



Harvard reinstates non-binding early action option

BY LAINA PIERA
Daily Editorial Board

Four years after eliminating a non-binding early admissions option due to concerns that it put unnecessary pressure on applicants, Harvard University last month announced that it will be reinstating the option for students applying this fall.

Harvard University President Drew Faust said in a Feb. 24 statement that the university made the decision to resume early action admission in order to ease uncertainty of applicants and in response to popular demand.

"Our goal now is to reinstitute an early-action program consistent with our bedrock commitment to access, affordability, and excellence," Faust said.

Harvard in 2007 removed the early option for undergraduate applicants due to concerns that it complicated the admissions process and put students from underprivileged high schools at a disadvantage. The university does not offer an early decision admissions option.

"We piloted the elimination of early action out of concern that college admissions had become too complex and pressured for all students, and out of particular concern for students at under-resourced high schools who might not be able to access the early admissions process," Faust said.

Princeton University within two hours

of Harvard's statement announced that it would also restore its early admission option, and the University of Virginia followed suit as well.

Students applying early action to any of these schools will do so by a Nov. 1 deadline, and the universities will notify them of their admission decision in mid-December.

Mindy Popp (LA '98), managing director and principal consultant of the college admissions counseling service Popp & Associates, LLC, acknowledged that applying to colleges early can be reassuring for many high school students and their families.

"I think that the college application process is enormously anxiety-provoking for the applicants and their parents, and there is something very appealing about getting information into their hands sooner rather than later, and I think a lot of students apply to schools early action because the concept is reassuring to know that they might get some information back by late December," Popp told the Daily.

Ellen McCammon, a freshman at Harvard, said the option to apply early would have eased the application process, adding that her final decision to attend Harvard would have come easier given the option to apply early.

"I think I might have applied early to

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Energy conference expands with contest, external speakers

BY MARTHA SHANAHAN
Daily Editorial Board

Student organizers are planning the most ambitious edition of the annual Tufts Energy Conference, including big-name speakers and its first-ever student energy-project contest this year.

Students, faculty and experts in energy and sustainability issues will participate in a two-day conference, titled "Exploring Energy's Great Debates: Moving Past Posturing to

Arrive at Achievable Energy Solutions," next month. The conference, organized by Tufts graduate and undergraduate students and entering its sixth year, will feature high-profile presenters from outside the university, including Grameen Bank co-founder Dupal Chandra Barua, according to Katherine Walsh, conference marketing co-director.

This year's conference theme will tackle major questions about how the world will be

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DILYS ONG/TUFTS DAILY

A keynote speaker, Sue Tierney, at last year's Tufts Energy Conference. This year's conference, to be held next month, will feature a multidimensional panel of energy experts and a student contest.

Egypt, Libya, Tunisia: Twitter revolutions?

BY EMILIA LUNA
Daily Editorial Board

When former Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak stepped down from power after 14 days of ongoing protest last month, Google's Middle East and North Africa Marketing Director Wael Ghonim, a leader in the Egyptian uprising, told CNN that the Egyptian protestors had the Internet to thank for their victory.

"I want to meet Mark Zuckerberg and thank him personally. I'm talking on behalf of Egypt. This revolution started online. This revolution started on Facebook," he said. Ghonim's statement soon appeared in the headlines of almost every major news outlet.

The speed, force and breadth of the recent revolutions in Tunisia, Egypt and parts of Libya, and the bubbling insurrections in other Arab nations, were more than almost any expert could have predicted just two months ago. The question of what brought these uprisings to life after years of harsh, institutionalized authoritarian rule has been a matter of intense debate.

The importance of social media to these revolutions has been a prevalent — but also highly contested — theory. How big a role technology played in these revolutions remains an open-ended question, said James Ennis, an associate professor of sociology at Tufts.

"It might be worth thinking about the difference between background conditions and channels of facilitation," he said. Nonetheless, he said, the Arab uprisings certainly have experienced "effects that are intrinsic to the technology."

Ennis explained that there is a wide spectrum of opinions regarding the Internet's centrality to social uprising.

On one extreme are the Internet idealists, who claim that social media are a leading factor in many contemporary events; on the other are Internet pessimists like The New Yorker's Malcolm Gladwell, who believe that revolutions ignite from deeper social issues.

According to Ennis, Internet idealists are driven by the idea that these revolutions were brought on by a group of people that first encountered freedom through their access to the online world.

"When they experience that freedom and participation and inclusion online, and they don't have it in their everyday lives, that has explosive potential," he said.

Meanwhile, Ennis said, supporters of the opposing argument claim that technology plays a facilitating role rather

a causal one, and that holding social media expressly responsible for revolution is an exaggeration.

Last October, months before the current unrest in the Middle East, Gladwell wrote a piece for The New Yorker titled "Small change: Why the revolution will not be tweeted." He followed up the piece in February with a blog post on the magazine's website.

"Please. People protested and brought down governments before Facebook was invented. They did it before the Internet came along," Gladwell wrote.

According to Ennis, from a sociological perspective, it is too early to tell how influential social media have really

see REVOLUTION, page 2



MCT

Facebook and Twitter have helped revolutionaries in Egypt, Tunisia and elsewhere communicate.

Health industry expert calls for more primary care

BY RACHEL RAMPINO
Daily Editorial Board

Attorney, philanthropist and health care activist Deborah Goldberg last night called for medical students to become primary care physicians and praised recent Massachusetts legislation that would shift focus from specialty medicine to primary care.

Goldberg, at a talk sponsored by the Tufts Pre-Medical Society, called for legislators to allow primary care physicians, who treat patients for common medical problems, to take back control of industry practice from insurers and specialists.

General practitioners, she said, are more knowledgeable of preventative health measures and better able to help patients avoid future health problems and costs, she said.

"I think we're going to see the general public healthier if we have enough primary care physicians who are able to take care of people and realize they may be developing a condition ahead of time, whereas a specialist may just put them on a drug that [treats] it," Goldberg said.

