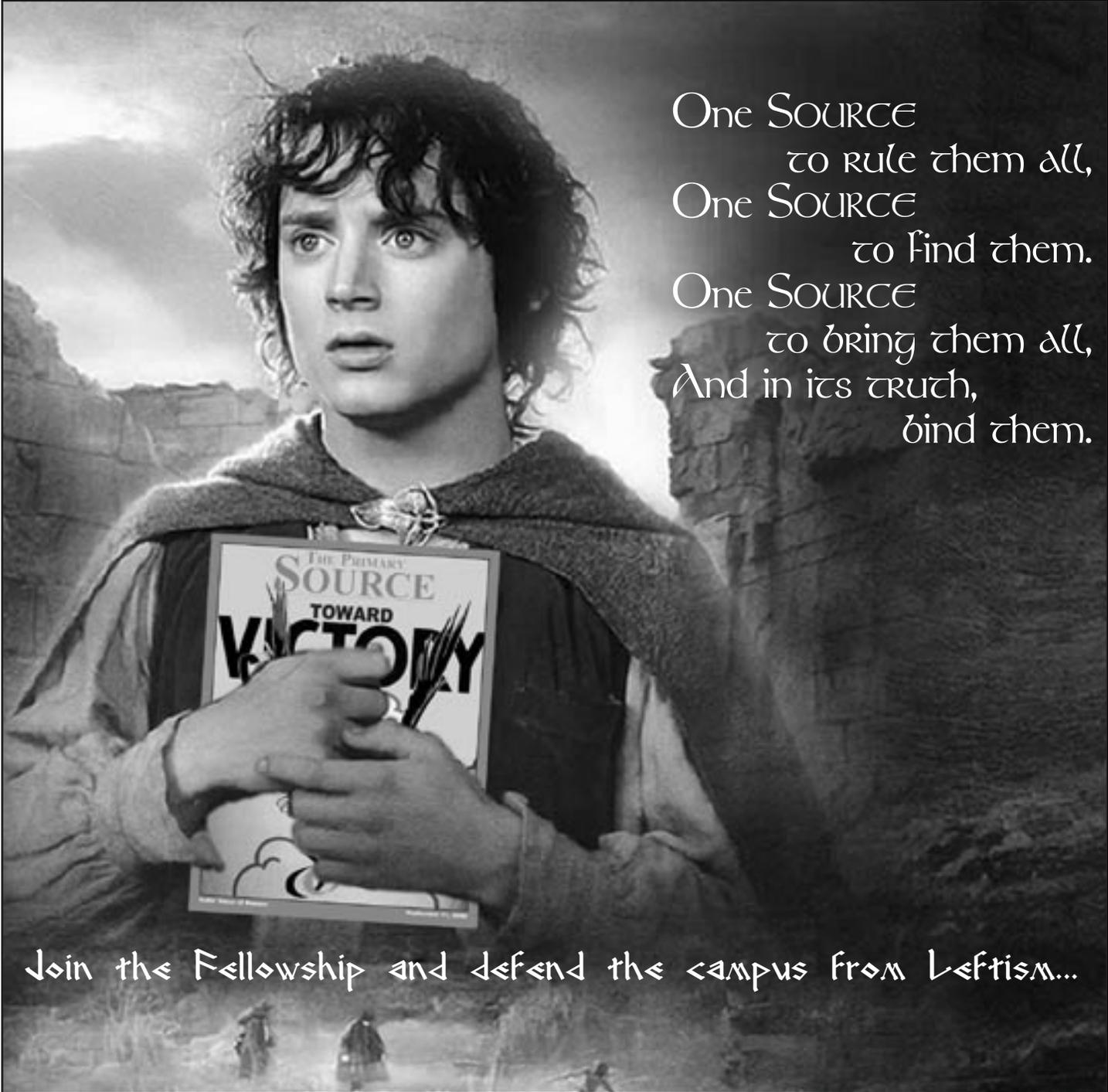
*O-N Toys*

*Book Review: Bush at War*

*Mary Chose Life*



# THE PRIMARY SOURCE



One SOURCE  
to rule them all,  
One SOURCE  
to find them.  
One SOURCE  
to bring them all,  
And in its truth,  
bind them.

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# THE PRIMARY SOURCE

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# An American Holiday

The Christmas season is upon us. There. I said it, and I'm not sorry. Hanukkah and Ramadan are over; Kwanzaa is not mainstream enough to warrant naming a season. No other winter solstice holiday even comes close to generating the same kind of nationwide feelings of charity, reverence, and kinship. Yes, I could be politically correct and call it the holiday season just to ensure that no one is offended, but I won't, and no one should be.

Christmas, while obviously a religious holiday for Christians, has come to mean much more for society in general. Leftists might tell you it means inflated greed and the propagation of the evil capitalist machine, but what do they know? They obviously fail to see that behind the gift *buying* is the gift *giving*. And no one would be getting much of anything if the US were communist—I could name a failed regime here to make my point, but I don't think that's necessary. Instead of finding inspiration in the levels of community involvement, leftists whine that we should be doing more during the rest of the year, making us all feel bad when we should be feeling great.

The end of the year means society is about to start afresh, and people use this time to reconnect with family and friends, rediscover personal well-being, and eat sugar-laden goodies. The air is full of generous spirit and rosy-cheeked pleasantries. I, for one, refuse to let the predation of PC hawks ruin my visions of sugarplums. Rather, I intend to dedicate this Christmas season to satisfying the needs of my loved ones, be they material or emotional, opening presents, and consuming more sugar cookies than I care to admit. True, my plans contain a few elements of selfishness, but underlying the quest for gadgets and gingerbread is a real desire to fortify familial relationships.

And *this* pursuit of happiness is what American Christmas is all about.

The season does not really end until New Year's, when everyone makes personal promises in an attempt to modify their conduct from the previous year. Whether they stick to them is irrelevant; the point is that people are willing to recognize both their imperfections and their strengths, which, in and of itself, changes behavior for the better a little, even if people break their resolutions. This year, the SOURCE will be undergoing some changes during the Christmas season, too. We SOURCERS will spend our break reflecting on this past Fall, reorganizing ourselves for a Spring semester under new leadership.

Come January, the SOURCE will return to the Hill *sans* globetrotting juniors Webmaster Alex Levy and Business Manager Tara Heumann, who will be spending their semesters in Moscow and Madrid, respectively. Freshmen Nick Boyd and J. Slavich will be taking on their duties. In addition, I will be stepping down to be Editor Emerita, acting as support staff for Robert Lichter, the new Editor-in-Chief. I have the fullest confidence in Rob's political logic and leadership capabilities, and I am certain that this magazine will flourish with him topping the masthead. He has proven himself in full possession of the necessary principles, wit, and dedication to push the SOURCE to its qualitative peak. And if the campus Left has learned anything, the issues will stay in distribution spots long enough for people to see his work.

Merry Christmas!



THE JOURNAL OF CONSERVATIVE  
THOUGHT AT TUFTS UNIVERSITY

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*Special Thanks*

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# Letters

To whom it may concern:

To begin, I consider myself a fairly moderate liberal, but I have many conservative friends, and appreciate the presence of a conservative magazine on campus. What saddens me however is that, rather than rise above your peers, you undermine your positions and the ideals you represent with your literary antics. Whereas *Radix* is content to sabotage any attempt to take them seriously by placing themselves on the ultra-left, THE PRIMARY SOURCE seems content to make itself look juvenile and unprofessional with the endless stream of jabs at your fellow student publications, most notably the *Daily* and the *Observer*. Your criticisms of them are certainly valid, however the childish “My magazine is better than yours so nah!” style makes anything you say difficult to take seriously. You seem to enjoy pretending you are of a higher standard...so act like it.

Regards,  
Eric Lofgren  
Class of 2006

To the Editor:

The November 21 SOURCE contained a piece “Top Ten Useful Phrases for English Kids to Learn in Arabic” in the Fortnight in Review section. Honestly, I was shocked that this publication would consider publishing such a piece, even as a joke.

Without even considering the greater situation in England, the “Top Ten” list is blatantly racist. The moral of this piece is simple: All Arabs are murderers. They are by nature evil people. Every Arab on the planet is responsible for the actions of a few. Never mind that all Catholics don’t have to bear the guilt for the IRA; never mind that all Protestants don’t have to bear the guilt for the KKK. Arabs are inherently violent criminals and should be shunned by the rest of society. This is what your piece is saying. Are you proud of that stance?

When you consider the greater context of the piece, it becomes even more offensive. This organization Open Society wanted Arabic taught in addition to French and German in British schools. Is this so outlandish? There is a growing population in Britain of people of Middle Eastern descent. What would someone say about an Arizona public school whose foreign language department offered French and German, but not Spanish? I personally would say that

they were failing at their job. Yet you ridicule Open Society for suggesting something similar in Britain. Do you deny the existence of British Arabs? Or do you not think that unofficial segregation and cultural isolationism are just dandy? Those are the only two explanations I can come up with for the SOURCE’s stance.

So the question remains: Why did THE PRIMARY SOURCE choose to publish this? The statement “because the First Amendment says we are allowed to” is not sufficient. There is an infinite number of statements that the Source can make. Out of these infinite possibilities, you chose this specific statement—a statement that paints all Middle Easterners as murderous. Did you want to counter-balance your piece praising the Tufts Middle Eastern Society for working with Friends of Israel to draft a new Anti-Intimidation Statement for Tufts? Was the SOURCE just too touchy-feely after that and in desperate need of a heaping dose of bigotry?

