

Marriage boycott event at Tufts draws students

BY KATHRYN OLSON
Daily Staff Writer

Students responded enthusiastically to the Queer Straight Alliance (QSA) launch yesterday afternoon of the Tufts branch of the National Marriage Boycott, a student movement centered on lobbying the U.S. Congress to repeal the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA).

The act, passed in 1996 under the Clinton Administration, stipulates that the federal government cannot treat same-sex relationships as marriages for any purposes, thus denying same-sex couples 1,138 federal marriage-related rights, according to the movement's website.

"[National Marriage Boycott] is a student-driven movement that challenges DOMA and questions the institution of marriage as a privilege rather than a right for everyone," sophomore Allister Chang, QSA copresident, told the Daily.

Students participating in the movement's Tufts launch at the Mayer Campus Center signed an online pledge stating that they would boycott marriage until DOMA is repealed. Pledging students were given an equality ring symbolizing their commitment to the cause.

The supply of rings ran out within the first hour of the event due to

see MARRIAGE, page 2



DILYS ONG/TUFTS DAILY

The Tufts launch of the National Marriage Boycott took place yesterday.



VIRGINIA BLEDSOE/TUFTS DAILY

The two TCU presidential candidates last night engaged in a debate.

Candidates differ on best way to engage, involve students

BY BRENT YARNELL
Daily Editorial Board

The two candidates for Tufts Community Union (TCU) Senate president Lauren Levine and Sam Wallis, both juniors, last night in the campaign's second debate agreed

on the need for the Senate to better engage the student body but disagreed on how best to do so.

Levine stressed the need for increasing Senate outreach to the student body and efforts to make Tufts feel like a more cohesive community.

"I'm seeing that every day when I ask the simple question, 'do you know what is going on in Senate?'" she said. "The answer is usually 'no.'"

Levine promised to meet personally with students in

see DEBATE, page 2

Turkle: Question the impact of technology on society

BY MARISSA GALLERANI
Daily Editorial Board

Abby Rockefeller Mauzé Professor of the Social Studies of Science and Technology Sherry Turkle, from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), last evening noted that mankind is still in the early stages of figuring out how technology affects society and how to adapt accordingly.

"Some opening questions are: How does technology change who we are, how we relate to each other, how we learn, and what are we not paying attention to?" Turkle said.

To illustrate society's preoccupation with technology, Turkle began by sharing an anecdote about how the first photos of the combined Congressional lunch after President Barack Obama's inauguration showed Senators John McCain and Edward Kennedy on their cell phones.

Turkle was delivering the biannual Richard E. Snyder Presidential Lecture, in which she discussed the topic of "CyberIntimacy/CyberSolitude." Turkle is the founder of the MIT Initiative on Technology and Self, which she currently directs, and is an expert on the relationship between humans and technology.

University President Lawrence Bacow introduced the lecture by explaining that the lecture series was started when

Richard Snyder (A '55), former chairman and chief executive officer of Simon and Schuster, suggested bringing to campus individuals who have attained career success by being willing to challenge conventions.

"This specific lecture came about through an e-mail where Dick was bemoaning that this generation seems to get all of its information from texts and tweets, what was happening to the world and who might lead us in an informed discussion," Bacow said. "I can't think of anybody better to explain this. It takes great courage to have explored these subjects of computers and people at a place like MIT, and that is something that Sherry has done well."

Turkle talked about the standard benefits associated with technology, namely that it allows one to keep up with friends, make new friends and experiment with identity.

"I just went to my fifth-grade reunion," Turkle said. "You didn't have fifth-grade reunions before, but now you do."

She continued by noting that adolescents in particular experiment the most with their identities and that the Internet could aid in this experimentation.

Turkle pointed out, however, that technology was not necessarily unequivocally

see SNYDER, page 2

Students celebrate Earth Day on campus

Students on Saturday gathered on the Academic Quad to participate in the annual Earth Fest celebration organized by student organization Environmental Consciousness Outreach (ECO).

Earth Fest was part of a commemoration of Earth Day — which takes place on April 22 every year — and marked the culmination of the ECO-sponsored Earth Week on campus. Saturday's festivities included a host of environmentally friendly activities, live performances and a clothing swap.

ECO hoped that students would gain more awareness about the environment at Earth Fest, while enjoying all the activities being hosted on the quad.

"It was a celebration of Earth Day to remind people to think about environmental issues, and to just have fun," senior Heather Buckner, one of ECO's officers, said.

The event was well attended, as the nice weather drew a crowd to the outdoor event, according to Buckner.

"The fact that it was a really nice day brought a lot of people out," Buckner said. "People were having fun and walking around."

As event attendees enjoyed free veggie burgers and listened to live music by performers like percussion group B.E.A.T.S., ECO staffed a number of tables offering individuals the opportunity to participate in sustainable art projects, such as making "seed bombs," using henna and tie-dying t-shirts.

Students from the Experimental College class Environmental Action: Shifting from Saying to Doing, which is trying to reduce paper waste on campus, set up a table

collecting signatures for a petition in support of making double-sided printing the default for printers in Tisch Library and Eaton Computer Lab.

The Tufts Institute of the Environment (TIE), with assistance from the Office of Sustainability and ECO, also ran a clothing swap on the quad, according to Tufts Recycles! Coordinator Dawn Quirk.

Students had the opportunity to exchange apparel by donating used clothes in good condition and picking up items donated by other individuals.

Sophomore Rachael Wolber, a TIE intern who helped coordinate the clothing swap, explained that the swap was intended as a substitute for the now-defunct Jumbo Drop, a collection and yard sale for students to recycle their possessions.

"The idea is that Jumbo Drop is not really happening anymore, and people have a lot of clothes that they would just throw away," Wolber said. "By purchasing new clothes, you're just creating more consumption and stressing the environment. [Through the swap] you get to recycle your clothes, give back to campus and help the environment."

Wolber added that the swap was a success and hopes to be able to repeat it.

"It went really well, we got a lot of clothes, everything was free," she said. "This is definitely something we want to do again in the future."

Quirk said that Tufts Recycles! next year plans to be more involved in the clothing swap to expand its reach and further encourage environmentally conscious practices.

— by Ellen Kan and Jenny White

Inside this issue

Hiring adjunct professors is becoming more common in universities, including Tufts.



see FEATURES, page 3

One senior's thesis project, "Sigh," explores melancholy through theater.



see ARTS, page 5

Today's Sections

News	1	Op-Ed	9
Features	3	Comics	7
Arts & Living	5	Classifieds	11
Editorial Letters	8	Sports	Back

Visiting the Hill this week

TUESDAY

"Blowing Hard and Shining Bright: Prospects for Wind and Solar Energy"

Details: Raimund Grube (F '99), the president and chief operating officer of Element Power, will discuss the rise of wind and solar power and the professional opportunities in the area of renewable energy.

When and Where: 12:30 p.m. to 2 p.m.; Cabot seventh floor

Sponsors: The International Business Center Global Speaker Series, The Fletcher Energy Consortium

"Chemistry Seminar"

Details: Vincent LaBella, professor in the School of Nanosciences

and Nanoengineering at the University of Albany-SUNY, will be speaking.

When and Where: 4:30 p.m.; Pearson 106

Sponsor: Department of Chemistry

"TFS Presents: Harvard Humanist Chaplain"

Details: Greg Epstein, humanist chaplain at Harvard University, will be hosting a town hall-style session to discuss humanism and a humanist chaplaincy.

When and Where: 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.; Sophia Gordon Hall Multipurpose Room

Sponsor: Tufts Freethought Society

WEDNESDAY

"Luncheon Lecture — Dr. Laura Adams: Globalization in Central Asia"

Details: Center Associate of the Davis Center at Harvard University Laura Adams will discuss globalization and the politics of cultural heritage in Central Asia.

When and Where: 11:30 p.m. to 12:30 p.m.; Cabot 702

Sponsors: The Program in Southwest Asia and Islamic Civilization and Caucasus Forum

THURSDAY

"Speaker: Dr. Naif Al-Mutawa (LA '94)"

Details: Al-Mutawa, creator of THE 99, the world's first superhero comic books based on

Islamic culture and society, will be speaking.

When and Where: 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.; Ballou Hall, Coolidge Room

Sponsor: Center for the Humanities at Tufts

"Dr. Mohamed ElBaradei Luncheon Lecture"

Details: Former Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency Mohamed ElBaradei will speak at this luncheon lecture. RSVP required at <http://www.eventbrite.com/event/606627439>.

When and Where: 12:30 p.m. to 2 p.m.; Chase Dining Center

Sponsor: Charles Francis Adams Lecture Series

"2010 Wellington Burnham Lecture: The Next Financial Meltdown"

Details: Simon Johnson, the Ronald A. Kurtz (1954) Professor of Entrepreneurship and professor of global economics and management at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Sloan School of Management, will discuss "13 Bankers: The Wall Street Takeover and the Next Financial Meltdown."

When and Where: 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m.; Winthrop Street Function Hall

Sponsor: Department of Economics

— compiled by Brent Yarnell and Martha Shanahan

Movement pushes for repeal of DOMA

MARRIAGE

continued from page 1

extensive participation.

Participants also elaborated on the reasons behind their decisions to boycott marriage and shared their personal experiences with the issue.

Students' reasons for boycotting marriage included intrigue with the movement's rebellious nature, the desire to separate themselves from religious movements' agenda of banning gay marriage and the belief that people should have the right to love whomever they want.

Sophomore Matthew Schuman, who knew little about DOMA until he spoke with QSA leaders and decided to sign the pledge, expressed his concern about the societal implications of DOMA.

"As a straight person, I'm given this whole bag of privileges that my gay friends struggle with everyday," Schuman told the Daily. "I see that my friends feel awkward kissing or hugging in public, and on a national level, that translates to me having a privilege they don't have."