Goldberg, who ran for lieutenant governor of Massachusetts in 2006, said that a return to a focus on primary care should be a part of proposed legislative reforms to the health care system, especially in Massachusetts.

Goldberg is the chairman of the Board for the adoption agency Adoptions

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Inside this issue

NBC's latest, "America's Next Great Restaurant," combines the best of reality TV.



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A casual remark on looks sparks discussion about appearances in "reasons to be pretty."



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Social media play role in revolutions, but extent unclear

REVOLUTION

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been, since there is no good empirical data yet.

"It might only be able to be determined retrospectively. What revolutions are is never clear until later. The meaning of things only unfolds over time because they are complicated and mixed," Ennis said.

Still, he said, there is evidence to support the conclusion that the Internet did play some sort of important role in these revolutions.

"It's pretty clear that the uprisings have been organized in part by people using new social media tools," he said.

The complicated nature of social revolutions must also be considered, Ennis said.

"Maybe you can argue that [these revolutions] couldn't have happened without the [social media] tools, but that doesn't necessarily mean that the tools themselves are the causes or critical facilitators," he said.

Ibrahim Warde, adjunct professor of international business at the Fletcher School, agreed that social media were certainly a significant factor in this specific case.

"I don't know if it was the only one, but it was certainly one of the important aspects of what happened," he said. "The significant part of it is that it was one tool where the young and the demonstrators were actually more proficient than the government."

Warde explained that in countries like Egypt, Libya and Tunisia, extreme authoritarian control often precludes civil society.

"Suddenly there were new communication tools that escaped the government that made a number of things pos-

sible that had not been possible before," he said. "The government was caught off balance because they were not used to these means of communication."

Warde believes that the importance of social media was most evident in Egypt and Tunisia's political struggles. But those countries' adoption of social media hardly occurred overnight, he said.

"Obviously it took some time for the system to be fully functional — to have enough people wired and who actually mastered the tools."

Warde said that the governments were not completely oblivious to the role of the Internet; they had been trying to control media, but young people managed to stay one step ahead.

"There was certainly a race to being able to use the tools in the part of the opposition movement and trying to control these in the part of the governments," he said.

Ennis explained that different tools are used at different stages of a mobilization.

"The Gladwell argument critiques the potential of new media to stimulate social change," he said. In light of this argument, Ennis continued, it could be said that the state or police had the potential of using new media just as well as the movement could.

According to Ennis, just as the revolutionaries called for meetings and attracted people to protest, the government's power to tap into social media to aid surveillance can make the Web as oppressive as they can be liberating.

"Think of Iran, where the regime was using social media to identify protestors, tag them, name them, arrest them," Ennis said.

When it comes to power in numbers, how-

ever, social media are on the activists' side.

"You can only [oppress] a certain number of people, and when the number gets too large or people lose fear of the regime, then people are willing to do whatever it takes," Ennis said.

Senior Tala Kayyali, co-president of the Arab Student Association at Tufts and a native of Jordan, said that, more than ever, websites like Facebook and YouTube are used in the Arab world as platforms for self-expression.

"These media certainly offer freedoms that may not be attainable in censored nations like most Arab countries," Kayyali said. "The fact that a multitude of people can communicate easily without much governmental supervision offers an opportunity that the people just had to take."

Social media had two main consequences for the recent revolutions, Warde explained.

"Domestically it allowed the groups to organize, and internationally it helped the outside world to learn what was going on and put pressure on the governments," he said.

For Kayyali, social media has definitely been a way to bring people together with regard to political issues.

Both Ennis and Warde agreed that the question of whether these Arab uprisings can be called definitively referred to as "social media revolutions" is hard to answer at present, with long-term results still uncertain.

"I don't know what history will end up calling these revolutions, but certainly social media will be one of the factors discussed in the future," Warde said.



DILYS ONG/TUFTS DAILY

Health care expert Deborah Goldberg last night advocated for a shift in the health care system toward a focus on primary care.

Health care expert says emphasis on primary care is key

GOLDBERG

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with Love and a trustee at Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital.

She praised the legislation proposed last month by Massachusetts Gov. Deval Patrick (D) that would head the state's health care system in the direction of a global payment scheme, in which doctors would be paid for the quality, not the quantity, of the care they provide.

"The patient will be given an 'X' amount of dollars to be spent in a year and the primary care physician is going to control how it's spent. That's who's going to know you best and that's who's going to spend the most time trying to

keep you healthy," Goldberg said. "Isn't it better to put your life in the hands of someone who has a connection to you?"

This new system would give primary care physicians more control over the way in which their patients are treated, a larger client base and more opportunities to practice effective medicine, according to Goldberg. Doctors would also ultimately make more money, she said.

"Primary care physicians are going to have tremendous practices because they're going to be the go-to people; they're going to control the purse strings," Goldberg said. "That's where the power is going to be."

Goldberg said that proposed national

budget cuts would exacerbate the high cost of health care.

"What the conservatives don't understand is that someone has to pay for it, and that ends up being tax payers," Goldberg said. "Republicans should be for something that is going to break the cycle of a system that is costing people so much money."

Goldberg doubted the feasibility of a single-payer health care system in which one government-run organization would be in charge of all health care fees and payments.

"You will never see the single-payer system in this country; it's not the culture," Goldberg said.

Correction

The Feb. 28 article, "Young women's squad splits two scrimmages against Div. II schools," and yesterday's article, "Tufts must bounce back from tough end to 2010," inaccurately reported that senior tri-captain Lily Colahan had sustained a tear to ligaments in her leg. In fact, Colahan has a fractured hand.



ASHLEY SEENAUTH/TUFTS DAILY

Harvard last month announced it will again allow prospective students to apply on a non-binding early action basis.

Harvard, among others, will reinstitute early action admissions option

HARVARD

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Harvard," McCammon told the Daily. "I was interested in other schools, but they didn't have early action, so I just applied early to Yale."

Receiving admissions decisions earlier in the season can affect the way in which students approach the applications that follow, Popp said.

