

Luo wins seat on TCU Judiciary

Freshman Kevin Luo yesterday won a seat on the Tufts Community Union (TCU) Judiciary after beating out three other candidates in a special election for the Judiciary's judicial advocacy chair.

Luo defeated junior Ibrahim Khwaja as well as freshmen Adam Sax and Danny Solow in yesterday's ballot, which garnered an 18.2 percent voter turnout. It was the second special election of the semester.

The Judiciary position opened up two weeks ago after sophomore Samujjal Purkayastha resigned from the role. Purkayastha at the time cited "personal reasons" for his departure.

The Judiciary is the arm of the student government that oversees the recognition of new student organizations. Made up of seven students, it also determines the constitutionality of the actions of all TCU-recognized student groups, including the TCU Senate.

"I'm really excited," Luo said late last night, adding that "it's a little scary" to assume such a large responsibility. Luo said he was involved with student government in high school, but that his school's administration limited the students' responsibilities.

He said he's looking forward to working with "such a great group of people who are already on the judiciary" to enact change with respect to judiciary hearings and other judicial matters.

"I want to promote more communications between students and the judiciary, as well as between advocates and the

judiciary," said Luo, who added that he wanted to thank everyone who supported him in his run.

Polling was open for 24 hours yesterday, and, according to Elections Commission (ECOM) Chair Kevin Terhorst, there were no problems with voting.

ECOM had held low expectations about turnout because the vote was a special election and because it came at a time when students were dealing with midterms and preparations for Thanksgiving break.

The commission purchased several dozen yard signs advertising the election, which they posted around campus alongside posters encouraging students to vote.

ECOM also had students wear Jumbo mascot suits and pass out condoms; the commission had bulk ordered the prophylactics and slapped them with voting messages like "Protect your rights, vote in the TCU election," according to Terhorst, a senior.

"We were trying to put a lighthearted approach to the sex policy debate that's been going on in much of the university," he said, referencing this semester's dorm sex brouhaha.

Nine-hundred-and-sixty students cast ballots out of 5,280 eligible voters.

"I'm actually very pleased, considering the special election is this time of the year, we were able to get close to 20 percent turnout," Terhorst said.

— by Ben Gittleson

Red Line derailment possible, according to MBTA report

BY HARRISON JACOBS
Daily Editorial Board

An independent report released earlier this month found that the Red Line train that runs between Alewife and Harvard, the extension of the T used most often by Tufts students, is in danger of derailment.

The report, released on Nov. 4, gave 57 projects the highest priority grade on safety. Thanks to a mounting debt, the Massachusetts Bay

Transportation Authority (MBTA) only appropriated funds for six of those projects for fiscal year 2010.

According to safety standards submitted by the MBTA to its budget department for prioritizing projects, initiatives deemed critical demonstrate "imminent danger to life or limb of passengers and/or employees." The issues plaguing the Red Line between Alewife and

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DYLIS ONG/TUFTS DAILY

A recent report indicated that trains could derail between the MBTA's Alewife and Harvard T subway stations, a part of the Red Line that includes the Davis Square station, above.

Campus center heating up

BY AMELIE HECHT
Contributing Writer

Student activities in the campus center have become especially heated in recent weeks — not due to emotions, but because an outdated heating system is in need of replacement.

Temperatures in the campus center, particularly in the lower-level Large Conference Room, have reached uncomfortably warm levels due to the limitations of the sole central heating system that controls the temperature of the entire campus center.

The overheating in the building has been an issue for decades, according to Joe Golia, the director of the Office for Campus Life (OCL), which manages the daily operations of the campus center. But unseasonably warm weather this fall has at times aggravated the problem.

The system that controls the temperature in the campus center only allows either heating or cooling at any one time, so when outside temperatures fluctuate between hot and cold, the system can't adjust, according to Vice President of Operations John Roberto.

Golia said he has relayed numerous complaints over the past year to the Facilities Department, which oversees the heating in the campus center. He said the OCL receives complaints fairly frequently in the fall and spring.

"This is definitely something that needs to be addressed," he said. "It's really not fair to students who are trying to find a comfortable place to meet or study."

A system update that would remedy this situation began last year and will likely be

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Drinking culture takes center stage at meeting

BY NINA FORD
Daily Editorial Board

Dozens of students, staff and administrators grappled last night with the question of alcohol abuse on campus, discussing why it is so prevalent and how things might be changed.

At a town-hall meeting focused on what has become a hot-button topic this semester, participants voiced broad concern for students' safety and perceptions of drinking norms.

"I think we're all on the same side, which is student safety, reasonable life-

style and not having anybody get hurt and die," Dean of Student Affairs Bruce Reitman, who organized the meeting, said during the discussion. He emphasized the need for cooperation among students and administrators in order to stem the trend toward dangerous drinking at Tufts.

Convened as part of the dean of arts and sciences' semesterly series of town-hall meetings, the gathering took place at the Remis Sculpture Court in the Aidekman Arts Center and attracted dozens of attendees, who filtered in and out. About 50 were present at its peak.

VIDEO @ tuftsdaily.com



Check out tuftsdaily.com for video excerpts from last night's town hall meeting.

Reitman outlined several major alcohol-related episodes that occurred recently at Tufts. He spoke about the overwhelming number of medical incidents that emergency services responded to at last year's Spring Fling, seniors

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KRISTEN COLLINS/TUFTS DAILY

Members of the Tufts Dance Collective (TDC) broke into song and dance in Dewick-MacPhie Dining Hall shortly after 7 p.m. yesterday, performing a choreographed routine to Katy Perry's song "Hot N Cold" as diners looked on. The flash mob of performers entertained students at the downhill eatery to promote TDC's two Dec. 5 shows.

Greek directorship could see changes

BY SAUMYA VAISHAMPAYAN
Daily Editorial Board

The current vacancy in the position of director of fraternity and sorority affairs, unfilled since the previous director resigned in August, may lead to possible changes to the position itself.

In the absence of a full-time director, concerted efforts by the Office for Campus Life (OCL), the Inter-Greek Council (IGC) and the Division of Student Affairs have ensured that Greek Life continues to run smoothly on campus, according to an IGC officer and Dean of Student Affairs Bruce Reitman.

The current modified hiring freeze at Tufts has kept the position unfilled, according to Reitman, who is now serving as the interim director for fraternity and sorority affairs.

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Inside this issue

In the face of the economic downturn, several North End shops are being forced to adapt to the new "Little Italy."



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The field hockey and volleyball teams hope to capture Tufts' first NCAA title this weekend as they battle elite competition.



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Red Line safety problems one of many unresolved MBTA issues, report says

RED LINE

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Harvard fall under that criterion and were one of the 51 left unfunded.

Existing water leaks in the Red Line tunnels could affect floating concrete slabs that lie beneath the tracks. If the leaks are not fixed, water could corrode the fasteners that connect the track to the concrete, leading to movement and possible derailment, said Massachusetts Department of Transportation Director of Public Affairs Colin Durrant (LA '98).

He confirmed that the MBTA's woes could be attributed to "a lack of funding."

Massachusetts Gov. Deval Patrick commissioned the report in August after questions were raised about safety and management. Patrick tapped David D'Alessandro, chief executive of the financial services company John Hancock, to pen the report.

Massachusetts Department of

Transportation Secretary and CEO Jeffrey Mullan called the report "a sobering reality check" in a press release.

Still, Durrant is confident that riders have little to worry about.

"It's a safe system to ride," Durrant told the Daily. "That is our top priority. Certainly, in regards to [the Red Line], there are inspectors out there twice a week to check on the situation so if there was ever a situation that would put people at risk, we have people there to check it."

The plan of action for the MBTA is to "chase and seal" the water leaks in the Red Line tunnels.

Justin Hollander, an assistant professor in Tufts' Department of Urban and Environmental Policy and Planning (UEP), said the T's structural problems are the result of its age.

"Boston has one of the oldest subway systems," Hollander said. "It was the first system in the country. If

you compare mass transit systems, it's basically older than any other system, so as a result ... the cars and traffic are in greater need of repairs."

The MBTA and the Massachusetts Department of Transportation are working to address the problems plaguing the system in a timely manner.

"At the Governor's direction, I will work with Acting General Manager Bill Mitchell to immediately develop a plan," Mullan said in a press release on the D'Alessandro report.

The plan will include a review of backlogged safety and maintenance projects and the creation of a leadership team to find solutions to the T's long-running fiscal problems. The MBTA will hire a director of facility safety to prioritize projects and a consultant to audit the T's safety practices, Durrant said.

According to the D'Alessandro report, the Red Line project alone

would cost nearly \$80 million, as it would require the complete removal and replacement of the floating slabs beneath the Red Line tracks.

Durrant feels a complete replacement of the slabs is unnecessary. The concrete slabs are structurally sound, he said.

"There is no evidence of vertical or horizontal movement [of the plates]," Durrant said.

Hollander noted that reports such as the D'Alessandro report are useful but cannot be taken at face value.

"It's important that the MBTA looks at these findings and uses them to figure out where to put their money to fix the most pressing issues," Hollander said. "There are dangers involved in all structures but that doesn't mean they will all fail."

Upon hearing the news of the Red Line's current condition, some students were worried. Others said

the report confirmed problems they have already noticed.

"Frankly, I'm not surprised at the news of the Red Line," said sophomore Ethan Maccoby, who frequently rides on the T.

"Honestly I've traveled a lot and Boston has one of the worst subway systems in the country," Maccoby said. "I only hope that they fix it soon before anything serious happens."

Hollander said the concerned citizens of Boston should call for immediate action.

"If people are angry, if people are worried, they need to lobby their congressman and demand that this become a priority in the state," Hollander said. "Deval Patrick reorganized the mass transit system in the state so that it is easy to take swift action but it is also still hard to find the money to do so. They spent a ton of money putting WIFI on the commuter rail. So there is money, it's just a question of where it's going."

Campus center heating system struggles to keep up

HEATING

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completed next summer, according to Roberto.

High temperatures at a Tufts Student Resources staff luncheon held in the conference room last month forced students to lodge a complaint with the OCL.

"The vents were blasting hot air into the room. It felt like it was over 90 degrees," said sophomore Angela Lyons justus, office manager for Tufts Student Resources. "It wasn't a comfortable environment for a meeting."

Food that the group had ordered for its luncheon was left sitting out in the room, creating a situation that Golia said was "unhealthy."

The heat has similarly impacted other student groups. Junior Dan Pasternack, a Tufts Community Union (TCU) senator, said that the heating has had a visible effect on the proceedings of weekly TCU Senate meetings, which take place in the Large Conference Room.

"It quite literally makes things more heated. It gets everyone's emotions going," Pasternack said. "You put everyone in hot heated room for an extended period of time and emotions start to fly."

The overheating problem stems from the limits of the temperature control system currently in place in the campus center and in a number of other buildings across campus, Roberto said.

The system as it stands allows for only heating or cooling to be on at any given time. Once the heat is turned on in mid-October, it is not turned off until late spring, creating an unpleasant environment in the building on particularly warm days.

In order to combat this problem, the university in the summer of 2008 purchased and installed an "over-large cooling system," called a chiller, for the building, according to Roberto.

But for the system to work, the Facilities Department must convert the building from a two-pipe system to a four-pipe system, allowing for both heating and cooling to service different parts of the building simultaneously. Due to budget and time constraints, the university has yet to convert the building.

"The whole process is rather time-intensive and challenging to do while school is in session, because it involves removing overhead paneling," Roberto said. "We hope to have the chiller in place and functioning by the end of [next] summer."

The heating problem is exacerbated by the fact that the heat blasts more at night to compensate for a decrease in temperature. Then, during the day when the weather warms up outside, the building retains the heat it accumulated overnight with no way to dissipate it.

"We most frequently encounter this problem during the shoulder seasons, when we experience some days when it is quite chilly outside and then other days when the temperatures are in the 60s," Roberto said. "The heating system just can't keep up with the changes in outdoor temperature."

In recent weeks, the Senate has attempted to cool the conference room using a fan. Unfortunately, the fan was not a viable solution, Pasternack said.

"The fan was just distracting," he said. "It made it so you could not hear what anyone on the other side of the room was saying."

Greek director could work with OCL more

DIRECTOR

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The OCL's increased involvement in Greek Life has led OCL Director Joe Golia to propose that the position be integrated more closely with the OCL in order to increase the efficiency of staff in both the OCL and the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs.

"We feel that there could be an opportunity here to help the position and our office by connecting it to campus life," Golia said. "So much of what the Greek system does is connected to our office ... I think it would be a natural connection."

When planning an event, Greek organizations often have to go through the OCL to complete paperwork and get the event cleared. A direct link between the Greek community and the OCL would expedite this process, Golia said.

The Office of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs, as well as its director, currently fall under the Division of Student Affairs. Reitman emphasized that while the director's position will remain under the Division of Student Affairs, there exists the potential for more inter-office collaboration.

"The position will continue to be at the senior director level in Student Affairs, but Joe and I are talking about some reorganization that would allow for the position to be more connected with the OCL operation since it is so much a part of campus life," Reitman told the Daily in an e-mail.

According to Reitman, the modified hiring freeze for vacant positions is the only obstacle to filling the position. He added that the Schools of Arts and Sciences and Engineering are constantly evaluating their budget situations, and the financial possibility of bringing in a replacement.

"We hope to be able to move forward with the refilling of this position at the beginning of the spring semester," Reitman said.

The position has sat vacant since the former director, Patrick Romero-Aldaz, resigned in August for a similar position at the University of South Florida.

According to the public relations manager for the IGC, Jason Clain, the director's main role is overseeing the Greek governing bodies. Those bodies, which consist of the IGC, the Interfraternity Council (IFC) and the Panhellenic Council, in turn supervise daily activities of the 10 fraternities, three sororities and a few other Greek-affiliated organizations with a presence at Tufts.

"His biggest goal is to make sure that all the governing bodies are running efficiently," said Clain, a junior. "The Greek system is pretty much designed to run itself."

The Office of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs currently only consists of the director position and student assistants, according to Golia. "The director of fraternity life is somewhat alone ... there are no real colleagues within the office itself," Golia said.

Golia added that a director who works in conjunction with the OCL could resolve what he sees as a problem of a lack of manpower in both the OCL and the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs.

"It would also give us another staff member to help at major events, like Spring Fling, Fall Ball, Winter Bash," he said. Currently, only three OCL staff members are available to organize these events, according to Golia.

The lack of a director does not seem to be affecting the Greek system at Tufts in terms of daily affairs.

"I know that there are things that are on hold until we get a new director, but the essentials of the system are continuing, and there seems to be a great deal of interest in rush as we approach the spring," Reitman said.

Without a director, Clain said student leaders in the Greek community have the opportunity for more responsibility.

Town hall dissects drinking culture

ALCOHOL

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getting kicked out of a Senior Pub Night in September and the failure of this semester's I-Cruise to leave the dock due to student drunkenness.

In May, Reitman chartered the Alcohol Task Force to review the university's alcohol regulations and offer recommendations to a policy-setting steering committee on alcohol. The task force began meeting this fall and is hoping to release a draft of its recommendations soon.

"This is our issue, this is our problem," said Reitman, who sits on the steering committee. "We have to work together on it, so we're willing to listen to suggestions for changes to policy."

Dean of Arts and Sciences Robert Sternberg stated that dangerous drinking and hospitalization have been on the rise at the university in the past few years.

Michelle Bowdler, the senior director of Health and Wellness Service, attributed this to evolving mentalities. "There's been a culture change over the last three to five years that's actually one of the things that we're so worried about," she said.

Bowdler added that recent surveys have shown that over half of Tufts stu-

dents binge drink, a significant percentage that she hopes will drop. She said most schools in the Northeast similar to Tufts have lower percentages.

Both students and administrators at the meeting emphasized the creation of more programming and venues to provide alternatives to the campus drinking culture — but they voiced varying levels of confidence in the ability of such programming to achieve the cultural change that many were calling for.

Tufts Community Union (TCU) Senator Sam Wallis spoke about the possibility of using Hotung Café as alternative event space.