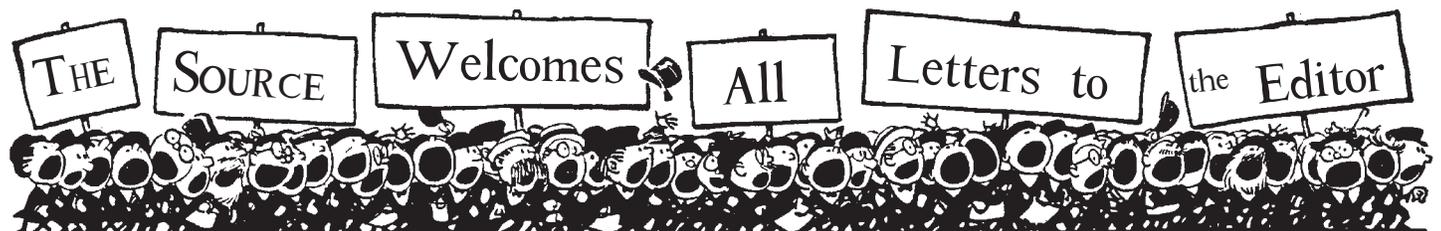
I’m not sure what you hoped to accomplish with this piece, but if your goal was to nauseate campus moderates, you have succeeded in at least one instance. If you had some other goal that I’m missing, I would love to hear it.

Eric B. Mitton

To the Editor:

I have a few major issues with regards to the article “A Very Capitalist Thanksgiving”. For one the story depicted never happened—the Native Americans were overrun and pushed around by this so-called capitalist society. The pilgrims were the typical white oppressors who swore by manifest destiny. Clearly multicultural harmony could never have existed when these “white devils” knocked down the backdoor of the Native Americans and tried to cram the European culture down their throats. Capitalism may have been responsible for the miraculous turnaround of the early settlers but it was also responsible for incidents such as King Phillip’s War and other skirmishes involving the Native Americans. Capitalist greed has single-handedly forced the Native American culture into ruins. So while you may believe that capitalism saved “us” it destroyed the Native Americans - think about that next time you decide to rant about your leftist theories a\*\*hole.

Matthew Cappetta



The SOURCE welcomes all letters to the editor. Please address all correspondence to [source@listproc.tufts.edu](mailto:source@listproc.tufts.edu)

# Commentary

## It's Not Us, It's the Media!

In a surprising new spin, Al Gore has uncovered what he claims to be the roots of the vast right-wing conspiracy—the media. In a recent interview with the *New York Observer*, Gore expressed his frustration with the fact that there are “some major institutional voices that are, truthfully speaking, part and parcel of the Republican Party.” He goes on to complain about the existence of FoxNews, the *Washington Times*, and Rush Limbaugh, complaining that they are “financed by wealthy ultra-conservative billionaires who make political deals with Republican administrations and the rest of the media.”

The truth is that after at least thirty years of unlimited and unrestricted liberal control of the media a couple conservative outlets are finally making their mark, and liberals always cry foul when their own tricks are used against them. Fox, the *Times*, and Rush are excellent starting points for balancing the score card, but consider the liberal media arsenal: ABC, NBC, CBS, CNN, MSNBC, the *New York Times*, *USA Today*, *Boston Globe*, *Washington Post*, and just about every other national newspaper and TV news outlet.

In fact, the situation is worse than that. The *Washington Times* daily edition is not a national newspaper and is outsold 7-1 in its home market. Rush Limbaugh is a one-man show, while the networks employ hundreds of reporters and anchors. FoxNews is carried by many fewer cable networks than CNN. Does this sound like the reinforced backbone of a right wing media conspiracy?

Maybe Al Gore really thinks so. More likely, he is upset about the miserable state of the Democratic Party after the midterm election, and FoxNews is an easy target. Remaining true to typical leftist fashion, Al Gore has fallen back on the liberal rallying cry: it's always somebody else's fault. The last thing Al or any Democrat would do is weigh the much more logical possibility that their message to the American public was not actually being drowned out—it was simply unwelcome.

## Potts Panned

At the TCU senate meeting on November 24<sup>th</sup>, Alison Clarke made a motion attempting to remove Andrew Potts from his position of vice president of the TCU senate. The senate then became involved in an hour-long debacle over parliamentary procedure and the constitutionality of the motion. The TCU constitution does not explicitly mention any procedure for the removal of a class senator from only an elected position within the senate, such as the vice presidency. Members of the TCUS, however, had noted that the constitution does provide a range of punishment, giving the J and the senate leeway in deciding how to reprimand the senator guilty of neglecting his duties.

The attempted motion by Clarke was never introduced to the senate for debate—so neither were her reasons for the proposal—because fellow senators voted it down 8-21-3, on appeal to the motion's constitutionality. The move was commendable, showing that the senate is not always willing to take on implied powers and step out of their set constitutional limits. Thankfully, cooler senatorial heads prevailed. If this motion were to be introduced, a precedent would be set where the senate assumes a broad ability to interpret and act on the TCU constitution.

The fact is that Clarke showed no evidence, public or private, of what Andrew Potts has specifically done other than miss a few optional

meetings that would merit his removal from the vice presidency. His absence at the constitutional convention may have indicated indifference, but technically he did not do anything wrong. Potts should, however, take the proposed motion as a warning and start showing more concern for his senate responsibilities. More importantly, Alison Clarke should have the prudence and pragmatism to make such information public, rather than keep it behind closed doors.

In the end, Clarke's motion had the earmarks of either a power grab for the vice presidency or a personal grudge match elevated to the political level. Unfortunately, senators' problems with Potts and his job performance were never discussed publicly at the senate meeting, leaving the entire ordeal vague and unresolved. Certainly, one thing should have been learned from this experience in the senate: personal relations have no place in government. By spending over an hour debating parliamentary procedure, the senate managed to waste valuable time which could have been spent elsewhere on more important matters.

## Constitutional Compromise

The recent open discussion on constitutional change could not have been a clearer sign that, at its heart, THE PRIMARY SOURCE's bid for a conservative culture rep was successful. The meeting was initiated by Alison Clarke and Melissa Carson, and all members of the student body were invited to Eaton hall to discuss any and all possible flaws in the TCU constitution. Of course the primary issue on the minds of those present was the culture representative system, since the recent referendum by the SOURCE prompted the meeting.

Though past referendums to change the culture representative system have failed, a consensus that the system in its current form falls short of its objectives has always existed. Since not all historically or currently marginalized minorities have a representative to the senate, the system is unfair. The issue of defining who has been marginalized and which marginalized groups deserve a seat remains. THE PRIMARY SOURCE can attest to the fact that the process for gaining such representation is long and arduous. There is no guarantee that the most silenced minority would get representation through a school-wide referendum—illustrating clearly that the current system is broken.

Students are lucky that senators—and even the current culture reps—recognize this and are not opposed to landmark change. Though



there is widespread disagreement on methods of fair representation, open student discussion will always be the best path to compromise. Though conciliation may be necessary in order for an amendment to pass, at this point, the SOURCE feels that any change is an improvement.

The meeting on constitutional reform was not, however, limited to the culture rep issue. Students brainstormed on a wide variety of changes ranging from the vital to the mundane. One main concern of senators was the current method surrounding executive elections and removal of officers. Others expressed concern over the particularly ambiguous wording of Amendment II, the infamous “self-acceptance” non-discrimination policy. Clarke and Carson plan specific open meetings for the multitude of proposed changes to occur next semester.

Though the Conservative Culture Representative referendum results would suggest that the majority of campus is in favor of leaving the constitution unamended, the forum was proof otherwise. The SOURCE remains steadfast in its determination to effect change, so we will be a prominent presence in future meetings to ensure proper—and democratic—agreements can be reached. Look forward to a brand new amendment come spring. THE PRIMARY SOURCE is happy to announce that working within the system to point out hypocrisy beats over-zealous protests and nonsensical whining as the most mature and effective method for initiating change.

## Reading Period Under Fire

With the conclusion of the semester, we Tufts’ students are now facing the homestretch of the semester. Finals, which, in many cases, could make or break the grade are upon us. And with reading period, students are normally expecting to have a short repose to prepare themselves for the upcoming onslaught of tests and papers. Unfortunately, this is no longer the case, as the distinction between reading period and finals weeks has become blurred.

The problem that is beginning to manifest stems from a growing tendency for professors to treat reading period as simply extended class periods or alternative dates for finals, rather than as the transition period it was originally implemented to be. For example, if a professor were to assign homework, the appropriate due date is before classes officially end. Professors forcing students to complete problem sets, projects, and papers to be handed in during reading period is unacceptable. Or, as is also happening, professors have been adding extra classes during reading period, taking away from its primary function—a break during which students can focus on studying and regrouping for exams. The only thing that should be allowed during reading period are review sessions, which directly facilitate studying.

A likely explanation behind this trend—and one that professors freely admit—is that professors are seeking to extend their own breaks by taking away from the students’. The longstanding tradition of parties and the Naked Quad Run do not serve as a valid reason for infringing upon reading period. These events not only build community morale, but provide students with the opportunity to step back from academics, and take a deep breath, so that they can may begin their last and most important two weeks of school with a clear mind. Even if some students may choose to spend those two days in a less than productive manner (partying or running naked in freezing weather), that choice remains their right, and for professors to think otherwise is a violation

of school policy and the basic principles of a “liberal arts” education.

Whether the reason be academic or other, Tufts’ professors must abide by the those dates established in the calendar. The only time a professor should go ahead with a change is if the students themselves request and approve it. Otherwise, as it stands, students have no input in the creation of the academic calendar, so for professors to tweak it at will undercuts whatever considerations the administration has provided for the students.

## Task Force Me Badd

At the start of his term, President Bacow called for a “comprehensive evaluation of undergraduate education and life at Tufts University,” which would focus on evaluating the strengths and weaknesses of the curriculum, the relationship between the administration and students, and the contribution of residential life. The Task Force on the Undergraduate Experience has met with the trustees, faculty, staff, alumnae, and a number of student groups, and has conducted forums, inviting greater student outreach. All this input has yielded an interim report, a working draft of policy recommendations to be fine-tuned and then submitted in June.

