

Tufts studies reveal food calorie count underreporting

BY GABRIELLE HERNANDEZ
Contributing Writer

An ongoing study by Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy researchers has shown that many frozen dinners and restaurant side dishes are underreporting the amount of calories in their foods by an average of 18 percent

In a concurrent study, the Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine has found similar results with regards to caloric counts on pet foods.

Researchers at the Friedman School sought to determine the accuracy of calorie reporting by measuring the amount of calories contained in nationally available restaurants and packaged meals and comparing them to the nutritional facts distributed by producers.

Lorien E. Urban, a Ph.D candidate at the Friedman School and the primary author of the study, said that the researchers intentionally studied dishes that were listed as being low-calorie.

"We wanted to look at foods chosen by people who might want to lose weight," she said. "The other thing we looked for was foods that were typical to the American diet."

Through the study, researchers found that each of the restaurant dishes had, on average, 18 percent more calories than was reported by restaurants or manufacturers. Two of the dishes showed 200 percent more calories than was indicated. Calorie counts in frozen dinners were also underreported by about eight percent.

Urban is unsure whether the discovered discrepancies are intentional or merely negligent errors.

"I don't think that restaurants would intentionally deceive people," she said. "They want to provide useful information to their consumers, but without any federal policy there's no incentive for quality control ... they can be off by however much they want to be."

Currently, the Food and Drug

Administration allows for packaged foods to have a 20 percent margin of error in their reporting. There are no regulations on variability for restaurant entrees.

Some students, such as senior Lauren Gluck, are disappointed, although not altogether surprised, by the findings of the study.

"I assumed, I guess incorrectly, that packaged foods could measure calories more systematically," she said. "You expect healthy foods to report more accurately than regular foods, but I guess they don't."

Urban noted, however, that the study was only a pilot study and was therefore relatively small.

"We only had one study of each food, so we can't generalize about the restaurant or the food, but I do hope it brings awareness to consumers about the food," she said.

The study at the Cummings School looked at a similar trend in pet food, which showed a much different type of variation in caloric inaccuracies.

After testing both wet and dry dog and cat food, researchers found that, based on the recommended serving size, pet foods provided for between 74 and 147 percent of the pet's resting energy requirements.

The cost of calories per serving also varied across the board, with the studied products charging between \$0.04 and \$1.10 per kilocalorie.

Dr. Lisa Freeman, study co-author and professor of nutrition at the Cummings School, said that she was surprised by the pet foods' wide range of calories, feeding directions and costs.

"This variability adds to the difficulty of achieving and maintaining successful body condition in dogs and cats," Freeman said in an e-mail to the Daily.

Pet foods with such labels as "lite," "light," "low calorie," "less calorie" or "low calorie" must provide their caloric content under current federal guidelines.

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Fletcher alum newest CNP president

BY HARRISON JACOBS
Daily Editorial Board

Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy graduate Dr. Stephen Flynn (F '90, '91) became the sixth president of the Center for National Policy (CNP) in January.

CNP is a small, independent think tank based in Washington D.C. that has been a mainstay in public policy for nearly 30 years. Previous presidents of CNP include former congressman Tim Roemer and Madeline Albright, the former United Nations ambassador and former Secretary of State under the Clinton administration.

In a recent press release, Albright called Flynn "a gifted leader, who will expertly carry out the organization's mission."

Nathaniel Eberle, director of public relations at the Fletcher School, noted Flynn's extensive experience in the field of national security.

"Dr. Flynn has a celebrated career of helping make this country a safer place, and that is quite admirable," he said.

Flynn graduated from the Fletcher School, where he received a Master of Arts in Law and Diplomacy in 1990 and a Ph.D in 1991. His experience at Fletcher, Flynn said, has informed everything he has done since.

"All the most important public policy problems that we face today are inherently multidisciplinary problems ... the way Fletcher works is to not only talk the talk of multidisciplinary but also to walk the walk," he told the Daily. "That is the education I got from the Fletcher school. I had to make my brain work across these boundaries ... If you couldn't navigate across those disciplines, you didn't do so well."

Eberle echoed Flynn's belief in the multi-faceted education that the



COURTESY CFR.ORG

Stephen Flynn is the new president of the Center for National Policy.

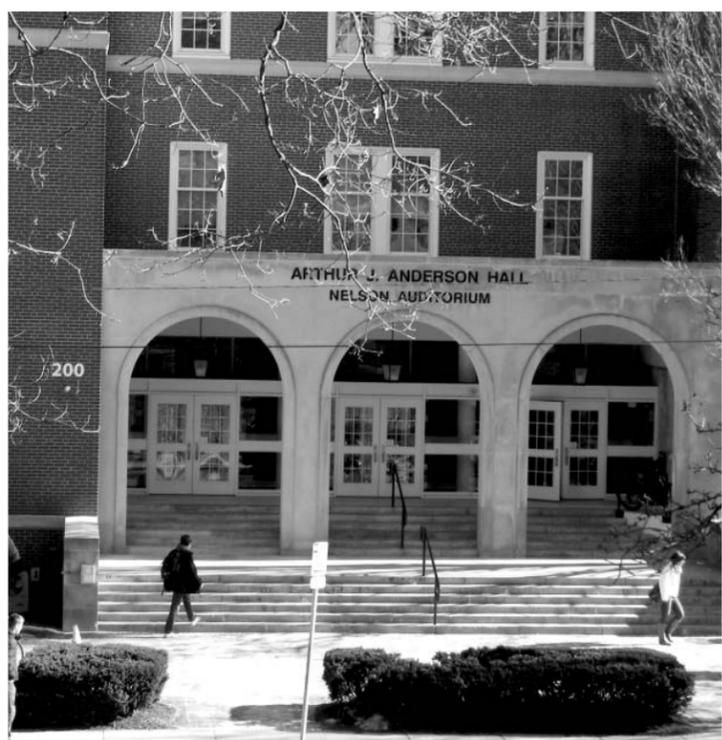
Fletcher school provides.

"Fletcher is a pretty unique learning environment," he said. "The concepts that are dissected by CNP are the same concepts that are examined in our classroom discussions everyday."

Flynn said that his work at CNP will focus on two issues that he has long been an advocate for: community resiliency and infrastructure resiliency.

Community resiliency, he explained,

see **FLYNN**, page 3



JODI BOSIN/TUFTS DAILY

Engineering students will get the chance to participate in different competitions during Engineering Week.

Engineering Week to be enhanced

BY DAPHNE KOLIOS
Daily Staff Writer

Engineering Week returns next week for its second year at Tufts, bringing with it an expanded repertoire of events and activities to unite the engineering community in friendly competition.

The week will begin with an opening ceremony at 6 p.m. Monday evening, and will feature a number of creative competitions incorporating engineering.

"Some of the more popular [competitions] last year were duct taping a student to a wall using as little duct tape as pos-

see **ENGINEERING**, page 3

Online TV show DartBoston features Tufts entrepreneur



VIRGINIA BLEDSOE/TUFTS DAILY

Entrepreneurship society DartBoston came to Tufts last night to feature senior Michael Kuznetsov and his new business Syllaplus in its weekly online TV talk show. The event was coordinated by junior Jason Nochlin, president of Young Entrepreneurs at Tufts.

Inside this issue

"Questions Without Answers" exhibition examines global issues through photography.



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The Daily previews the 2010 Winter Olympics.



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Culinary adventurers sample the local flavors of America

BY MARISSA CARBERRY
Daily Editorial Board

Over the past few years, foodies across the country have witnessed the incredible rise in popularity of TV shows like "Diners, Drive-ins and Dives," a Food Network program that features celebrity chef Guy Fieri visiting renowned casual eateries across the United States.

Perhaps entranced by Fieri's catchphrase, "That's money!" as he chomped down another delicious sandwich, or perhaps simply sick of dining hall dinners, senior Benjamin Filippo became increasingly interested in food during his sophomore year at Tufts.

He spent his junior year abroad in London, where the British university system has such liberal breaks that he was able to travel extensively around Europe, sampling the various local cuisines at each of his destinations. With an insatiable interest in food, he decided to attend the School of Oriental and African Studies in London, because it offered a year-long course on food anthropology.

"The reason I went abroad was to take a year-long course on the anthropology of food," Filippo said. "It's one of the only true, universal aspects of cultures. Food brings people together in all societies. It has pretty much since the beginning of time."

Filippo believes, however, that the proliferation of fast-food chains in the United States has led to a breakdown in American food culture. Consumers across the country purchase identical processed foods from McDonald's or Wendy's, driving small mom-and-pop eateries out of business.

"So many cultures around the world, especially outside of Western Europe and the [United States], will sit down for huge feasts and be there all day," Filippo said. "We've lost a lot of that conviviality in the West because of the popularity of



COURTESY ARI PADELLEN

Senior Benjamin Filippo and sophomore Brian Tummon took a winter break culinary road trip.

fast food places."

