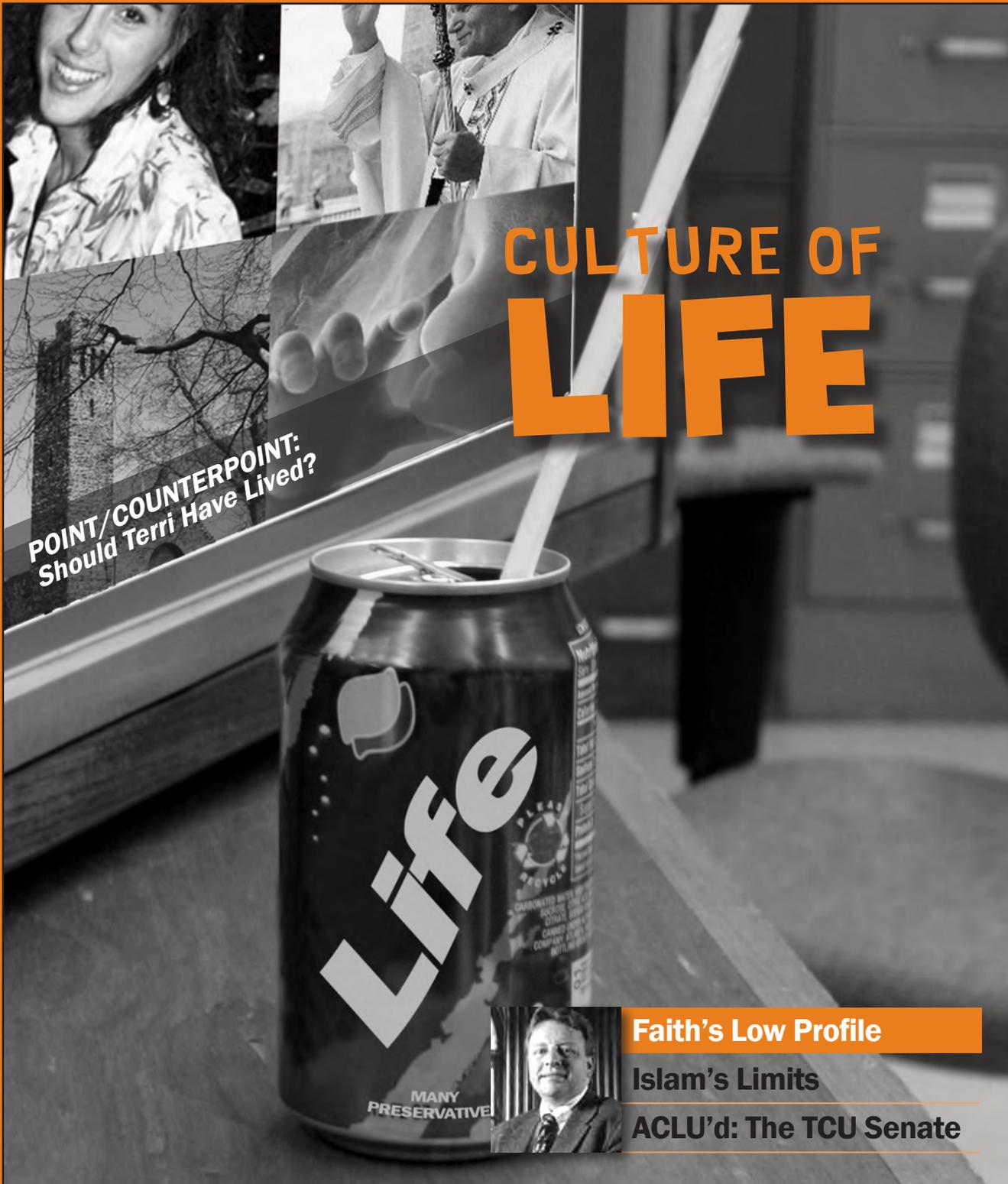


FEATURING
VEGETATIVE LIBERALS

THE PRIMARY SOURCE

VERITAS SINE DOLO



CULTURE OF **LIFE**

POINT/COUNTERPOINT:
Should Terri Have Lived?

Faith's Low Profile

Islam's Limits

ACLU'd: The TCU Senate





2:21 PM EAST HALL
Department office refuses to provide TCU senate-endorsed group with course syllabi.

8:03 PM BARNUM 008
Obscure film-maker prepares to screen anti-Western "documentary."

12:11 PM TISCH PATIO
Indications of early-stage anti-war protest setup detected.

8:00 AM WOMEN'S CENTER
UFO sighting.

4:45 PM DEWICK KITCHEN
Staff prepares debut of new double-Inca-Aztec-Mayan-rubbed chicken without precautionary animal testing.

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THE PRIMARY SOURCE

VOL. XXIII • THE JOURNAL OF CONSERVATIVE THOUGHT AT TUFTS UNIVERSITY • No. 11

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In the Name of Life

Considering the Terri Schiavo case a custody battle ignores the most important issue at stake in her case: life, and the value society places on it. There are two general schools of thought. One holds innocent life to be sacred, while the other feels comfortable identifying situations in which it is terminable.

Issues like the death penalty, euthanasia, and abortion are frequently discussed in total separation from each other, when in fact they are closely related. Far from a slew of disjointed moral issues, they share the fundamental concern of life.

Leftists know and lament the fact that a culture of life is deeply ingrained in the fabric of America. It guides Americans' consciences in dealing with the country's most imperative questions. It takes a culture of life for a nation to oppose abortion and grow increasingly horrified at its compounding effects. It takes a culture of life for a nation to understand that taking any life can only be justified in the name of protecting innocent life—a regretfully necessary requirement that sometimes embodies itself in war and justice.

Though the debate over life embodies itself most tangibly in modern political issues, America's historical reverence for it is easily ascertained: In war, when American soldiers have been tasked with juggling their combat mission with avoiding civilian casualties, or in science, a field where American breakthroughs have produced medicines and other innovations that have saved countless lives.

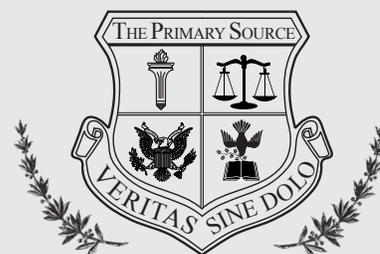
Tufts students who have heard President Bush respond to questions on abortion in terms of his belief in a culture of life think to have already found themselves at least one reason to be distrustful of the concept. Like the majority of Americans, the President is pro-life and pro-death penalty. They see no hypocrisy in these stances because there is none.

While religion is an important factor in the President's and many other Americans' respect for life, it is not the only one. Secularists need not feel they are ceding ground on their convictions by opposing abortion and euthanasia. God should not need to remind us life is inherently valuable.

Unfortunately this culture of life runs weak at Tufts, where professors teach of the death penalty's alleged inalterable racism, women's groups encourage abortion, and internationalist groups preach US adherence to international treaties and conventions that disrespect life.

Since *Roe v. Wade*, at colleges across this country, pro-life groups have sprouted to strengthen the culture of life in this generation. Tufts lacks such an organization, but does benefit from a variety of other religious and political groups that could and should explore such activism.

It's too late to save Terri Schiavo, but it's never too late to convince more Americans that killing an innocent person, be it in a dark alley with a knife or in a hospice room with a removed feeding tube, is wrong.

THE JOURNAL OF CONSERVATIVE
THOUGHT AT TUFTS UNIVERSITY

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To the Editor:

I had the great pleasure of attending Parade of Nations a couple of weeks ago. I am a very good friend of the President and the Treasurer of the Puerto Rican Association at Tufts and I am really appalled by the article written by Jordana Starr in "THE PRIMARY SOURCE" on March 17. The Puerto Rican Association is planning to take action on this matter. We believe it is very disrespectful of Miss Starr to refer to Puerto Rico, Taiwan, and Palestine as not nations. It seems Miss Starr has a misconception of the difference between a nation and a nation-state. We believe this is an opportunity to teach our fellow students about Puerto Rico, Taiwan, and Palestine and to invite them to learn more about the world around them. I wanted to let you know of the situation so that you can take appropriate measures. I understand her beliefs but I think it is not right to attack other cultures especially if she does not have any proof of misbehavior from our part.

—Rafael A. Santos, Georgetown University '05

To the Editor:

I'm writing to let you know that several people have been talking about how completely inappropriate one of the articles in [the previous] issue was, so I decided to read it. I was completely appalled by the article "A Parade of Bullsh*t" that you and the various other students on the staff agreed to print. I understand that writers and editors aim to print controversial articles in order to gain readers. However, if this was your aim, it was a complete failure. This article was not controversial, but rather horrendously offensive. Not only does the writer begin the article by making a rash, unwarranted, and extremely generalized comment about the international students, but she goes on to use completely false statements while attempting to pass them on as facts. One example would be the fact that people "booed" when the name "USA" was brought up. There was actually a lot of positive cheering. It would be nice if your writers could use facts instead of complete lies to prove their points, or the lack thereof in this case.

—Dina Itum, LA '08

SOURCE *Calendar* | 4/14-4/21

UPCOMING EVENTS

The Morality of War

Featuring Dr. Yaron Brook

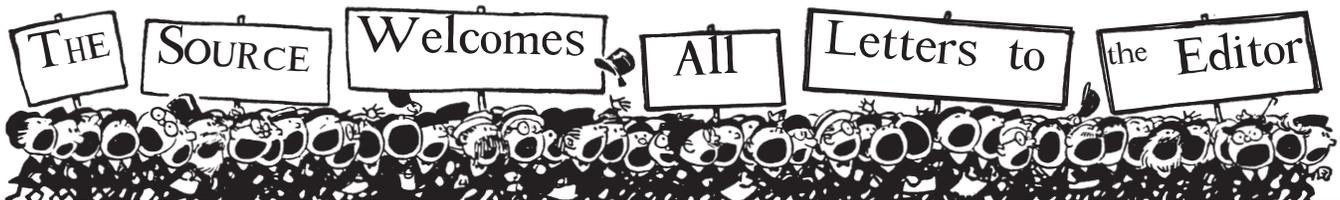
April 19, 8:30 PM, Barnum 104

To the Editor:

I would first like to thank Miss Starr for being brave enough to write about a "touchy" subject. While I don't agree 100% with the article, I've heard unfair criticism of it. Sure, Palestine, Taiwan, and Puerto Rico can all be considered cultural nations, but I think what Miss Starr was getting at was the lack of respect shown towards the United States at this event. I was at the event, sitting in the second row from the front, with the first and third rows occupied by mostly Puerto Rican students. After "USA" was called there was loud and obnoxious booing from the Puerto Ricans sitting in the rows ahead and behind us. As a Latino student here at Tufts, I looked at this incident as embarrassing, as it made us look ill-behaved and disrespectful.