Freshman Matt Sanda likewise was unaware about the movement but decided to sign the pledge.

"It was kind of an impulsive action on my part, but I feel that until all my friends and everyone have the freedom to marry whoever they choose, it's not fair that I get to have certain freedoms that they wouldn't necessarily have," Sanda told the Daily.

The National Marriage Boycott originated in Stanford University to protest the passage of Proposition 8. Freshman Jessie Belfer, a QSA member, decided to bring the movement to Tufts due to her involvement with it in high school.

"I live right next to Stanford, where the movement started ... and started going to Emma Goldman Society for Queer Liberation meetings at the time they were forming the boycott," Belfer told the Daily. "I wanted to bring it to Tufts since then."

The Tufts branch is one of the first to form in Boston and was funded by a grant through the Tufts Progressive Alumni Network, the same group that sponsors Jumbo Janitor Alliance, according to Chang.

Chang explained that the movement was meant to provoke thought.

"The boycott is less about the action of marriage and more about stimulating people to think about the problem," Chang said. "People generally don't think of marriage as a federal privilege, but it is. I didn't see this as a separate-but-equal issue until I looked deeper."

Chang stressed the movement's goals of education and raising awareness to create continuous pressure to repeal DOMA.

"An indicator of the event's success would be the educational aspect rather than the action," Chang said. "That's the base of getting something done."

Belfer added that bringing the movement to Tufts will give students passionate about LGBT rights the opportunity to connect with the national network.

"The national movement is focused on creating a network of activists who can come together around this cause as well as providing a basis for local-level campaigns," Belfer said.

Chang said that QSA plans on making the National Marriage Boycott pledge signing a yearly event until DOMA is repealed.

Ellen Kan contributed reporting to this article.

Turkle examines how technology has changed society



ASHLEY SEENAUTH/TUFTS DAILY

Sherry Turkle delivered this semester's Snyder Lecture.

SNYDER

continued from page 1

beneficial and that it is healthy to examine its effects carefully.

"There are some caveats," Turkle said. "Why we focus on discontents is not to deny any of the good points, but it often illuminates very deeply held values and commitments that we aren't focusing enough on. Discontents are not about nostalgia; it is a way to identify sacred spaces."

"Technology asks the question, 'Does it serve our human purposes?'" she said. "This is a question that forces us to determine what am I missing and if this technology really is serving my human purposes."

Turkle disagreed with the notion expressed by some of her colleagues at MIT that technology is nothing but a tool.

"It's like the Winston Churchill quote," Turkle said. "We build our buildings, and our buildings make and shape us. Technology is the same way."

Turkle also discussed some of her research with teenagers in four Boston-area high schools, in which she asked the question, "Do we know how to have a moment when something is not happening?"

"How many great authors wrote their books on trains?" Turkle said. "The

sense is that we can be some place and not be able to do anything but think. Can we have a moment unshared? What are we expressing when we need to share every detail of our lives with the public?"

Turkle highlighted some findings from the study, which included evidence that teenagers preferred sending text messages or instant messages over face-to-face interaction in order to avoid the threat of rejection.

Her study also found that multitasking was not as beneficial as people once thought.

"Every time you multitask, your brain gets hit with a shot of dopamine, which makes the multi-tasker feel like he or she is successful, competent and productive," Turkle said. "New studies show that you may feel fabulous, but that you are draining your task proficiency in every task that you do."

Turkle ended her lecture by warning against accepting as a fact of life the intrusion of technology on individuals' privacy.

"The common idea ... was, 'If you have nothing to hide, then you have nothing to fear,'" Turkle said. "And that we should just be good. This is me editorializing, but a citizen should not be good. We need to leave room for dissent, real dissent."

Levine and Wallis discussed their goals at last night's debate

DEBATE

continued from page 1

weekly face-to-face fireside chats, taking place in dorm rooms, club meetings and culture centers, among other locations.

She also proposed releasing a weekly school-wide newsletter that would summarize the discussions taking place in Senate meetings.

"I want the newsletter to come from my personal e-mail address, so that any student feels that they could reply back to me," Levine said.

Wallis disagreed, however, and said that Senate would best reach out to students by taking concrete actions that improved their daily lives.

"Students will know what is being done on their behalf when they can see it every day when they wake up," Wallis said. "That's good outreach, by showing them what we can do, not by talking about what we can do."

Some of such actions he listed included sponsoring a bus to take students into Boston, moving course evaluations online and changing the course registration system to enable students to get into classes that are important to them.

Levine and Wallis both called for measures to increase on-campus security. Levine promoted expanding the blue light system to more areas both on and off campus, while Wallis called for the creation of an independent escort service.

"Students often feel uncomfortable about calling [Tufts University Police Department] late at night, especially if they've been drinking," Wallis said.

He argued that students would feel more comfortable calling a student-run service.

Levine promised to make community outreach a central theme of her presidency, especially to marginalized minority communities on campus.

"Not everyone at Tufts feels comfortable here, feels like they have a home here," Levine said.

She said that many students came to Tufts because of its reputation as a diverse community, but once here, find that interaction between groups is not easily facilitated.

Levine pointed to the fact that bias incidents have occurred every year and that the university lacks a truly diverse curriculum. To support her point, she highlighted the fact that Tufts does not offer students the chance to major in African-American studies, Asian-American studies and Queer studies.

Levine acknowledged that she could not change these issues overnight but as president would seek to engage the whole campus in a dialogue that would propel ongoing progress.

She feels that her role as president would be to facilitate a dialogue that would, eventually, continue on without her.

Wallis said that when discussing issues like diversity, previous Senates have often gotten caught up in specific issues, like bias incidents. He proposed instead a dialogue that would keep focus on the big-picture matters.

Wallis believes that his proposals, such as creating a database for students to learn about on-campus research opportunities, would be long-lasting and build on themselves.

Addressing the effort to move course evaluations online, a project that he initiated and intends to continue, he

noted that a student two years from now would benefit from his evaluations of a professor this year and that the program would grow naturally.

Wallis explained that none of his proposals would require much extra funding.

He described his personal leadership style as "bringing people up" and said that his campaign platform originated entirely from student input.

"I've seen presidents try to ram things down the rest of the body ... That's a big mistake," Wallis said. "I can motivate people and make them feel like these are their ideas."

Levine similarly said she would make student input a greater factor in Senate deliberations.

"People don't want to be told what's going on, they want to have input in what's going on," Levine told the Daily. "They want it to be a back-and-forth process. That's the really big difference — being told versus having a dialogue."

Levine said that she hopes to spread this idea of inclusiveness to the entire Senate.

"The best thing I could do for the student body is to get Senate to realize [that] we're just 35 people out of 5,000, and we need to listen to what other people are saying," she said.

Wallis believes that as president, his responsibility would be to set out clear priorities for the body.

"I've seen Senates where no clear priorities were ever outlined, no list of what we wanted to accomplish at the end of the year, so Senate didn't do anything," Wallis told the Daily. "What we'll do, if I'm elected, is say, 'Here's what we want to get done at the end of the year.'"

Features

tuftsdaily.com

Some departments seeing rise in number of adjunct professors

BY ALEXA SASANOW
Daily Editorial Board

Even with feedback from students previously enrolled in classes and websites like RateMyProfessors.com, it can be difficult to gauge the quality of a class before experiencing it firsthand. It can be even harder when many classes are taught by adjunct professors — professors who are not on track toward permanent positions at the university and whose reputations are unknown to the majority of students, as well as colleagues within their departments.

Adjunct professors proliferate in subjects such as sociology at Tufts as well as at universities all over the country. Over the last few decades, the rise in adjunct professors has paralleled a falling economy — it is more cost-efficient to hire a few part-time lecturers in the place of one full-time, tenure-track professor. According to The New York Times, only 27 percent of current college instructors are full-time professors, as opposed to 75 percent in 1960.

According to Department of Sociology Chair John Conklin, an adjunct professor would have to teach four classes per year to make even a third as much as an assistant professor would make.

“To get courses taught, it’s cheaper for universities to hire adjuncts,” Conklin said. “There’s a lot of pressure from Congress to keep tuition down, but costs are increasing, for health



DANAI MACRIDIS/TUFTS DAILY

Offices in academic buildings like Eaton Hall see a high amount of turnover due to a large number of adjunct professors.

care, to keep technology updated, and you’re not able to charge students more. Universities nationwide feel it’s a way for them to keep their costs down. I don’t think anybody’s out to shortchange students, but the pressure is very real.”

“The problem is that adjuncts have to teach so many classes, the pay is terrible and there are no benefits,”

Caitlin Slodden, an adjunct teaching assistant at Tufts from the graduate sociology program at Brandeis, said.

Adjuncts don’t get the benefits of full-time university staff unless they’re teaching three courses per year, which, according to Conklin, most of them are not doing.

see ADJUNCTS, page 4

Twitter.com archive now a part of the Library of Congress

BY AMELIA QUINN
Daily Staff Writer

The tens of millions of books housed within the walls of the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C. recently got a few unlikely companions: billions of 140-character-or-less tweets.

The entire Twitter.com archive, dating back to March 2006, was gifted to the Library of Congress, the world’s largest library, by Twitter’s management on April 14. The archive consists of about five terabytes of data and is still growing, with about 50 million tweets being sent out daily, according to CNN.com.

The data will be accessible to any researcher with a Library of Congress Reader Identification Card. No tweet will be excluded, aside from those that are not public or are direct messages. Researchers have already begun to analyze the data for patterns and important information buried in the billions of tweets, using algorithms and other research methods, according to CNN.