In August, when Filippo returned to Tufts, he reunited with sophomore Brian Tummon, a friend from high school who had spent his first year at Tufts while Filippo was abroad. When they realized that neither had traveled widely around the United States, they began to discuss the possibility of taking a road trip over winter break to see and sample the country's various regional flavors.

"America definitely has a lot of regional cuisine," Filippo said. "Unfortunately, some of it's dying out, but you can still get cracklings in Mississippi and those crazy hot dogs in Tucson."

The pair mapped out a route that began in Charleston, S.C., continued on to Nashville and Birmingham, Ala.,

then headed west through New Orleans, Shreveport, Dallas, Tucson, and the Grand Canyon. From there, they decided to drive through the Mojave Desert to Los Angeles, and then up the Pacific Coast Highway to San Francisco. On the way back to Boston, they stopped in Salt Lake City, Denver, Kansas City, Louisville, Newark, Delaware, Baltimore and Kenova, W. Va.

Some locations were chosen because friends lived there, others because of their historical sites or their aesthetic beauty. Some, of course, were selected for their food culture and celebrated local specialties. Prior to the trip, Filippo scoured food forums like chowhound.chow.com and

see FOOD, page 3

Student groups go through various campus organizations to receive funding

BY STEPHANIE FISCHER
Contributing Writer

Student organizations often have lofty ambitions that require plenty of funding to realize. Many groups obtain this funding through the Tufts Community Union Judiciary (TCUJ). TCUJ funding can allow student organizations to realize their full potential, but groups without this financial security have to turn to other sources of income.

Tufts Hip Hop for Social Change is one such group that has recently received funding from the TCUJ. The group has been preparing for its third annual music festival, which will take place on April 16.

Run by senior Mark Adams, the club has expanded from typically hosting a concert in Hotung Café for its annual event to an all-day bonanza. Along with the concert will be graffiti-painting workshops, percussion clinics and break-dancing exhibitions.

"We're using music, specifically hip hop, and the culture to bring people together to expose them and educate them in something they might not see every day," Adams said. "It's a collaboration to listen and enjoy ourselves, but also to be exposed to these messages."

The club, working in conjunction with the Nomadic Wax record label, brings hip-hop artists from around the world to promote messages of social-political change and positivity.

"We're reclaiming the lost purpose of hip hop," said freshman James Bowker, the club's president of public relations. "Nowadays, people equate hip hop with materialism, but on the backburner, it's music about marginalized people and struggling and change."

This academic year is the first that the TCUJ has formally recognized and funded Tufts Hip Hop for Social Change, and the group is excited to be able to continue expanding its festival in the upcoming months. The HIV/AIDS Initiative and Zeta



DAILY FILE PHOTO

The Tufts Quidditch team has to fundraise extensively to cover its expenses.

Psi fraternity are co-sponsoring the event, which will also act as a forum for discussion about other diverse social issues.

"We're working in conjunction with student groups to raise awareness," Bowker said. "It's synergy, getting a lot done from a lot of different angles."

One group that hopes TCUJ funding can help it grow is the Harry Potter Society (HPS). Though not a fully independent organization, the TCUJ formally recognizes the society as a sub-group of Beyond the Light, a science fiction and fantasy club that receives TCUJ funding. HPS is currently applying for buffer funding for second semester events that surpass Beyond the Light's financial capacities.

"Our interest is in how some themes from the books can really be used to teach kids about modern-day, real-life issues," junior Maayan Simckes, the club's president, known as the headmistress, said. "We're thinking about working with the Somerville-based Harry Potter Alliance that does community

work around the country."

Last semester, HPS helped organize a concert featuring wizard rock group Harry and the Potters, held a Yule Ball in conjunction with the Tufts Ballroom Club, journeyed to the Harry Potter exhibit at the Museum of Science and brought Quidditch to Tufts' Residential Quad.

The Tufts Quidditch team is an offshoot of the Harry Potter society and therefore does not receive TCUJ funding. The team is currently selling shirts to fund equipment and possible travel costs for more tournaments.

"This semester we are going to perhaps use the games as ways to highlight another HPS project," Simckes said. "For example, we're selling T-shirts with all proceeds going to an organization promoting children's literacy."

The society is also hoping to host an activity at the annual April Open House

see CLUBS, page 3

CNP president aims to engage Fletcher school students

FLYNN

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is the ability of a city, a town or a community to deal with the disruptions that come its way and to quickly recover. Such disruptions can include manmade threats like terrorism, but can also be natural disasters such as earthquakes, floods and hurricanes.

Being able to bounce back from such events is crucial to success, according to Flynn.

"The key winners and losers in the world are going to be divided into those that can cope well with disruption and those that cannot," he said. "The places that people will want to live in and invest in are the ones that can adapt to these occasional bumps that come their way."

Flynn's said that finding out what makes certain communities able to rebound quickly — such as Galveston, Texas after Hurricane Ike — is central to ensuring that people "don't pay the price for being unprepared," a price that, according to Flynn, the city of New Orleans is still paying.

The other issue that Flynn is concerned with is infrastructure resiliency, an issue that, he believes, goes hand-in-hand with homeland security and our economy.

"Our economy is different today, our environment is different and we're also facing a different security world," he said. "The question is: How do we adapt our infrastructure in a way that makes it more sustainable in light of environmental concerns, better able to deter the kind of security threats faced today and ... work better in our economy?"

According to Flynn, hybridizing our infrastructure —

updating and maintaining the foundations already in place — is the key to jumpstarting our economy and ensuring that we do not fall behind other industrialized nations such as China and countries in Europe.

Flynn plans to achieve these goals by extending beyond Washington, D.C., outside of which he feels the most "relevant pockets of expertise" lie.

"I'm convinced that most of the expertise that Washington needs to make decisions resides outside the D.C. area," he said. "The challenge is that the expertise has a difficult time finding its way into the halls of power."

Flynn said that he also plans to reach out to his alma mater in hopes of tapping into "a concentration of intellect in Medford."

He noted that he would like to expand CNP's internship program so that more Fletcher students could potentially get more hands-on experience. Flynn also expressed a desire to host a portion of the Fletcher School's annual trip to Washington.

"There is this network of people at Tufts and Fletcher that find the problems I'm working on to be extremely interesting," he said. "I would definitely want to figure out how I can harness that interest."

Prior to joining CNP, Flynn had been a senior fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations, where he held the Ira A. Lipman Chair for Counterterrorism and National Security Studies.

He also recently served as President Obama's lead policy advisor for homeland security on the presidential transition team and as a member of the National Security Preparedness Group.

Tufts' second annual Engineering Week to kick off next week

ENGINEERING

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sible, an egg drop and a Mr. and Mrs. Engineering pageant," Matthew Van Lieshout, a graduate student in mechanical engineering, said. "So they all have an engineering twist to them."

Van Lieshout first brought Engineering Week to Tufts last year after noticing a lack of recognition for the national event within the Tufts community.

"Engineering Week is a national week set aside for the celebration of engineering, both on campus and in high schools and industry, and the way we're celebrating it here at Tufts is by getting all the engineering student organizations together to do competitions against each other," he said.

Organizers hope this year's event will improve upon last year's due to the increased amount of preparation that has gone into the week.

Senior Nicole Slaughter, president of the Tufts chapter of the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE), hopes that this extra effort will help draw more people to the event.

"This year, we've had months to prepare, so we've actually got a really good schedule down, and we know that we can have people come to all of our events instead of just throwing them out there and hoping that people will show up," she said.

Van Lieshout said that the aim of Engineering Week is to encourage participation among the engineering-related organizations with activities on campus.

Engineering Week also provides the opportunity for different engineering organizations

to interact with each other, according to Van Lieshout.

"Part of the opening ceremony is giving each organization an opportunity to present itself to the other organizations, because even within engineering we don't know what all the other people are doing in their majors, or what the other clubs are about," he said.

He based the plans for Engineering Week at Tufts upon his undergraduate experience at the University of Wisconsin, where engineering organizations hosted events in which they and other groups participated.

"Everybody gets points for hosting events and for winning events, and the team with the most points at the end of the week gets the trophy," Van Lieshout said.

Organizers explained that participation in Engineering Week is open to all engineering students, regardless of their organizational affiliation. Non-engineering students are also welcome to attend all of the events of Engineering Week.

"Part of the idea is that we're doing events in different places, not necessarily on the engineering campus, to try and generate interest," Van Lieshout said.

He added that in order to be eligible to win the trophy, however, students must commit to an organization.

This year, organizers have added a new volunteering aspect to the competition in an effort to encourage increased public service.

"The volunteering is really open ended. It's basically how many hours an organization can do during Engineering

Week, however they want to interpret that, as long as it's community service," Van Lieshout said.

Another addition to Engineering Week is an ethics panel sponsored by Tau Beta Pi, the engineering honors society.

Student representatives to the Engineering Curriculum Task Force initially proposed the panel, which was not included in the original Engineering Week plans, according to senior Rayna Trietsch, a secretary for Tau Beta Pi.

The panel, which will be held on Wednesday, Feb. 16, will involve a discussion between student panelists and Tufts faculty members about ethics in engineering.