I don't agree with much of what the US does in terms of foreign policy, but as international students, we should not be disrespecting the country in which we are being allowed to study. If we feel so appalled by a particular country, why choose to come to that country to study? The United States is not the only country in the world, and certainly not the only one that speaks and teaches in English. As international students, we should be more aware of the fact that we are guests here, and at the very least should be respectful and thankful for having been given the opportunity to study here.

—Carlos Cueava-Alegria, LA '05



The SOURCE welcomes all letters to the editor. Please address all correspondence to submissions@TuftsPrimarySource.org

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Comedy is allied to Justice.
—Aristophanes

PS A cameraman carrying CBS press credentials was detained in Iraq on suspicion of insurgent activity. Upon identifying him as Dan Rather, authorities added a charge of carrying false identification.

PS Hip-hop star Sean “P. Diddy” Combs has been ordered to pay more than \$21,000 a month in child support to an ex-girlfriend with whom he has an 11-year-old son. Planned Parenthood has filed a suit on Combs’ behalf, explaining, “It’s not too late for abortion here.”

PS A baggage handler wearing a camel suit taken from a passenger’s luggage has left Qantas Airways investigating a security lapse almost as embarrassing as having to wear the thing.

PS A woman was arrested after she rammed a car into her neighbor’s apartment in an apparent fight over a loud television, Canadian police said. Witness accounts indicate she was really just upset about her neighbor’s programming choice: FOX News Channel, only recently made available to Canadian subscribers.

PS The US Postal Service proposed increasing the price of a first-class stamp by 2¢ next year. A person who still uses snail mail could not be found for comment.

PS Students will be under armed guard when they return to the reopened school on a Minnesota Indian reservation where a classmate went on a shooting rampage. The odds of lightning striking twice in Minnesota are much higher than the national average.

PS The head of the largest US business association has asked the Justice Department to investigate “compelling evidence of fraud” in asbestos injury claims filed across the country. Really, it’s only payback for being kept out of the loop on this explosive business sector.

PS Christian conservatives, led by some top Republicans, are stepping up their assault on the US judiciary in response to the Terri Schiavo case, saying judges are attacking religion and must be reined in. Political strategists, however, are advising religious conservatives to remain calm, lest they invoke double jeopardy and preempt the punishment the judges already have coming their way from God.

PS Men spend more money on video games than they do on music, according to research group Nielsen Entertainment. This finding lends credence to a growing belief that video games are displacing other forms of media for the attention of young men—or, to the belief that men know how to download free music.



PS Top Ten captions for this picture:

10. “Diana who?”
9. I probably should have told you...
8. This is the last wedding of yours I’m coming to
7. How much has this driver had to drink?
6. Does this dress make me look fat?
5. Why does he pay more attention to his mummy than me?
4. Put on a hat dear, the glare is blinding.
3. Why won’t this bird get off my head!
2. Promise you’ll never call me Dodi in bed?
1. I shagged her rotten baby, YEAH!

PS A former cook for Michael Jackson testified that he saw the singer fondling child actor Macaulay Culkin. Finally, the true origins of Culkin’s famous Home Alone “A A A A H H H H” scream come to light.

PS Palestinians sitting on death row can breathe easier since the European Union raised an uproar over a move by President Mahmoud Abbas to carry out 15 executions. Palestinians on the voluntary martyrdom death row, however, remain as anxiously excited as ever.

PS Sony has been granted a patent for beaming sensory information directly into the brain. The

technique could one day be used to create video games in which you can smell, taste, and touch. When questioned for comment, Matrix-star Keanu Reeves said “Woahhh.”

PS People in Florida will be allowed to kill in self-defense on the street without trying to flee under a new law passed by state politicians on Tuesday. Lawmakers are also advising citizens to refrain from friendly gestures, such as pats on the back and vigorous handshakes, which may accidentally be interpreted as threatening physical behavior.

PS ABC News television anchor Peter Jennings said on Tuesday he has lung cancer. Conservatives wanted all three network news anchors ousted within the year, but, honestly, not like this.

PS Attorney General Alberto Gonzales will propose some “technical modifications” to the controversial USA Patriot Act in an effort to address the concerns of critics and ensure that the legislation is renewed by Congress later this year. Tufts student’s library book loans will still be scrutinized.

PS Voters in Kansas overwhelmingly approved a constitutional amendment banning same-sex couples from marrying or entering into civil unions. Kansas was quickly added to Tufts list of dangerous study abroad locations.

PS Approximately 1,000 citizen volunteers in the “Minuteman Project” are beginning a 30-day “neighborhood watch” on the Arizona side of the border to Mexico to catch illegal immigrants. They are clearly costing Americans jobs—these thousand or so American patriots are likely to lose their jobs by day three.

PS The same group claimed its first immigrant when a hapless Guatemalan wandered into the group’s base camp seeking help. That poor guy is in for a long walk home.

PS The Senate voted to reduce the US share of UN peacekeeping costs, a plan backers said would boost US negotiating power in lowering its peacekeeping burden. America leaving the UN is, of course, a gradual process.

PS A federal jury in Boston has ruled in Harvard University’s favor in a discrimination lawsuit filed by a library assistant. Desiree Goodwin had claimed that she was repeatedly turned down for promotions because school officials saw her as “a pretty girl!” whose attire was too “sexy.” The court found that Ms. Goodwin was not nearly sexy enough for her lawsuit to have any legitimacy.

PS A man was arrested at a Best Buy store in the Baltimore area for using 2-dollar bills to pay for a stereo system. If the case goes to trial, the man is expected to call the inventor of that bill in as a witness. Cash register operators in America will be paying close attention.

PS The board of the World Bank unanimously approved Paul D. Wolfowitz as the bank’s next president. Asked about his plans for the organization, he made repeated references to “preemptive wars on poverty.”

PS Guerrillas and criminal gangs have killed 6,000 Iraqi civilians over the past two years and wounded 16,000, according to the first comprehensive government estimate of the toll from the insurgency. Because the terrorists can’t count, they’re unlikely to realize when they’ve done enough damage.

From the Elephant’s Mouth

☞ *Master Debaters:* The Tufts and Cambridge University debate teams wrestled over **ethanasia** in Goddard Chapel. Several members of the audience were apparently moved by the arguments, and asked to have their **feeding tubes** immediately removed.

☞ *News Flash:* The **TCU senate** celebrated their last meeting of the year, which **President Dave Baumwoll** described as the best ever. For ever? For ever and ever? In his 30 years on the senate, Baumwoll has never seen greater success than his own... Of course, such great success would be expected to earn the respect of all **Jumbos**, who would then want to grow up to be just like them. All 13 enthusiastic sophomores and juniors interested in joining the senate won seats without opposition.

☞ *Separate but Equal:* Kelly Sanborn and Kit Stanton return to campus to discuss “**transgenderism**” and the challenges it creates when they need to use the restroom. This is their biggest problem? Didn’t the rest of us settle this years ago? And what about the lack of paper towels in **Tufts’ restrooms**? Thank goodness the TCU senate solved *that* crisis for us.

☞ *Food for Thought:* **Dining Services** plans to spend thousands of dollars for a photomural for the currently bare **Dewick** walls. It might make the walls look nicer, but wouldn’t the money be better spent on a **jousting field** and **beer wenches**?

☞ *Upping the Ante:* Who says Tufts has a deficient social scene? Over 600 students showed up to view the final round of **Tufts Poker Society’s** first annual no-limit Texas Hold ‘Em poker tournament in Barnum 008, with many valuable prizes given to the winners. But how many of them have ever attended a real spectator sport? Homecoming football game, anyone?

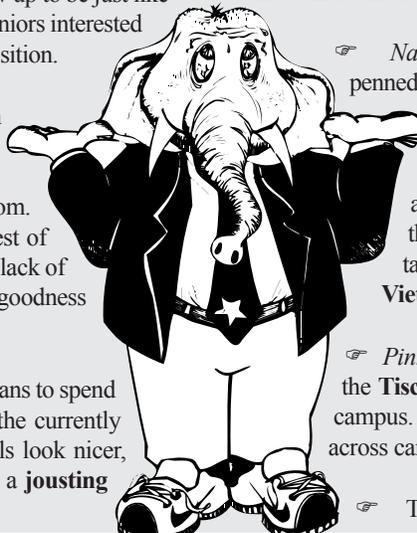
In related news, next Friday night in Cohen, **Tufts Scrabble Society** holds its first annual tournament. The winner gets a life.

☞ *Blatant Hypocrisy:* Tufts is striving for a **need-blind** admissions. Matt Pohl is expected to ask for a **gender-blind** policy. What will it take for Admissions to adopt a **race-blind policy**?

☞ *Narrow View:* **Diana Chang** and **Linh Phan** penned a *Daily Viewpoint*, imploring minorities, specifically Asians, to speak out against bias incidents in order make perpetrators rethink their actions. This is apparently their vision of a better world. Or, might our time be better spent thinking about solutions to the actual atrocities taking place in **China, Tibet, North Korea, Vietnam, any tsunami-hit nation, West Asia...**

☞ *Pinheads Abound:* Pinwheels were scattered around the **Tisch steps** to build support for “clean” energy on campus. **Eco-protestors** plan to spread “dirty” energy across campus to display their opposition to litter.

