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THE TUFTS DAILY

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Boston Ave. Boloco ends delivery service

BY MAHPARI SOTOUDEH
Daily Staff Writer

Due to customer feedback indicating overwhelming dissatisfaction with its delivery service, the Boston Avenue branch of burrito restaurant Boloco decided earlier this month to cease delivering to customers and instead focus on improving its in-store service.

Regional Area Manager Matt Taylor said that Boloco's commitment to high-quality service was a key reason for the new rule. When the delivery service failed to live up to the standard of the brand, Taylor, together with the operations team, the in-store staff and Boloco's CEO, decided to end the service, Taylor told the Daily.

"We pretty consistently heard that we didn't do a good job at [delivering]. ... We took a long time, orders were incorrect, the food was cold by the time it got there — pretty much any way that we heard that we could fail, we were failing," Taylor said.

Fiscal matters were second-

see BOLOCO, page 2

Jumbos raise record-breaking sum at Relay

BY BRENT YARNELL
Daily Editorial Board

VIRGINIA BLEDSOE/TUFTS DAILY

Students spent Friday night in the Gantcher Center to raise money for cancer research and programs at the ninth annual Relay for Life at Tufts.

Tufts' ninth annual Relay for Life this weekend saw unprecedented success, with organizers citing record participation rates and fundraising levels tens of thousands of dollars above their goals for this year.

Students from Tufts who collected donations for the relay, which is sponsored by the American Cancer Society (ACS), collectively raised over $115,000, according to Whitney Downum, the ACS New England Division's community executive for development.

That sum far exceeds the ACS goal for Tufts of $84,500, which was based on Tufts' Relay fundraising levels from last year, Downum said.

"It was definitely the best event they've ever had," she said. "It was by far the most successful."

Seventy-six teams of donors, along with individual participants, gathered in the Gantcher Center between 6 p.m. Friday and 6 a.m. Saturday to walk laps, view student performances and participate in activities including an obstacle course and a moon bounce.

Relay for Life, which universities and communities across the globe host for the ACS, invites teams and individuals to walk laps to raise money for cancer research.

The money raised at Relay for Life at Tufts goes toward programming and research, as well as services like transportation for patients and advocacy for anti-cancer policies in New England, through the ACS's New England Division.

see RELAY, page 2

DANAI MACRIDI/TUFTS DAILY

Tufts students have in the past weeks taken advantage of the weather to try out the new bike-share program.

In first weeks, bike-share program elicits positive response, heavy use

BY MINYOUNG SONG
Daily Editorial Board

Since its launch on April 4, Tufts' newly minted bike-share program has taken off with robust popularity among students despite a few mechanical hiccups.

Tufts Bikes, the organization that brought the bikes to campus and monitors their maintenance, allows students free access to 30 bikes, which they can check out for up to eight hours at the Tisch Library circulation desk.

Warm weather has prompted many to take advantage of the new program despite minor mechanical problems with several of the bikes, according to Tufts Bikes President Sally Sharrow, a senior.

"As soon as the weather got nice, there was a day when all of the bikes were checked out

see BIKES, page 2

Verizon awards grant for science, math education

BY JOSH WEINER
Contributing Writer

Tufts' Center for Engineering Education and Outreach (CEEO) this month received a $60,000 grant from the Verizon Foundation, the philanthropic section of Verizon Communications Inc.

The grant will help fund CEEO's Student Teacher Outreach Mentorship Program (STOMP). STOMP, founded in 2001, pairs Tufts undergraduate engineering students with area science teachers in an attempt to draw elementary school students into the fields of science and technology,according to Director of Outreach Programs for CEEO and STOMP founder Merredith Portsmore.

The grant will help STOMP provide scholarships to a summer program for fourth- and fifth-grade girls, provide teachers in participating schools with training and fund STOMP's placement of paid undergraduate assistants in local classrooms, Portsmore said.

STOMP provides resources for science and technology education to public school teachers and students throughout Boston, Medford and Somerville, according to Portsmore. Participating Tufts engineering students each semester provide in-class assistance to the schools' teachers, she said.

The Verizon grant will partially go toward supporting a variety of classroom projects, Portsmore said. Past projects have incorporated toothpick bridges, Lego robotics and water filtration to reinforce engineering concepts, she added.

CEEO Director and Professor of Mechanical Engineering Chris Rogers said the additional funds would have wide-reaching effects.

"The Verizon grant will allow us to help more schools bring engineering in their classrooms," Rogers said in an email. "We have found that engineering in the classroom helps motivate science and math learning as well."

One of the aims of STOMP is to draw more female students into the field of engineering, Portsmore said, adding that exposure to scientific study at a young age can equate to interest further down the line.

"We are hoping to use it as a leverage point for future successes," Portsmore said.

She added that the absence of female role models may explain why fewer girls pursue careers in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

The Verizon Foundation, which gave almost $67 million to U.S. non-

see STOMP, page 2

Inside this issue

This year's commencement speaker sparked debate among seniors about the selection process.

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Freshman Patton Watkins is bringing a fresh Chattanooga spirit to New England lacrosse.

see SPORTS, page 15

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Customers' complaints prompt Boloco to discontinue its delivery service

BOLOCO

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ary to consumer feedback in Boloco's decision, he said.

"Delivery wasn't so profitable, but our decision to end the service was primarily based on the fact that people have to love what we do, and overwhelmingly, we were hearing that people didn't love what we were doing," Taylor said. "There was a lot of frustration that we couldn't do it well."

Of Boloco's 15 total restaurants, all located in the New England area, the Boston Avenue Boloco was one of only two locations that delivered food to its customers. The other, located at Dartmouth College in Hanover, N.H., strictly delivers food at night, Taylor said.

"By not delivering … that allows us to focus on what happens in the restaurant," Taylor said.

Another contributing factor in the store's decision stemmed from an inability to find a steady group of drivers willing to deliver the food. The store's new policy will not affect the livelihood of former delivery drivers, although in-store work is a different experience, Taylor said.

Lamar Walker, a former delivery driver who now works at the counter, marked one such case.

"As an in-store worker, I help a little bit more and spend more time talking to customers," Walker told the Daily.

Since the implementation of their new no-delivery rule, Boloco has seen a slight increase in the number of customers buying from the store, but the location is also planning for some loss in business, Taylor said.

"We've heard that there are people who will no longer order because [delivery] was the method by which [they] ordered, but when we were still delivering we were getting the same feedback because we weren't delivering well," Taylor said.

Freshman Anthony Santa Maria, a regular customer of the Boston Avenue Boloco for five years, expressed disappointment with the decision. Although he plans to start visiting the store more often, he said he will likely patronize the restaurant less frequently than in the past.

"Having to actually walk down to Boloco will definitely reduce my willingness to eat there," Santa Maria said.

Junior Daniel Meer, a Boloco cardholder, said he will continue to give Boloco his business even as the store cuts its delivery service.

"I was a very frequent Boloco customer," Meer said. "While I was disappointed to hear that they no longer will be delivering, it will not change my orders."

Walker said the new approach will not likely impact business at the branch significantly. Nor will it mean any change in the store's business dynamic, he said, instead expressing that it would enhance the overall Boloco atmosphere with more satisfactory staff-customer interaction.

MEREDITH KLEIN/TUFTS DAILY

The Boston Avenue location of Boloco decided earlier this month to cease its delivery service after customers offered negative feedback.

Taylor agreed.

"The whole idea is that we're better able to take care of people who come into the restaurant," he said. "There are those who have chosen to come down and pick it up or come into the restaurant, which ultimately means that they are getting a fresher product."

Bike share off to promising start, potential to continue through summer

BIKES

continued from page 1

except for a few of them that had technical problems," Sharrow said.

Freshman Sara Mark has twice rented a bike to shop for groceries at Whole Foods in Medford, a task that she said was easier with wheels than on foot.

"It's helpful to have the baskets [on the bike] versus having to carry the groceries by myself," Mark said. "Also, it's nice for you to have a different mode of transportation instead of walking."

Beyond grocery store trips, Mark said the bike-share program opens doors for new opportunities extending beyond Tufts' Medford campus.

"I just think that it makes everything more accessible. It makes me want to do [more] things," Mark said.

Treasurer Karen Andres, a senior, said she has several times spotted students using the bikes off campus.

"I have seen people ride them in Davis Square and Porter Square," Andres said.

According to the group's head mechanic, senior Ryan Hofstetter, the bikes' most common mechanical problem has involved the screws in the fenders becoming loose.

Tufts Bikes has enlisted a group of student mechanics to address such minor malfunctions, which Hofstetter said are fairly common with new bikes.

"All of the mechanics have been working on the screws," Hofstetter said. "As far as I know, the fender repair damage rate has gone way down and I don't think it should be too much of a problem in the future."

Hofstetter said that the Tufts Bikes mechanics, once the bikes arrived earlier this month, spent up to an hour assembling each bike, attaching the handlebars, fixing the pedals and tuning the wheels.

Sharrow said Tufts Bikes has plans to add shelters resembling bus stops to the existing bike racks, located outside of the entrance to Tisch Library and on the upper patio of the Mayer Campus Center. The shelters will protect bikes from inclement weather and provide a space for the group to display posters outlining instructions for properly locking bikes and ways to detect mechanical problems, according to Sharrow.

Tufts Bikes Vice President Neil Aronson, a freshman, hopes to respond to the program's popularity by keeping it running past the end of the semester.

"We're trying to expand this so people could use the bikes during this summer," Aronson said.

Andres expressed hope that Tufts Bikes will become a permanent institution at Tufts.

"I'm just proud of everyone who has been part of the project and thankful to the administration for giving us the opportunity," she said.

Andres added that with continued demand for the bikes, the program can look to expand in the future.

Verizon gives $60,000 to Tufts program

STOMP

continued from page 1

profit agencies in 2010, is enthusiastic about STOMP's efforts, according to Verizon spokesperson Phil Santoro.

"Verizon has a keen interest and long history of support for STEM education," Santoro said in an email to the Daily. "We are a high-tech company whose scientists, technologists and engineers are well-known and respected for their innovations in the field."

The Foundation chose to support STOMP particularly because of its push to correct the gender imbalance in the STEM fields, Santoro said.

"We recognize the need for more women in the field and the need to encourage more young women to consider pursuing careers in STEM," he said.

Engineering education is beneficial in helping students understand modern technology, Santoro said.

"As our world is more and more based on technology, I think it is critical for everyone to understand how the technology was developed so that we can, as a population, make wise decisions on things like sustainable energy [and] climate change," he said.

Tufts teams collect substantial sum for cancer society

RELAY

continued from page 1

Sophomore Amanda Borow, who this year served as a Relay for Life committee member in charge of team development, said the relay's uptick in popularity was largely due to revamped marketing efforts.

"We definitely took a different kind of tactic on publicity," Borow said. "We did a lot more fun posters and attention-grabbing posters rather than just fully informational ones."

Relay for Life co-Chair Kate Carpenito, a senior, attributed this year's monetary success to a boost in participation and impressively large donations from both single and team collectors.

"It's growing every year, and more people get their friends to join in," Carpenito said. "Having more participants helped, but we had a whole bunch of people who raised over $5,000."

Freshman Brooke Schreiber, who alone raised $7,525, brought in the largest sum of any individual.

A team from Sigma Phi Epsilon (SigEp) raised the most of any team, with a total of more than $9,500.

Carpenito added that a large part of this year's success was due to the committee's efforts to incorporate other student groups in their efforts.

"We tried contacting every organization, every team, you name it," Borow said. "We were really trying to make it more of a community-based event that groups will participate in each year. We had 30-plus teams related to organizations, which was a huge jump."

The relay's organizers worked with the Interfraternity Council to host a series of five ticketed parties, collectively called Party 4 Life, as a contribution to Relay fundraising efforts. Ticket sales for the parties netted a significant amount of total donations, totaling more than $4,000, Carpenito said.

Downum added that the Queer-Straight Alliance used their annual drag show, this year called "Drag Down Cancer," to further publicize and benefit Relay for Life. Donations to ACS at the show summed $300, she said.

Working with other student groups on campus encouraged participation from a wider pool of students, according to Downum.

"Reaching out to their demographics was helpful as well," she said.

Carpenito said the Relay committee expects the current total donated sum of $115,537 to be augmented by additional donations that typically trickle in during the months following the event.

"We definitely will expect to continue to get donations," Carpenito said. "We usually get donations up through the end of the summer."

Downum estimated that based on this year's success, the event organizers will next year set a fundraising target of approximately $120,000.

This year's Relay organizers look forward to carrying the momentum from this weekend into following years.

"We had an absurd amount of people staying the whole night, and we definitely saw energy that we haven't seen in the past. We … hope that that will continue into next year," Borow said.

Carpenito said the most memorable moment of the night was the traditional luminaria ceremony, in which attendees commemorate cancer survivors and victims.

"We turn off all the lights in Gantcher and the room is lit by paper bags with the names of people who have had cancer…" Carpenito said. "It's really powerful when everyone walks together in silence at the end of the ceremony."

"I think it's by far the most meaningful part," Borow said of the ceremony. "It's a really beautiful ceremony, and it really shows how the disease affects everyone that you know."

Features

tuftsdaily.com

Seniors ponder Tufts' latest graduation speaker

With announcement of Vest, some students ask for a voice in the decision

BY ALEXA SASANOW
Daily Editorial Board

At the Edward R. Murrow Forum on Issues in Journalism on April 11, moderator Jonathan Tisch (A '76) asked honored guest journalist Katie Couric about her upcoming stint as a commencement speaker.

"I believe you're going to be across the river this May," he said to Couric during the forum.

Couric looked at the audience and said, "At BU, sorry! They asked, you didn't!"

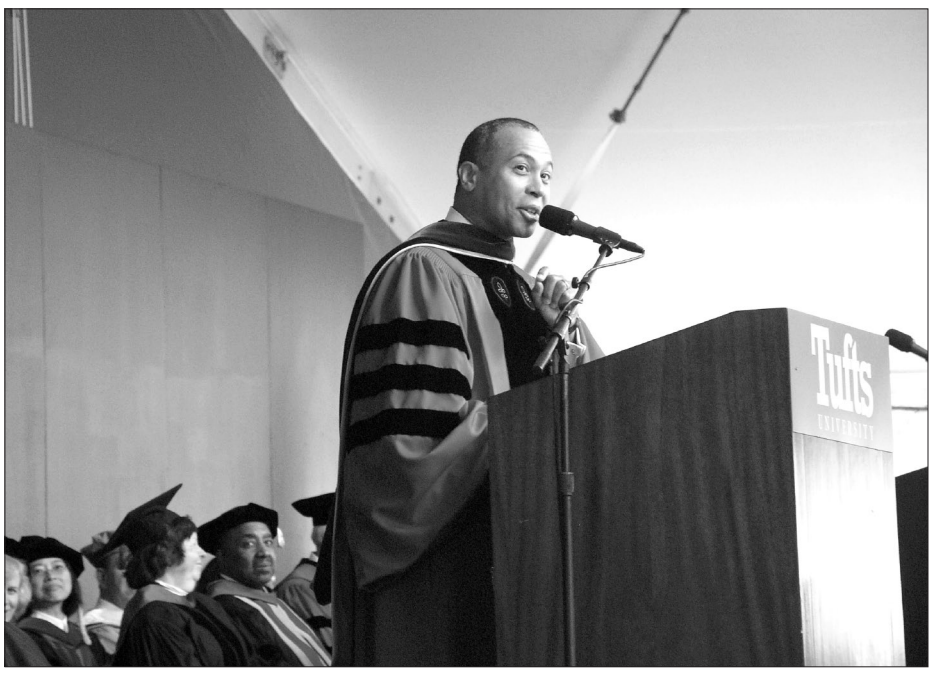
The university last month announced this year's commencement speaker, Charles Vest, president emeritus of MIT and current president of the National Academy of Engineering.

While some students may have been wondering why Couric wasn't asked to speak, more may be wondering about the selection process for commencement speakers in general.