"If they do get good feedback early on, they have more confidence, more optimism and just feel better about themselves overall," she said. "It can certainly reduce anxiety for the student and the family if by New Year's

they can say, 'I already got in somewhere.'"

Early action admission options may prove more appealing to some students than early decision options due to the non-binding nature of the former, Popp said. Students who are admitted to universities under early decision are required to attend.

"Both early decision and early action give families the benefit of receiving information early on," Popp said. "But a lot of students want to preserve their options. ... They want to feel better moving forward, but they want to keep the door open. ... So by applying early action and not early decision, they avail themselves of the possibility."

Grameen Bank co-founder Barua will speak at energy conference in April

ENERGY

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fueled in the future, said Walsh, a dual-degree master's student at The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy and the Tufts Urban and Environmental Policy and Planning program.

"We're thinking about the future of energy ... and we're thinking about who gets access to it," Walsh said. "Sixteen percent of the world population doesn't have access to consistent energy."

The two-day event aims to link global efforts to curb energy consumption with efforts stemming from the Hill. Other speakers include David Nagel, executive vice president of BP America, and Fred Hauchman, the director of the Office of Science Policy at the Environmental Protection Agency.

"[The conference] brings together different experts in the field, but it's also trying to show off what Tufts University is doing ... because there's just so much going on," Walsh said.

Barua, co-founder of the Nobel Prize-winning Grameen Bank, a microfinance organization that provides loans to the poor, and chairman and founder of Bright Green Energy Foundation, will speak as part of the conference's "Clean Energy Imperative" panel.

The Tufts Energy Challenge, a new addition to this year's conference, will pit eight student research projects or action proposals related to energy sustainability against each other with \$1,000 at stake each for the top two entries.

A selection committee and the conference audience will choose one research-oriented project and one action proposal from among the submissions.

Freshman Michael Lesser's submission to the challenge is a project proposal whose preliminary aims are to encourage the university to cooperate with nearby landlords in increasing the availability of environmentally friendly housing for Tufts students and spread the use of solar energy on campus buildings.

"My inspiration was that, in our society, green initiatives are encouraged all over, yet the biggest obstacle to their implementation is in many cases the financial burden, and I feel like it's so important that we try to find ways to not make that an impeding factor," Lesser said.

He said his project is congruous with the conference organizers' wish to encourage energy researchers to think outside the box.

"What I'm proposing is something a little bit different," Lesser said.

The prize money will help project designers

implement the concepts they put forward in their submissions, according to Walsh.

"We're giving these people the opportunity to go explore these ideas, so it loops back," Walsh said.

The judges will evaluate submissions based on their degree of innovation, she said.

"Demonstration of knowledge of the field, that they understand the context and realities ... is important, [but also] innovation — what is it about this project that's different?" Walsh said. "There might be other people in the field who are doing similar work ... but what is it that's really going to push the envelope on thinking about energy?"

Judges will also base their selections on project feasibility, according to Conference Chair Conor Branch, a second-year student at The Fletcher School.

"They're looking for the creativity of the project, the utility of the project and the ability to actually go out and implement the project, as well as the planning and the forethought that went into it," Branch said.

The conference, initiated in 2006 by the Institute for Global Leadership's Tufts Energy Forum (TEF) as a two-panel exposition on energy research at Tufts, has since grown in size. Last year, TEF expanded the conference to include speeches, panels and workshops across two days.

Walsh said Barua's inclusion in the conference fits with the conferences goal of bringing distinct perspectives on how energy research can encompass issues like poverty and health.

"When people really start pulling the layers back ... you realize, 'Wow, this [health issue] really has to do with the fact that there really isn't a sustainable energy source in this area,'" she added. "I think that's really an important conversation to have."

Beyond valuable discussion, Walsh also said having Barua at the conference will be beneficial for publicity purposes, attracting a crowd that might not have attended otherwise.

"It's a huge name, that's a big deal within itself," she said. "We want it to be a diverse crowd, coming from multiple angles, because that will really push the conversation forward."

Branch agreed that Barua will offer the audience a unique take on sustainable energy methods in poor countries.

"We think that he'll provide a perspective of how commercial lending institutions and microfinance institutions can be used to [provide] renewable energy to people of limited means in developing countries," Branch said.

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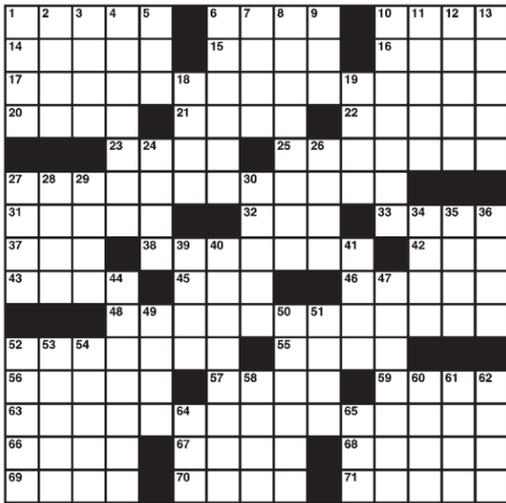
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- ACROSS**
 1 Equipped with 6-Across
 6 See 1-Across
 10 May or Ann
 14 Permission
 15 Natural shade
 16 Turow memoir
 17 Game show about bribery at a checkpoint?
 20 Warning
 21 Understanding words
 22 Elite octet
 23 Paragon of redness
 25 Maneuver
 27 Game show about an Algerian governor's search for his spouse?
 31 Muse who inspires poets
 32 1,000-yr. realm
 33 One-time neighbor of French Indochina
 37 Arabic is one of its two official langs.
 38 Surfer's guide
 42 "Exodus" hero
 43 Suffix with grammar
 45 Nonsense
 46 Links coup
 48 Game show in which "Stuttering pig" might be a clue?
 52 Biblical betrayer
 55 ... dixit
 56 Up in the air
 57 They may be wild
 59 Stage group
 63 Game show in which couples confess indiscretions?
 66 Relax
 67 Slobbering canine
 68 Mobile one of song
 69 Batik artist
 70 Tech support caller
 71 Worry about
- DOWN**
 1 As well
 2 Chew (out)
 3 Gander, e.g.
 4 It's as likely as not