“If you think the Library of Congress is ‘just books,’ think of this: The Library has been collecting materials from the web since it began harvesting congressional and presidential campaign websites in 2000. Today we hold more than 167 terabytes of web-based information, including legal blogs, websites of candidates for national office, and websites of Members of Congress,” Matt Raymond, the Library of Congress’s director of communications, wrote in a blog post.

“There have been some really interesting uses of Twitter — such as people getting information out to the rest of the world from oppressed regimes that attempt to cut off their people’s access to outside information, or politicians using Twitter to connect with constituents in ways that are ostensibly more personal, or use of this technology

to update sports events in a play-by-play kind of way,” Julie Dobrow, director of the Tufts Communications and Media Studies Program, said. “It’s also interesting to me that so many ‘ordinary’ people tweet about the mundane things of everyday life and that people read them — to me this is the quintessential blurring of public and private.”

While Dobrow does not have her own Twitter account, she does not disapprove of the Library’s decision. “I actually think it’s a really interesting and progressive idea,” she said. “What Twitter arguably can do is to show little slices of life, real-time — at least 140 characters’ worth. I don’t know how many people tweet about big events that will ultimately have historical significance, like the election of Obama, the earthquake in Haiti or Chile, etc., but those tweets could in years to come provide some historical significance. But even people’s everyday stuff might be of interest to future cultural historians. There will be a ton of things to go through to get to the gems, but that’s what historians do.”

While some people believe that Twitter is an important part of today’s digital society, others are unsure about its value. “I feel like a lot of tweeting is self-righteous,” senior Alec Jahncke said. “It’s like oh, I just had this funny thought, let me tell everyone.”

Jahncke does not have a Twitter account and doesn’t plan to get one any time soon. “Sometimes I wish I could share my witty observations throughout the day, but no, I don’t want one,” he said. “I just talk a lot, spread the word the old-fashioned way.”

Gavin Matthews, a freshman with two Twitter accounts (one personal and one for his radio show), feels Twitter has a long way to go before it reaches its full potential. “Twitter is an experiment in a global group consciousness.

However, its lack of depth and real direction limits it to, at best, the world of social networking. In the case of real-time crisis, Twitter is valuable in its reach and ability to rapidly share news in unfounded ways,” he said. “Yet, in normal times, any news or valuable talk is lost in the sea of tweets. This was quite clear in the Iranian election crisis, which lost its presence on Twitter a mere week afterward.

“If one is careful in who and what they follow on Twitter, much as they [are] for all media outlets, Twitter is quite valuable,” Matthews said. “Twitter’s instant updates make it a useful communication tool, relaying key information far before television, print media or word of mouth can.”

Matthews, an archaeology major, sees the Library of Congress’ Twitter archive as an important way for future archeologists to analyze the past. “As an archaeology major, I value the material culture and documentation of a society of the past. Twitter, for better or worse, has emerged as a rather significant feature of modern society...[It] is a window into the popular culture, history, methodology, morality and minds of most of our world. If someone does not save this record for the future, this entire piece of the historical record is lost, a piece that defines much of our culture,” Matthews said.

“Twitter records fall into the same realm as the preservation of artifacts of popular culture, buildings or even art. Tweets are part of our society and will have value to those studying this society in the future. Imagine if the works of Mozart were simply destroyed. Much of our understanding of the culture of the time would be lost. The same applies to tweets,” Matthews said. “Whether critical news reports or messages to friends, these tweets help define what our society is.”

ROMY OLTUSKI | WORD UP

Anna
banna fo
fanna



With a first name that my older sister couldn’t even remember until well into my infancy, I learned early on to resign myself to a life of names that sound nothing like the one my parents gave me. By now, I have plenty, for the better and the worse.

You give someone a nickname when you like them, when you don’t, when you can’t remember them, when there are too many of them ... Desirable or not, everyone has a nickname at some point in their life, and if you think you never have, you probably had a really good one.

So why Nick? Why not Jeffnames or Katnames or Fatsonames? Who is this Nick, and how is it possible that everyone in the English-speaking world collectively nominated him to represent the pretty common practice of altering acquaintances’ names?

This was at the center of a recent debate I had with a couple of friends and perhaps was an externality of too much time spent together and too little sleep. After much back-and-forth bickering, we did come to one satisfactory answer, satisfying enough to give the question a rest; clearly, Nicholas must have been the most popular boys’ name when the term came about and thus Nick the most popular nickname. (It wasn’t. According to a few censuses, Nicholas was up there, but William and a few others took the cake in medieval times.)

What perhaps should have occurred to us before we started patting ourselves on the back was the possibility that the nick of nickname has absolutely nothing to do with some guy named Nick. The lower case “n” with which it’s spelled, for example, could have been a nice visual aid.

No, unfortunately, no one was chosen as the namesake for the practice of pet-naming, nor is the word “nickname” a demonstration of its meaning. It comes from the Old English word “eke,” which means additional, and while the word “eke name” or “ekenname” did not appear until around 1300, the practice of using additional names to identify people with common first names was in wide use throughout the early middle ages since no one had last names.

We see the remnants of eke names today in history books and most surnames. Ivan the Terrible and Peter the Great, for example, are some of the best known eke names worldwide, and your last name probably derives from something similar. If you’re a Mr. or Ms. Miller, your great-great-(etc.) grandfather may have been known on the street as Samuel the Miller; if you’re a Klein, your ancestors may have been short ... in Germany; if you’re a Mac or a Mc’Something, your ancestors probably didn’t do anything too cool because their eke names simply named them “son of...” I like to think that all the Steins of the world had grandparents who liked to party, but then again, I also came up with the Nicholas hypothesis.

The eke name’s transformation into the “nickname” over time is what has happened to quite a few English words — especially nouns that blend easily into the articles that precede them. That is misdivision. The neke name got its “n” from the article it was most commonly used with, most likely “an,” and through this process, called metanalysis, “an eke name” became “a neke name.”

It may seem like a crazy mistake for so many medieval people to be making, but among people learning language completely aurally, it’s not terribly surprising. And words resulting from misdivisions pop up more frequently in the English language than one might think; “an apron,” once upon a time, was “a napron.”

Besides, we’re talking about people who jabbed each other with sticks on horses to get their dates. I wouldn’t put it past them.

Romy Oltuski is a junior majoring in English. She can be reached at Romy.Oltuski@tufts.edu.

University working to cut back number of adjunct professors

ADJUNCTS

continued from page 3

Even if the adjunct professors teach only one class per semester, however, they can offer students a wider range of topics.

"I think it's interesting to hire adjuncts because you have a certain flexibility," Alex Alejos, a sophomore majoring in sociology, said. "One of my professors was also a lawyer, and another was more of an activist. Sometimes you get really interesting people when you get them for short periods of time."

"Hiring adjuncts can definitely give a department that flexibility," Conklin said. "They can teach a course that no one else in the department is an expert in. The downside is that you can't do a national search for them. The positions pay so badly that you're not going to relocate to a new city to teach just one course."

While hiring adjuncts gives departments more flexibility, it also provides an environment that students looking for advisors find difficult to navigate.

"I've only taken three sociology classes, but two of them were taught by adjuncts, and I feel like the department is disconnected," Daphne Amir, a sophomore who recently switched her major to sociology, said. "It's understandable that if you're hiring people who come from totally different places that they're not going to know each other if they're not here a lot."

Alejos felt that inconsistency in the department contributes to inconsistency among students. For classes like "Introduction to Sociology," which has consistently had different professors, students might come out of these courses reflecting different emphases and different knowledge banks, depending on the semester.

"We're all having very different experiences — those who took it last year, this semester, fall of next year," Alejos said. "Will some people be better prepared when we meet in an upper-level

class? Who knows."

"I don't think sociology is unusual as a department in our number of adjuncts," Conklin said. "If you compared us to English and the languages, there are probably more there than here. I know they hire a lot of lecturers to teach writing to freshman and introductory language courses. It's more mechanical; you don't necessarily need a tenured professor to teach those."

Conklin said Introduction to Sociology was a similarly mechanical class, if only because the incredible amount of subject matter to cover allows for very little in-depth analysis.

"If you start here in [a] basic language class, you're not going to be majoring in that subject, and if you're taking English 1, you're not going to be an English major," Alejos said, "but if you're taking Intro to Sociology, you might be building a foundation for a major."

Slodden noted that graduate students do not teach the introductory classes in many universities. "You want to put your best and brightest tenured professors in. It's a challenging thing to teach. It's almost like an upper-level seminar is easier for a burgeoning professor to teach because it's so focused; there are such tight parameters. Whereas for 'Intro,' it's like, 'Oh gosh, what isn't off-limits?'" Slodden said.

While hiring adjuncts has both its detriments and benefits, Tufts is consciously moving away from hiring new adjuncts and is instead focusing on building a steady permanent faculty.

"The university's aware and is trying to cut back," Conklin said. "Full-time people have been growing in Arts and Sciences. It's not a good life, from the adjunct's point of view, and Tufts has been consciously moving away from using adjuncts."

"Universities in some sense are businesses too," he said, "and we have to keep going."

The Department of Romance Languages presents

The 2010 LANGSAM-BARSAM-SIMCHES Lecture

*"The Novel without the Letter E
and the Unlikely Collaboration of
Borges and Georges Perec"*

by

Pablo M. Ruiz

Assistant Professor, Tufts University

Wednesday, April 28, 2010

Olin Center, Room 011

6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Reception to follow in Laminan Lounge.

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p. 617-627-2061

THEATER REVIEW

Senior thesis project 'Sigh' poignantly explores depths of human emotions

BY MICHELLE BEEHLER
Daily Editorial Board

Tomorrow night, the topic of melancholy will be addressed in senior Brenann Stacker's thesis project, "Sigh." The title perfectly describes the performance, which seeks to explore the depths of human emotions and shows that sometimes words just aren't enough.