The interim report correctly identifies underlying issues that cause the more distinct problems at Tufts. A “paucity of opportunities and resources outside the classroom,” “a body fractured by divisions of politics, religion, race, gender, sexuality, socio-economic position, etc., to the detriment of the intellectual experience,” and a “general lack of community” all create student discontent, like the infamous scene from the trustee luncheon last February. The lack of community seems to be shared by both faculty and students across campus communities.

In response to these and other identified problems, the task force has three specific goals: constructing a Tufts College System, promoting intellectual engagement, building community, and strengthening diversity. Four individual colleges would comprise the college system, and once a student is randomly assigned to a college, the affiliation to that college remains no matter one’s place of residence. Students, however, fail to make the link by crediting the student group for their positive experiences, but failing to credit Tufts, as an institution, for those same experiences. Similarly, a student may develop a strong bond with those within the college, much like freshmen living in Tilton, but fail to make the link to Tufts as a whole. A central location where all students could gather would be most effective. Completing the final phase of the Campus Center could transform the current center glorified study area to an actual bustling hub of student socialization and relaxation.

The measures for promoting intellectual engagement, and building community and diversity are well received. Improving the classrooms, dealing with excessive distribution and foundational requirements, and creating more faculty-student interactions would allow students to pursue greater intellectual challenges. Need blind admissions would reaffirm the commitment of the college to admit students based on their intellectual strength, not on their ability to pay, and more naturally creates a diverse socio-economic community. Finally, creating an Alumnae Community Network and a bigger Career Network to enrich both student and alumni experiences puts the college experience into focus. After all, nobody wants to graduate four years later, and \$160,000 poorer, only to be unemployed. □

# Fortnight in Review<sup>SM</sup>

*Comedy is allied to Justice.*

—Aristophanes

**PS** California state and federal officials imposed a quarantine across 117 square miles of citrus and avocado cropland to stop a Mexican fruit fly outbreak in San Diego. The quarantine, however, failed to suppress the simultaneous outbreak of illegal Mexican immigrants.

**PS** A van smuggling illegal immigrants ran into a big-rig in Salt Lake City. Defending themselves, the survivors claimed that they were merely attempting to flee the deadly fruit fly outbreak.

**PS** A white supremacist group says it plans a rock concert this weekend in Daytona Beach. The Hammerskin Nation, which brandishes Confederate flags and Nazi swastikas, is organizing Hammerfest. Featured artists include Michael Jackson, who, the group says, “doesn’t really count as black anymore.”

**PS** Alabaman Wayne Sides is displaying *Images of the Klan*, his black-and-white photos of the Ku Klux Klan at the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute. Klan Members have protested this display, claiming it fraudulent, insisting that “there couldn’t possibly be any black in those photos.”

**PS** Mitt Romney’s top budget official says Massachusetts is in the midst of its worst fiscal crisis since the Depression. He said estimates of a \$2 billion shortfall in the next fiscal year is actually optimistic. When consulted, Lou Esparza insisted that the number was more like fiftyteen gazillion.

Top Ten items campus leftists would like to see under an enviro-friendly Christmas Tree:

10. An electric car
9. A copy of a spell-checked *Radix*
8. Carmichael’s delicious vegan brownies
7. A shower and shave
6. Tofurkey
5. Something to protest
4. A cake with a file in it
3. Sam Dangremond’s head on a platter
2. Nothing—presents support capitalism
1. Respect

**PS** A climbing expert says that two men killed in an avalanche on Mount Washington should not have been on the mountain. The men’s families noted that this information would have been useful a week ago.

**PS** Ninety-year-old Elizabeth Tashjian is lending her nut collection to Connecticut College, which will open an exhibit Thursday to showcase them. Representatives from the school are excited about the exhibit, pointing out that while Connecticut’s got nuts, UConn and Yale don’t.

**PS** About 200 Albuquerque law enforcement officers are using a new weapon in the War on Terror: the threat card. The card lists indicators of terrorist activity with a toll-free number to call the state’s counterintelligence unit. So far, most calls have been answered with, “No, the nightly closing of Dunkin’ Donuts does not constitute terrorist activity.”

**PS** Southwest Texas State University students were forced to relocate because an interior sprinkler soaked five floors of their dormitory. Carmichael gamers are being questioned in the alleged act of vandalism.

**PS** Four Canadian women calling themselves human shields are in Iraq to protest any potential American military action. One protestor, Irene Vandas, told CBC Online News that she expects it to be a “powerful experience.” When reached for comment, Richard Perle replied, “She has no idea...”

Top Ten items PRIMARY SOURCE members got for Hanukkah:

10. Diesel Ford Excursion
9. Stocks and Bonds (at a discount)
8. A SigArms 9mm
7. Hasbro *Strip Dreidel*
6. Turducken
5. Invitations to DTD
4. A little bit of pork, just this once!
3. Osama’s head on a platter
2. A Rush Limbaugh tie
1. Cash-money

**PS** Public facilities in Mission Viejo, California may be stripped of names honoring politicians. Arkansas, on the other hand, is moving forward with naming the state capitol building “The William J. Clinton State Brothel.”

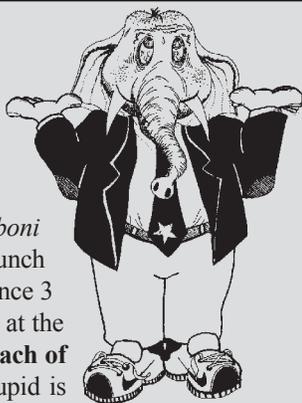
**PS** The Delaware Supreme Court is debating whether to allow TV cameras, still cameras, and audio-recording equipment in the state’s trial courts. Opponents pointed out that no one really cares what goes on in Delaware anyway.

**PS** Do It In The Dark, Deux? The University of Colorado is pushing a cost-cutting initiative, asking students, faculty and staff to turn off the lights and shut down their computer monitors during down hours. Next semester administrators will be encouraging communal showers to cut back on water use.

**PS** A prized chip of wood from the boat that carried George Washington across the Delaware River in 1776 was reported missing. It was later found in Melissa Carson’s office.

**PS** A Kentucky couple accused of trying to sell their 3-month-old baby pleaded innocent last week. If found guilty, the child will be removed from their care and sold to a loving couple by a state adoption agency.

## From the Elephant's Mouth



☞ The truth hurts, yes? The *Zamboni* printed a **Monopoly** card reading “Punch [Megan Liotta] in the face and advance 3 spaces” in response to a *SOURCE* jab at the humor rag. That’s three spaces for **each of Andrew Kambour’s friends**... Stupid is as stupid does: in other campus publication news, *Radix* produced their *December* issue, in which they printed “**Gift Exemption Vouchers**” for *November 29<sup>th</sup>*. It gets better: the same people who tell you that capitalist profit is evil just told you *not* to buy something on the **biggest sale day all year**. Way to “**stick it to the man!**”

☞ *Semper ubi sub ubi*. Earlier in the semester, **Amber Madison** incorrectly wrote the plural of “clitoris” as “*clitori*,” and her last column should have been titled “**Et tu, Brute?**” rather than “Et tu, Brutus?” It’s understandable that she’d have trouble. After all, there weren’t any **Trojans in Rome**... If this isn’t news, what is? “The pull and pray technique isn’t a valid method of contraception,” Madison wrote. Apparently **membrane-destroying nonoxyl-9** is perfectly acceptable... And now for the **icing on the cake**: at a DTD party last weekend, Sam Dangremond asked Ms. Madison if she would be willing to **cook dinner** for the *SOURCE* staff. Amber was thrilled at the opportunity, and can look forward to receiving a *SOURCE* apron in return. *SOURCE* staffers, meanwhile, can look forward to the “**special sauce**.”

☞ Elaine ripped me off: while most of the **TDC** performance last weekend was well done, parents and family were surprised to see the oh-so-sexual dance, Not Your Average Girl. **THE ELEPHANT** suspects the choreographer was inspired by **Wednesday’s Daily**.

☞ Caught sleeping around: one source informed us that TUPD responded to complaints of a **vagrant** sleeping in a Haskell common area, only to find Tilton RA **Carl Jackson**. Not laughing about all that **cash-money** anymore, are you Carl?

☞ **Not so fast!** In what looks to be an attempted power grab, **Alison Clarke** presented a motion to remove **Andrew Potts** as vice president of the senate. The motion failed, just like her campaign for the senate presidency last spring. This is Clarke’s first criticism of the current leadership since going into hiding, gaining weight, and **growing a beard**... Where’s Andrew? Potts was absent when Clarke and **Melissa Carson** led an open discussion about the TCU constitution, asking students to suggest change without making value judgments. The *Daily*, however, knows where to look for ideas. They printed a front page photo of **four SOURCE editors** at the meeting, but in the spirit of Andrew Potts, one of the four made himself **barely visible**.

☞ **THE ELEPHANT** never forgets.

## The Idle Tower

*How could we know that reinstating THE IDLE TOWER would be the gift that keeps on giving? We were initially worried that we would be strapped for content for this section, seeing as we are often so wrapped up in our own peers’ antics. But we underestimated Tufts’ leftists’ cross-country comrades. And so we can bring you another installment of the TOWER...*

### Head in the Clouds

In a disgusting display of disrespect to the very people who ensure his right to free speech, Professor Peter Kirstein of St. Xavier University, lashed out against Air Force cadets. In a scathing email, the tenured teacher called one young cadet a “disgrace to this country,” and referred to military action as “baby killing tactics of collateral damage.” Kirstein has been placed on administrative leave for the semester for issuing what the university called “tasteless, unprovoked, rude, unprofessional, and indefensible.”

