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August 2016

Vol. XXVIII, No. 1

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# Horoscopes / 14

## The Signs as Orientation Week Activities

By Jess Silverman

**Aries:** The Class-wide Target run! Get pumped to spend 20 minutes in

the family planning section while you figure out if you care

about whether condoms are ribbed or not.

**Taurus:** Ah, the Acapella O-Show. You'll realize that *Pitch Perfect* wasn't

super far off and also realize what a garbage person you are.

**Gemini:** The illumination ceremony. You'll lose the candle within 10

minutes of going back to your dorm.

Cancer: The Foreign Language placement test. Did you know you could

forget 12 years of Spanish in 2 months? I fuckin didn't.

**Leo:** A panic attack upon realizing that Tufts isn't a party school but

you crave that party lifestyle.

**Virgo:** Introducing yourself to your neighbors. You'll hear these people

having sex, and they'll hear you. Be kind.

**Libra:** Meeting your pre-major advisor, the person whose class you'll

probably drop within a week.

**Scorpio:** The Matriculation ceremony. It feels oddly like high school

graduation.

**Sagittarius:** Your first trip to the dining hall, aka when you decide if you're a

Dewick person or a Carm person. It matters.

**Capricorn:** Your first college hangover! It'll suck, but it's necessary.

**Aquarius:** First College Hookup. 9/10 it will be while you're blackout and it

will not be good at all. But then again, some end up dating for a

year so '\\_(ツ)\_/'

**Pisces:** Your first hall meeting. You sit in a circle and meet everyone

that you'll see shirtless/passed out at least once.

# **Carmichael Dining Hall Water Dispensers**



★★★★★ 4/3/2016

Works fast enough to sate the thirst of a lonely, lost Carmichael Dining Hall ant on its long-anticipated trek back to the holy ground of unswept crumbs (if it can survive long enough to receive the proverbial water droplet of heaven), but not enough to fill a glass to fulfill the daily water recommendation or to subside any residual hangover you've been drinking to avoid dealing with since last Tuesday.

# **Tisch Library Stacks**



★★★★ 7/2/2016

Unlike the name would lead any reasonable person into believing, there are absolutely NO pancake stacks in this library. You would think someone would have changed the name, but all I found on my endless voyage through the phallic-shaped book reliquary were unconscious college students. This is a travesty, and should not be supported. We, the American people, were granted the right to free pancakes when the 10 Commandments were written, and I, for one, cannot allow for this heresy to continue unopposed.

# Pi Rho Omega Fraternity



**★★★★★** 12/32/2016

Not a single fire. Not even one. All signs pointed to Tufts being a pyrotechnical university, and I'm severely disappointed.

# A Word from our Editors

Webster's Dictionary defines "orientation" as: "a person's feelings, interests, and beliefs" (*Webster* 1). This fergalicious definition is very applicable to your long and lengthy journey at Tufts, but the word means so much more than that. Your orientation will prepare you to face very difficult challenges and/or conundrums (*Wikipedia* 1)- you could, for example, find yourself questioning your sexuality in this trying and tumultuous time of extreme transition. However, if you simply remember that orientation is "a person's feelings, interests, and beliefs" (*Webster* 1), you will succeed and prosper.

This advice also applies to many other facets of your life as you endeavor and strive to be the best you that you can be. When you listen to your matriculation address (*Wikipedia* 1), you may be thinking "Wow! I feel and believe that this is very interesting." This is called personal growth.

In conclusion, orientation means a lot of things to different people, including the sensitivities, passions, and creeds of some individuals (*Webster* 1). The rest, however difficult and arduous, will be entirely up to you.

Ain't that just a kick in the head?

xoxozambonixoxo

Works Cited:

"Orientation Definition." *Merriam-Webster*. Merriam-Webster, n.d. Web. 31 Aug. 2016. "Student Orientation." *Wikipedia*. Wikimedia Foundation, n.d. Web. 31 Aug. 2016.

Cover art by Craig Drennan

# The Desk in Houston Hall, Room 331

SammyC Medford, MA ♦ 5 friends 2 reviews

**★★★★★★** 5/4/2016

Ernest Hemingway; Nathaniel Hawthorne; Virginia Woolf. These people, these towering titans of literature, have exactly three things to thank for their success: the environment which surrounded them during adolescence, their raw intellect and creative force, and their desks. Each of these giants would be nothing, nothing, without the support of their personal writing surfaces. It is my firm belief, nay, my outright conviction, that my desk, from my room of last year, humble Houston Hall Room 331, would stand proudly among these Brobdingnagian examples of woodwork and aesthetic, designed merely to be written upon but capable of and willing to facilitate so much more.