"One of the things we're talking about ... is turning Hotung into a late-night diner where you build a culture around the food rather than the booze, so to speak," said Wallis, a junior.

Freshman Maya Grodman is one of the students who has spearheaded the recent creation of Another Option, a student group exploring alcohol-free social choices. "We're just one example of students who are trying to take initiatives to provide other activities than drinking," she said.

But Junior Class Council President Lindsey Rosenbluth expressed doubts that alternative programming would

deter students who already drink excessively from doing so.

"I think [alternative programming is] a lot of fun on a student-activities or a social-life level, but I don't know that it would counteract the drinking at all," she said.

TCU Senator Bruce Ratain, a junior who is a member of the Alcohol Task Force, thought that popular student groups should hold their events later in the evening to attract students away from drinking. Office for Campus Life Director Joe Golia agreed.

"We changed a few rules where on Thursday, Friday and Saturday night you can't start in Hotung before eight o'clock," said Golia, whose office manages the daily operations of the campus center, which houses Hotung Café. "We encourage every group to start as late as possible."

Golia, however, noted that programming is not the underlying solution to the campus drinking culture.

"It's not ultimately the answer," he said. "It is a part of it, and I will agree, but I have never been at a place where there is more programming than Tufts."

Students at the town-hall meeting pointed to "pregaming" as one of the greatest source of dangerous drinking.

They noted the often-clandestine activity occurs before events that serve alcohol as well as those that do not.

"We really need to concentrate a lot on pregaming," sophomore Jake Schiller said. "I think that's the underlying cause of a lot of the dangerous situations."

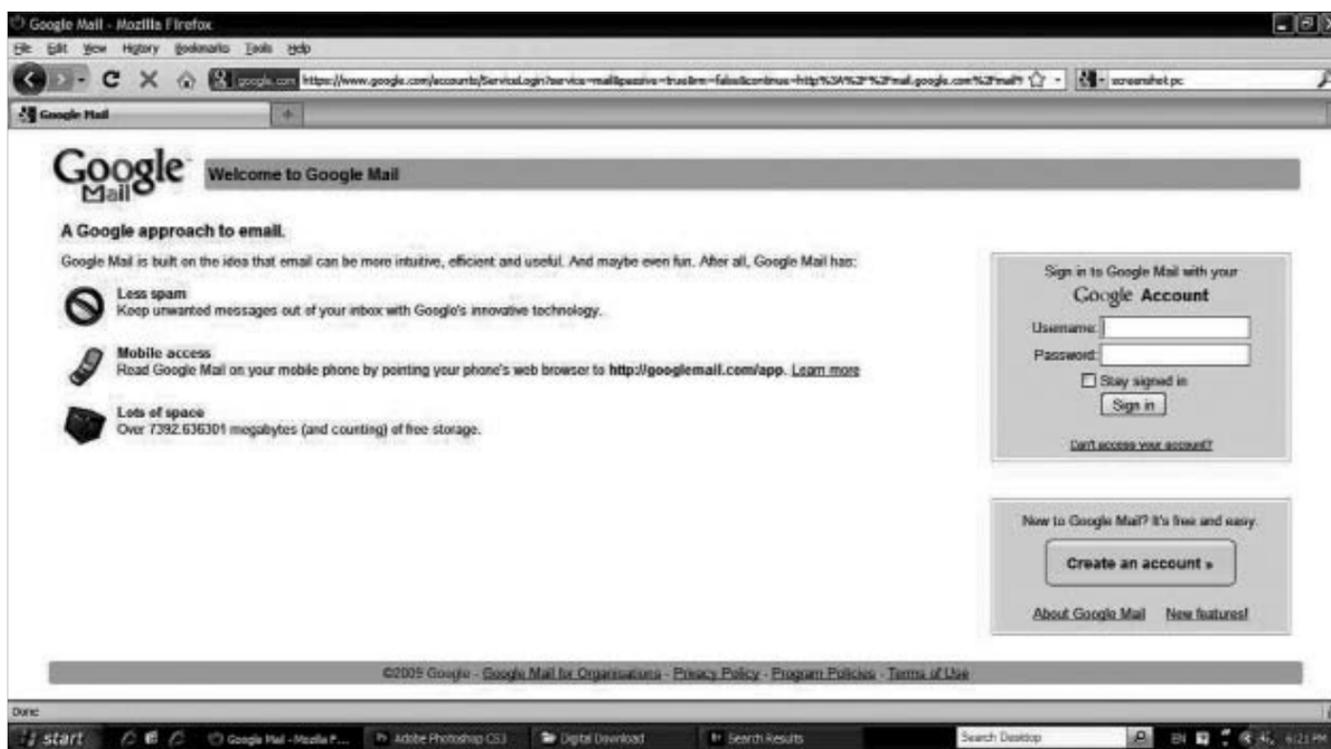
Participants also discussed the importance of peer influence and the need to create alcohol-education programs in which students can share their own experiences with dangerous binge drinking. Many said that these programs were especially needed during freshman orientation.

TCU President Brandon Rattiner, a senior and the only member of both the Alcohol Task Force and the steering committee, said that the group of students who party hard on a weekly basis is smaller than many freshmen realize, and that this misperception leads more freshmen to drink every year.

"I think that's something we can do is come up with engaging ways to involve vulnerable freshmen in the conversation more directly than we have here," Rattiner said, "and also provide some serious not programs, but alternatives to making new friends [through drinking and partying] at the beginning of the year."

Features

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The prevalence of Gmail and other free e-mail services has caused some colleges to reconsider giving out school e-mail addresses.

Saying goodbye to the .edu address, many colleges switch to free e-mail

BY BRIAN WOLF
Contributing Writer

While techno-phobic students often forgo forwarding their college e-mail to a personal account, soon they may have to learn. Many universities across the country are contemplating getting rid of the college-based e-mail address that most students receive upon enrollment to communicate with teachers and other students.

A 2008 report issued by Educause, a nonprofit involved in the development of information technology in higher education, stated that nearly 10 percent of associate, baccalaureate and master's institutions were considering not giving students school e-mail addresses because many students were already using personal

e-mail accounts. This was a considerable change from the 2004 results that stated that only one to two percent of institutions were considering not providing e-mail addresses.

While Tufts provides every student and faculty member with an e-mail address, many students still rely on their personal e-mail accounts and other forms of electronic communication. Some students use the Tufts e-mail address for school and other formal correspondence, while using other e-mail accounts for personal communication.

"When I receive e-mail about school, I just go to the Tufts e-mail inbox," freshman Arthur Arakelov said. "But I would like to forward my e-mail to my personal account. I just don't know how to do that."

However, Arakelov added that he likes the simple Tufts e-mail format, with first name and last name separated by only a period.

"[It] is useful as a means of finding someone else's e-mail because it's just their name," he said. On the other hand, he complained that "the inbox's interface appears to not have been changed since 2000. The e-mails do not show images. It looks bad, but at least it functions."

Freshman Avani Gupta logs in to her Tufts e-mail inbox often due to the fact that "all my Facebook updates are on my Tufts e-mail account." However, the e-mail service doesn't make much difference to her.

"I communicate most of the time

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COMMUNITY CORNER

Community organization encourages spending in local businesses

BY CARTER ROGERS
Daily Editorial Board

Many students gravitate toward Starbucks to satisfy their coffee cravings, but a recently formed alliance of local businesses, including Dave's Fresh Pasta and Redbones BBQ, urges members of the Somerville community to head to local cafés and businesses instead of national chains. The alliance works with Somerville Local First, an organization that aims to keep consumer dollars in the community.

Somerville Local First was founded in March 2008 and began with only around 11 board members, according to Amy Thiebault, Somerville Local First Membership Committee Chair and owner of True Grounds, a coffee shop in Ball Square. Somerville Local First's membership now includes more than 100 local businesses.

Jon O'Toole, Somerville Local First's Board President, admitted the concept behind the organization is nothing new, saying that there are "hundreds" of similar local business alliances across the United States.

"We took a tried and true organizational theory and implemented it in Somerville," O'Toole said. Aside from heading Local First's Board, O'Toole is also the owner of Grand, "a contemporary home furnishings, apparel, gifts,

and ... vintage retail store in Somerville and Union Square," he said.

Thiebault said that because Somerville Local First is a relatively new organization, it is still seeking out new members and working to retain current ones. The membership committee has four open houses each year, which allow members to meet and network.

"Somerville has a lot of local independent businesses, and we just want to sustain and ... support [them]," Thiebault said.

The organization promotes local businesses by holding events. O'Toole cited a recent festival, Harvest Fest 2009, held at the Armory building on Highland Ave, as one example. The event had about 1,000 attendees, according to O'Toole, and featured local businesses, including micro-breweries and restaurants. Additionally, Thiebault said that Founding Executive Director Joe Grafton "has huge connections with media outlets, so they're always plugging stuff for us in whatever publication they may have ... He's just an unbelievable resource. It's kind of crazy how many people he knows."

Thiebault and O'Toole said that they have nothing against retail and restaurant chains, but they would prefer to keep consumers' money within the neighborhood.

"We're not by any means an anti-franchise kind of thing. We're just basically

wanting to keep the dollars [in] the community and support those local business because they're such a great benefit to the community," Thiebault said.

"One of the great things about Somerville is since we're such a family oriented community, a lot of people ... want to support local, independent businesses versus going to big box retailers. Not that there's necessarily anything wrong with big box retailers, but when you spend money within a local independent business, it's more likely to reciprocate and [be spent] in another local independent business," O'Toole said.

He added that the city itself is home to many conscious consumers.

"I think Somerville is an interesting place to own a business because ... there are some really smart and empowered consumers in Somerville, and they definitely know that when they go into a local business and spend money within that local business, it is a positive thing not just [for] them but for the city in general," O'Toole said. "We have a really great citizenry in Somerville that gets what we're trying to do and is really supporting small independent businesses."

With the holiday shopping season coming up, Somerville Local First is working to steer consumers towards local

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GRIFFIN PEPPER | EIGHT GIRLS AND A GUY

Harry vs. Sally



There are five movie posters hanging in my room back home. Three of them are of romantic comedies. I've received a number of comments from friends who come to visit. "Dude ... you have a poster of 'When Harry Met Sally' ... you know that, right?"

In my defense, it's the best romantic comedy of all time. That's right. I said it. People can argue with me, but they're wrong for one reason: "When Harry Met Sally" addresses a very important, contestable question, a question I've tried to answer all of my life.

Can men and women be friends without sex getting in the way? Harry says no. Sally says yes.

I'm with Sally. And considering my track record, I'd better be.

College was no different than high school for me. I've always had more girl friends than guy friends. It's why I feel so comfortable living with eight girls. I have five close guy friends. But that's it, really. Every other one of my close friends is a girl. Sex — or romantic feelings — very rarely gets in the way of my platonic relationships with my girl friends, especially my housemates.

I think it's almost universally agreed that friendships form when two people find something attractive about each other. One friend made a point to distinguish being attracted to someone and pursuing an attraction. It's possible to acknowledge a friend's attractiveness without jumping on them. That being said, when forging a friendship with someone new, we evaluate her or him to determine our level of sexual attraction. For me, this process is purely subconscious. For others, it's the first thing that comes to mind.

I've talked to many people about this subject, and guys tend to think that sex usually gets in the way of friendships with girls. But an interesting discussion with two girls who were devoted members of Team Harry sparked my interest in this topic. Their argument seemed mostly biological. One girl said, "If I'm friends with a guy and we get along, we might as well fulfill our other basic human need." Her friend added that we are attracted to people because, biologically, we want to have sex and make offspring with genetically attractive features.

The biological perspective is an interesting one, but it seems to simplify a process that can be more emotional and psychological than just having sex with a friend who happens to be a good genetic fit.

We all prioritize sex differently. Some of us are more sexual than others, and it seems like these people are more willing to side with Team Harry in the debate. If living in a house with eight girls has taught me one thing, it's that everyone is different. Personally, sex is not high on my list of priorities, while meeting new people is. I don't immediately evaluate new girl friends based on how sexually compatible we would be. On the contrary, I evaluate people based on how compatible our personalities would be. That's why I'm with Sally in this debate.

On the other hand, I've been in a number of situations where my romantic feelings for someone else were not reciprocated, or vice versa. And in those circumstances, romantic feelings definitely do get in the way of friendship. The difference between this and Harry's position is our ability to move past romantic awkwardness and pursue close friendships without the tension.

And that's why I stand by my opinion. Sally is right. There can be sexual tension and it can ruin friendships between men and women. But it all depends on the maturity of those involved, whether they can move past it and whether they can forge meaningful friendships with the opposite sex. But without the sex. And that's how I get through the day, living with eight women.

Griffin Pepper is a senior majoring in political science. He can be reached at Griffin.Pepper@tufts.edu.

Boston College will no longer provide e-mail inboxes next year

EMAIL

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through BBM [BlackBerry Messenger] and text messages," she said.

Many students said they forward their Tufts e-mail to their personal e-mail account. Freshman Kate Griffiths said, "It was pretty easy to forward my school e-mail to my personal e-mail account. I don't remember how to do it, but it was not difficult. Now, I just have to remember to use my school e-mail address when I e-mail my teachers."

The costs of maintaining e-mail inboxes have become quite expensive for universities, while many free services, like Google's Gmail, exist for individual users. Therefore, many colleges, such as Abilene Christian University in Texas, have begun to stop providing students with a school-based e-mail inbox to reduce expenses.

Closer to Tufts, Boston College has taken a somewhat different approach to the issue. While the university still issues students "@bc.edu" e-mail addresses and will continue to do so, starting next year, they will no longer provide students with e-mail inboxes — meaning student's university accounts will have to forward to their private e-mail addresses.

"The process in which to forward your school e-mail to your personal account may be difficult at first, but what we are seeing is that many of our students have done this. It has become obvious that many students are not using their [BC] inbox," said Marion Moore, the vice president of Information Technology Services at Boston College. "It is not our primary responsibility

for providing an e-mail address when you can get one for free ... It is not free for us to give students inboxes. It costs disk space, programmer time."

"It is not our primary responsibility for providing an e-mail address when you can get one for free ... It is not free for us to give students inboxes. It costs disk space, programmer time."

Marion Moore

Vice President of Information Technology Services at Boston College

Even before students attend Boston College, the school mandates that "students applying to Boston College have to have a legitimate e-mail address. Once they are admitted, they get a true Boston College e-mail address," Moore said.

Moore also added that colleges first provided e-mail services when there was no other place for students to get e-mail accounts, which has changed as Gmail, Yahoo and other free e-mail services have gained popularity.

Additionally, according to Moore, it also came to the attention of BC's IT department through data surveys that many students do not use e-mail as their primary source of communication. Many are making the switch to smartphones.

Organization open to support from students

LOCAL FIRST

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businesses to purchase gifts.

"A large national chain has the ability to use the large marketing budgets ... to advertise those holiday specials," O'Toole said. To counteract this, Somerville Local First helped create a campaign called "Shift Your Shopping" that will encourage consumers to shop locally during the holiday season. One method through which they hope to accomplish this goal is a Web site devoted to helping buyers find great holiday gifts in neighborhood shops.

As to what the future holds for the organization, O'Toole said, "The first year was a year of growth; it was trying to figure out what works and what doesn't. And the second year is one where we now look to doing some of those beneficial programs, like the local independent 'Shift Your Shopping' program ... that can really benefit our member community. I think that's essentially what we want to continue to do in the coming years."

While Somerville Local First has a dedicated staff, it welcomes help from students. Grafton said in an e-mail that one way students can support the organization while watching their wallets is by shifting 10 percent of their spending from large chains to local independent businesses. Grafton also noted that many local options are less expensive than national chains, examples being the Somerville Theatre, Maria's Cold Cuts and independent gas stations.