### Wa-bashing Conservatives

The *Wabash Commentary*, one of our more esteemed partners in political publishing, has been stripped of official recognition and funding at Wabash College after entering their eleventh volume. The last issue was called “ungentlemanly” by the student body president, and the *Commentary* is no longer eligible to use campus facilities. *Commentary* editors say that the situation can be used to teach a lesson in the necessity for free discourse, and they are working to regain recognition.

### Cral’s Protégé

New Berkeley Mayor Tom Bates has admitted to stealing and dumping 1,000 issues of the *Daily Californian*, an independent paper that serves UC Berkeley students and which endorsed Bates’ opponent in a recent election. In a move remarkably akin to Carl Jackson’s earlier this semester, Bates admitted responsibility but never actually admitted to the theft, despite the fact that several students witnessed the dumping. Former Mayor Shirley Dean has called for Bates’ resignation if he is found guilty of petty theft.



*Liberal Christians should remember that  
Mary chose life.*

# Life on Earth

by Robert Lichter

Americans are now midway between Thanksgiving and January 1<sup>st</sup>, caught in the midst of the happy, secular holiday season. Children are presenting holiday pageants, and cities are conducting holiday tree lighting ceremonies. Everywhere people exchange the greeting, “Happy holidays,” since everyone knows “Merry Christmas” is potentially offensive. This secularization of the Christmas holiday is rather disconcerting, but now Planned Parenthood has decided that a generic holiday season is not enough. Two major Christmas symbols have been co-opted to espouse the message of abortion on demand.

Liberals labeling all Christians as religious right fanatics is nothing new, but now they are refashioning religious beliefs to fit their own agenda. Picking their cause *du jour*, liberals take Christian ideals and piece together what usually amounts to a deceitful argument. For PETA, the religious issue is cruelty to (i.e. eating) animals; for environmentalists, it is Satanic utility vehicles (SUVs). Jesus would not support killing animals, they say, while conveniently forgetting his multiplying a couple of fish to feed a multitude. “What would Jesus drive?” they ask. A man who walked on water, however, probably would not have to worry about transportation. Most Christians can take (or leave) these two because neither group’s argument makes much theological sense. But nor do they mock Christians. Planned Parenthood, which has always toed the line of good taste, has now stepped into the

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

patently offensive by issuing holiday cards that mock the essence of Christmas.

A star-filled front panel—reminiscent of the Star of Bethlehem—bears the message “Choice on Earth,” followed by “Warmest wishes for a peaceful holiday season” on the inside. “Peace on Earth” is taken from the angels’ announcement of Jesus’ birth to shepherds. This attempt at paralleling the Christian message of “peace” and the feminist “choice” is offensive to Christians, as Christianity is inherently pro-life, but Planned Parenthood gets away with it, as it is more PC than Christianity.

The difference between the groups’ messages is at what point one believes that the opportunity for choice ends. Choice is clearly present in the Christmas story; Mary gives her unqualified assent to Gabriel’s message that God has chosen her to be the mother of His Son. It is a brave choice, since she is unmarried at a time when single motherhood has no place in society. Christmas is the celebration of a young woman’s brave act of faith in God, a celebration of the birth of the Messiah, not the murder of an innocent child. Mary chose to do the right thing.

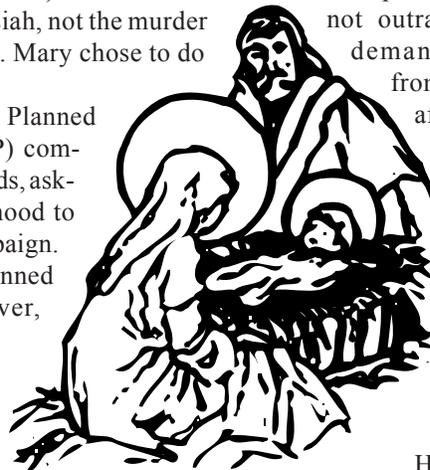
Recently, Stop Planned Parenthood (STOPP) complained about the cards, asking Planned Parenthood to discontinue the campaign. Fortunately for Planned Parenthood, however, pseudo-Christians are willing to defend their holiday cards. Rev. Mark Bigelow, pastor af-

filiated with United Church of Christ and a member of the Clergy Advisory Board for Planned Parenthood, stated, “Even as a minister I am careful what I presume Jesus would do if he were alive today, but one thing I know from the Bible is that Jesus was not against women having a choice in continuing a pregnancy.” He continued, “Jesus was for peace on earth, justice on earth, compassion on earth, mercy on earth, and choice on earth.”

Perhaps Bigelow missed some details in his Reverend-by-mail course because what I know from the Bible is that Jesus, while very forgiving, is not too keen on lying. That Bigelow has the audacity, in the name of Christianity, to equate justice and compassion with the murder of an innocent child is amazing, but another comment from Planned Parenthood is even more absurd. After FoxNews’ Bill O’Reilly covered the topic on *The Factor*, he received a letter referring to the sanctity of choice. Once again, the Left is misusing religious language to advance their cause. Christians defend the sanctity of life, and to suggest there is something at all sacred about killing an innocent—and distinctly sacred—life makes no sense at all.

Believing in freedom of thought and freedom of religion, Christians do not demand that everyone believe in the miracle of Jesus’ birth. They should not, however, have to put up with being insulted on the occasion of a religious holiday. If this were any other religion being defamed, the outcry would be huge. Jews and Muslims would be outraged, along with their Christian supporters. Christians, on the other hand, remain mostly silent in their own defense.

People polled by FoxNews overwhelmingly said that “Choice on Earth” was in poor taste. Why are Christians not outraged? Why are they not demanding public apologies from Planned Parenthood to affronted Christians everywhere? Why is O’Reilly left to carry the torch for Christian principles? Perhaps O’Reilly, a rather mainstream kind of guy, is exactly the right one to carry the message that we mainstream Christians are, and ought to be, offended. Happy secular holiday. □



# HOW CARL JACKSON STOLE CHRISTMAS

**E**very Jumbo on Walnut Hill  
Liked the SOURCE a lot . . .  
But Carl Jackson, an RA down in Tilton  
Did NOT!

Carl Jackson hated the SOURCE! The whole conservative appeal!  
Now, please don't ask us why. No one really knows his deal.  
It could be his head wasn't screwed on just right.  
It could be, perhaps, that his pants were too tight.  
But I think that the most likely reason of all  
May have been that his brain was two sizes too small.

But whatever the reason,  
His heart or his pants,  
Carl stood on a soapbox, spouting leftist rants  
Staring down from Capen House, with a bitter, sour frown,  
He shouted, "The rightists are going to take over the town!  
We must dump all these SOURCES, it's freedom of expression!  
It's time to rid the campus of conservative oppression!"

"And now they want a culture rep!" he exclaimed with a sneer.  
"As if they were Hispanic, Asian, Black, or queer!"  
Carl Jackson growled like a dog in a fight,  
"I MUST do my part to censor the Right!"  
For if they were not silenced, was Carl Jackson's fear,



The whole leftist movement would soon disappear!  
He knew that his task could not be done solo  
Or soon all Jumbos would chant, "Veritas sine dolo!"

"I know just what to do!" Carl laughed out loud.  
And he sent off an email to gather a crowd.  
"To *Radix*, to Oxfam, to the Coalition, et al,"  
He typed furiously away, signing it "Cral."

Sliding down the MAB office chimney would have been a pinch.  
We're talking about Carl Jackson here, not the lean-bodied Grinch.  
So they waited until the SOURCES were distributed that day,  
Found them defaced by another group, but to Samuel's dismay,  
Our leftist crusaders thought they should steal them anyway.

Carl considered himself ever so clever,  
With the great success of his brilliant endeavor.  
"It's time for Big Payback!" he exclaimed with a smile.  
But then he got slapped with a fine—not a trial.

Fearing Megan Liotta's "ballistic-tempered" wrath,  
Carl Jackson chose the less risky path  
A one-year suspension would not have been funny  
So he forked over \$522 – in cash-money.

Amongst the *Observer's* insipid pages  
Our convicted felon rants and he rages.  
"The stealing of 1,000 issues is not theft!  
It's just a message from your friends on the Left!"  
Just like one of our favorite White House politicians,  
Carl is inventing his own definitions!  
Guilty, he's not—despite his admissions!

And what happened then? Well at Tufts we all say,  
That Carl Jackson's small brain, suffered rapid decay.  
Now known as a vagrant, Carl roams as a stray,  
He sleeps in a Haskell Lounge, and that's all there is to say.