☞ The ELEPHANT never forgets.



The Real Shatila

On April 6, the Arab Students Association sponsored a showing of “Children of Shatila,” a nondescript, sleep-inducing, and factually incorrect portrayal of Arab refugees’ daily life in the Shatila refugee camp following massacres perpetrated by the Lebanese Christian Phalangist militia in 1982. By interviewing refugees, the film aimed to emphasize both their humanity and wretched way of life to cast blame on Israel.

Much like the Arab-sympathizing media, the film creators made the tactical choice to omit certain pieces of information that probably would have cleared Israel from any suspicion. One boy in particular, who made multiple appearances, enjoyed complaining about how he was hit by a car and made permanently disabled. No one ever says who was driving the car, and the audience is lead to infer that it was probably a Jew when it was likely just a random neighbor. Another omission of information occurred when a man described how his uncle’s throat was slit. The perpetrator is never identified.

The film was altogether unprofessional; in spite of the subtitles, the actors were speaking so slowly, it seemed like they were reading the script for the first time. One segment involved asking the younger children what they aspired to be when they grew up. To this, they responded, “An agricultural engineer,” “a doctor,” “a spaceman.” Interestingly, none of them replied, “a martyr in the name of Allah,” or, “a homicide bomber.”

An old man was interviewed and asked whether he wanted to return to his “home.” He answered something to the effect of, “I want to return home, to our olive trees, oranges, our property, and our homes.” This was amusing because it is doubtful that such belongings ever existed at all. In the late 19th century, Mark Twain described the land of Palestine as “...a desolate country whose soil is rich enough, but is given over wholly to weeds... a silent mournful expanse... a desolation... hardly a tree or shrub anywhere. Even the olive tree and the cactus, those fast friends of a worthless soil, had almost deserted the country.” Obviously the Arabs were not on the land for the eons that they claim, nor did they ever cultivate the land, which the Jews did with success in just 50 years.

After telling the children that Israel stole their land and murdered their relatives, the adults asked them, “How would you draw Palestine?” Fittingly, one of the children replied, “I’d draw the earth, with a house on it.” This shows exactly how the Arab refugees intend to perpetuate their aggression against Israel: through their children, by telling them lies, and allowing them to think that all of the land is up for grabs.

The film attempted to make the children of Shatila look deprived, but knowing what kind of acts their people commit it was very difficult to see them that way. One need only think of the children of Africa, or other parts of the world, to realize how well off they are.

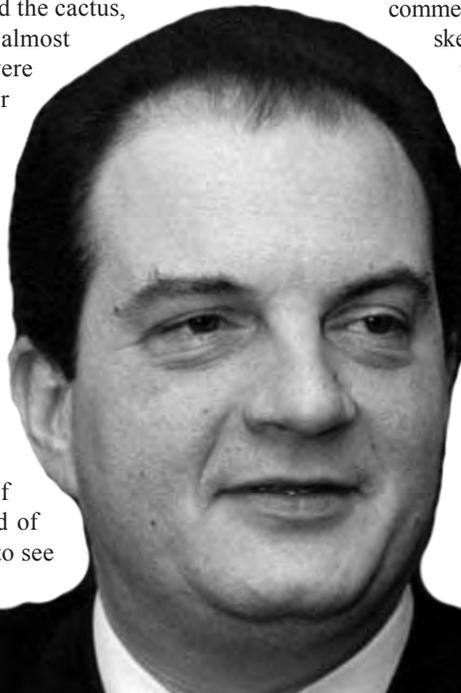
Commencement Yawn

Tufts has announced the 2005 commencement speaker: current Greek Prime Minister Costas Caramanlis. Caramanlis became prime minister of Greece in March of 2004 and is the youngest person to ever hold the office. He is also a graduate of the Fletcher School where he received a master’s and doctorate degree in diplomacy and international relations. In addition to his work within Greece’s New Democratic Party, Caramanlis has practiced law and taught political science and business law in Greece. He became his party’s leader in 1997 and then Prime Minister with the party’s win in 2004.

While it is good that Caramanlis is a Tufts graduate and shares a history with the school, it is unfortunate that Tufts could not find a graduate with a bachelor’s degree from the undergraduate school. This is especially true since the Fletcher School gets a separate speaker for their portion of commencement—this speaker is almost always a Fletcher graduate, such as this year’s speaker, Shokri Ghanem, Prime Minister of Libya. Since only a small portion of the graduating class is from the graduate program (and an even smaller portion specifically from the Fletcher School) it makes sense to have the general commencement speaker be a former undergraduate. A commencement speaker should inspire the graduating class (again, mostly from the undergraduate school) and show that their hard-earned Tufts degree will help prepare them for a successful future. Speakers should be an example of what can be accomplished with the proper usage of the education students have received over the past four years. Tufts’ Fletcher School attracts a lot of successful people who have received most of their education elsewhere and come to Tufts to finish it off. This is by no means an insult to the Fletcher School, as it is one of Tufts’ most successful departments. It is simply important to show that those who start their education at Tufts also can go on to do great things. The Omidyars, who spoke in 2002, are a great example of such speakers.

On a side note, a problem that compounds itself every year at the commencement ceremony is the disproportional skew toward liberal speakers. Over the past ten years, all of Tufts commencement speakers have either been liberal or non-partisan. This isn’t much of a problem when the speakers are not politically or media-oriented. However, of the various politicians and writers who have come to speak, many present a liberal agenda in their commencement speeches. Everyone has an agenda, but for the sake of balance it would be good to get a little ideological variety.

This year’s commencement speaker crop is once again disappointing, as is Tufts’ record. State court judges and foreign prime ministers can be interesting, but there is value in presenting somebody of whom students do not need to read a biography to appreciate.



Liberals aren't big on charity, they're big on attention.

Real Charity is Sincere

by Matthew Gardner-Schuster

Philanthropic liberals at Tufts recently sponsored two events to recognize and empathize with the plight of the less fortunate: a day of silence for homosexuals and the ingeniously creative “Box on the Quad Night” for the homeless. Both are being promoted to raise awareness and draw general attention to these fringe societal groups. Unfortunately, however, they are nothing but empty and condescending gestures that only go so far as to satisfy the guilty consciences of rich elitist liberals and allow them to shirk all real community service work.

If Tufts students were really concerned with integrating the homeless into society they would devote their energy and time to programs which train and educate this segment of the population. The night on the Quad, on the other hand, will only consist of a handful of giggly students reveling in their “progressiveness”—a luxury a homeless person could only dream to have.

Liberals, of course, have no real interest in improving the situation of the homeless, as evidenced in their condemnation of Rudy Giuliani’s successful attempts to fix the homeless problem in New York City several years ago. When concrete steps were finally being taken to end the epidemic, the Left retreated to its comfortable bastion of conservative bashing and useless politically correct rhetoric. The mentally impaired, apparently, shouldn’t be brought to mental institutions because it violates their “civil rights,” and the outright lazy should be allowed to stay on the street harassing civilians instead of looking for their own jobs or staying out of the way in homeless shelters. With an excess of jobs being filled by illegal immigrant workers, there is no excuse for someone to be homeless in present-day America. While

Mr. Gardner-Schuster is a freshman who has yet to declare a major.

it is true that some are born luckier than others, the epidemic of homelessness can be easily eradicated with the help of the better off (i.e. Tufts students) and an aversion to political correctness.

The national day of silence devoted to homosexuals is even more disturbing. Liberals claim to think globally—so why do they pay little attention to the homosexuals in jeopardy of losing their lives all over the Muslim world? In fact, they seem to ignore other oppressed groups in the Middle East, including religious minorities, women, blacks, and innocent foreign tourists. All are

Liberals claim to think globally—so why do they pay little attention to the homosexuals in jeopardy of losing their lives all over the Muslim world?

under constant threat from Islamic intolerance. In Cairo, capital of a supposed American ally, French and American tourists were recently murdered by terrorists. The outrage being expressed at widespread problems like this does not amount to a tenth of the selective attention given to the anti-homosexual bigotry in the Matthew Shepard murder. Real progressives should be concerned with all of humanity, not just those who live on their own soil.

Global human rights club Pangea’s recent efforts to raise attention to the genocide in Darfur are commendable, but it is still quite evident that most Tufts activists are more interested in creating controversy and vilifying conservatives than in improving

the plight of the oppressed. Shamefully few turned out to listen to a Tufts speech given by openly homosexual Muslim reformer Irshad Manji. But when Article 8 Alliance, a group opposed to gay marriage in Massachusetts, brought speakers to Tufts, TTLGBC members and homosexual activists from all over the district packed the seats. This disparity in turnout can be explained by the disingenuity of the so-called “progressive” movement. One would think that someone truly interested in the liberation and equal rights of the oppressed would turn out in droves to witness a speech from Manji, a woman who has repeatedly risked her life to speak out for Western values and universal human rights. But the “progressives” only found time to make a symbolic and meaningless appearance at the Article 8 lecture.

Real progressives surely lament the day when the “progressive” movement in America did justice to its name. There was a time when many unselfishly fought for the emancipation of blacks and then for their equal rights under the law. This desire for freedom and equality has been replaced by a partisan and self-serving liberal agenda. While conservatives are not always exempt from this hypocrisy, it is telling that the “reddest” states in America donate the most to charity while the most liberal states perform worst in this measure.

Let society look beyond party lines to those who go under the radar to do true good in this world: nuns who to move to dangerous African countries to spread good, the “Guardian Angels” who patrol dangerous streets to protect the innocent, and the brave domestic opposition to the ruthless and tyrannical Iranian clerics. Charity isn’t about controversy, outrage, or symbolism. To create change, society must put aside partisan quibbles and focus on what really matters. In a democracy such as this one, discussion and disagreement are a must, but in the face of serious challenges threatening mankind, what’s really needed is unity. ■



Dr. Diggs of the Article 8 Alliance

vs



Irshad Manji

Understanding the culture of life.