Sophomore Lauren Weiner is one student that prefers shop-



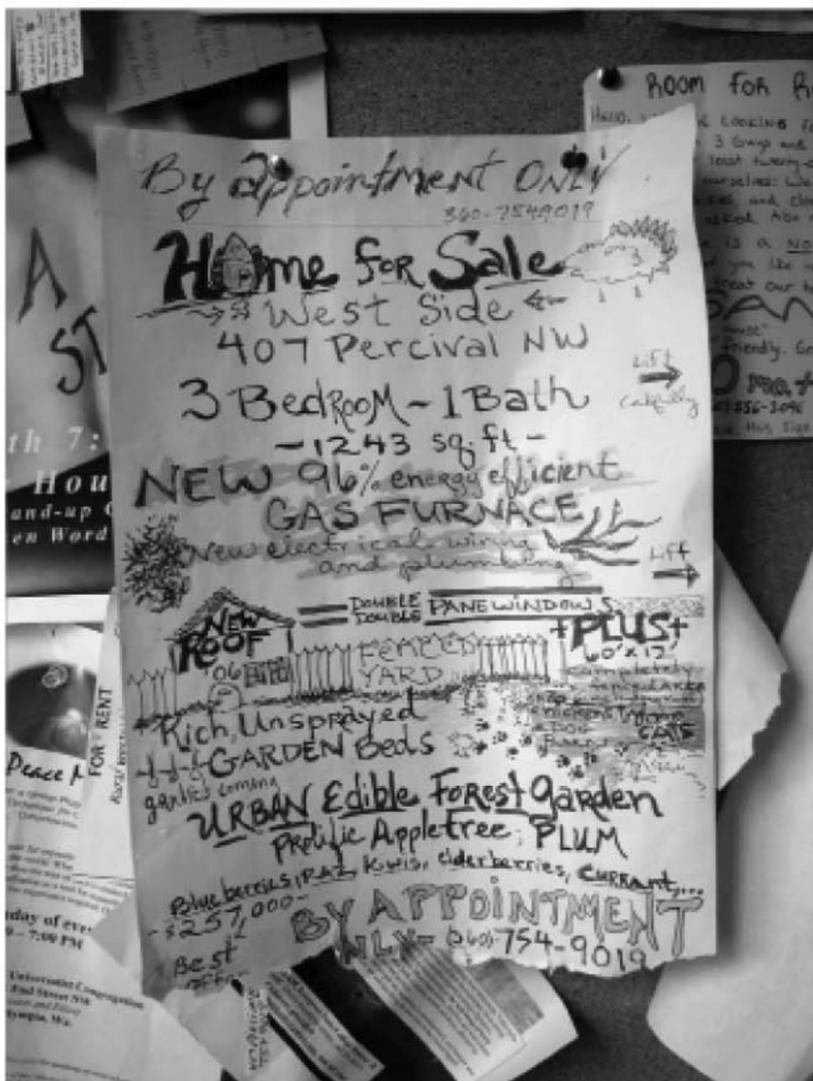
JAMES CHOCA/TUFTS DAILY

The Somerville Theatre offers moviegoers a cheaper experience than many national chains.

ping at local businesses, largely because of the more personal service they offer customers.

"I like going to places that are locally owned because I feel like they are really paying attention to my needs. And they're serving their specific popula-

tion, so I feel really included. Sometimes you get to know the owners or even just the workers and they might even ask you if you like this particular item more than this particular item: 'What do you wish we had in stock?'" Weiner said.



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Weekender

ARTS & LIVING

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Holy Cannoli!

Pastry shops swallow changes to Little Italy



BY JESSICA BAL
Daily Editorial Board

You can buy a plane ticket to Italy for several hundred dollars, or you can take the T. The North End's small streets are lined with bakeries, specialty shops and quaint restaurants similar to those that populate Italian cities. The inviting smell of fresh bread and rich ricotta wafts from shops like Bova's and Maria's, transporting passersby to a cultural oasis where crumbling frescoes replace bright billboards.

"Little Italy" gives visitors and residents of Boston a taste of the boot-shaped country across the Atlantic, and tasting — of food, wine and sweet treats — is itself a central part of the North End's charm.

In the early 2000s, the Big Dig changed the landscape and culture of the North End. Pastry shops and other specialty stores, often family-owned and intimately tied to a loyal customer base, were severely affected by the construction and its aftermath. With current economic struggles, these small businesses are faced with difficult times and must adjust to a new "Little Italy."

Maria's pastry shop: Not all sugar and sweets

Though she may own a pastry shop, sugary sweet doesn't come close to describing Maria Merola.

"I don't like sweets," she said. That may come as a surprise — considering that most of Merola's time is spent making them.



JESSICA BAL/TUFTS DAILY

Merola, 56, the woman behind Maria's Pastry Shop in Boston's North End, is independent, controlling, gruff and even unfriendly. Handshakes aren't her thing. Merola plops herself down in the chair for an interview and slams a half-full coffee mug down on the table. "Alright," she says roughly, picking at the remnants of something stuck to her polar fleece jacket and glancing around the room.

Merola grew up on a farm with her parents and three siblings in southern Naples before arriving in the United States in 1968. After a bad crop in Italy, her parents decided to make the jump from a rural life to an urban one — and from one country to another. "My father never liked the change," said Merola. "We felt like prisoners here."

Merola's father worked in a box factory and her mother clocked hours at a candy factory. When Merola was a teenager, she began work herself — at the pastry shop with a sign now bearing her name.

Merola knew little about baking until she started working at the shop, yet she took over the business in 1982. Merola now makes all of the pastries herself and refuses to use recipes. "All of the time I go by the recipe they don't come out right," said Merola. "You might like something, but don't ask me to make it again. Things always taste different."

The ingredients may vary, but the quality of Merola's pastries is consistent — and, some say, better than that of other North End bakeries. "We can use the same ricotta as someone else, but

people say ours is better," said Merola. "My day-old stuff tastes better than their fresh stuff. It's knowing and feeling. You've got to touch it. I know when flour is dry, when ricotta is watery."

Bova's: A family effort

Bova's, located on Salem Street near the Old North Church in Boston, is currently owned by Anthony Bova. The shop specializes in whoopie pies and cannolis as well as a variety of Italian breads and calzones. It stays open 24/7 and, unlike Maria's Pastry Shop, Bova's relies on crews coming in for different shifts to continually bake fresh pastries and breads as needed.

The bakery has been in business for 85 years and has passed through three generations of Bovas. Anthony Bova's grandfather, originally from Reggio Calabria in southern Italy, began the business and passed it on to one of his five sons — Anthony's father.

"[My grandfather] had five sons, but I was like a son to him too," said Bova. "I worked there as a young boy until I took over the business after my father."

Bova noted that the atmosphere and comfort food his shop provides makes it appealing to long-time customers as well as those simply stopping by out of curiosity after a late dinner in "Little Italy."

"People don't see bakeries like this where they live," said Bova. "A lot of restaurants don't give you coffee with dessert. They want to turn the tables to make more money. That's

see **NORTHEM**, page 7



JESSICA BAL/TUFTS DAILY



JESSICA BAL/TUFTS DAILY

ZACH DRUCKER AND CHRIS POLDOIAN |
BAD SAMARITANS

Gobble heads!



Ah, Thanksgiving. A holiday combining two of our top three favorite things: family and gravy. Yet our third favorite thing, movies, is inexplicably absent. It makes no sense! Other holidays get their own movies. We could spend weeks rattling off Christmas movies; even Hannukah has Adam Sandler's "Eight Crazy Nights" (2002). What a "farkakte" movie that was! Halloween films get horror, and you can always count on a couple of romantic comedies in the middle of February. Even the relatively obscure Groundhog Day got the 1993 eponymous, existential comedy starring Bill Murray.

Thanksgiving is one of our favorite holidays, but there are only a handful of Thanksgiving films. So, we want to salute Turkey Day and give some reasons why movie executives should pump out some scripts for scrumptious screenings.

Considering that more than 60 percent of our nation is overweight, Thanksgiving is a "hefty" occasion. Furthermore, Americans nationwide do the same thing each Thanksgiving: eat an exorbitant amount and slowly digest in front of the television, usually by watching Thanksgiving football. Yet, few filmmakers have decided to capitalize on the laziness of the holiday by creating Thanksgiving-based films. Sure, plenty of movies come out next Thursday, such as "The Road," "Ninja Assassin" and the expanded release of "Precious." But these movies don't revolve around the holiday itself. Come on, people! You're willing to make three "The Santa Clause" (starting in 1994) movies, but not a single flick with some pilgrims and Native Americans chowin' down on corn and cranberry sauce?

Most would argue that the kid flicks that come out during youngsters' five-day weekends are "Thanksgiving films." But we think that's a steaming pile of ... mashed potatoes. Honestly! We're pumped for the upcoming "Fantastic Mr. Fox," but trying to equate kid films to Thanksgiving is like substituting a Tofurkey for the real deal.

The only mainstream Thanksgiving films worth mentioning are Jodie Foster's "Home for the Holidays" (1995), Woody Allen's "Hannah and Her Sisters" (1986) and "Planes, Trains and Automobiles" (1987). (Oh, John Candy, you silly mog.) We give thanks to these films for trying, but we expect more out of the genre. These Thanksgiving films follow the same pattern that most Christmas films do — slathering a mediocre story with the syrupy holiday theme. Sure, Turkey Day provides the framework for a cute family comedy, but there is more character to the holiday that is yet to be manipulated in film.

For example, we enjoyed "A Christmas Story" (1983) just as much for capturing the essence of childhood as for satirizing Christmas traditions. That was a film that lovingly made fun of the holidays. Kind of like "Bad Santa" (2003), which, in our opinion, is still Billy Bob Thornton's crowning achievement.

We don't think we're asking for too much. All we want is a film that pokes fun at some Thanksgiving traditions. There are so many aspects of this holiday that would be perfect to lampoon, from the binge-eating on Thursday to the potentially murderous shopping spree on Black Friday. Thanksgiving is a wholly American tradition, so it's only fit that we make a real American Thanksgiving movie. And nothing's more American than gratuitous violence and nudity! Enter Eli Roth's "Thanksgiving," a fake trailer in "Grindhouse" (2007) that pays homage to John Carpenter's "Halloween" (1978). Instead of idealizing the holiday, Roth bastes his film with guts and gore galore. And just like "A Christmas Story," we can picture TBS showing the film for all 24 hours of the Thanksgiving holiday. Take that, Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade! You're just a harlot for Ronald McDonald, the Nesquik Bunny and other corporate mascots, anyway.

Zach Drucker and Chris Poldoian are sophomores who have not yet declared majors. They can be reached at Zachary.Drucker@tufts.edu and Christopher.Poldoian@tufts.edu, respectively.

MOVIE REVIEW



ALLMOVIEPHOTO.COM

'Brief Interviews with Hideous Men' turns out to be an ugly attempt at an indie film.

'Brief Interviews' lacks direction and cohesive plot

BY CHARISSA NG
Daily Editorial Board

Sundance films are always hit or miss. With the exception of a few cult-classics and box-office phenomena

Brief Interviews with Hideous Men



Starring **Julianne Nicholson, John Krasinski, Will Arnett**
Directed by **John Krasinski**

like "Little Miss Sunshine" (2006) and "500 Days of Summer" (2009), most of these indie films are rejected by the mainstream masses and doomed to obscurity. Based on the novel by David Foster Wallace, "Brief Interviews with Hideous Men" is another Sundance disappointment marked by its fragmented, pretentious and uninspiring exploration of the male psyche.

Filmed by actor and first-time director John Krasinski (popularly known as Jim from a little show called "The Office"), "Brief Interviews" follows the story of Sarah Quinn (Medford's very own Julianne Nicholson), a young woman

doing her dissertation in anthropology at a prestigious East Coast university. The heartache from an unexpected breakup leads Quinn to channel her frustrations into her work as she tries to figure out where her relationship went wrong. By conducting a series of interviews and casual observations of her male subjects, Quinn hopes to unravel what exactly goes on in the minds of men as they ponder the age-old question, "What do women want?"

Unfortunately, Krasinski's attempt to adapt Wallace's novel into a biting

see **HIDEOUS**, page 7

THEATER PREVIEW

'The Imaginary Invalid' pulls humor and irony together

BY AVANI PATEL
Contributing Writer

"The Imaginary Invalid," the last of French playwright Moliere's works, is being performed by Tufts' very own Pen, Paint, and Pretzels (3Ps). Starting Thursday, the show is co-directed by senior Sarah Ullman and sophomore Lina Stolyar. The talented actors keep the audience engaged throughout with near-constant humor and do not let any part of the Balch Arena Theatre go to waste.

The story centers on a self-absorbed man named Argan (senior Dan Casey) who, though in perfect health, convinces himself that he is ill. The audience is able to see all that he is oblivious to, which offers entertaining dramatic irony and quirky asides from most of the other characters. With a gold-digging wife (senior Emily Code), a love-struck daughter (sophomore Hannah Wellman) and a ridiculous servant (sophomore Emily Pantalone), Argan confronts numerous obstacles while trying to sell his daughter into marriage in order to buy the health care that he does not really need.

According to Ullman, the movie "Grey Gardens" (1975) was the main inspiration for the stage's simplistic setup, which features seemingly trivial props that tell tales all their own. In "Grey Gardens," the mansion where the characters live was once an aesthetically pleasing

see **INVALID**, page 7

WEEKENDER INTERVIEW | JOHN KRASINSKI



ROTTENTOMATOES.COM

"You can tell I'm a serious director because I have headphones, a plain baseball cap and a five o'clock shadow."

First-time director Krasinski speaks about 'Brief Interviews'

BY CHARISSA NG
Daily Editorial Board

The Daily got a chance to interview actor and director John Krasinski over the phone about his new independent film based on David Foster Wallace's novel "Brief Interviews with Hideous Men" (1999). Krasinski touched on what inspired him to write the screenplay, what it was like being behind the camera for the first time and what he hopes audiences will take away from the film.

Question: So the film is based on the book by David Foster Wallace. What was the inspiration behind adapting the

novel into a screenplay?

John Krasinski: I actually did a stage reading of the book in college. And without being overly sentimental, it was actually the moment I decided to be an actor. Getting to be a part of something so emotional and so powerful, it basically was the reason why I've been trying to do it ever since, just so I can give other people the opportunity to feel what I felt that night, which was pretty powerful. It's a very provocative book and it makes people talk. And so that's the number one thing that I hope for this movie: that it just gets people talking.

see **KRASINSKI**, page 9

TOP TEN | THINGS WE ARE NOT THANKFUL FOR

Turkey Day break is just around the corner, and we're planning on stuffing our faces a week from now. Before we dig in and count our blessings, we'd like to take a moment to note the things we won't be recognizing as we say grace. The following are like the nasty leftovers you found in the fridge — from last Thanksgiving.

10. Common Decency: Sometimes we just want to bleep this bleeping piece-of-bleep set of societal boundaries until they go the bleep away. How much bleep-ing better would that sentence have been without all the bleep-ing censorship?

9. Swine Flu: This is undoubtedly the least kosher epidemic ever. And its name raises some fairly awkward questions: Did the first patients catch it from a pig? If so, what the heck were they doing to said pig?

8. Damien Hirst: "Artist?" More like "Fartist." This guy stinks. While his work may be controversial, it isn't good: a real shark in formaldehyde, a platinum skull covered in diamonds, paintings of dots. My kid could do that. Well, except for the shark and diamonds thing.

7. Thanksgiving Football: We'd rather watch our favorite shows.

6. Jeff Dunham: Even though all of America is going ga-ga for his Comedy Central show, we still hate ventriloquism. And racists. And Dunham is both.

5. Open Container Laws: Seriously? What difference does it make if we play our amazing combo game of beer pong and flip cup inside or walk around outside smuggling a fifth of Jose Cuervo under our jackets? Everyone wants us to keep our drunkenness to ourselves, but we want to share it with the world.

4. The Sports Section: Where's your trophy, huh?

3. The Kardashians: Some celeb families are made for reality TV (have you seen "Run's House?!"), but the Kardashians definitely aren't one of them. Watching the ridiculous banter and pointless lives of a celebrity family isn't exactly what we'd call entertainment ... unless you're the Osbournes, of course.