# The Primary Source

PRESENTS

## Daily Sex ("Jingle Bells")

*Our readership is low,  
Our editor forlorn,  
What do Jumbos want to read?  
A manual on porn!*



*Amber's steamy nights  
For all of us to read,  
Details about her "escapades" we really didn't need.*

*Oh!  
Daily Sex  
Daily Sex  
Filler for Page Three  
And now our campus paper is a breeding ground for sleaze.*

*Daily Sex  
Daily Sex  
Details by the score  
Your writer's lifestyle choices make her seem a dirty...one more time!*

*We've heard about your toys,  
Your statutory crimes,  
You've turned our Jumbo gentleman to date rape-seeking slime.*

*Health Services is full  
Of students with a "rash,"  
Next thing we know you'll advocate some "favors" for some cash.*

*Oh!  
Daily Sex  
Daily Sex  
The modern "kiss and tell"  
The campus would be cleaner without this immodest belle.*

*Daily Sex  
Daily Sex  
She'll ask you for a date  
But if it's privacy you want, stay home and masturbate!*



**Grab a Brew!**  
 ("Let It Snow")

*Oh the campus intellect is lacking  
 And lefties need a smacking  
 So what are we all to do?  
 Grab a brew! Grab a brew! Grab a brew!*

*If your Thursday nights are boring  
 And you're sick of all that whoring  
 Dorm life has you feeling blue  
 Grab a brew! Grab a brew! Grab a brew!*

*So you hit up all the frats tonight  
 For a quick buzz to keep you warm  
 You think that you're doing all right  
 But someone needs to walk you to your dorm!*

*There are crimes we just might commit  
 For Hillel's Manichewitz  
 But sadly you're not a Jew,  
 Grab a brew! Grab a brew! Grab a brew!*

**O Tufts Connect**  
 ("O Christmas Tree")

*O Tufts Connect, O Tufts Connect,  
 Your service is deplorable.  
 Despite that fact, you do collect  
 My money 'cause you're horrible!*

*You took my local phone away,  
 Switched off my cable twice a day.  
 O Tufts Connect, I do regret  
 That I chose to pre-pay!*

*O Tufts Connect, you disconnect  
 My phone from FEMS and TUPD,  
 So when I'm drunk and pretty wrecked,  
 No one will know to help me!*

*And when I lose my Internet,  
 I know to blame ol' Tufts Connect.  
 O Tufts Connect, you better fret!  
 They won't renew your contract!*

**Commie Carl is  
 Coming to Skool!**  
 ("Santa Claus is Coming to Town")

*You'd better lock up  
 And hide all your cash  
 Stow that new SOURCE  
 and smoke up your stash--  
 Commie Carl is coming to skool!*

*With Capen House crew  
 He dumps all our mags  
 'Bout organized theft  
 he then goes and brags.  
 Commie Carl is coming to skool!*

*He could have paid more dearly  
 For his burning klepto itch.  
 But Chief Meg, she won't prosecute,  
 That ballistic-tempered bitch!*

*You'd better lock up  
 And hide all your cash  
 Stow that new SOURCE  
 And smoke up your stash--  
 Commie Carl is coming to skool!*



**Christmas Carols 2002**

# The Hanukkah Song

(as performed by Adam Sandler)

*Here's a new list of Jumbos who are Jewish, just like  
you and meeeeee...*

*Hillel president Erica Robbins lights the Menorah,  
So do Andrew Potts, Rachel Marx,  
And Neil Hirsch reads the Torah.*

*Guess who eats together at Dewick's fake deli?  
Max the culture rep from Hillel,  
And Josh Belkin watches Simpsons on the tele.*

*Rachel Rubenson controls the media,  
Melissa Carson the FCU,  
Put them together, what an informed sex-crazed Jew!*

*You don't need to deck the halls  
from here to Luxemburg,  
'Cause you can spin the dreidel  
With Matt Kane and George Nitzburg! (Both Jewish!)*

*Amber Madison... not a Jew.  
But if you ask real nice, we'll bet she's a good screw.  
We've got Rafi Goldberg, his viewpoint was pretty crappy.  
Eric Greenberg sounds likes he's Jewish.... not too shabby.*

*Some people think that Ben Lee is 'cause he has all the money,  
Well he's not — but guess who is...  
Jodi Gilman, that Observer honey!*

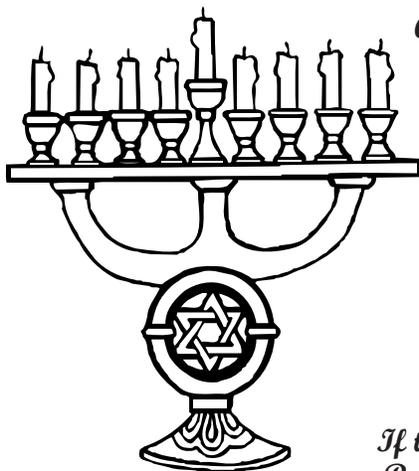
*So many Jews are in Tufts' journalism biz,  
Justin Race isn't—but we heard Dan Black is.*

*Soooo, tell Dean Veronica,  
It's time to celebrate Hanukkah.  
At the Naked Quad Run with your Konica,  
Don't you forget about Hanukkah.  
William F. Buckley drinks gin and tonica,  
And Libertarians smoke your marijuanica.  
If you really really wannika,  
Have a Happy Happy Happy Happy Hanukkah!*



# The Andrew Potts Song

(The Chanukah Song)



*Andrew Potts, oh Andrew Potts  
Almost removed from the senate.  
Clarke tried a coup d'etat,  
But clearly she don't get it!*

*Thankfully, Matt Kane  
Saved your noncommittal ass,  
Even though you told the Daily  
You rank the senate last!*

*Oh Andrew, you owe much to  
parliamentary procedure!  
They thought that it'd be neat  
If they could toss you from your seat,  
But the rule said this could not occur.  
Political oblivion nearly did your future in,  
But it seems your senate seat's still secure!*



# An Army of None

by Sean Colón

The *Tufts Daily* prides itself in being one of the most widely-read college publications in the US, but that gives them no reason to write ill-researched and slanderous articles. Nor does it give them the right to be rude and obnoxious to those who seek coverage and publicity. Somewhere between omitting letters on the front page

**Somewhere between omitting letters on the front page (“idterm Elections”) and getting off on Wednesday’s Page Three, the *Daily* seems to have lost its professionalism.**

(“idterm Elections”) and getting off on Wednesday’s Page Three, the *Daily* seems to have lost its professionalism.

Last Veterans Day, Tufts Tri-Service Organization held an event to honor Tufts graduates who had served in the military. As an Army cadet, I helped organize the event and obtain coverage in student publications. I personally was writing for the *Observer* and was aware that a rep from THE PRIMARY SOURCE was also present at the ceremony. We had previously sent out a press release to the student publications informing them about the event and asking for them to cover it if they could. When the *Daily* failed to show, however, we cadets and midshipmen were disappointed, but realized that many students were gone for the weekend; perhaps no one was around to cover it. Chris Just, president of TSO, sent an email to Rachel Rubenson, editor in chief of the *Daily*, saying we were demoralized by their absence but understood why they would not be able to cover it. Chris also sent her an article I wrote and some pictures to publish, if they wanted. The response Chris received was, to say the least, disturbing

*Mr. Colón is a freshman who has not yet declared a major.*

in its hostility, although reprinting a private email would be inappropriate. I found the message rather strange and was angered by it. I was able to cool off and let it go but little did I know that this was only the beginning.

The *Daily* never did publish an article covering the Veterans Day event, but, conveniently, they

did find room for another article on the Reserve Officers Training Corps only a week later. When a classmate from my English course approached me and asked if ROTC was

leaving campus, I was surprised at his question and inquired about the source of this misinformation. He handed me a copy of the *Daily* and pointed to an article with the headline, “Despite cost, ROTC marches off the hill.” The article stated that the ROTC program consisted of 11 midshipmen (Navy cadets). The article discussed only the Navy program and interviewed only Navy personnel. That the ROTC program consists of the Army, Navy and Air Force seemed like common knowledge. At such a prestigious university as Tufts, everyone should be at least familiar with this one aspect of the military. Apparently that is asking for too much.

Perhaps the *Daily* forgot that the US military also has an Army and an Air Force. When I talked to the other Army cadets on campus they too were upset about the article. But the poor research extended much further. First of all, the title of the article is “Despite cost, ROTC marches off the hill,” when, in reality, the grant that Tufts receives from the government greatly exceeds the cost to send the cadets and midshipmen to MIT. The same article also states that the ROTC program is run through MIT along with Harvard and Boston University. This is false; no one from Boston University trains at the unit at MIT since BU has its own ROTC program. In fact, I competed against their battalion in Ranger Challenge, a varsity sport of the Army. The list continues although the fallacies are too numerous to list in this piece.

The *Daily* certainly has a right to publish an article that is critical of Tufts’ ROTC program, but what bothers me is that it twisted and omitted facts and information to make the program look bad. Additionally, the editor-in-chief hurled unprofessional accusations at my colleague. This behavior is inappropriate and the laziness exhibited not only in their absence at the Veterans Day ceremony, but also in their poor research, is alarming. During the upcoming winter break, the editorial staff should reexamine their responsibilities as the leading provider of news on campus. □



*Equal consideration of the races has become a non-issue in admissions.*

# An Even Playing Slope

*by Brandon Balkind*

In 1995, Jennifer Gratz and Barbara Grutter both applied to the University of Michigan. They were denied admission, despite having impressive credentials. The women claimed they were the victims of racial discrimination. Had these women been minorities, the case would have long been settled. Unfortunately, Ms. Gratz and Ms. Grutter did not have the correct skin tone to allege racial discrimination without having to go so far as the Federal Supreme Court to seek justice.

The two separate law suits will only now be heard by the Supreme Court, seven years after the fact. The Court will issue a ruling no later than June of this year on the legitimacy of affirmative action in college admissions.

Finally, the Supreme Court has resolved itself to make a decision regarding the constitutionality of affirmative action in college admissions. Quite some time has passed since Alan Bakke's groundbreaking case in 1978. The Supreme Court then ruled that college admissions race quotas are considered unconstitutional. Bound by the Equal Protection Clause of the 14th Amendment, the government is forbidden to give one ethnic group or culture special advantages over another. This is not a trivial law. It is expressed directly in the Constitution.

The new ruling will specifically apply to state schools across America. Yet, Tufts, as a private institution is not immune to this decree. The State of Massachusetts and the Federal Government both fund Tufts

*Mr. Balkind is a sophomore majoring in Computer Engineering.*

in the form of grants and loans. However, Tufts cannot dip into the honey pot without paying a price. The University is bound to obey many of the same federal guidelines for admissions as state schools do.