In Defense of Life

by Dan Mencher

Something often heard from conservatives is talk of the “culture of life.” The culture of life is the concept that every innocent life is sacred; it is not mankind’s place to determine whether or not it is fit to live. From this concept comes America’s historic pro-life stance on issues such as abortion, euthanasia, and even the death penalty.

The most common issue to which the pro-life stance can be applied is abortion. Many people believe that abortion involves nothing more than the right of a woman in the context of controlling her own body. And truly, it is understandable that women who were raped, or whose health is significantly threatened by the growing fetus, would seek an abortion.

However, it is important to remember that an unborn child is not just a pesky part of the mother. The growing embryo has its own DNA, which means that it is a separate human being. It is not some worthless, insignificant blob floating around the uterus. It is a miraculous spark, an individual full of potential. Everyone should be able to appreciate the pure beauty of a new life starting its remarkable journey in existence. It is simply wrong to kill such a human life on the grounds that it is too young to matter.

An argument often heard in defense of abortion rights is that the developing fetus is not alive. This is a ridiculous premise, but pro-lifers have often had to remind people that life begins at conception. If the fertilized egg weren’t alive, it would be dead, resulting in a miscarriage. Only by virtue of being alive can the egg divide, develop, and grow into a fetus. With increasing advancement in technology, science has

enabled society to see with remarkable clarity what a child looks like in the womb. People have been able to see for themselves the growing, vibrant child, clearly alive and almost smiling. The use of such increasingly advanced technology offers insight into why more and more Americans have embraced the culture of life and adopted the pro-life stance since the *Roe v. Wade* decision in 1973, when such technology was not available.

Understandably, many pregnant women worry about their ability to care for the coming child. There are ways around this problem, other than simply “pre-emptively terminating” the child’s life, that are congruous with the culture of life. The obvious method is abstinence—there is truly no better way to avoid pregnancy than simply not having sex. Of course, this method

is not terribly practical in a society in which the prevailing wisdom is that it is okay to have sex and avoid the consequences, sometimes by killing them. This mentality is rationalized by the belief that sex is a natural impulse designed to give people tremendous pleasure. It seems that people have forgotten precisely why nature designed sex that way in the first place.

Another major method of reducing the number of abortions that people all-too-often overlook is adoption. According to a 1998 study, by the mid-1950s, the demand for children for adoption was so high that it exceeded the number of children available, a trend

that has accelerated with each passing decade. In 2004, abortion doctors killed 1,312,990 innocent, unborn children, forever depriving them of their opportunities to lead happy, productive lives. Considering the rising number of couples suffering from infertility and looking to start families, this statistic is entirely unnecessary, let alone disgusting and horrifying. That number is larger than the combined number of Americans who died in the Revolutionary War, the Civil War, WWI, WWII, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, and the Persian Gulf War. Those who would ‘do right’ by their children by killing them before bringing them into a troubled existence (poverty, a less-than-loving home, etc.) should consider that what is truly right for them first and foremost is to allow them the gift of life. If the parent(s) decide that their child should not be raised in their home, then they can always find someone else who can provide a loving home for it.

The pro-life stance can also be applied to euthanasia, which has become a hot topic in the wake of the Terri Schiavo debacle. The central question in the euthanasia debate is whether or not people have the right to terminate lives that are perceived to be eternally tormented. Many people believe that it

The culture of life is the concept that every innocent life is sacred.

Continued on page 22



“Let me live.”

Mr. Mencher is a sophomore majoring in Spanish.

2: HAGGLING

High-level US officials like Vice President Dick Cheney travel to OPEC nations to get Americans the best deal on these nations' only non-worthless product: oil.



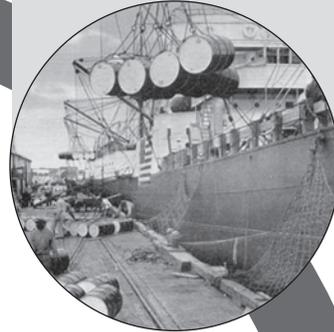
3: DEAL BREAKER

Mentioning "Operation [Your Nation's Climate] [Cool Word]" helps pull down the price.



4: LOADING

Expensive Middle Eastern union labor load ships with our oil. The work rules are familiar and restrict efficiency and productivity manifestations of any kind.



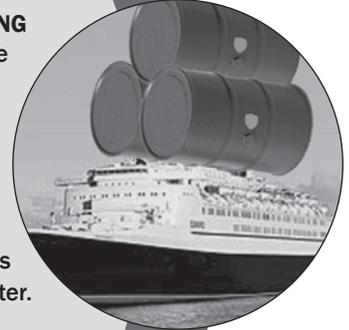
1: EXPLORATION

Though they are rich in oil, Middle Eastern nations inexplicably do not employ it automotively. Camel-faring scientists slow the pace of locating new reserves.



5: SHIPPING

Transporting the oil on large, Western, civilian cruise liners has the added benefit of driving up costs and increasing the odds of a terrible disaster.



OIL

START

MAPPING ITS EXPENSIVE JOURNEY TO YOUR SUV

END

8: CONSUMPTION

Oil has arrived at its destination: the gas tanks of proud Americans driving large, obnoxious trucks capable of crushing any pathetic Japanese hybrid with a single nudge.



7: PURCHASE

Americans pull up in their vehicles and pump them full. Despite the price, it feels patriotic.



6: DISTRIBUTION

The oil arrives at gas stations across America. The large price signs visible from a mile away in either direction cause frequent heart attacks. Lawsuits ensue... the short story is gas gets more expensive.



ABORTION

Statistics: What is abortion doing to America?

SOURCE: PLANNED PARENTHOOD

ABORTIONS SINCE 1973: 46,023,191

1973	744,600	1974	898,600	1975	1,034,200	1976	1,179,300
1977	1,316,700	1978	1,409,600	1979	1,497,700	1980	1,553,900
1981	1,577,300	1982	1,573,900	1983	1,575,000	1984	1,577,200
1985	1,588,600	1986	1,574,000	1987	1,559,100	1988	1,590,800
1989	1,566,900	1990	1,608,600	1991	1,556,500	1992	1,528,900
1993	1,495,000	1994	1,423,000	1995	1,359,690	1996	1,360,730
1997	1,335,000	1998	1,319,000	1999	1,314,000	2000	1,312,990

Reasons: Why do women have abortions?

SOURCE: FAMILY PLANNING PERSPECTIVES

SOCIAL REASONS: 93%

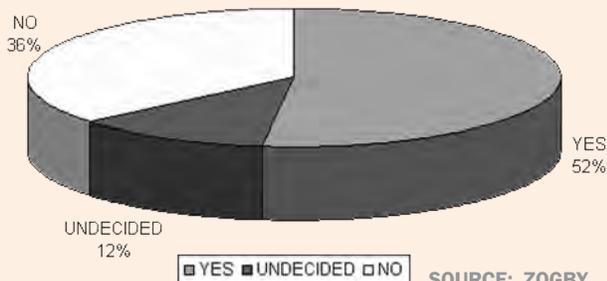
- 21% Feels unready for responsibility
- 21% Feels she can't afford baby
- 16% Concern for how baby would change her life
- 12% Relationship problem
- 11% Feels she isn't mature enough
- 8% Has all children she wants
- 5% Other reasons

HARD CASES: 7%

- 3% Mother's health
- 3% Baby may have health problems
- 1% Rape or incest

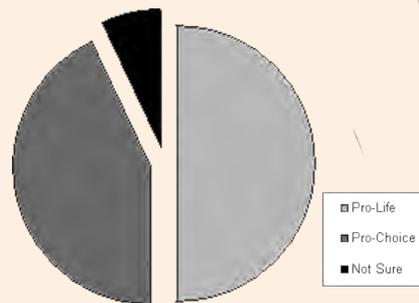
Polls: Is America really pro-choice?

IS ABORTION HOMICIDE?



SOURCE: ZOGBY

PRO-LIFE/PRO-CHOICE?



SOURCE: FOX NEWS/OPINION DYNAMICS

THE CULTURE OF LIFE



CULTURE OF LIFE

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT

Statistics: How frequent are executions? SOURCE: BUREAU OF JUSTICE STATISTICS

EXECUTIONS SINCE 1976: 885

1977	1	1978	0	1979	2	1980	0	1981	1	1982	2
1983	5	1984	21	1985	18	1986	18	1987	25	1988	11
1989	16	1990	23	1991	14	1992	31	1993	38	1994	31
1995	56	1996	45	1997	74	1998	68	1999	98	2000	85
2001	66	2002	71	2003	65	2004	59				

Polls: Does America support the death penalty? SOURCE: GALLUP

YEAR	IN FAVOR OF	NOT IN FAVOR OF	NOT SURE
2001	67%	26%	7%
2002	71%	25%	4%
2003	67%	29%	4%
2004	66%	30%	4%
Republicans	80%	17%	3%
Democrats	58%	36%	6%
Independents	65%	30%	5%
Men	74%	23%	3%
Women	62%	32%	6%
Whites	71%	24%	5%
Blacks	44%	49%	7%
18-29 Years	69%	29%	2%
30-49 Years	68%	27%	5%
50-64 Years	68%	29%	3%
65+ Years	65%	26%	9%

DID YOU KNOW?

- There were nearly 3,600 abortions per day in 2000, 151 per hour, one every 24 seconds.
- According to a recent Zogby poll, only 13% of Americans think abortion should be legal at any time, without providing a reason.
- 47% of abortions are performed on women who have already had one or more abortions.
- The same poll indicates that 62% of Blacks and 78% of Hispanics consider themselves pro-life.

VARIOUS SOURCES

PERSISTENT VEGETATIVE STATE

PVS is a serious societal problem. While Terri Schiavo got all the attention, thousands of Americans, many of them very prominent, remain in persistent vegetative states and don't even know it.



The world mourns the loss of a great man.

John Paul II Remembered

by Ryan Veiga

People living today may never again see an outpour of affection for a single individual as was witnessed upon the death of Pope John Paul II. Roughly three million people from around the globe left their day-to-day lives to make the pilgrimage to the Vatican for the viewing of the body. Millions more, throughout the world, wept and prayed for him. In major cities worldwide, hundreds of thousands gathered in public squares, cathedrals and fields to light candles, pray, and remember him. The Pope's mourners were not limited to Catholics: Muslims, Jews, Protestants, and even secular individuals expressed their sadness at losing this great man who changed the course of religion and history during his incredible tenure as the Catholic Church's highest cleric.

