

THE TUFTS DAILY



Where You Read It First

Monday, March 27, 2000

Volume XL, Number 39



With the return of spring-like weather, students are venturing outside to enjoy the warmer weather.

Photo by Jacob Silberberg

Senate passes 2000-2001 club budgets

Deficit reduced by 27K to \$8,000

by MATTHEW KANE

Daily Editorial Board

Tufts Community Union (TCU)-funded organizations will be operating as scheduled next year now that the TCU Senate has passed its 2000-2001 budget. The budgeting process, which ended two weeks ago when the Senate passed the final budget proposals for all student groups, is a two-month long procedure involving long-term planning for club leaders and hours of work for the Senate Allocations Board (ALBO) members who must divvy up the money collected from the Student Activities Fee.

Senate Treasurer Ben Azoff and the rest of the Senate are calling this year's budget a great success.

Building on progress last year's treasury made, ALBO further reduced the deficit—a yearly measure of how much more money the Senate will spend than what it will take in from the Student Activities Fee—from \$35,000 to an expected \$8,000. With the decrease made this year, according to Azoff, future budgets should be equal to the Student Activities Fee. This will help to safeguard the surplus and better fund student organizations.

"[The reduced deficit] will mean that, next year, with a slight adjustment, we should be able to budget at the [Student Activities] Fee," Azoff said. "In the long run, there can be increases each year to all groups as we will spend exactly what we have."

For the moment, however, the \$8,000 deficit will be taken out of the current surplus. The surplus is important because it supplies the buffer fund, the capital expenditure fund, and the new group fund.

Assistant Treasurer Michele Shelton explained that the stringent budgeting process this year encouraged and rewarded groups' efficiency, which will help make up for faults that took money out of the surplus in past years.

"Some programs were cut if they were not successful in the

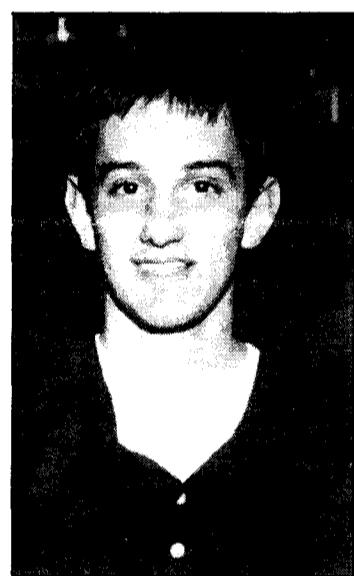


Photo by Daniel Rodrigues

Ben Azoff, Senate Treasurer, plays an integral role in the budgeting process

past, but that leaves room for groups to budget for newer programs. In order to ensure a bit of a surplus for next year, we plan to have ALBO chairs meet with their groups and encourage them to make their income that they have budgeted. The decreased surplus this year happened in part because groups were not able to make all the income they had budgeted, so they had to use money out of their budget to cover it," Shelton said.

While the deficit was reduced, the total budget rose one percent, which is still below the rate of inflation. Additionally, the size of the Student Activities Fee, which fluctuates every year and is still not precisely determined for the upcoming academic year, dictates how difficult it may be for ALBO to not over-budget.

The treasury must carefully construct funding caps for each group, and ALBO members work with all club leaders to hammer out a full budget for the upcoming year. And while the individual organizations determine what activities and events will be held, the Senate has the final say in how

see BUDGET, page 2

With the return of spring-like weather, students are venturing outside to enjoy the warmer weather.

Photo by Jacob Silberberg

Supreme Court issues ruling on use of student activities fees

Tufts administration elated over outcome of case

by BROOKE MENSCHEL

Daily Editorial Board

In a Supreme Court case that was meaningful to universities nation-wide, justices ruled against University of Wisconsin (UW) students last Wednesday, stating that public colleges and universities could use student activities fees to finance any and all student groups without violating students' rights.

Three UW law students — Scott Southworth, Amy Schoepke, and Keith Bannach — brought a lawsuit against the university in 1996 when they discovered that a portion of one of their mandatory fees helped support student groups that they found objectionable. Of the 125 student groups at UW at the time, Southworth, Schoepke, and Bannach opposed 18, including a Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgendered Center and an International Socialist Organization.

The self-proclaimed conservative trio argued that, by being forced to pay a fee that supported groups whose views they found offensive or disagreeable, their First Amendment rights of freedom of speech and freedom of association were being violated. Since 1996, four other students have joined as plaintiffs as well.

In a rare unanimous decision, the court ruled that as long as universities do not allocate funds to a group based on that group's specific views, it does not violate students' rights. The court's decision overturned the students' previous victories in both a federal district court and a federal court of appeals.

"The First Amendment permits a public university to charge its students an activity fee used to fund a program to facilitate extracurricular student speech if the program is viewpoint neutral," Justice Anthony Kennedy wrote in the court's decision.

While the decision directly affects only public institutions, many private colleges and universities such as Tufts are likely to incorporate the ruling as a guideline. Had the court ruled against Wisconsin, both public and private schools would likely have felt a backlash.

In Tufts' history, few student groups have claimed that they have been denied funding based on their ideologies. The incident most closely related to the UW case occurred in the Spring of 1998, when the *Primary Source* engaged in a dispute with the Tufts Community Union (TCU) Senate. After the *Source* printed a controversial issue attacking the Senate, the Senate cut the *Source's* funding for the following year from \$17,000 to approximately \$11,500. *Source* editors claimed that the funding cut was a result of the Senate's disagreement with their ideology. However, senators said they cut funding because the *Source* had never turned in a budget.

If the Supreme Court's ruling had been in effect during the controversy, senators would have needed to prove that their decision to cut funding was not based on the *Source's* conservative views.

What the Supreme Court's ruling reinforced, according to Tufts' Director of Student Activities Jodie Nealey, is that universities are a forum for an open exchange of thoughts and ideas. Although students may not agree with the views of all groups, the fees imposed that go to fund groups are used to create the type of environment universities seek to foster. "We provide students with opportunities to learn, to broaden their horizons," Nealey said.

All groups must be given an opportunity to exist, the court ruling said, regardless of their ideology. At Tufts, any group with 15 or more students and a constitution can apply to the student-run TCUJ for recognition. The TCUJ recognizes groups on a "viewpoint neutral" basis, meaning it does not examine groups' ideological views, only their ability to fulfill a unique role on campus. Some students

have recently questioned the importance of having a "unique role," and a few have appealed these decisions to the Committee on Student Life (CSL).

Conflicts over cases such as the recent recognition of Paragon, a group whose mission seemed to overlap with the Senate, caused the TCUJ to revise its procedures. The new process allows the TCUJ to recognize groups with similar goals if, after further research, the body finds that the group would bring new opportunities to students.

If a group is recognized by the TCUJ, it is free to apply to the Allocations Board (ALBO), a branch of the Senate, for funding. Currently, there are 127 funded student organizations at Tufts, with ideologies ranging from liberal to conservative, and many different ethnic and religious groups.

Each year, groups must reapply for funding. If they can prove they have managed their budgets effectively and can provide a list of programs they need to subsidize in the coming year, they are normally given a small increase in funds, Nealey said.

If a group is unhappy with a decision, it can appeal to the CSL, a student-faculty committee composed of five undergraduates and six faculty members who have voting privileges. The CSL can overturn both the TCUJ and ALBO decisions.

Aside from the six voting faculty members on the CSL, the TCU government is entirely student-run. The TCUJ, ALBO, and the CSL have the ability to provide checks on each other. They can overturn decisions, hear appeals, and choose whether or not to fund a group. None of the branches of student government, however, base their decisions on ideologies, which means that they uphold the spirit of the Supreme Court's ruling.

"It is a strength of Tufts that they say to the students, who are duly elected, 'here you go, here's the guidelines,'" Nealey said. "There's certainly the very vocal, sometimes, student population who, if they don't like a decision of ALBO, you'll hear about it."

Students are elected to all three branches of the TCU government in an attempted microcosm of American democracy. The students in the Senate are, thereby, representatives of their peers and are given the power to make decisions and act on behalf of the student body. "[The senators] really do have a lot of power on campus, in that they can lobby positions between students and the administration. It would

see TUFTS, page 2

Tufts to award new prize to economists Amartya Sen and John Kenneth Galbraith

Amartya Sen and John Kenneth Galbraith, two prominent economists, will be honored today by the Global Development and Environment Institute (G-DAE), a Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy and Tufts' Graduate School of Arts and Sciences affiliate. G-DAE and University President John DiBiaggio will present the first "Leontief Prize for Advancing the Frontiers of Economic Thought" awards to the economists for their work. Wassily Leontief was a member of the institute's advisory board until his death last year.

Both economists will speak on "Global Development in the 21st Century." Additionally, the event will commemorate the publication of *The Political Economy of Inequality*, the fifth in G-DAE's six-volume book series, *Frontier Issues in Economic Thought*.

Sen, Master of Trinity College, Cambridge, England, is the winner of the 1998 Nobel Prize in Economics. The Nobel committee lauded Sen for his work, saying he "restored an ethical dimension to the discussion of economic problems." Sen is also the author of *Development as Freedom*, his most recent book, published in 1999.

Galbraith is the Paul M. Warburg Professor of Economics Emeritus at Harvard, and he is the author of *The Affluent Society*, published in 1958. The book highlights division divergence between "private affluence" and "public squalor."

"We are delighted to have an opportunity to honor the memory of a great economist, Wassily Leontief," said Dr. Neva Goodwin, co-director of G-DAE. "It is especially meaningful to inaugurate the Leontief prize by recognizing the extraordinary contributions of Amartya Sen and John Kenneth Galbraith, who share an insistence that economics can and should be a science dedicated to making life better for all people, especially the poor and the powerless."