2. Run-On Sentences: You know, when people write sentences that are really long and just keep going on and on and don't seem to have a point and then it's just rambling and gets annoying but there still isn't a period in sight and you keep reading just to see how ridiculous it can get and then it turns into something about "Melrose Place."

1. People Who Don't Like Postmodernism: You won't like our open letter.

— compiled by the Daily Arts Department

'Interviews' say nothing new about men and their mysteries

HIDEOUS
continued from page 6

dark comedy fails at the onset. "Brief Interviews" opens with Subject 14 fidgeting in his seat and nervously stumbling over his words as he tries to explain that he really isn't a political person. After several minutes of pointless build-up, he finally confesses that he suffers from bizarre patriotic outbursts, yelling "Victory for the forces of democratic freedom!" whenever he is with a woman.

As with many of the other vignettes in "Brief Interviews," this scene has the potential to be funny, or at least mildly entertaining, but it drags on for way too long. The audience grows restless having to listen to Subject 14 ramble on for what seems like an eternity before he gets to the punch line. And by that time, who really cares?

One of the major problems with the film is that many of the characters do a lot of talking without actually saying much. Krasinski forces the audience to endure a series of dense, self-indulgent rants from many of Quinn's subjects.

For example, Dominic Cooper is captivating as a student who uses his own ill-fated experiences to justify to Quinn the offensive arguments he makes in his paper. Cooper's character is poignant while defending his controversial point of view, but the effectiveness of the dialogue is lost because he gets so caught up in philosophical and intellectual jargon. Viewers get exhausted just from listening to him.

"Brief Interviews" also lacks cohesion and a definitive viewpoint. The film is

essentially made up of a random collection of disparate confessions from different men, as the title implies. Each interview is seemingly unrelated to the others, with no real thread tying the subjects together.

"Brief Interviews" tries to reveal the complexity and depth of the male psyche, with each subject exemplifying the ways in which men are hideous. But from the guy who uses his disability to get sympathetic women to sleep with him to the jerk who can expertly break up with women so that they're the ones who end up feeling bad about it, it's all been seen before. After watching all 80 minutes of the film, "Brief Interviews" fails to provide any new insight into the way the males think or to make any real point about men other than the fact that they're hideous.

Although it's evident that Krasinski put his all into writing and directing "Brief Interviews," Wallace's novel ultimately doesn't translate too well on screen. The film tries too hard, and the overwhelming passion Krasinski has for the novel isn't enough to make Wallace's work palatable to most moviegoers.

As with every indie flick, there are bound to be some artsy intellectuals who laud "Brief Interviews" as an incredibly thought-provoking film that pushes the envelope and truly embodies the complexities behind the male sex. Except for a few noteworthy scenes, the majority of moviegoers will find that the film has a weak plot and overall lack of direction. Luckily for disappointed "Office" fans, it's pretty safe to assume that John won't be leaving his day job anytime soon.

Big Dig has lasting effects on small pastry businesses in Little Italy

NORTHEND

continued from page 5

why these cafes and bakeries get crowded — people need a place to lounge and relax."

Digging and changing

Merola said that her customer base has changed dramatically due to the Big Dig and resulting gentrification. "Before, families used to come here every weekend," said Merola. "I knew who was coming and who wasn't because they would call me. It used to be more one-on-one." Merola said that she used to sell 80 loaves of bread on a weekend. She now sells eight.

Big Dig construction was meant to increase traffic to the North End, which was previously segregated from much of Boston by I-93. In December of 2003, the Big Dig opened up Cross Street, on which Maria's Pastry Shop is currently located. The development was an attempt to improve traffic and pedestrian access to the area.

While Cross Street may have

made the Italian sector more accessible to the rest of Boston, Merola said that other problems arose from the construction efforts. According to the pastry chef, affordable parking in the area, now phased out by Big Dig construction, once made the North End an easy one-stop shopping experience. Stores specializing in cheese, meat and other goods lined the street, but they've since left the area one by one. "They just couldn't make it," said Merola. "The cheese guy had people digging right in front of his door."

Now Merola relies primarily on tourists for clientele. Cooking-tour groups pass through the shop, visitors excitedly examining cannoli and sfogliatelle pastries with cameras slung around their necks. "People sometimes come in and say, 'Oh, I used to come here every Saturday with my grandfather,'" said Merola. "Now they only come in once in a blue moon. I say, 'Thanks a lot.'"

Bova attributes much of the changing customer base at his bakery to the developments to residential buildings in the North End. As buildings were sold and renovated in the area, landlords were able to charge higher rent — something that Bova said the average family can't afford.

"Years ago, rent was really cheap, but now things are turning around," said Bova. "Now kids going to school that their parents pay for are sharing the expense of an apartment. Families with kids can't afford it."

The Boston Globe published an article this September examining the tension between the North End's traditional family atmosphere and the growing younger crowd that has entered the area since the Central Artery strengthened its connection to the rest of Boston. Bova has noticed this influx of 20-somethings as well.

"We have a young customer base now, but it used to be more families," said Bova. "More

young people are moving into the neighborhood; a lot of them are students that live here or moved here after school."

Pastry shops push on

With current economic woes, things aren't easy for small businesses. "Things do slow up," said Bova. "If people ain't around, no one's buying."

Bova has noticed a decrease in the number of visitors to the North End, which spells trouble for his shop.

"Some of the restaurants are hurting because no one wants to spend money on big meals anymore," said Bova. "When the restaurants are busy, a lot of them trickle down into our shop. When people don't come in to Boston to have dinners, it hurts us."

When asked what advice she might offer those wanting to start a business, Merola said simply: "Don't do it. Don't do it for the money or for the sweets. If you don't have the passion for the sacrifice ... don't do it."

In the future, Merola wants to

keep her pastry shop small, but she needs a protégé to take her place. The task of finding a new chef has proven almost impossible due to what Merola cites as a lack of broad knowledge among applicants. "The younger generation has no imagination," said Merola. "These culinary students, they only do one thing. There is one guy who fills the cake, one who frosts ... but that's all they can do."

Merola has been searching for her replacement for 10 years. If she cannot find a suitable chef, she says she will close the shop. "I am a person who, when I like something, I take control," said Merola. "Things need to be done my way or no way."

Only time will tell whether businesses like Bova's and Maria's will hold up in the changing climate of Boston's "Little Italy," but in the meantime, these bakery owners stay true to their traditions — ones that existed long before the Big Dig and younger residents defined the North End.

'Invalid' makes use of entire Balch arena, keeps attention of audience



ANDREW MORGENTHAUER/TUFTS DAILY
"The Imaginary Invalid" starts in Balch Arena this Thursday.

INVALID

continued from page 6

building, but neglect and age turned it into an abandoned mess. Similarly, the round floor of the theater is covered with medicines, cleaning products and trinkets, with a chair in the middle raised roughly seven feet off the ground by blocks. Neither Argan nor those around him seem to notice the mess in the room, as they are too caught up in their own worlds to pay it any attention.

The chair seems to be the pivotal prop, as it symbolizes not only the difficulty that others have understanding Argan, but also the high pedestal upon which Argan places himself and how this perspective obscures his view of reality. While there are no curtains that allow for scenery change, lighting is used in between acts for set changes. Lighting also effectively shifts the audience's gaze to certain characters. Music played during the acts' inceptions and finales reminds viewers of the show's generally playful nature — effectively

setting and then reinforcing the mood.

"The Imaginary Invalid" refreshingly uses the entire space in Balch Arena as opposed to limiting the action to the stage itself. There are numerous times throughout the play when actors are heard (but not seen) from different sides of the oval or will appear at the top of a towering staircase and make a dramatic entrance. No part of the set is wasted, which keeps the audience on its toes.

The play can be enjoyed by a wide audience as it "incorporates physical, intelligent, and 'dirty' humor," according to director Ullman. Due to this eclectic array of humor, the plot stays captivating.

Though the show's plot itself is ironic, more irony can be found behind the scenes. According to Ullman, the play came together well but with some struggle due to very real invalids who were involved in the production itself. The outbreak of H1N1, seasonal flu and simple common colds hit cast and crew hard and negatively impacted rehears-

al attendance, which made it more difficult to polish the play. Despite this setback, it is clear that each member of 3Ps went the extra mile in order to compensate for the setbacks.

"The Imaginary Invalid" will run Nov. 19 through Nov. 21. Shows begin at 8 p.m. in the Balch Arena Theater. Tickets are \$7.

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE TUFTS DAILY

Dear Open Letter,



Sincerely,
The Daily Arts Department

Write to Us!

We want to hear from you. Send an Op-Ed of 800 to 1,200 words to oped@tuftsdaily.com and/or a brief Letter to the Editor to letters@tuftsdaily.com

Wednesday, September 12, 2007

THE TUFTS DAILY OP-ED

Bare feet: just watch what yo

NADIA DI MARCO

I am currently sitting in the Tower Café mortified and surrounded by bare feet. There is a girl to the left of me bobbing her head to the music surrounding her ears. She is completely oblivious to the fact that her bare, wiggling toes are less than two feet away from my face.

She's not even comfortable. She keeps adjusting, readjusting and moving around. Perhaps it's a new trend? To my right there is another young girl resting her bare feet on the marble table.

On the table. The very same table upon which this girl's feet are splayed is one where I ate many a time last semester. I'm not alone in my repulsion; I see the girl sitting next to her eyeing her feet as well, but she's just oblivious. That's two people in a five-foot radius with zero consideration for their fellow neighbors.

When I sit on an airplane and the person (usually a kid) next to me has his or her bare feet on the tray table, I get the same feeling of disgust. I don't understand why anyone

would think that it is okay to throw their feet about in public.

Do people like the thought of licking other's people feet? (Let's leave kinky cases out of this.) How about the thought of smelling other people's feet? No, no, no! In our society, feet are known to be dirty, smelly and unpleasant; I mean come on, I don't even want to be close to my own feet.

By the way, as I type, the girl next to me just moved her foot even closer to me!

Why don't people get it? It is just plain common sense! You would think attending Tufts University would be enough to figure out that being barefoot in a café is not only rude, it's despicable. It says, "I don't care about anyone but me and my own comfort."

Imagine going into work and putting your bare feet on your desk or going to a client's job site, or anywhere else professional. Imagine walking into your dean's office and he or she has his or her bare feet on the desk. It would never happen, because it's not okay.

We are here to get ready for the real world. Speaking from experience as a Resumed Education for Adult Learners student, you

can trust me, people: No one or her shoes in a professio My rampage has turned in kids need to understand their rude habits leave T big surprise.

Is it that unreasonable keep their shoes on ir 'em off at the beach, r restaurant — I don't them on when you' the couch trying

And for cryin' off the table!

I came i' read som' distract write th to say, " my pers very ar I see w inconsi the pag get pul read ar wrong. And



O
(vice

SEAN O'LOUGHLIN

On Monday, Will E... voiced his support for Barack Obama in the Presidential campaign ("for president", Sept. 10). One point, supported Obama's bid for the White House. An intelligent, charismatic whose greatest political indeed his criticism of from the start. And he the harbinger of great ch Washington. That's why a great vice president Joseph Biden.

I wouldn't be surpr learn that many people familiar with Sen. Biden. I wouldn't be surprised that many people are no iar with most presidential dates, Democrat and Rep The media, in their att focus on Obama, Sen. Clinton, former Mass. G Mitt Romney and form York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani, have allowed candidates such as Sens. Biden, Christopher Dodd, Sam Brownback, and former Ark. Governor Mike Huckabee to fall through the cracks. However, attention needs to be paid to these "also-rans," because among them lies the best man to lead our country.

It is true, Biden did vote to authorize the war in 2002. When asked about this vote, Biden says that, as President, he too would have asked for the authority to go into Iraq. He simply would not have used it. It is also true that he voted for the special funding bill earlier this year, while Obama and Clinton did not. He explained this in a debate soon after, saying that he "knew the right political vote." But he also knew that a large portion of that funding would be going to better equipment for our soldiers.

Biden is the only candidate with a viable, possible plan for post-Bush Iraq. N. M. Governor Bill Richardson wants to leave within 6 months of being inaugurated. Unfortunately, that's physically impossible. There are simply too many men to be withdrawn in 6 months. If all of the troops are withdrawn right now, as soon as possible, we're going

Get your thoughts on this page.

The Biden plan is simple. Imagine a country with a national government, but also with distinct regions, each with certain jurisdiction, that is complementary to, yet still subordinate to the national government. If this sounds familiar, you may live in the United States of America. This is also what it says in the Iraqi constitution. The Bush administration has said that for the Iraqi constitution to be implemented, the national government needs to be strong enough to enforce security throughout the country. But as the success of al-Anbar province has shown us, security is built from the ground up, not the top down. The Biden plan does just that.

Biden was elected senator in 1972. He has served as chair of both the Senate Judiciary Committee and the Foreign Relations Committee. What our country needs most right now is foreign relations experience, and Biden's got it. He is the best man, Democrat or Republican or Green or Bloomberg, to sit in the Oval Office.

For more info, please visit joe-biden.com.

Sean O'Loughlin is a freshman who has not yet declared a major.

forgot the courage, values and resolve that propelled our country to greatness.

Even worse, we have betrayed our forefathers' confidence in the righteousness of fighting on freedom's behalf — a confidence that once instilled courage in the hearts of American revolutionaries despite the seeming impossibility of victory and later invigorated Allied forces fighting fascist enemies in Europe and Asia.

We are assured of America's defeat daily in Iraq, not by our enemies on the battlefield, but by a growing contingent within the Democratic Party: It is this lot — led by Sen. Harry Reid, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, Rep. John Murtha and the party's presidential candidates — who insist on the futility of U.S. military and Iraqi political efforts alike.

They insist on the rapid withdrawal of troops from battle. They insist that staying in Iraq to fight extremism, to deter Iranian interference, to run with the current wave of military momentum and to build on popular uprisings against al-Qaeda throughout the country (or, what residents of the now famous Anbar province call the "Great Awakening") is contrary to American security interests.

insignificantly on the conscience of Sen. Obama, who indulgently lauds himself as a champion of hope. His hope is an audacious brand indeed.

The reality is that we are in the midst of the first great war of the 21st century. It is a war of ideology as much as it is a contest to be won on the battlefield. And whereas Iraq may not have been the frontline of this struggle in 2003, it is the theater of the conflict today.

On one end of the spectrum is the United States, defending the rights of ordinary Iraqis and committed to the creation of a stable ally in a region otherwise defined by dysfunctional government. While American-style democracy may never take root, Iraq still clings to the prospect of representative politics.

Amazingly, after four years of devastating violence, Iraqis continue to show resolve and an admirable determination to emerge from the shadows of despotism and terror.

At the other end of this spectrum are the existential enemies of human progress. Peddling an antiquated ideology of extreme Islam and preaching a virulent message of hatred, the warriors of Islamism draw on a totalitar-

n vision of societal order that, at its most basic level, a fantasy. Their unrelenting pursuit of a long-dead caliphate is glaring in its denial of modern political realities and the overwhelming power of the Western world. However, this delusional ideology sanitizes discriminate violence and brutality, deeming them obligatory within a framework of "defensive" jihad against Islam's enemies.

In fomenting civil war in Iraq, al-Qaeda and its proxies seek to engender despair, inefficiency, insecurity and resentment — the fuel to their militant fire. We must realize the simple truth that just as Iraq is our frontline against terrorism, so too is the terrorist's frontline against Western civilization.

After turning back the "effeminate superpower," their next step is cleansing the Holy Lands of infidel blood and ousting a Saudi regime that is, unbelievably, inadequately Islamic. From Mecca to Egypt to Jerusalem and beyond, the caliphate is to be extended and its enemies destroyed. Thus, looking to those among us who frown at American military gains and find a perverse vindication of their anti-war politics in every truck-bomb that claims innocent Iraqi lives, we find a segment of our country definitively unprepared to face civilization's enemies.

It is true that our predicament is a frightening one. Armed with a dangerous irrationality and a passion for martyrdom, the jihadists are decisive and resolute. There is no appeasing this enemy. There is no reasoning with it. There is no compromising and there is no coexistence.