Very few public figures of today can boast of such love and dedication from their followers. Modern skepticism, relativism, and the ready flow of information have taught people to question the values of public figures and be critical of them. All actions done in the public eye are considered fair game for scrutiny and debate, and thus may become the subject of mockery, opposition, and derision. In such an environment, people rarely move in such large numbers to embrace an individual as a hero, or an example to be followed. John Paul II was remarkable in this respect. He seemed to inspire admiration even in those who disagreed with his policies, and was more widely loved throughout the world than perhaps any one else this generation has known.

No other Pope in history has reached out to people like John Paul II. During his 24 years in the papacy, he made more visits to

more places than any of his predecessors, finishing with an astounding 95 papal visits to more than 120 nations. He spoke 8 languages, and often addressed large crowds in their native languages. He named more saints than any other pope in history, going beyond Europe to recognize the long-overlooked spiritual leaders of Christians in the non-Western world. He carried with him a message of hope and human dignity, of human unity and brotherhood. Where people suffered under oppression or hardship, he preached that even the lowness of circumstance could do nothing to detract from the sacredness of the individual as a human being, and that everyone, even those beaten down by hardship and sickness, had a right to basic human dignity.

The Pope's message was not merely rhetoric, nor empty words. Where the message struck, it changed history. In his native Poland, and increasingly around the world, historians and leaders of free nations credit him with an enormous role in bringing down communism and Soviet domination. These were philosophies that oppressed the individual and denied their humanity—they depended on people not recognizing their own basic dignity and worth as human beings. It was a regime that was not merely secularist, but decidedly atheist. When the Pope visited Poland in 1979, the Poles embraced his message, and within a year, Lech Walesa was leading the anti-communist Solidarity movement in a series of strikes aimed against the regime from the shipyards in Gdansk. "Fifty percent of the collapse of communism is his doing," Walesa would later say, "More than one year after [the Pope's visit], we were able to organize 10 million people for strikes, protests and negotiations."

Given the transforming power of this

message, the Pope went to great lengths to make it clear that it was not intended for Catholics alone. Unlike his predecessors, Pope John Paul II met with leaders of all other major religions. He spoke with rabbis and Muslim clerics as equals and visited synagogues and mosques. He ended the long-standing tension between Catholics and Jews by apologizing for all acts ever committed against the Jews by the Church directly or indirectly. He met with secular leaders as well, and reminded them of their humanitarian duties to their people, just as he himself was dedicated to a variety of humanitarian causes. The symbolism of these efforts was profound. John Paul II placed emphasis not on doctrine, but on the basic meaning behind it. That meaning was meant for all humanity, not just Christians.

Of course, he could not be everything to all people. Many of his views were considered extremely controversial. His opposition to the war in Iraq, his stance on women in the priesthood, and his views on homosexuality all drew harsh criticism from various groups. He angered many Middle Eastern Muslims when he blessed the State of Israel and established formal ties between Israel and the Catholic Church, and he angered many Israelis when he met with leaders of the PLO. Doubtless, the next pope will have to face many of these issues in the years to come. But the legacy of this Pope transcended these disputes. His papacy will be remembered for far greater things. The Pope transformed the Catholic Church and, with it, history. He is remembered upon his death as a great and virtuous man. ■

The Pope's message was not merely rhetoric, nor empty words. Where the message struck, it changed history.

Mr. Veiga is a freshman who has not yet declared a major.



POINT: She should have been allowed to live.

Terri's Wrongful Death

by Nicole Brusco

Pro-life Americans follow the guideline that when dealing with a question of life or death to a human, in any form, it is better to err on the side of life. This is the simple reasoning that fueled the fervor in the recent battle over the life of Terri Schiavo. This unfortunate case began with a bitter family battle and resulted in a nation-wide clash over states' rights, the treatment of the disabled, euthanasia, partisan politics and religion vs. secularity in America. The personal side of Terri's story has been a gripping and tragic feud, but one family's internal struggles should not be subjected to the scrutiny of the nation.

Among the misconceptions the media furthered in this case was that Terri was in a Permanent Vegetative State (PVS). This is the assumption upon which Michael Schiavo based all his efforts to have the feeding tube removed. Yet, Florida state law defines a persistent vegetative state as "a permanent and irreversible condition of unconsciousness in which there is: (a) The absence of voluntary action or cognitive behavior of any kind, and (b) an inability to communicate or interact purposefully with the environment." The Schindlers, Terri's parents, insist that Terri was able to respond to stimuli, such as verbal commands, or the sight of loved ones. The Schindlers contend that these behaviors are not simple reflexes but are actually voluntary and cognitive—not possible if Terri was PVS.

Throughout the case, Michael Schiavo claimed that his wife was incapacitated without any hope for recovery, and therefore should be allowed to die. The reality

is that Terri had no terminal conditions and had been denied rehabilitation that could have improved her conditions. Florida statute 744.3215 establishes the rights of incapacitated patients "to receive necessary services and rehabilitation." Judge Greer took this right away illegally—the law does not make exception even for truly PVS patients.

Terri's husband asserted that it was her wish to not live in PVS. However, there was no proof of her true wishes, as Terri never signed a living will. In the court's decision to remove the feeding tube, Terri was held to a verbal contract of death. In criminal trials, juries must come to a consensus before finding a defendant guilty and sentencing

them to death, but in this case hearsay from a man with dubious intentions was sufficient. The chance that Terri's wishes may have changed was not considered, yet doctors were split evenly on the question of Terri's cognitive function. If she were able to think but unable to communicate her wishes, there is no way to know if Terri's wishes would have changed after she suffered severe brain damage. Perhaps, in her reduced mental capacity, she was simply happy to be alive. Clearly there was reasonable doubt that Terri did not want to die, yet she was treated with less regard than felons and this burden of proof was not applied in deciding her fate.

The most disturbing aspect of the case was the incorrect conclusion made by the husband's doctors, lawyers and supporters: that removing Terri's feeding tube would be a natural way to die. When people are taken off artificial life support, which occurs daily, measures that keep the patient alive are ceased. These include artificial respiration, cardiac support, IVs for feeding and medication. These measures are only taken when the patient is clearly not able to recover. Terri was not on life support, she was only receiving food through a tube that bypassed her throat and deposited the food directly into her stomach. The Schindler's attempted to have Terri receive "swallow tests", which had the ability to prove that she could swallow and did not need the feeding tubes after all. Michael, who used her supposed inability to swallow as evidence that she depended on the feeding tube, would not allow these tests.

Either way, the removal of Terri's feeding tube was illegal under Florida law, which prohibits "mercy killing or euthanasia", which is "any affirmative or deliberate act or omission to end life other than to permit the natural process of dying." Starvation and dehydration are not natural ways to die. The cessation of food and water was illegal because the court only allowed the removal of the feeding tube, not regular food and water, which Michael illegally demanded. Florida law only allows the removal of "life-prolonging procedures". Certainly food and water "prolong life", but the difference between food and a respirator is that everyone needs food to survive.

The imagery of protestors being arrested for bringing Terri a simple glass of water highlights how unnatural, illegal, and cruel the death she had to endure was. Terri was left to die slowly and tortuously over fourteen days.

This case illuminates a raging battle currently being

fought in America. It is the dispute over the value of human life, with one side considering only wanted and productive life valuable enough to sustain and the other side championing the weakest and most vulnerable in society. ■

The imagery of protestors being arrested for bringing Terri a simple glass of water highlights how unnatural, illegal, and cruel the death she had to endure was.



Michael Schiavo

Miss Brusco is a junior majoring in International Relations.

COUNTERPOINT: The right decision was made.

In Favor of the Law

by Alex McCabe

Since early March when the Terri Schiavo case resurfaced, constant media reports and advocates, mostly of the religious Right, have agreed with Terri's parents, the Schindlers, that she should be kept alive at all costs. In many instances they propagated misinformation in an attempt to swing public opinion their way and against the realities of the situation. They included Michael Schiavo being personified as a monster, solely after monetary gain, and the myth that Terri was not in an irrecoverable vegetative state.

Michael Schiavo was not, in fact, the uncaring monster that he was so often made out to be. In the years following the 1990 heart attack that left Terri in an immobile condition, her husband did all that he could to take care of her and try to find a cure. He took her to California for an experimental procedure involving a thalamic stimulator implanted in her brain. After months of attempts, it proved ultimately unsuccessful. Undiscouraged Michael took her back to Florida, and even went so far as taking classes in nursing at the St. Petersburg Community College where he became a registered respiratory therapist and emergency room nurse so that he could personally care for her. It was only after eight years of trying unsuccessful therapies that Michael, under the close advice of doctors, came to terms with the fact that Terri was in an irreversible permanent vegetative state and in 1998 petitioned for her feeding tube to be taken out so her suffering could finally end. Terri's parents, who had been in conflict with Michael since a fight over the proceeds of a court award, objected to this decision strenuously and brought him

to court over it. Over the next seven years courts repeatedly found in Michael's favor through a series of court battles culminating in 2005.

Above all, Michael Schiavo removed Terri's feeding tube because he was convinced that it is what she would have wanted.

for Terri's medical expenses, the original sum of over \$1 million awarded, has dwindled to only \$50,000, which he has pledged to give to charity. These allegations against Michael are made all the more ridiculous by the fact that he turned down in disgust \$1 million by media tycoon Robert Herring and up to \$10 million by an unnamed source to transfer custody of Terri to her parents. If Michael was motivated by money why would he give up the \$11 million that he could have made by letting her live for the measly \$50,000 that would be his after she died?