The award presentation and public lecture will take place at today at 5:15 p.m. in ASEAN Auditorium in Cabot.

— Matthew Kane

News Briefs



US Airways, union avert shutdown

Anxious travelers awoke Saturday not to a calamity but rather to the news that US Airways and its flight attendants had reached an early morning labor compromise, averting a shutdown that threatened to cripple airports throughout the East.

The deal came after 3 a.m. EST — well beyond the midnight deadline that the Arlington, Va. based carrier had set for grounding 2,200 daily flights and withdrawing nearly a third of the East Coast's commercial air traffic from the skies.

But by dawn, US Airways' employees were working, passengers were boarding, and the airline was beginning its long-sought recovery from four years of sometimes damaging negotiations with its work force.

But two things were not normal Saturday.

US Airways' 10,000 flight attendants, who have worked without a contract and without a raise for the past 3 1/2 years, were close to getting both. The five-year agreement offers workers a ten percent salary increase over the life of the deal and a signing bonus, along with improved pension and family leave benefits.

And the United States' sixth-largest airline found itself no longer locked in painful negotiations with one of its labor unions. Saturday's contract, which must be approved by members of the Association of Flight Attendants (AFA), capped a string of union talks that at times rattled nerves, delayed flights and cost the airline millions of dollars.

The airline's promise to shut down rather than subject customers to the flight attendants' threat of random, unannounced strikes sent customers scrambling for alternatives over the past few weeks.

A shutdown would have been like a straitjacket for the passenger transportation network on the East Coast, where US Airways is a dominant carrier. The airline moves an average of 180,000 passengers a day during the busy spring season.

A 'Bush Tax Calculator'

In many of presidential candidate George W. Bush's speeches, he expresses concern for the tax burden of ordinary Americans, such as a waitress trying to raise two children on \$22,000 a year, as their incomes increase. Larry Lindsey, Bush's chief economic adviser, agrees that tax credits and the like have reduced effective tax rates. But he said there is "an egregious problem" of higher marginal rates — how much of additional income goes to taxes — as the credits begin to phase out.

Bush's Web site (www.georgewbush.com) includes a "Bush Tax Calculator," which also demonstrates how low taxes are for most Americans. A family of four making \$56,000 pays 8.3 percent of its income in federal tax, according to the Bush online site.

The online site's calculator also says a single parent with two children making \$22,000 a year pays \$110 in federal income taxes, or 0.05 percent of her wages. But the Bush calculator doesn't include the impact of the earned-income tax credit, which results in a rebate of \$1,700 for this wage-earner. A single parent with two children actually doesn't owe federal tax until her income reaches nearly \$27,000.

Microsoft proposal feared inadequate

WASHINGTON — Microsoft Corp.'s latest offer to settle the antitrust lawsuit brought by the Justice Department and 19 states promised many of the changes in business practices long sought by government competition watchdogs, but the proposal still fell short of the breakthrough needed to settle the case before a Tuesday deadline, people familiar with the matter said Saturday.

No plans were made Saturday for a face-to-face meeting between the two sides, which likely would be necessary to hammer out final details of an out-of-court settlement. While a meeting still could be set for Monday, time is short because US District Judge Thomas Penfield Jackson told the lawyers he would issue his verdict Tuesday if no progress was made.

Work was expected to continue through the weekend, and a breakthrough was still possible, but Microsoft's complex proposal failed to meet government lawyers' goal of correcting the anticompetitive practices outlined in Jackson's findings of fact on Nov. 5. Jackson said Microsoft had used monopoly power to harm consumers, stifle innovation, and squelch competition.

To address such concerns, a workable settlement offer would be expected to include such elements as a decoupling of certain software applications, such as the Internet Explorer browser, from the Windows operating system; a promise not to discriminate among software developers who need access to the code needed to write applications for Windows; a pledge not to discriminate among computer makers on the price charged for Windows; and a guarantee to give computer makers flexibility in how they put Windows software on their products.

While Microsoft took a big step toward addressing government concerns, there are major gaps in the proposal, sources said. For example, Microsoft's proposal for providing the applications code to software vendors in a nondiscriminatory fashion was incomplete, sources said.

Compiled from the Los Angeles Times-Washington Post News Service and TMS Campus News Service

The Daily Weather Forecast



Today

Mostly sunny
High: 60



Tonight

Rain late, windy
Low: 45



Tomorrow

AM Rain/Thunder; PM Sun
Windy.
High: 55

Welcome back everybody! Those of you who didn't get a tan over break can get some sun today, as temperatures reach 60 degrees under mostly sunny skies. Our nice weather will be interrupted by a bout of heavy rain tonight into tomorrow. Could even be some thunderstorms early Tuesday morning as well. The rest of the week looks cool and pleasant, with highs in the 50s.

— Weather forecast by Daily Editor Andrew Freedman

TCU focuses on purpose of student groups

TUFTS

continued from page 1

seem in the best interests of everybody involved that they make sure that their interests are represented within the student Senate," said Frank Nocito, Budget Coordinator in the Office of Student Activi-

ties who oversees all of the finances of student groups. "One thing Tufts does a really nice job of is empowering the students and giving them that freedom. If they make mistakes and kind of fall on their faces, they get up, and they learn from that," he said.

Unlike at Wisconsin, Nealley said that disagreement over groups' recognition comes down to groups' functions, not their ideology. This year's \$176 Student Activities Fee has not been called into question in any type of case similar to the UW suit.

TCU budget passes without any conflict

BUDGET

continued from page 1

much money they receive.

Azoff and Shelton both noted that not a single club appealed the budget finalized by its ALBO representative, even while the entire budget is trimmed down from last year. "This means that groups are generally satisfied with their total budgets for next fiscal year," Shelton said.

"Fairness was our number-one priority," Azoff added.

Many student group leaders commented that they were satisfied with this year's budget. Media Advisory Board Chairman Craig Waldman said his group was

able to get what it needed through the budgeting process. "The hardest part of the budgeting process is convincing your ALBO chair that the increases you request are warranted. In my case, we came to a compromise that both of us could live with. Compromise is the key to success in this process," he said.

"The budgeting process is interesting," Waldman continued. "As with all matters involving money, it becomes tricky and at moments frustrating. This year's budgeting process, however, was the best that I have seen in my time at Tufts. ALBO did nice work throughout the year."

The treasury examines several

aspects of an organization when determining how much money that group should receive. One of the most important facets is how well the group used the money it was given the previous year. According to Azoff, if a group reasonably uses all the money budgeted one year, there is a strong likelihood the group's budget will be increased the next year. This year, the largest single recipient of the over-\$800,000 ALBO budget is the Concert Board, which will receive \$140,655. The Leonard Carmichael Society has the second-largest budget, at almost half of Concert Board's annual funding, and Hillel follows close behind at third.

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Features

Margaritas and bad lighting

People are sad. Mistreated. Often lonely. Their parents are divorced, or live together but fight more often than not. Tests and papers are roadblocks, weekends rest stops, a common cold the most ominous of harbinger. Now a younger sibling is on Ritalin.

So, when a friend estimated recently that I spend 80 percent of my day thinking about girls, I didn't object. Paula, I said her name for sincerity's sake, I do appreciate my time with you. But, friendships are only padding on the walls, softening life's hits to avoid bruising. It is romantic pursuits, both casual relationships and even-more-casual encounters, that offer true distraction from the somber and routine progression of college life. More importantly, they make for good conversation.

Yesterday, in a moment of hollowed profundity, I decided that good conversation is what sunrise-to-sunset is all about. If one can while away a day, a week, and a lifetime with good conversation, surely that is time well (or best) spent. New philosophy in hand, I eavesdropped on each passerby, starting with the mumblings of the shuttle driver (that most happy fella whose Observer profile offered late and insufficient tribute) and including any student within an earshot. Most of the snippets of dialogue I heard were dominated by those aforementioned, commonplace, yet tragic, tales of woe.

Elderly Florida, from where I file this *Featuring*, has a "could be worse" culture. "Better than yesterday," "Not so bad," and "Well, I'm not dead," follow each "How are you?" with animated alacrity. "My wife and I had the best 20 years of our lives," said one wrinkled widower in the pool, "and then we met." It was funny, but likely he was serious. Sadly, it's not that different from Tufts and everywhere else in America, only here in Fort Lauderdale aches and pains replace tests and jobs.



And so I chose girls! Girls are as good to talk about as to talk to. They're pretty. In nice weather they wear tank tops, shorts, and smiles. I make bad jokes and they laugh out of pity or compassion; boys are not as sensitive and look worse in sports bras. For a male who no longer follows sports, it's difficult to sit at a bar, or in the Carmichael dining hall for that matter, and prove that testosterone flows through one's veins. Chili and hamburgers only go so far in asserting masculinity, and nowadays feminism permits women to bite, mouth open wide, even the most greasy of barbequed steak.

Admittedly, I pursued the easy way out. This semester, I subscribed to Sports Illustrated for four free issues then received rabid epistles from a collection agency for weeks afterward: "If this letter passes your check in the mail," they wrote with the most forced of pleasantries, "then thank you and please disregard our threats of legal action, a future of bad credit, and intense police harassment."

To say the least, I felt intimidated. I stopped reading ESPN online, instead practiced the art of "locker room" talk in front of the full-length mirror in my dorm room. Damned if the Billing Center would quash my personal quest for macho, shallow, and contented chitchat.