"Sigh" is a blend of poetry and other works on melancholy put together by Stacker, who bridges the gaps with her own original writing. Stacker was inspired after reading Sarah Ruhl's "Melancholy Play" and Sarah Kane's "4.48 Psychosis." "There was something similar about how Sarah Kane was saying it [the meaning of melancholy] and the way that Sarah Ruhl was, and I just thought, what if we put those two together? What would it make? Because there were two different tones about the same thing," Stacker said.

To see what would happen, Stacker created the titular character Sigh (sophomore Emily Pantalone) who finds her identity in being despondent. Sigh struggles to stay melancholic and to determine what the emotion is despite the insistence from other characters that what she is experiencing is actually depression.

Sigh recreates a memory of Reque (junior Andrew Squier), who has passed



DILYS ONG/TUFTS DAILY

"Sigh," which stars sophomore Emily Pantalone (above), blends poetry and other forms of writing to convey the performance's exploration of depression.

away, in order to remain in her dejected state. Sigh's decision to associate with her own unhappiness creates a cycle from which it is impossible to escape, bringing the characters back to the beginning only after finally reaching what they hoped was the end.

Acting as an outside observer, Shade (played by Stacker) is an alternate version of Sigh, who exists outside of the cycle Sigh is trapped in. The singing voices, sung by junior Carolyn Berliner, also rep-

see SIGH, page 6

MOVIE REVIEW

'Back-up Plan' entertains with love story in reverse

BY SMRITI CHOUDHURY
Daily Staff Writer

Although it never ceases to stray far from the predictable boy-meets-girl storyline, the romantic comedy "The

The Back-up Plan



Starring **Jennifer Lopez, Alex O'Loughlin**
Directed by **Alan Poul**

"Back-up Plan" attempts to take a fork in the plot by beginning a relationship in reverse. From the artificial insemination of twins to marriage, the movie follows a skeptical woman named Zoe (Jennifer Lopez), who makes up her mind that she will never find "the one" and thus decides to get a sperm donor in order to have children. But things get complicated when Zoe coincidentally meets dairy farm owner Stan (Alex O'Loughlin) the day of her insemination. With such a crazy premise, this romantic comedy is full of laughter

and is the perfect spring flick.

Audiences should not expect this to be a typical Lopez film. Straying from performances in movies such as "The Wedding Planner" (2001) and "Maid in Manhattan" (2002), Lopez shows some maturity in her acting, proving she is indeed a triple threat who can sing, dance and even act. After starring in horrendous C-rate movies like the infamous "Gigli" (2003), Lopez makes a complete turnaround with fashionable on-screen attire, appropriate facial expressions and believable emotion in her dialogue.

In his first leading role, O'Loughlin also stages a believable performance as "the perfect man" who surprises audiences by supporting Zoe and continuing their relationship despite her pregnancy. Of course, O'Loughlin's character symbolizes the ideal man for any woman — one who will stand by her through anything in the name of love.

O'Loughlin, an Australian, made his first big break into the United

see BACKUP, page 6



ROTTENTOMATOES.COM

Lopez and O'Loughlin light up the silver screen with charming chemistry.

ALBUM REVIEW



MYSAPCE.COM

"Congratulations" is one trippy album.

'Congratulations' presents complex follow-up for MGMT

BY JOSH ZEIDEL
Daily Editorial Board

On its sophomore album, "Congratulations," psychedelic-electro-pop duo MGMT proves the scope of its collective musical genius. The

Congratulations

MGMT



Columbia Records

band also proves that it's been getting increasingly high on fame and LSD. In fact, "Congratulations" might just be the soundtrack to a psychedelic experience that oscillates rapidly between the elation and despair of a sudden rise to fame. In this sense, the album rings autobiographical.

But who are MGMT? Strictly speaking, only principal songwriters Andrew VanWyngarden (vocals, guitar, keyboards, drums) and Ben Goldwasser (vocals, keyboards, synthesizers, drums) are MGMT, but they currently tour with bassist Matthew Asti, guitarist and backing vocalist James Richardson and

see MGMT, page 6

CARYN HOROWITZ |
THE CULTURAL CULINARIAN

Sign of the times



Every April, you can find people on this campus in the midst of a serious quarter-life crisis. Seniors, you know what I'm talking about. Within the span of 10 minutes, I oscillate between being unbelievably ready to graduate to walking up to my freshman-year dorm and hugging the outside of the building, wishing I could go back four years. This crazed state is nothing new to Tufts in April, but that doesn't make it any easier to deal with.

My emotional state is manifesting itself in interesting ways. The usual suspects are all here: headaches, not being able to sleep, an inability to concentrate because my mind is racing — but there are now some new friends joining the party that is my emotional frenzy. When I get stressed, I do every possible task, except that paper I have to write or studying for that test I have tomorrow. I have a habit of stress cooking — I've made some of my most elaborate meals when I've got a lot on my mind.

But this time around, I barely have the patience to cook. Even boiling water to make pasta is too much work. The most complicated thing I've cooked in the past two weeks were frozen potstickers that I threw in a pan. Normally, no matter how much I am unable to focus or calm down from being over-stressed, I can always focus on food, but with May 23 looming ever closer, even that's been thrown out the window.

To make up for my lack of cooking tolerance, I've been eating out a lot and ordering take-out. That's also been different for me. Last month, I went to a McDonald's for the first time since middle school, and I recently had KFC for the second time ever. (I did not get the Double Down — I'm stressed, but I haven't totally lost it.)

The fast food and take-out have been unsatisfying, leading to more impatience and stress, which results in more take-out. It's a vicious cycle that I can't seem to break, and I'm guessing more than a few of you have found yourselves in a similar situation recently. Whether it's because of the impending doom — or maybe joy? I'm starting to oscillate again — of graduation, or because of fast-approaching finals and end-of-the-semester work, April certainly is the cruelest month.

Well, it turns out that maybe April isn't totally to blame. It's actually the fast food. I blame the Colonel, the King and the Golden Arches for my emotional state.

A new study from the University of Toronto found that exposure to fast food can lead to impatience and stress, even outside of the food realm. Researchers Chen-Bo Zhong and Sanford DeVoe showed people symbols and logos from popular fast-food restaurants. Exposure to these logos caused the test subjects to read faster and worry about saving time, though the participants were under no sort of time crunch or pressure to complete the study. Additionally, seeing fast-food logos made the participants want to spend more money on instant gratification versus saving for the future.

The participants in the study had these reactions whether or not they were consciously or unconsciously exposed to the logos. Meaning, if you are watching TV and see a logo for a fast-food restaurant or drive by a place quickly on the highway, you will have the same response: stress and impatience. The logos subconsciously make us think of things associated with the brand, which in the case of fast food is a hurried, on-the-go, harsh lifestyle of the real world.

The exact same thing that is looming on the other side of May 23.

And now I'm oscillating again.

Caryn Horowitz is a senior majoring in history. She can be reached at Caryn.Horowitz@tufts.edu.

Without radio-friendly singles, MGMT leaves listeners dissatisfied

MGMT

continued from page 5

drummer and backing vocalist Will Berman.

VanWyngarden and Goldwasser met each other during their freshman year at Wesleyan University and began experimenting with electronica and avant-garde rock, although they still claim that they never seriously intended to start a band.

Self-releasing a few demos and EPs as The Management, the duo changed its name to MGMT shortly after graduating college in 2005; it signed with Columbia Records in the fall of 2006 to record and release its highly acclaimed, major-label debut album, "Oracular Spectacular" (2007). The singles on this album — "Time to Pretend," "Electric Feel" and "Kids" — rocketed MGMT to international fame, as it broke the Top 40 in five countries.

With "Congratulations," the boys attempt to come to terms with their massive success, and they don't seem to be handling it well. For starters, MGMT bucked the standard music industry trend of highlighting a few songs from the album as radio-friendly singles. The group refused to release any. As Goldwasser explained in an interview with NME.com, "We'd rather people hear the whole album as an album and see what tracks jump out rather than the ones that get played on the radio — if anything gets played on the radio!"

If "Congratulations" only works as a cohesive whole,

then the introductory track, "It's Working," sets the tone for the entire surreal experience. Told from the perspective of a person waiting for a psychedelic drug to kick in, the befuddled narrator questions at the beginning, "How will I know if it's working right?" only to decide later, "My mind's affected, it's empty now as I lay down/ I feel alright, my heart is racing/ ... no, it's working in your blood."

From that point on, the album's lyrics devolve into some pretty mystifying metaphors, resembling the incoherent free associations of hallucination. Here and there, the occasional line about fame emerges, but for the most part, the music is far more revealing than the words. In this arena, MGMT pulled out all of the stops.

"Congratulations" sounds like a densely woven audio tapestry, shimmering with layers of the group's usual synthesizers, electric and acoustic guitars, bass and drums, but incorporating a plethora of sound effects, echoes, distortion, stately string sections, sitar and flutes. Musically, the strongest track on the LP is "I Found A Whistle," with its gentle beat and achingly sweet chord progression overlaid with a wailing theremin. Other notable songs include the genre-shuffling "Flash Delirium" and the 12-minute epic "Siberian Breaks," worthy of an EP all to itself.

The duo seems to resurface from all the confusion, dazed yet introspective, on the



Andrew VanWyngarden and Ben Goldwasser put a less commercial spin on MGMT's sophomore album.

album's closing title track. The song "Congratulations" sums up the plight of the nouveau-famous pair over a plodding backing of acoustic guitar, bass and drums: "It's hardly a sink or swim/ When all is well if the ticket sells." And later, "I've got someone to make reports/ That tell me how my money's spent/ To book my stays and draw my blinds/ So I can't see what's

really there/ And all I need's a great big congratulations."