Surrender or Persevere. These are the only options and the choice is ours to make. In choosing the path to victory, however, one thing has become increasingly clear. In November 2008, American voters will have to send the Democrats the very same message that must thunder in the ears of those extremists who dare to wage war against the United States of America: "You cannot win and you will not prevail!"

Matthew Ladner is a junior majoring in international relations.

What's Up This Weekend

Want to make your weekend artsy? Check out these events!

visit www.amsbostontours.com.)

AM's Boston Tours: Need to escape the Tufts bubble for an afternoon? AM's Boston Tours is now offering 'The Free Tour of Boston,' covering over 25 historical sights and attractions. (For more information

Joshua Radin: The acoustic singer-songwriter brings his soothing folk sound to Boston. With special guests The Watson Twins and The Kin. Open to all ages. General admission is \$20. (Sunday at the House of Blues

at 8 p.m. Doors at 7 p.m.)

Blue Man Group: The boys in blue have a standing gig at the Charles Playhouse in Boston. (Sunday, Charles Playhouse at 2 p.m. Tickets start at \$48.)

Avenue Q: The Tony Award-winning play comes to Boston

for a limited engagement this weekend. See the satirical puppets in action! (Friday at 8 p.m., Saturday at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m., and Sunday at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. at the Colonial Theatre.)

Pablo Francisco: Acclaimed comedian and star of "Ouch!,"

a hit Comedy Central standup special, will be performing at the Wilbur Theatre. Francisco is currently touring in preparation for his follow-up to "Ouch!," due to be released sometime in 2010. (Saturday at 9:45 p.m. at the Wilbur Theatre.)

— compiled by Jessica Bal

Krasinski shares exhilarating experience of adapting Wallace's book

KRASINSKI

continued from page 6

Q: In Wallace's collection of stories, we never actually know who is conducting the interviews. Why did you choose to give the interviewer an identity in the form of Sara Quinn? And what was the significance of making her a woman?

JK: I don't know why, but it always rang true from the moment I read the book that she was a woman. When I actually spoke to David Foster Wallace, he basically said that he figured she'd be a woman that was doing her dissertation at some Ivy League school and she's interviewing these guys or something. And then I said, "Hold up, that's exactly the screenplay that we wrote." It was definitely one of the best moments of my career to hear that we were not only on the right path, but seemingly heading right down the way that he wanted to.

Q: Unfortunately David Foster Wallace passed away last fall. How did you feel about releasing this film after the death of the author?

JK: We had finished the movie before he had passed away. To lose the potential to read more words that he would write is devastating. I mean he is by far one of the greatest writers we've ever had. This movie has and always will be a fraction of the imagination inspired by his work when you read him. This is just a doorway

to hopefully get more people to read his work. But again, it's scary when this is the only David Foster Wallace movie out there thus far and it definitely has added pressures. But at the same time, I hope that I just did the book justice.

Q: Why did you decide to play the character of Ryan instead of another one of the other hideous men in the movie? Was he the one you'd read in Brown during your stage reading?

JK: I actually wasn't supposed to be in the movie at all. I actually was envisioning just writing it and directing it because we had such great actors. And we had somebody fall out unfortunately two weeks before we were supposed to shoot the part. And it's such a big part. So the only thing that I had was that I had read the book 150 times, so because I was a book nerd for this book, the producers thought that I understood the tone and how the movie needed to end, and [could] get all of that dialogue in my head fast enough. So that was it, there were no other reasons.

Q: This is your directorial debut and of course you're popularly known as the character of Jim from "The Office". What was it like being behind the camera for the first time? Do you find one job to be more challenging than the other?

JK: Directing's real tough. It's also extremely thrilling. I've never been the

actor who's always wanted to be a director. In fact, this could be [the only movie I direct], you never know. But I was surrounded by a team of people that not only do I think are the greatest, but they actually are the greatest. The guy who shot the movie for me, [cinematographer] John Bailey is probably one of the top people ever to be in his field. He's such a phenomenal friend, such a phenomenal talent, and he really guided me the whole way. I basically was a glorified cheerleader coming in very excited every day to be there, getting the actors excited and the crew excited. But when it came back to focusing and making big camera choices, he was right there helping me the whole time, and I could never thank him enough for it.

Q: What kind of response were you hoping to get from the audience with this film, and do you expect the response to be very different from men than from women, or is it just basically getting a dialogue like you mentioned earlier?

JK: I think it's just a dialogue. You know when we did the reading at Brown, it was very polarizing. It's a very provocative thing I think. Some people are really totally blown away and moved by it; other people found it frustrating. Whether or not you like the movie, David Foster Wallace has the ability to write such great stuff that I just hope that you take it in, and I

hope that you take in the movie and let it percolate for a while. Then whatever decision you make, the greatest compliment you can give to anyone is that you actually took the time to ingest the movie and the experience and make a decision.

Q: The film has quite an impressive cast. What was it like having to direct so many different actors?

JK: I was basically a glorified audience member. I got to sit behind a little, tiny TV with earphones and basically get my own free show. These guys were so incredibly talented that I think that it was like an acting clinic. When I was writing the script I actually had most of those people in mind, because at the time I was still waiting tables. And when I was writing, I was going to the theater and going to see indie films, and so all those people [I cast] were the people who were inspiring me while I wrote it. They all immediately signed on and knew exactly what we were trying to do with the movie, that it would be a very different movie than people were used to. In representing themselves as these men, it would only pose to represent different factions of the male psyche and the vulnerabilities and insecurities. No one guy was actually a real person or somebody that we could all adhere to completely, but basically when you add them all up there's definitely a lot of truth to what they're saying.

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EDITORIAL

MBTA needs to get back on track

Of all the states in the country, Massachusetts is arguably the most willing to pay substantial taxes in return for reliable services. In this respect, public servants are in an enviable position; and as a result, they owe it to the rest of this state's residents to provide creative solutions — or at least not backward ones.

By refusing to address the vast majority of problems highlighted in a grave report that was released this month, the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA) is making a very poor decision and tempting fate. Perhaps more importantly, it is once again exposing the inherent flaws in its operating system.

A report commissioned by Gov. Deval Patrick has turned over yet another one of the MBTA's dirty rocks, outlining 57 projects that it deemed necessary to maintaining a safe transportation system. One of the report's biggest concerns was that the T's Red Line trains are at risk of derailment between the Alewife and Harvard stops. This portion, which includes Tufts' Davis

Square stop, suffers from water leakage that is making track fasteners and concrete slabs deteriorate. And the MBTA is not doing much about it.

The agency has implemented plans to deal with only six of the 57 suggested projects; one of the many unfunded initiatives pertained to the precarious Red Line situation. Why would the MBTA commit such a glaring oversight? The answer has a lot to do with the serious debt the agency has accrued over the past decade. This debt comes in part from an overly rosy approximation that Massachusetts made in 2000, when it decided that all the MBTA's tax revenue would come from one percent of the annual state sales tax. The 2000s did not follow in the unsustainable footsteps of the "roaring" 1990s, and sales tax revenues proved far less abundant than the government had hoped.

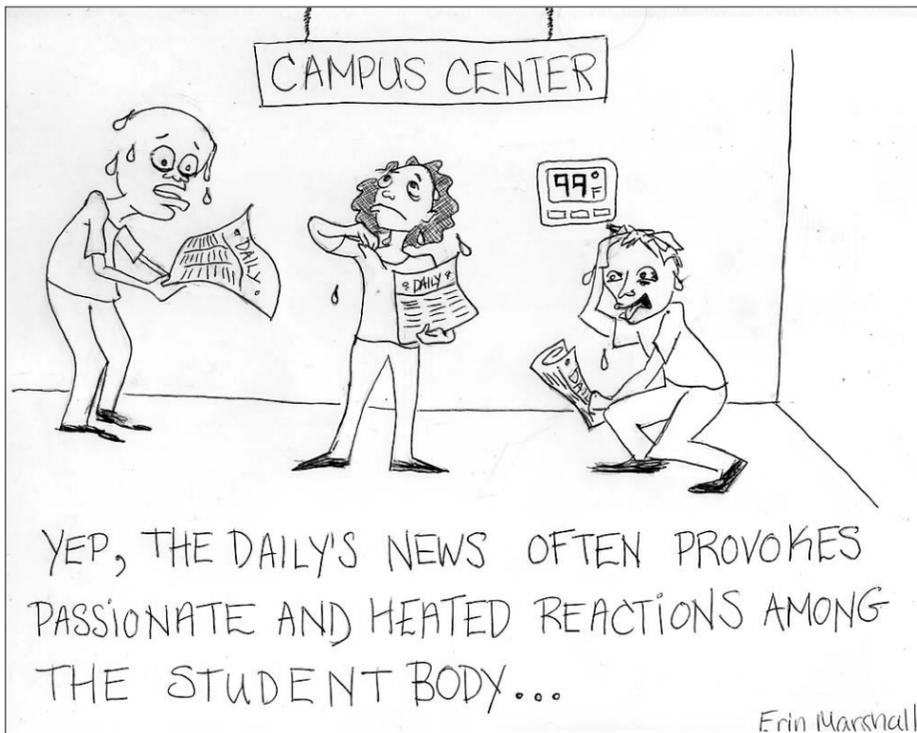
All the while, the MBTA has steadily accrued a costly debt, piling it up bit by bit. The state legislature has been sitting back, often too timid to step in and demand with something stronger than

rhetoric that the agency make cuts, add sources of revenue and generally implement a more functional system.

There are clearly important changes to be made. Not only do T passengers ride for \$0.55 less than do New York subway commuters, the MBTA does outrageously little to maintain an efficient work force. Of 100 employee files reviewed by the governor's investigators, not one mentioned an employee's performance. Additionally, no one has been fired for lackluster performance alone in over 10 years, and over a third of MBTA workers have standing medical notices preemptively permitting them to temporarily leave work.

If after an earnest attempt the MBTA simply cannot make its operations profitable, the state must step in with a more reasonable tax revenue source. Bumping up highway tolls would be an excellent place to start — it would incentivize using greener transportation methods like, well, riding the T while also reining in money that could go toward Massachusetts' reeling public transportation system.

ERIN MARSHALL



OFF THE HILL | BOSTON UNIVERSITY

Advertise responsibly

BY LAUREN RODRIGUE
The Daily Free Press

A relatively new advertising campaign for Absolut Boston vodka now plasters the newly renovated Kenmore T station, as part [of] a battalion of alcohol ads pervading the MBTA system that over half of the city's youth sees every day. A recent report saying that the ads lead to dangerous underage alcohol consumption wishes to ban these ads, while the T feels they're necessary to help meet non-fare revenue quotas and maintain financial stability. The ads are unnoticeable, surely, and influential to a degree, but at what point do they become so oppressive as to be marked dangerous to underage Bostonians?

In the same way that alcohol ads tell consumers to "drink responsibly," advertisers and clients should push alcoholic products responsibly. The complete eradication of alcohol ads would probably do little to sway

underage drinking — Boston is a bustling urban center; alcohol, embodied by bars, clubs and even supermarkets and liquor stores, is "advertised" during any walk of any short distance. And alcohol ads are still televised, where cigarette ads are not. And with these times of financial struggle, the T cannot be choosy about their ad revenue — they likely picked the campaign that was the most lucrative, and it just happened to be from a company that makes vodka. It isn't the T's primary responsibility to be advocates for alcohol abstinence, but rather where they best serve Boston is in keeping fares low and service high-quality and efficient.

Cigarettes present immediate danger — that is, every time someone smokes, they automatically put their bodies in danger. But drinking — moderately — is not dangerous, neither for those over-, under- or of-age. It's true that underage drinking is illegal, but not just underage kids take the T,

and teens who see these ads are well aware of the illegalities of drinking under the age of 21 and the negative health implications of binge drinking. Since the ads are in areas of mass transportation stations, there is no danger of drinking and driving. The bottom line is that these ads are just ads. They will have an influence on some, and none on others. Those who are most vulnerable to these ads are not the responsibility of the MBTA to keep in check. Banning these types of ads, as a new bill currently under consideration in the Joint Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight aims to do, will only add more taboo and paranoia to the stigma of something that, if used responsibly, is not a major problem. So long as the advertisements are not overly abrasive and stay relatively discreet, as they are now — showing only bottles and a few words per ad — there should be no need to recall them. The T, frankly, has more to worry about.

Correction

Due to an editing error, yesterday's article "Mail goes undelivered in downhill dorms" inaccurately stated that Mail Services Supervisor Ron Drauschke implied there were recent mail delays in Bush and Haskell Halls. In fact, the article should have stated that Drauschke said that the student mail delivery person in Lewis Hall was also responsible for mail delivery in Bush and Haskell Halls.

Securing our future through missile defense

BY EMILY RECTOR

General George S. Patton summed up the American psyche quite well when he wrote, "After each of our wars, there has always been a great hue and cry to the effect that there will be no more wars, that disarmament is the sure road to health, happiness, and peace; and that by removing the fire department, we will remove fires." This is exactly President Obama's plan with regards to foreign policy: Remove the fire department in the hopes that it will remove the fires. Unfortunately, fires don't stop occurring just because there is no one to combat them.

Take missile defense for example. The Air Force's National Air and Space Intelligence Center released a report this summer saying Iran could produce a long-range intercontinental ballistic missile capable of reaching the continental United States by 2015. By this time, Iran would presumably have figured out how to mount a nuclear warhead on this missile, meaning that Iran could drop a nuclear bomb on the United States in about five years. Leaving aside the question of whether Iran has the right to pursue nuclear technology, I seriously doubt anyone reading this would want the United States to be vulnerable to an Iranian nuclear attack.

How do we combat this problem? The answer is simple: missile defense. In fact, missile defense tests have been extremely successful. In U.S. missile defense testing history, every test but one was a complete success (and in the exception the rate of success was 90 percent). These include tests of ground-based, sea-based and air-based interceptors beginning with the United States' decision to deploy missile defenses in 2002. With such a high rate of success, it is mind-boggling that the president would not pursue a more comprehensive, layered missile-defense system.

However, rather than pursuing such a system, the president decided to scrap plans to put 10 ground-based interceptors in Poland and a radar base in the Czech Republic, thereby not only snubbing our allies and reneging on a promise, but also placing the United States and our forces around the world in greater danger. Rather than pursuing the previously agreed upon setup, President Obama proposed a new phased, adaptive approach by making use of sea-based and Standard Missile-3 technology to protect against what the administration perceives is the more potent threat of short-range rather than long-range missiles.

But, as previously demonstrated, the idea that short-range missiles are the more immediate threat is fatally flawed. Certainly the danger from short-range missiles is great, but we cannot discount the threat of long-range missiles in the near future, nor should we have to. Iran is pursuing its missile capabilities



MCT

holistically, and we should pursue our defenses in a similar manner. Rather than scrapping the plan to place interceptors in Poland and a radar base in the Czech Republic that would be able to intercept long-range ballistic missiles and protect our troops, our homeland and our allies, we should be pursuing a strategy in accordance with the threat. We should deploy missile defenses against short-range missiles, but we also need to think about the bigger picture. Additionally, in order to request, receive and put into action the funding required to deploy missile defenses against long-range missiles, we need to start now. If we wait until Iran has perfected its long-range capability, it will be too late to deploy defenses against it.

We cannot remain unprepared for the threats that face us. That is dangerously naïve. Rather than relying solely on diplomacy and neglecting to fund the capabilities necessary to protect us in case diplomacy fails, we should prepare ourselves. As Patton went on to say, "I do not say that there will be no more wars; I devoutly hope that there will not, but I do say that the chances of avoiding future wars will be greatly enhanced if we are ready."

In an effort to reach a greater appreciation of the looming threat, the documentary "33 Minutes: Protecting America in the New Missile Age" will be screened tonight at 9 p.m. in Barnum 104. Hopefully, by furthering our understanding of the ongoing danger, we can better prepare ourselves to meet it.

JACOB KREIMER | THE SALVADOR

Not cool,
military.
Not cool.