"The questions will be dealing with the ethics of cheating in the engineering classroom and how we can improve the awareness of this cheating and what can be implemented to improve the ethics in the classroom," Trietsch said.

The NSBE is sponsoring a competition asking participants to duct tape a student to a wall using the least amount of duct tape and to form a human pyramid.

The Bio-Medical Engineering Society's (BMES) events this year will include a tinfoil boat relay race and a lecture, according to senior Alex Mitropoulos, president of BMES.

Visiting Assistant Professor Lauren Black will deliver the BMES lecture on her current research. Mitropoulos said it would be a good educational opportunity.

"I think it's good outreach both for BMEs and for other engineering majors to know what's going on," he said.

Jumbos embark on cross-country culinary quest during winter break

FOOD

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review sites like Yelp.com in order to learn about towns' renowned specialties.

They were able to try some of the most delicious, unique, and often caloric foods that America has to offer. In Mississippi, they stopped at a gas station and tasted the aforementioned "cracklings," or pork rinds that have been fried or roasted. In Kansas City, they ate old-fashioned BBQ for dinner and enjoyed a traditional Midwestern breakfast of biscuits and sausage gravy, courtesy of senior Lorrie Barnett's mother.

While in Tucson, they tried the famous "Sonoran hot dogs," which are topped with bacon, beans, tomatoes, onions and condiments like mayonnaise, mustard and salsa verde. A few days later they visited Tucson's Lindy's Diner, the site of a "Man vs. Food" challenge. On the Travel Channel show, host Adam Richman travels the country, taking on restaurants' eating challenges.

Both Filippo and Timmon attempted to consume a 12-patty, 3-pound cheeseburger in under 20 minutes, but said that they hit a "grease wall" and were unable to continue eating.

Fortunately for their cholesterol levels, their fare in California was somewhat healthier. They dined on things like navel and blood oranges, mahi-mahi tacos and Dungeness crab salad.

Some of their favorite memories from the trip were those moments that were unplanned, like deciding to camp out in the national forest by the Grand Canyon, because they didn't want to pay to stay in the campground.

"Seeing the Grand Canyon was one of my favorite sites, especially because of the dusting of snow on the landscape," Filippo said.

Similarly, while in Shreveport, La. visiting a friend, Filippo and Tummon had little to do until they happened to drive by a pecan research facility. Without hesitation, they pulled into the facility and asked to be taken on a tour.

"We met this very nice plant entomologist named Michael Hall. He didn't quite understand why we were there, but he showed us all of the pecan facilities and told us all about his research on the aphid that attacks pecans specifically ... When we left he gave us a five pound bag of pecans and all these amazing jams," Filippo said.

Their trip offered them not only a great culinary experience, but the opportunity to both meet new people and to visit college friends in their hometowns. Along the way, they stayed with four seniors — Travis Lowry in Houston, Peter Honnef in Santa Cruz, Calif., Callie Kolbe in Denver and Barnett in Kansas City. On the nights when Filippo and Tummon weren't hosted by fellow Jumbos, they stayed with other friends, camped or used CouchSurfing.org to find free accommodations. They ultimately paid only \$650 each for the trip.

On the way back to Tufts, Tummon and Filippo made a "pit stop" at Chap's Pit Beef in Baltimore, a dingy shop known for its in-house smoked meats and sandwiches.

"It's literally a shack on the side of the road in Baltimore," Filippo said. "But it's worth driving down from here to Baltimore to get these sandwiches."

When Tummon and Filippo finally arrived back in Boston on Jan. 20, they had driven a total of 10,237 miles, all with a patched tire that didn't pop until they reached Trader Joe's grocery store in Cambridge.

Some pet food manufacturers misreporting calorie information

CALORIES

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Foods with these designations must also adhere to a maximum kilocalorie-per-kilogram restriction.

According to Freeman, the study is aimed at cutting through the misinformation of commercial pet foods to help pet owners combat obesity in their pets.

Clubs use new sources of funding to expand presence on campus

CLUBS

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for prospective freshman in which the students can tour the campus on broomsticks to learn more about the university and experience Tufts in a light-hearted, unconventional manner.

Not all student organizations, however, rely on independent fundraising or the TCUJ for funding. Another Option is an organization mostly run by freshmen that focuses on hosting alcohol-free events on campus. Not formally recognized by TCUJ, the club receives funding from Health Service.

"We decided, at least for this year, we didn't want to go through the formal process [of becoming a club]," freshman Maya Grodman, one of the eight founders of the organization, said. "We just want to bring together a group of people who want other options to the party scene."

The group held a kickoff event in the Zamparelli Room in the Campus Center last semester. Approximately 70 students attended to have dinner and meet other like-minded students.

"It's brought a lot of people together,"

"Obesity is a serious and growing problem in dogs and cats, with up to 50 percent of dogs and cats in the United States now being overweight or obese," she said. "There are multiple reasons for this, but the lack of clear and readily available information about calories and appropriate feeding amounts for commercial pet foods likely plays an important role."

Grodman added.

Another Option is also in the process of organizing a weekly dinner gathering in Dewick-MacPhie Dining Center, and plans to have a more active presence on campus over the course of the semester. Over 50 students went to Kendall Square for an ice-skating event on Jan. 22, and the members are currently planning potential relay races, scavenger hunts and a trip to the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. They are also at the ready to initiate a campus-wide snowball fight as soon as the next storm hits.

While the eight original members ultimately decide on the events, they encourage students to come forward and suggest or even run a program.

"We're starting to assign ourselves personal responsibilities as we learn about our strengths and weaknesses," freshman and co-founder Howie Levine said. "We keep it like a direct democracy from our forefathers in Rome."

The club is hosting a speed-dating event in the Mayer Campus Center on Valentine's Day, and already has over 40 members planning to attend, according to the event's Facebook.com page.

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GALLERY REVIEW

'Questions Without Answers' exhibition brings emotionally wrought photography to Tufts campus

BY MEAGAN MAHER
Daily Staff Writer

Faces full of emotion, scenes filled with violence and views of dramatic landscapes are scattered throughout

Questions Without Answers: A Photographic Prism of World Events 1985-2010

At the Tufts University Art Gallery, through April 4
617-627-3505

the photographs currently on display in the Tisch Gallery in the Aidekman Arts Center. These moving images of war, hunger, corruption and power are a collection of the work of 16 journalists from VII Photo Agency. VII, founded in 2001, is a group of concerned photographers. Not only do they take amazing photographs, but these men and women also photograph with the hope of bringing awareness and change to some of the most pressing matters the world is facing.

Through their work, VII photographers accomplish their mission to "document conflict — environmental, social and political, both violent and nonviolent — to produce an unflinching record of the injustices created and experienced by people caught up in the events they describe," according to the Tisch Gallery. Their images are always powerful and at times disturbing.

The exhibit is split into four sections, each displayed on different colored walls. The sections are titled "Endless War," "Never Again...," "Displays of Power" and "Lives in the Balance." The photographs are all unframed and spaced unconventionally, and their unusual arrangement



COURTESY RON HAVIV/VII

"Questions Without Answers" exhibition presents powerful photographs that appeal directly to the emotions of the viewers.

reflects the emotions conveyed by the subjects in the images. It also contributes to the feelings of uneasiness and displacement, which enhance the viewing experience.

One outstanding work in the exhibition is a photograph taken by James Nachtwey on Sept. 11, 2001 in New York City. Nachtwey captured the World Trade

Center's South Tower falling, engulfed in clouds of dust and smoke, with debris flying everywhere. In the photograph's foreground, a cross can be seen on top of a building, and it creates a striking contrast of two different subjects within the same photo.

Another notable work in the exhibition is Nachtwey's photograph that was

taken in Sudan in 1993. In it, a starving, naked man is crawling on his hands and knees in order to make it to an emergency feeding compound. His skin looks as if it was wrapped around his bones. It is heartbreaking to see, but that is the point for the photographers who hope to

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TV REVIEW

'Psych' continues with a predictable fourth season



BY REBECCA SANTIAGO
Daily Staff Writer

Now in its fourth season, Steve Frank's "Psych," broadcast on USA at 10 p.m. on

Psych



Starring **James Roday, Dulé Hill, Timothy Omundson**

Airs **Wednesdays at 10 p.m. on USA**

Wednesdays, has become to crime shows what "Scrubs" is to the medical drama genre.

The show follows the nutty antics of Shawn Spencer (James Roday), who feigns psychic ability to reserve himself a spot on the Santa Barbara Police Department's payroll as a crime-solving consultant. Aided by his keen eye for clues and flanked by his intelligent, goody-two-shoes of a best friend, Burton "Gus" Guster (Dulé Hill), Shawn uses none-too-credible psychic episodes to lead the team and solve cases. In the last two episodes, Shawn and

SIDEREEL.COM

"Psych" is basically a mind-reading bromance.

see **PSYCH**, page 6

CONCERT REVIEW

Despite replacement of several members, Yes still going strong

BY MATTHEW WELCH
Contributing Writer

Thirty minutes after its show was supposed to start, Yes still hadn't taken the stage. As the audience waited in the House of Blues on Tuesday, the classical music that had been playing for the past 15 minutes began to crescendo. One might not expect Yes to keep its audience waiting for the most dramatic moment to appear, but, in hindsight, it isn't all that surprising. As the audience quickly learned, the prog rockers' taste for flamboyant show-

manship has hardly diminished in the 42 years since the group formed.