It's not right to recount the sordid (although usually bland) details of an evening out, but everyone adores a charming story of puppy love. My romantic interests are too insincere for that title and well too fleeting. Still, on a Hodgdon picnic, standards plummet by cookie time and I can talk for hours about girls I want to date, marry, or whose pictures I'd put on my wall. The audience is captive, concentrating on anything else but also genuinely interested in the hackneyed narrative.

Thinking and talking about girls might be my way of avoiding the more serious topics of the day; those generally unpleasant conversations about having to pass a midterm, choose a major, or get a job. In a couple of years, I'll reminisce about college crushes rather than discuss partisan politics or the stock market after work.

My friend Jenna goes to Emory and lives a life of vocal desperation. All she talks about are sorority and fraternity gatherings, hookups and date parties, guys she finds attractive or the southern manners which render otherwise plain-looking youths suitable to come up to her room. At home, my Georgetown friend Michael and I, entrenched in intellectual elitism like it were cheap cologne, mock her simple lifestyle and empty existence. What a waste of time we say, and we are silently jealous at how happy she seems.

There are rare times when group discussion skirts substantive subject matter while successfully avoiding melodrama. I only wish I could analyze and explain why and when this occurs, but will instead fall back on anecdote and hope the point unravels. Sometimes things are just fun. No need to comfort others or be reassured. A few weeks see **FEATURING**, page 10

Featuring...

Benjamin Gedan

Right now in Burma there is great tension between its citizens and the ruling military dictatorship. Here in the US, however, legislation is in the works to prevent companies from investing in the nation.

Simon Billenness, a Senior Research Analyst from Trillium Investments, will speak tomorrow about the situation in Burma and the Massachusetts Burma Law that is being looked at right now by the Supreme Court. This law would allow companies in Massachusetts not to invest (divest) in Burma. Billenness will also speak about the role of students to pressure government officials and university administrators to do something about the situation in Burma.

Burma is an Asian nation, and is bordered by India, China, Laos, and Thailand. The nation has been in turmoil for several years, facing a struggle between a military dictatorship and democracy. In 1988, peaceful demonstrations were held to bring the dictatorship to an end. During these demonstrations, the military gunned down protestors, killing over 30,000 people.

Burma's military, known as the State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC), has been in power since 1988. The United Nations has called the SLORC one of the world's most brutal and repressive regimes.

Additional conflict was created when Burma's name was changed to Myanmar by the military dictatorship. The democracy movement refuses to acknowledge the name change because it was not made with the consent of the Burmese people.

Additionally, the Burmese military regime is committing human rights violations by denying citizens basic liberties. It is also damaging the environment by cutting down rainforests, using the trees as a source of wood for fuel, and drilling pipelines for natural gas. The military also escalated heroin production, and this has not only

New Massachusetts law would discourage investment in Burma

Billenness to speak about issue tomorrow at teach-in

by KELLY WISNEWSKI

Daily Editorial Board

affected addiction rates in Burma, but also in the US and other nations.

The Massachusetts Burma Law, which is being reviewed by the Supreme Court, is a selective purchasing act which would al-

Burmese people who drill the pipelines for UNOCAL, a gas company.

Students can play a role in the Free Burma movement. Aung San Suu Kyi, a Nobel Peace Laureate who was under house arrest for six years, until 1995, for her involvement with the democracy movement, urged in an address to American University students for them to "use your liberty so that we may have ours." Student protests help to raise awareness about the issues. Already over 25 universities, such as Georgetown, Harvard, University of Michigan, University of Washington, and Northwestern, have passed Free Burma resolutions. Student activism has also helped to push Pepsi out of

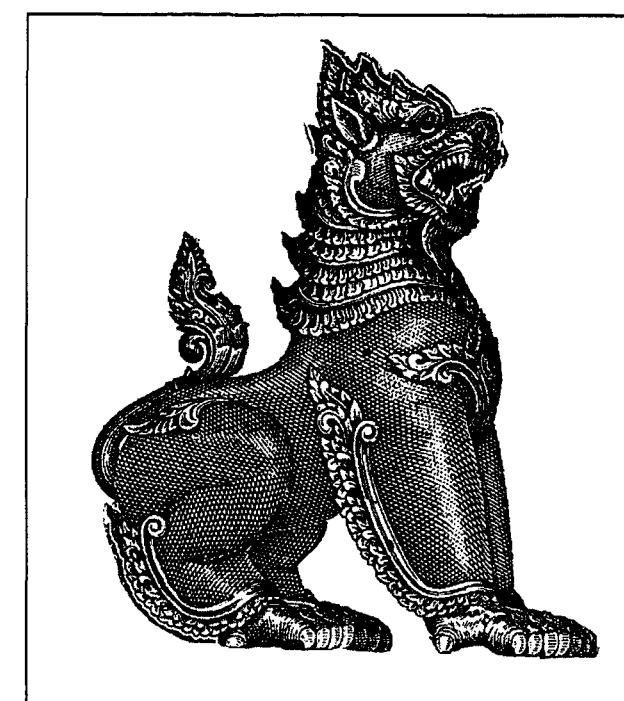


Photo courtesy of the Open Society Institute's Burma Project

low the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to be selective in its investments based on the regime or human rights history of the nation that would be invested in. Selective purchasing acts and the exercise of consumer power helped bring apartheid to an end in South Africa, and activists hope that this law will influence the nation.

In Burma, the elites and mili-

Burma.

"What I see at the core of this is our combined power as students, with many resources at our disposal, and as consumers. If we exercise both of these, we can help bring an end to the human rights violations in Burma," sophomore Karina Weinstein said.

"As students we must stand up for our conviction that human rights violations are wrong and use our collective voice to tell our government officials that as consumers in the state of Massachusetts we have the right to say if our money should go to Burma," she continued.

Billenness will speak at a teach-in, tomorrow in Eaton 208 beginning at 7 p.m. Sponsored by the Coalition for Social Justice and Nonviolence, the purpose of the teach-in is to educate the Tufts campus about what is going on in Burma and the Massachusetts Burma Law. Another reason for the teach-in is to start a campaign at Tufts that would pressure the government to fight for this law.

"Burma might seem really far away and not relevant in our everyday lives, yet the human rights violations that occur and the environmental degradation affects all of us as humans," Weinstein said.

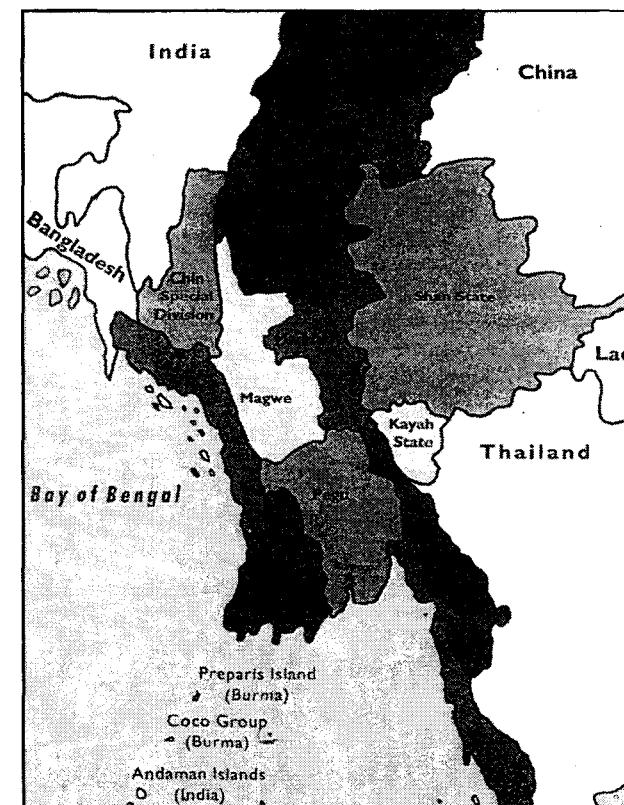


Photo courtesy of the Open Society Institute's Burma Project

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Okay, sorry there's no T.V. listings.
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your brain anyway. Read a book.

Arts & Entertainment

A movie that is totally 'Cyrano de Bergerac 2000'



Marla Sokoloff is willing to do 'Whatever It Takes'.

And the winner is...

We here at Arts get really pumped up when Oscar time comes around. Frankly, the ceremony is so exciting we feel its just too short. We figured that the best way to make the evening last forever, was to come up with a few more categories. After much deliberation we eagerly announce the winners.

Best Movie Involving Multiple Malkoviches: Being John Malkovich
Best Movie Featuring One of The Ten Plagues: Magnolia
Best Scene in Which Human Fat Is Turned Into Expensive Soap: Fight Club
Best Sex Scene Involving Pastries: American Pie
Best Movie Using Cadavers As Props: Three Kings
Best Bob Dylan Song Featured in a Movie with the Same Name: The Hurricane
Best R.E.M. Song Featured in a Movie with the Same Name: Man On The Moon
Best Star Wars Reference: Toy Story 2
Most Annoying Jedi Master-To-Be: Anakin Skywalker (Jake Lloyd)
Best Self-Congratulatory Movie Title: The Cider House Rules
Best Almost-Statutory Rape Scene: American Beauty
Best Career Going Down The Tubes: Ben Affleck
Best Movie Featuring Alanis Morissette as God: Dogma
Best Movie Featuring The Line "I See Dead People": Cocoon 4
Best Movie Starring Will Smith and A Gigantic Robotic Tarantula: Wild Wild West
Most Self-Indulgent Script: Hanging Up
Best Movie in Which Keanu Reeves Says "Whoa!": The Matrix
Best Mile: The Green Mile
Best Cast in a Really Bad Movie: Mission To Mars

— Rob Lott, Dara Resnik, and Ben Oshlag

FOR A GOOD TIME: CALL THE TUFTS DAILY ARTS DEPARTMENT AT x73090.