A month from yesterday marked the 50th birthday of El Salvador's relatively good-for-the-people president, Mauricio Funes. With 43 people murdered that same day, it also marked the "bloodiest day of the last decade," according to El Salvador's Policia Nacional Civil (PNC). While it appears that the timing of Funes' birthday and the spike in murders is pretty much pure coincidence, it seems that the number hit a chord with the president. El Salvador has been notorious for its gang problems — which are often accused of being the root of gang issues in Mexico and Los Angeles — a fact that can be clearly seen in its annual homicide rates. Last year, gangs murdered 3,200 Salvadorans. No doubt this is a high number no matter the circumstance. But when we consider that the total population of El Salvador is around 5.8 million people (comparable to that of Houston, Texas), the number becomes all the more potent. Last month, the number of gang-related homicides this year reached 3,400 — 1,000 more than the number of deaths this time in 2008. It's hard not to sigh.

Just a few days after his birthday, Funes announced a plan concurrent with the United Nations Development Programme's report on Central American violence to deal with the problem. The plan seems simple: Funes called on the national military to work with the PNC to enforce current law to break up gangs and decrease the number of murders. But in a country with an incredibly brutal history of military involvement, this proclamation is causing more than just this guy to raise his eyebrows. If you've read this column in the last few weeks, you should already be somewhat aware of Central America's best kept civil war secret — indeed if you aren't, I've pretty much failed. From 1980 to 1992, El Salvador was torn apart as the right-wing government used the army to combat leftist guerilla troops fighting on behalf of the rural poor for a legitimate voice in government. In a classic case of government oppression begetting resistance forces begetting more government violence, the Salvadoran Civil War didn't end until well after most of today's Tufts students were born.

With government-backed military massacres as recent as the day our parents brought us home from the hospital, is it too soon to start giving the military substantial power over its own people? I'd say yes. But when the directive comes from a leftist president who leads the politically legitimate arm of the former guerilla-fighting organization Frente Farabundo Marti Liberacion Nacional (FMLN), the irony of Funes' announcement seems even more pronounced. On the other hand, it isn't hard to see how difficult it is for the country to move past its scarred history with such high murder rates — and the political and economic fallout that comes with it. With such intense violence dominating the streets of San Salvador, it is little wonder that the country is facing tough economic times even by current standards of the Great Recession. As Hernando Gómez Buendía, the general coordinator of the U.N. report, said: "Without security, there is no investment. Without investment, there is no employment, and without employment, there is no human development. Security is an essential part of the development strategy of nations and cities."

Will cutting violence via the military be the silver bullet to cure El Salvador's economic woes? Probably not. But somewhere among the constitutional hurdles and the public outcry that Funes faces, there lies a nation struggling to deal with its past and present. This time though, let's hope the army only goes after the bad guys.

Jacob Kreimer is a junior majoring in international relations. He can be reached at Jacob.Kreimer@tufts.edu.

A hopeful future put into action by Tufts students

BY ERIC SULLIVAN

There were certainly a number of great events at Tufts over the past couple of weeks. There were three that didn't garner much, if any, attention in the Daily, but that nonetheless exemplified the best of what Tufts has to offer.

On Monday, Nov. 9, Leon Rubinstein, a Holocaust survivor and author of "Escape to Freedom," spoke at Tufts Hillel on the 71st anniversary of Kristallnacht, which marked the start of the organized campaign of inhuman brutality that had scarcely been seen before. Hillel and Tufts CAFÉ (Conversations Action Faith Education) worked hand-in-hand over several months to bring Rubinstein to Tufts from his home in Florida so students here would be able to listen to his remarkable story. It was the first time Rubinstein spoke to a college audience, and a full 24 hours before that, the cross-town rival in Cambridge had a chance to hear him speak. It was an understandably moving event for the 80 or so in attendance, who listened attentively to the still vibrant and intensely poignant story of a man who had lived in times and suffered personal losses that many of us could scarcely comprehend. And all of it was made possible

because two distinctly diverse student groups worked together in a way that paid tribute to the legacy of the Holocaust.

Then on Friday, Nov. 13, there was a fundraiser in the Sophia Gordon Multipurpose Room for Computers for Careers, a charity that provides impoverished children with the opportunity for a livelihood beyond poverty through information technology. Computers for Careers is a praiseworthy product of the Tufts experience produced by an even more esteemed product of Tufts. Current Fletcher student Constantin Sabet d'Acre started the organization while he was an undergraduate at Tufts a couple years ago. At the event, performances by Tufts' own BlackOut and the Tufts Garba Team were impressive and the Nepalese food was, of course, delicious. However, the most impressive and most delicious part of the evening (for the soul) was the fact that all of us there knew exactly where all the proceeds were headed and that they would bring to impoverished children the 21st-century skills needed to have a real chance at life.

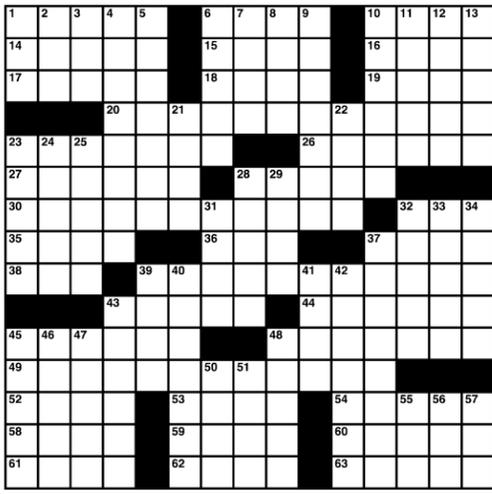
And finally, on Monday, Nov. 16, there was the annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Dinner at the Interfaith Center where stu-

dents of all faiths gathered together to celebrate Thanksgiving as a diverse community. Hindu, Buddhist, Jewish, Catholic, Protestant, Latter Day Saint, Unitarian, Muslim and Baha'i students, as well as those of no particular faith or creed, came together in a demonstration of unity despite diversity for a common expression of gratitude. This was especially visible when the opportunity arose to perform an act of service by writing short notes or letters to children with terminal illnesses. It was truly a neat sight to behold and akin to observing a garden of great variety in which such diversity creates the beauty and charm of that garden.

And as we approach Thanksgiving, I realize that despite any issues we may have with things here and there at Tufts (including the price of tuition), it is nonetheless a remarkable place with unique opportunities for us to bring into action the world that we want to encounter each day. Tufts fosters a world where the horror of the Holocaust will never be repeated, where children in dire poverty have a real chance at life, and where people of all nations, faiths and creeds live in peace and harmony. This is what most of us hope for, and this is what I saw put into living action the past two weeks at our university.

CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- 1 Choir member
 - 6 Quite
 - 10 Ending with slug or gab
 - 14 Make amends
 - 15 Faulkner's "As ___ Dying"
 - 16 Pearl Harbor site
 - 17 Blazed furiously
 - 18 Common nickname for a doter
 - 19 66 and others: Abbr.
 - 20 Weightlifting event
 - 23 Ben-Gurion, e.g. 26 "It's ___ business"
 - 27 Kind of biological network
 - 28 Sea
 - 30 Golf course pest
 - 32 Corp. money manager
 - 35 Fighting
 - 36 Gallery hanging
 - 37 Hang onto
 - 38 ID with hyphens
 - 39 Spinning toy manipulated with sticks
 - 43 River in Lyons
 - 44 Belfast's province
 - 45 Early Ford success
 - 48 Actors, often
 - 49 Honest info
 - 52 Road sign silhouette
 - 53 Debt indicators
 - 54 Ticked off
 - 58 Like some vaccines
 - 59 Dresden's river
 - 60 Landlocked African country
 - 61 A handful of
 - 62 Navy commando
 - 63 Gothic house feature
- DOWN**
- 1 La Brea goo
 - 2 Seventh Greek letter
 - 3 Christmas quaff
 - 4 200 milligrams, to a jeweler
 - 5 Original primer used to paint the Golden Gate Bridge
 - 6 Source of the Law
 - 7 ___ Bator, Mongolia
 - 8 Where Jesus turned water to wine
 - 9 Cape Cod site of a JFK museum
 - 10 How some jump?
 - 11 Corroded
 - 12 Sex researcher Hite
 - 13 Mammoth features
 - 21 Contemporary of Dizzy and Billie
 - 22 Finished
 - 23 Early Peruvians
 - 24 Senate posts
 - 25 Confrontation
 - 28 Carried
 - 29 Classroom drilling
 - 31 Come out ahead
 - 32 British actor Robert, the original Colonel Pickering in "My Fair Lady"
 - 33 Candidate's handout
 - 34 Trash emanations
 - 37 Common crowd reaction in monster films
 - 39 Colombian city
 - 40 Some heroes
 - 41 Sport for 300-pounders
 - 42 Like lovers skipping church?
 - 43 Pharmaceutical giant that developed Celebrex
 - 45 Windows predecessor
 - 46 Alamogordo's county
 - 47 Nightmare, e.g.
 - 48 Ill-fated Ford
 - 50 Putter's target
 - 51 Very big wind
 - 55 Soviet spy org.
 - 56 Snakelike fish
 - 57 Hip-hop Dr.



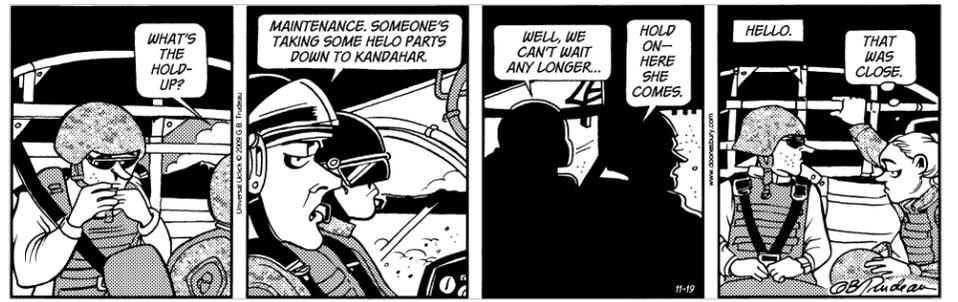
By Jack McInturff 11/19/09

WEDNESDAY'S SOLUTION



DOONESBURY

BY GARRY TRUDEAU

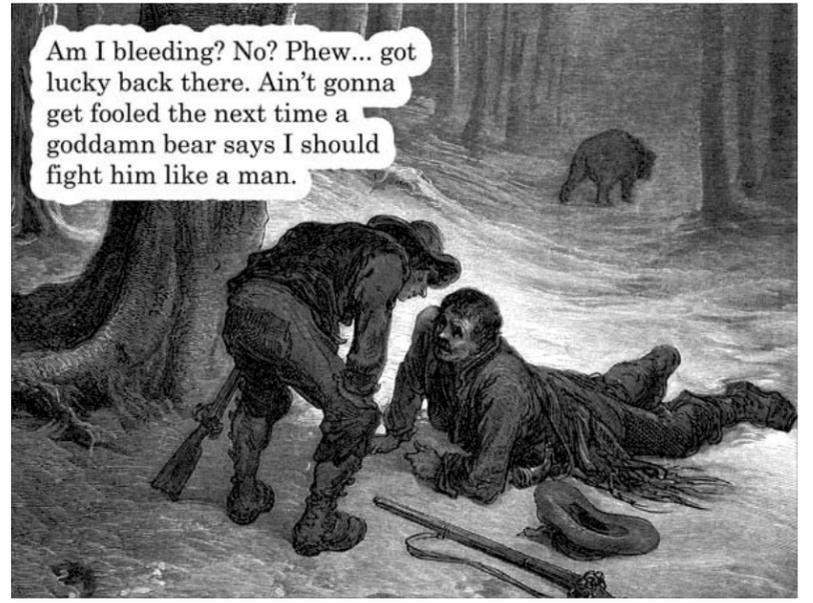


NON SEQUITUR

BY WILEY



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JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Mike Argirion and Jeff Knurek

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

YOOTS

INVEX

INBENG

PROAND



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

A: [Circled letters from the jumbles]

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: TARRY PEACE TANDEM PREFIX
 Answer: What the film student received when he appeared in the movie — "EXTRA" CREDIT

SUDOKU

Level: Cooking your own Thanksgiving turkey.

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

Wednesday's Solution

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

LATE NIGHT AT THE DAILY



Ben S: "I could do without farting."



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Jumbos to cut the ice against Middlebury in season opener

ICE HOCKEY

continued from page 15

Along with Derosa, junior Dylan Cooper will also be returning to this year's squad. His team-leading 16 assists in 2008-09 earned him a tie for sixth best in the league and his 21 points were third most on the team. Cooper also joins seniors David Antonelli and Myles Neumann — last year's co-captains — as a tri-captain for the 2009-10 campaign.

If great goaltending can win championships, which Amherst's NESCAC championship run last year certainly proved, then the Jumbos should be fine shape with Barchard in net.

Last year, Barchard had a rookie season for the record books. With 862 saves, Barchard eclipsed the Jumbos' previous single-season saves mark, while also tallying far and away the most in the conference. Overall, his .927 save percentage was fourth-best in the league. With his regular 50-plus save performances, Barchard was a stop plug for the Jumbos whenever they were struggling, lifting them to numerous wins despite some lopsided shot counts. With the sophomore back between the pipes this year, there is no limit to what the Jumbos are capable of.

"For me, it's just a matter of getting better every day," Barchard said. "A lot of guys are blocking shots and sacrificing the body in front me, which makes my job a lot easier. It's a six-man game out there, and we're trying to continue to play a complete team defense, starting with the forwards and all the way back to me."

One of the few things that could stand between the Jumbos and a truly success-

ful season may be their special teams. Last year, Tufts struggled both on the power play and the penalty kill, fielding just the sixth-best units in the NESCAC in both categories. With just a 16.9 percent success rate on the man advantage, the Jumbos will need to work on exploiting more of their opportunities so they can cash in with timely goals.

"We've been working on [special teams] a lot, and it's just guys getting used to each other again and knowing what everybody's tendencies are on the power play and penalty kill," Barchard said.

"Our PK [penalty kill] starts with our goalie, and this will be Scott's second season, so that should be good," Derosa added. "Our defense looks a lot better, and we got a few freshmen that are really going to help out a lot on the PK too."

Last year, the Jumbos got off to a slow start, dropping three of their first four games, all of which were on the road. In their first contest on home ice at the Malden Forum, however, Tufts topped Saint Anselm — a perennially strong team — 4-1, which got the Jumbos rolling on a season-high five-game winning streak. The impressive run included wins over powerhouses like New England College and Norwich, with the latter victory marking the first time the Jumbos beat the Cadets since joining the league in 2001.

"We hope that it won't take as long to adjust as it did last year," Derosa said. "At the end of last year, we started to finish really strong, so hopefully we carry that over to this year."

This year, Tufts is hoping to kick

things off on a higher note, although it will face some of its toughest competition in the opening weekend. The Jumbos will hit the ice for the first time Friday night when they host last year's NESCAC runner-up Middlebury, followed by a matchup against Williams — which finished third in the conference last season — on Saturday at home. These are the same two teams that Tufts fell to in their opening weekend last season, but with the experience the team has gained and the home-ice advantage, the Jumbos will be looking to reverse their fortunes.

"The fact that our first two games are at home means a lot ... and we have a much better chance playing at home," Derosa said. "Especially Middlebury likes to spread out the ice, and that works at their rink since they have an Olympic-size rink, but we don't so that plays into our hands a lot."

Against the Panthers, the Jumbos will be facing last year's top scoring offense and power play. If Tufts hopes to come out on top in its season opener, it will have to rely on a lockdown effort from both its blue-liners and goalkeeper. It won't be an easy task, but the Jumbos are feeling up to the challenge and are looking forward to testing themselves against some of their strongest opponents early in the year as they look to set the tone for their new campaign.

"Having an older bunch of guys against such strong opponents helps everybody understand that when the puck drops, everybody has to be ready to play the whole game and the whole season," Barchard said.

First place in the AFC West on the line this weekend

NFL

continued from page 15

a three-game lead were it not for Bill Belichick's much-criticized coaching call in the waning seconds of last week's 35-34 in the team's Week 10 loss to the Indianapolis Colts.