Any long-time Yes fan became accustomed to the band's protean lineup decades ago, but the group's latest incarnation is notable for replacing steadfast singer Jon Anderson with the equally whimsical Benoit David and exchanging keyboardist Rick Wakeman for his son Oliver Wakeman.

David first came to the attention of the band for his work with various Yes tribute bands.

see **YES**, page 6



IMAGE68.WEBSHOTS.COM

Yes started to rock back in 1968.

'Questions Without Answers' display includes sparks of hope

QUESTIONS

continued from page 5

engage the viewer's emotions.

These images are meant to have a strong impact on the people who view them. And for this exhibition, the old saying, "A picture is worth a thousand words," holds true; it has to be seen, not read about. The works in the exhibition incite in the viewer an almost immediate emotional reaction — it would be difficult to instill such a strong reaction from black words on a white background. Indeed, these pictures are able to transport people to moments they would otherwise never witness.

While the great majority of the photographs are depressing, there are still sparks of hope throughout the exhibit. Fatma Jaber, a woman photographed by Franco Pagetti in Lebanon in 2008, has an expression on her face that conveys courage and strength, even though she was forced to leave her village after it was

occupied by the Israeli army.

The group of photographs titled "Displays of Power" also brings a slightly hopeful tone to the exhibition. While some of the photographs contain scenes as equally violent as the other three groups of works, some of these pictures show political leaders and evoke a sense of possibility for change.

One example is a photograph of President Barack Obama at the Democratic National Committee meeting in 2007, taken by Christopher Morris. Obama's mouth, neck and shoulders fill the frame. His serious expression in his mouth hints at the weightiness of the matters he is about to address.

This exhibit is powerful and moving. It displays a side to war, poverty and hunger that news channels rarely show. It is uncensored, educational and definitely worth the twenty minutes (or hour and twenty minutes) needed to visit the Tisch Gallery and experience the works firsthand.



COURTESY GARY KNIGHT/VII

"Questions Without Answers" is truly an exhibition that has to be seen to be understood.

Lack of inventiveness makes 'Psych' nothing more than a fluff comedy

PSYCH

continued from page 5

Gus puzzle out the murder of an army private and the disappearance of Gus' girlfriend's adrenaline-junkie friend.

Like in "Scrubs," there is the element of a goofy "bromance" between Shawn and Gus. Also similar to "Scrubs" is the budding romance between coworkers Shawn and Jules O'Hara (Maggie Lawson), a prospective relationship that, like J.D. (Zach Braff) and Elliot's (Sarah Chalke), inspires far too much apathy for the audience to desperately will pens dipped into company ink.

Of course, the most important parallel between "Psych" and "Scrubs" is their shared lack of emphasis on their actual genres of crime and medical drama, respectively. Instead, emphasis is placed on the interpersonal workings of the characters — a bold strategy that demands quality acting, scripting ingenuity and innovation throughout the show's plotline.

That frontier of inventiveness is where "Psych" sometimes falls short, relegating the show to the realm of the enjoyable, but undeniably gimmicky.

For example, each episode begins

with a flashback that generally consists of Shawn's father Henry (Corbin Bernsen) scolding a younger Shawn and Gus for the string of frivolous shenanigans that apparently began two decades ago. The use of flashbacks to set a tone is clever, but if their purpose is to show how little Shawn's ambitions or his strained relationship with his father have changed since boyhood, that sorry mission is already accomplished. For Shawn's impressive deductive abilities and his penchant for turning theatrically-expressed hunches into paychecks, he is something of a child in a man's body, a failing of which his father is well aware.

Although Shawn's infantile and good-humored immaturity mingles nicely, sometimes even hilariously, with Gus' anal-retentiveness, their shoulder-angel versus shoulder-devil debates grow tiresome 20 minutes into the episode. The viewer is then forced to sit through another 40 minutes of slapstick comedy and bad puns of the wink-wink, nudge-nudge variety. Indeed, the dialogue can be unforgivably saccharine — saccharine, in fact, as a pineapple, Shawn's alleged favor-

ite fruit to which each episode pays a strangely reverential homage.

Occasionally, the banter is sliced with an interesting plot mechanism; despite its shortcomings, the show is not disingenuous. In "Thrill Seekers and Hell Raisers," Gus has an especially heroic moment as he parachute-tackles a murderer who would have undoubtedly inflicted a tragic fate on Gus' girlfriend Ruby (Sarah Shahi). As Gus soars to earth with an unconscious man in his arms, he divulges to Shawn that he was so terrified that he squeezed the killer until he passed out. Funny, right? Sadly, the script then regresses into calculated pithy witticisms, and the moment is lost.

Another entertaining moment in the season occurs in the aptly named "You Can't Handle This Episode," when Shawn and Gus are caught sneaking into a military base in their attempts to discover who murdered Private Starks. When the Major General unleashes his wrath upon them, exclaiming, "This kind of idiocy will not be tolerated on this base," Shawn quips, "Is there another type of idiocy that you would be more tolerant of?" With that wise-crack, he seems to hit the nail on the

head of the scriptwriters' worst ambitions: How stupid can they possibly make the premise of a show, as well as its main character, while still convincing people to watch?

The lack of development in plotline and facility of the characters' personalities are what really doom the show's fourth season. Though the audience may still find the show funny and pleasant to watch, nothing has changed dramatically enough since the first season to elevate it beyond the level of simply worth watching when nothing else is on.

Here and there, efforts are made to deepen the show and add points of interest: Shawn begins a long-distance relationship with his former high school crush, and Shawn's relationship with his father seems marginally less stilted as the two have a whiskey-fueled chat over a grill. Even Jules has her own dash of drama as she is forced to arrest her own brother for attempted murder.

Yet the show is, by definition, a fluffy comedy, and that lack of substance, not to mention plot and character development, assures that the show will become no more than an occasionally delightful novelty.

Many of Yes' most well-known songs were performed at recent concert



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Though older now, Yes can still jam with the best of them.

YES

continued from page 5

The resemblance between the vocal styles of Anderson and David is uncanny, but David's voice worked to the group's detriment as much as their benefit. While David's performance and stage presence reproduced those of Anderson on a molecular level, his delivery stuck so close to the source material that he was practically re-enacting studio versions of the songs. This is not to say David's performance lacked energy, but he did less to freshen the music than his seasoned bandmates.

Despite the intensity the concert would reach, the band's opening numbers were surprisingly dull. When Steve Howe meekly strummed the psycho-funk guitar riff of "Siberian Khatru" (1972) at two-thirds of the original's tempo, some of the prog nerds almost exploded. The rhythm section hadn't gotten its bearings, and the famed Chris Squire-White combo even misaligned some of their hits. Wakeman's solo passages weren't amplified properly, so the harpsichord sounds hardly cut through the mix.

Thankfully, as the group made its way into the less challenging "I've Seen All Good

People" (1971) and "Tempus Fugit" (1980) it had much cushioner opportunities to warm up.

The next track, "Onward" (1978), is one of the group's most down-tempo songs. Without any technical passages to mask them, the strength of the harmonies between Squire and David became all the more apparent. Wakeman's solo was suitably pastoral, hardly evoking the technical wizardry he would summon later in the set.

Despite the intensity the concert would reach, the band's opening numbers were surprisingly dull.

The group didn't truly come into its own until it played "Astral Traveller" (1970) the first song of the night to showcase the interplay that made Yes so famous. As the crunch of Howe's guitar intro segued into the percussive first theme, audience members were treated to the Yes they had known and loved since the '70s.

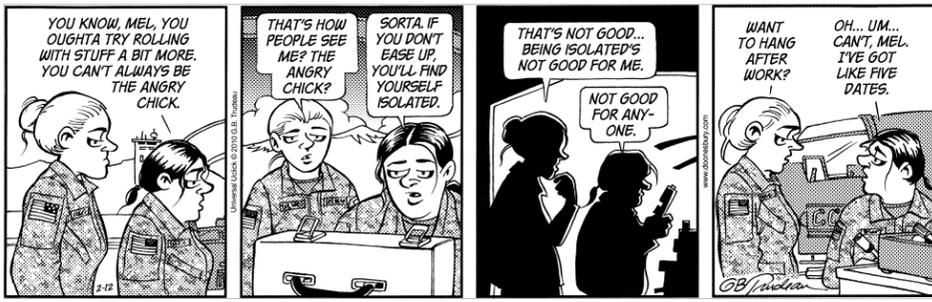
Squire and drummer Alan White re-attained the syn-

chronicity that made them such an effective rhythm section. Even White, whose conventional technique never suited the group as well as that of original drummer Bill Bruford, began to break out of his shell, conjuring a surprisingly aggressive drum solo halfway through the tune. The devilishly rhythmic interplay between Squire's bass and Wakeman's organ was one of the highlights of the night, as the two traded phrases with the same intensity that made old Yes shows so compelling.