"The president of Tufts selects the commencement speaker in concert with the trustees," Director of Public Relations Kim Thurler told the Daily in an email.

The honorary degree committee is made up of six of the university's Board of Trustees, alongside President Bacow, who serves ex officio. The committee approves candidates for honorary doctorates from Tufts, Thurler said.

Tufts had its first commencement ceremony in 1916, when noted politician, editor and activist Hamilton Holt, a white man who was a co-founding member of the NAACP, spoke. There have been a bevy of notable speakers over the years including educator and entertainer Bill Cosby, Vice President Lyndon B. Johnson — who spoke only six months before President John Kennedy was assassinated — and Ms. Magazine founder Gloria Steinem. And although President Bacow told the Daily that Vest has a "fabulous wit" and "will give a memorable speech," some students remain concerned that they were not involved in the selection process.



DAILY FILE PHOTO
Massachusetts Gov. Deval Patrick spoke at the 2009 commencement ceremony.

"There are a thousand ways to involve students and they chose not to," senior Ayda Wondemu said. "It's not about who it is, about the person, so much as the process. What they're teaching us is that through your life, you're going to have to shut up and take it. I doubt he would be speaking if there would have been a different process, but [even if so], at least we would have chosen him."

At Smith College, on the other hand, students are given the opportunity to vote on their commencement speaker. The process begins with a committee of board members, students and trustees, who develop a list of speakers, and the student body votes afterwards.

When it was announced last year that Professor and former Provost Sol Gittleman was going to give the 2010 commencement address, there was conversation on campus about whether or not it was preferred to have someone from the community who knows Tufts students, like Gittleman, or whether, as is customary, to invite a well-known personality to campus.

Adam Weldai (LA '10) told the Somerville News after Commencement last year that he found Gittleman to be a good choice.

"He's one of us," Weldai said. "That's what made the speech so special."

Senior Peter Day said that while bringing a well-known personality to campus will be exciting for many, the idea of their celebrity being the main draw cheapens the tradition.

"The graduation speech is a tradition turned marketing ploy," Day said. "Some wealthy person to tell us it will all be okay. I'm sure whatever [Vest] has to bestow upon us will be polite conventional reassurance, and I'm confident that I will leave with a smile on my face."

Vest exists in the gray area between

see COMMENCEMENT, page 4

Transfer orientation helps acclimation process

BY ANGELINA ROTMAN
Daily Editorial Board

For most people, the idea of starting anew at college was equally exciting and terrifying — and not something they would care to do again. Yet a small percentage of students at most universities have gone through this process not once, but twice, and some even three times. These are transfer students.

Some transfer for a different social atmosphere, some for academic reasons and some simply in the pursuit of happiness in their college careers. This past fall, 95 out of 875 transfer applicants to Tufts were admitted; 33 of these students enrolled. This number is down significantly from the previous two years' incoming transfer groups, with 748 applicants, 148 accepted and 75 enrolled transfers in 2009 and 741 applicants, 146 accepted and 74 enrolled in 2008. The size of the incoming transfer class is dependent on the number of accepted freshmen who decide to enroll, according to the Office of Undergraduate Admissions.

This smaller transfer pool presented both challenges and benefits, both to the transfers themselves and to the people who organize orientation. The addition of a transfer orientation to the program is only a few years old, according to Laura Doane, program director for advising and scholarships.

DAILY FILE PHOTO
Ice breakers like the human knot, pictured above, are integral parts of the orientation experience.

"It's one of those things that I wish I could say there was an actual structure," Doane said. "It's really just been a growing number of individuals who care about this getting together and pushing to get something done."

For the orientation office, creating a separate program for a group of transfer students that is about half the size of those in the two previous years presented more opportunities.

"I can only speak for my own experience, but there's no magic number," Doane said. "A smaller group is easier in some sense. You can target to a small group. We talk to the orientation leaders who were transfers and see if they want to do something fun, and we can do it. If we had 150 transfer students, then there is more of a push to do a completely separate program. When you have that in-between number, then it's challenging."

For the transfers themselves, being part of such a small group had its benefits, including more of a push to look for friends outside of an established circle.

"I think [a larger class] would have been a lot more like high school, where you're forced to hang out with people due to sheer proximity," sophomore Alexandra Schmider, who transferred into Tufts this year, said. "Due to the fact that the group was so small and Tufts was so small, you don't have to settle for people. You can choose your own niche."

Others were similarly appreciative of the support a small class provides.

"I would have still been miserable at

see TRANSFERS, page 4

ALANNA TULLER | THE ARCHIVES ADDICT

Forgotten founding fathers

Though I love uncovering little bits and pieces of Tufts history during my weekly raid on the archives, I realized I still had no idea about how Tufts actually came to be. In the process of uncovering the truth about Tufts' inception, something quite interesting emerged: Charles Tufts really didn't have that much to do with the creation of our university.

Initially, I believed the story went something like this: Charles Tufts, a Universalist, owned massive amounts of land in Medford and Somerville. Eventually he decided to give back to his community by establishing an eponymous institution of higher learning. Yet in spite of all the modern hype surrounding the Tufts name, our university was actually the brainchild of an entire group of movers and shakers in the mid-19th century Universalist movement.

Talk of a Universalist college had been swirling for years, but it wasn't set in motion until 1847 when Rev. Thomas Sawyer and the Rev. Hosea Ballou II seriously began to collaborate for the cause. The men asked for donations from Universalists all over the country to pay for the steep $100,000 price tag.

Fortunately, Charles Tufts came to the rescue with a generous donation of 20 acres of land in Medford and Somerville. Heated debates ensued concerning the college's future location (Ballou favored New York's Hudson River Valley over Massachusetts), but when Charles Tufts sweetened the deal by donating an extra 80 acres of land, the reverends agreed that Walnut Hill would be a perfect location for Tufts College.

The greatest thing about Tufts' donation, however, was the great sense of purpose behind it. Legend has it that when a friend asked what he intended to do with Walnut Hill, Tufts profoundly replied, "I will put a light on it." The reverends elaborated on this prophetic statement and worked to create "an institution where the simple pursuit of truth, and not conversion to any particular religious tenets, should be the subject sought."

Pretty progressive stuff for 1840s New England, huh?

After obtaining two separate charters from Medford and Somerville, by May 1852 the state of Massachusetts had formally recognized Tufts, with Ballou elected to serve as the college's first president. Ballou eventually accepted the post, but only after vehemently denying his abilities to successfully run the new institution. I really hope this was an attempt at humility, however, because with a graduating class of three students in 1857 I don't think Ballou had much to worry about during his first years as president.

Ballou wasted no time in beginning construction on the first building to grace the Tufts campus, the aptly named Ballou Hall. The president personally selected "a fine block of Connecticut sandstone" for the cornerstone of his namesake hall (which, despite numerous laps around the building's exterior, I have yet to locate.)

In recognition of such a momentous occasion a celebration took place to usher in this new era of liberal, Universalist education. The festivities occurred in July 1853 and were replete with feasts, sing-alongs and speeches to commemorate the event. Almost 2,000 people attended the celebration, including the guests of honor Charles Tufts and his wife, Hannah.

After the festivities ended and the cornerstone was ceremoniously set in place, Ballou assumed the dual role of president and professor. And I must say, he did an excellent job in the early years of his administration.

Take, for example, Ballou's progressive policies that resulted in an exceptional student-to-teacher ratio; although I suppose this wasn't exactly a daunting task when a total of seven students and four faculty members comprised the entirety of the college's population when it officially opened in 1854.

Alanna Tuller is a sophomore majoring in English and Spanish. She can be reached at Alanna.Tuller@tufts.edu.

Students consider the aspects of a memorable commencement speaker

COMMENCEMENT

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someone personally familiar, like Gittleman, and a celebrity whose story is well-known.

"When you bring in Lance Armstrong [who spoke at Commencement in 2006], you already know the narrative, in that he had such a huge challenge to overcome," Wondemu said. "The students would want to hear what he had to say. Whether you have a job for next year or not, you're still facing a challenge. Here, we are meeting an unknown."

Another factor is that Tufts does not pay commencement speakers to come to the ceremony. Rutgers University, for instance, is paying author Toni Morrison $30,000 to come speak at its commencement this year.

"The fact that we do not pay commencement speakers helps ensure that our speakers will come to Tufts with a genuine commitment to addressing our graduates," Thurler said.

Regardless of the process, commencement is an exciting day for seniors, in which they are surrounded by loved ones and by the community they have built at Tufts. For some seniors, the speaker doesn't matter so much as the event itself.

"I can't say I have any feelings at all about the commencement speaker," senior Roxie Salamon Abrams said. "I honestly haven't thought much about it. I'm just excited to be graduating."

Transfer students weigh the pros and cons of life at Tufts a year or two later

TRANSFERS

continued from page 3

this point probably," sophomore Sanaya Daruvala, who also transferred in this year, said. "[The transfer class] was so integral to making me feel at home here, making me feel like I was part of this community. I would have been lost."

Senior Eugenia Lee, who transferred into Tufts as a junior last year, has worked with the admissions office in an effort to make the process of transferring easier. Lee also wrote a blog for Tuftsblogs.com called "Thoughts of a Tufts Transfer."

"Fall 2009 might have been the second or third time they had a transfer orientation, which is completely different from a freshman orientation," Lee said. "It was nice because we had our own transfer reception, because right away we had this good group of friends. A lot of us were in the same dorm. I met my best friend at Tufts through transfer orientation. I felt pretty quickly that I had a supportive network. I felt like I had a base to work off of. A lot of my social life came from my transfer orientation."

By the second year, though, the social dynamic of the transfer community tends to change, Lee said.

"I don't think we're cohesive," she said. "Definitely there's a lot of friendliness. There are definitely certain groups of friends that have stuck together, but they're mostly twos and threes. But I think that's something normal no matter what the situation is."

Regardless of class size, both new and veteran transfers noted the unique outlook that being a transfer affords for college life.

"I think it's great because we have the perspective of a transfer," Lee said. "I think you have a different school experience to contrast with. For example, [other Tufts students] are so unengaged with Boston. I have friends who have spent a year or two [more here], and I know Boston better than they do. As a transfer, you're really aware of how cool it is. I have something to contrast that experience with, and I appreciate it more."

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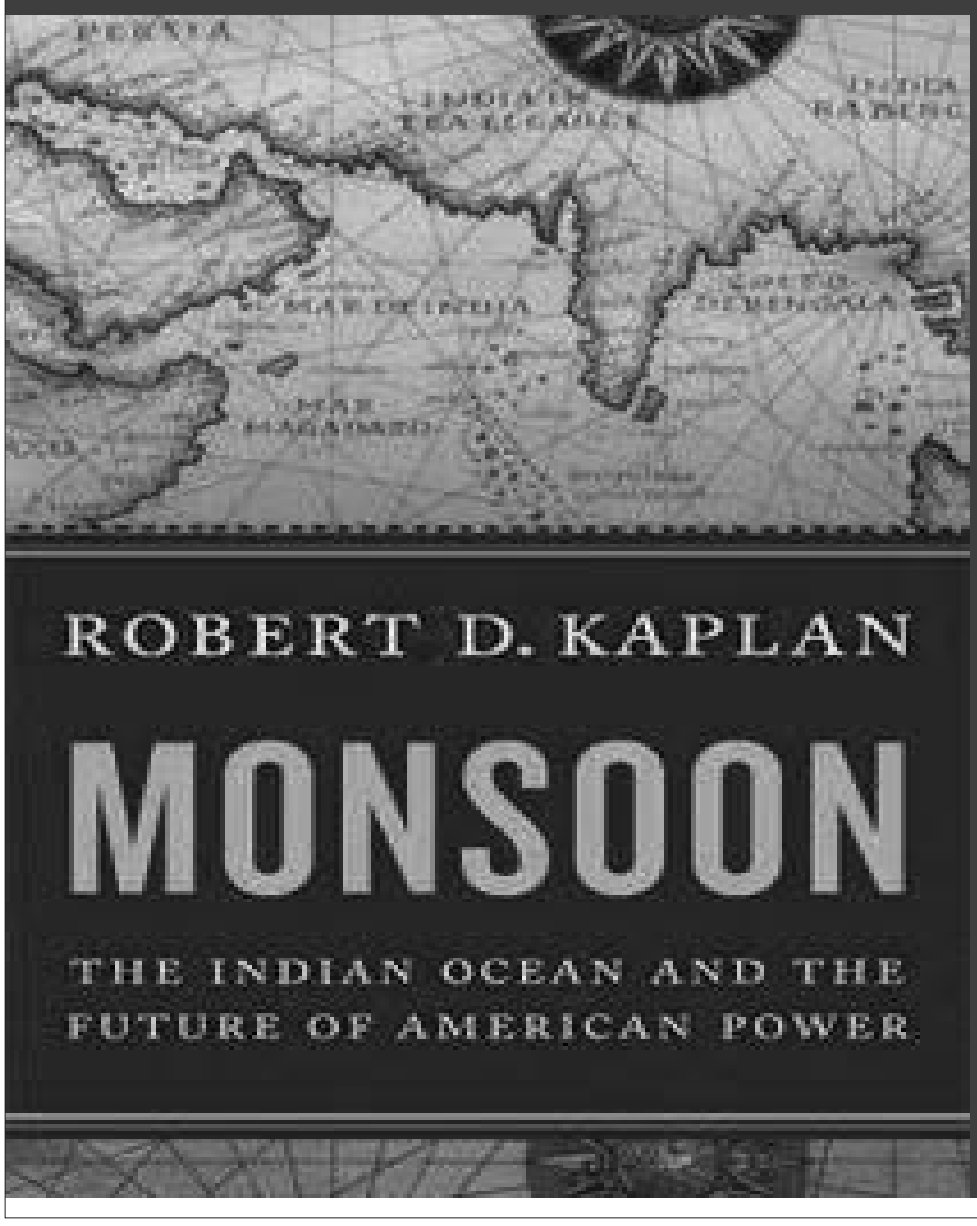
Center of South Asian and Indian Ocean Studies Presents



"Monsoon: The Indian Ocean and the Future of American Power"

Lecture by:
Robert D. Kaplan
National Correspondent, The Atlantic and Senior Fellow at the Center for a New American Security in Washington, D.C.

Mugar 235, Fletcher School
April 20, 2011, 5:30 - 7:30pm

Arts & Living

tuftsdaily.com

THEATER REVIEW

Company One's 'Book of Grace' takes the stage

Despite small cast and dark topics, show's human element transcends

BY MICHELLE BEEHLER
Contributing Writer

A humble home in Texas offers a border patrol officer and his wife a certain type of life, albeit not the brightest one. The dim light that guides their delicate and fractured lives grows brighter with the arrival of the officer's son from a previous marriage, and the events that follow the son's arrival ignite a match that threatens to set fire to all three lives.