What would Tufts do, if it were unable to consider race in creating its artificial "diversity?" Though Tufts does not seem

to employ a system that discriminates quite as harshly as Michigan's, it does maintain a half-million dollar Diversity Fund, which essentially

funds projects for minority culture interests. The University has also recently accepted several million dollars in grants with the goal of admitting more minorities on financial aid.

Maybe Tufts needs to finally revise its vision of diversity. What if ideological diversity and intellectual promise were top priorities in admissions? What if race was only a minor consideration or not considered at all? Well for one, several hundred thousand dollars would be freed for use by the greater Tufts community. Race does not necessarily need to be eliminated completely from admissions policy, but limiting its role would benefit everyone's morale and financial situation.

In the Bakke case, the late Justice Lewis Powell wrote, "The goal of achieving a diverse student body is sufficiently compelling to justify consideration of race...under some circumstances." There

was some ambiguity in the Bakke ruling, as quotas were disallowed, yet Justice Powell clearly expressed his support for race consideration.

More importantly, Justice Powell did not say that considering one race more than another is constitutional. The notion of equal consideration is directly addressed in the Constitution and subject to very little interpretation. Yet equal consideration of the races has somehow become a non-issue in admissions.

If a private institution wants to use its own money to launch pet campaigns, it has that freedom. It does not have the right, however, to take money from the taxpayers to correct what it perceives as social imbalance. Taxpayers could always vote to support affirmative action with their own money, but to do so is unconstitutional—and will be found so—so long as the Constitution guarantees equality among the races.

Tufts cannot possibly be prepared for the revolution that may follow June's ruling. The University has indoctrinated the student body with its misguided values. If harmony is to exist on this campus next year, it will depend heavily on how both students and faculty react to the judgment. Americans are privileged to live by the Constitution as interpreted by the US Supreme Court.

The most important outcome of these Supreme Court cases will be a final, clear decision on affirmative action. More important than the ruling itself is whether the Supreme Court provides a clear and compelling argument to convince America. The country is split over the issue, and the leadership must take a stand and make a solid judgment. □



**Dean Cuttino visited blackpeopleloveus.com.**

# You Have the Right to Remain P.C.

by Jordana Starr

In an effort to assuage growing racial tensions on the campus, officials at Harvard Law School formed what they call the Committee on Healthy Diversity, whose current focus is the drafting of a proposed speech code that would seek punishment for transgressing students and professors. Sparked by a series of racial “incidents,” the proposed speech code would ban all harassing and offensive language from being used in the classroom setting. The announcement of this plan raised some serious issues of concern amongst both students and faculty—and rightfully so.

With so many universities jumping on the sensitivity bandwagon, many administrators, professors, and students have forgotten the point of a college education: to learn. Learning can only be attained in an environment where people can freely express and challenge ideas, without the fear of offending everyone in sight. As if the informal patronization of free-thinkers by their touchy-feely peers for not adhering to the rules of political correctness was not enough aggravation, some people are trying to make freedom of expression punishable by a formal disciplinary code! Not only is such action beyond unnecessary, but the codes will prove, if enacted, to be politically dangerous and counter-productive to the learning process.

Aside from the fact that such speech codes are a clear violation of freedom of speech granted in the First Amendment, the speech codes themselves are far too abstract to enforce realistically. How does one define “harassing and offensive language” suitable to be banned and punished under such a code?

*Ms. Starr is a freshman who has not yet declared a major.*

When Harvard’s own Alan Dershowitz, a constitutional law expert and member of the diversity committee, asked this of a student representing the Black Law Students Association, the student found herself unable to

offer a concrete example. Dershowitz was later criticized by colleague Randy Kennedy for “embarrassing” this student. Fellow committee member Philip B. Heymann

came to Dershowitz’s defense, noting that challenging students at an elite law school to defend their opinions should not be considered unreasonable. Would this be an unreasonable standard for *any* institution of higher learning?

Regardless if a student is being disruptive in a classroom by speaking out of turn, using crude language, or making purposely insulting remarks, the professor retains the right to squelch discussion or chastise the student on the basis that what he or she is saying is *detracting from the learning process*. The same is true for the reverse; students have the right to express their grievances if a professor is not conducting himself

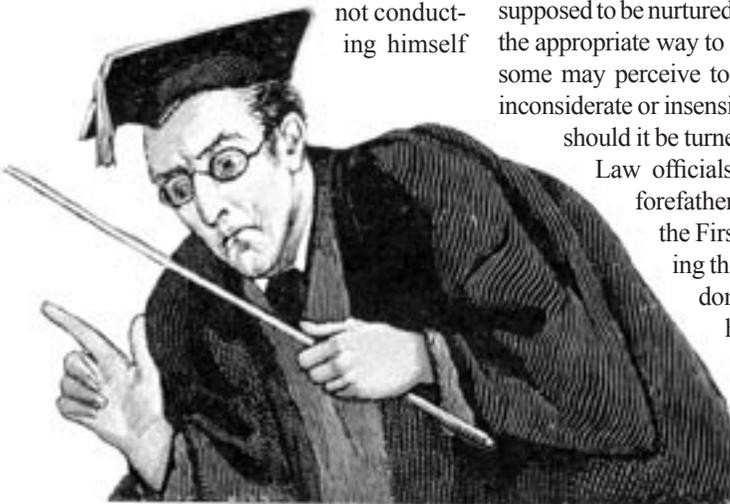
in a professional manner while in front of the class.

A professor’s decision to control the tone of his or her classroom does not, however, provide grounds for restraining speech if said speech represents unpopular sentiments or is an opinion that may be considered offensive by some. A few ruffled feathers is also not grounds for establishing a formal rule prohibiting this kind of speech. Professors and students have full control over what goes on in classrooms; for a group of outsiders to interfere with the proceedings of a classroom in which they are not present can create some very troubled waters.

When formal restrictions are placed on speech, both students and professors will obey the codes if their record or tenure is at stake. Unfortunately, when a general restriction against offensive language is in place, people become so afraid of offending others that they choose not to say anything altogether. After all, they still retain the right to remain silent. In a classroom of nervous, quiet students, learning is significantly diminished. The free-flow of ideas and opinions allows people to learn from each other, whether gaining new insights on another’s viewpoint, or using the knowledge gained from objections to further defend one’s own. When students are more concerned with being politically correct than accurately expressing themselves, all the advantages of discussion-based learning are obliterated. The result of these speech codes would undermine the intent of education.

A law school’s primary focus should be educating the future lawyers of America, not making the campus so politically correct one’s stomach turns at the mere mention of the term “safe speech.” Controlling speech at a law school—where argumentative skills are supposed to be nurtured, not repressed—is not the appropriate way to go about solving what some may perceive to be a problem. Being inconsiderate or insensitive is not a crime, nor should it be turned into one by Harvard

Law officials. Perhaps, when our forefathers put in that little line in the First Amendment regarding the abridgement of freedom of speech, they could have added the word “all,” underlining it twice and circling it just to make their message unmistakable. □



*Round and round we go.  
Wherever we stop, nobody knows...*

# Iraq's Lip Service Carousel

*by Christian Miller*

December 8<sup>th</sup> marked the deadline established by the most recent United Nations resolution regarding Iraq's violation of the international weapons of mass destruction ban. Under the auspices of UN Resolution 1441, which passed in November by a unanimous vote of 15-0 in the UN Security Council, requires that Iraq fully disclose its weapons of mass destruction programs and that it disarm any existing ones. Such open ended language was necessary and proper because it provides the United Nations with the necessary flexibility in deciding whether Iraq—unequivocally a hostile country—is in breach of international law.

In an entirely unexpected turn of events, Iraq submitted its declaration on weapons of mass destruction a day before the deadline. The report contained what at first glance seemed to be a comprehensive and extensive analysis of Iraqi weapons research. Within the almost 12,000 page report, several thousand pages were devoted to a review of Iraq's biological, chemical, and missile developments. In addition, Iraq attached twelve CDs containing several hundred megabytes worth of complimentary files and information. While the report's existence seems to imply a willingness to comply on Iraq's part, several questions concerning the report must be addressed.

First is the timeliness in which the Iraqi regime managed to compile and present the report to the United Nations. For a country that has continually sought to deceive the global community about its internal affairs and external agenda, they

*Mr. Miller is a sophomore majoring in Mathematics and Quantitative Economics.*

were surprisingly ready to acquiesce to the Resolution after it had passed with the backing of UN. The regime's cooperation has raised a few eyebrows, and their promptness indicates an over-zealous attempt to placate the world—tell-tale signs of abnormal behavior and pre-fabricated information.

Additionally, even if the entire report contained factual information (a long shot at best), presupposing that Iraq would incriminate themselves by setting forth information about their continuation of a weapons of mass destruction program is pure folly. Saddam's regime has no incentive to be truthful, since honesty over violations would cost Saddam's government national and international credibility, which would have the same effect as an active regime change would.

Such credibility in the eyes of the international community is crucial in maintaining a legitimate government, but also political clout. In fact, there is a very recent example in which Saddam tested the waters with his local Arab neighbors.

On national television, Saddam apologized for past transgressions—specifically for his invasion of Kuwait—in an attempt to reconcile his government with that of the neighboring state's. In a terse response, Kuwait revealed its position that “the statement merely repeated Iraq's previous excuses for invading the emirate. We believe the apology should be addressed first to the Iraqi people, who are being repressed.” Coupled with CNN's report, “Kuwait has rejected Saddam's apology,” the statements reveal a break in what many believed to be indissoluble Arab solidarity. Significantly, critics who think President Bush's policy towards Iraq is too severe and misguided need only look towards what Middle East leaders think of Saddam to see that Bush's actions have been both justified and measured.