The energy of "Astral Traveller" was maintained for the remainder of the show, with Squire and Howe working the crowd with an almost adolescent charm. The pinnacle of the evening came with the infamous guitar-versus-keyboard battle that spiced up so many previous Yes shows. Young Wakeman proved to be a capable match for Howe as the two traded riffs on "South Side of the Sky" (1971). Every member of the band — even the reserved Wakeman — managed to crack a broad smile relatively often. It became obvious that, even after all these years, the members of Yes still immensely enjoy playing with each other.

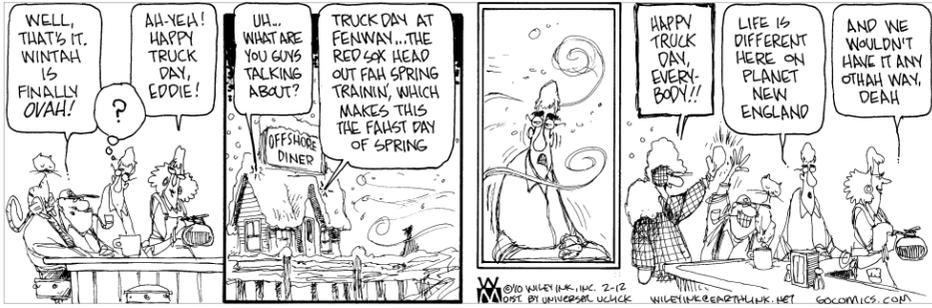
DOONESBURY

BY GARRY TRUDEAU

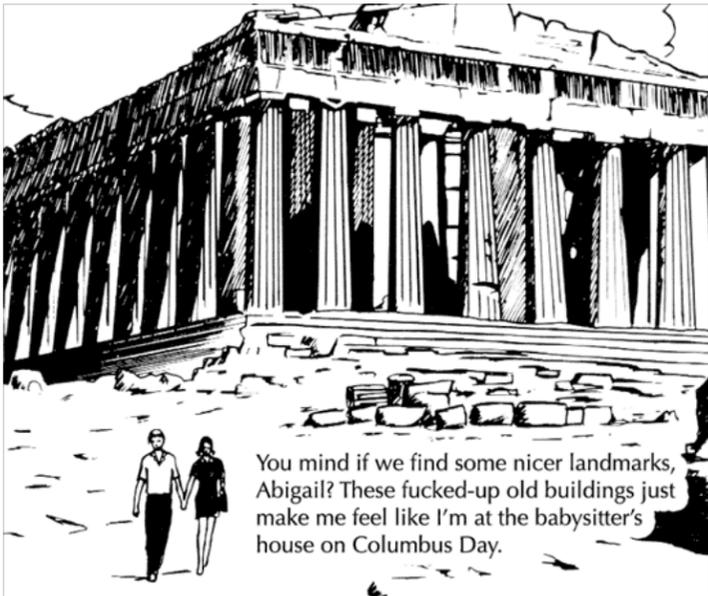


NON SEQUITUR

BY WILEY



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SUDOKU

Level: Going on a first date on Valentine's Day

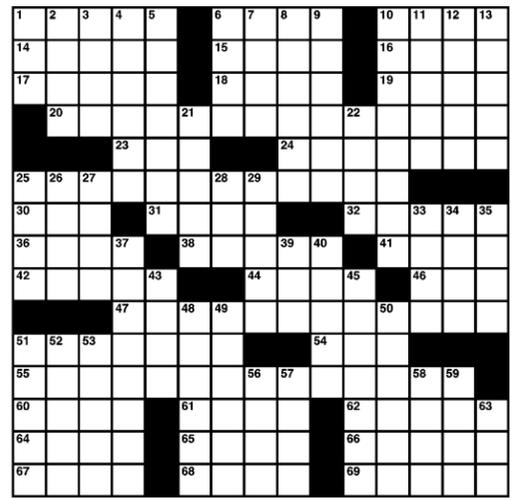
4							8	1
		8		4			9	5
5			7					
3			4		6		9	
		9				2		
	8		3		9			7
					1			2
	5	7		3		1		
1	3							5

Thursday's Solution

7	8	6	4	1	2	3	5	9
5	4	9	8	7	3	6	2	1
1	3	2	6	5	9	7	4	8
9	6	5	3	4	1	8	7	2
3	2	7	9	6	8	4	1	5
4	1	8	7	2	5	9	3	6
8	5	3	1	9	7	2	6	4
2	9	4	5	3	6	1	8	7
6	7	1	2	8	4	5	9	3

CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- 1 Big theme park star
 - 6 Fancy dance
 - 10 Cookie fruit
 - 14 Fabulous storyteller
 - 15 Reed instrument
 - 16 Katz of "Hocus Pocus"
 - 17 Mill input
 - 18 Two-time 1980s skating gold medalist
 - 19 German wheels
 - 20 Theft with a clean getaway?
 - 23 Bruise treatment
 - 24 Corpulence
 - 25 Filling the shelves with no leftover merchandise or space?
 - 30 Manx, for one
 - 31 Insult
 - 32 Attractive locale
 - 36 Short range
 - 38 Play for time
 - 41 [It's gone!]
 - 42 No-frills
 - 44 Word repeated in a famous FDR quote
 - 46 St. whose northernmost division is Boundary County
 - 47 Loud signal when the fries are done?
 - 51 Without means of support?
 - 54 Mil. rank
 - 55 Yoko?
 - 60 Take too much of, briefly
 - 61 Fictional plantation
 - 62 They have their pride
 - 64 Ascend
 - 65 ___ Valley: Reagan Library site
 - 66 1940s-'50s NFLer "Crazylegs" Hirsch
 - 67 Turndowns
 - 68 Carrier since 1948
 - 69 Heads to sea
- DOWN**
- 1 Droop
 - 2 Bierce defines it "His"
 - 3 ___ stands now ...
 - 4 Inlaid work
 - 5 Market advances
 - 6 Get a spare, perhaps
 - 7 Irish Rose's guy
 - 8 Plenty
 - 9 Doesn't bother with
 - 10 Suspense movie sound
 - 11 Rock and Roll Hall of Fame architect
 - 12 Epithet for many leaders, with "the"
 - 13 Frivolous
 - 21 Diamond et al.
 - 22 Mine stratum
 - 25 Line crosser of a sort
 - 26 "Later"
 - 27 Plains natives
 - 28 Enthusiast
 - 29 Plant connection
 - 33 Prepare to strike, snake-style
 - 34 It can't be understood until it's broken
 - 35 Whence the wise men?
 - 37 Some crop dusters
 - 39 Sign before Virgo
 - 40 End
 - 43 Either of two filmmaking brothers
 - 45 Grandly entertains
 - 48 Fly over Africa?
 - 49 Go after with vigor
 - 50 Hun king
 - 51 He was inducted into the International Tennis Hall of Fame the same year as Billie Jean
 - 52 Music player
 - 53 Strike ___: model
 - 56 Funny
 - 57 Leave in a hurry, slangily
 - 58 Actress Petty
 - 59 Hydroxyl compound
 - 63 Method: Abbr.



By Kurt Mengel & Jan-Michele Gianette 2/12/10

THURSDAY'S SOLUTION

H	A	D	J	C	A	M	P	A	W	M	A	N
E	L	I	E	U	H	O	H	C	H	I	C	O
L	O	O	K	A	L	I	V	E	C	A	C	T
M	E	R	Y	L	E	N	T	R	I	S		
				L	O	N	E	S	O	M	E	D
S	W	E	L	T	E	R	M	I	M	I		
A	H	A		B	M	X		I	D	L	E	
L	O	V	E	I	S	A	L	L	A	R	O	U
S	E	A	M		S	A	G		K	I	A	
				S	A	S		D	R	A	M	E
L	O	W	E	X	P	L	O	S	I	V	E	
A	C	E	S	Y	A	Z		I	T	S	O	K
L	A	B	O	R		L	O	N	G		D	R
A	L	E	U	T		O	N	M	E		I	R
W	A	R	T	S		M	E	I	R		C	E

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

BOREP

GIMCA

TIMCAP

SPYNAP

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NEW BIBLE Jumble Books Go To: <http://www.lyndale.com/jumble/>

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Mike Argirion and Jeff Knurek



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: " [] [] [] - [] [] [] [] "

LATE NIGHT AT THE DAILY

Ethan: "These kids look like they're 15 ... but I guess I can't talk."



Please recycle this Daily

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Russian Alexander Ovechkin will be one of the most feared players on the ice in Vancouver.

Canada-Russia likely gold medal matchup

OLYMPIC HOCKEY continued from page 12

especially with such prestigious hardware on the line, and there are a few other countries that could squeeze their way into the gold medal match.