By Donna S. Levin

3/11/11

THURSDAY'S SOLUTION

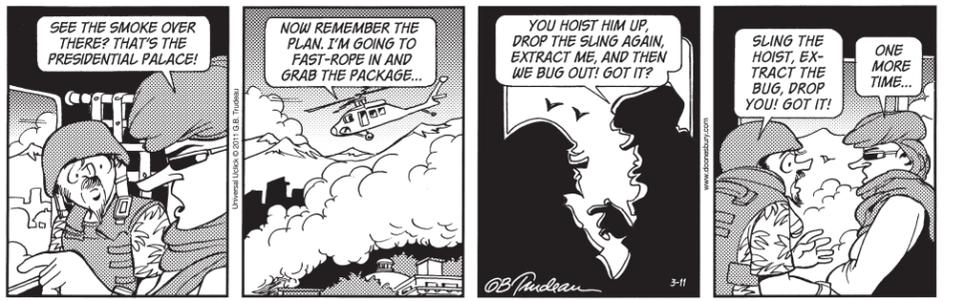
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- 5 "In ___ Speramus": Brown U. motto
 6 Bothers
 7 Dull discomfort
 8 Timber producer
 9 Pension start?
 10 Transmits
 11 They're not pros
 12 Famille members
 13 "Family Ties" mom
 18 Feudal holding
 19 Strauss's "___ Nacht in Venedig"
 24 Slaughter on a diamond
 26 Notion
 27 Former Cunard fleet member, for short
 28 Starry-eyed bear?
 29 Make
 30 Bonnie Blue's daddy
 34 "I hate the Moor" speaker
 35 Woodstock singer before Joan
 36 Manner
 39 "... la Douce"
 40 Points of initial progress
 41 Some motel guests
 44 Napoleon vessel?
- 54 Out
 58 Play to ___
 60 Cryptic character
 61 Italian volcano
 62 Comedy routine infilder...
 64 ... and Bud's partner in the routine
 65 QB's scores

DOONESBURY

BY GARRY TRUDEAU

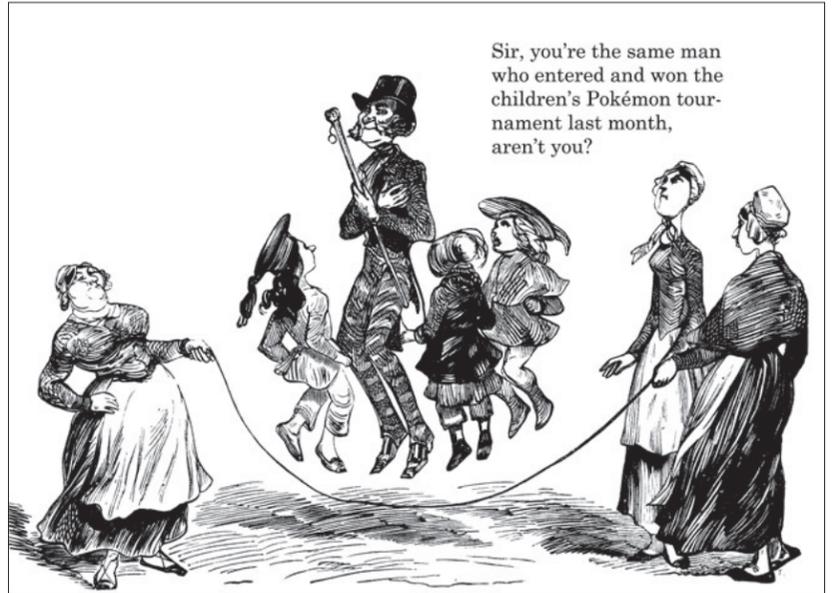


NON SEQUITUR

BY WILEY



MARRIED TO THE SEA



JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

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

SAIBS

SGESU

RUADON

KTDECO



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

Ans: [S][A][I][B][S] [G][E][S][U] [R][U][A][D][O][N] [K][T][D][E][C][O]

Yesterday's Jumbles: CHESS CRUSH WEAPON WICKED
 Answer: What the engineer's lunch was - CHEW CHEWS

SUDOKU

Level: Achieving your dream of becoming a marine biologist

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

Thursday's Solution

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

LATE NIGHT AT THE DAILY



Allie B.: "I wonder if his whole body is pink."



Please recycle this Daily.

THEATER REVIEW

'reasons to be pretty' takes a deep look at obsession with beauty SpeakEasy Stage Company brings Neil LaBute's Tony-nominated play to Boston

BY LILLY FISHER
Contributing Writer

"reasons to be pretty," a 2009 Tony nominee for Best Play, allows the audience to witness the

reasons to be pretty



Written by **Neil LaBute**
Directed by **Paul Melone**
At the Roberts Studio Theatre in the Stanford Calderwood Pavilion at the Boston Center for the Arts through April 2
Tickets \$25 to \$50

aftermath of a seemingly innocuous remark made by a young man about his girlfriend's looks. By cataloguing the struggles of four friends and the breakdown of their relationships, playwright Neil LaBute offers a realistic commentary on the tiresome shallowness of certain lifestyles and relationships and also, more generally, on the American obsession with physical appearance.

SpeakEasy Stage Company General Manager Paul Melone returns to stage this month for the third and final installment of LaBute's unofficial trilogy at the Boston Center for the Arts.

The play opens with an extremely angry young woman screaming expletives at her confused and overwhelmed boyfriend. No explanation is initially offered for the woman's tirade. By the end of the first scene, however, it is revealed that she is reacting to a comment made by her boyfriend of four years, in which he described her looks as "regular" in comparison to a "pretty" girl's.

Despite the fact that both Steph

(Angie Jepson) and Greg (Andy Macdonald) seem to genuinely care about one another throughout the course of the play, their relationship is ultimately unable to overcome the anger and conflicts that are driven to the surface by this casual but honest remark.