The aforementioned United Nations Resolution with its loose wording also serves a function with regards to the Iraqi declaration. The United States, through the United Nations, has the ability to proceed with military measures if it discovers discrepancies within the report. Once United States intelligence plus information gleaned from the million or so pages compiled by UN Inspections Commissions and the International Atomic Energy Agency have been compared to that of Iraq's declaration, the UN will then have proof to either explicitly implicate Iraq or to show implicitly that they have been withholding vital material.

Either way, explicit or implicit proof would be sufficient to justify flexing the US's military muscle. Richard Butler, head of previous UN inspections in Iraq, commented, “It's clear that they [Iraq] do have weapons of mass destruction.” With such strong condemnations from officials like Butler, and the recent stances taken by Arab nations like Kuwait, the United

States is really only awaiting an official go ahead from the United Nations. Once such an approval is obtained, the United States should proceed with all due diligence towards Iraq in exactly the same manner it approached Afghanistan because, as the Clinton administration's lack of initiative with bin Laden has made clear, the repercussions are no laughing matter. □



*Thought buying drugs aided terror? Try gasoline...*

## All in the Family

*by Jon Halpert*

The Bush administration has always described Saudi Arabia as a “staunch” ally. The adjective brings to mind such stalwart friends as Britain, France, or other NATO allies. Having fought two World Wars and faced the long dark of the Cold War together, our European cousins (though pesky as of late) can indeed be described as staunch allies. Yet Saudi Arabia, though they have shared with us few—if any—foreign or domestic policy goals, has somehow embedded itself in the heart of every president since Carter. We, the American public, have always been, at best, skeptical about our newest and dearest “brother” nation. Having once been under a monarchy ourselves, perhaps we have enough leftover memories of King George to make us wary of the House of Saud. Still, if Americans are generally tolerant of our nation's feigned love for the Saudis, it's only because we recognize that Saudi Arabia controls the one thing we need from anybody: oil.

Last week, however, relations took a distinct turn for the worse as allegations surfaced that a member of the Saudi royal family may have funded flight training for one of the 9/11 terrorists. A few days later, a joint congressional committee blasted the Saudi government for refusing extradition of Saudi men who had abducted their American-born children. All in all, it looked like Americans were getting tired of their “chief Arab ally.” Media outlets and newspapers across the country voiced concern about our relationship with a

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country that openly spurns democratic values, that exports terrorists (or at least 15 out of every 19), that brutally represses women, and that rejects any of the positive influences of Western culture, except for Western money. Yet George Bush, the man who rallied a wounded nation at Ground

Zero, who declared our enemies an “axis of evil,” who essentially challenged bin Laden to a knife fight on national TV, and who has never been accused—even

by his opponents—of being soft-spoken, anointed Saudi Arabia a “staunch” ally, right up there with Canada or Great Britain.

Have a cup of Texas tea; it might clear the bitter taste from your mouth. The fact is that no matter how damning the evidence, no matter how bad feelings may run between our two peoples, we can-

not reject the Saudis. Our economy, our military and our very lives run on oil. No better source of cheap, plentiful fuel on the planet exists, and, in gearing up for a war on Iraq, Terrorism, or (God willing) France, we need the world's oil tap to keep flowing. In this sense, Saudis have nearly cornered the market. True, we only import about 10% of our oil from Saudi Arabia itself. However, were the Saudis to restrict their production tomorrow prices would go through the roof worldwide. Fighting a war would suddenly become very tricky. And in this light, any president, no matter how outspoken, should be bending over backwards to grace the derriere of our most dubious friend.

The irony of the War on Terrorism is that Western money has fueled it. Certainly British, French, and Russian imperialism, coupled with American hegemony, most likely lit the spark, but the flames of terror have been fanned by a constant influx of Western cash traded for Middle Eastern oil. Even if the 9/11 terrorists did not receive oil money directly, these Islamic guerillas, in Iran, Afghanistan, Chechnya, and all over the world, are supported by “donations” from their wealthy oil cousins. The Saudi government openly declares that they will donate \$5,000 to the family of any martyr (read: suicide bomber) of the Palestinian cause. It's on their website. Even bin Laden's own family fortune was built on construction in Saudi Arabia that was funded by oil profits. Paying dollars for Saudi oil, even cheap oil, may no longer be worth the cost in damage or lives.

Until we pull the plug on the billions of dollars in oil revenues that are flowing into the region, Islamic fundamentalists will continue to be able to wage subversive terrorism on the West. In the short term we can find alternative sources of oil either by building pipelines in the Caucasus or drilling in ANWR and offshore. In the long term, however, our nation must begin to develop cheap, renewable sources of energy. Only when that happens will the cash flow dry up, and Saudi Arabia can go back to being a backwards, repressive sandbox and no friend of ours. □

**If Americans are generally tolerant of our nation's feigned love for the Saudis, it's only because we recognize that Saudi Arabia controls the one thing we need from anybody: oil.**



# Turkey Day?

by *Tara Heumann*

The European Union is quickly approaching the moment at which it will decide Turkey's fate. At the EU summit to be held later this week in Copenhagen, the 15 current member nations plan to formalize agreements to add 10 new countries and 90 million more citizens to the EU ranks, mostly from Central Europe. For many of these soon-to-be members, the accession process to the European Union closely follows last month's NATO invitation to seven new countries to join the world's most powerful military alliance. Turkey is already a member of NATO, but is it ready to join the EU?

Turkey has been viewed as the world's strategic link between East and West; while the majority of the landmass lies in Asia, several of the nation's finest sites and cities technically lie in Europe, to the west of the Strait of Bosphorus. Turkey connects Greece and Bulgaria to Syria and Iraq, but whether its linking role may approach anything more significant than geographic is yet undetermined.

Frenchman Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, chairman of the convention on the European Union's future, declared loudly that it would represent "the end" of the EU if Turkey were ever granted membership. Critics of the chairman were incensed. On the eve of armed conflict with Iraq and in the wake of imminent al-Qaeda threats in Europe, the Union could benefit from Turkish cooperation, they argued. Reasonable negotiation with the Turks will also be a prerequisite to secure a peaceful settlement to the conflict over Cyprus. Though Turkey recently elected an Islamic government, the nation remains the most secular Muslim country worldwide, and it is certainly the most Western-friendly.

Supporters of Turkish accession rightly declare that the goal of the EU is to encourage cooperation, not to foster complete political or

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military integration. They use this mission to argue that any nation may adopt EU ideals, and thus all are potential members. "Countries that can subscribe to the core values of democracy and freedom should be eligible as candidates,"

an *Economist* staff member opined last week, "be they Slavs or Muslims, and no matter how far they are in miles from Paris or Berlin."

This general criterion for mem-

bership, however, is not as easily attained as one might think. Those who support Turkey's candidacy point to the nation's democratic reforms to defend its readiness for entry into the Union. Only in 2002, however, did Turkey finally agree to ease tight language restrictions previously enforced against the Kurdish minority in broadcasting and education. Acceptance into the EU would require Turkey to adopt tens of thousands of pages of EU statutes dictating law from the rights of the employed to environmental regulations.

Heather Grabbe of the Centre for European Reform urged the EU to seize the opportunity to exert such tremendous influence over a large and strategic neighbor. The expectation of sweeping, multi-faceted change in only ten

years, however, is an unrealistic goal. Not only will reform take far longer, the Turkey that emerges from such a radical overhaul may little resemble the nation as it exists today. The military remains politically powerful, while the market economy has yet to establish a strong footing. Hesitance to admit Turkey to the EU should not stem from a desire to maintain the institution as a "Christian's club," but Turkey's Islamic roots should be an important trump card since it is preparing to ally itself with a coalition bent on eliminating Muslim extremists.

The Kemalist nation, as founded by Ataturk in 1923, was secular; it not only stressed separation of mosque and state, but banned Islam entirely from public life. Rebellion festered among the angered Turks until they voted recently in favor of the pro-Islamic party. A careful balance between secularism and healthy religious expression has yet to be struck in Turkey.

Concern should also be raised regarding Turkey's large population. In less than twenty years, Turks may outnumber Europeans of any other nationality, and, in the EU, size equals power. In some member states, nearly half of national statutes result from direct implementation of Union policy. As the number of decisions made through majority rule steadily increases, Turkey would capture the largest block of votes in the Council of Ministries and the European Parliament, the body's two legislatures.

Turkey maintains a well-trained military, strong ties to countries in Central Asia, and a history of Western political comportment. As columnist John O'Sullivan wisely asserts, Turkish cooperation would be critical to any coalition in Iraq, the Middle East, or the Eastern Mediterranean. More important than strategy, however, is reliability. Until Turkey can prove itself a country devoted to democratic ideals, it has no place in the European Union. Once the EU offers Turkey entrance, withdrawing the proposition is impossible. Talks about accession, therefore, should not proceed until Turkey demonstrates at least a decade of stability that confirms its readiness to firmly ally itself with the West. □

**Until Turkey can prove itself a country devoted to democratic ideals, it has no place in the European Union.**



One database to rule them all.

# Party Like It's 1984

by Jason Walker

Art imitates life, but sometimes life imitates art. And, once in blue moon, political life imitates the fantasy/sci-fi genre. For example, the Pentagon's new sinister-sounding "Information Awareness Office," looks like something out of a bad dystopian-cyberpunk novel, down to the Office's official Masonic logo. One needn't be a conspiracy buff to already be creeped out by the mere semiotics of IAO, but semiotics are the least of IAO's troubles.

The Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) labs sponsor the IAO. Its purpose, now officially authorized by the Homeland Security Act, is to create new technologies to fight terrorism, the most controversial of these being "Total Information Awareness." If successfully implemented, TIA will create the largest database ever assembled, measured in petabytes. Although petabytes fall just short of "total" information omniscience, TIA will have to be at least that big to track every American's "transactional" data: bank accounts, credit cards, school records, travel itineraries, even website visits and personal email. In theory, federal authorities will be able to mine the data for suspicious patterns that are supposedly signs of terrorism: unusual bank deposits or withdrawals, flying lessons, or even the purchase of one-way tickets or subversive literature. Proponents of TIA hope this will allow the government to prevent terrorism before it happens—just like a Department of Pre-Crime.