The Book of Grace

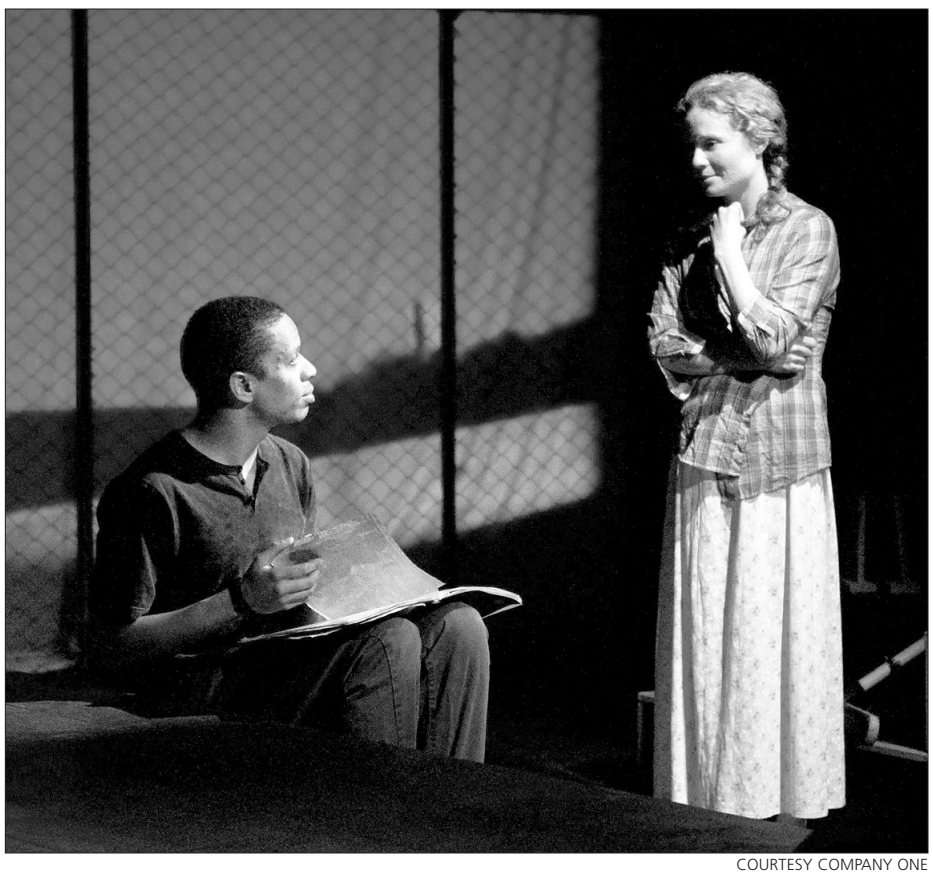
★★★☆☆

Written by **Suzan-Lori Parks**
Directed by **David Wheeler**
At the Boston Center for the Arts Plaza Theatre through May 7
Tickets $15 to $35

Company One's production of Suzan-Lori Park's "The Book of Grace" gives an intimate glimpse of one family's proclivity to write its own laws and the dangerous dance around boundaries that results as a consequence. Directed by David Wheeler, the production produces moments of sweet intimacy and horrific honesty.

The tension begins with the anticipation of the son's arrival. The son, Buddy (Jesse Tolbert), is an unemployed young man, honorably discharged from the military a few years ago. At the invitation of Grace (Frances Idlebrook), his father's new wife, Buddy returns to his hometown to attend the ceremony honoring his father for single-handedly stopping a van of illegal immigrants. Buddy's return is not as readily welcomed by his father, Vet (Steven Barkhimer), who gives Buddy a pat down upon his arrival.

As Buddy asserts before entering his father's home, the past can be forgiven, but not forgotten, and it is clear that neither party has forgotten everything. Buddy's past includes implied sexual abuse from his father, yet what Vet remembers are the times Buddy acted out, putting firecrackers in his car. After a decade, the tension between the two persists, with Vet doing terrible things to Buddy and never admitting it and Buddy lashing out violently as a result.



COURTESY COMPANY ONE

Jesse Tolbert and Frances Idlebrook explore complex family dynamics in 'The Book of Grace.'

Vet is the source of the play's uncontrolled violence and its rigid boundaries. Aware of his dark past life filled with domestic abuse and fights, Vet sets out to create a fresh start. At a glance it appears that he has — Vet has a job and home that suit him. Unfortunately for Grace and Buddy, the better world that Vet has set up for himself does not necessarily include them. Grace is confronted with the same hole in the backyard that Buddy's mother faced, potentially a prepared grave by Vet set to remind her of what he could do

see BOOK OF GRACE, page 6

ALBUM REVIEW

Foo Fighters comes back strong with 'Wasting Light'

BY KATE GRIFFITHS
Daily Staff Writer

The Foo Fighters is perhaps the only band to have survived the alt-rock revolution and come out more popular and creative than before. Having released seven studio albums, one live album and one greatest-hits album, and with countless stadium gigs and under their belt, the Foo Fighters is without a doubt a band to acknowledge.

Wasting Light

Foo Fighters

★★★½☆

RCA

Lead singer Dave Grohl is more well-known as the drummer from influential punk rock band Nirvana. However, in the 17 years since Kurt Cobain's suicide, Grohl has managed to make a name for himself as the front man for one of the most successful rock bands in recent history. Although members of the band have taken breaks to form side projects — most notably Grohl's band Them Crooked Vultures, formed in 2009 with Queens of the Stone Age's Josh Homme and Led Zeppelin's John Paul Jones — the group is back together now with their first new album in four years.

The album, "Wasting Light," is a step back to the group's older sound, full of Grohl's distinctive growl and the heavy melodic sounds that were missing from "In Your Honor" (2005) and "Echoes, Silence, Patience & Grace" (2007). While it appears to be a common opinion that the Foo Fighters peaked on its album "One By One" (2002), "Wasting Light" is a worthwhile listen full of satisfying rock tunes.

The opening track, "Bridge Burning," is a high-energy start to an album with some commendable high points and songs that demonstrate Grohl's creative genius. With lyrics bordering on the vengeful side of the emotional spectrum — "Your bridges are burning down/ It's all coming round/ They're all coming down" — superimposed over loud and downright enjoyable guitar riffs, this is a promising start to a highly anticipated album.

The first single from the album, "Rope," is a melodic change of tune and cements the transformation the Foo Fighters has made since its earlier albums, which were heavier, with rumbling guitar riffs and percussive beats, and were less focused on being so enjoyably harmonious.

The band recorded the entire album in Grohl's garage on analog tapes — a difficult process alone, even without Grohl threatening to fire anyone who brought a computer into his house, especially after the tapes fell apart after being wound back for the first time.

In an interview with MTV, Grohl said, "I like that we're a band that, when we play live, we don't have, like, computers and stuff behind us making half of what you're hearing. And you know what? Sometimes we suck. Sometimes it sounds like, 'Oh,

see FOO FIGHTERS, page 6

MOVIE REVIEW

'Hop' dumbed down by sub-par storytelling

BY JOSEPH STILE
Daily Editorial Board

Live-action movies with talking, animated creatures tend to be the worst films ever. They are generally formulaic, overly family-friendly and plain unfunny. "Yogi Bear"(2010), "Marmaduke"(2010), "Alvin and the Chipmunks"(2007), "Garfield"(2004), "Scooby-Doo"(2002) and all their sequels are just a few that provide ample evidence of this fact.

Hop

★★☆☆☆

Starring **Russell Brand, James Marsden, Elizabeth Perkins**
Directed by **Tim Hill**

Luckily, "Hop" doesn't quite reach those lows, though the film is far from good. It is in no way like Pixar's films, which can be enjoyed equally by young children and adults alike. Instead, "Hop" is a film kids under 12 years old will smile at while the rest of the audience will be waiting for its end.

The movie has far too few jokes in it and barely steps outside the realm of what is expected of a family film like this. It does not take much thought to map out exactly where this film is heading from the

see HOP, page 6

EMILY BALK | WHISK-Y BUSINESS

Shank you very much

It's that special time of year again: Passover, when your Jewish friends give up grain products and get grumpy, your non-Jewish friends talk about how much they love matzo and constipation jokes abound. But really, nobody loves matzo. It's not supposed to be lovable, because it's the bread of affliction. Not only does it remind us of times of affliction in the past and those who are afflicted today, but eating it is itself an affliction. For those who have not had the distinct displeasure of eating matzo, congratulations, you win.

But Passover food is so much more than matzo. Each item on the Seder plate has a symbolic meaning discussed during the notoriously long meal. Some Passover foods that aren't on the Seder plate are special because you only eat them this one time of year; not because they're good, but because that's just what you do. Gefilte fish is a good example. Nobody is going to argue that elliptical beige patties made of cheap fish and matzo meal that come packed in a jar with gelatinous … stuff sound appealing. But if I didn't have it during the Seder I think my world would collapse.

Keeping kosher for Passover doesn't have to mean only eating horrible approximations of real food or rationing the tub of leftovers your aunt gave you after the Seder for a week — it just takes a little extra effort and creativity. For those who don't require a certified kosher for Passover label (hechsher), some grocery stores carry a variety of noodles made of sweet potato or tapioca starch. An added perk are the hilarious descriptions on the back of the package. The last bag of sweet potato starch noodles I got (product name: Powder Pot Stew) "is thin slice, yellow-bright color, has good toughness, good tension, and has a daintily taste!" I can't tell you how many noodles I've had that weren't tough, tense or daintily tasting enough.

Alas, people following the strict version of the Ashkenazi rules won't be able to include soy sauce in their stir fries, but chopped garlic, ginger and a splash of wine would make a fine aromatic base. Curry paste and coconut milk would also be a perfect accompaniment to stir-fried noodles with vegetables and chicken.

But nothing says Passover to me more than lamb. Spring lamb is in season; it's a refreshing departure from brisket and it hearkens back to the "Paschal lamb" sacrifice (tradition!). Though the Seders will be over by the time this column runs, it's no excuse not to put some effort into an impressive and time-consuming dish like braised lamb shanks. Nothing is more forgiving, flexible or flavorful.

Traditional recipe:
1 onion, chopped
2 stalks celery, chopped
2 carrots, chopped
6 whole cloves garlic
1 can tomato paste
2 bay leaves
4 sprigs thyme
3 cups red wine
3 cups chicken stock
(For a non-traditional recipe, see tuftsdaily.com)

First, set the oven to 350 degrees. Brown lamb shanks in olive oil in a roasting pan. Then add vegetables and aromatics to caramelize briefly. For a traditional braise this would be something like chopped onion, celery, carrot, garlic, tomato paste, bay leaf and thyme. A less traditional version, like the one my dad made for his Seder this year, might include ginger and lemongrass.

Then, add liquid until it almost covers the lamb shanks. The traditional braise would have red wine and beef or chicken stock. Instead, my dad's included white wine, tamarind paste, brown sugar and balsamic vinegar. Cover with foil and cook in oven for 3 hours. The basic set of steps is easy to adapt to any flavor profile, and the lamb will taste even better the next day. Serve meat and sauce with mashed potatoes or shredded as a ragu on top of matzo balls.

Emily Balk is a senior majoring in biopsychology and community health. She can be reached at Emily.Balk@tufts.edu.

With tired jokes and little depth, viewers won't be jumping the line to see 'Hop'

HOP

continued from page 5

opening scene, and the film relies too heavily on cheap laughs that will only get a smile out of the youngest and most immature viewers.

"Hop" follows a rabbit, E.B. (voiced by Russell Brand), as he abandons his expected path of becoming the next Easter Bunny and instead wanders around Hollywood trying to become a famous drummer. There are ample opportunities for funny scenes and situations, but the film rarely takes advantage of them, instead settling for unimaginative and disappointing story directions. The director, Tim Hill, plays it safe by centering the story on family and responsibility instead of letting the plot hit more interesting and less cliched beats.

A subplot about chicks staging an uprising on Easter Island is unbearable at times. Younger members of the audience will undoubtedly think it is cute and laugh at the chick's dancing and accents — after all, the film was made for them. It would have been nice, however, if the filmmakers could have found a way to add something for the people who have to bring these youngsters to the theater, like most other animated films try to do.

IWANTCANDY.COM

'Hop' is an animated film that will entertain young children but most likely frustrate its adult viewers.

The stilted script limits what Brand can do as E.B. He speaks rapidly and maniacally at times to bring some sort of life to the scenes, and it is hard not to admire him for trying to elevate the weak material. In the end, it just makes the viewer wish he had some better lines and scenarios to work with because he has proven in other films, like "Forgetting Sarah Marshall" (2008), that he can be very funny given adequate material.

James Marsden seems out of place as Fred, a 20-something slacker who is trying to deal with his parent's disapproval and later becomes E.B.'s helper and companion. Marsden is almost 40 years old in real life, and it is ridiculous to see him on screen still living off his parents. The part should have gone to someone a lot younger, though Marsden has enough charm to pull it off at times.

The rest of the supporting cast is a bunch of familiar faces, such as Elizabeth Perkins ("Weeds"), Kaley Cuoco ("The Big Bang Theory") and David Hasselhoff, but none of them amount to much. They are all given one-dimensional characters, too few good lines and too little screen time to really be memorable. While no one is awful in the picture, the mediocre script wastes what could have been a very solid comedy.

Beyond lacking in humor, the film tries much too hard to be emotional, and the feeling that does come across always feels unearned. The movie tries to focus on Fred's attempts to win his parent's approval and E.B.'s own efforts to reconnect with his father, the Easter Bunny, but it all feels mechanical and tacked on. It is as if Hill decided the film needed some lesson and just arbitrarily added a few maudlin scenes to the film to cover that.

The computer-generated imagery in the film is well done. E.B. and the other animated bunnies and chicks blend well into the real-life backgrounds. After a while, it is easy to forget that these are computer-generated images that are not actually a part of the scene. Easter Island, where these magical creatures live, is especially bright and interesting.

A lot of time and effort was clearly spent on all this animation — if half as much was spent on the script, this could have been an entertaining film.

"Hop" is best considered a children's film meant solely for kids. Despite a funny and talented cast, adults will find next to nothing to laugh about in this comedy, as the jokes are tired and predictable and the emotionality is no more than an afterthought.

Foo Fighters keeps rocking and rolling

FOO FIGHTERS

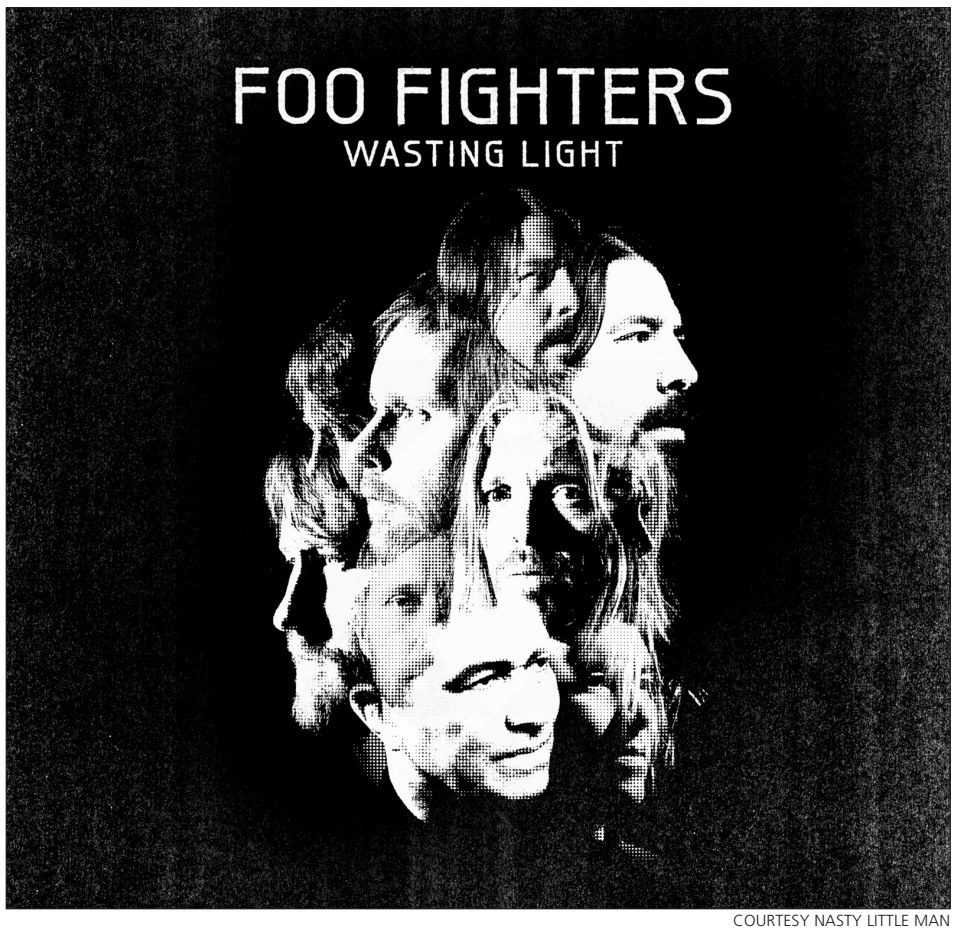
continued from page 5

wow, that guy's not singing in key,' or, 'Whoa, that guitar's out of tune.' And I like that, because to me, that's rock and roll." This is part of what makes the Foo Fighters so unique: They're a band that commands stadiums with their rock anthems and then casually records a new album in their pajamas in Dave Grohl's garage.