But does MGMT really deserve its requested pat on the back? To be sure, this album offers incredible production complexity, some remarkable composition and ambitious tracks. But to put it simply, the songs on "Congratulations" do not grab the listener in the same way that the better num-

bers on "Oracular Spectacular" did. By eschewing the concept of individual standout tracks and singles, the group has essentially created an album of background music, with a few shining moments of brilliance that peak out from behind the psychedelic swirl. All in all, "Congratulations" is a vague disappointment that falls short of earning its title.

Perfect on-screen chemistry, comedic timing make for fun romantic comedy

BACKUP

continued from page 5

States as a gritty cop in the Emmy-winning police drama "The Shield" (2002-2008). For his debut on the American silver screen in "The Back-up Plan," O'Loughlin proves that he is an actor worth watching. Although Stan is far from a sophisticated character, O'Loughlin gives a believable performance, with a slight subtlety in his dialogue and actions that keeps audiences guessing what his next move with Zoe will be.

Not only is the pairing of Lopez and O'Loughlin pleasing to the eyes, but the two actors also have a great on-screen chemistry that is always fun to watch. Complementing

their acting chemistry and physical compatibility is their delivery of comedic scenes. O'Loughlin and Lopez react to one another like sugar and spice. Lopez delivers her trademark sass, while O'Loughlin gives an innocent, yet witty performance.

Director Alan Poul was successful in his casting choices, as these actors brought a sense of reality to the storyline. Poul's plot mostly follows the typical romance movie of boy-chasing-girl and boy-eventually-getting-girl, but the plot twister of insemination before boy-meets-girl could not have been carried out by anyone other than Lopez. Lopez brings a genuine feeling to the character

of Zoe, as a woman who had never had a loyal man in her life. Lopez also brings a dash of spontaneity into her role with a hint of attitude. Similar to Lopez, O'Loughlin brings a unique facet to Stan by thankfully not overplaying the "perfect man" image.

All in all, with the steamy chemistry between Lopez and O'Loughlin and the constant comedic revelations throughout the film, "The Back-up Plan" is triumphant in fulfilling its expectations as a romantic comedy. Whether one is looking for a good Friday night movie with the girls, a mother-daughter night or a date with someone special, "The Back-up Plan" will not disappoint expectations.



Attractive actors and believable romance make for a fun film.

'Sigh' explores melancholy

SIGH

continued from page 5

resent another fractured version of Sigh. Together, the three performers collectively recreate different stereotypes of melancholy.

"The reason I'm singing instead of talking is because there are certain moments when you can't express something with words, or when something is either too heightened or too suppressed, and music can kind of let that out," Berliner said when discussing her role as the voices. When the characters are unable to speak, Berliner's voice sings for them, capturing the emotions in the performance in an alternate form.

Despite acting mostly as a voice in the performance, Berliner's costume and physical appearance also play an important role in breaking down the stereotypes of sadness. Berliner designed her character's physical appearance around the glamorous interpretation of melancholy depicted in old movies, instead of the darker and more depressed grey sweat-pant costume of sadness that the character Sigh embraces.

"My character is going to be in a gown with gloves and pearls. The movie star look of old Hollywood, of the woman at two o'clock in the morning at the piano who you know is really depressed, but she's there anyway," Berliner said. "And she's singing, and you just want to know what's wrong, but there's beauty in it. So this is

just a way to say, this isn't real, she's [Sigh] real."

Junior Jared Trudeau, the composer and musical director of the production, based the framework of his music on seven pitches he thought sounded like a speck of light, an image he took from the show's original stage directions. But the use of only seven pitches allows for a certain amount of freedom within its limitations, creating a constrained playfulness that is cultivated in many aspects of the show.

Of working within the framework he created, Trudeau said, "You can do lots of different rhythmic patterns and lots of different textures. Some of it is just vocals, some is just piano. So despite having a limited tonal palette, I still can do as much as I want with it."

Stacker compares the performance with the work of Tim Burton. "It's very realistic but a little off. There's a little bit of crookedness," she said. "The slant nature of the show allows for the audience to view the topic of melancholy from a fresh perspective, to really delve into the emotion in order to understand and come to terms with it."

"It's a defense of melancholy," Stacker added. "Who defines one person's light and dark?"

"Sigh" will be performed Wednesday night in Balch Arena Theater at 7:30 p.m. The performance is free.

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EDITORIAL

Sam Wallis for TCU president

This year's campaign season for Tufts Community Union (TCU) president has seen a great deal of controversy surrounding the candidates' questionable campaign techniques and practices. Numerous students have criticized junior presidential candidate Sam Wallis' campaign for using spray chalk to advertise, as it resembles spray paint, and some believed that his campaign team had vandalized the campus. Meanwhile, members of junior candidate Lauren Levine's campaign have undergone criticism for using the TCU Treasury's signatory e-lists to promote her campaign, which would constitute a violation of Tufts Elections Commission's (ECOM) policies. Most recently, Wallis has also been engaged in an appeals process to contest ECOM's ruling that his decision to fly back from Israel — where he is studying abroad this semester — for the remainder of his campaign was a violation of spending limits.

Amid so much controversy and confusion surrounding campaign rules and whether or not the candidates have been violating them, much of the discourse and debate about the upcoming elections has focused on the campaigns themselves while ignoring what really matters: the candidates' qualifications, platforms and ability to lead successfully. While it is tempting to examine the surface of these campaigns and pay attention to these controversies, when choosing whom to vote for this Wednesday, students must move past their preconceptions and focus on the candidates themselves.

There is no question that both Levine and Wallis — with their extensive experience on Senate and with the TCU Treasury

— are qualified to be the next TCU president. However, the Daily believes that Wallis presents a far stronger platform because he offers not only a clear picture of what his specific goals are, but also has made clear how he can successfully implement them.

While Levine's aims to improve the Tufts community by addressing issues of student happiness and diversity representation represent improvements that would be extremely beneficial to the Tufts community, such widespread, broad goals would be difficult for a student to implement. Many past TCU presidents have set out to accomplish general goals that aimed to change the climate of life on campus, and it has become evident that it is simply unrealistic for a student president to take on such broad reforms, especially when he or she only has one year to potentially implement such changes.

Wallis' campaign presents a much-needed transition from the tendency of past presidents to put far too much emphasis on discussing large, overarching issues and not enough on actually implementing concrete changes to our campus. His track record speaks to his ability to not only propose positive changes, but also to actually ensure that such changes are made. He has successfully led numerous initiatives to improve life on campus, such as increasing the availability of wireless Internet in dorms and creating a Judicial Review Board. With the position of TCU president, he will be able to oversee several ongoing projects — such as working to move course evaluations online — that would improve student life.

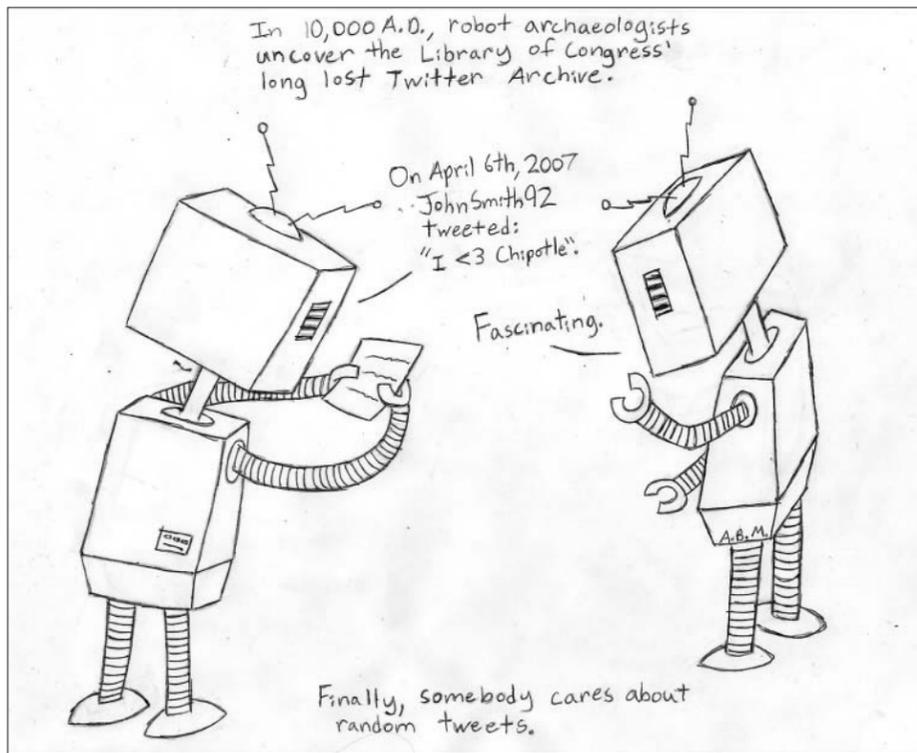
Wallis' platform does boast broader goals similar to those in Levine's campaign — such as creating a greater sense of community —

but unlike Levine, his means for accomplishing these goals are based in practicality. Wallis' proposed reforms include better allocating resources to which the Senate already has access and reformatting the way that groups go through the TCU budgeting process so that they can more easily collaborate with each other, allowing groups to plan ahead to hold more large-scale events with broader student appeal. Plans that are based on reforming procedures within the Senate, as these are, will ultimately impact student life as a whole.

Some have argued that Wallis' project-oriented ideas could be accomplished by a senator and do not require the position of TCU president. However, Wallis' experience working with administrators, his knowledge of the inner workings of the Senate and his desire to encourage specific plans makes him just the type of executive that the Senate needs to actually achieve its goals and create substantial changes. While Levine's campaign focuses far more on addressing the student body as a whole, Wallis has wisely realized that in order to actually implement positive changes, the Senate must be more effectively utilized. He has shown through his previous achievements that he is capable of pushing the Senate to maximize its resources and power to best help the student body that elected its members.