Defending champion Sweden returns 13 of the 23 players who carried their country to victory over Finland in 2006, so its chances look as good as ever. Key among those players is goaltender Henrik Lundqvist, whose 5-1 record and 2.33 GAA were crucial to the Swedes' victory. Defensemen Niklas Kronwall and Nicklas Lidstrom, also members of the 2006 team,

should prove an able first line of defense in front of Lundqvist. Injuries have plagued much of Sweden's most capable scorers, however, so it remains to be seen how the team will cope.

Team USA, though definitely in the conversation, is a bit of an underdog this year. The 23-man roster announced at the NHL Winter Classic on New Year's Day features 17 players under the age of 30, and only three players with previous Olympic experience. Among those who have competed in the winter games before is 34-year-old captain Jamie Langenbrunner, whose experience as captain

of the New Jersey Devils has proved him a capable leader.

Langenbrunner's New Jersey teammate Zach Parise is the Americans' most potent offensive weapon, and his 26 goals are second among all American NHL players this season. Joining Parise are Patrick Kane and Ryan Kesler. All three have over 50 points this year, but as is characteristic of the American squad, all are 25 or younger. Though youth once proved enough for Team USA — 1980 was actually the last time the United States won gold — it does not seem like it will be a virtue this time around.

Canada counting on Brodeur in net

WORLD ATHLETES

continued from page 11

Monti for the most overall medals held by a bobsledder in history.

Counting Olympiads and world championships, Lange has collected 11 gold medals, but another record-breaking victory in Vancouver would make the 12th by far his most special. He begins Germany's title defense in the two-man event heats on Feb. 20.

4. Wang Meng: Born in China, it did not take Weng long to rise to the top of her country's elite in the sport of speed skating. At the 2006 Games, the then-20-year-old Wang became the first athlete to win a gold medal for the Chinese team when she emerged victorious in the 500-meter race. But she also showed outstanding versatility by excelling in the 1,000-meter and 1,500-meter events, taking home silver and bronze medals, respectively.

Counting Olympiads, world championships, and world junior championships, Wang has won a remarkable 16 gold medals since 2002. Her successes have come in a variety of speed skating events, ranging from the 500-meter sprints — in which she has held the No. 1 world ranking since 2005 — to the 3,000-meter relay, which her

team has won thrice, including last year at the world championships in Vienna.

Wang is known for hoping that her unparalleled consistency in the volatile sport of speed skating will eventually help her attain a lifelong dream of owning a \$2 million Bugatti Veyron car. She will start her latest quest on Saturday, Feb. 13 in the ladies' 500-meter heats.

5. Pietro Pillitteri: The Italian cross-country skier is infamous for having chopped off the tip of his left index finger in a terrible logging accident and then disguised the injury with a foam finger during a medal ceremony in 2002 in Salt Lake City. But his accolades and titles in the sport of cross-country skiing are far more notable.

Nicknamed "Killer Pillier," the 35-year-old took home a silver medal in the 4x10-kilometer relay at the 2002 Olympics. Four years later, he led Italy to a gold medal in the same event in his native country at the 2006 Olympics in Torino.

Pillitteri has also enjoyed success in British Columbia, winning the 15-plus-15-kilometer pursuit at the world championships in Vancouver last year. His first event of the 2010 Olympiad will be the men's 15-kilometer freestyle on Monday, Feb. 15.



Italian Andre Lange is hoping to win his fourth Olympic gold medal

Can Belbin and Agosto repeat magic?

FIGURE SKATING

continued from page 12

only moved out of the Junior Division three years ago. Many Americans are also rooting once again for Tanith Belbin and Benjamin Agosto. With its silver-medal victory in Turin, the pair became the first American ice dancers to win a medal in 30 years, and now they'll pursue the top prize.

While the figure skating race may not be one in which Americans will dominate, the close races that have been building throughout the 2009-10 season are sure to make for interesting television.

For those who don't enjoy the monotonous rhythm of skiing or the nearly impossible-to-understand sport of curling, figure skating can provide a dazzling — yet daring and challenging — viewing experience. Vancouver should be no exception.



Tanith Belbin and partner Ben Agosto, the 2006 Olympic silver medalist, figure to be America's top contenders for the pair's skating gold in Vancouver.

Ohno dominates from 'Dancing with the Stars' to the ice rink

AMERICAN ATHLETES

continued from page 11

repairing his image with the American public.

3. Shaun White: After taking home the halfpipe gold in the 2006 Olympics, White has only increased his stranglehold on snowboard supremacy in the last four years. This year, White won four out of five U.S. Grand Prix events and also took the gold in January's Winter X Games.

Still only 23 years old, White continues to be an innovator, unveiling the "Whitesnake" (a double Mctwist 1260 featuring two vertical flips, to be exact) this year at the Grand Prix in Park City, Utah. Barring an unforeseen injury, it looks like America's favorite redhead will soar once again to great heights in Vancouver.

4. Katherine Reutter: The 21-year-old speedskater will be a major threat in the two events that Davis dominates on the men's side: the 1,000- and 1,500-meter races. In her

first ever Olympic appearance, Reutter hopes to continue the success that she has had at the World Cup series, where she racked up three silver medals in 2009. Reutter is also the two-time defending U.S. ladies short track champion and plans to show the world that, while she is young, she is ready to make her mark.

5. Apollo Ohno: No list of potential U.S. star performers would be complete without this soul-patched superstar, as he has racked up five career Olympic medals over the past two Winter Games and added nine golds in World Championship competition. The 2007 "Dancing with the Stars" champion, who has won an Olympic medal in every distance, will be a threat in a variety of events in Vancouver, including the 500- and 1000-meter events, and as always will be one of the most recognizable faces on the American team.

What to watch for ...



Kelly Clark will compete in the women's halfpipe on Thursday, Feb. 18. MCT



The opening ceremony of the Olympic Games at BC Place in Vancouver kicks off tonight at 9 p.m. MCT



FRI	SAT
12	13
Opening Ceremonies	Alpine, Men's downhill Long-track speedskating, Men's 5,000 meters Short-track speedskating, Men's 1,500 meters

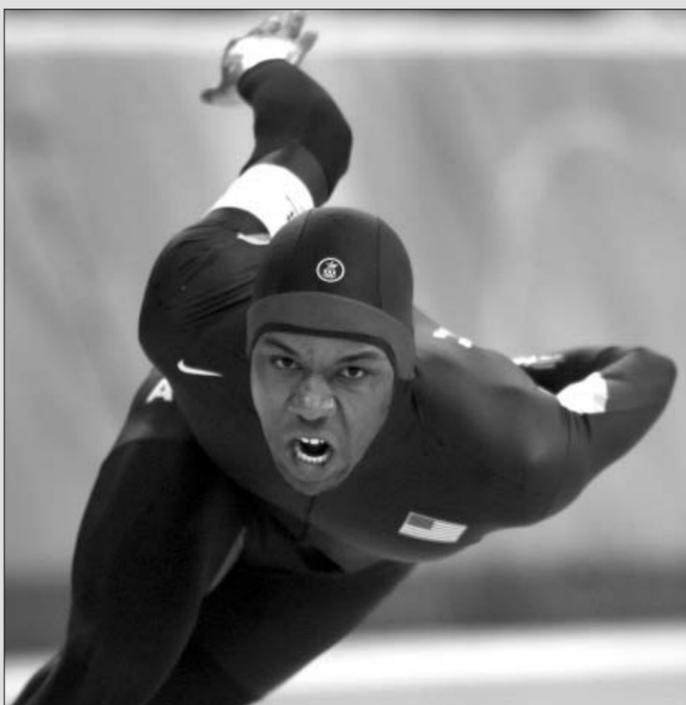
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
14 Alpine, Women's super combined Biathlon, Men's 10K sprint Luge, Men's singles	15 Figure skating, Pairs free program Snowboarding, Men's snowboard cross	16 Alpine, Men's super combined Luge, Women's singles Snowboarding, Women's snowboard cross	17 Alpine, Women's downhill Long-track speedskating, Men's 1,000 meters Snowboarding, Men's halfpipe	18 Figure skating, Men's free program Long-track speedskating, Women's 1,000 meters Snowboarding, Women's halfpipe	19 Alpine, Men's super-G Short-track speedskating, Men's 1,000 meters Skeleton, Men and women	20 Alpine, Women's super-G Long-track speedskating, Men's 1,500 meters Short-track speedskating, Men's 1,000 meters
21 Bobsled, Men's two-man Ice hockey, Men's: Russia vs. Czech Republic Canada vs. United States Sweden vs. Finland	22 Freestyle skiing, Men's aerials Ski jumping, Men's team Ice hockey, Women's semifinals	23 Figure skating, Women's short program Ice hockey, Men's playoffs begin Nordic combined, Men's team event	24 Alpine, Women's giant slalom Cross-country skiing, Men's 4x10 relay Short-track speedskating, Men's 500 meters	25 Figure skating, Women's free program Freestyle skiing, Men's aerials Ice hockey, Women's bronze medal game; gold medal game	26 Curling, Women's bronze medal game; gold medal game Ice hockey, Men's semifinals Short-track speedskating, Men's 500 meters	27 Bobsled, Men's four-man Curling, Men's bronze medal game; gold medal game Figure skating, Exhibition

28
Ice hockey, Men's gold medal game

Closing Ceremonies



Apolo Ohno will try to repeat his gold medal performance from 2006 in the 500-meter race on Feb. 26. MCT



Shani Davis will look for gold in the 1,000-meter race on Feb. 17 and the 1,500-meter race on Feb. 20. MCT



Bode Miller will ski in the men's super combined alpine on Tuesday, Feb. 16. MCT



The U.S. four-man bobsled team will compete on Feb. 27. MCT

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The Daily looks at Vancouver's Top Fives

AMERICAN ATHLETES

Vonn skiing favorite despite injury Speedskaters Davis, Ohno will be in hunt for medals

BY BEN KOCHMAN
Daily Editorial Board

Today marks the beginning of the Winter Olympics in Vancouver, where hundreds of elite athletes from countries around the globe have gathered to show their skills on the world's biggest stage. While the 2010 U.S. Olympic team features many medal favorites poised to honor their country, here are five of the most intriguing American athletes to watch.