For fans of the formative sound of the Foo Fighters, "White Limo" might be the highlight of the album. The song is accompanied by a music video featuring Lemmy of Motörhead, joyously mocking the stereotype of superstar partying with the band generally appearing to have the time of their lives in the back of a limo. Coupled with Grohl's screaming vocals, this song is a throwback to the more eclectic sounds of "Foo Fighters" (1995).

The album is a patchwork of moods, ending in the melancholy "I Should Have Known," a skillfully despondent rock ballad, and the optimistically nostalgic "Walk," with Grohl crooning, "Learning to walk again/ Can't you see I've waited long enough."

"Wasting Light" starts and ends with strong numbers with only one or two weak spots along the way— more generic-sounding songs like "Back & Forth" and "A Matter of Time". It is definitely more enjoyable than their previous two albums, and here's hoping the Foo Fighters continue to get better from here on out.



COURTESY NASTY LITTLE MAN

The Foo Fighters' newest album, 'Wasting Light,' dropped on April 8.

COURTESY COMPANY ONE

Frances Idlebrook stars as Grace in 'The Book of Grace.'

'Grace' tackles weighty issues with focus on personal consequences

BOOK OF GRACE

continued from page 5

to her, and Buddy finds himself without his father's assistance in getting a job with the border patrol.

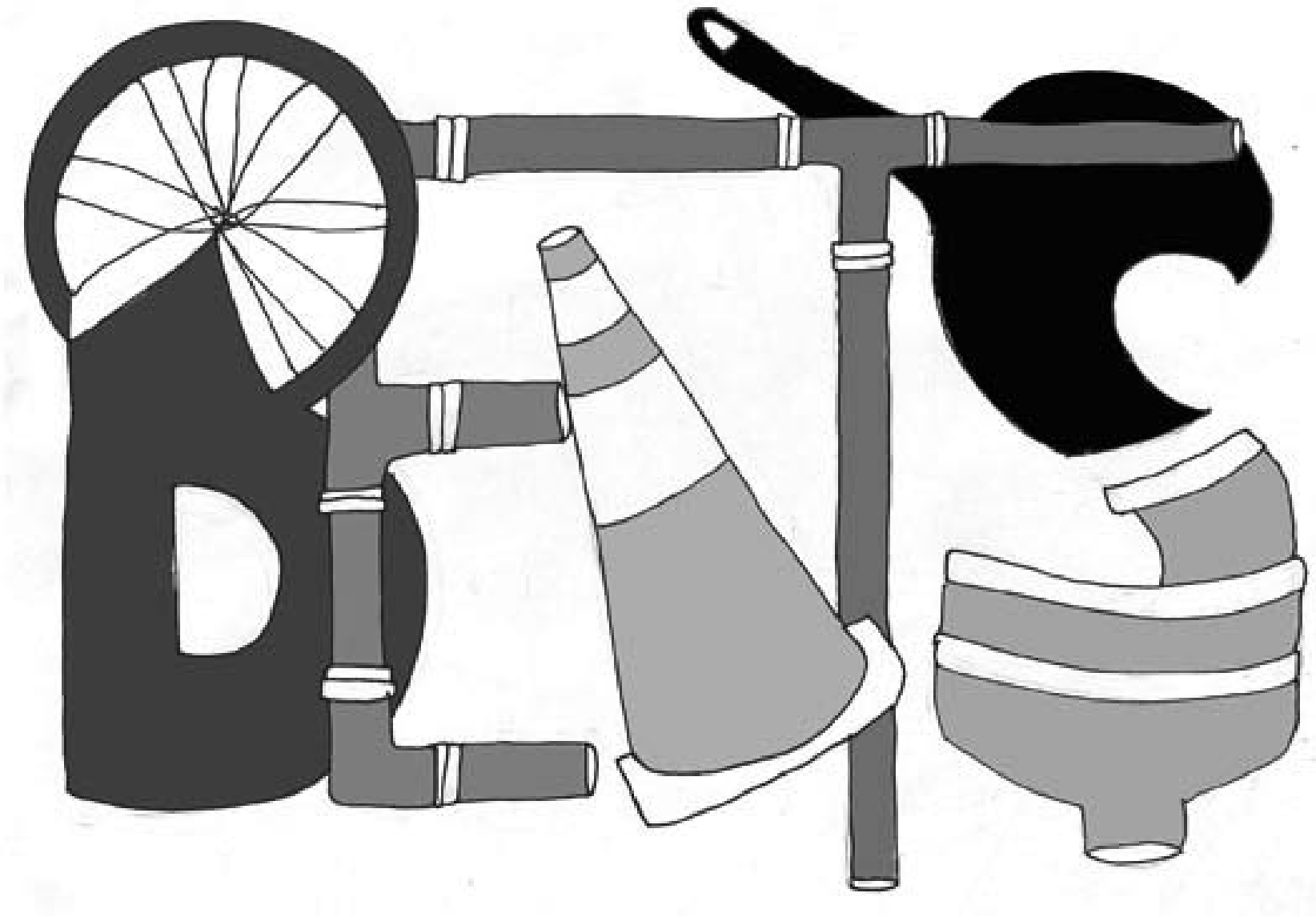
Barkhimer does an excellent job of portraying Vet as the selfish and overbearing presence on the stage. Vet is easy to both dislike and believe in. His insistence on controlling those around him is as clear as his obsession with the border fence and the creases in his uniform. Keeping the world contained according to his own rules is Vet's first and foremost priority. Barkhimer makes a performance out of Vet's containment — the man on the couch drinking his beer and watching porn remains fascinating because the audience is always aware of the volatile nature that lies beneath the surface.

Just as easily as Vet irons out the wrinkles in his uniform, he erases his bad deeds from his memory, leaving Buddy and Grace to struggle and deal with them. But deal with them they can't. Buddy, even after changing his name to Snake, is still a boy afraid of his father. Grace is a child stuck in an adult's body with an overly optimistic and simple perspective on life, as Buddy's nickname for her, Good Gracious Grace, reveals.

Buddy is never able to physically confront Vet, and his most dramatic and bold statements are instead made to his video camera. Buddy's violence depends on explosive weapons, showing that he has not matured greatly from his youth. What were once firecrackers are now grenades, but Buddy's dependence on explosives reveals that he is still unable to directly confront his father. Buddy's inferior position and adolescent qualities are reinforced through Tolbert's performance. He turns Buddy into a gangly, nimble and less believable ex-soldier. Compared to Vet's calm, terrifying personality, Buddy never comes off as threatening, leaving Vet's assertion that he and Buddy have much in common lying flat on the stage.

Dangerously stuck between father and son is Grace, with the book that she's been writing hiding beneath the floorboards of the living room. The book, aptly titled "The Book of Grace," reveals the simple goodness that Grace hopes for in the world.

Yet the fact that Grace has to hide her book, and the good that she catalogs within it, is a telling symbol of the play's larger story. To wish for love and happiness is a risky business for Grace, as well as for the audience watching the performance. But just because the book is hidden, the emotions going into it are not, and that human element is truly the show's saving grace.



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TONIGHT, Wed.9:30pm
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It's free. It's a bake sale. Kind of.
You should really come to it.

...horse meat?

THE TUFTS DAILY

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EDITORIAL

A small name may bring big reward

The Daily last month revealed that Charles Vest, president of the National Academy of Engineering and president emeritus of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), will deliver this year's commencement address. Vest does not boast rock-star fame; he made his name mainly in academia. But we should not shun him out of hand.

When the university announced Vest as Tufts' graduation speaker, many students — seniors and non-seniors alike — criticized the choice. Graduating classes in prior years saw the likes of Meredith Vieira, Bill Cosby and Lance Armstrong. Vest's reputation is more than dwarfed by his predecessors, and students' reactions were to be expected. But a big name should not be the most important criterion in choosing a commencement speaker. A speaker chosen for fame alone is more apt to rely on his celebrity rather than eloquent prose. While it might be exciting to see a star, the chance is also high of getting a canned, cliche and impersonal speech.

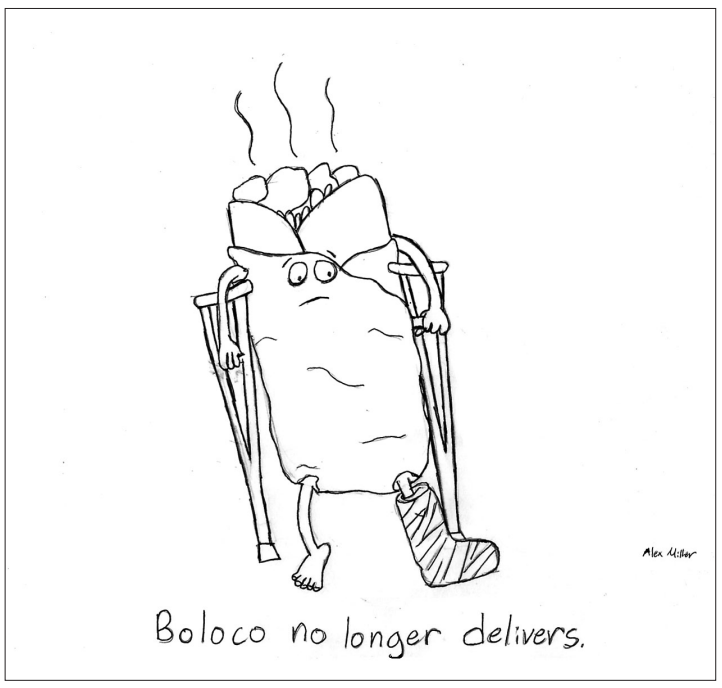
Someone like Vest, on the other hand — who has garnered many achievements but is lesser known — instead relies more on the content of the speech and the message he or she wishes to deliver to make it a memorable experience. A speaker whose reputation doesn't precede him has more to prove and thus, we can hope, will make a more meaningful speech. To choose someone who is lesser known is certainly to take a bigger chance on the quality of the speech, but the payoffs are potentially much greater.

University President Lawrence Bacow, in partnership with the Board of Trustees, selected Vest because of the litany of accomplishments and innovations he has made in his field. They felt him equipped to provide lessons to departing seniors across various fields. Bacow said that during his time at the helm of MIT, Vest was regarded as one of the best college presidents in the nation. Vest's life experiences, and thus his words, are especially pertinent as science and technology become increasingly prominent in today's world. Vest is at the forefront of science. He chaired former President Bill Clinton's NASA Advisory Committee on the Redesign of the Space Station in the 1990s and won the National Medal of Technology in 2006.

Many students have expressed grievances about the speaker selection process. They have lamented that they do not have input on the decision as students do at other schools, like Smith College, where students are able to vote on speakers. At Tufts, the president and the Board of Trustees control the entire process. Students need not control the process, but they should have some input on the decision. Because Tufts does not pay commencement speakers, money would not be an issue. The Board of Trustees should produce a short list of candidates and allow seniors to vote for their choice.

The fact that Charles Vest is relatively unknown should not be considered a detraction; indeed, it could be an asset. But making the selection process more democratic would help eliminate any actual, or perceived, unhappiness.

ALEX MILLER



OFF THE HILL | UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

An outdated policy

BY THE MICHIGAN DAILY
The Michigan Daily

Throughout the 1980s, HIV caused major anxieties in the United States and a law was passed to prohibit any HIV-positive patients from being organ donors. However, in recent years, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention has deemed the disease to be much less threatening than initially thought, if proper medical practices are followed. Federal health officials and other experts are working to overturn the 23-year-old law in order to allow HIV-positive patients to receive organs from HIV-positive donors. This change in policy would give more HIV-positive patients the chance to live longer lives and would end the waste of viable organs.

There's a huge shortage of transplant organs in the United States. There are currently more than 110,000 people awaiting transplants. According to an April 11 article in The New York Times, "500 to 600 HIV-infected livers and kidneys would become available each year if the law were changed." Every time an organ from an HIV-positive donor is given to an HIV-infected person, one less patient remains on the [ever-growing] organ transplant list. Currently, organs from HIV-positive people are simply going to waste. They could be used to save lives.

There are obvious health risks involved with receiving an organ from an HIV-positive person. HIV-positive patients wouldn't be forced to accept an HIV-positive organ, as there are concerns that it could intensify their own illness because they could receive an organ from an HIV-positive donor with a more advanced strain of the virus. But doctors have already begun to discuss criteria necessary to give or receive an organ from an HIV-infected donor, in which patients whose illness has progressed past a certain point wouldn't be allowed to donate or receive an organ. If precautionary screening measures are taken, HIV-positive patients should at least be given the option of accepting an organ donation from another HIV-positive patient after discussions with their doctor.

According to the Times article, if the ban is overturned, a clinical trial will most likely be implemented before the option to receive an organ from an HIV-positive donor is available to patients. While some experts quoted in the article have said they can "foresee such transplants even for HIV-negative patients because contracting [the virus] would be preferable to kidney or liver failure," the initial trial plans would include only HIV-positive patients because it is still unknown what effects an infected organ would have on an HIV-negative patient. It's vital that doctors take every precaution while implementing this trial in order to ensure the safety of transplant patients.

Another safety concern is that an HIV-infected organ could be mistakenly transplanted to a healthy person. While errors have been made in past transplant procedures, hospitals can mitigate this possibility by being attentive to their patients and careful about the storage and transportation of HIV-infected organs, so there is no reason this should have to be a major concern.

HIV has become a manageable disease with the proper treatment, and many HIV-positive people live long lives. It is time to begin to work past the stigma of this disease and allow patients to make their own, educated decisions. Patients who are HIV-positive shouldn't have to wait a long time on an organ transplant list when they could safely be receiving organs from HIV-positive donors. The amendment to the National Organ Transplantation Act should be repealed.

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Monsanto does not meet Tufts' standards of environmental sustainability

BY ALMA ROMINGER

One of Tufts' most alluring qualities for me (as I'm sure it was for many of you) as a high school senior was its reputation as a globally conscious institution whose highest goals were to be a "model for society at large," to further human equality, to fight for the undeniable rights of all human beings, to maintain peace and to increase environmental sustainability. But two weeks ago when Jumboleaks published a list purported to be the university's outdated investment holdings, I was thoroughly disillusioned with the contradiction of these high standards and disturbed to find what companies we were allegedly connected with. With drastically increasing populations, society needs agricultural companies that can provide the products needed for increased food production without damaging the environment or the health of peoples. Monsanto, who was listed on Jumboleaks.org as one of Tufts' investments, is not this kind of company. In fact, the Monsanto Company embodies the exact opposite of the principles that our Tufts community so ardently values; Monsanto is a corporation that will do anything, often at the cost of polluting the environment, endangering health and violating rights, in order to increase personal gain and company profit.

Monsanto, the world's largest agricultural biotech company, hid decades of pollution in Anniston, Ala., causing the area to become one of the most contaminated in the country. People living in the area now suffer from a toxic amount of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), chemicals that cause cancer, a weakened immune system, neurological deficits and birth defects. It is so dangerous that children cannot play in the soil and people are told not to plant food in their yards and to wear masks when cutting the grass. Evidence shows that the company was fully aware of the harmful effects of dumping PCBs into the environment, yet thoroughly ignored them so as not to "lose one dollar of business." This is far from an isolated event: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) labeled the company as a "potentially responsible party" for about 93 contaminated sites in the United States. Monsanto also (with allegations of bribery) illegally dumped many toxic pollutants into several British landfills. Roundup, a herbicide and one of Monsanto's leading products, is believed to have major negative health and environmental effects. Since patent laws are still valid for its compositional makeup, however, researchers cannot isolate which chemicals within the product cause the harmful results.