Wallis represents a refreshing approach to the presidency. We believe that, if elected, he will offer the Tufts community a much-needed balance between improving student life while remaining reasonable and realistic with his goals. We encourage students to vote for Sam Wallis for TCU president on April 28.

ALEX MILLER



OFF THE HILL | MARSHALL UNIVERSITY

Bipartisanship is a joke for American politics

BY JAY ROUDEBUSH
The Parthenon

I am tired of the way politics are working in America. Every time I turn on any news, specifically about the Senate, I hear of a unified front to stop debate on any issue being brought up by the Democratic Party.

The Republicans in Congress are getting paid to do nothing at the moment. They don't debate, review or offer alternatives. What they do is vote no on everything, while citing ambiguous reasons that seem to change daily. This isn't a problem just in Washington, D.C. — it is a problem of ideological intolerance everywhere.

Show me a time in U.S. history where the Democratic Party acted as the Republicans do now. Yes, there are times where solid party lines were drawn and held, but on everything. Republicans virtually are voting no on every issue in the Senate; this is

mostly the case in the House as well.

There is a deeper issue here that isn't just to blame on the Republican Party. When I disagree with another person's ideology, I usually write them off. That is a hard thing to admit. I think a lot of us do it. We "debate" the other person, but our intention is to win them over, not to find common ground. If we don't win them over, which is usually the case, then we assume they just don't understand. That doesn't mean we think it is OK for them to think the way they do.

We have become too intolerant of each other. Our ideas have become stagnant on both sides of the aisle. We no longer work together in any fashion. When we talk about bipartisanship, what we truly mean is that we will start talking as extreme as we can, and if you come on board we will start discussing moving to the center of our platform. Not the center politically on the issue.

The center of whatever party is in power.

It is a joke when Democrats say they want bipartisanship. What the Democrats in Congress want is to pass bills that are key to the progression of their ideology. If Republicans are willing to join the cause, then it can be watered down slightly for their comfort, but it cannot become moderate or the base of the Democrats remove their support. This is the exact same with Republicans. When Republicans say their voices aren't being heard by the Democrats in Congress, what they mean is the bills aren't created center right.

No one wants bipartisanship. What they want is their ideology to be center stage. There is no cooperation that makes either side happy. Sometimes the voters force cooperation. That doesn't mean it is desired by the parties. I wonder how long it will take people on both extremes to realize most Americans are truly in the middle.

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Yes on 3

BY CHARLES SKOLD AND NADIA NIBBS

A yes vote on Referendum 3 in the upcoming student body election will reform the community representative system so that they are ultimately voted on by the entire campus and are granted fiscal voting rights on the Tufts Community Union (TCU) Senate. It will also create the Director of Community Affairs (DCA) position, an executive level position on Senate that will be charged with addressing minority issues and bringing together different groups on campus.

In an April 26 op-ed, Christopher Snyder advocated the rejection of both this and a competing Referendum 4 in the name of addressing “real” issues on campus. Snyder’s effort to frame this referendum in the context of a larger Senate-student body disconnect is fine, but should not distract from the present issue at hand: adequate and legitimate community representation on the TCU Senate.

Referendum 3 does indeed address real issues on campus, namely ensuring that both the student body and the individual community reps will have louder voices on the TCU Senate and across Tufts.

Snyder is concerned that a majority-white campus would choose which individual gets to represent the views of minority communities. It is true that the entire student body will get to vote on the individual community reps, but this should not be a cause of concern to anyone. Referendum 3 allows the space for groups seeking community representation on the TCU Senate the opportunity to identify their own core group of leaders whom they believe could adequately represent pertinent issues facing their communities. Upon identifying these leaders in a fashion that best facilitates the maximum voices heard within their own communities, these students are then able to contest in a general student body election to not only represent the needs and concerns of their communities, but also to create cohesion between their community and the larger Tufts student body. A general election process does not mean, then, that minority issues are determined by a majority population, but instead that the whole student



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body can have an opinion on the student they trust to gradually diminish insularity.

This voting procedure will actually legitimize not only a community rep’s voice on Senate but also their right to a fiscal vote, as proposed in Referendum 3. If a community rep has been vetted by their community and

voted on by the greater student body, they should have full fiscal and non-fiscal voting rights on Senate.

Referendum 3 will result in a more, not less, “substantive debate about minority issues,” as Snyder said. Putting an individual community rep’s vote to the entire

student body will advance the conversation about minority issues to all areas of campus. This is exactly the type of dialogue and debate that needs to move beyond its circles in various community groups and enter into, and be received into, the larger campus exchange.

Any question of whether putting the community rep vote to the entire campus would result in simply a popularity campaign is irrelevant to the current debate in that the same question must be asked of any elected TCU Senator. Perhaps that question should be asked, but again, let us press forward with the issue at hand.

Referendum 3 will bring legitimacy to the entire community rep system. The student body’s voice will be legitimized in electing the community reps. The community reps’ voices will be legitimized through fiscal voting rights on the TCU Senate. The voices of the communities they represent will be legitimized by engagement with, and inclusion in, a larger campus dialogue.

Snyder is right that neither Referendum 3 nor 4 will resolve his reportedly greater pet issue of whether or not Senate cares about the student body. They do not intend to. They specifically address minority representation on the TCU Senate and across campus through the community rep system. However, looking forward to how Referendum 3 will give stronger voices to students in TCU Senate and across campus, it sure looks like a step in the right direction.

Maybe TCU Senate is responsive to the student body; maybe it is not. Let’s have that discussion. But let us also have the discussion of minority issues on campus, their greater relevance to the entire student body and their representation on TCU Senate. Let’s also have a campus-wide vote on senators and community reps that bring all these issues to the forefront. And let’s vote yes on Referendum 3 to make it happen.

Charles Skold is junior majoring in political science. Nadia Nibbs is a junior majoring in International Relations; she is a TCU senator and was a member of the Diversity Task Force.

OFF THE HILL | UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA, LINCOLN

Spain provides example for U.S. health care

BY SARAH MELECKI
The Daily Nebraskan

Here’s the thing about living in another country: You don’t realize quite how much you love the United States until you leave it. Then again, you also come to realize just how much you hate it while you’re away.

It was big news over here in Spain when the health care bill was signed. People weren’t exactly excited, though. Instead, they seemed to be thinking the same thing I have been ever since I was old enough to understand how to take care of my fellow citizens: Why hasn’t this been around forever? Why is the United States just getting around to instilling this vital right to its people?

When they ask me about the health care bill, all I can say is, “We might be a little behind the rest of the world, but we’re moving in the right direction.” And all Spaniards can do is nod in agreement, because the system is going to take its time restructuring, and the citizens are going to take their time warming up to the idea of universal health care.

In all honesty, what Congress passed isn’t what I had hoped it would be. But here’s the thing about Congress: They move slowly. And they’re meant to move slowly. There is a reason it takes so long to get anything done ... and it has less to do with the fact that Congress is full of a bunch of idiots than the system being smarter than those idiots, and it has to sort out all of the good ideas from the bad.

And when the bad ideas get through — for example, not giving health care to all of our citizens — the system has to go back and fix that, too. But in Spain I’ve seen universal health care in action, and I’m happy to report that we’re in for something great.

Having seen the doctor in Spain twice now, I can tell you

universal health care is only going to make us stronger. The doctor actually had to come to my hotel room in January while I was staying in Madrid, and not only did he speak fluent English but he also made a quick and painless visit that treated my illness right away.

Just this Monday, I ended up in the emergency room (a product of traveling on airplanes between countries much too often in the past two weeks) and had no problem whatsoever. I’ve been to the emergency room in the United States before, and thus have something with which to compare my visit. I saw very little difference between the two countries.

It took me about the same amount of time to see the doctor in both countries. The main difference between the two nations is that in the United States, my bill had always been more than \$100 after insurance took care of a significant portion of it. In Spain, my bill was 35 euro, the equivalent of about \$47, and I was never even asked to produce an insurance card.

Getting prescriptions has also been easy. I simply take my written prescription from the doctor to any pharmacy (and there are literally two on every block) and ask to have it filled. I pay so little per prescription, also! Today, for example, I had to get two prescriptions and paid 24 euro for both, the equivalent of just more than \$32. That is not a co-pay: That is the actual cost of the prescription. I’ve never once been asked to produce an insurance card, and I’m not even a citizen!

So, I know exactly what the Republicans in the room are thinking — Yeah, but their taxes are so high! First of all, the income tax rate is progressive, so those who don’t make as much don’t pay as much. Ingenious! Who would have ever thought of a thing like that? I mean, people who don’t have

as much money paying less than people who have a lot of money? It’s like someone reinvented the wheel!

Once you get past the initial shock of realizing that people who, for whatever reason, don’t make as much money don’t pay as much into the system, then you can look at how much you actually have to pay. For someone who makes more than 53,000 euro (about \$70,700), the total tax rate is 43 percent. High? Yes.

But what exactly are you getting out of these taxes? This is what no one in the United States ever stops to think about. Do you think there are potholes in the roads here? I haven’t found them.

Are people going bankrupt because they get unlucky, happen to get cancer and can’t afford the bills? Unheard of. People in Spain, and the rest of Europe for that matter, take care of one another. A person’s 43 percent of income tax goes to making sure you live a healthy, comfortable, productive life and your friends and neighbors do as well.

Of course, if you make less than 17,000 euro a year (the equivalent of about \$23,000), you pay only a 24 percent tax. And here’s another difference between the United States and Spain. Why do you make less than 17,000 euro a year? In the United States, the automatic assumption is that you are lazy, fat and no good.