The man tapped to organize this office is, incredibly, John Poindexter. The former admiral and National Security Advisor is best known for engineering Iran-Contra, for which he was convicted of shredding documents, destroying evidence, and lying to Congress, a total of five felonies, later overturned on a technicality. Trusting Poindexter with privacy rights is like trusting Henry Kissinger to investigate the CIA.

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Even so, the most obvious objection to TIA is constitutional. Not only does the military have no business spying on civilians, the Fourth Amendment makes this entire project unconstitutional. With no warrant or probable cause, "the right of the people to be secure in persons, houses, papers, and effects" against such unreasonable search trumps whatever conveniences the IAO hopes TIA will provide. Tracking someone's personal information *should* be inconvenient, especially without a warrant. The more diffuse and dispersed a person's data is, the better protected that person is.

Even without privacy concerns, such a system probably will not actually work. Filtering mechanisms of unprecedented power will be needed to sift through the immense data bulk, leading many specialists to doubt TIA's feasibility. Further, terrorists, particularly of the Wahhabist/Islamist strain represented by al-Qaeda, usually come from technologically stagnant societies. If they can live in caves, they can forgo a few modern conveniences to avoid detection. Or they could blend in with what the system will recognize as "normal" lifestyles, which would not be too difficult if they learn from the mistakes that almost ensnared Mohammed Atta. To be useful, the system would have to become highly sensitive to the most personal data in order to tell the real terrorists from ordinary law-abiders, and will likely make quite a few mistakes along the way.

To be fair, Poindexter insists that he cares as much about privacy "as the next person," and that TIA will contain safeguards which will protect the privacy of every American dossier. Poindexter may be a perjurer and guilty of breaking his oath to defend the Constitution, but assume he is now sincere. Michael Scarda-

ville, writing for *National Review*, argues that only (suspected?) terrorists should fear TIA. It will only be used to facilitate building profiles of identified suspects, and TIA employees will probably not have the time, even if they were so inclined, to get the skinny on which porn sites average Americans frequent.

Of course, government agencies should pool what they know about identified suspects, but even with the best of intentions, the potential to destroy innocent people's reputations with TIA is very real. TIA will only expose more people to false accusations based on mere "patterns," creating more Richard Jewels and Wen Ho Lees than ever. This is the same government, after all, which for years investigated violent radicals like Martin Luther King and *MAD Magazine*, and until the Eighties, considered Nelson Mandela a terrorist.

Social Security numbers originally were, proponents promised, only to be used in administering the Social Security Agency. The income tax was originally only for the very wealthy. TIA may only now have a limited scope, but if past is prologue, bureaucrats will find new uses in no time. TIA will be an irresistible tool for drug enforcement agencies and likely provide the foundation for a national ID card, which influential thinkers like Alan Dershowitz already advocate. Even in the most competent, Constitutionally-minded hands, TIA will represent the holy grail for

hackers and identity thieves worldwide, who have already breached Department of Defense satellite photos and nuclear data.

Granted, IAO's work on voice recognition and instant translation shows great promise and, once privatized, could spur profound technological innovation for civilians as well as law enforcement. TIA could be palpable as a database that contained only dossiers of identified suspects and for whom warrants have been issued.

But as planned, TIA could be the most fully realized Orwellian initiative this side of the Korean peninsula. Law enforcement agencies should efficiently reorganize their own houses before demanding new intrusive surveillance technologies. TIPS, the program that would have made mail carriers and cable guys spies for the government, was defeated by public outcry. TIA should meet the same fate. □

**Trusting Poindexter with privacy rights is like trusting Henry Kissinger to investigate the CIA.**



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# books

***Bush At War***  
by **Bob Woodward**  
Simon & Schuster, 2002  
ISBN 0-7432-0473-5  
\$28.00, hardcover

Author and editor for the *Washington Post* Bob Woodward is no lightweight when it comes to either reporting, analyzing, or reviewing the internal workings of the United States administration, specifically meetings between President Bush and his advisors. With eight national nonfiction bestsellers under his belt, Woodward has already established himself as one of the leading investigative journalists—remember Watergate?—covering the roles of the key members of presidential administrations as they formulate resolutions during major international developments.

His most recent work, *Bush at War*, briefly highlights the events immediately prior to 9/11 and then delves into the ensuing months of discussions and meetings that are responsible for conceiving the War on Terror and current US foreign policy.

In the introduction, Woodward points out that the book is largely a product of: "contemporaneous notes taken during more than 50 National Security Council and other meetings...[and interviews] of more than 100 people involved in the decision making." Staying true to the introduction, his book remains consistent from beginning to end. Each and every section is laden with detailed facts and quotations that are taken directly from the meetings themselves. His inside access provides for analytic immersion on two levels: a glimpse at rarely publicized information and resources, as well as a realistic look at the thought processes that go into devising the nation's courses of action.

Besides being based on solid and substantial content, the book's style, how Woodward actually chronicles the events, is another incentive to grab it off the shelf.

# BUSH AT WAR



BOB WOODWARD

The book unravels the events following 9/11 with abrupt transitions between each important date and when alternating between the point of view of each person. The literary techniques gives the reader a taste of the chaos and frenzy that engulfed President Bush and his Security Council in the aftermath and in their attempt to find the appropriate response to the tragedy. While his eye for detail lets the reader get their foot in the door to the information, the format in which the book is written

permits the reader to actually take a seat at National Security Council meetings along with the other members.

Woodward, with this most recent work, has demonstrated his ability to obtain access to undisclosed information and to sift through that data effectively. If anyone is seeking an authoritative account to counterbalance the speculation about the Bush administration's intentions that has been floating around the airwaves since 9/11, *Bush at War* is definitely the answer. Woodward presents facts that

speak for themselves, commentating without superfluity and only when necessary. Undoubtedly, when analysts are looking back at the incident in an attempt to clarify the entire ordeal, Woodward's *Bush at War* will be frequently cited and reviewed, as it provides a clear and insightful look into not only the administration, but into the character and mindset of one of the nation's strongest presidents.

—Christian Miller



The CIA placed this sign on each page of its briefing booklet, "Going to War."

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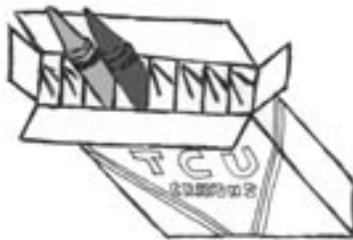
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## NOTABLE AND QUOTABLE

Christmas is a time when kids tell Santa what they want and adults pay for it. Deficits are when adults tell the government what they want and their kids pay for it.

—Richard Lamm

No man can be a patriot on an empty stomach.

—William Cowper Brann

California Governor Gray Davis is returning a \$10,000 campaign contribution when he found out it was from the owners of a strip club. To his credit, he's going to return the money to the girls one dollar at a time.

—Jay Leno

The basis of a democratic state is liberty.

—Aristotle

The Democratic party is like a mule. It has neither pride of ancestry nor hope of posterity.

—Ignatius Donnelly

No nation was ever ruined by trade.

—Benjamin Franklin

The first priority of any serious program against poverty is to strengthen the male role in poor families.

—George Gilder

As far as Saddam Hussein being a great military strategist, he is neither a strategist nor is he schooled in operational arts. He's not a tactician. He's not a general. He's not a soldier. Other than that, he's a great military man.

—Norman Schwarzkopf

Uneasy lies the head that wears a crown.

—William Shakespeare

Any excuse will serve a tyrant.

—Aesop

My choice early in life was either to be a piano player in a whorehouse or a politician. And to tell the truth, there's hardly any difference.

—Harry Truman

What is technically possible is not for that very reason morally admissible.

—Vatican Statement

Death is better, a milder fate than tyranny.

—Aeschylus

Politics is perhaps the only profession for which no preparation is thought necessary.

—Robert Louis Stevenson

A man cannot be too careful in the choice of his enemies.

—Oscar Wilde

It would be a sad thing if the religious and moral convictions upon which the American experiment was founded could now somehow be considered a danger to free society.

—Pope John Paul II

It isn't the sum you get, it's how much you can buy with it that's the important thing.

—Mark Twain

A president's hardest task is not to do what is right, but to know what is right.

—Lyndon Johnson

Roses are reddish

Violets are bluish

If it weren't for Christmas

We'd all be Jewish.

—Benny Hill

Real generosity toward the future lies in giving all to the present.

—Albert Camus

Don't get excited about a tax cut. It's like a mugger giving you back fare for a taxi.

—Arnold Glasow

The natural effort of every individual to better his own condition is so powerful that it is alone, and without any assistance, not only capable of carrying on the society to wealth and prosperity, but of surmounting a hundred impertinent obstructions with which the folly of human laws too often encumbers its operations.

—Adam Smith

Liberalism is the philosophy of sniveling brats.

—P.J. O'Rourke

We don't believe children are just mouths to feed. They are hearts, minds, and souls for our future. And they deserve our protection not only after their birth, but before they are born.

—Jack Kemp

The current tax code is a daily mugging.

—Ronald Reagan

It is the eternal struggle between these two principles—right and wrong—throughout the world. They are the two principles that have stood the test of time.

—Abraham Lincoln

I hold that a little rebellion, now and then, is a good thing, and is as necessary in the political world as storms in the physical.

—Thomas Jefferson

Whoso would be a man must be a nonconformist.

—Ralph Waldo Emerson

The Lord Himself will give you a sign: behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

—Book of Isaiah 7:14