Monsanto abuses its immensely disproportionate amount of power at the cost of small businesses and the public good. The patent on Monsanto's genetically modified (GM) seeds makes it possible for them to sue small organic and conventional farmers, whose fields are naturally contaminated by the manufactured GM seeds carried by insects, wind and other animals. By suing these farmers, Monsanto is able to gain ownership of the farmer's crop, prevent future harvests and, at times, impose fines or, in rare cases, jail time. Monsanto not only affects local economies, one of Britain's top organic organizations found that since 1999, GM seeds have cost the United States $12 billion in farm subsidies, lower prices for crops, loss of major export orders and product recalls.

Non-transparent practices of Monsanto are in stark contradiction with the public's interest. With much influence and misinformation from Monsanto, the Food and Drug Administration not only approved the use of Monsanto's bovine growth hormone, which is injected into cows to increase milk production and has been banned in Europe, Canada and many other countries for health concerns, but also ruled that milk from treated cows does not have to include a label indicating so. When reporters from a FOX-owned TV station in Florida launched an investigation piece about the harmful effects of bovine growth hormone and Monsanto's wielding of power to get it on the market, the company threatened legal action in order to silence the story. This kind of censorship dilutes the public's awareness and discourages the dialogue and action needed to protect the well-being of those exploited by the power-hungry institutions that dominate corporate America.

Likewise, Tufts cannot continue its current non-transparent practices. I have listened to an incredible number of students, both in the Garden Club (for whom I write) and the larger Tufts community, who are devoted to the prospect of a sustainable and just future. So why do our investments neither reflect these passions nor support these aspirations? I believe that the student body's increased awareness and active voice in such financial matters will safeguard future investment and university participation against companies so corrupt and socially malignant. It would protect the values and ideals that are so vital to our identities as Tufts students, faculty and administration. Tufts should have no direct or "indirect" holdings with Monsanto or other corporations that choose to cause widespread suffering and practice exploitation in order to gain profit. In being a model for society, Tufts should not only refrain from participating in such institutions but also make it a point to invest in and support local and sustainable agricultural companies. Already, I have heard the call for Tufts' active support for socially and environmentally responsible agricultural companies like High Mowing Seeds Co. or Johnny's Selected Seeds Co., which are both dedicated to the health of the economy, the environment, local communities and people.

Alma Rominger is a freshman who has not yet declared a major. She is a member of Tufts Garden Club.

OFF THE HILL | CORNELL UNIVERSITY

The Poison Ivy League

BY STEVEN ZHANG
Cornell Daily Sun

The problem with the Ivy League — and believe it or not, there are problems with it — is that graduating with a bachelor's degree also comes with a smug sense of success. It makes us believe that gaining entrance into the Ivy League is an accomplishment unto itself.

From the first day of orientation until the last day of graduation, we are coddled with reassurances and showered with compliments from our friends, relatives and professors. Three years ago on the first day of orientation, Cornell's Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences proudly boasted our school's sinking acceptance rate, evidence that the Class of 2012 was the most gifted to enter these gates.

And our parents happily drank the Kool-Aid, believing that those plump acceptance packages were official affirmations of their exceptional parenting skills. "What great parents we are," they must have thought, "Our child is in the Ivy League. The Ivy League!"

During our time here, our self-delusion continued to be fueled. Our professors and advisors tell us that our courses are the most rigorous, the textbooks most comprehensive and our work ethics unmatched.

And these empty adulations have taken hold: We thoroughly believe that we are the creme de la creme of our generation.

We shamelessly self-promote our fabricated elitism. To the benefit of our school store, sweatshirts and T-shirts boldly printed with our school's name have become staples of our wardrobe. And it is impossible to walk through a campus parking lot without seeing a Cornell decal. The most egregious example comes from the motto of our dining services: "Towering Above the Rest."

Our school may promote a philosophy of accepting any student, but once given admittance, he is no longer just "any student."

And finally at our graduation, we are again told that once we are unleashed from our campuses, we will be the leaders of tomorrow. Usually, graduation speakers share words of wisdom to the senior class, deriving insight from their personal hardships that will help us overcome our own troubles later in our lives.

But not in the Ivy League. Nancy Pelosi, Cornell's 2010 graduation speaker, took the opportunity to reassure the senior class at the young and naive age of 22 that they are well-equipped to handle the problems of the world and will eventually become tomorrow's movers and shakers.

Rest easy, Cornellians, Pelosi told us: The hard part is over. Now that we have this degree, things will come easy and we will be the source of our country's future prosperity.

Now, an inflated self-confidence isn't a bad thing. For better or worse, it can produce some [of] our most notable figures — Bill Gates, Napoleon Bonaparte, Mark Zuckerberg, Kim Jong-Il.

The problem comes when this sense of entitlement gives rise to a false belief of superiority. And make no mistake: Ivy Leaguers do believe that we are superior in every sense of the term, as evidenced by The Harvard Crimson's editorial [on April 11]. What has happened is that the Ivy League has become a brand rather than an education. Even worse, it has become a brand that partially defines our identities.

A recent trend in the past few years has been the prominence of Ivy League social networks. Just recently, invitations to join IvyDate.com flooded our inboxes. The website claims to connect "exceptional singles" who value "intellectual curiosity, love of learning, creativity, drive and determination," as to imply that Ivy Leaguers and our peers can only mingle, date — and ultimately procreate — within our exclusive social circles. To the creators of IvyDate, everyone else is incapable of satiating our supposedly sophisticated intellectual palates.

But surely, we do not really believe that the 24,000 extremely lucky applications selected out of some 242,000 were the only ones worthy of admission, that the methods used by a hodgepodge team of admission officers were foolproof in deciding which high school senior is "better" than his peers? And we don't really believe that the poor blokes who weren't as lucky — and indubitably luck has come to play a larger role — are destined for lives of mediocrity?

Sure, we exhaust ourselves studying for exams and spend an inordinate number of hours in the library, but so does every student who possesses ambition and discipline, regardless of whether he attends Yale or State U.

Here's a startling fact: According to a study by economists Stacey Dale and Alan Krueger '83, those students who were rejected by elite schools — whatever that means — and went on to attend state schools earned just as much as their peers. According to the data, success is based on inherent character, not a four-year degree.

But do realize that by simply graduating from college, we join an elite group that comprises only 28 percent of the population in the United States and only 6.7 percent of the world's population. Why Ivy Leaguers still [feel] a need to elevate ourselves further is a mystery.

PRASHANTH PARAMESWARAN | THE ASIANIST

Cambodia's worrying trajectory

As thousands of representatives convene in Phnom Penh today for a donor conference, Cambodia is mulling a draft non-governmental organization law that forces associations and NGOs to undergo an onerous registration process. While the government says the bill aims to stem crime and promote transparency within these institutions, it doesn't take a lawyer of Atticus Finch's acumen to grasp this as another veiled attempt by Prime Minister Hun Sen to destroy civil society in the country.

For 10 years up till the financial crisis, Cambodia appeared to have pulled itself out of the abyss of war and genocide, building a $10 billion economy expanding at an annual average of nearly 10 percent. But this hollow economic growth has lined the pockets of Hun Sen and his cronies rather than trickle down to the country's citizens. According to Joel Brinkley, a Pulitzer Prize-winning veteran New York Times reporter, 80 percent of Cambodians still live without access to basic electricity, water or sanitation, while nearly half of the country's children grow up stunted due to lack of nutrition. Phnom Penh ranks a dismal 154th in Transparency International's 178-nation Corruption Perception Index, and the global economic recession exposed its deep and unhealthy dependence on garment exports.

Economic growth has also coexisted with increasing political repression. Over the past few years, Hun Sen has used the courts against prominent opposition figures, outlawed demonstrations and restricted free speech and organized labor, turning Cambodia into a defacto one-party state. He has also whipped up anti-Thai sentiments in Cambodia to shore up his domestic popularity, according to Kevin Doyle, editor-in-chief of the Cambodia Daily, who spoke at the Fletcher School last week. Hun Sen, a former Khmer Rouge and currently Southeast Asia's longest serving leader, already enjoys an iron grip on power, with his Cambodian People's Party (CPP) winning 90 of 123 lower house parliamentary seats in the last election. Like most observers, Mr. Doyle sees Hun Sen's political dominance continuing.

The NGO law is the latest manifestation of Hun Sen's authoritarian streak. There is a high risk of it being misused to silence dissent, since Phnom Penh can reject new registrations or shutter existing groups without explanation or appeal. Fresh amendments introduced by the government since the draft law was first introduced last year make this outcome more likely. Sixty-two international organizations working in Cambodia, including Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch, have called on the government to withdraw the law and for donors to protest it.

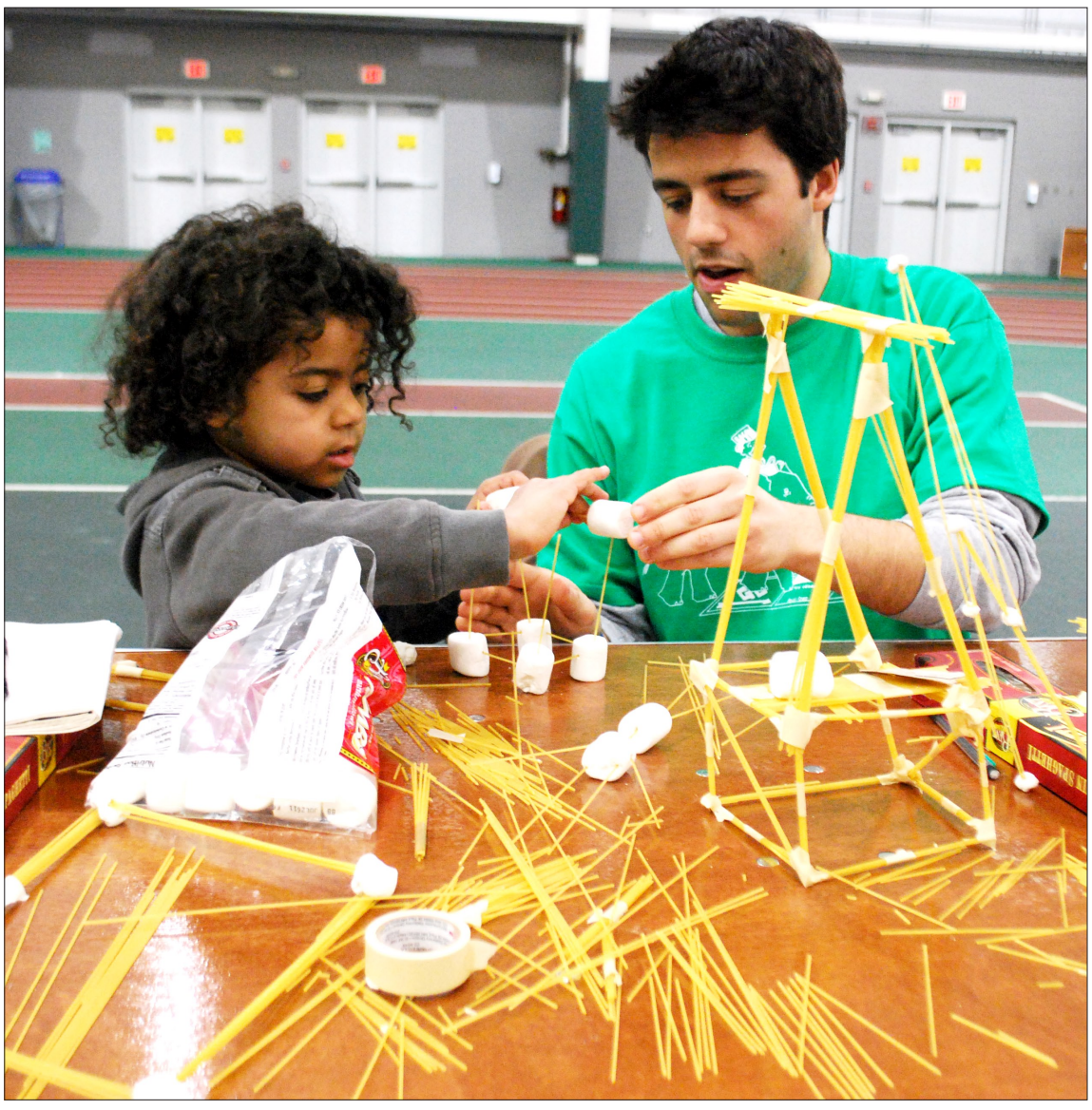
Few good options exist, however, for the international community. Cambodian officials have grown accustomed to the pattern of absorbing criticism at pledge conferences, promising to reform and then using the over $1 billion in aid for themselves rather than their people, says Mr. Brinkley. Rights groups, meanwhile, heckle donors to withhold their greens every year to no avail. Besides, many donors now write off aid as a form of leverage because China is ever-willing to step in for the West — no strings attached. Last year, just weeks after the United States froze military assistance to Cambodia, China pledged millions of dollars in new aid to the Cambodian military.

But setbacks should not lead to cynicism. Cambodia's garment industry is sufficiently reliant on Western markets. In particular, the United States, Cambodia's largest trading partner, can help Phnom Penh integrate into the international order as it diversifies its economy after the crisis. This is leverage that can be exercised to ensure that the NGO law and Hun Sen's future repressive actions do not occur without protest. Cambodia ought to be governed by those who uphold the rule of law, rather than those who misuse the law to rule.

Prashanth Parameswaran is a first-year Fletcher student. He can be reached at Prashanth.Parameswaran@tufts.edu. His blog is asianist.wordpress.com.

OP-ED POLICY The Op-Ed section of The Tufts Daily, an open forum for campus editorial commentary, is printed Monday through Thursday. The Daily welcomes submissions from all members of the Tufts community; the opinions expressed in the Op-Ed section do not necessarily represent the opinions of the Daily itself. Opinion articles on campus, national and international issues should be 600 to 1,200 words in length. Op-Ed cartoons are also welcomed for the Campus Canvas feature. All material is subject to editorial discretion and is not guaranteed to appear in the Daily. All material should be submitted to oped@tuftsdaily.com no later than noon on the day prior to the desired day of publication; authors must submit their telephone numbers and day-of availability for editing questions. Submissions may not be published elsewhere prior to their appearance in the Daily, including but not limited to other on- and off-campus newspapers, magazines, blogs and online news websites, as well as Facebook. Republishing of the same piece in a different source is permissible as long as the Daily is credited with originally running the article.