When I would enter my room, my eyes would be drawn to it; it gleamed as rays of afternoon sun gently played across it. As I set my bag down and removed the evening's work to set upon its silken top, I never failed to notice that books and papers strewn across its surface never seemed to burden it, only to grace it. Its boundless poise never failed to bring tears to my eyes.

One day in December, I had to, among other things, finish a paper for English. I had been searching for days for a topic, for an angle, for anything that would help me to begin writing. The paper was due in a mere three days. Upon seating myself before Its Majesty, all became clear; words and ideas flowed from my mind to the page like a swollen river pours over a weir. I entered a trancelike state; when I tore myself away, three hours had passed, and my paper was complete. I could scarcely believe it; this paper, this assignment that had vexed me for weeks, was completed in a matter of hours, all thanks to the desk.

Were I to sully this desk with something so base as a rating, I would have to go above and beyond the provided scale, and I will. This desk gets 7 out of 5 stars, for the simple reason that a scale so grounded in humanity can not do justice to such an obviously beatified desk. Until my dying breath, I will tell its story throughout the globe, and perhaps, someday, people the world over will know of the legend of my desk and all that it can do.

# The 2016 Republican National Convention Reaches Climax

By Thomas Rind

CLEVELAND, OH: The Republican National Convention has finally achieved orgasm after four strenuous days of circle jerking. The RNC stands as a monument to the Republican Party's strong values, sense of dedication, and despise of Hillary Clinton. Every four years a man is chosen to lead the theme of the circle jerk, and this year it was star of *The Apprentice*, and self-proclaimed "most humble," Donald Trump. Donald Trump has no prior experience leading a circle jerk, but he started a successful business empire after being handed millions of dollars and is a star on the lowest rated basic cable network. As Donald Trump put it, "Same thing. You don't even know how similar those two industries are."

At first, he did not appeal to most of the Republican Party leaders. A delegate stated, "I just don't think the kids will find him attractive. I really thought they wanted someone like Jeb! to lead them through the circle jerk." Another delegate put it, "I initially never found Trump that hot, but I was finally able to bust a nut when I began thinking about a future with Hillary."

The party leaders may not have supported Trump, but many of the working class have. When Donald came on stage at the end of the week, the audience erupted in applause. "I just want to be cradled in his moist fleshy arms," a supporter said, "as he tells me how he has plans to solve all the problems." Trump stated," American can no longer erect; I will make America erect again. I'll erect



walls so no one can stop us erecting." Truly this is a man who makes you feel something, even if he doesn't understand what he's feeling, because he goes with his gut, and his gut is telling him to just read passages from *Mein Kampf*.

There was a brief freeze of the circle jerk when Ted Cruz tried to start his own. "I almost didn't get there when Ted Cruz came on stage. When I saw him speaking I was like, you know what this convention is about, stop trying to start your own jerk from the beginning and just join this one." Ted Cruz was not reached for climax.

# Top Campus Hook-Up Spots: A Senior Reminisces

By Emily Garber



(Omitted: Tisch stacks. I mean come on. Everybody already knows about that one.)

- 1. **The laundry room in DU:** DU is a place where many filthy memories are made, but when you break off from your pack of twelve orientation friends to try and get some sexy alone-time with a nameless stranger, this little dark corner is an excellent place to hide.
- 2. **The secret pass between Miller and Carm:** Find the lonely janitor's closet on the first floor of Miller. In it will be a small crawl space, lazily concealed by boxes. Move them aside and in you crawl. Finally, a place where your entire floor won't hear your moans.
- 3. **The little garden shack between South and Latin Way:** Many a time has the grass in front of Latin Way been crushed underneath a writhing pair, but better still is that little garden shack just a few yards behind it. The perfect place for a shameless hoe.
- 4. **Eaton:** It's open until 3am almost every night. Just watch out for the cameras;)
- 5. **Pres Lawn:** Even though a tryst in the dark on the damp hill is a little trite, there really is nothing like the thrill of feeling Tony Monaco's eyes on you as he peeks through the netted curtain of his bedroom window. Our little secret.
- 6. **In the shadow of Hillsides:** When a moment of passion takes you breathless uphill, there's no better place to press up against than the brick wall of Hillsides, always cloaked in darkness and just out of sight. Mmm. What a night.
- 7. **The ramp up to Health Services:** When you're riding that free condom high after getting your throat checked out (not Mono, thank god, just Gonorrhea), sometimes you just get lucky. On a stormy autumn day when there's seldom a passer-by, it really can be magical.

#### Tales Around Tufts

By Ryan Hastings-Echo

Welcome to another exciting installment of *Tales Around Tufts*, the biennial campus news review with a heart of gold. Here at TaT, as we sometimes call ourselves, our team works tirelessly to bring you the most accurate, balanced news coverage possible, once every other year.

The Tufts football team won two games last season, making them the most decorated players in campus memory. Several students attempted to mob in the wake of each unprecedented victory, but they quickly dispersed when asked politely by University Police.