Fortunately for Belichick and the Patriots, though, it does not look like the Dolphins or the Jets have what it takes to catch them in the AFC East, but the decision to go for it on fourth down may end up affecting their playoff seeding come January.

Right now, the teams who look to be fighting for the AFC wild card spots are the Ravens, the Steelers, the Jacksonville Jaguars (5-4), the Houston Texans (5-4) and either the Broncos or the Chargers.

As the season progresses, two Week 11 games could have a huge impact on the playoff race, as the Falcons travel to the Meadowlands to take on the Giants, while the Broncos host the Chargers. The winner of the Atlanta-New York game will hold a key head-to-head tie-breaker if the two end up competing for a wild card spot, and the winner of the Denver-San Diego game will take over sole possession of first place in the AFC West.

Of course, while the playoff spots are beginning to shape up, anything can ultimately change with seven weeks left in the season.

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Jumbos confident despite Salisbury's reputation

FIELD HOCKEY

continued from page 16

"We obviously have been working on seven-vs.-seven overtime but we don't want to have to use it," Scholtes said. "We want to finish the game in 70 minutes."

A regulation win on Saturday would put the Jumbos in prime shape for the championship game on Sunday against either No. 1 Messiah or No. 3 Ursinus, with Messiah boasting the only undefeated record in the tournament and Ursinus holding the 2006 national title.

"We're focusing on rest a lot because we've talked a lot about the fact that we have all the skills we built up all season so we're putting our focus on our mental game a lot," Kelly said. "I don't think we played our best games this past weekend and I think it says a lot that we can do that and still get the win. So hopefully this weekend that's all been corrected and we'll just click like we can."

"This is the weekend we've all been working for all summer and all fall ... This is what everyone has been waiting for: these games right now."

Rachel Gerhardt
freshman midfielder

It seems mentality, fitness and maybe a little bit of luck will be what wins this game for either team, as the Jumbos and Sea Gulls boast almost identical statistics. The Jumbos have posted 78 goals while Salisbury has recorded 80, and both teams allowed 11. Tufts has racked up 243 penalty corners and given up 76, while Salisbury has had 254 and given up 85. Tufts' leading scorer, junior Tamara Brown, has 21 goals and 13 assists, while Salisbury's leading scorer, senior Lauren Correll, has an almost-identical 20 goals and 8 assists.

"I think everyone is expecting Saturday to be a really difficult game and obviously Sunday will be hard as well," Gerhardt says. "But we have a lot of depth on our team with everyone in great shape. I just feel like if someone is tired or even if we're all tired it won't even matter because we want to walk off that field and know we did everything we possibly could."

"This is the weekend we've all been working for all summer and all fall," she continued, "This is what everyone has been waiting for: these games right now."

Tufts seeks out first NCAA championship in Ohio

VOLLEYBALL

continued from page 16

goal and finish strong, which is something we didn't do last year."

Hope took a similar path to Thursday's showdown in Ohio. With a perfect 16-0 conference record, the Flying Dutch soared through the regular season to the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association conference title. The Dutch then powered their way through the first and second rounds of the MIAA Tournament but, like the Jumbos, could not close the deal, falling 3-1 to Calvin in the final.

Hosting the regional tournament a week later, the Flying Dutch then exacted their revenge, sweeping Calvin in the regional semifinals before earning the regional crown with their 3-1 win over Ohio Northern on Saturday.

In the most recent American Volleyball Coaches Association poll, Hope was ranked No. 6 in the nation — and for good reason. The Flying Dutch led their conference in kills, assists, service aces and digs this season. Three of their top players — junior outside hitter Jacie Fielder, senior setter Andrea Helminiak and junior middle blocker Kara VandeGuchte — were named to the NCAA Div. III Great Lakes All-Region team. Helminiak was also the MIAA's MVP.

The biggest threat to the Jumbos will be Fielder, whose 419 kills were by far the best on her team this year, as no other Dutchwoman broke the 300 mark. If the Jumbos can shut down Fielder, they will be in good shape.

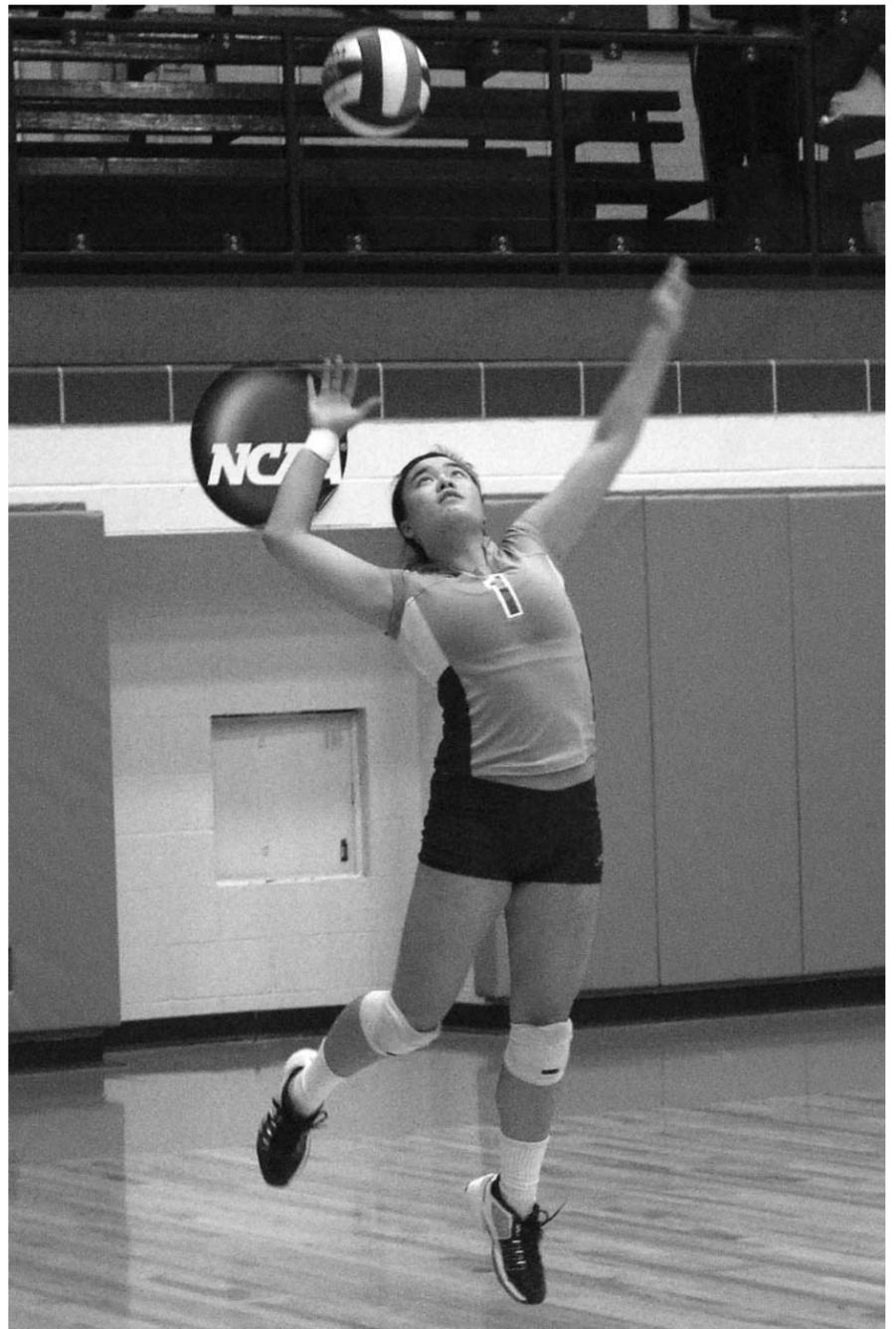
"Clearly [Fielder] is their go-to hitter statistically, and that's what the report from other coaches said," Thompson said. "Our challenge is going to be to neutralize her just like we did with [junior] Kate Anderson and Williams. And it helps that we've played Williams five times this year, but great hitters are still going to get their swings in."

Despite the accolades given to Hope, Tufts insists it will not alter its game plan.

"At this point in the season, there's no major changes you want to make as a coach," Thompson said. "We're prepared to go out there and do exactly what we've been doing and stick with what's been working. Now it's more of a mental thing, and our mental toughness is what's gotten us through the season so far."

Getting past Hope is going to be no small task, but the Jumbos have a few weapons of their own. Juniors Dawson Joyce-Mendive and Caitlin Updike both cracked 400 kills for Tufts, while senior co-captain Brogie Helgeson added over 300 herself.

With more kills than any other Jumbo this season and the third-most in the NESCAC, Joyce-Mendive has had a hot hand all year and is coming off a MVP performance in the regional. With Updike and Helgeson rounding out Tufts' offense,



JOSH BERLINGER/TUFTS DAILY

Libero Audrey Kuan will be integral today as Tufts tries to stymie a hard-hitting Hope offense.

the Jumbos — who registered the most kills of any NESCAC team this year — truly are a triple threat.

"It's great that we definitely have such a deep team and that will be a key to our success," Joyce-Mendive said.

"Any statistic is relative to your opponent," Helgeson added. "But one of our strengths is that we have a strong offense in so many different positions; we don't just have one star."

Steering the ship will be this year's NESCAC and New England Women's Volleyball Association Player of the Year: senior co-captain Dena Feiger. The first Jumbo ever to earn the prestigious award,

Feiger was the top setter in the NESCAC this year with 11.18 assists per match.

A win would advance the Jumbos to the national semifinal tomorrow against the winner of the match between Washington St. Louis (31-4) and Colorado College (35-4). But win or lose, Ohio is a long way from home, and the Jumbos will be looking to put off their trip back as long as possible.

"The best way to go into a match is coming off a big win like [ours against Williams]," Joyce-Mendive said. "And everyone just played out of their minds last weekend. We just want to keep that going."

Editors' Challenge | Week 11

Though he spun out last week, going a league-worst 8-7, Evan "Tasmanian Devil" Cooper continues to rip through the Editor's Challenge competition, and is one game away from 100 wins, sitting at 99-45. But Steve "Michael Jordan" Smith, fresh off an 11-4 week, surged up from three games back to perform a proverbial in-your-face, crotch-to-skull slam dunk on the competition.

Not far behind Cooper and Smith is the defending champion, Phil "Mr. Swackhammer" Dear, who is about as good at picking as he is being the proprietor of a far-off space mountain, going 10-5 last week to move up to 98-46 overall.

Sitting alone in fourth place after a strong 11-4 week is Dave "Bugs Bunny" Heck, whose flappy ears and shaggy hair were not the only things abundant for him in Week 10. He had a lot of correct picks. Get it?

In a four-way tie for fifth place is Alex "Tweety Bird" Prewitt, Ethan "Daffy Duck" Landy, Jeremy "Marvin the Martian" Greenhouse and Sapna "Lola Bunny" Bansil. The quartet is all knotted at

96-48 overall after Greenhouse springboarded up the standings with a 11-4 week, while Landy and Bansil both dropped down thanks in large part to 9-6 weeks. Landy, the only person to pick New England, Philadelphia and Jacksonville, continues to speak his own mallard-like language when it comes to picking and had the Pats pick blow up in his face like it was from Acme.

Mike "Monstar Blanko" Spera continues to pick as if he's off riding a roller coaster on Moron Mountain rather than being an NFL Nerdluck, going 10-5 last week. He is still the only editor to have cracked 50 losses and continues to be the only one yet to have 90 wins. But barring an abysmal Week 11, he will get there. We have faith in him. You go big guy.

Guest-picking this week will be Andrew "Yosemite Sam" Morgenthaler, taking time out to mosey on over from the sidelines in an attempt to infiltrate the sports section's ranks of elite.

And Arts Department — I don't know about you, but we are looking forward to Thanksgiving football.

OVERALL RECORD LAST WEEK	Evan 99-45 8-7	Steve 99-45 11-4	Phil 98-46 10-5	Dave 97-47 11-4	Alex 96-48 10-5	Ethan 96-48 9-6	Jeremy 96-48 11-4	Sapna 96-48 9-6	Mike 88-56 10-5	GUEST Andrew Morgenthaler
Miami at Carolina Washington at Dallas Cleveland at Detroit	Miami Dallas Detroit	Carolina Dallas Detroit	Carolina Dallas Detroit	Carolina Dallas Detroit	Carolina Dallas Detroit	Carolina Dallas Detroit	Miami Dallas Detroit	Carolina Dallas Detroit	Carolina Dallas Detroit	Carolina Washington Cleveland
San Francisco at Green Bay Pittsburgh at Kansas City Atlanta at NY Giants	Green Bay Pittsburgh NY Giants	Green Bay Pittsburgh NY Giants	Green Bay Pittsburgh NY Giants	Green Bay Pittsburgh NY Giants	Green Bay Pittsburgh NY Giants	Green Bay Pittsburgh NY Giants	Green Bay Pittsburgh NY Giants	San Francisco Pittsburgh NY Giants	Green Bay Pittsburgh NY Giants	San Francisco Pittsburgh NY Giants
New Orleans at Tampa Bay Buffalo at Jacksonville Indianapolis at Baltimore	New Orleans Jacksonville Indianapolis	New Orleans Jacksonville Indianapolis	New Orleans Jacksonville Indianapolis	New Orleans Buffalo Indianapolis	New Orleans Jacksonville Indianapolis	New Orleans Jacksonville Baltimore	New Orleans Jacksonville Indianapolis	New Orleans Jacksonville Indianapolis	New Orleans Jacksonville Indianapolis	New Orleans Buffalo Indianapolis
Seattle at Minnesota Arizona at St. Louis NY Jets at New England	Minnesota Arizona New England	Minnesota Arizona New England	Minnesota Arizona New England	Minnesota Arizona New England	Minnesota Arizona New England	Minnesota Arizona New England	Minnesota Arizona New England	Minnesota St. Louis New England	Minnesota St. Louis New England	Minnesota Arizona New England
Cincinnati at Oakland San Diego at Denver Philadelphia at Chicago	Cincinnati Denver Philadelphia	Cincinnati San Diego Philadelphia	Cincinnati San Diego Philadelphia	Cincinnati San Diego Chicago	Cincinnati San Diego Chicago	Cincinnati San Diego Philadelphia	Cincinnati San Diego Philadelphia	Cincinnati San Diego Philadelphia	Cincinnati Denver Philadelphia	Cincinnati Denver Philadelphia
Tennessee at Houston	Houston	Houston	Houston	Houston	Houston	Houston	Houston	Houston	Tennessee	Houston

ICE HOCKEY



ALEX DENNETT/TUFTS DAILY

Now a seasoned veteran, junior Tom Derosa should provide the Jumbos' main offensive firepower in the coming season.

Tufts hoping to improve on solid '08 campaign

BY EVAN COOPER
Daily Editorial Board

With the foundations of success already laid last year, there is only one thing left for the Tufts hockey team to do: build higher.

In 2008-09, the Jumbos put up their best record since the 2005-06 campaign, capping off the year at 11-12-2 (7-10-2 NESCAC/ECAC East) — good enough to qualify for the NESCAC Tournament. Compared with the 6-17-1 record just a year prior, the improvement was significant. And with the core of its roster back on the ice this season, as well as both their captains, the Jumbos are fully expecting to do even better.

"We're just hoping to try and stay consistent day in and day out," sopho-

more goalie Scott Barchard said. "Every team's going to have their ups and downs; it's just how you bounce back from those downs."

Last year, the Jumbos were a largely young and inexperienced squad, as the team's top seven point scorers were all either freshmen or sophomores. Leading the charge was sophomore Tom Derosa — now a junior — whose 15-13-28 line in 25 games earned him a spot on the New England Hockey writer's team. Derosa was also a semifinalist for the Concannon Award, given every year by the Gridiron Club of Greater Boston to the best American-born Div. II-III college hockey player in New England.