JUSTIN MCCALLUM/TUFTS DAILY



VIRGINIA BLEDSOE/TUFTS DAILY

JUSTIN MCCALLUM/TUFTS DAILY

Captured

Little Kids on the Big Hill

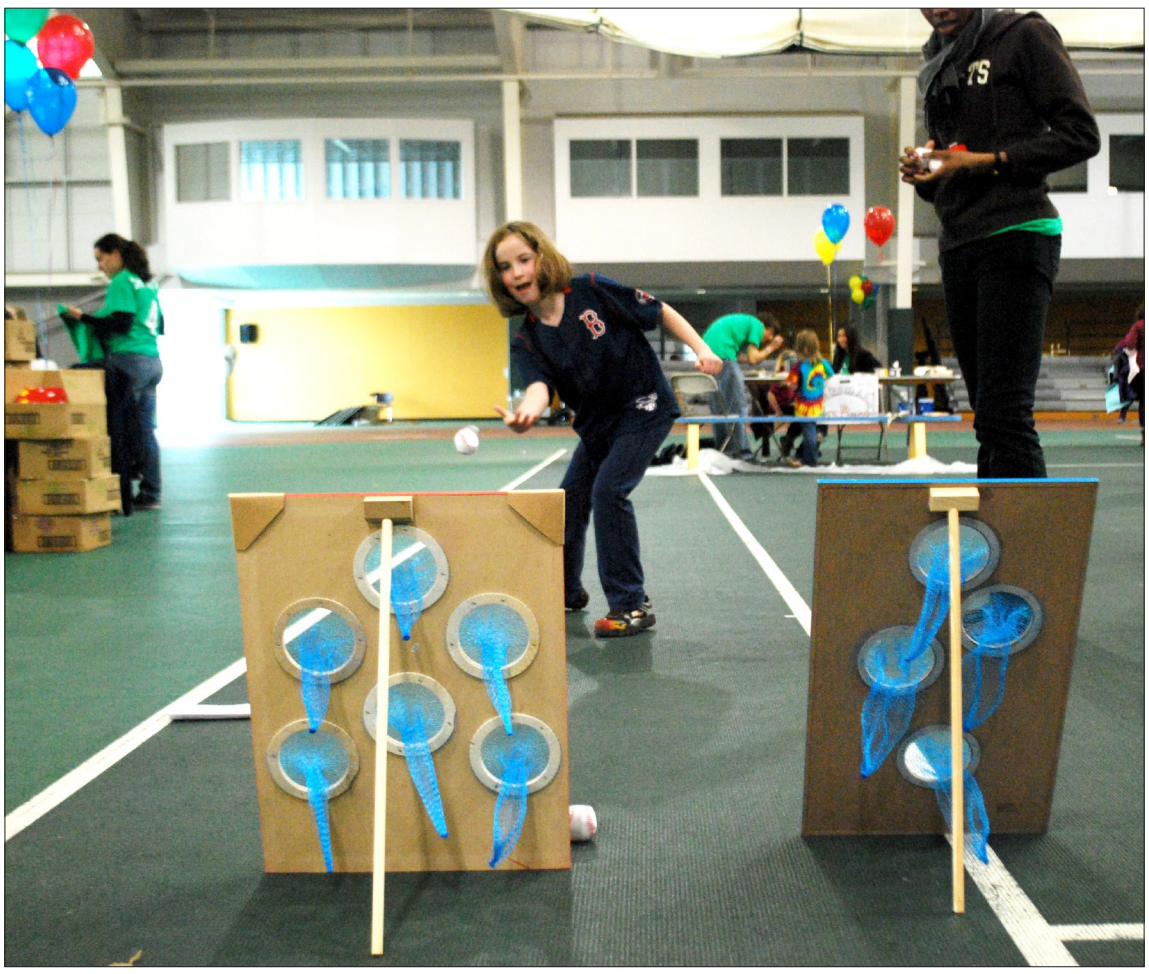
See Jumbo Slice at blogs.tuftsdaily.com for more photos

JUSTIN MCCALLUM/TUFTS DAILY

JUSTIN MCCALLUM/TUFTS DAILY

VIRGINIA BLEDSOE/TUFTS DAILY

Children from surrounding communities showed Jumbos a thing or two on Saturday during the 48th annual Kids' Day, this year titled "Jumbo-opoly."



VIRGINIA BLEDSOE/TUFTS DAILY

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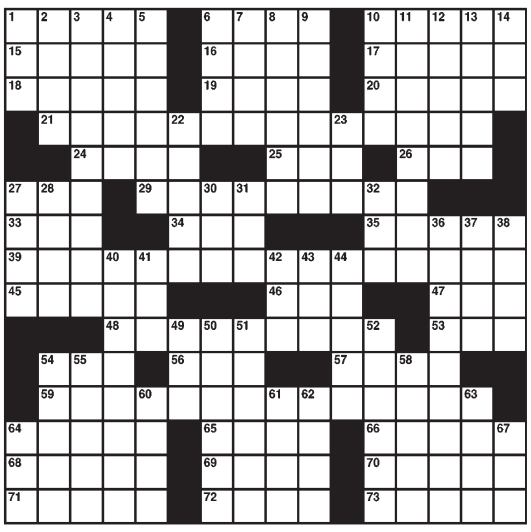
CROSSWORD



By Don Gagliardo and C.C. Burnikel 4/20/11

ACROSS
1 Berlin Olympics star
6 Test sites
10 Unexpected result
15 "The King's Speech" Oscar winner Firth
16 Touched down
17 Pheasant ragout
18 Far from fresh
19 Snack in a shell
20 Garden figure
21 *Ages
24 Spelling on screen
25 Old Olds creation
26 Minnesota twins?
27 Buff
29 *Surgery prep area
33 Glob suffix
34 Mack Sennett lawman
35 Hard-twisted cotton thread
39 *"Aha!"
45 "Really __ ...": "Tears of a Clown" lyric
46 __ tai
47 Form 1040 calc.
48 *Bout with very big contestants
53 Droid
54 Go on and on
56 Prefix with moron
57 He succeeded Boutros
59 Groundbreaking sitcom, and a hint to four different three-letter words concealed by starred answers
64 Arab big shot
65 Sleek, in car talk
66 Live
68 Like the Vikings
69 Fairway club
70 Religious practices
71 Led Zeppelin's "Whole __ Love"
72 At sea
73 Foam opener

DOWN
1 Fall mo.
2 Klingon officer in the "Star Trek" franchise
3 "The Untouchables" co-author, 1957
4 Powerful liquid, for short
5 Derisive looks
6 Incurring a fine, maybe
7 Banned apple spray
8 Antacid choice, briefly
9 He who is without sin?
10 Links gp.
11 Prevalent all over
12 Memorial __-Kettering: NYC hospital
13 Tube awards
14 Draw
22 VapoRub maker
23 Durante's "Inka Dinka __"
27 Japan's highest mountain
28 Grad
30 Reine's spouse
31 FedEx rival
32 Bullring shout
36 Balance
37 Kids' block
38 Do some cutting
40 It usually includes crossed-off items
41 Soccer star Freddy
42 Thurman of "Kill Bill"
43 Used a stool
44 "__ card, any card"
49 Many a Fed. holiday
50 Beefy stew ingredient
51 "You saved me!"
52 Big hits
54 Shout of delight
55 All ears
58 Handy "Mr."
60 Swedish furniture chain
61 Mythical archer
62 Type type
63 River of Flanders
64 NBC hit since '75
67 Chicken general?

TUESDAY'S SOLUTION

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

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JUMBLE

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

LUDTA

SIJOT

GMLIEN

EDNIRN

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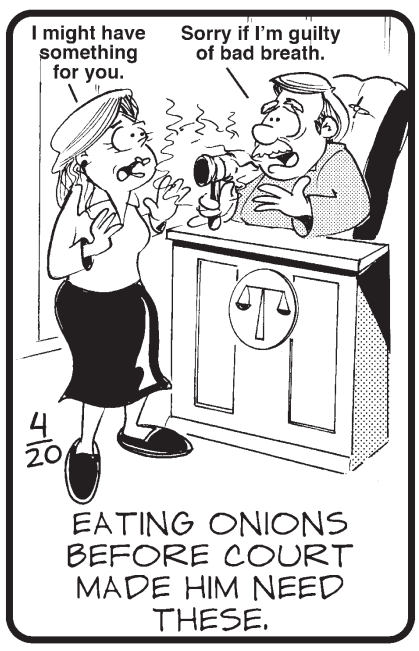
Sign Up for the IAFLOFCI (OFFICIAL) Jumble Facebook fan club

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek



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

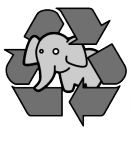
Ans: " " " "

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: TYPED STYLE GRINCH APIECE
Answer: Getting into the fender bender turned the orthodontist into a — "DENTIST"

LATE NIGHT AT THE DAILY

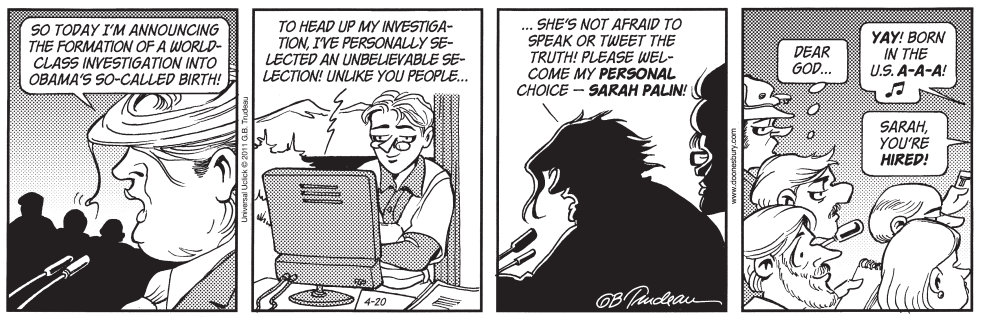
Kochman: "Can you do it when you're drunk, and is it effective?"



Please recycle this Daily.

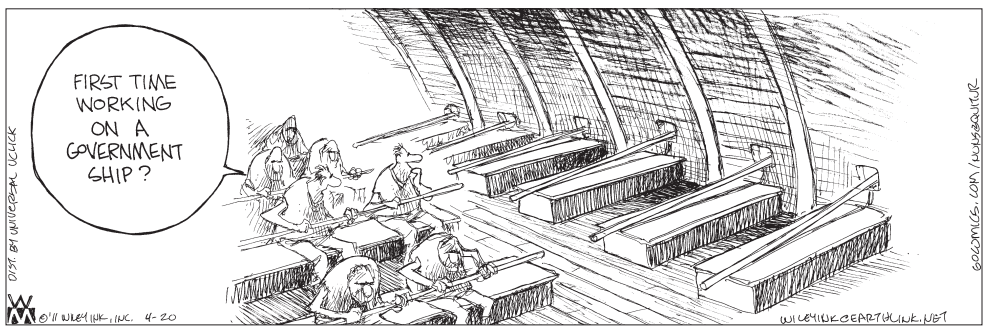
DOONESBURY

BY GARRY TRUDEAU

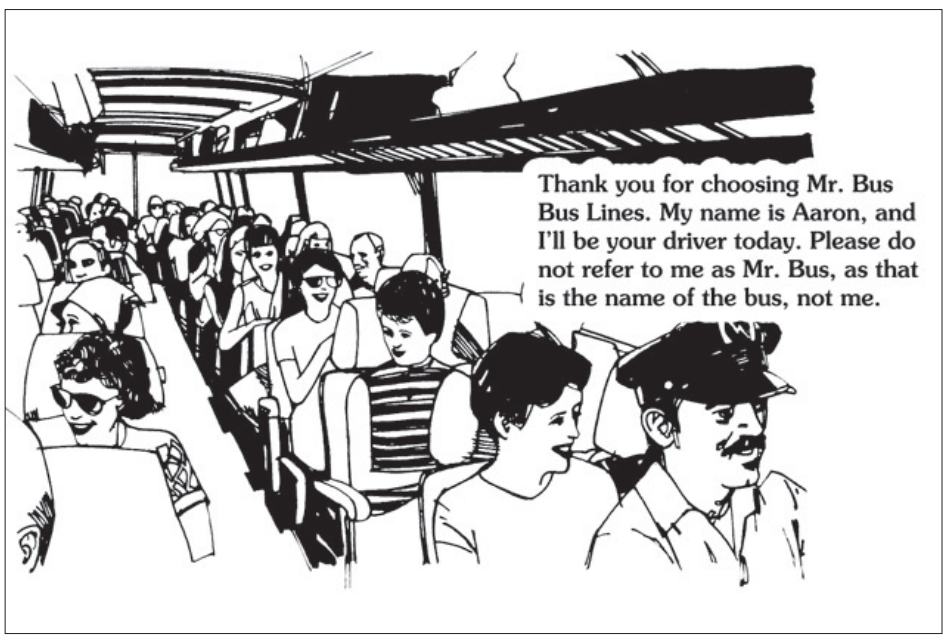


NON SEQUITUR

BY WILEY



MARRIED TO THE SEA



www.marriedtothesea.com

SUDOKU

Level: Out-drinking Homer on a tour of the Duff Factory

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

Tuesday's Solution

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

BOB WOODWARD

FROM NIXON TO OBAMA

When you see how the president makes political or policy decisions, you see who he is. The essence of the presidency is decision-making.

MONDAY, APRIL 25, 2011

LECTURE: 4:30–6:00 P.M.

RECEPTION TO FOLLOW

COHEN AUDITORIUM

40 TALBOT AVENUE
MEDFORD/SOMERVILLE CAMPUS

TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE AT STUDENT SERVICES IN DOWLING HALL

Bob Woodward, one of America's preeminent investigative reporters and non-fiction authors, has worked for *The Washington Post* since 1971. He has won nearly every American journalism award, and the *Post* won the 1973 Pulitzer Prize for his work with Carl Bernstein on the Watergate scandal. In addition, Woodward was the main reporter for the *Post*'s articles on the aftermath of the September 11 terrorist attacks that won the National Affairs Pulitzer Prize in 2002.

Woodward won the Gerald R. Ford Prize for Distinguished Reporting on the Presidency in 2003. *The Weekly Standard* called Woodward "the best pure reporter of his generation, perhaps ever." In 2003, Albert Hunt of *The Wall Street Journal* called Woodward "the most celebrated journalist of our age." In 2004, Bob Schieffer of CBS News said, "Woodward has established himself as the best reporter of our time. He may be the best reporter of all time."

Woodward has co-authored or authored twelve #1 national best-selling non-fiction books —more than any contemporary American writer. His latest book, *Obama's Wars*, offers an original, you-are-there account of Obama and his team in this time of turmoil and uncertainty.

Richard E. Snyder
PRESIDENT'S LECTURE SERIES

Tufts
UNIVERSITY

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE OF THE DEAN OF THE SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES 617.627.3416

PHOTO: RICHARD HOWARD

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HEALTH SERVICE LOWER LEVEL

Do it for your sexual partners. Do it for yourself.

Mike Shankle, former Director of AAC's MALE Center, will also be on hand for pre and post test counseling, along with Health Service clinicians.

Sports

tuftsdaily.com

MEN'S LACROSSE

'Chattanooga Choo-Choo' rolls into Medford

Freshman goalie Patton Watkins conducts a young Tufts defense

BY PHILIP DEAR
Daily Editorial Board

Tennessee is typically known for its country music, whiskey, country music about Tennessee whiskey and, of course, Pat Summitt. At Tufts, though, perhaps the best thing to come out of the Volunteer State is a freshman who wears an Under Armour skullcap everyday to contain his long hair.

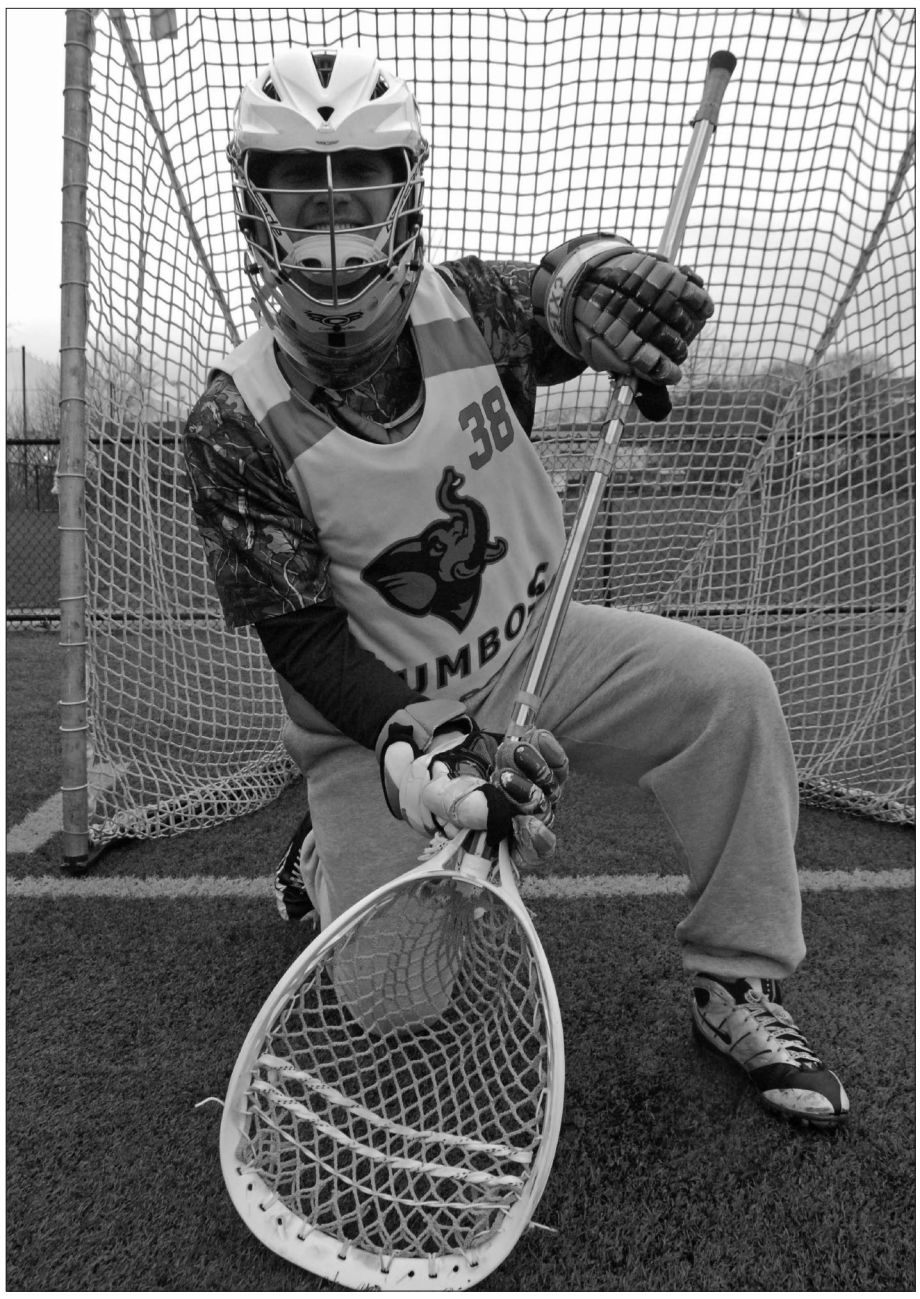
Patton Watkins, the freshman goalie on the No. 4 men's lacrosse team, who has started the past five games for the Jumbos, hails from Chattanooga, Tenn., where lacrosse hasn't been regarded as a primary sport until recently. But multiple high school All-Americans from the area, including Watkins himself, are changing the landscape of the centuries-old Native American sport that has been traditionally dominated by the Northeast.