Dara Resnik

What's better than eight cute girls on spring break? Eight cute girls on spring break in Las Vegas. Okay, hold the letters to the editor on this one, but I think Vegas may be the

only place I like as much as I like New York (yeah, shut up, I brought it up again, so sue me). Call me

trashy, but there's something to be said for a place where you can be entertained 24-7, and actually have fun. It could be that I love Vegas because I have family out there and I've been taking vacations there for years, but this past spring break was the first time I've ever had the chance to go all-out. Let's just say spending an evening with my mom at the blackjack tables ain't the same as going out with seven other 21-year-old girls. It's not like we had visions of becoming the guys from *Swingers* and having the wildest four nights of our lives, but there's something about that city that makes you feel on top of the world.

Take the very first night arriving there. Landing at midnight in any other city would be a problem, but not in Las Vegas. We got to the hotel — Treasure Island — and dumped our bags to spend a night in the casino. As the tagline for *Swingers* goes, "Cocktails first. Questions later." There's nothing more fun than dropping a few nickels in a slot machine and getting served a couple of \$5.00 strawberry daiquiris on the house.

For you Vegas novices, I'll explain. The whole town runs on gambling. They'll do anything (and I do mean anything) to keep you downstairs in the casino losing money. Alcohol, as long as you're gambling, is free. The servers dress in itsy-bitsy slutty little outfits so that the men can get their kicks, and they keep the casino really cold to keep you from going to your room. There's food right in the casino as well,

Where I'm Calling From

so, really, there's no reason to ever leave. Everything about Vegas is a genius psychological experiment in keeping people happy, entertained, and losing money. And it works. I lost \$10.00 that first night, and I still felt great.

There are, however, other things to do in Vegas, so we explored. First, I will say that much of the entertainment in Las Vegas is first-rate, including the free shows at the various hotels like the dancing fountains at Bellagio, and the pirate show in front of Treasure Island. Cirque de Soleil has two shows running in Vegas right now, both of which pretty much blow your perception of performance art out of the water. The longer-running is *Mystere*, a more traditional circus/movement/dance show with costumes and sets that are as beautiful as they are enigmatic. The second is *O*, which is Cirque de Soleil in water. With a moving story line and music to match, swimmers, dancers, gymnasts, and acrobats fly through the air, dive into water that comes and goes from the stage, and cause the audience to watch with mouths agape for two hours. I saw both of these shows on previous trips to Vegas, and I highly recommend them. They're so good they'll make you cry.

One of the other shows that promises to be a Vegas must-see is *EFX*. We had tickets to this one because it's a bit cheaper than the others. Still, with a multi-million dollar stage in the MGM Grand Casino and special effects that cost over \$1 million each, I expected a lot. I shouldn't have. What I got was Tommy Tune on an ego trip, poorly written dialogue, music and lyrics that made me gag, and a story that made no sense whatsoever. The thing that really sucked, however, is that the sets and effects are really cool and it annoyed me to think how good the show could have been if they had spent a dime on a better script. The best member of the cast was James Earl Jones as the "Master" of something-or-other, his face projected in 3-D on a large

'Whatever It Takes' struggles in originality

by MICHAEL HISTEN

Senior Staff Writer

Aren't teen movies, like, so six-months-ago? You'd think that this genre of film, resurrected every few years for each new

set of teenagers, would get old a little faster than it does.

'Whatever It Takes'

Starring: Marla Sokoloff

Rating: ★★

But perhaps due to the inexplicable staying power of teen death movies, including three *Scream* films, two *I Know What You Did Last Summer* flicks, and, most recently, *Final Destination* — not to mention the enormous success of bubble gum pop — movie studios seem up for anything teen. Enter *Whatever It Takes*, the sort of film that leaves you wondering "why?" It's not a terrible movie, and certainly not a great one, but it serves no purpose whatsoever.

The plot for *Whatever It Takes* is about as subtle as your standard teen fare. Maggie Carter (Marla Sokoloff) is the best friend and next door neighbor of Ryan Woodman (Shane West). Ryan is infatuated with Ashley Grant (Jodi Lyn O'Keefe), the school's sexiest student (and likely the most vapid). Ashley's cousin, Chris Campbell (James Franco), wants Maggie, seemingly the only girl he can't have. In one of the film's wittier scenes, Maggie responds to Chris' request for a kiss on the cheek by deadpanning, "What, you want me to kick you in the face?" The two guys hatch a plan to trick Maggie and Ashley into falling in love with them. Chris tells Ryan to get Ashley's attention by being rude and insulting to her. Meanwhile, Ryan helps Chris by sending Maggie emails, feeding Chris lines, and even pretending to be him. Unsurprisingly, this web of deception begins to take its toll, and eventually falls apart in a confusing mess.

The relationship between Ryan and Ashley is hardly believable. Jodi Lyn O'Keefe plays Ashley as a self-absorbed rich girl with a brain roughly the size of a walnut — a part virtually identical to her performance in last year's far more solid

She's All That. It seems improbable that Ryan, one of the few seemingly bright people in this sea of dimwitted teenagers, is initially unable to see how superficial Ashley is. And perhaps most ridiculously, we're made to believe that Ryan's efforts to get Ashley — which include insulting her appearance, spilling a drink on her dress, and pushing her into a pool — actually work. Meanwhile, Ryan is facilitating Chris and Maggie's relationship by telling Chris to say everything he knows Maggie will like, and in the process Ryan realizes that he may feel for Maggie as more than just a friend. Gee, what a surprise. Yawn...

Whatever It Takes also manages to piece together this plot by borrowing from other works. The shower-ogling scene from *Porky's* is here, as is the gym-floor-opening-over-a-pool-during-a-dance scene from *It's A Wonderful Life*. And have no doubt that the tangled relationship between Ryan, Maggie, and Chris is lifted directly from *Cyrano de Bergerac*. There's even a scene where a hidden Ryan tells Chris what to say to Maggie, looking up to her as she stands in the window of a prop castle being used for the school play.

The film does have some high points, however. As Maggie, Marla Sokoloff manages to give the film some grounding in reality with her down-to-earth character. The humor is also occasionally strong. In one of the opening scenes, the school nurse, who is also Ryan's mother, brings out a six-foot plastic penis as part of her sex education program. The outlandish situations the main characters find themselves in are often so out-there that it's hard not to laugh.

However, the film is rife with oversimplification. According to *Whatever It Takes*, high school is a land of stereotypical cliques where all the students happen to be in their 20s. Like far too many teen movies, the majority of the cast is well past high school age — three of the four main actors are 21 or older. You know the place — the smart, nice guys are nerds; the handsome, popular guys are sports stars; the totally, like, ditzy girls are hot and brainless, and of course the only relatively normal female there inevitably becomes our heroine. Parents don't

see WHATEVER, page 10

Vegas, baby!

screen over the stage. This also made me sad. "Why is he a voice slut?" whispered one of my friends in the theater. Good question.

Anyway, we left the theater upset at blowing 50 bucks on a crappy show, and decided to once again drown our sorrows in a couple of casino drinks before hitting the club scene. Clubs are about as abundant in Vegas as casinos, and we hit only a fraction of them while there, but it was enough. There's something about waking up four days in a row with a hangover that makes you think twice about going out. Regardless, for three nights, we were ready for something beyond Lansdowne Street, and Vegas delivered.

The first night brought us to a club called the Beach, which was more like an overgrown frat party than a dance club, but we managed to have fun. When guys are buying you drinks all over the place (so that's where chivalry went), it's hard to not have fun. The second night we went to Studio 54, a remake of the old Studio 54 in (guess where?) New York. They played a techno version of "How Deep is Your Love" which made me swoon, and I don't think I went one night there without hearing "Brick House." The last night at Club Rio, music from the early '90s kept us on the dance floor all night. I learned two things at the clubs. 1) I have no taste in dance music — the stuff I liked was the stuff everyone else hated. 2) The guys in Vegas are a lot better looking before they open their mouths and try to engage in conversation. Ugh.

So we returned to Boston happy, broke, and tired, our throats hoarse from shouting over the club music and our pockets empty from seeing shows and buying dinner, despite the fact that most of us managed to break even at the tables. And as the plane took off for Boston, we heard Trent's words ringing in our ears, "Baby, that was money! Tell me that wasn't money." Yeah.

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Sports

Jordan Brenner At a loss

Losing sucks.

It really, really sucks.

I say this while sitting at home in New York in my lucky Duke jersey, lucky Duke tee-shirt, lucky Duke game shorts, lucky Duke hat, and, oh yeah — my lucky Duke boxer shorts. Apparently lucky clothing couldn't break Florida's press or help the Blue Devils shoot better than 3-19 from three-point land, because Duke's gone from the NCAA Tournament and I'm feeling empty.

But the pit in my stomach has encouraged some reflection on why I feel so bad, and I've come up with my own theory about losing. Among the 15 definitions of "lose" at www.dictionary.com are two that I find quite compelling: "To be deprived of something one has had," and "To fail in."

In sports, the latter definition seems to take precedence. Losing is equated to failure — be it a single game or a championship. Those who consistently come up short [Dan Marino] are often called "losers."