The play's four characters all seem to share deep-seated insecurities and frustrations about themselves and their lives. As the story progresses, it becomes apparent that much of their frustration is the result of not only lack of depth or interest in their romantic relationships but also in their day-to-day lives.

The two men, Greg and Kent (Burt Grinstead), are longtime friends who work together in dead-end factory jobs, with their only real means of excitement coming from the company baseball team and checking out pretty girls at the factory. The two women, Steph, a hairdresser, and Carly (Danielle Muehlen), a security guard, are similarly tied to their monotonous daily routines. All four of them seem to experience crises as they realize the lack of fulfillment in their lives.

The play takes place in the United States, but the particular city is never explicitly stated. The scenes also take place in nondescript settings (a mall, a factory, a restaurant), all of which are very familiar places to most average Americans. The ambiguity highlights the fact that these characters' stories could easily have occurred in any number of places to any number of people, demonstrating the universality of the show's message.

The small theater and sparse set at the Boston Center for the Arts serve this production well. The intimate space allows for a heightened feeling of connection



COURTESY CRAIG BAILEY/PERSPECTIVE PHOTO

Steph (Angie Jepson) confronts her boyfriend Greg (Andy Macdonald) about a comment he made about her looks in a scene from the SpeakEasy Stage Company production of Neil LaBute's Broadway hit 'reasons to be pretty.'

between the audience and the actors, as the characters' different inner insecurities and insufficiencies are revealed onstage. The lack of an elaborate setting requires more concentration on the dialogue and interactions between characters, which lends the show a less theatrical and more real-life atmosphere that complements the tone of the play itself.

LaBute has often been criticized for being misanthropic or misogynistic. These claims are certainly evident, especially at the beginning of the show. Both female characters come off initially as

irrational and fairly unsympathetic. The men must find a way to appease them, as Kent does, or else deal with their misguided anger, as Greg must. Early on, in an almost laughably clichéd scene, the two male characters sit down in the factory break room and exclaim "Women!" with mutual frustration and sympathy.

Despite the fact that LaBute evidently embraces some of the contrived societal norms with which most Americans are familiar, the characters are all revealed to have depth. As the story progresses and the charac-

ters develop, LaBute shows more rational, sympathetic and complex sides of the female characters and unveils insecure layers of the males. Although certain characters or aspects of this play may come off as sexist, LaBute seems to include these themes in order to criticize them rather than glorify them.

The premise of "reasons to be pretty" might seem a bit dramatic but the authentic feeling of LaBute's dialogue, combined with a talented cast of four actors, makes for a highly realistic, relatable play.

TV REVIEW

NBC's newest reality show has familiar ingredients, new recipe

BY EMILY POOLE
Contributing Writer

Bobby Flay knows what it takes to have a successful restaurant. But what does it take to have a successful show about restaurants? Well, apparently Bobby Flay knows that, too.

America's Next Great Restaurant



Starring **Bobby Flay, Steve Ells, Curtis Stone and Lorena Garcia**
Airs **Sundays at 8 p.m. on NBC**

NBC's newest reality series, "America's Next Great Restaurant," which premiered last Sunday, will follow 10 contestants as they compete to open their very own chain of restaurants in three different cities across the country: Los Angeles, Minneapolis and New York. However, instead of overly ambitious sous-chefs and obscure ingredients a la "Chopped" or "Top Chef," "America's Next Great Restaurant" features 21 lawyers, salesmen and amateur cooks who dream of owning the next Subway, KFC or Chipotle.

The show's premiere acts somewhat like an audition, as the contestants pitch their ideas to the four judges, or in this

case, investors: chef and "Biggest Loser" regular Curtis Stone, Chipotle founder and CEO Steve Ells, restaurateur Lorena Garcia and, last but far from least, Food Network mascot Bobby Flay.

Although the premiere is really just a starting point, as the first 11 of the original 21 hopefuls make disappointing pitches and are eliminated, the audience gets a clear taste of what is to come. Each contestant must prove that his idea for a restaurant is The Next Big Thing, whether it is grown-up grilled cheese, casual Indian or chicken and waffles (or maybe that one guy was right, and America really does have a market for a cafe/gun store combo...).

As the clock starts and the competitors race to prepare their restaurant's signature dish, one can't help but feel a little *deja vu*. With equal parts "The Apprentice," "America's Next Top Model" and "Hell's Kitchen," with maybe a dash of "24 Hour Restaurant Battle" thrown in, everything about this reality show is familiar, and the audience clearly knows how it works. It's easy to spot the competition's nice judge, pinpoint the trouble-making, trash-talking stock characters and fill in the blanks when some contestant inevitably declares, "I want this more than anything!"

Despite its similarities to average reality fare, there are a few tweaked elements in the equation. In "America's Next Great Restaurant," the design room that you might find in "Project Runway" is replaced with a shiny industrial kitchen, insurance salesmen take the places of Tyra's models in "America's Next Top Model" and singing voices from "American Idol" are swapped

for business savvy and affordable food. In a sense, Flay and his team manage to use this synthesis of reality/competition show elements to concoct a final product that is a medley of other shows' strengths. It's not that any of the individual components are especially new or creative, but that "America's Next Great Restaurant" is instead a new flavor of reality television, one that even picky eaters will like.

As Flay and his sidekicks search for a truly great idea, this sense of familiarity underlies each aspect of the show. The judges claim they are searching for something new, yet they want something "relevant" to everyday Americans, something that will appeal to the masses. What are they looking for? Good food, low prices and quality ingredients (you know, like KFC).

What is it, then, that audiences are looking for in a competition show? In fact, "America's Next Great Restaurant" has the same qualities that the judges themselves are seeking. No, not good food and low prices, but the magic combination of new and familiar that can appeal to everyone.