Watkins's transition to New England lacrosse has nevertheless given him a new set of challenges. He has been thrust into the most testing situation of his lacrosse career: taking over the starting job in the middle of his first season after an injury to junior Steven Foglietta and trying to lead the Jumbos to a consecutive NCAA title. But so far, he's been up to the task. The Jumbos are 4-1 with Watkins starting between the pipes this season, and the young talent has only continued to improve as he has grown more comfortable as the conductor of Tufts' defense.

"Patton's demeanor in-cage is comfortable, commanding and poised," sophomore defenseman Matt Callahan said. "He's doing a fantastic job in net thus far, really excelling in all aspects."

Watkins got the nod to start after taking over for an injured Foglietta during a March 28 game against Western New England College (WNEC), a game in which he made several key saves down

see WATKINS, page 19



VIRGINIA BLEDSOE/TUFTS DAILY

On Saturday, freshman goalie Patton Watkins made a game-changing save to seal the win against rival Conn. College.

CREW

Both teams ebb and flow on the river, see mixed results

BY NASH SIMPSON
Senior Staff Writer

Both the men's and women's crew teams hit the water this weekend, hosting Middlebury College on the Malden River in a head-to-head regatta before making their way to Worcester on Sunday to compete in a multi-team invitational. Skidmore, William Smith, Washington College, Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) and Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) were all in attendance in Worcester, Mass., giving Tufts a tough challenge as the teams sought to prepare physically and mentally for the upcoming ECACs and New England Championships.

After a solid Saturday, the women continued their noticeable improvement on Sunday. Even though the Jumbos faced a plethora of good teams, they emerged as solid contenders and proved themselves by performing well in almost every race. The 2V race was the best outing by the varsity women, who came through with a solid second place out of five. With a time of 7:24.4, the squad lost to William Smith by just two seconds while crushing WPI (7:31.6), Washington (7:33.0), and Skidmore (8:21.5).

"This Sunday's racing was a big success for the 2V because we were able to effectively apply the things we've been working on in practices all week," senior tri-captain Bianca Velayo said. "The race was strong and aggressive, starting off hard, but we were able to maintain that power through the middle of the race, which is when crews usually start to run out of energy."

While the women raced well all weekend, the men struggled at times, both at the Malden River on Saturday and in Worcester on Sunday. They have been competing at a high level despite numerous injuries such as chronic

see CREW, page 19

MEN'S TRACK AND FIELD

Jumbos excel at MIT invite

Nakanishi's pole vault a highlight of the meet

BY LAUREN FLAMENT
Daily Editorial Board

Despite the poor weather conditions on Saturday, the men's track and field team came away from the MIT Invitational with some strong performances.

For the second straight Saturday, the duo of sophomore Brad Nakanishi and senior co-captain Sam Read took the top two spots in the pole vault. Nakanishi cleared a height of 15-7 3/4, earning a new personal best — his best clearance before this weekend was 15-3 — and an NCAA provisional qualifier. The jump ranks as the 13th best by any Div. III athlete this season.

"It was pretty surprising; I wasn't going into the meet expecting myself to do that well, and I don't think Coach Ethan [Barron] was either," Nakanishi said. "Before the meet, he just told us to challenge ourselves, and that's what I did. This weekend shows that you do your best when you're just relaxed and you react — when you do what you've been training to do and aren't trying to force anything."

The height is just over the provisional qualifier of 15-7, but with over a month left before NCAAs for other athletes to clear the height, Nakanishi will likely have to vault closer to the automatic qualifier of 16-7 1/2 to secure a bid.

"It's still so early in the season, and it hasn't been that great of a spring, so as it gets sunnier and warmer out in championship season, people are going to go higher," Nakanishi said. "So hopefully I can improve on my performance this weekend in the next couple weeks."

Read took second in the event, clearing a height of 14-7 1/4, matching his outdoor personal best.

Though the tail wind behind the pole vaulters helped them on Saturday, the head wind coming down the home stretch made it difficult to run a fast time on the track. As a result, the Jumbos focused more on placing well than on hitting landmark times.

In a sprint to the finish in the 800-meter run, junior Connor Rose was just edged out, finishing in 1:58.49, a hundredth of a second behind MIT sophomore Patrick Marx. Rose is also a senior staff writer for the Daily.

In the 1,500-meter run, sophomore Kyle Marks finished in 4:06.19, quick enough for a seventh-place finish among 60 competitors.

"Going into it, I wanted to be just in the pack and keeping myself in a position, so when I did kick, I could catch a lot of people," Marks said. "I thought that it went out pretty slow, and for the first couple laps, I was in the back of the race, but I was really happy with how I finished the race and with my last 500 meters."

Close behind Marks were sophomore Matt Rand (4:08.37) and freshman Liam Cassidy (4:08.39).

see MEN'S T & F, page 18

WOMEN'S TENNIS

No. 1 Amherst slides by No. 5 Tufts in nail-biter

History was nearly made indoors at the Gantcher Center yesterday.

Just two days after defeating second-ranked Williams, No. 1 Amherst nearly fell on the road to the No. 5 Tufts women's tennis team and received all it could handle from the surging Jumbos, who recently attained their highest national ranking in program history.

Lord Jeffs senior Mimi Bell clinched the 5-4 decision at No. 6 singles, taking down senior tri-captain Edwina Stewart 6-1, 7-6(3), but Amherst nearly suffered its first NESCAC defeat and first loss in eight matches thanks to a gritty performance from Tufts' lineup.

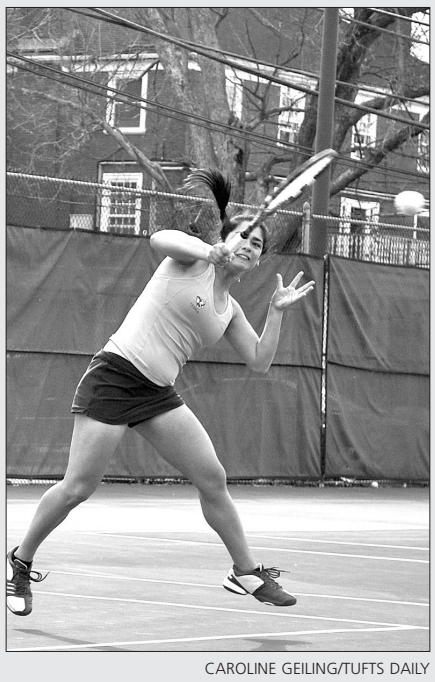
At No. 1 singles, senior tri-captain Julia Browne powered past national No. 20 Laura Danzig, 7-6 (1), 6-2, while freshman Shelci Bowman, after dropping the first set, roared past freshman Gabby Devlin at No. 3 singles, 0-6, 6-3, 7-5. Other Tufts wins came from sophomore Lauren Hollender at No. 5, who also came back from an early deficit to best senior Laken King, 3-6, 7-6 (4), 6-2.

The Lord Jeffs jumped out to an early lead in doubles thanks to an 8-4 victory from freshmen Jordan Brewer and Gabby Devlin at No. 1 over Browne and Bowman, as well as an 8-6 decision at the No. 3 slot. Katz and freshman Eliza Flynn took down Danzig and Bell in a tiebreaker, 9-8 (4) to earn the Jumbos' only doubles win at the No. 2 spot.

The loss was Tufts' first since March 27 and the Jumbos' closest decision against the Lord Jeffs since April 7, 2009. They will look to rebound on Friday against Middlebury on the Voute Courts, barring inclement weather, before heading to Williams a day later for another showdown with the three-time defending national champions. Tufts (11-3, 4-1 NESCAC) has not defeated Williams since 1991.

For further coverage on yesterday's top-five matchup, see tomorrow's Daily.

— by Alex Prewitt



CAROLINE GEILING/TUFTS DAILY

The women's tennis team dropped a hard-fought, 5-4 decision to Amherst on Tuesday evening. Pictured above, freshman Samantha Gann at an April 12 practice.

Dave's Fresh Pasta
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WOMEN'S T & F

JUSTIN MCCALLUM/ TUFTS DAILY

Junior Ronke Oyekunle, shown above at a Feb. 5 meet, beat out star sophomore teammate Kelly Allen to take first place in the shot put this weekend at MIT.

Wilfert, throwers lead Jumbos at MIT

In a meet defined by strong winds, throwing squad hits its stride

BY CONNOR ROSE
Senior Staff Writer

Just one weekend after a meet with some of the best racing weather New England can offer, Boston was hit with a cold and blustery day. Despite the conditions, the women's track and field team still managed to leave the non-scoring MIT Invitational with five individual victories.

The Jumbos' throwing squad showed its power and depth, taking victories in the shot put, discus and hammer throw. Sophomore Kelly Allen, while unable to top any of her national-caliber marks, won the hammer and discus with throws of 148-04 and 134-05, respectively. She also took second in the shot put with a throw of 38-04 3/4.

In addition to Allen's performance, junior Ronke Oyekunle also provided top marks in all three throwing events. She edged Allen for first place in the shot put with a throw of 39-00 1/2 and finished second behind Allen in the discus. She came in third in the hammer throw, just over two feet off second place.

The wind certainly had an effect on the discus results. The gusts blew sideways to the throwing circle, making the technical aspect of the throw a little more difficult.

"Physically and mentally, the weather definitely has an effect," senior tri-captain Kanku Kabongo said, referring to the heavy wind. "It is very important to stay warm on a day like that. Running a full lap or more was tough because you got the headwind every time you came down the home stretch."

Kabongo finished fifth in the 100 meters in 12.95 seconds. She was also a member of the runner-up 4x100-meter relay, consisting of Kabongo, freshman Jana Hieber and sophomores Alyssa Corrigan and Sam Bissonnette. The relay's time of 51.38 is a season best.

"We are still mixing up who we have run the relay to see what works best for us," Kabongo said. "By NESCACs we are hoping to have the best team possible running the relay."

The mental effect of inclement weather can cripple an athlete's performance if the right attitude isn't there. With only four meets prior to the postseason on the team's outdoor schedule, there is always a sense of urgency to hit qualifiers.

"You can never go out and say you can't qualify," Kabongo said. "When we have so few meets, it's important to not put too much importance on one meet and just stay competitive throughout the season. Treating each meet as an opportunity to get better is really important."

Senior Amy Wilfert led the 5,000 meters from start to finish, braving the conditions and not letting any wind stop her. Her time of 17:38.31 was 16 seconds ahead of the second-place finisher and was only three seconds off an NCAA provisional qualifying time. She earned the NESCAC

see WOMEN'S T & F, page 18

DAILY DIGITS

14

Consecutive wins by the baseball team after Monday's doubleheader sweep of UMass-Dartmouth. With the wins, the Jumbos pushed their regular-season record to 17-4-1 overall and are a perfect 9-0 in NESCAC play. The current winning streak is Tufts' longest since the beginning of the NESCAC era in 1971. Dominant pitching has fueled the Jumbos' winning ways, as the team's pitching staff has allowed a NESCAC-low 3.1 runs per game during the streak.

4.50

Average points per game for junior attackman Lara Kozin this season. Kozin leads the NESCAC in this category and has played a huge part in the success of the women's lacrosse team. She contributed 23 points to lead Tufts to three wins last week, scoring twice against Bridgewater State and adding five assists against Conn. College. Against Endicott, she exploded for two goals and a program-record seven assists, leading Tufts to a 19-10 win over the Gulls.

40

Goals scored by junior attackman Sean Kirwan this season, good for first in the NESCAC. The league's second-leading goal scorer, Amherst junior Cole Cherney, sits eight behind Kirwan with 32 goals thus far. Kirwan, whose play has greatly contributed to the Jumbos' conference-leading 14.1 goals per game, will most likely exceed his 2010 performance, in which he netted a team-high 49 goals for Tufts and could challenge the single-season mark of 53.

1

Playoff victory in Memphis Grizzlies franchise history after the eighth-seeded Grizzlies knocked off the San Antonio Spurs, 101-98, on Sunday in Game 1 of the Western Conference quarterfinals. Shane Battier hit the game's big shot, a 3-pointer with 23.9 seconds left, to give Memphis the lead for good. Zach Randolph led the Grizzlies' offense with 25 points and 14 rebounds.

11.57

ERA of closer Ryan Franklin, who has allowed six earned runs in only 4.2 innings of relief for the St. Louis Cardinals. Franklin is 0-2 with only one save in five chances for St. Louis this season, prompting manager Tony LaRussa to remove Franklin from his duties as closer. Franklin has been very successful in the past for the Cardinals. He was 27 for 29 on save tries in 2010 and an All-Star in 2009 after recording 38 saves and maintaining a 1.20 ERA.

18,200

Seat capacity of New York's Madison Square Garden (MSG) for hockey. On Monday, Washigton Capitals' coach Bruce Boudreau bad-mouthed the Garden and its fans, one day after the Caps fell to the Rangers in Game 3 of the Eastern Conference quarterfinals. Boudreau called the benches and locker rooms at MSG "horrible" and claimed that fans weren't loud enough during games.

BRIAN ROWE | CALLS THE SHOTS

Is this real life? Is this just fantasy?

The other day, someone asked what I thought about the NBA playoffs — who would win, when would the Heat lose, would the Mavs show up, etc. I stared at them blankly for a few minutes, offered a halfhearted "Celtics? Maybe?" and realized that my head just isn't into basketball anymore. I'll pay a little more attention to the final two rounds, but for now, I'm all about baseball. And not just about those teams with $100 payrolls, but also those with $50 payrolls.

The latter is the price of entry into my ultra-exclusive, 12-team fantasy baseball keeper league. This fee pales in comparison, though, to the time, effort and energy we expend scouring the waiver wire, talking smack and generally sweating over whether Alberto Callaspo will be able to get a two-run double on Sunday night to help win the matchup. We cheer for first-round picks, scrubs and middle relievers indiscriminately, hoping for points from all of them in a weekly epic upon which the balance of our world hangs.