A further point of contention was

whether or not Terri Schiavo was in an irrecoverable persistent vegetative state, which her parents and their doctors insisted until the day of her death she was not. However, the facts prove otherwise. In 1998, Dr. Victor Gambone, Terri's primary care giver, concluded that she was in a vegetative state. In 2000, three of five doctors, testifying before the court, confirmed the original 1998 diagnosis. The two dissenting doctors were appointed by the Schindlers. Both of these doctors had questionable credentials. One was a radiologist, not a neurologist skilled in accessing brain activities, and the other's legitimacy was greatly undermined after he made false claims of being a Noble Prize Nominee and brought up irrelevant procedures to support his argument. Also, in 2001, as part of a court-ordered examination, Dr. Ron Cranford of the University of Michigan concluded that 80% of Terri's upper brain was destroyed, with the remainder in dire straits. As further proof of Terri's state, by another court order, on March 22, 2005 three neurologists were called in from around Florida to assess her condition. After looking at scans of her brain they came to the conclusion

that she was indeed vegetative and added that her chances for recovery were zero.

Above all, Michael Schiavo removed Terri's feeding tube because he was convinced that it is what she would have wanted. This interpretation of Terri Schiavo's wishes was part of a verbal agreement she had made known with her husband before she was stricken by brain damage, and were upheld



Terri Schiavo

as her wishes in court. In the end, all the courts really did was take the legally correct role of upholding Terri Schiavo's wishes, letting her die in peace after her long and trying ordeal. ■

Mr. McCabe is a freshman who has not yet declared a major.

Key elements missing from Tufts' religious scene.

No Faith in Current Events

by Alison Hoover

According to Reverend O'Leary, "Each faith tradition is always going to say that their sacred text is absolute, or is the definitive statement. That's a faith statement." Inwardly, Tufts' Christian scene displays this quality through their worship services and regular meetings. Outwardly, they lack this quality. Tufts' groups fail to hold events relating to current events, which apply and are easily accessible to the greater Tufts community. Students have access to the *Daily* and many other sources of news, but they lack access to perspectives for interpretation of religion, and, more specifically, Christianity.

A recent example is the Terri Schiavo case. There were many moral concerns regarding the removal of Schiavo's feeding and water tubes. The combination of the national attention given and the fact that Tufts is a highly political campus suggest that there would be room for discussion of the topic. The moral implications of the Schiavo case could have prompted one or more of the Tufts Christian student groups to sponsor a discussion, but didn't.

Another example is the recent presidential election. A large percentage of the US voted based on their religious convictions. While Bush and Kerry campaigned, the issues of abortion and gay marriage inspired many Christian leaders to contribute their own opinions. At Tufts, tensions ran high up until the election. Many groups, including Tufts Votes, the Tufts Democrats, and the Tufts Republicans, tried to increase voter turnout. Despite the national statements by Christian groups and leaders, there was a

surprising lack of opinion voiced by the Tufts Christian groups. If they held such discussions among themselves, these events were not well publicized.

Each student group does not need to present a single representative opinion. Not all members of a single faith will agree with the majority in that faith on how to deal with any given situation, despite following the same sacred texts and set of beliefs. Reverend O'Leary is a perfect example of this. He is an

Groups could present open discussions among group-members to illustrate the formation of different interpretations of ideas.

ordained Roman Catholic priest in the archdiocese of Boston, yet his 1999 dissertation about people in persistent vegetative states differs from the opinion

described by many of his superiors, as described in an April 2 article in the *Boston Globe*.

Instead of offering a single opinion on issues, groups could present open discussions among group-members to illustrate the formation of different interpretations of ideas. While this has the potential to divide groups, as long as members pledge to remain respectful of others, an ideal described by the mission statement of the chaplaincy, it will only serve to make groups stronger. Members will remain aware that opinions other than their own exist, which will force them to constantly reaffirm faith in their own beliefs, instead of stagnating in a set of beliefs they are unable to defend.

Part of the problem all religious groups on campus face is the policy governing student-run groups. The chaplaincy only recognizes groups that, among other things, "will not attempt to convert and engage in the act of 'winning people over' or challenging the belief or lack thereof of any member of the Tufts University family." According to Reverend O'Leary's

earlier statement, which generally holds true, any group of people of a certain faith will claim their texts, and therefore their faith, are true. This leads to the question of why anyone with such a belief would not try to convince people of this truth.

On the one hand, it makes sense that the chaplaincy would make such provisions to restrict student-run religious groups. College students are highly impressionable. For most of them, this is their first time living away from home and making their own decisions. It is also the first time their beliefs have come into question by an entirely different group of people than at home. This should not grant immunity from students conveying a religious message. At age 18, students do not need protection from having to think about different religions and deciding for themselves what to believe, as long as they are free to make the choice without undue pressure.

According to a section of the Tufts chaplaincy website specifically relating to the Protestant section of the Tufts population, "The Ministry also seeks to encourage and facilitate the work of students seeking to address issues of social concern among the Tufts community." Even the University recognizes the importance of the connection between social issues and religious beliefs, but it is well hidden. Christian groups would do well to note this small encouragement to discuss current social issues with the rest of campus. ■



Reverend David O'Leary

Miss Hoover is a freshman who has not yet declared a major.

America: the new Mecca?

Tear Down the Madrassa

by Jordan Greene and Patrick Randall

In the absence of a powerful revolution, Islam has no chance of detente with the civilized world. As the world grows weary of Arab antics, Islam is slowly spurning developed countries into alignment against it.

The loyalties of the Muslim world should be clear to even the most teary-eyed multiculturalists. Totalitarian syndicates like the Organization of the Islamic Conference make the only secular Arab society, Turkey, a pariah in the Islamic world. Islam's force is as much political as it is religious. This is what is meant by Islamism: the marriage of religious Islam to political Islam.

But the political culture of Islam incapacitates it toward organic reform. Any restructuring must be exogenous, and no force is better suited to stamp out the backward and reprobate culture

of political Islam than the liberal West. Muslims fortunate enough to live in the West would do well to assimilate. Resistance to Western norms is a political failure, not a religious one. It is rooted in deep opposition to liberalism, democracy, and, most significantly, capitalism and consumerism. Islamists are petrified of competition in all its forms. Their society is a degenerate one and can only be preserved through despotism and thugery. Islamism's fierce competitors are these: the free market, the free mind, and the free woman. Judicious Americans have reason to remain incredulous about progress in a Muslim world that almost universally undervalues human dignity. There is as yet no reason for them to abrogate their historically bequeathed assumptions about a society that has only

Mr. Greene and Mr. Randall are freshman who have yet to declare a major.

shown callousness and intractability. The onus for change is on Islam, but real reform starts outside the *madrassa*.

It is not enough that Muslims in America condemn terrorism. This is an escape from the reality that fundamentalism is a grayscale and that terrorism is simply its visible manifestation. Human rights abuses, oppression of women, and political corruption are all products of moderate Islam. Until "moderate" stops meaning Islamist, Muslims in America need to stop rallying behind the Palestinian cause and recognize that Israel, the one liberal democracy in the Middle East, is not responsible for Islam's degeneracy and disenfranchisement.

The time has come to discard political Islam and forge religious Islam anew according to liberal values.

“Palestine” is a sinkhole; it is the one issue that relieves Muslims of the pressure to blame Arab states. Their agenda of reform is

misdirected. Benign Muslim organizations should disassociate themselves from websites supporting any form of intifada. No one cares what the word “intifada” means in the vague, cultural sense of its Arabic root. Intifada now means throwing stones on the heads of Jewish worshippers. Jihad now means violent holy war. It is time to abandon those corrupted terms. It is also time for progressive Muslims to condemn extremism, not out of fear of being made a scapegoat, but out of love for country. The break with old Islam must be visible. Many liberal Muslims have been willing to sacrifice certain cultural vestiges and the stigmas attached to them. If Muslims choose not to abandon their traditional Arab garb, the sideways glances they receive in the airport are the price they pay for wearing the costume of criminals. Western Muslims should not be afraid

to leave behind what is only hurting them; they need not seek approval from their unfortunate counterparts in the Middle East.

Certain well-educated Muslims meekly suggest that the brand of Islam practiced by those who battle America is not true Islam. But a religion is judged by its fruits, and the fruits of Islam in today's world are overwhelmingly negative. It has become a political goblin, and such a goblin cannot be reconciled with liberal values. Revolution is the order of the day.

The West can be the birthplace of an Islamic Revolution. The Middle Eastern legacy has been hijacked beyond what can be salvaged. The time has come to discard political Islam and forge religious Islam anew according to liberal values: same faith, different religion. Perhaps someday even those in the ruins of the old religion will cultivate the stirrings of democracy that America has imparted and complete the revolution.

The Middle East is a den of robbers. It is rare that one's position in the world is so marked by brutality that a bygone millennium is looked on with nostalgia. The prosperous heritage of ancient Islam is its progeny's only consolation. Islamism and the West are two irreconcilable forces heading for collision—compromise is a dream. On the ideological front, the scales have already tipped in favor of individualism and secular governance. There is a greater pilgrimage to be made. ■



Dome of the Rock

The administration changes while students are unaware.

Altering the Administration

by Alexandra Barker

As much as many students would like to be able to control their destiny at Tufts, the administration decides how the school is run and makes decisions that directly affect the students. Yet, many Tufts students are unaware of the complex administrative network that looms above them. All know that Larry Bacow is President of the University, but apart from this position, many cannot name other administrators. There have been changes made recently to the administration that may have a large impact on the students. Dean of Undergraduate Education James Glaser's role is changing. His position affects both the College of Engineering and the College of Arts and Sciences. Meanwhile, a search is underway to replace the outgoing Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, Susan Ernst.

Dean Ernst's responsibilities are enormous. She currently presides over twenty-three departments, ten interdisciplinary programs, and twenty masters and Ph.D. programs. The new dean would need to be someone who can work well under such pressure and responsibility, and be attentive to the needs of the students. One such need is protecting against ideological bias and discrimination in the classroom. The new dean would hopefully be sympathetic to this cause, realizing the importance to students of developing their own ideas and beliefs, and not being indoctrinated by professors in the classroom.