The next hip American food chain won't succeed based solely on its uniqueness — it will succeed because it has what America wants. It will follow the trends just enough to be recognizably cool but with a few drops of innovation to taste. "America's Next Great Restaurant" is no different. It takes the tested recipe of adrenaline and heart that viewers know and crave in any competition show but changes the measurements just enough to produce something entirely new. Bobby Flay, next course please.



NBC.COM

'America's Next Great Restaurant' serves up familiar reality fare with a twist.

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COURTESY KELSEY ROSE

Junior Connor Rose, left, and sophomore Jeff Marvel, right, will compete in the 800-meter run tonight at the NCAA Championships, with eyes on All-American honors.

Strategy will play key role at NCAAs

MEN'S T & F

continued from page 8

ented in the field and he's been running the best all season."

The 12 competitors in the 800 will be split between two heats this evening, all with the goal of earning a spot in the finals on Saturday. The top two from each heat plus the four next-best times will combine for the eight spots in the coveted final race. Since the top eight finishers in each event earn All-American honors, a spot in Saturday's race will guarantee the esteemed title.

"Since it's my first time at nationals, I'm just going to sort of go with the flow," Marvel said. "I don't really know how it's going to play out and I'm not really going to try to think about [a race strategy] too much beforehand just so, in case things don't go according to plan, I don't let that go to my head."

Marvel and Rose share the common goal of advancing to Saturday's finals, but understand that Friday's heats will be more about tactic than time. Both are confident that they will have the right strategy to excel.

"I think that type of race suits my running style pretty well," Marvel said. "I like to take ... the race easier at the beginning and see how I am feeling before I make my moves so I

think that type of race will play to my advantage."

Rose, who is also a senior staff writer for the Daily, believes he will react well to what might be a slower race, with his closing speed setting him apart from his competitors on the track.

"Basically I just want to stay on my toes and be ready to adapt to whatever the situation is... making a move when I have to move and staying aggressive," Rose said.

NCAAs will be a very different meet than what Rose and Marvel have experienced before, but they don't see this as a disadvantage.

"Looking at the performance list, there are only two or three guys who have been in this race before, so they might feel like they have an advantage," Rose said. "But at the same time everyone here knows how to race and knows how to run hard and everyone is confident about what they can do."

Both athletes take comfort in stepping onto the national stage with a teammate beside them. Tufts is one of only two schools in the race with two competitors.

"It definitely helps to have a teammate there in terms of support and familiarity and getting adjusted to the new atmosphere, so I definitely think it's a good thing that [Connor is] coming along," Marvel said.

Juniors will lead Jumbos on the road

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

continued from page 8

ment birth last season, Amherst senior co-captains attacker Kelley Trapp and defender Liz Foye will be looking to continue last season's consistent performance.

"I think we are just a more talented team than them," Colahan said. "We know we have [the] ability to beat them, we just have to go out and do it."

The Jumbos are looking to avoid a repeat of last year's NESCAC tournament, when they lost by just two goals to Amherst in a competitive quarter-final. In that game, Amherst followed its tried-and-true formula: play strong defense, and then strike on the counterattack. In fact, Amherst scored three times in a span of 2:34 in the first half and never relinquished the lead after that point.

The game will also mark the start of a very difficult early season schedule for the Jumbos, which features road games in six out of the first seven matchups.

After Saturday's game against Amherst, Tufts will travel next weekend to face Colby, last year's NESCAC tournament finalists and winners of two of the last three conference championships.

"I don't think it will make that much of a difference [to play on the road]," Colahan said. "There's not that much of a difference in terms of the crowd and the time on the bus helps us bond as a team."

But more importantly, the game will represent the first opportunity for this season's team to play together on a truly competitive level. The squad will be relying on the juniors — most notably midfielder Steph Perez and attacker Lara Kozin — especially since Colahan fractured her hand and may be out for the season. Colahan's injury means the team is left with only two active captains, senior defender Yael Tzipori and Bloom.

"Amherst has a very patient team, and they will take advantage of any mistakes," Bloom said. "If we can stay calm and play our game, we'll be successful."



ANDREW MORGENTHALER/TUFTS DAILY

The leadership of juniors like midfielder Steph Perez, left, will be key during Tufts' early road stretch.

WOMEN'S TRACK AND FIELD

Four individuals, one relay heading to NCAAs

The women's track and field team will send four individuals and the Distance Medley Relay (DMR) unit to the NCAA Div. III Championships at Capital University in Columbus, Ohio this weekend, including two Jumbos who will be making their third straight appearance at the event.

Senior Amy Wilfert and junior Nakeisha Jones, two veterans of Indoor Nationals, will head to NCAAs with high hopes. Wilfert, who was a member of the national-champion DMR in 2009, will compete both as part of the Jumbos' DMR on Friday night and individually in the mile on Saturday afternoon. She is seeded ninth in the mile, and the top eight earn All-American status.

Jones, meanwhile, will look to improve on her national runner-up finish at the 2010 Nationals in the triple jump when she enters competition on Saturday morning. Jones is gunning for her third straight All-American performance after a fourth-place showing in '09. She is ranked fifth after a 38-9 showing at ECACs this past weekend.

Junior Dayorsha Collins will compete in NCAAs for the second time in the high jump, while classmate Heather Theiss will enter in the pole vault for the first time in her career. Both Collins and Theiss are ranked 11th in the nation in their respective events.

Rounding out the eighth-seeded DMR team are freshmen Laura Peterson and Jana Hieber, as well as senior Kaylee Maykranz.

The Jumbos finished 27th as a team in 2010 thanks to the efforts of Jones and Wilfert, although it was Tufts' worst overall showing since 2005-06.

—by Alex Prewitt

In season-opener, depth will prove key

MEN'S LACROSSE

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that'll really help us come together and get things going."

Senior attackman Brian Donovan, who scored two goals in last year's win over Amherst, is recovering from knee surgery and will not play this Saturday, but explained that the young Jumbos' experience at all positions gives Tufts a large advantage.

"The best thing about our depth is that we can produce some really good mismatches on the offense," Donovan said. "Because we're so deep we can really go to anybody and target the weakest defender on Amherst and go there and not just rely on D.J. and Molloy."