Nearly matching Derosa with 27 points was then-freshman linemate

Nick Resor, whose 16 goals were the most by any Jumbo last year. In a major offseason development, however, Resor transferred to rival Middlebury, whom the Jumbos will be facing in their season opener tomorrow night. Resor, though, is not expected to play, as he was a part of the Panthers football team that just finished its season last weekend. With the loss of a major offensive component, Tufts will need someone to step up and produce points.

"Pretty much everyone will have to step up to fill his role," Derosa said. "But we have [junior] Lindsay Walker back off of injury. He missed a lot of last season, and he's really productive."

see ICE HOCKEY, page 13

INSIDE THE NFL

Early glimpses of 2009 playoff picture coming into focus

BY ZACH GROEN
Senior Staff Writer

Every year, the NFL season seems to fly by too quickly; we already find ourselves heading into Week 11 as Thanksgiving rapidly approaches. As teams across the league have begun to tackle the second half of their schedule, the playoff picture is slowly starting to take shape.

In the NFC, the New Orleans Saints (9-0) and the Minnesota Vikings (8-1) are bound to win their respective divisions barring some kind of season-changing injury or divine intervention. The defending conference champion Arizona Cardinals (6-3) will most likely win the pitiful NFC West again, but could be pushed by the inconsistent San Francisco 49ers (4-5).

While the 49ers upset the Cardinals 20-16 back in Week 1, it is going to be tough for Mike Singletary's team to catch up to Arizona. The two squads play again in Week 14, but five out of the Cardinals' last seven games are against teams with a losing record, so the race might not be as close in a few weeks.

While most NFC divisions are seemingly locked up, the East race will almost certainly come down to the

wire. Both the Dallas Cowboys (6-3) and the Philadelphia Eagles (5-4) had great opportunities to separate themselves from the sliding New York Giants (5-4) heading into last weekend. Yet, the two teams faltered, both losing while the Giants, owners of a four-game losing streak, sat at home on a bye week, passively gaining ground on their division rivals.

So far this season, the Giants have beaten the Cowboys, the Eagles have beaten the Giants, and the Cowboys have beaten the Eagles. In other words, the East is a complete crapshoot at this point.

Running back Brian Westbrook, one of the Eagles' biggest playmakers, could be lost for the season with his second concussion of the year. But while Philadelphia will be without one of its most important players, the Giants are finally getting their defense healthy.

Two weeks ago in a 21-20 loss to the Chargers, free-agent acquisitions Chris Canty and Michael Boley returned to the Giants' defense after battling injuries throughout the first half of the season. New York will receive another defensive boost this weekend versus the Atlanta Falcons as starting cornerback Aaron Ross is supposed to see his first action of the season.

Over in the AFC, the Indianapolis Colts (9-0) have pulled away in the South and are the only lock to win an AFC division at this point. The Cincinnati Bengals (7-2) did wonders for their AFC North championship bid when they beat the Pittsburgh Steelers (6-3) 18-12 at Heinz Field last weekend. The Bengals have now swept both the Steelers and the Baltimore Ravens (5-4), and only have to beat the lowly Cleveland Browns in Week 12 to go undefeated within the division.

Like in the North, the West is down to just two teams: the San Diego Chargers and the Denver Broncos, both of whom are tied at 6-3, though they are headed in opposite directions. After jumping out to a surprising 6-0 start, the Broncos have dropped their last three games, most recently to the Washington Redskins (3-6). On the other hand, the Chargers have won four straight after starting the season off 2-3.

At this point in the season, it looks like the New England Patriots will return to the top and hang on to win the AFC East. Though New England (6-3) currently has a two-game lead over both the Miami Dolphins (4-5) and the New York Jets (4-5), it could have had

see NFL, page 13

RORY PARKS | THE LONG-SUFFERING SPORTS FAN

That's
gotta
hurt



When Doug Flutie addressed the campus on Tuesday night as part of Tufts' Lecture Series, he discussed several of his experiences as a quarterback in the Canadian Football League. One of them in particular stands out. He talked about a play in which he tried to twist out of the grasp of an opposing defensive end, spun around to his blind side and turned directly into a brutal helmet-to-helmet hit laid on him by another defender that split his own helmet in two.

Who knows what that hit might have cost him.

Over the course of the past two summers, sports headlines were dominated by opinions on where Brett Favre would end up, if he would stay retired, if he was the biggest jackass the world had ever seen, etc. I, like most people, had conflicting views on the matter, although mine didn't involve charges of arrogance or amorality.

One part of me said, "Well, he's almost 40 now, so he should be entitled to spend his remaining 15 years of life doing whatever he damn well pleases." The other part of me thought he should be spending those 15 years with his wife and daughters.

Although there are a number of divergent opinions, many sources say that the average life expectancy of an NFL quarterback is 55 years, about 20 years below the American average. A research finding often cited by NFL analysts shows that every time a quarterback takes a sack, his life expectancy decreases by about a month. The fact that David Carr has not yet passed away makes me question the medical validity of that discovery, but it is certainly a frightening notion nonetheless.

Quarterbacks, though, are not the only football players whose livelihood doubles as a slow form of suicide. In fact, while the suggestion that every sack takes a month off of a quarterback's life gives us a concrete and possibly sadistic way to determine how much longer he has to live, no reports suggest that their 55-year expected life span is different from players at any other position.

These statistics are by no means 100-percent reliable. Even if they were, I'm not sure how many players would trade in their careers and the opportunity to fulfill their childhood dreams for the chance to live an extra 20 years or so. That does not mean, though, that the NFL should not do everything in its power to try to lengthen the lives of its players or, at the very least, decrease the intense and even crippling pain that those players are often subjected to. After all, it's the players that make the NFL a \$7 billion industry.

But this is where the NFL comes up short. In the past several years, its post-career medical plan has been disregarded as woefully inadequate by a whole host of retired players, particularly those that played in earlier decades and who weren't exactly making an average base salary of \$990,000. And although current players may be better able to pay for their own health care when they hang up their cleats than their elder peers, they will still receive about the same amount of help from the NFL: in other words, no help at all.

The NFL, for its part, continues to insist upon the generosity of its program. And it might be easier to side with the league if only one or two players were lobbying for increased assistance. But when the matter comes before Congress, and when almost every retired player derides the NFL's claims that its efforts are more than sufficient, it becomes obvious that a serious problem exists. It seems that the NFL milks its players for all they're worth before indifferently casting them into a painful retirement. And whether those players live to be 45 or 105, that's just wrong.

Rory Parks is a senior majoring in international relations and Spanish. He can be reached at Rory.Parks@tufts.edu.

FIELD HOCKEY

Tufts anxious to battle for national championship over weekend

BY CLAIRE KEMP
Daily Staff Writer

The last weekend of the field hockey season has arrived and the top four teams in Div. III will be battling for a national title.

BLOG @ tuftsdaily.com



The field hockey team is back in the NCAA Div. III Final Four, and the Daily will be in South Hadley, Mass. on

Saturday to live blog the team's semifinal battle against Salisbury. With a spot in the national championship game on the line, the matchup between the nationally ranked No. 2 Sea Gulls and the No. 4 Jumbos is sure to be a classic.

Log on to blogs.tuftsdaily.com/thescore and follow along as the Daily Sports Department provides coverage of the big game starting at 2 p.m.

Three of last year's Final Four will be returning, with Salisbury University replacing 2008 champion Bowdoin to join Messiah College, Ursinus and Tufts in pursuit of the title. The Jumbos, currently seeded No. 4 in the tournament, will take on the second-seeded Salisbury Sea Gulls on Saturday in South Hadley, Mass. as the underdog. But with matching 16-1 records, no common opponents this season and their last meeting in 2007 featuring a very different Tufts team, it's anybody's game.

"Two years have changed a lot," senior forward Michelle Kelly said. "They are a traditionally strong program, but we're building up ours consistently and it should just be a really good game."

Salisbury's history is marked by success on the national level. The Sea Gulls boast four national championship titles,

with three coming consecutively in 2003, 2004 and 2005. This year marks the team's 12th trip to the semifinals in 27 tournament appearances. Known for speed and a quick, southern style of play, the Sea Gulls will potentially give the Tufts defense its biggest test yet.

"We're focusing on coming out strong because we can't have a lapse at all," said senior co-captain Margi Scholtes, who was recently named National Field Hockey Coaches Association New England West Region Player of the Year. "When we played them two years ago we didn't come out right away and they scored on us fast. We're trying to slow down the play, delay the forwards and stop the play completely if need be."

The Jumbos now boast semifinal experience of their own — arguably on a more valuable level than Salisbury, as Tufts was on this stage just last season. And with the Jumbos' Final Four debut last year ending with the Jumbos as the national runners-up, the drive to avenge a championship loss is still fresh in their minds.

"I think that our experience will help us just as much because almost our entire team has played in an NCAA game before," Scholtes said. "We know we deserve to be there and we know what we want to do. We're ready to go."

"I think our recent experience is definitely an advantage because Salisbury hasn't been there in two years," Kelly added.

Two other advantages could tip the scales in Tufts' favor this weekend. First, the Jumbos have recorded a 16-1 record in a more difficult conference and region than the one Salisbury plays in. No other teams received a bid into the tournament from the Capital Athletic Conference, while the NESCAC earned four of the 24 spots.

Second, the championship is to be played on field turf — a thicker, slower surface that Tufts plays on — rather than Astroturf, on which all the other remaining teams play at home.



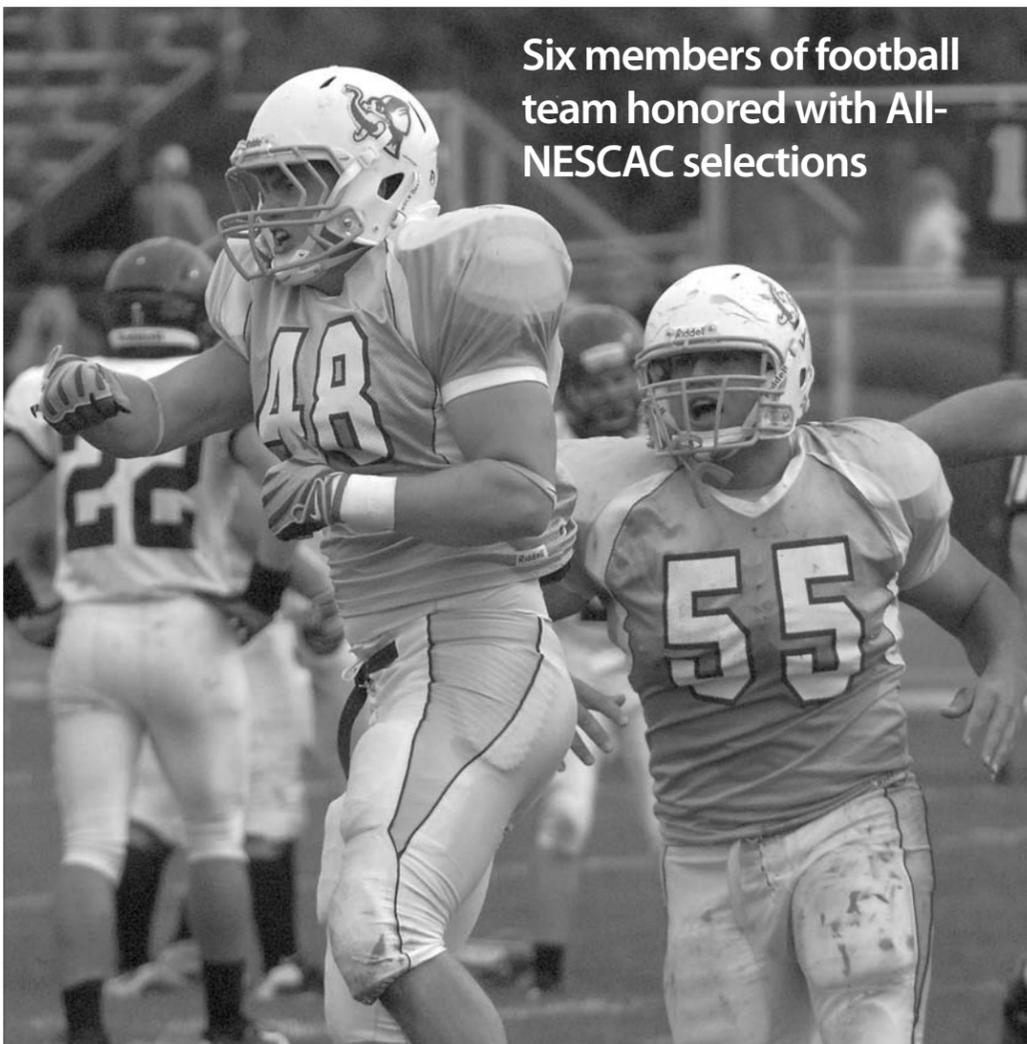
JAMES CHOCA/TUFTS DAILY

NESCAC Defensive Player of the Year Margi Scholtes will be crucial as the Jumbos look to shut down Salisbury and advance to the national finals.

"The fact that we play[ed] on field turf our whole season and that the tournament is on field turf is an advantage against their speed," first-year starting midfielder Rachel Gerhardt said. "We've all been clicking from the forwards to the midfield to the backs so we're just going to keep doing what we have been doing all year. And, you know, we're a very fast team, too, so we're just excited to get out there and fight it out."

Another possible outcome to the even matchup this weekend is overtime. An overtime match has the potential to be emotionally, mentally and physically draining for the Tufts squad, and with its only extended-time matchup ending in a loss to Trinity, Tufts has been specifically preparing for the potential extra minutes.

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Six members of football team honored with All-NESCAC selections

JAMES CHOCA/TUFTS DAILY

Though the season is now over, six members of the Tufts football team have received accolades for their standout performances this year. For the third consecutive season, senior safety Tom Tassinari was named to the All-NESCAC First Team. Joining Tassinari on the First Team are senior fullback Noah Hatfield-Biondo and senior offensive lineman Adam Wueger. Tufts' Second Team honorees were junior running back Pat Bailey, sophomore end Donnie Simmons and senior defensive back Alex Perry.

VOLLEYBALL

Jumbos aiming to crush Hope in Elite Eight

BY EVAN COOPER
Daily Editorial Board

For the volleyball team, it's goodbye Medford, hello University Heights, Ohio.

Having never advanced past the regional round of play before this season, the 2009 Jumbos are already venturing into new territory as they prepare to take on Hope College today in the NCAA Div. III volleyball national quarterfinals. But for Tufts, it's not yet far enough.

"We're going out there with the intention of winning this match and going on to the Final Four," coach Cora Thompson said. "These girls had such high goals to begin with. Their goal was 30 wins, and here we are at 31 and we're still going."

Facing Hope (33-3), Tufts will be taking on another fresh face on the national scene. After besting Ohio Northern in the Midwest Regional final, the Flying Dutch, like the Jumbos, earned their first-ever Elite Eight appearance.

Enjoying a spectacular season in its own right, Tufts posted a 26-3 regular-season record and finished a perfect 10-0 at home. One of the Jumbos' biggest goals this year was to earn the NESCAC regular season crown and the right to host the conference tournament for the second year in a row. With an 8-2 NESCAC mark, the Jumbos did just that — a feat

made especially satisfying by the difficult 11-game road trip that capped off their regular season schedule. After such a long time on the road, Tufts welcomed the return to the Hill.

Though the Jumbos fell to perennial powerhouse Williams in the conference finals, 3-0, they were given a second chance at the Ephs and to play on their home court in the NCAA Regional Tournament. This time, nothing was stopping them.

The Jumbos scorched the opposition en route to a regional title, dropping zero sets as they picked off Maine Maritime, Wellesley and, of course, Williams to earn their berth in the national tournament. While Tufts once hoped to keep its run on the Hill going as long as possible, its latest goal is to extend its road trip for as long as it can.

"It's just an incredible feeling, especially as a senior, to not only get revenge and to beat Williams, but to do something that no other Tufts team has done before," senior co-captain Brogie Helgeson said. "[Winning regionals] made a lot of our dreams come true.

"We were the No. 1 team in New England, which means we should be in the Elite Eight," she continued. "It's amazing not only to have a goal but to obtain that

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