1. Lindsey Vonn: The downhill skier has become infamous in recent weeks for consecutive appearances in Sports Illustrated, including the magazine's latest swimsuit issue. But she brings far more than just sex appeal. A 25-year-old Minnesota

native, Vonn has emerged as the best female downhill skier in the world, winning the past two World Cup overall championships. Also, as the reigning world champion in the downhill and super-G events, she will be the favorite in three downhill skiing events in Vancouver.

That is assuming she overcomes her ailments. Vonn has been nagged by a right shin injury which, she admitted, forced her to consider skipping the Games. All systems seem to be go, however. And if she lives up to the expectations, Vonn could become one of the most decorated American female winter Olympians of all time and prove that her ability to rock a swimsuit pales in comparison to her skills on the slopes.

2. Shani Davis: Four years after becoming the first African American to win an individual gold medal in the Winter Olympics, Davis will be a favorite in two speedskating events: the 1,000- and 1,500-meter races. The 27-year-old Chicago native currently holds the world record in both events and will be defending his 2006 Gold Medal in the 1,000.

If Davis is able to claim gold in both of his signature races, he will become the first to do so since Canada's Gaetan Boucher in the 1984 Sarajevo Games. And Davis has a reputation of not being very friendly to the media, so a couple of gold medals could go a long way in

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Shaun "The Animal" White will try to defend his gold medal in the men's halfpipe competition.

TOP FIVE RIVALRIES

In Vancouver cold, the challenges will be hot United States, Canada to battle for medal supremacy

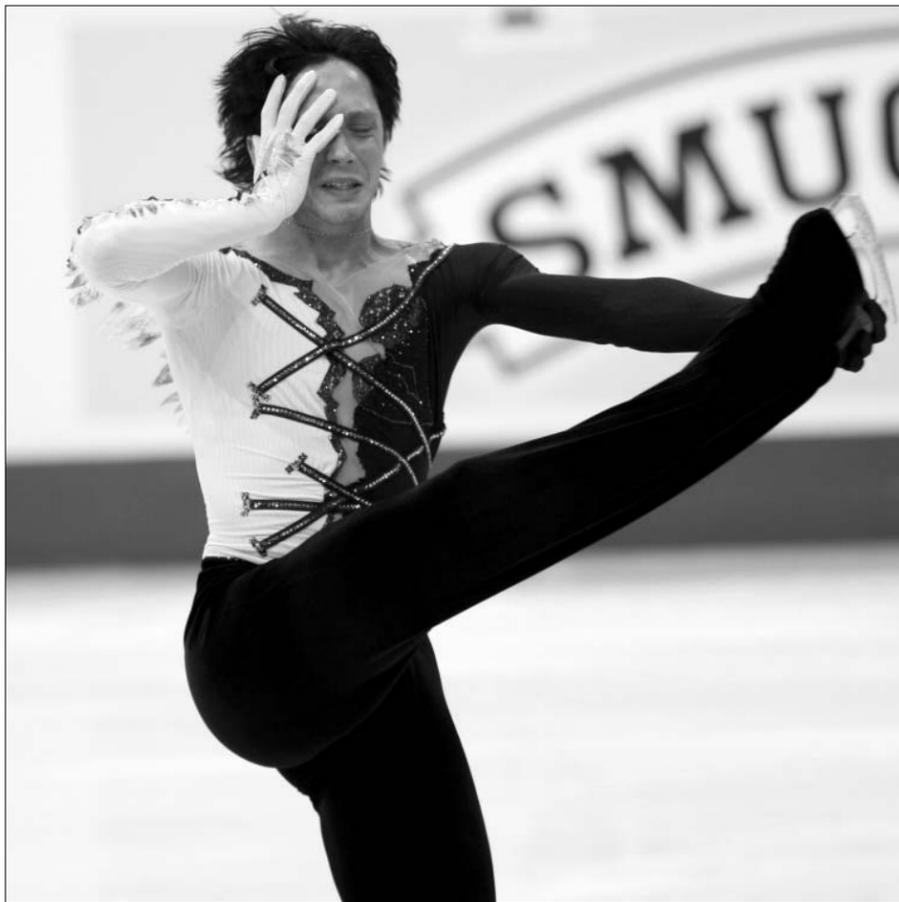
BY ALEX PREWITT
Daily Editorial Board

It may not have the drama of Red Sox-Yankees, nor will it boast the prestige of Celtics-Lakers. The fans won't cheer as they do at a Real Madrid-Barcelona game, and the players won't scream like they do at a UNC-Duke contest. But the 2010 Vancouver Winter Olympics is guaranteed to have an abundance of rivalries like the aforementioned classics. In preparation for Friday's opening ceremonies, the Daily counts down the top five rivalries sure to set fire in the wintry cold in the upcoming weeks.

1. Johnny Weir vs. Evan Lysacek: Weir and Lysacek, both Americans, figure to challenge heavily for a spot on the men's figure skating podium in Vancouver, though each will do so without any patriotic love from the other. This pair has been extremely vocal about their distaste for each other, which presumably dates back a decade, when Weir and Lysacek first became skating opponents.

At last month's U.S. Nationals, for instance, neither looked at the other during the news conferences. Lysacek, currently ranked No. 1 in the world, finished fourth in the 2006 Olympics but has the 2009 World Championship title under his sequined belt. Weir, on the other hand, is No. 9 in the world and placed fifth in 2006, though he won the bronze medal at the 2008 Worlds. But their differences extend far beyond mere results on the ice. While the flamboyantly outspoken Weir boasts showy costumes and a classical routine, Lysacek insists on a more athletic and "masculine" routine.

2. Kim Yu-Na vs. Mao Asada: On the women's figure skating side, the race for the gold medal figures comes down to South Korea's Kim and Japan's Asada. Kim aims to become the first South Korean to ever win an Olympic medal in figure skating, and the



Johnny Weir is one of two top American contenders in men's singles in Vancouver.

19-year-old world champion has a legitimate shot at doing so. But Asada, born 20 days apart from Kim in 1990, is the former world and Grand Prix champion, and she will look to utilize her lavish jumps to steal gold away from Vancouver's favorite.

3. Lindsey Vonn vs. Lindsey Vonn's shin: The popular choice to become the winter's female version of Michael Phelps, Vonn planned to race in five Alpine ski events and was a serious medal threat in all of them. That is, before the best female skier in American history severely

bruised her lower right shin during a training run in Austria last week. Now, Vonn is liable to miss the Games all together if she doesn't heal fast enough. After crashing during a training run in Torino in 2006, Vonn seems determined to compete, but will the skier who won two World Cup slaloms last year even reach the medal stand? Provided that she overcomes this injury, Vonn just might.

4. Sidney Crosby vs. Alex Ovechkin: When discussing elite NHL players, any talk usually begins with Crosby and Ovechkin. The stars of the Pittsburgh Penguins and Washington Capitals, respectively, will take the ice for Canada and Russia in the hopes of bringing Olympic gold back to their home countries. Crosby and Ovechkin have battled it out on the ice since the 2005 Junior World Championships. Canada and Russia are the clear favorites for the top two spots in Vancouver, and, if it comes down to it, the viewers could be in for a treat if these two handsome studs take the ice at the same time. And Crosby will have revenge on his mind after Russia knocked out the Canadians in the quarterfinals in 2006.

5. USA vs. Canada: The United States and Canada will be fighting it out not only for Northern American supremacy, but quite possibly the top spot in the overall medal count. Aside from the intense rivalry in women's hockey — the United States has won the past two world championships over two-time defending Olympic champion Canada — expect our neighbors to the north, who have never won a gold medal on home soil, to be gunning for America and Vancouver glory.

Canada and the United States excel at many of the same sports, such as speedskating, skiing and hockey. At the 2006 Olympics, the Americans and Canadians finished second and third overall, respectively, in the overall medal count, just one medal apart. When the torch gets lit, expect the sparks to fly.