Amherst's Matt Cahn, a sophomore defender who played in 11 of the Jeffs' 14 games in 2010, gained substantial minutes, and will be a valuable asset to Thompson. Other Amherst defenders, however, excluding Holcomb and Mann, have significantly less collegiate experience than Tufts' defensemen — most notably pre-season All-American long-

stick midfielder and senior quad-captain Alec Bialosky.

The Jeffs' veteran defenders will have to step up against Tufts' menacing lineup to prevent another rattling defeat. The Jumbos' well-rounded cast of scoring threats could both distract the Jeffs and spread their defense vulnerably thin.

"Offensively we're really just trying to diagnose the defense early," Donovan said. "We're really much more worried as a team about our Tufts offense rather than the Amherst defense. We're gonna try to go all out and just find the back of the net."

The No. 1 Jumbos certainly have the upper hand when it comes to firepower and experience, but Amherst's accomplished midfield and attack outfits proved in later games last season that they can hit a corner or two, as well.

"We know that we're getting their best game and they know that they're getting our best game so we're just trying to prepare for that," junior attackman Sean Kirwan said. "We're going to go out there like any other game to try to get to that 1-0."

INSIDE CYCLING

Riders, governing organization in stalemate over radio ban

BY EVAN COOPER
Senior Staff Writer

The use of technology in sports is nothing new, and neither is the controversy surrounding it. Instant replay in baseball, for instance, has been as hotly debated as anything else in sports of late. The inadequacy of referees in the 2010 FIFA World Cup sparked more than a few calls for the use of technological assistance, at least for goal-scoring decisions. In cycling, the great technology debate is about the use of race radios.

Race radios have been used since the mid-'90s for cyclists to communicate with their directors, who drive in the caravan of cars following behind the peloton. The idea is that directors can alert their riders to approaching features, as well as impending dangers, in the course. More significantly, though, directors use these lines of two-way communication much as an NFL coach does with his quarterback, orchestrating the actions of his riders, commanding them to attack or to drop back to help the team leader.

The safety advantages of radios are unquestionable, but the International Cycling Union (UCI) and other anti-radio advocates complain that their use has made racing formulaic. Race directors, with route maps and knowledge of where other cyclists are on the course, can conduct a race with often mind-numbingly predictable precision. Of course, desperate attempts at day-long breakaways do still succeed, but much of the drama that was once common in cycling has become more of a rare treat today, saved only for the high mountains and the major classics.

The UCI has called for a ban on race radios. It already tested the ban



Professional cyclists are in a battle to keep using radios in race.

last year, and this season has tried to impose it more fully. The riders, for their part, are almost entirely opposed to the ban. At February's Trofeo Palma de Mallorca, the International Association of Professional Cycling — the teams' collective representative body — staged a mass protest against the radio ban. The International Association of Professional Cycling Teams (AIGCP) had planned a similar protest at the Omloop Het Nieuwsblad race in Belgium on Feb. 26, which was stymied by the UCI's threat to cancel the race entirely if the organization did not back down — which it did.

Now, the riders and the UCI seem to be at an impasse. At its first annu-

al meeting last Friday, the AIGCP declared that it would take "drastic action" if the UCI does not repeal the ban by May 1.

The AIGCP released the following statement at the meeting: "This rule was not discussed nor voted on by the PCC (Professional Cycling Council). ... The decision was made unilaterally by the management committee of the UCI, which does not contain any representative of the teams, the riders, nor the race organizers. Therefore: All the teams unanimously denounce the UCI for introducing this legislation without any representation from any team."

Among the concerns voiced by the riders are that their own safety during races is at risk. Radios,

according to them, play a significant role in alerting them to impending dangers like poor road conditions, dangerous descents and crashes.

"I think we should be allowed to use radio communications for safety reasons," world champion Thor Hushovd told the Norwegian cycling website procycling.no. "The UCI's ruling comes from some old men who sit and discuss their way to do things. I don't know why, but it's probably because of age."

"It is just stupid," Hushovd continued. "Should one say to the Formula 1 drivers that they should stop using radio communications too? This is 2011."

Both sides have legitimate concerns. The UCI seemingly cares

only about adding more drama and excitement to its events by reducing the role that team directors have in the race. A good analogy to this move is the NHL's recent rule changes, which include reducing the size of goalies' pads, to increase scoring.

An argument can be made that the riders, though, are no less in the right. German cycling veteran Jens Voigt, who is often considered the unofficial voice of the peloton, recently wrote the following in a letter to the UCI regarding race radios.

"Try to put yourself into the position of any sports director that knows there is a car riding towards the bunch," he wrote. "He's not allowed to drive to his riders and warn them. All he can do is sit and wait. And maybe think about what he can tell the parents of one of his riders if he got hit by the car."

Sadly, the type of incident that Voigt cites as a cause for race radios is not just hypothetical. Such disasters have happened before. Ultimately, though the UCI's concern over the formulaic outcome of events is real, it is one that can be addressed without jeopardizing the safety of the racers. Here again, Voigt seems to be the voice of reason.

"If you're interested in more dramatic cycling, I got some ideas: drop the silly, long stages, don't let us suffer three or four days in the high mountains and don't give us a week of boring, super long, flat stages," he wrote. "Why not consider some circuit stages: the fans will see us more often, it's easier and cheaper for the TV crews and it's safe to ride without radios."

Whether Voigt's voice will be heard by the UCI — and whether cyclists will continue to hear the voices of their directors — remains to be seen.

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MEN'S LACROSSE

Jumbos and Lord Jeffs prepare for rematch, now on home turf

BY KATE KLOTS
 Daily Staff Writer

On Saturday at 1 p.m., Tufts' national No. 1 men's lacrosse team will take to Bello Field and duke it out with Amherst in a rematch of the 2010 season-opener, in which the Jumbos dismantled the host Lord Jeffs 18-8. This year, on home turf, Tufts hopes to kick off the season with a repeat performance.