Full Court Press

But while losing a game is a failure to reach a goal, that cannot explain the deep emotion that players, coaches, and fans associate with defeat. Clearly, "failure" is meaningful to players and coaches. At the professional level, they have worked all year to achieve success, and when they ultimately fall short, they end up frustrated and dejected. But fans often take defeat just as seriously, which is quite puzzling, because they have no role in the accomplishments of a team. Their abilities are not being measured on the playing field — when the Yankees won the World Series five months ago, I was no better a person than I am today after a Duke loss. And as good as I felt when my favorite team took home baseball's greatest prize, the sadness I feel over Duke's loss is, somehow, a stronger emotion. So, there has to be more to losing than simple failure.

Enter definition number one: Deprivation. This is the cause of my current mood, as well as most fans' frustration when their team loses, particularly in the postseason. When a team is eliminated from the NCAA Tournament, or bows out in the first round of the Stanley Cup Playoffs, fans are upset because the team did not achieve ultimate success, but more so because their favorite team's season is over. As I ponder Duke's elimination, I'm sorry that the Blue Devils didn't win a championship, but I'm more saddened by the fact that I won't get to see them play for another eight months.

As a result of Duke's loss, I am being deprived of something I once had — the joy of watching my favorite team play basketball. Every year, I sweat through every game of the NCAA Tournament, not because a victory does anything for my stature or self-confidence, but because it means another game will be played. Every game is another chance to spend two hours immersed in a wonderful sport with a significant rooting interest, hoping for the opportunity to do the same thing two days later.

That's why the regular season in any sport is so less significant than the postseason. No fan is distraught by a defeat, because his or her favorite team will live to play another day. The games carry some weight, only in that they are efforts to jockey for a better seed in the playoffs, which supposedly should help a team advance, so it can play another game.

Maybe that's why championship games have always been anticlimactic for me. The most joy I ever received from a game was in the 1991 Final Four, when Duke upset a previously unbeaten UNLV team that had trounced the Blue Devils by 30 points in the '90 championship game. It was so wonderful because Duke's victory was completely unexpected — it was supposed to be their last game of the season. Certainly, knocking off a dominant team brought great pride to any fan, let alone Mike Krzyzewski and his players, but I was happiest about getting to see the team play again. When Duke ultimately beat Kansas for the championship, I was certainly excited, but my joy contained a bittersweet irony — that was still the last time Duke would play that year.

Even in my playing experiences, I have felt similarly. In seventh grade, I played on my town's travelling basketball team. Different towns hosted tournaments throughout the season, and we won the final competition of the year. Even at a young age, though, I remember feeling somewhat empty after the game. Sure, we had won, but that was the last basketball game I would be able to play for several months. I recall thinking that I would have traded that victory for a few more games, and placed in the same situation today, I think I would still feel that way.

It's understandable for deprivation to be the overwhelming emotion for a fan or a child athlete upon the conclusion of a season, particularly after a loss, but can that really be the case for a college or professional athlete? I think so. When Chris Carrawell left the floor with eight seconds remaining tonight, he broke down in tears, embracing Coach K. Obviously, he was disheartened by the fact that his team had fallen short of an NCAA title, a goal which he had striven for with remarkable determination. But he also exited with the realization that he would never again have the opportunity to wear a Duke uniform, an activity which had provided him with tremendous satisfaction for the past four years. He was being deprived of something he loved. So he wept.

In the end, almost every player competes because he loves to play a sport. And when that primary source of pleasure is removed players are left with a void to fill. After all, there's only so much golf one can play in the off-season.

Jumbos surprise with early wins

Baseball team wins seven of eight games over break

by RUSSELL CAPONE

Daily Editorial Board

The Tufts baseball team started the 2000 season in the same fashion as last year's squad finished up — by winning ballgames.

Heading into yesterday's doubleheader at Virginia Wesleyan, the Jumbos had won seven of their first eight games on the annual spring break trip down south. Among the highlights of the impressive start was an 8-2 win over defending Division III National Champion North Carolina Wesleyan on Thursday.

In that game, senior hurler Nick Svencer pitched all nine innings, allowing just five hits en route to the surprising win. The Jumbos got on the board early, as a two-run double by sophomore Dan Callahan gave Tufts the first-inning lead. Sophomore Tim Ayres then singled in Callahan, putting the Jumbos up 3-0.

The Bishops responded in the bottom of the second, however, as Jon Markle connected for a two-run homer, making the score 3-2. That would be all for the defending champs, however, as Svencer silenced them the rest of the way.

Junior Todd Boutwell, finally healthy after being hampered by injuries last season, led off the fifth inning with a double. He was singled in by Callahan, who finished with three RBIs. Callahan was then doubled home by Ayres. Senior Josh Marks singled home two more runs shortly thereafter. The four runs were more than enough insurance for the Jumbos, as they improved to 5-0 with the win.

The team would go on to win two of its next three before Sunday, including an 8-3 victory over Greensboro College in North Carolina on Friday. The game was a makeup for Monday's rainout.

Freshman Jon Lee took the mound for Tufts, lasting eight in-

nings. Though Lee did give up 12 hits in his debut as a starter, the right-hander surrendered just one walk and allowed three runs, striking out seven on the way to his first collegiate win.

The Jumbos scored three runs in both the second and third innings, getting up 7-2 early and holding on in the late innings. Ayres had three hits and three RBIs on the day, while junior catcher Joe Surprenant collected two hits and two RBIs. Boutwell, making up for lost time with his stellar play over break, had two hits and two runs scored.

Improving to a perfect 6-0, the Jumbos would suffer their first setback just a day later, taking on Apprentice College.

Apprentice took the first game of the doubleheader 3-2, but Tufts bounced back for a 9-5 win in the second. Game statistics were unavailable at press time.

Prior to the big win over North Carolina Wesleyan, the Jumbos took two easy contests over Randolph Macon, and compiled closer wins over Methodist College and UNC Pembroke.

Senior captain Zack Brown got the win as the Jumbos destroyed Randolph Macon by a 20-1 margin last Saturday to open up the season. Svencer took the mound for Sunday's contest against the same team, and the result was no prettier. He gave up eight hits and two runs — one earned — striking out five in the 18-2 Tufts win. Boutwell was 3-for-6, including a home run and three RBI.

As coach Jon Casey had speculated, Brown played in the DH spot, and responded with four hits, among them a double and a triple. The team's top pitcher was a New



Photo by Kate Cohen

Senior captain Zack Brown has led the baseball team to a 7-1 record.

England All-Star at second base last year, proving to be one of the Jumbos' leading hitters. Though Casey does not want his star pitcher taking the field too often, Brown should continue to see significant time at the DH position, as his batting prowess is too much to lose.

Freshman Brian Shapiro and Corey Dolich split time at second in Brown's absence, but it appears that the position is Dolich's, and Shapiro will see time at third. Still, the infield remains a question.

Brown did play second base in the team's third win, 2-0 over Methodist, just a day before his second start. Steve Lapham went the distance in the shutout win, allowing nine hits, while walking none. Junior Nick Scola went 2-for-3 and Surprenant 2-for-4, as Tufts erased a six-game losing streak to Methodist.

UNC Pembroke was the Jumbos' next victim. The squad pulled

see **BASEBALL**, page 10

Softball team goes Hollywood

Jumbos go 5-5 on spring break trip to California

by JON JAPHA

Daily Editorial Board

The Tufts softball team was driving down Rodeo Drive in Hollywood on its spring break trip to Orange, California, when the women saw Michael Richards, otherwise known as "Kramer" from Seinfeld. The van the team was riding in exploded when the team recognized the celebrity, who calmly gave the Jumbos the peace sign before quickly ducking into a store.

Later, the players were eating lunch when they thought they recognized a celebrity at a nearby table. Junior infielder Emily Harwood approached the man, and asked whether he was "Weird Al" Yankovic. Harwood was right about the celebrity and Yankovic gave a wave to the team's table.

The Jumbos also had time to shop and lay on the beach when they were in sunny California this past week. Oh, and they also squeezed in ten softball games, going 5-5, an improvement on last year's spring trip to Orlando. Plus, this year, they got to hang out with celebrities.

It seemed as though the softball wouldn't live up to the fun of Hollywood, as Tufts squared off against some of the top teams in the country. Central College was first on the slate and, despite playing well against a perennially strong team, the Jumbos fell 9-6.

Tufts hit with Central College, racking up 13 hits to its opponents' 16. The Jumbos got production from the entire lineup, as five different players had two-hit games, with junior cleanup hitter and outfielder Randee McArdle collecting three RBI's.

"We established ourselves as a real solid hitting team," sophomore shortstop Emily Ferrazza said.

Part of the reason Tufts was so strong at the plate was the big play of the four freshmen. Before the season, coach Kris Herman was optimistic about her recruits, and they proved her right in California.

Left fielder Jenica Spogen was hitting .471 through the first eight games of the tournament, good enough to lead the team, while catcher Lis Drake was batting at a .455 clip in second place. Utility player Laurie Bishop is fifth on the team with a .286 batting average. Having the team's batting average paced by freshmen doesn't bother anyone on the team.

"The freshmen really stepped up," Ferrazza said, who is fourth on the team herself, at .313. "They made key plays and got hits when they needed them."

In the Central College game, right fielder Nikki Blottner went 2-for-3, Spogen went 1-for-2, and Drake went 1-for-3. Spogen and Drake also hit home runs in the week, showing off their power as well.

After the Central game, Tufts dropped its next two, a close 4-2 loss to Lindfield and a disappointing 8-1 defeat at the hands of Eastern Oregon. Part of the three-game losing streak was due to playing top-notch teams, which will help the Jumbos in the long run.