I used to adhere to the "ignorance-is-bliss" method of being a baseball fan, worrying about my favorite team and making impulsive judgments about opposing players when they happened to do something memorable. I didn't research potential free-agent landing spots, the disabled list and hitter-pitcher matchups. I refused to accept that baseball could be broken down and analyzed by those who didn't care about the spirit of the game, and felt that they were somehow lesser fans.

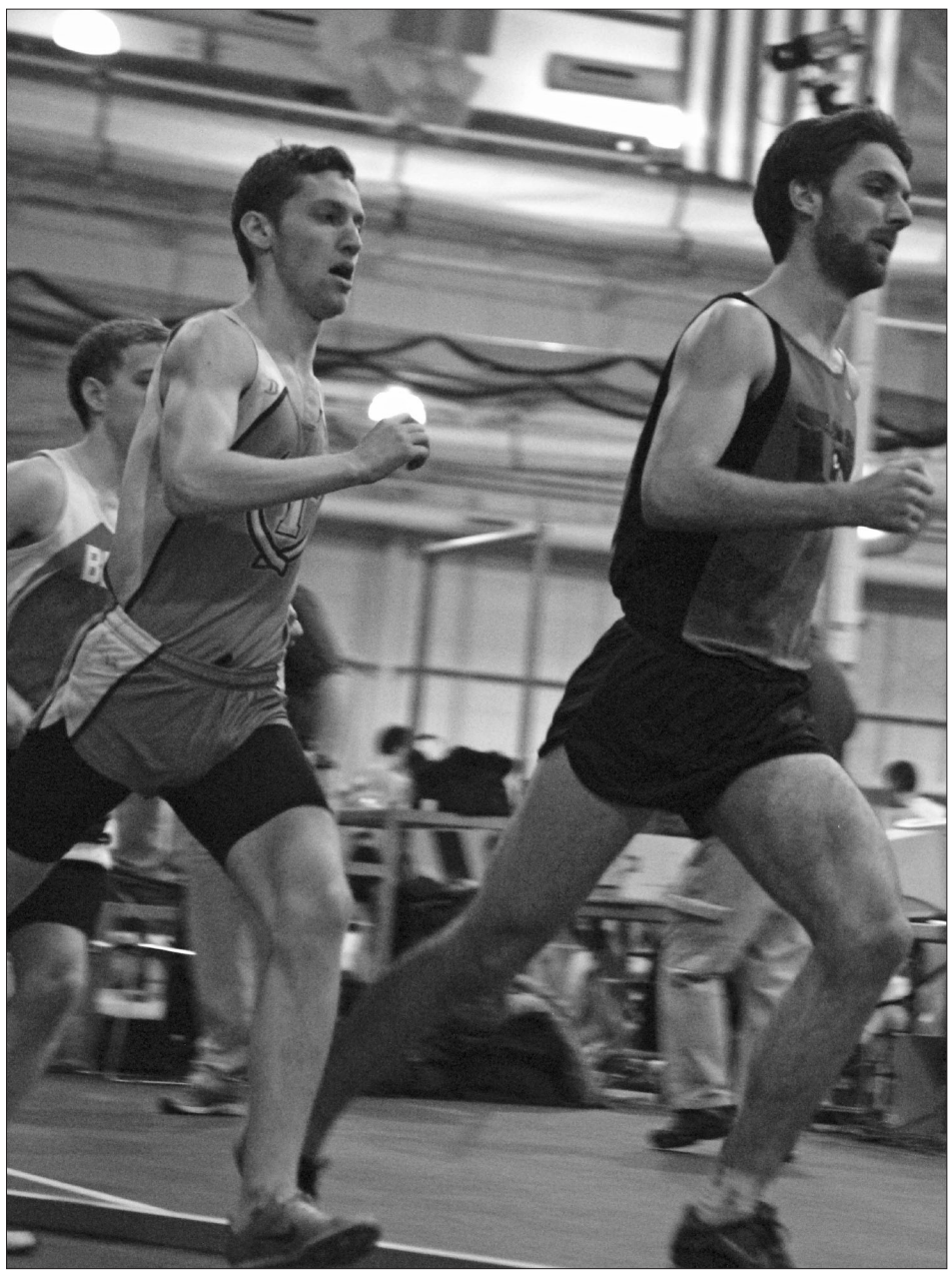
No more. I've seen the light and drank the Kool-Aid. Fantasy fanatics begin to pray to idols of Bill James, and we drool over each new Baseball Prospectus report. It might as well be a foreign language to some people, but to those who care about getting the most out of their 10 starts per week, these numbers are golden.

Beyond the numbers, fantasy provides an outlet for discussion beyond each fan's specialty. Without our league, my roommates and I would be engaged in an endless, fruitless, Red Sox-White Sox-Giants circle until the end of time. Now I get to wake up and yell through the walls that Billy Butler is going to win a batting title because he happened to go 3-for-4 against Erik Bedard the night before, and I'm fired up about the six points he scored for me.

A keeper league is the clear choice for those serious about the fantasy game. The joy of learning you have the first-overall pick (Oh hey, contract-year-Albert), the sadness five seconds later when you remember that your second pick is 24th, and subsequent happiness that you get to analyze projections for a month leading up to the draft — these joys have no equal. The next year you can trade draft picks, spend the whole winter deciding who isn't going to live up to expectations and dream about winning the title that eluded you the previous year. You just had to go cold in September, didn't you Ethier …

If everything works out, my league will be around for the next 20 years. I'll stay in touch with these people through the trials and tribulations of our teams, terrible trade offers and general envy when Brandon Morrow puts up a 51-point game. Yes, I'll remain a Red Sox fan first and foremost, and yes, I'll trade a World Series for a fantasy championship every time, but who's to say that I can't root for Boston and still hope that Carlos Marmol picks up a save against the Diamondbacks? This is my chance for more baseball all the time.

Brian Rowe is a senior majoring in economics. He can be reached at B.Rowe@tufts.edu.



JUSTIN MCCALLUM/ TUFTS DAILY

Freshman Liam Cassidy, shown above at a meet in early February, had an impressive 1,500-meter run performance on Saturday.

Team gains speed as NESCACs approach

MEN'S T & F

continued from page 15

"Matt Rand ran a big PR [personal record] in the 1,500," Marks said. "He never really runs that distance, so it was good to see him get some speed, and it was a good tune-up for future longer distances."

Sophomore Vinnie Lee also had a strong day, running 11.30 for third in the 100-meter dash and 22.98 for seventh in the 200-meter dash.

"As a whole, I think the team had some really good performances. It was a good meet for guys to fine-tune their tactics and see where their strengths are," Marks said. "We have a lot to look forward to."

The squad will split up this weekend, looking for final marks in its last regular season meet of 2011. Some members of the distance and mid-distance squads will head to Princeton to face off against top competition from Div. I, II and III at the Larry Ellis Invitational.

Meanwhile, on Saturday, the rest of the Jumbos will host the Tufts Invitational at the Dussault track, where the athletes will look for a final opportunity to hit qualifiers and give strong performances before the NESCAC Championships on April 30.

"It's a last chance to put down some fast times before NESCACs to get some good seed times [going into the championship season], so that will be the focus," Nakanishi said.

Going into this final regular season meet, the team is optimistic about the championship season.

"I think that while we might not have PR'ed necessarily so far this season, there have been some really quality meets and performances that bode well for later in the season, and I am confident that we'll get a lot of PRs and really good performance in the championship meets," Marks said.

Tough conditions enhanced need for proper mental and physical preparation

WOMEN'S T & F

continued from page 17

Track Performer of the Week for her efforts.

"It is nice to know that I can run that fast by myself for the whole race combined with those conditions," Wilfert said. "In terms of my fitness, I feel I'm in a good position to run well when the opportunity comes."

Wilfert's plan was to stay in the pack for the first mile and then move ahead and pick up the pace. However, when it became clear that nobody else in the race wanted to take the lead and break the wind, Wilfert had to go for it right away.

"It is important to just go out and race and be competitive," Wilfert said. "The times may not happen, but we can just focus on place and trying to compete as well as we can. It's a good opportunity to really just race people rather than focusing on the clock. It's definitely a different mentality than going into an invitational with a time goal and not really caring what place you get."

With one more week before the NESCAC Championships, the Jumbos look for a little bit of help from the weather to hit the qualifiers they need. Allen will represent the Jumbos at the Larry Ellis Invitational at Princeton on Friday, while the rest of the team will host the Tufts Invitational.

"We always can take something positive away from a race," Wilfert said. "We have to remember the fitness is there and to be patient. Each race gets us more ready for when the weather does allow us to put together our best performances."

JUSTIN MCCALLUM/TUFTS DAILY

Senior tri-captain Kanku Kabongo, pictured above at the Tufts Invitational II on Feb. 5, finished fifth in the 100 meters at the MIT Invitational this weekend.

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SAILING

Coed sailing to head to California after success at New England Championships

The women's sailing team enjoyed one of its best overall performances of the season this weekend at the Emily Wick/Sloop Shrew Intersectional regatta hosted by The Coast Guard Academy. Finishing fifth out of 18 behind Boston College, Brown, Stanford and Yale, the Jumbos were able to overcome the strongest winds of the season to finish well, giving the crew confidence as it heads into next weekend's New England Championships at Bowdoin.

In addition to the women's team, nine Jumbos on the co-ed squad traveled to the University of Rhode Island for the NEISA Coed Dinghy Championship on Saturday. By finishing sixth out of the 18 schools, Tufts qualified for the national semifinals in California, needing to only finish in the top eight. The Jumbos braved the weather behind a valiant performance from freshman Will Haeger, who skippered all 12 races for Tufts, and classmate David Liebenberg, who crewed 10 of the 12 races in the A-Division. Senior Sally Levinson crewed the first two races for the Jumbos.

In the B-Division, junior tri-captain Massimo Soriano skippered the first two races with senior Margaret Rew as the crew. Sophomore William Hutchings and junior Reeves Bright skippered and crewed the following two races, respectively. Rew then sailed the final eight races of the regatta.

The regatta was meant to span both Saturday and Sunday but the wind picked up to gusts of 30 knots and forced the event to be called before any races could be completed on Sunday.

The co-ed team travels to California on April 30, searching for a finish in the top nine to advance out of the semifinals and into the May 27 finals in Oregon.

—by Alex Arthur

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Watkins eases transition from junior Foglietta with consistent play

MEN'S LACROSSE

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the stretch to preserve a 14-13 victory for Tufts.

But it was in the following game, a NESCAC matchup with Wesleyan, that Watkins — the "Chattanooga Choo-Choo" — steamrolled his way into, if you will, the NESCAC.

An impressive 15-8 drubbing of the Cardinals was a solid win for the Jumbos in all aspects and cast aside all doubts that arose during a near meltdown against WNEC. Watkins made 15 saves in his first collegiate start and made sure the patented Wesleyan run of multiple goals never came to fruition. Not until Tufts had built up a 15-5 lead and taken out starters did Wesleyan score more than one goal in a row.

"I think I played fairly well [against Wesleyan]," Watkins said. "There were, of course, a few that snuck by me that I'd like to get back, but on the whole I believe I had a solid performance."

His individual statistics aside, Watkins credits the defense around him for the team's success.

As for what it felt like to get a collegiate win under his belt, Watkins was happy, to say the least.

"Honestly, it was a huge relief," he said. "Since I had not experienced the pressures of a college gameday environment, I was very anxious to see how I coped upon returning to the big stage."

Since then, Watkins has maintained his high level of performance, saving 63.7 percent of shots that have come his way over the past five games. He knows, however, that the hardest part of the season is just beginning and that his focus needs to be on the future.

"I'd say that I'm playing pretty well so far, but I don't get held up on the past," Watkins said. "I'm only worried about stopping the next shot, winning the next game."

During a gritty, come-from-behind 6-5 triumph over Conn. College on Saturday, Watkins was on his heels all day as the Camels out-possessed the Jumbos and kept the pressure on the Tufts defense to the point where most teams would break down. But Watkins and his defense did not yield, giving Tufts a critical NESCAC victory to keep the squad at the top of the conference standings. Watkins made 13 saves in the winning effort.

"Going into the game, Conn. College knew that they would have to slow down our fast paced style of play if they were going have a chance to beat us, so that's what they did," Watkins said. "They took their time on offense, keeping the ball out of our hands. Because we were on defense for most of the game, it was a very stressful day for a goalie."

VIRGINIA BLEDSOE/TUFTS DAILY

Freshman Patton Watkins was once the pride of Chattanooga, Tenn. Now this talented goalie is at the helm of No. 4 Tufts' defense.

The Jumbos are glad to have someone capable of handling that stress with grace between the pipes. Watkins's proactive approach in the goal features a hard step to the ball on every shot, where in some cases he gets several yards off the goal line to cut off the angle. His quick, exaggerated and often anticipatory moves create a tough barrier for any potential attacker to breach.

Watkins's teammates, especially his defensemen, appreciate his aptitude as a netminder, especially after the loss of Foglietta, who led the Jumbos to a national championship last year and has proven himself to be a primetime performer. The status on Foglietta's return is unknown.

"Our defense shows a tremendous amount of faith and trust in one another, no matter who's out there playing," Callahan said. "He has made the transition between goalies after Steve's injury seem less for the defense."

The train's next stop is Middlebury, Vt. for a fiercely competitive conference matchup with the Panthers on Saturday. Tufts took down No. 10 Middlebury three times in 2010 but have come up short at Youngman Field for many years. The Jumbos, with Watkins at the helm of the defense, will try to stymie a potent Panthers offense and stay perfect in NESCAC play.

Men's crew team struggles in talented field following sickness, injuries

CREW

continued from page 15

back issues and lingering bouts with bronchitis and sinusitis.

The men's races on Sunday were against very experienced crew teams. At less than 100 percent, Tufts came in last as expected in the team's only varsity race of the day, an eight-man matchup against WPI, RIT and Washington College, who finished in that order.

"It was a strong field and it definitely showed," senior co-captain Eugene Kim said. "These were big crew programs with a lot of talent and depth. The team approached the race realistically, sticking to our game plan and executing effectively when possible."

In the most memorable race of the day, the men's novice crew team lost by a foot (.05 seconds) to RIT. The competitive nature of this novice team will hopefully blossom as the spring progresses into some memorable victories.

"We definitely figured out what we are capable of as a crew, but we still have some work to do because our ultimate goal is to win New England Championships in two weeks and then follow that with a win at the ECACs," freshman Andrew Rogers said. "We, as a crew, are excited for the hard work we will put in the next two weeks to make sure we get the outcome we want at our next and final two races."

Saturday's matchup with Middlebury was unusual, given that the teams usually only see each other at tournaments in the fall season. The women only participated in three races and started off by decisively winning the Novice Eight race. Middlebury lagged behind in 8:23.32 seconds while Tufts sprinted through the finish line in 7:35.4.

The subsequent race in the Varsity Four competition, in which Middlebury edged out Tufts by eight seconds, recorded a time of 8:24.5. The last race of the day, the Varsity Eight showdown, was an exciting win for the Jumbos as they were able to dash past the Panthers, finishing the course in 7:09.8.

> ***"The race was strong and aggressive, starting off hard, but we were able to maintain that power through the middle of the race, which is when crews usually start to run out of energy."***
>
> Bianca Velayo
> **senior**

"The race itself was a good, strong, consistent race," senior tri-captain Rachel Steward said. "We were bow to stern with them by the 750-meter mark, and … when we started our sprint we definitely pulled away from their boat in the last 200, showing we [still] had the strength and the energy reserves for a strong finish."

The varsity men struggled on Saturday but managed to win one race in a Varsity Eight boat. Though the win was inevitable — Middlebury was disqualified for a buoy violation earlier in the race — the Jumbos would have likely won anyway in a time of 6:55.5. The men's Varsity Four race, meanwhile, was a nail-biter that ended with the Panthers pulling through in 7:33.5 while the Jumbos finished a few boat lengths later at 7:37.9.

After the close result, the men's team is confident in its chances against Middlebury when the squads meet again at New Englands.

"The conditions were bad [when] we lost to Middlebury," Kim said. "[But] it gives us a good point to jump off from, because we will be facing them again at New Englands."

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