But standing in the Jumbos' way is a new Amherst coach and a squad determined to avenge last year's blowout. Jon Thompson — former head coach for Colby's program — has taken the helm for the maturing Jeffs, while Tufts alum Evan Crosby (LA '10), a defender from 2010's national championship team, joins Thompson to assist from an unfamiliar bench.

Last spring, the Jeffs graduated their highest goal-scorer in attackman Thomas McDonnell (31 goals) and will look to last season's top point-scorers, junior midfielder Alex Fox (26 goals, 10 assists) and classmate and co-captain Evan Redwood, an offensive midfielder who recorded 20 goals and 16 assists, to match Fox's 36 points.

Last season, the Jeffs posted a solid 5-4 NESCAC record, and topped some of the conference's best teams, including Bowdoin. They struggled, however, in their March 13 matchup with Tufts. Although Fox and Redwood helped the Jeffs to an early 2-0 lead, the Jumbos went on to score eight straight goals in the first period.

The Jumbos, however, do not



DAILY FILE PHOTO

Junior longstick midfielder Alec Biolosky, left, leads an experienced Tufts squad into its season opener at home on Saturday against Amherst.

want to focus on last year's result, and prefer to set their sights on Saturday's game. Senior quad-captain attackman Ryan Molloy pointed out that despite last year's score, the Jumbos cannot take Amherst for granted.

"Last year we were just really fired up to get out there," he said. "In that game they had a few key injuries and they're a great team so they're definitely going to be

more competitive this year and we have to be ready for that."

This year, Amherst senior defender Parker Holcomb may assist junior Brian McFeely at the faceoff circle; McFeely led the team with 49 ground balls. Additionally, senior captain defender Gabe Mann must rally the Jeffs' defensive unit to face the NESCAC's most prolific offense.

While Amherst returns with the

majority of its strongest starters, the Jumbos could have an advantage when it comes to depth. At every position, Tufts has experienced players who did not start in '10 but recorded impressive figures and made large contributions outside the record-books, including sophomore defensive midfielder Sam Diss, who played in every game last season.

"This year we really have to

work on getting the chemistry going between the team and then I think we'll be a really solid defense," Diss said. "[Sophomore John] Heard played a lot last year and this year we also have [sophomore Div. I transfer] Matt Callahan. The guys who got playing time last year really got a head start coming into the season and

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WOMEN'S LACROSSE

Tufts looks to avenge last year's NESCAC tourney defeat

BY DAVID MCINTYRE
 Daily Editorial Board

After weeks of preparation and two scrimmages against Div. II schools, the women's lacrosse team will finally get its season underway this Saturday with an away game against Amherst, the team that tied with Tufts at 6-3 in last season's NESCAC standings.

The Jeffs will certainly pose tough competition for the Jumbos, as the squad was ranked No. 12 in the nation

in last season's final Intercollegiate Women's Lacrosse Coaches Association (IWLCA) poll and posted an impressive 7-0 overall record in home matches. Amherst bookmarked Tufts' season with an 11-8 win at Bello Field on opening day and a 11-9 victory in the quarterfinals, knocking Tufts out of the conference tournament.

"Obviously we lost last year to them in the NESCAC's, so we're really excited to play Amherst again," senior tri-captain Lily Colahan said. "We're really confident

that we can come out and play strongly from the start."

Tufts will come out looking to prove that it can cope with the absence of its two top goal-scorers from last season, Emily Johnson (LA '10) and Jenna Abelli (E '10), in addition to the loss of First Team All-American Alyssa Kopp (LA '10). Together, Johnson and Abelli accounted for 41.8 percent of Tufts' goals, while Kopp was the ultimate all-around player, anchoring the midfield and transitioning the team quickly to attack.

"We have a group of strong juniors who are ready to step up," senior tri-captain goalie Sara Bloom said. "We just have to stay patient and not get frustrated."

The Jeffs last year played with an opposite style — very little offense (they scored a NESCAC-low 143 goals) and an unforgiving defense (conference-best in overall goals against). And although just short of an NCAA tourna-

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MEN'S TRACK & FIELD

Rose and Marvel set sights on All-American honors

BY LAUREN FLAMENT
 Daily Editorial Board

Sophomore Jeff Marvel and junior Connor Rose will compete today and tomorrow at the Div. III NCAA Championships hosted by Capital University in Columbus, Ohio, hoping to return to Tufts will their first All-American honors.

They are the only male Jumbos traveling to the indoor nationals for track and field this year and are among 12 athletes to qualify in the 800-meter race, making their first appearances on the national scene.

Marvel and Rose ran their qualifying times of, respectively, 1:52.72 and 1:53.04 — both converted to account for the banked track — two weekends ago at the All-New England Championships at Boston University. Their times broke a 19-year-old school record and marked

huge personal bests for the athletes.

Marvel's time is seventh on the list of entries, while Rose is just behind in ninth, but both will be in contention in a field separated by under three seconds, with the exception of the favorite going into the race, Amherst junior Ben Scheetz. The Lord Jeff runner posted a time of 1:48.68 — a time that, pre-conversion, is the second-best in Div. III history. Scheetz also goes into the weekend as the top-ranked 400-meter runner, a member of the top-seeded Distance Medley Relay and a leg of the ninth-ranked 4x400 meter relay.

"The only reason [Scheetz] wouldn't win is because he is going for a team title and he is running a lot of events," Marvel said. "He might not be in the best shape going into the 800-meter finals, but he's definitely the most tal-

see MEN'S T & F, page 6

Koo, Gross named All-NESCAC



ANDREW MORGENTHALER/TUFTS DAILY

The NESCAC announced its All-Conference teams yesterday, and, unsurprisingly, seniors Valerie Koo, above, and Alex Gross made the cut. Gross, a captain, was named to the All-NESCAC First Team for the third straight season after going 8-2 in the final 10 matches of his career. Koo, also a captain, earned Second Team All-NESCAC honors for the second straight year. Playing every match at the No. 2 position, Koo won 10 matches for the Jumbos, but did not compete at CSA Individuals.