"Playing these teams definitely helped us, because we played teams that are as good as any others we will play this year," Ferrazza said. "Even though

see **SOFTBALL**, page 10

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The Tufts Daily is a non-profit, independent newspaper, published Monday through Friday during the academic year, and distributed free to the Tufts community. Business hours are 9 a.m. - 6 p.m., Monday through Friday, 1 - 6 p.m. on Sunday. The Daily is printed at Charles River Publishing, Charlestown, MA.

Editorials appear on this page, unsigned. Individual editors are not necessarily responsible for, or in agreement with, the policies and editorials of The Tufts Daily. The content of Letters, advertisements, signed columns, cartoons, and graphics does not necessarily reflect the opinion of The Tufts Daily editorial board.

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The Tufts Daily
P.O. Box 53018
Medford MA 02153

Telephone: (617) 627-3090
FAX: (617) 627-3910
E-mail: tdaily@emerald.tufts.edu

<http://www.tuftsdaily.com>



Off the Hill

Federal judge bars access to student disciplinary records

TMS Campus News Service

WASHINGTON—Universities would violate federal privacy laws if they revealed students' disciplinary records or details of campus judicial proceedings, a federal judge ruled this week.

Monday's decision has further stymied efforts by "The Chronicle of Higher Education" to access student disciplinary records from two Ohio universities. US District Judge George Smith found that campus judicial files and proceedings are "education records" protected under the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, commonly known as FERPA. The law prohibits institutions of higher education from disclosing records including "personally identifiable information" that a student or his or her parents have not authorized the school to release.

The ruling has angered campus-crime experts and journalism groups across the nation, who say that colleges have used campus judiciary panels to conduct closed hearings that, in effect, hide illegal and embarrassing information that would be made public if reported to police.

"What the judge is saying is that you get special protection by committing a crime on campus, and that is patently offensive," said Kyle Niederpruem, president of the Society of Professional Journalists. "What's also horrible is that the victims of many campus crimes will never have their claims see the light of day."

"Everyone has the right to know about crime on campus," Niederpruem added. "Parents and students need the information to make informed decisions."

The Chronicle case stemmed from a 1997 Ohio Supreme Court ruling that disciplinary records were not "education records" and were, therefore, subject to public inspection. The court ordered Miami University to release complete records—including students' names—to a campus newspaper that had sued to see them under the state's public-records law.

Bolstered by that decision, the Washington-based Chronicle requested student disciplinary records of both Miami and Ohio State universities. Both institutions were complying with the request when the department stepped in and filed suit against them for violating FERPA. Because the universities didn't challenge the department's lawsuit, the Chronicle intervened

as a third party.

Smith sided with the department, and cited legal precedents holding that federal statutes should apply to all issues and documents except those specifically excluded. Because FERPA provides some exemptions, but not one for disciplinary records, Smith concluded such documents are "education records." He also stated that campus judicial proceedings—and the resulting documents—were not "criminal in nature," but instead an internal way of campus codes of conduct.

"Tell that to someone who has been date-raped or sexually assaulted," Niederpruem said.

In his decision, Smith stated emphatically that colleges and universities must continue publishing annual statistics on the number of campus crimes, including hate crimes, murder, rape, robbery, and theft.

"The Court believes that these disclosures are adequate to inform students, prospective students and parents about the safety of various college campuses," Smith wrote. "Releasing the personally identifiable information of the students accused or convicted of violating university regulations, as well as information about victims, would not further advance the public's interest."

Statistics aren't enough to paint an accurate picture of campus crime, said Mark Goodman, executive director of the Student Press Law Center in Virginia.

"The judge's suggestion that statistics are all students need to be informed is a joke," he said. "For starters, statistics most schools provide are inaccurate, and secondly, they're at least a year old."

"And they don't help a young woman who's walking alone across campus to know what areas she needs to stay away from," he added. "That's because statistics alone don't provide any of the detailed information that would allow her or anyone else to take precautionary measures."

A spokesman for the Education Department said the decision was "encouraging," but declined further comment until attorneys there could review the court's decision.

The Chronicle is deciding whether to appeal the case.

The Tufts Daily



Where you get the
news while it is
still news

National/World News

Israel-Syria peace hangs in the balance at negotiations

Los Angeles Times-Washington Post
News Service

After eight years of false starts, negotiation breakdowns, and inch-by-inch progress, President Clinton may be looking at his last best chance to make peace between Israel and Syria when he sits down Sunday in Geneva with Syrian President Hafez Assad for their first substantive face-to-face meeting since 1994.

By some reckonings, the outlook for a settlement has never been brighter. The basic elements of a deal—Israeli withdrawal from the Golan Heights in exchange for Syrian guarantees of security, full peace, and normal relations—already have been agreed upon. One Arab ambassador in Washington described the remaining challenges as nothing more than a “technical agreement.”

But troublesome gaps persist, including the all-important question—known as “sequencing”—of how quickly Syria will normalize relations with Israel in exchange

for an Israeli withdrawal from the Golan Heights, according to a senior administration official who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Time, moreover, is running short, and not just because of the American political calendar or Assad’s failing health. Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak has pledged to withdraw Israeli forces from Lebanon by July, depriving Syria of a key bargaining chip. That has raised fears that Israel and Syria could slide toward direct military confrontation if they don’t reach an accord before the July deadline.

“While most observers believe that Syria and Israel are just a whisker away from peace, the two countries are also not much further away from conflict and perhaps war,” wrote Robert Satloff, director of the Washington Institute for Near East Policy, in a recent paper on the Geneva talks. “Within days, the countdown to one of those outcomes will be clear.”

Those in the optimist camp in-

clude Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, who has recently been in contact with Assad and said in an interview last week that the issues between Israel and Syria are “not so complicated.” In a breakfast meeting Friday with reporters in Washington, Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Moussa repeated that view, predicting that Clinton and Assad would conclude their meeting by announcing, at the very least, a resumption of direct talks between Israel and Syria.

“I believe we shall see a breakthrough out of Geneva,” Moussa said. “President Clinton and President Assad are not going to Geneva just to differ. They can differ on the phone.”

Also fueling high expectations for the summit are Israeli media reports to the effect that Israel and Syria have already agreed on a settlement, through secret talks or American intermediaries, and that all that remains is a signing ceremony. Barak’s government, however, has dismissed these reports, and Clinton administration officials have also been scrambling in recent days to dampen hopes of a breakthrough. “It’s highly unlikely there will

be any immediate results in Geneva,” said a senior administration official traveling with Clinton in India last week. “The best-case result, I would say, is that we have a sense after the meeting that there’s enough common ground... that if we actually resume negotiations you could envision them ending in success.”

The last time Clinton met Assad for any length of time, in Geneva in 1994, US officials hoped the meeting would advance peace prospects between Assad and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin. But Assad dug in his heels, and little came of that meeting. Rabin was assassinated the next year.

Israel and Syria have not held direct talks since January, when their negotiating teams met for a week in Shepherdstown, W. Va. Plans for a second round of talks were derailed when an Israeli newspaper printed the text of a US-drafted “working document” suggesting that Syria had offered significant concessions. Infuriated by the leak, Syrian officials said they wouldn’t return to the bargaining table until Israel committed to meeting their core demand: full withdrawal from the Golan Heights to the line that Israel occupied on June 4, 1967, at the outbreak of the Six-Day War.

A key moment came several weeks ago when Barak leaked word that he would be willing to meet

Syria’s demand, under certain conditions. Even in the absence of formal talks, meanwhile, US officials had been in regular contact with Jerusalem and Damascus. “When we believed we had the information we needed,” a senior administration official said, Clinton called Assad and asked him to come to Geneva “to give him his sense of what it would take to move this forward.”

“I think we’ve clarified the positions on both sides,” said the official, but added, “I don’t think we’re at the point where we’ve really narrowed the gaps.”

On the border question, Israeli officials have resisted Syria’s demand for a withdrawal to the so-called June 4 line because it would extend Syrian territory to the shore of the Sea of Galilee, which supplies the Jewish state with much of its fresh water. Barak, moreover, has pledged to submit any treaty to a national referendum; a settlement that gives Syria access to the lake, while preventing Israelis from circumnavigating it, would all but guarantee a defeat at the polls.

In public statements, at least, Israeli officials have expressed preference for the international border drawn by French and British colonial authorities in 1923, which would establish a small

see ISRAEL, page 11

Clinton unable to achieve concessions from Pakistan

Los Angeles Times-Washington Post News Service

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan — President Clinton met for more than an hour and a half Saturday with Pakistani Gen. Pervez Musharraf, but he failed to win any concessions from this nation’s military ruler that might defuse the volatile standoff in South Asia.

Senior officials said Clinton secured no promises from Musharraf to stop guerrillas based in Pakistan from crossing into the Indian region of Kashmir, where a violent insurgency has brought the two countries to the brink of open conflict.

When he departed Islamabad, the Pakistani capital, Saturday afternoon — after a visit that lasted fewer than seven hours — Clinton thus left the South Asian region much as he found it when he arrived a week ago, with the two nuclear-armed rivals embroiled in their worst relations in one-quarter of a century.

“We heard no new assurances from the general,” a senior Clinton administration official said in Islamabad.

Musharraf, who seized power from a democratically elected government in October, said he and Clinton agreed that tensions in South Asia must cool down. But he gave the president no indication of when he plans to return Pakistan to democratic rule.

Musharraf also declined to moderate the country’s nuclear weapons program. He refused to rule out the death penalty for the man he overthrew, former Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif. And he indicated that he is in no mood for compromise with India.

“I would not jump to the impulsive act of picking up the telephone to talk to the Indian prime minister,” Musharraf said of Indian leader Atal Behari Vajpayee. “They have to reduce atrocities in Kashmir.”