WORLD ATHLETES

Canada's Brodeur figures to be a force on the ice Lange, Kim also world stars to watch in Vancouver

BY DANIEL RATHMAN
Daily Editorial Board

The 2010 Winter Olympic Games are being held in Vancouver, just miles north of the U.S. border, and they will be broadcast in America on the NBC family of networks. As always, the focus of these telecasts will be on the American athletes, for whom the fans watching on NBC will likely be rooting. But while you're expressing your pride for the red, white and blue, be sure to watch for these five non-U.S.-born athletes, whose abilities are incredible regardless of the

colors of their flags.

1. Martin Brodeur: A familiar and venerable name to NHL fans across America, the Canadian has broken countless goaltending records while playing 17 seasons between the pipes for the New Jersey Devils.

Brodeur is likely to be the starting netminder for the Canadian national hockey team, which won the gold medal in Salt Lake City in 2002 but was defeated by Russia in the quarterfinals in 2006. Ice hockey is Canada's national winter sport, and nothing short of another Olympic championship will be acceptable

to the fans in Vancouver.

That means that the 37-year-old veteran will need to turn in some of the best performances of his career. And Brodeur is certainly up to the task.

2. Kim Yu-Na: The reigning world champion of women's figure skating is considered the favorite to win gold in Vancouver. The South Korean has already mastered just about all there is to learn in the sport, after moving to Canada in 2007 to take full advantage of the instructional opportunities that she could not get in her home country.

The 19-year-old is regarded as

the world's foremost jumper, having executed numerous triple-triple combinations, thanks largely to her ability to generate incredible lift on her jumps. But Kim's gracefulness and musicality do not lag far behind her technical abilities, and some believe that she may be regarded as the greatest women's figure skater of all time by the end of her career.

Kim will perform an ambitious short program set to the "007 James Bond Medley" on Tuesday, Feb. 23.

3. Andre Lange: Lange heads to Vancouver with the goal of becoming the first bobsledder

ever to win four gold medals in his Olympic career. The 36-year-old German took first place in the four-man event in Salt Lake City eight years ago, and remained atop his sport four years later by leading his teams to victory in both the four-man and two-man contests in Torino, Italy.

Lange endured a rough 2008-2009 bobsledding season due to equipment troubles and injuries to his crew, but he nonetheless won the 17th medal of his career in Lake Placid, NY. That honor pushed him past Italy's Eugenio

see WORLD ATHLETES, page 8

OLYMPIC HOCKEY

Team underdog: United States unlikely to repeat miracle

Host Canada, Russia the favorites in Vancouver

BY EVAN COOPER
Daily Editorial Board

As far as most Americans are concerned, the movie "Miracle" (2004) is pretty much the hockey bible. Beyond the film and the words "Canada" and "1980," most Americans' hockey knowledge is pretty limited. Not to burst anyone's bubble, but it doesn't look like the 2010 U.S. Olympic men's hockey team will be etching its place in U.S. hockey glory.

Though the squad certainly stands to make a good run in this year's tournament, a few other hockey powerhouses are much more likely to claim gold in Vancouver.

If your first thought when you hear the word "hockey" is Canada, you're not completely naïve — especially when it comes to the Olympics. Out of the first seven Winter Olympic Games, Canada won the gold six times. In the 14 games since, however, it has achieved victory just once — in 2002 in Salt Lake City. If there were ever a year for Canada to set the record straight, this is it.

Putting aside the fact that the Canadians will be competing on home ice, their lineup is formidable, to say the least. Headlining the Canadian team's offense are Sidney Crosby and Jarome Iginla. Sid the Kid, the virtual poster child of the NHL and the captain of the Stanley Cup-champion Pittsburgh Penguins, currently has 39 goals this season (second in the league), 74 points (fourth) and a 17.8 shooting percentage (tied for eighth). There is no doubt that he will be lighting the lamp frequently for his national squad in the upcoming weeks.

Iginla is no less of a threat as well. With 54 points this season, Iginla is making his third trip to the Olympics, and in 2002 he scored three goals in six games for the victorious Canadian squad.

And let's not forget Patrick Marleau and Dany Heatley, who rank third and sixth in goals in the NHL this season,

respectively. In short, the Canadian team is loaded and should put on an offensive show in Vancouver.

Leading the Canadian defensive effort will be captain Scott Niedermayer and assistant captain Chris Pronger. Niedermayer and Pronger are two of the most reliable blue-liners in the league, having logged the second- and sixth-most ice time among all players this year. It won't be easy for opposing nations to get the puck past Canada's defensive unit, but on the few occasions that they do, they will find it even harder to get the puck in the net.

Canada will bring the goaltending trio of Martin Brodeur, Roberto Luongo and Marc-André Fleury to the games. Though no official statement has yet been made as to who the starter will be, there is little doubt in anyone's mind that Brodeur, who has the most wins of all time in the NHL — will get the nod. Goaltending alone always makes Canada a likely contender.

If there is one player that every country wishes it could have, though, it is Alexander Ovechkin. Unfortunately for everyone else, only Russia is lucky enough to claim him. After leading the NHL in scoring in 2007-08 and 2008-09, Ovechkin is at it once again, with 42 goals so far this campaign. He also leads the league in points (88) and plus/minus rating (42).

Though Ovechkin is certainly capable of being a one-man wrecking crew, he shouldn't need to be in Vancouver. Joining Ovechkin are the fearsome Ilya Kovalchuk, Evgeni Malkin and Alexander Semin, all of whom have 50 or more points this season.

Likely starting goaltenders for the Russians are Evgeni Nabokov and Ilya Bryzgalov, who rank second and fourth, respectively, in wins this season. Russia, additionally, has every bit as much to prove as Canada. Despite winning the world championships in 2008 and 2009, Russia has not skated away with Olympic gold since the dissolution of the Soviet Union, something the for-



MCT

Henrik Lundqvist and the Swedish national team will look to defend their gold medal performance in the 2006 games at Torino, Italy.

mer Olympic powerhouse is sure to be aware of.

The showdown that everyone is expecting is definitely Canada vs. Russia, and those expectations are not unfounded. The firepower that both

nations are bringing to Vancouver is simply unrivaled, and a gold medal contest between the two would certainly be a spectacle. But nothing is ever certain,

see OLYMPIC HOCKEY, page 8



MCT

Evan Lysacek is the favorite in the men's figure skating competition in Vancouver.

OLYMPIC FIGURE SKATING

Host of skaters making comebacks

Lysacek may be Team USA's best hope for a medal

BY CATHERINE SCOTT
Daily Editorial Board

Don't let the pretty costumes, dancing and prancing fool you: The figuring skating competition at the 2010 Vancouver Winter Olympics promises to be fierce.

Figure skaters compete in four possible categories: men's singles, ladies' singles, pairs and ice dance. Each category has its own specific front-runner, as well as a few challengers who could unseat the expected winners. When the torch is lit on Friday, expect a heightened level of competition in all four.

In the men's division, there will be a fairly close showdown between Russia's Evgeni Plushenko and the reigning world champion, Evan Lysacek of Team USA. Plushenko won the gold medal for figure skating in 2006, after which he retired, leaving room for Lysacek to become the new favorite for the men's division this year.

Last October, however, Plushenko decided to return to the world of figure skating after a three-year layoff, and since then, he has dominat-

ed his competition, including the once-favored Lysacek. If Plushenko wins it all again, he will become the first man since Dick Button in 1952 to claim back-to-back gold medals.

For female figure skaters, the battle is pretty much won already. Nineteen-year-old South Korean Kim Yu-Na has outscored her competitors for almost the entire season this year, winning competition after competition, even when her nerves got the better of her. When it comes to Vancouver, there's Kim, and then there's the rest of the pack.

While Kim is the reigning world champion, she has recently made a few blunders, most notably two major errors at the Skate America competition in November, even though she went on to win, that allowed American Rachael Flatt to gain some significant ground. Flatt will be challenging Kim for the gold medal, along with Japan's Mao Asada and Miki Ando — both world champions in previous years themselves — and Canada's Joannie Rochette.

The pairs category is the only competition in which American figure skaters don't have much of a chance at scor-

ing a gold or silver medal. The race boils down to the married Chinese team of Shen Xue and Zhao Hongbo and the Russian team of Yuko Kavaguti and Alexander Smirnov.

Shen and Zhao made their comeback this year after retiring two years ago to get married after winning the 2007 World Figure Skating Championships. Winners of the bronze medal in both Salt Lake City in 2002 and Turin, Italy in 2006, they have since become the team to beat, especially impressive since they're one of the oldest competing pairs, as both of them are in their 30s.

The last division, ice dance, is a combination of figure skating and ballroom dancing. Reigning world champs Oksana Domnina and Maxim Shabalin of Russia are expected to win, but a recent victory at the Grand Prix Final by Americans Meryl Davis and Charlie White have given the once-invincible Russian team something to worry about.

Also making a stand against the Russian team will be Canadians Tessa Virtue and Scott Moir, a young pair who

see FIGURE SKATING, page 8