Not so in Spain. The assumption is you started out from less than others and you weren’t lucky enough to be able to make it to the top right away, or you have had a difficult life because of family issues, illness, whatever. The assumption isn’t that you screwed up, but you simply need a little help.

And honestly, who doesn’t need a little help every once in a while? Hopefully this new health care bill will make the United States a bit more like the best parts of Spain, with the right to pursue a life of happiness for all of us.

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INSIDE THE NHL

Welcome to crazy town: Erratic playoffs have proved exciting

BY ADAM PARDES
Senior Staff Writer

Unpredictable. That's the best word to describe the Stanley Cup playoffs year in and year out. While some favorites move on, others are sure to fall by the wayside and allow underdogs the chance to earn championship rings. No matter what teams advance to the later rounds, their path is never easy and is always full of surprises.

This year is no exception, with 12 opening-round games going past regulation, including a Game 5 triple-overtime thriller between the Pittsburgh Penguins and the Ottawa Senators. Grinder Matt Carkner picked up the winning goal for the Senators to force a sixth game, in which the defending Stanley Cup-champion Penguins eliminated Ottawa in its own building. Pascal Dupuis scored halfway through the first overtime thanks to hard work in the corner by Jordan Staal, lifting Pittsburgh to its third straight conference semifinals.

However, the biggest surprise from the East was that the last team to qualify for the playoffs, the seventh-seeded Philadelphia Flyers, was the first club to clinch a semifinal matchup.

Flyers goaltender Brian Boucher saw his first playoff action as a starter in 10

years during his first stint with the Broad Street Bullies. It was in those 2000 playoffs that Boucher lost to the New Jersey Devils in seven games, en route to the Devils' second-ever Stanley Cup trophy. This time around, Boucher stood on his head all series long, and the Flyers' revamped defensive core, led by grizzled veteran Chris Pronger, helped to shut down the Devils, leading to a five-game upset of second-seeded New Jersey.

Devils netminder Martin Brodeur, who holds the NHL record for most regular season wins, picked up his 99th career playoff victory in Game 2 but will have to wait until next year to try to reach that magic number 100. The Devils scored more than two goals only once in the series, giving Brodeur little offensive help along the way.

The Flyers' special teams unit stole the show, posting an impressive 27.6 percent power-play conversion rate and an even better 87.5 percent penalty-kill rate. Last year, both the Flyers and the Devils were eliminated in the first round by the Penguins and the Carolina Hurricanes, respectively.

In the West, the top-seeded San Jose Sharks have clinched a second-round spot after a hard-fought series against the Colorado Avalanche. The Sharks, who lost an embarrassing series to the last-seed

Anaheim Ducks in the first round last year, didn't earn a lead in regulation over the Avalanche until Game 4. That being said, San Jose managed to pull off two clutch overtime victories that helped it clinch the series. In what was one of the most physical series of the playoffs thus far, several side stories developed that earned the attention of hockey fans everywhere.

Sharks defenseman Dan Boyle, who won gold with Team Canada in the Vancouver Olympics just a few months ago, took the blame for a 1-0 overtime loss to the Avalanche in Game 3. Boyle attempted to make a pass to his defense partner behind the San Jose net, but the puck deflected off of the stick of Colorado's Ryan O'Reilly and slid right past Evgeni Nabokov, ending the game and leaving spectators everywhere stunned.

Instead of ignoring the media and getting down on himself, Boyle answered all reporters' questions with great poise and maturity, and he acknowledged that bad breaks happen and must not define a series.

Without missing a step, Boyle opened the scoring just a minute into the Sharks' next game and notched the tying goal late in the third period of Game 6. Aside from Boyle's blunder in overtime, the biggest story coming out of San Jose has been the emergence of Joe Pavelski as Mr. Clutch.

In Game 2, Pavelski scored with 32 sec-

onds left in regulation to knot the score at 5-5 and send the game into overtime, where the Sharks outlasted the Avalanche thanks to a power-play goal by Devin Setoguchi. Two games later, Pavelski notched an overtime-winner of his own when he fired a screened wrist shot past Colorado goalie Craig Anderson halfway through the extra stanza. Finally, with the series on the line, the U.S. Olympian scored twice in Game 6, including the game-winner in the final period to eliminate the Avalanche and propel San Jose into the second round.

In addition to the exciting series that have already ended, the fourth-seeded Phoenix Coyotes and fifth-seeded Detroit Red Wings will battle in a winner-takes-all Game 7 tonight in Arizona. The 'Yotes managed to stave off elimination with a decisive 5-2 victory at Joe Louis Arena on Sunday, forcing tonight's matchup to decide who will move on to the conference semifinals.

The Stanley Cup playoffs never follow analysts' expectations or predictions, and the regular season statistics of each club are generally discarded come April and May. Favorites are only favorites on paper, and the players on the ice are the only ones who will decide who takes home the hardware at the end of the day.

Matchup at Bowdoin will determine NESCAC seeing

WOMEN'S LACROSSE
continued from page 12

said. "We were back on our heels, and they were rearing to go. They were able to set the tone in the game, and we reacted to them instead of going out and playing our game."

The Jumbos took an early 2-1 lead on Saturday before the Panthers went on a four-goal run that included two goals from Middlebury senior Dana Heritage, who finished with a game-high four tallies. The contest went back and forth until the 16:51 mark in the second half, when the Panthers had another four-goal spurt, sparked by a drive to the goal from sophomore Chase Delano.

The Jumbos rallied late in the game on the strength of two goals from senior co-captain Jenna Abelli that narrowed the Panther lead to three. But Middlebury was able to control possession in the closing moments and run down the clock, ensuring the Jumbos' first loss to the Panthers since 2007.

"We started to play with more urgency when we realized we were behind, but we just didn't have a lot of time," senior Emily Johnson said. "They had a lot more energy during the game, and I think that they were coached really well this week."

Johnson, who leads the NESCAC in scoring with over four points per game, was limited to only one goal and one assist by a Middlebury defense focused on stopping the Jumbos' high-octane transition attack. Over its nine-game winning streak, Tufts had averaged 16 goals per game, but Middlebury effectively executed its strategy on Saturday, slowing down the Jumbos' offensive assault.

"They were taking away our

transition game and our fast-break situations, so it forced us to play a settled attack all the time," Johnson said. "When we were holding the ball, they forced us to play to our weakness. We'll work on our attack this week a lot more, [because] I'm sure we'll see Middlebury again soon."

While the Jumbos finished the game ahead of Middlebury 32-28 in shots, Tufts committed over twice as many fouls as the Panthers, 14-6. Tufts also had more turnovers on the day, a sign that the team was rattled by the Panthers' intensity.

"It is definitely a wake-up call," Kopp said. "Because we were taken aback by their play, we were flustered and anxious, which caused us to throw the ball away and take bad shots."

"We're happy that this happened now before NESCACs and potentially the NAAs," Kopp continued. "We need to come out hungry and keep the momentum. [This game] forced us to reevaluate ourselves and motivates us to play the best that we can."

The loss moves Tufts' record in 2010 to 10-3 overall and 5-3 in-conference. A matchup this Friday on the road at Bowdoin will be crucial in determining whether the team will clinch a first-round home game in the NESCAC Tournament. The team plans to get back to its high-scoring ways against a dangerous Polar Bears squad that needed three overtimes to beat Williams over the weekend, and that, at 5-2, sits one spot ahead of Tufts in the conference standings.

"We want to win to get home-field," Johnson said. "We haven't really looked at Bowdoin yet, but if we focus on ourselves like we usually do, we'll hopefully bring some energy and get the win."

Rout over Wheaton tempers disappointment of loss to Trinity

MEN'S TENNIS
continued from page 12

Though the loss to Trinity wasn't particularly close, the Jumbos could take some consolation in the fact that they routed Wheaton, 9-0, earlier in the week. Tufts swept the Lyons in both the doubles and singles categories, earning its first shutout victory of the season.

"We didn't know much about Wheaton going into the match; we knew they had a very good record but didn't have many high-quality victories, so we didn't know what to expect," senior tri-captain Daniel Landers said. "But coach [Doug] Eng told us to expect a tough match, and we went out there and got a pretty lopsided victory, which we were pretty happy about."

In the doubles matches, Victoria and Fountain combined to take out their Lyon opponents 8-4, while Lutz and freshman Ben Barad had even less trouble against theirs, emerging with an 8-1 victory. The tightest match came at the No. 3 spot, at which Landers and freshman Mark Westerfield pulled out an 8-6 triumph.

In singles play, the Jumbos simply dominated Wheaton, winning each match without dropping a set. The closest calls of the day came in the No. 2 and 3 pairings, as Victoria and Barad needed a little time to adjust to their opponents' games.

Victoria barely took the first set over Wheaton senior James Little with a score of 7-6 before moving on to an easy 6-2 victory in the second, while Barad battled senior Kyle Hudgins to a 7-5 victory in the first before cruising to a 6-1 victory in the next frame.

The Jumbos will continue



SCOTT TINGLEY/TUFTS DAILY

Freshman Andrew Lutz registered the only point for Tufts in its loss to Trinity on Thursday, defeating his opponent at sixth singles.

NESCAC play in their last two regular-season matches against Colby College on Friday and Bates College on Sunday. For Tufts, these two matches will be the most important of the season; with just a 2-4 conference record, the Jumbos will need to win both to guarantee themselves a spot at the NESCAC Championships.

"We are going to go out and play hard against Colby and Bates,"

Landers said. "Colby lost a lot of players, and we beat them 5-4 last year, so we are hoping to get a pretty decisive victory over them. Going into the Bates match, it's a toss up; we are definitely underdogs to them, and they beat us last year, but hopefully we can win some matches and surprise them. We aren't expected to win, but it shouldn't be as lopsided as it was last year."