There is currently a search committee for the new Dean of Arts and Sciences. Student involvement in the

search should be a "must" if the administration hopes to have a dean who is in touch with their needs. Fortunately, there is a Student Advisory Committee, composed of TCU senators, working to represent the students' interests in this search. The dean's power would affect thousands of Tufts students, both graduate and undergraduate. Therefore it is crucial that students be kept in mind both during the search and while the dean is in office.

Some may have heard of the creation of "Dean X," and Glaser's appointment

"I care deeply about undergraduate education," said Glaser, "I define myself that way."

to this position. He is retaining his title of Dean of Undergraduate Education, though his role has shifted. As the School of Engineering and the School of Arts and Sciences have become more distinct administratively, Glaser is now providing the link between the two of them. Though their programs may be drastically different, the student body itself lives on the same campus, and partakes in the same activities. Dean Glaser's new role recognizes these similarities and caters primarily to the students. This is a big change, and Glaser will be in charge of four different divisions: athletics, student services, student life, and, of course, undergraduate education. He reports directly to both the Dean of Engineering and the new Dean of Arts and Sciences. Dean Glaser is excited about his new appointment, and sees this new job as a reflection of his passions and interests. "I care deeply about undergraduate education," said Glaser, "I define myself that way." His expanded responsibilities give him the opportunity to serve more students, as well as the administration.

Originally a professor in the Political Science department, Glaser

eventually moved up to chair of the department, and ultimately to his current position. He has had experience in dealing with students both as an advisor and a professor, and now as an administrator. Many may worry about another level of bureaucracy in the administration, but Glaser's commitment to Tufts, its students, and the quality of their education, demonstrated by his approachability, should help to quell these fears.

Dean Glaser hopes that the new Dean of Arts and Sciences, with whom he will be working closely, will possess qualities important to him, such as a vision for where Tufts is heading in the future as a prestigious university, energy for dealing with such a rigorous position, a commitment to Tufts, as well as a strong emphasis on undergraduate education, which Glaser views as a priority.

Tufts students should regard Dean Glaser's accessibility as an invitation to interact with the administration, and not shy away from dealing with them. The qualities that Dean Glaser has in mind are admirable, but the SOURCE hopes that students' demonstrated interest in Academic Freedom will compel the search committee to bear this student concern in mind. The new dean must help Tufts grow into a university not only of prestige, but also of intellectual diversity, a need demonstrated by the Tufts Academic Freedom Project and the support it has garnered. ■



Dean James Glaser

Miss Barker is a freshman who has not yet declared a major.

An ACLU resolution inadvertently exposes the senate.

Hysteria Breeds Hypocrisy

by Nicholas Boyd

The TCU senate recently passed an ACLU-sponsored resolution related vaguely to the Patriot Act—an issue that ought to have run out of steam by now. While recently arguing for the legislation's renewal, Attorney General Alberto Gonzales revealed the exact extent of its use to date: 155 delayed search notifications, 49 extended wiretaps, and 35 record seizures—not one of them involving a dirty college student's embarrassing library loans. Those numbers don't leave much room for John Ashcroft to have strayed from his duties.

Despite this encouraging record, the Tufts Chapter of the ACLU succeeded in selling a resolution based on hysteria and paranoia to the TCU senate. The passed resolution urges the University administration to guarantee student notification when the government requests its records. Very egregiously, it also calls for Tufts to resist authorities' surveillance of individuals engaged in suspicious political or religious activities.

The effect is not a defense of the Tufts hippie Iraq war protestor; it is a conspiracy to obstruct justice by declaring the most reliable indicators of terrorist involvement—political and religious activity—off limits to investigators.

Fortunately, the TCU senate merely lent its endorsement to this measure. Tufts ACLU President Dan Grant plans to work with administration officials to “ensure they know of the passage of the ordinance and to work with them, if they choose to adhere to the request of the TCU.” Still, the resolution does not and will not carry any official weight unless the administration chooses to adopt it—an unlikely proposition given the conflict this would create between the University and the Department

of Justice. Of course, between disallowing ROTC on campus, stem cell research, and affirmative action admissions programs, the University administration is already engaged in a healthy picking of battles with the federal government, and few would be entirely surprised if the Patriot Act was added to that list.

The ACLU resolution's dangerous absurdities aside, it did finally expose the senate's motives in last year's refusal to consider an “Academic Bill of Rights” (ABR) brought forth by the “Tufts Students for Academic Freedom.” Though perfectly pertinent to Tufts, it was denied a vote because a remarkably imaginative conjecture led the senate leadership to conclude that

Playing fast and loose with precedent undermines confidence in the senate.

the issue was not *unique* to Tufts. By many accounts, the resolution was the victim of an ambiguous and incorrectly applied standard by which the senate barred itself from addressing issues of the slightest national significance. This is an inhibition that is now known to have required only the right liberal cause—the Patriot Act—to be exposed as arbitrary and universally unreasonable.

The evasion strategy used then by the senate has returned to haunt it. With the precedent he helped set last year clearly in the back of his mind, senate president David Baumwoll conceded that the original resolution the ACLU submitted “referred directly to the Patriot Act and issues of national concern” and was therefore inappropriate. Baumwoll and the Tufts ACLU arrived at a revised text that was deemed fit for a senate vote ostensibly because it did apply to Tufts *and* was void of specific references to national politicians or legislation. But last year's ABR cleared these very same hurdles far and

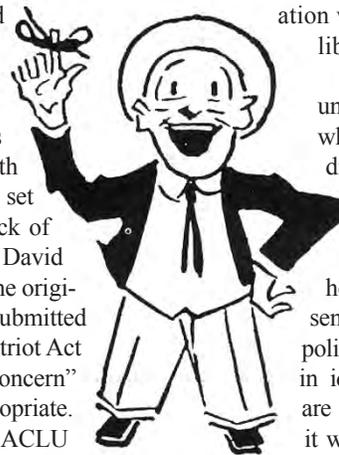
wide. Playing fast and loose with precedent undermines confidence in the senate. The body's justification for rejecting consideration of ABR was ridiculous, but if that is the standard it cites then it must uniformly apply it.

February's senate passage of a new Academic Freedom resolution sponsored by the Tufts Academic Freedom Project was a promising breakthrough for that movement, but did not redeem the senate in this matter. In this case, the submitted wording already employed the most generic, agreeable terms imaginable—until it got the senate floor treatment. Hours of debate produced an amended resolution that essentially called on the University administration to protect Academic Freedom, *but only as it was already defined in the Pachyderm.*

Granted, the senate has experienced both leadership and membership turnover since last spring's outright rejection of the ABR, and one generation of senators should not be inexorably bound by ancient precedent. Still, much of the senate's composition has not changed, and in treating two resolutions in such chronological proximity so differently, the TCU senate helps further convince conservative and moderate students that it is an organization driven by politics, not students' interest.

Let there be no doubt that the ABR was a great idea while the modified ACLU resolution was an awful one—but they *both* deserved the senate's full consideration. Unfortunately, and quite explicably, the resolution sponsored by conservatives did not get that consideration while the one sponsored by liberals did.

Student government is unquestionably at its best when it pursues initiatives that directly relate to its campus constituents. Aversion to needlessly controversial stances on national issues is healthy and commendable, but senators must never let personal politics cloud their judgment in identifying them. If students are to have faith in the senate, it would do well to adopt clear, reasonable, and easily recognized criteria for resolution consideration. A senate body inclined to vote against conservative interests is bad enough—a leadership that can arbitrarily deny them consideration is unacceptable. ■



Mr. Boyd is a junior majoring in Political Science and Economics.

Continued from page 10

is better to rest in peace than to live with a significant disadvantage. But people often forget that a tempested life is not worth any less than a normal one. Nobody wants to live with a physical deformity, with mental dysfunctions, in poverty, with an illness, or with any disadvantage. This does not mean, however, that those who do live like that do not have lives worth living, or that they are better off dead. Those with disabilities deserve a chance at living fulfilling lives and working towards triumphant success. It is not right to simply kill them in the name of “ending their pain.” Such ideas are not in keeping with the culture of life.

A common argument heard against those who adhere to the culture of life is that it is hypocritical that they also support the death penalty. However, no such hypocrisy exists. There is a very important distinction to be made, and that is between innocence and guilt. A murderer shows complete disregard for the lives of innocent members of society, and a disregard for the culture of life. Society, then—especially those who believe in the sanctity of innocent life—is not obligated to show any regard for a murderer’s life. So long as everyone accused of murder is given a fair trial, and years of appeal if so desired, capital punishment is a legitimate consequence. The murderer takes innocent lives; the executioner takes the guiltiest ones. That is all the difference in the world.

Throughout history, Americans have held the culture of life in high regard. Recent polls show that the majority of Americans continues to oppose abortion and approve of capital punishment. In modern times, however, activists from the Left have succeeded in turning American society away from these ideals. President Bush and conservatives in Congress have put forth a great effort to uphold the culture of life, but what really needs to be done is for the courts to uphold the will of the people. For example, rulings such as *Roe v. Wade*, which legalize actions that are in direct opposition to pro-life ideals, need to be overturned. Only by having the entire government united can our society’s laws reflect the culture of life that the majority of Americans hold dear. ■

Juiced:

Wild Times, Rampant ‘Roids, Smash Hits, and How Baseball Got Big

by Jose Canseco
Regan Books, ISBN 0060746408
\$25.95, Hardcover

Amid controversy both in Congress and in the upper brass of Major League Baseball, understanding the status of sports in light of the steroid abuse scandals is no simple matter. While the push to clean up baseball at times resembles a witch hunt, Jose Canseco’s *Juiced* has only fueled the tabloid-esque nature of this effort. In his book, Canseco implicates many of his former peers in an effort to glorify his interest and use of steroids. Throughout the book he claims that steroids are good for sports, athletes and humanity in general. Just as this conclusion is nothing short of laughable, Canseco’s account of the importance of steroids to his career is nothing more than an entertaining read with little importance to the issue of steroids in professional sports.

To his credit, Canseco does not hesitate to present his arguments. He is quite frank about his use of steroids and the degree to which they enhanced his abilities and his career. He mentions many names in a shameless quest to clear his own and argues that in ten years, these substances will be completely accepted in a number of professional sports.