In a live, 15-minute address broadcast to the Pakistani people, Clinton suggested that the country will find itself increasingly isolated if it supports aggressive policies against India. He also implored Pakistanis to return to democratic rule — in effect urging them to reject their military ruler.

“This era does not reward people who struggle in vain to redraw borders with blood,” Clinton said in his televised address. “There is no military solution to Kashmir.”

The tense ending to Clinton’s weeklong tour of South Asia seemed to affirm a dramatic realignment by the US government toward India, seen as a burgeoning democracy full of promise, and away from Pakistan, a long-time ally beset by crisis. While Clinton invited the Indian prime minister to visit Washington later this year, he gave no indi-

cation that he and Musharraf will meet again.

Senior officials in the Clinton administration did say they hoped the president’s visit will pay off down the road, in part because Clinton and Musharraf developed a rapport during their meeting. Administration officials said Clinton found the general easy to deal with, while Musharraf said that he and the president got along so well that they chatted about their golf games.

During two sessions, Clinton and Musharraf managed to agree on a few points: The general promised not to export Pakistan’s nuclear technology. He pledged to take up the issue of suspected terrorist mastermind Osama bin Laden with the leaders of Afghanistan, where bin Laden, a Saudi exile, has taken sanctuary. And he promised to look into the fate of Donald Hutchings, an American hiker kidnapped by pro-Kashmiri militants in India in 1995.

For his part, Musharraf said he was satisfied that Clinton left with a better understanding of the Kashmiri problem, the source of two wars between India and Pakistan since 1947. The general also reaffirmed his offer to hold talks with the Indian leadership over Kashmir. India’s leaders have refused to engage in such discussions until the Pakistani government stops supporting what they say is “terrorism” in their country.

After his five-day visit to India, Clinton arrived here Saturday morning from Bombay amid unprecedented security precautions — a chilling manifestation of Washington’s belief that many terrorist groups operate out of Pakistan.

Clinton’s talks with Musharraf underscored the rapid rate at which US relations with India and Pakistan are changing. Clinton declared repeatedly last week that a new era has begun between the United States and India, but America’s relations with Pakistan have come under serious strain.

First there was Pakistan’s nuclear test in 1998, which prompted the United States to impose economic sanctions on the country — as it did on India when that country exploded its own nuclear devices. Then, last summer, Pakistani troops tried to seize a wide swath of Indian territory in Kashmir, in a move that led to heavy fighting.

In October, Musharraf toppled the democratically elected government of Nawaz Sharif. And throughout this period, US officials have been concerned about the presence of extremist groups on Pakistani soil. When a US diplomat asked Musharraf earlier this year to crack down on the group Harkat Moujahideen, which is believed to have been involved in the

Russians to usher in Putin

Los Angeles Times-Washington Post News Service

MOSCOW — Russians go to the polls Sunday to usher in a new period in their nation’s political and economic life, though the vote will serve as little more than formal validation of an epoch that began the day Boris Yeltsin resigned the presidency and handed the reins of state control to former KGB spy Vladimir Putin.

In a race so one-sided as to eliminate any doubt as to who will be victorious, the only questions to be resolved are whether enough voters will show up to make the election valid, and if Putin will receive a large enough percentage of those votes to avoid a runoff election in April.

Yet even there, it appears, the odds-makers are on Putin’s side. Two leading pollsters forecast Putin would gain more than 50 percent of the vote in Sunday’s election with a turnout of 65 percent — well above the 50 percent needed to validate the election and provide a seamless transition from his role as acting president to a four-year term as president.

“Within this system, there is no way to change it,” said Boris Kagarlitsky, a political scientist with the Academy of Sciences who said he is so disgusted with the preordained nature of the race that he has tried to organize a national boycott. “There is no way to change, or stop, what has emerged from the Yeltsin era.”

While Kagarlitsky echoes a small, though vocal opposition to the one-sided nature of this contest, Putin’s candidacy has, in fact, won widespread support, pulling in followers across virtually every social, political, and economic strata of Russian society. On the surface, he did it employing many of the same strategies employed by politicians in the West. He kept his platform vague, played the card of the incumbent, refusing to take part in debates while traveling the country on “official business” and never strayed from his simple message, which offered hope and restored greatness to a weary and demoralized public. He also raised pensions and salaries for government workers.

“They don’t see what road Putin will take,” said Masha Volkenstein, president of the public opinion research firm, Validata. “That is why the public is united in its support. No one has shown them how Putin will accomplish anything.”

Yet, it was not his reliance alone on tried-and-true political posturing that catapulted Putin to the forefront of a nation that had not even heard of him a few months ago. More to the point, it was the awesome support of the nation’s key power centers — the Kremlin and the majority of the oligarchs — that have transformed the diminutive spy into the certain victor. Even before Yeltsin resigned, Putin’s backstage supporters managed to neuter his only serious opposition, the Fatherland-All Russia party and former Prime Minister Yevgeny Primakov, with a relentless media attack. Primakov dropped out of the race before it even started.

Putin’s only remaining credible opposition was Grigory Yavlinsky, the leader of the democratic party called Yabloko, who has proven incapable of forging the kind of coalition necessary to seize any real power, and Gennady Zyuganov, the leader of the Communist Party. He effectively ceded the role of opposition leader when his party cut a deal with Putin allies to take control of the lower house of Parliament, the Duma.

Putin stoked up his popularity by prosecuting an all-out war in the breakaway Republic of Chechnya, a decision that still enjoys wide support even as the number of casualties mounts and the likelihood of a protracted guerrilla conflict becomes increasingly clear.

Despite his overwhelming advantage, Putin took no chances Saturday, and made a brief television address, encouraging the public to go out to the polls. He stuck with the same message he has evoked throughout his noncampaign campaign, chiefly promoting the military action in Chechnya while speaking directly to Russians’ injured pride.

“We are electing a president whose duty is to lift the economy, to return the country’s prestige and leading role in the world and to restore its governability,” Putin said. “And to finally bring peace and stability and prosperity to everyone.”

Young Tufts baseball team shows promise

BASEBALL

continued from page 7

off the 7-6 win by scoring four runs in the top of the ninth. With Tufts trailing 4-3, Shapiro drew a walk to open the inning, followed by a single from Ayres. Dolich then singled home Shapiro, and Scola singled home Ayres. A Surprancer walk loaded the bases with no outs and the Jumbos ahead 5-4.

Freshman centerfielder Evan Zupancic then hit a grounder to Pembroke third baseman Brett Sears, and Sears threw out Dolich at the plate. But Pembroke catcher Josh Robinson overthrew the ball attempting to get the double play at first, and Scola was able to score. A fielder's choice by senior Mike Gray scored Surprancer, putting Tufts up 7-4 to end the inning.

Pembroke surged back in the

bottom of the ninth though, scoring two runs but falling just short. Freshman Dave Martin got the win for Tufts despite giving up four hits and three runs in the final two innings. Brown lasted the game's first six innings, allowing eight hits and two runs.

The Jumbos played a double-header against Virginia Wesleyan — possibly their toughest opponent to date — yesterday. Virginia Wesleyan is currently the fourth ranked Division III team in the country.

Regardless of that outcome, however, the team has to be thrilled with its successful start. Tufts has traditionally struggled with the early trip, as evidenced by last year's 4-6 mark over break. That experienced squad finished the season by winning their final nine games, still failing to reach

postseason play for the first time in six years. Questions abounded on how this year's version of the team would cope with the loss of several key seniors, but the Jumbos seem to have responded with a loud statement early on.

The lineup and field positions are still not permanently set (they may not ever be for the deep squad), and it remains to be seen how Tufts can fare against New England competition. The team hits the road to take on Bentley on Wednesday, before returning for the weekend home openers. Tufts hosts seven-inning double-headers against Bates on Saturday and Wentworth on Sunday.

If the early stage is a sign of things to come, you can bet that that last year's playoff hiatus was just a one-time thing. It appears that this young squad is for real.

Tufts wins last three games to finish trip

SOFTBALL

continued from page 7

we lost, it gave us confidence that we can play with anyone."

Drake also saw that the team was a bit rusty at the beginning of the trip, as it had yet to practice outdoors, working out inside the past few months, away from the elements of a New England winter.

"This was the first time we played outdoors," the catcher/shortstop/pitcher said. "You could tell that we needed a lot of work, but we came a long way in the week."

Drake was referring to the Jumbos' bounce-back effort against Macalester. Tufts took advantage of seven Macalaster errors, and scored 14 runs on only eight hits. More importantly, junior pitcher Rachel Brecher scattered six hits and conceded only one run in the five-inning affair.

"Our pitching was strong," Ferrazza said. In fact, even in the games where Tufts surrendered a number of runs, it was due more to outstanding offensive production from opponents than a lack of pitching. If anything, Tufts comes out of Spring Break with more con-

fidence about its top pitchers, Brecher and sophomore Jodie Moreau.

Tufts lost on Wednesday to Willamette before splitting its next two games, beating Lewis & Clark 8-3 before losing a bad game to Wisconsin-Eau Claire 15-4.

The Jumbos won their final three games of the tourney to get back to 5-5, starting off beating Trinity 8-3. The Trinity game was extra sweet, since the Bantams are a conference foe. In the contest, Drake had three hits, while sophomore first baseman Tiffany Trahan

went 2-3 with two RBI.

The Jumbos beat Redlands and Seattle before heading home to Medford, leaving Tufts on a positive note before the regular season.

"We're starting to play a lot better as a team," Drake said. "We're coming together as a team, and realizing that every person on this team is crucial whether they are on the field or not."

The Jumbos should be able to take a lot from this trip but, if nothing else, at least they got to see Kramer, and that's something.