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

Loss at Middlebury snaps Tufts' nine-game winning streak

BY BEN KOCHMAN
Daily Editorial Board

After winning nine straight games, the women's lacrosse team hoped to continue its stretch of dominance last Saturday at

WOMEN'S LACROSSE
(10-3, 5-3 NESCAC)
at Middlebury, Vt., Saturday

Tufts	4	5	—	9
Middlebury	6	7	—	13

Middlebury, Vt. against a Panthers team that had endured its first three-game losing streak since 1984. But in a game in which the Jumbo offense — which entered the game leading the NESCAC in goals per game — was held to single digits for the first time since March 20, the team was unable to prevail, dropping the game 13-9.

The Jumbos faced a fired-up Middlebury squad looking to defend its home turf and hurting from two major defeats at the hands of the Jumbos in the past two years. On April 26, 2008, the Jumbos snapped the Panthers' 76-game NESCAC winning streak in style, taking the contest 15-7 at home. Last year, the Jumbos beat Middlebury once more — this time 12-7 on April 8 — in another game in Medford.

On Saturday, however, Tufts had to wake up early and make the four-hour trek to Middlebury, where the nationally No. 16 Panthers were able to flip the script against the No. 5 Jumbos, and prove once again that predicting the



ALEX DENNETT/TUFTS DAILY

Sophomore midfielder Steph Perez had a goal in the women's lacrosse team's 13-9 loss at Middlebury over the weekend. The setback was the Jumbos' first since March 20.

outcome of a 2010 NESCAC game is a feeble proposition.

"We were the first team to beat them in the NESCAC, and coming off our two

wins, we were a team that they were out to get," senior co-captain Alyssa Kopp

see **WOMEN'S LACROSSE**, page 11

MEN'S TENNIS

Strong Wheaton win nullified by Trinity rout

BY JESSE WEINBERG
Senior Staff Writer

The men's tennis team continued its busy schedule last week with matches against Wheaton College on Tuesday

MEN'S TENNIS
(6-7, 2-4 NESCAC)
at Hartford, Conn., Thursday

Tufts	1
Trinity	8

and Trinity College on Thursday. The Jumbos got back to their winning ways against Wheaton at the Voute Courts, drubbing the Lyons 9-0. On Thursday, however, the Jumbos were given a dose of reality when they made the trip south to Hartford to play against NESCAC

rival Trinity, losing 8-1.

The Bantams got out to a quick start in the doubles matches with the No. 1 Trinity duo of sophomore Anson McCook and senior Spencer Feldman defeating the Jumbos' pairing of sophomore Kai Victoria and junior Jake Fountain 8-5. After coming out of the gates slowly, Victoria and Fountain battled back to make the match competitive, but the Bantams hit key shots down the stretch and managed to outlast their Tufts opponents.

"Against Trinity, we went down an early break in the first game of the match, and it was difficult to come back from that," Fountain said. "However, we got back to 5-4 on their serve, and we had two opportunities to break, but we didn't due to some lack of focus and some really good shots from Trinity, and that was the turning point of the match."

The Bantams went on to sweep the

doubles matches, as their No. 2 and No. 3 tandems each downed their respective Tufts opponents by scores of 8-3.

In the singles matches, Trinity was nearly as successful, taking all but one of the pairings. McCook handily defeated Fountain 6-3, 6-1 in the No. 1 spot, while Bantam junior Rich Bonfiglio dropped Victoria 6-1, 6-1 in the No. 2 match.

Things got a bit more interesting in the No. 3 pairing, however, as senior tri-captain Andrew Rosen put up a valiant effort against Trinity sophomore Dan Couzens. After dropping the first set 6-3, Rosen came back to take the second stanza 6-2, setting up a dramatic tiebreaker which he lost, 11-9. The lone win for the Jumbos came from freshman Andrew Lutz in the No. 6 spot, in which he defeated senior Ian Malakoff 7-5, 3-6 (10-8).

see **MEN'S TENNIS**, page 11

Women's tennis rebounds in a big way versus Middlebury

The No. 17 women's tennis team on Saturday tended its two-match slide with a hard-fought victory against No. 15 Middlebury College. The NESCAC matchup raised Tufts' record to 11-5 overall and 6-2 in conference play. Despite losing two of their three doubles matches, the Jumbos rode a strong singles effort, in which they won five out of six matches, to clinch the win.

"Everyone fought really hard for each other," first-year Lauren Hollender said. "It was really an all-around team effort."

After going 0-for-3 against national No. 2 Amherst in the doubles matches last week, the Jumbos struggled again in doubles on Saturday. The nationally ranked duo of junior co-captain Julia Browne and senior co-captain Meghan McCooey notched the first point for Tufts with an 8-4 set at the first doubles spot.

However, the Panthers fought back against Tufts' second doubles team of first-years Lindsay Katz and Janice Lam and the No. 3 tandem of Hollender and junior Edwina Stewart, taking the rest of the doubles in decisive 8-4 and 8-0 wins.

Despite the disadvantage partway through the match, the Jumbos collected themselves and came out ready to win in the singles matches, not dropping a set against the Panthers in any match but the No. 2 spot on the ladder.

"We just know that's what happened, and there's nothing we can do to change what happened in the doubles," Hollender said. "We just try to move forward and know that we're capable of winning, and everyone did a great job of that this weekend."

Browne led the way for Tufts at No. 1 singles, defeating Middlebury sophomore Tori

Aiello 7-6 (6), 7-6 (7). Stewart and McCooey also faced tough tie-breakers, but the team as a whole was able to win three out of four tie-breakers in the contest. Sophomore Jennifer LaCara, Katz and Lam each won quick, two-set matches to seal the deal for the Jumbos.

"We had much more confidence in our singles game," Hollender said. "We knew what we had to do and stepped it up."

With the season winding to an end, the Jumbos will face their last regular-season and conference game against No. 11 Bowdoin this weekend. Despite the difficult matches these past few weeks, a victory over Middlebury gives Tufts the confidence to head into the post-season with high hopes.

"Every team in the NESCAC is tough, but I think after this week we're in a good place," Hollender said. "We just need to keep it going and fight for every point."

—by Sarah Nasser

ALEX PREWITT | LIVE FROM MUDVILLE

The Golden ticket



A few months ago, during the college football season, I watched as former Notre Dame receiver Golden Tate put up an absurd 244 yards in a 37-30 win over Washington on Oct. 3. On nine catches, Tate abused the Huskies defense — OK, maybe this isn't quite the feat, but 244 yards is 244 yards no matter what, especially given that the most Washington gave up all year to any individual receiver besides that was 138 — which prompted me to turn to my friend and boldly predict that Tate would have a better pro career than quarterback Jimmy Clausen. This statement was immediately met with disdain and shouts, and I was banned from talking for the rest of the afternoon.

Here's why I'm right:

This past weekend, during the three-day extravaganza of boring that was the NFL Draft, Tate was selected without much hype at No. 60 overall, going to the Seattle Seahawks to play with former USC coach Pete Carroll. In Tate, the Seahawks got, in my opinion, the receiver with the most upside at incredible value. Though he was the fourth wideout taken, I stand by my statement that he'll have a great pro career.

Need proof of his abilities as a receiver? Just YouTube the Fighting Irish's game on Oct. 18, 2009 against USC, during which he burned the Trojans' highly touted safety, Taylor Mays — don't get me started on Mays blaming Carroll for not getting drafted until the second round — for two touchdowns. Fastforward to the end and watch Tate truck Mays in the end zone, then rewind the clip to see Tate absorb a hit in traffic and somehow manage to get one foot down to score. He's a freak of an athlete, one who ran a 4.36 and a 4.37, unofficially, at the combine. Oh yeah, and he's a .318 lifetime hitter on the baseball team whose 45 runs last year is the third-highest in program history.

With freakish speed and an uncanny, almost NFL Blitz-like ability to break tackles, it's no secret that Tate was a top prospect after he left South Bend following his junior year. But his 5-foot-10 stature might surprise some people, especially given that Tate joins a Seahawks receiving corps with a 6-foot-2 T.J. Houshmandzadeh, a 6-foot-4 Reggie Williams and a 6-foot-5 Mike Williams. Do I smell a hybrid between Wes Welker's size and Randy Moss' deep-threat capability?

Sure, the argument can be made that Tate is just a product of a system, that his 1,496 yards and 15 touchdowns last year were simply the result of the pass-happy Charlie Weis trying to boost the stock of Clausen (What else would it be? It's not like they won that often). It's a fair point, and I'll accept it. But it's not like Carroll doesn't have a history of getting the most out of his quarterbacks and consequently spreading the wealth around to a deep receiving corps. Tate entered an ideal situation, one in which he's instantly set up to succeed.

With Tate, Seattle instantly got better. The Seahawks have a home-run threat in the return game, a deep threat to complement Houshmandzadeh and an instant option for the Wildcat offense, should Carroll decide to go down that road. And in adding Russell Okung, Leon Washington and LenDale White, among others, on draft day, Seattle instantly becomes a favorite in a below-average NFC West.

And maybe, to further refute my argument, you can say that Clausen will immediately be given a chance to succeed in Carolina, that his situation will ultimately breed a battle-tested QB ready to burst onto the national scene in the next few years. But just like Allen Iverson was talking about practice, I'm talking about long-term success here, and Tate has that potential.

You'll never hear a complaint about his work ethic, any illegal transporting of alcohol or any shady dealings in Georgia. Only pure, unadulterated excitement.

Oh yeah, and did I mention he's a freak? Just go watch; YouTube never lies.

Alex Prewitt is a sophomore majoring in English and religions. He can be reached at Alexander.Prewitt@tufts.edu.