The most problematic aspect of Canseco’s approach to writing is its self-promoting style. Canseco comes across as a desperate man seeking attention and redemption. He claims that any player interested in self-betterment and increased performance will turn to steroids and that no organization will ever design an effective steroids testing policy. In his opinion, team owners and league officials have long fought to avoid the adoption of steroids testing policies because juiced players offer more entertaining performances, especially when hitting five hundred foot home runs. While such behavior of baseball management is troubling,

Canseco’s “everybody else was doing it” approach seriously detracts from his credibility and exposes his real motivation for writing the book.

Canseco’s claims of being the victim of consistently racist ideologies further hurt his case. Throughout the book, he portrays baseball officials as very unwilling to allow a player of Cuban descent to reach stardom. He also argues that he was held to a higher standard of conduct than players such as Mark McGwire because McGwire was one of the so-called “Golden Boys of Baseball.” According to this argument, Canseco was constantly under the steroids microscope while McGwire was not—mostly because of the color of his skin. Perhaps Mr. Canseco experienced some racism while rising through the ranks of baseball. However, attempting

to glorify his arrest records and his abuse of an illegal substance by claiming that everyone was out to get him is not the best praise of his readers’ collective intelligence. After all, one can hardly ignore the abundance of Latino players in baseball today.

As is the case with almost anything else, one must take *Juiced* with a grain of salt. Is the book entertaining? Certainly.

So is going to the zoo and laughing at the shenanigans of the monkeys. If one enjoys reading tabloids, then one will probably enjoy this book. It is a quick read and it incriminates many famous baseball players. One must consider the source, though. Canseco is a long way from his once famous status. His name is shamed in the arena of professional sports and he is forever linked to the ugly side of this industry. In writing this book, Canseco is making a desperate attempt at restoring his name and justifying his actions.

—Alex Allen

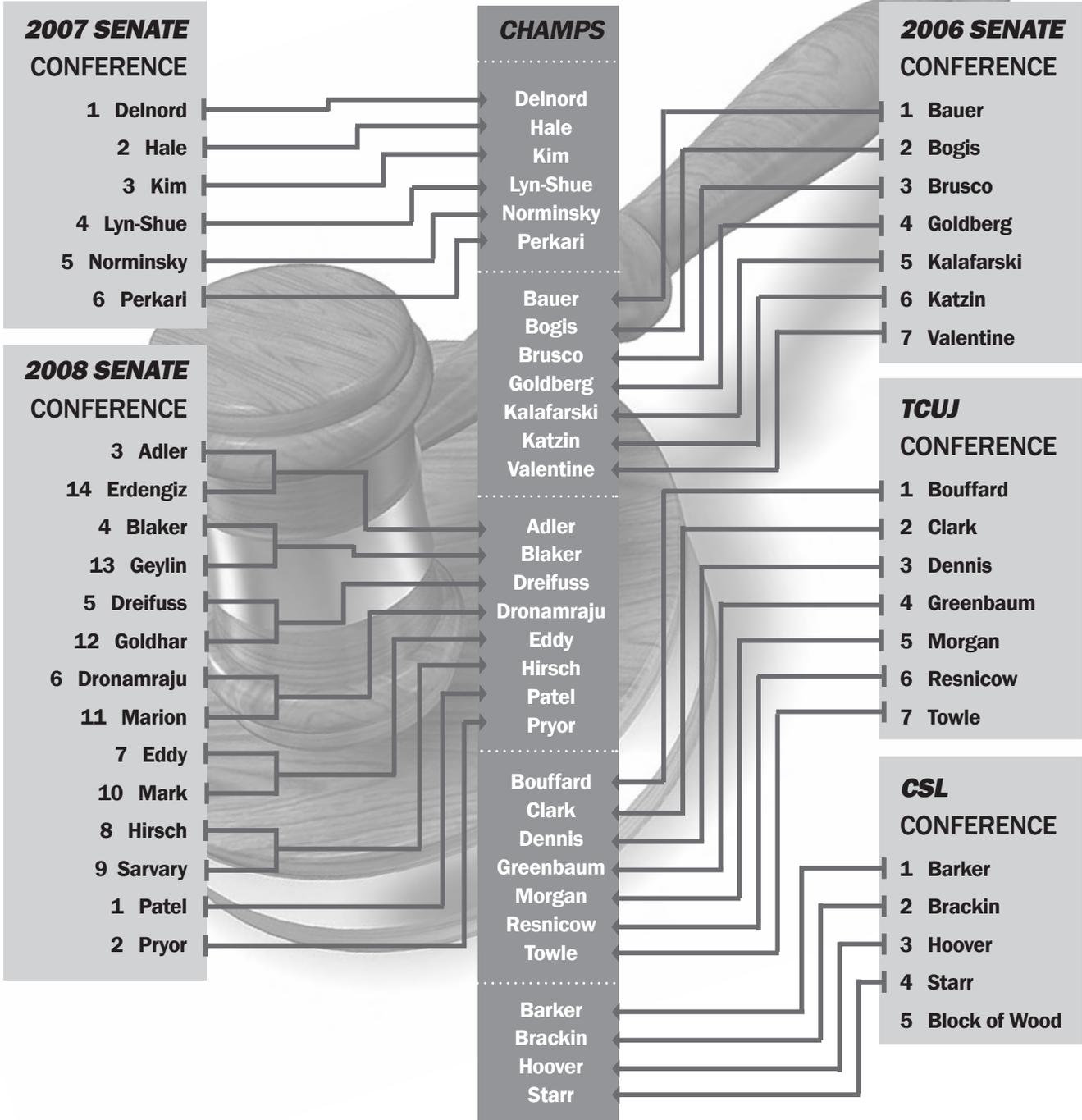




APRIL MADNESS

WHERE EVEN A MEDIOCRE CAMPAIGN IS A SLAM DUNK!

With one contested conference, this Spring's Tufts Community Union elections were quite a wild ride. Check out the brackets:



NOTABLE AND QUOTABLE

Students generally love [Dewick Dining Hall], but we are aware that we have these big expanses of blank wall.

—Patti Klos, Director of Dining Services, in *The Tufts Daily*

Tolerance is not easy. It does not mean being a doormat so everyone can walk over you.

—Reverend David O'Leary

It was disturbing to read about how Baumwoll's secret club of depraved cliquy eighth-graders keeps the presidential nominations closed to senators.

—Ed Kalafarski

Hell, there are no rules here—we're trying to accomplish something.

—Thomas A. Edison

To each of you, courage.

—Dan Rather, signing off CBS Evening News as anchor for the last time.

Most people know [U2 rocker Bono] as a rock star. He's in a way a rock star of the development world, too.

—John Snow, Treasury Secretary

Rocket science is a lot more fun when you actually have rockets.

—US Navy Advertisement

I've come to believe the news is manipulated. On some higher level, someone is saying, 'We can tell 'em this; we can't tell 'em that.'

—Bruce Willis

The worst moment for the atheist is when he is really thankful and has nobody to thank.

—Dante Gabriel Rossetti

Leadership is getting someone to do what they don't want to do, [in order] to achieve what they want to achieve.

—Tom Landry

May God bless you, unless you're an atheist, in which case I sincerely hope that God blesses nothing of yours because you deserve to be just as happy and free to not worship as the people getting blessed.

—Anonymus

Necessity is the plea for every infringement of human freedom. It is the argument of tyrants; it is the creed of slaves.

—William Pitt

Philosophy easily triumphs over past ills and ills to come, but present ills triumph over philosophy.

—Francois de la Rochefoucauld

A sword never kills anybody; it is a tool in the killer's hand.

—Lucius Annaeus Seneca

Liberals claim to want to give a hearing to other views, but then are shocked and offended to discover that there are other views.

—William F. Buckley Jr.

Everybody has the right to pronounce foreign names as he chooses.

—Winston Churchill

Stupidity is also a gift of God, but one mustn't misuse it.

—Pope John Paul II

I have never advocated war except as a means of peace.

—Ulysses

What kind of law is it, what kind of society is it, that says the lives of Khalfan Khamis Mohammed and Mohammed Daoud al-Owhali's have value—over which we must anguish and for the sustenance of which we must expend tens of thousands annually—but Terri Schiavo's is readily dispensable?

—Andrew C. McCarthy

Patriotism is not short, frenzied outbursts of emotion, but the tranquil and steady dedication of a lifetime.

—Adlai Stevenson

It is the mark of an educated mind to be able to entertain a thought without accepting it.

—Aristotle

It is not bigotry to be certain we are right; but it is bigotry to be unable to imagine how we might possibly have gone wrong.

—G. K. Chesterton

Never interrupt your enemy when he is making a mistake.

—Napoleon Bonaparte

North Korea has a 99 percent literacy rate, a decent, hardworking society, and a \$900 per capita GDP. Morocco has a 43.7 percent literacy rate, a society that spends all day drinking coffee and pestering tourists to buy rugs, and a \$3,260 per capita GDP.

—P. J. O'Rourke

How many people have to die before the country stops humoring feminists?

—Ann Coulter

A neoconservative is a liberal who has been mugged by reality.

—Irving Kristol

John Couey, the convicted sex offender, was charged with raping and killing 9-year-old Jessica Lunsford... Hey Florida! Forget about Terri Schiavo. Let's take this scumbag's feeding tube out!

—Dennis Miller

The United States announced a plan that will tighten all borders by 2008. Mexico announced a plan to have all their people here by 2007.

—Jay Leno

The greatest good you can do for another is not just share your riches, but reveal to them their own.

—Benjamin Disraeli

These are the times that try men's souls. The summer soldier and the sunshine patriot will, in this crisis, shrink from the service of their country; but he that stands for it now, deserves the love and thanks of man and woman.

—Thomas Paine

Why should we be frightened? No people who have ever lived on this earth have fought harder, paid a higher price for freedom, or done more to advance the dignity of man than the living Americans, those Americans living in this land today.

—Ronald Reagan