A teen film without purpose

WHATEVER

continued from page 5

exist and everyone is rich (in one scene, Ryan pretends to be Chris while talking over the phone with Maggie, altering his voice by using the sound studio he just happens to have in his bedroom). Such extensive stereotyping only works when it is presented as farce in an attempt to make you laugh at its ridiculous nature. *Whatever It Takes* can't decide if it wants to

take this route or present these characters as real, and the result is jumbled.

This movie was originally called *I'll Be You* and later changed to *Got To Be You* before the studio finally settled on, somewhat ironically, *Whatever It Takes*. The inability to pin down a name for the film comes as no surprise, as the movie itself is similarly unable to find its purpose or direction.

Let's talk about girls, baby

FEATURING

continued from page 3

ing each time that it was serendipity and fate that brought us together. Excited to exchange greetings and then disengage.

"Andrew," I shout, once we see a hello is unavoidable. "How are you?" I think I generally care. "Where you going?"

"Benny (pronounced beh-neh)... Benny." He smokes marijuana too often and might have smoked this morning. "Benny," meticulously repeating my name, he's now half way across Professors Row and I'm headed toward Macphie. "I'll talk to you later, dude," he says, and I know he will.

I can handle those face-offs handily, without regret or awkwardness. However, if some sort of traffic jam blocked our paths, we might have continued our chat from opposite sides of the road, the campus center like a learned Chinese pagoda, lounging in the sun. I would have told him about a girl I met that morning, her pretty voice and the way she told me to call her this weekend. He would have said, "Benny" a couple more times and maybe even offered a "that's awesome," if I mentioned the girl's two good personalities.

I doubt that Andrew would want to know that I fought with my father in my dream and woke up nauseous. What would he have said? And, honestly, I didn't really feel like going into it. Before bed at night, in the shower, reading Outbreath in the bathroom, basically the only alone time at college, I won't even want to think about it. I'll read the weather online, wink at the sun graphic and reassuring highs and lows, then picture tank tops and skirts. Intermarriage, abusive fathers, a sibling with physical or mental disabilities, these are the things we carry but can shed at college, that separate world which asks not why we are as we are but only judges the result of a childhood of American trauma. I leave the trauma behind, subdue it with impure thoughts, tranquilize torment with a pretty female face.

People say that's wrong. That you should confront your problems, share your thoughts, and join the PTA. Are they right? I'm taking a date to Rudy's tomorrow night, I'll just see what she thinks.

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Golan Heights region an area of contention in Israel-Syria peace talks

ISRAEL

continued from page 9

buffer between Syria and the lake.

The difference between those two lines is as narrow as ten meters. One possible solution was floated last week by Patrick Seale, a British journalist who wrote the definitive biography of Assad and remains in regular contact with the enigmatic Syrian leader. In a speech in Vienna, Austria, reported by the Israeli newspaper Ma'ariv, Seale suggested that Israel could withdraw to the June 4 line while retaining rights of access up to the international border—creating, in effect, a swath of overlapping juris-

diction that would guarantee continued Israeli access to the eastern shore of the Galilee.

Security may require a similarly creative approach. Israel, for example, is loath to give up its sophisticated electronic listening post on the Golan's Mount Hermon. According to the US-drafted document that emerged from Shepherdstown, Syria has agreed to accept a listening post staffed by US and French military observers, but not by Israelis.

Israeli officials, however, are reluctant to agree to an arrangement that would force them to depend on a third party — even

one that happens to be their closest ally—in a crisis, according to an official of a major American Jewish organization who is in close touch with Israeli policymakers.

"Would they be willing to sign a peace agreement in which their only source of early warning is an American observer?" the official said. "The answer is no. They need to prepare for surprise attacks. They want to know when supplies are being laid in. They want to know when Syrian commanders are having cell phone conversations about it."

To remedy this problem, discussions are now underway be-

tween Israeli military officials and their Pentagon counterparts on providing Israel with sophisticated American early warning tech-

nology that would provide Israel with direct, unfiltered intelligence on Syrian military activities, according to US and Israeli sources.

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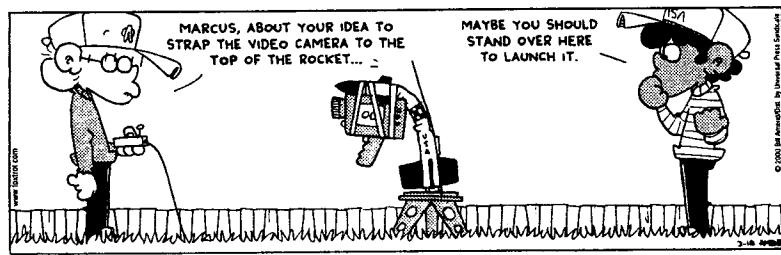
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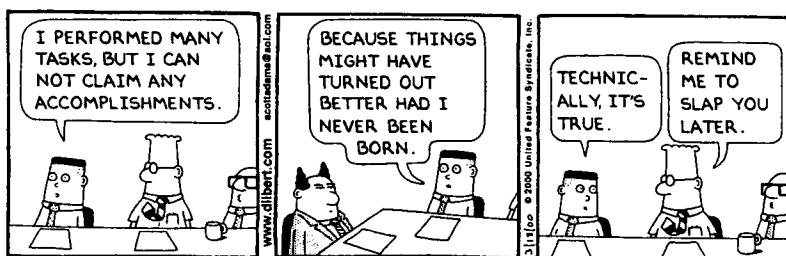
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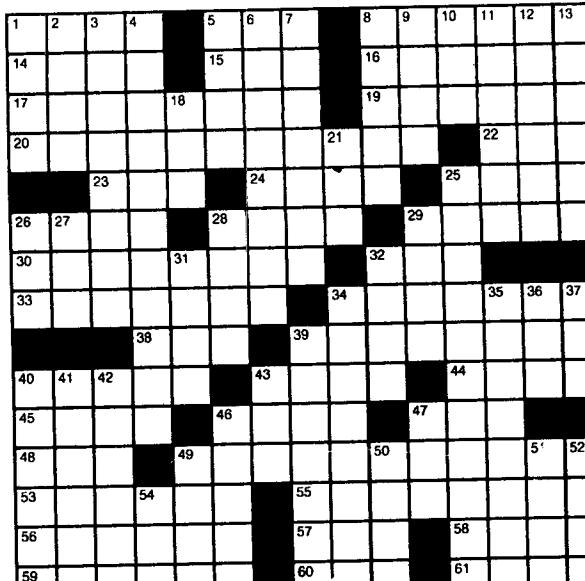
Daily Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Gives permission
5 Conceit
8 Bottommost
14 Emanation
15 Get handed a bum
16 Dodger
17 Raymond Burr TV series
19 Manly
20 Dispassionate
22 Herbal drink
23 Caustic soap
24 Security cash
25 Penny
26 2nd book of the Bible
28 Zero
29 Soft drinks
30 Obliterated
32 Male cat
33 Most uniform
34 Prickly shrub
38 Opp. from SSW
39 Spectator
40 Leafy twig
43 Infant
44 Take amiss
45 Colors
46 Ty of baseball
47 Medico
48 New England cape
49 A mutual fund
53 Jeweled headdress
55 Available to borrowers
56 Value highly
57 Do wrong
58 Lofty
59 Mount in the Cascades
60 Arid
61 Lat. list-endner

DOWN

- 1 Of the congregation
2 Continental currency
3 "Barchester Towers" author
4 "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?" co-star
29 Wet thoroughly
31 — Xiaoping
32 Helen of —
34 Ex-Bruin defenseman
35 Offensive remark
36 Chaney of 'The Wolf Man'
37 Conclusion



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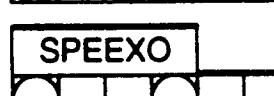
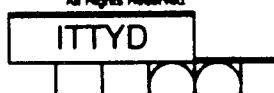
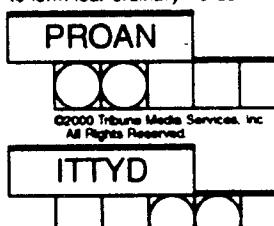
Solutions

T	O	V	S	E	G	E	S	A	L	E	C
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A	R	T	I	E	S	A	B	E	T	A	L
S	T	A	L	L	S	I	P	S	A	L	E

- 47 Newsmen Rather
49 Get together
50 Astor or Martin
51 Ms. Fitzgerald
52 Swiss archer
54 — Plaines, IL

JUMBLE

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

THAT SCRABLED WORD GAME
by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion
www.jumble.com

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

Answer: "

○	○	○	○	○
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 "

○	○	○	○	○
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 (Answers Monday)Yesterday's Jumble: BASIN JUICY SEETHE PURITY
Answer: Easy to find on St. Patrick's Day — IRISH AYES

AROUND CAMPUS

TODAY

Programs Abroad

Gen Info Mtg
F 11:30 a.m.Orthodox Christian Fellowship
General Meeting
Eaton 204, 8 p.m.International Center
Practical Training Workshop
3rd Floor Ballou, 2 p.m.
Reservations required

TOMORROW

Alcohol and Health Ed.

Dealing with other people's substance abuse
Campus Center, #218, 7:30-8:30 p.m.Asian Christian Fellowship
Friendship: Jody Chang speaking on Reconciliation
Crane Room, 7:30 p.m.

Welcome back! Ready for classes? No?
Well, only four more days until the weekend.
And get this! Only 25 days of classes left.
Where does the time go?

"I like a woman with a head on her shoulders. I don't like necks."

— Steve Martin

Late Night at the Daily