A shortage of General Gau's Chicken at Dewick dining hall left dozens of students starving, standing for hours in line on cold, hard tile. "Yeah, I know it's just chicken fingers in teriyaki sauce," says junior Karina Hill, "Still doesn't mean I'm getting a salad."

Student protesters took to the hill to decry Tufts University's alleged Title IX noncompliance and poor handling of sexual assault cases. The University promised to look into the issue, and created an internal review committee before clearing itself of all charges.

Fletcher Dean James Stavridis was vetted by the Clinton Campaign as a possible vice-presidential running mate. Sources speculate that Clinton had Stavridis confused with Douglas Elmendorf, the dean of the far more prestigious Harvard Kennedy School nearby.

Two young men were stabbed in the neck at the DTD fraternity house, and a brother was taken into custody as a person of interest. A spokesman for Tufts University initially stated that the fraternity's vast financial resources would have no effect on University policy, but later called take-backsies on the comment.

And that, dear readers, is everything that happened on campus in the last two years. From all of us here at *The Zamboni*, we hope you enjoyed reading *Tales Around Tufts*!

Tales Around Tufts: "If you heard it here first, you aren't well informed!"

# Reviews / 10

# 10 Things the Admissions Office Doesn't Want You to Know

By Kieran Taylor

The college admissions cycle is a complex and intimidating process to navigate for every high school senior, no matter what school you hope to attend. Here at Tufts University, where we're known for being "quirkier" than the average college, the admissions process is done a little differently. These fun facts will give you a look inside Bendetson Hall, to show you how students' applications are really reviewed.



- 1. Once per application cycle, the Admissions Office picks up a few giant handfuls of applications and tosses them towards the trash bin, and automatically rejects those that land in it. Former Dean of Admissions Lee Coffin stated "Tufts doesn't need anyone that unlucky."
- 2. The applicant first on the waitlist has to earn their admittance by being the Admissions Office's snack gofer. The lucky applicant will receive a letter offering them the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to prove their dedication to becoming a Jumbo by spending their entire summer scurrying back and forth between Bendetson and the Commons for various snack foods for the admissions officers.
- 3. The office has to rent several extra Automated External Defibrilators (AEDs) to revive any essay readers who become dangerously impressed by any application including an essay about an important sports game or overseas volunteer work. Those applications are automatically accepted.
- 4. You're the only one that actually paid the application fee. Thanks for buying us Helen's pizza, you gullible shmuck.
- 5. Tufts University hires Mr. Sandman (Class of '25) for the admissions process every year. He monitors students' REM cycles to confirm that Tufts actually is their "dream school."



### 7. Tie: Bates College & Colby College

No one really knows anything about these two schools. It is rumored that their dining halls serve grizzly bear liver, but no Jumbo has been brave enough to venture there on their own since the great Tony Ocanom in the 1970s.



#### 6. Connecticut College

Um, it's in Connecticut, and it's a college. It is a 5-time winner of the Princeton Review Most Boring College Award.



# A.

### 4. Tie: Williams College & Amherst College

If you know any famous old politicians or businessmen, their most spoiled and annoying child probably went to one of these schools.





## 3. Wesleyan University

It has a reputation for being a strange college, but they really make some excellent peyote here. To read more, go to http://www.tuftszamboni.com/?s=peyote



For some reason, Middlebury just has a nice ring to it. I like the name. It's like you are in the middle of a berry, but not really. Middlebury seems like a place where your cool second cousin would go, don't ask me why. I don't think I even have any cool second cousins.





## 1. Tufts University

Let's be real here. It's the only full-fledged university in the NESCAC. And what other school has Tony Monaco, Danilo Marchesini, Tony Monaco, the Zamboni, and Tony Monaco?

# Campus / 6

# The Definitive 2016 NESCAC Power Ranking

By Douglas Goldwater

As you enter your freshman year of Tufts, you may occasionally hear about a strange entity known as the NESCAC, the sports conference of which Tufts is a part. While it won't be long before most of your class gives up caring about our sports teams, it will be useful to know all you can about the schools that make up the NESCAC, some of which you probably have never heard of, or at least knew nothing about. You will want to know which school's students eat their pizza with a knife and fork, and you will definitely want to know which school holds their Spring Fling in December.

Without further ado, I give you the 2016-17 New England Small College Athletic Conference Power Rankings.\*



#### 11. Trinity College

The college and its surrounding area are a living study in income inequality. If you feel that the student body is too elitist and preppy, there is a vibrant homeless scene right down the block. By the way, who thought having an odd number of schools was a good idea?

#### 10. Bowdoin College

Bowdoin plummeted down these rankings since the last non-existent edition. The reason? Their administration now ranks somewhere between Russia and North Korea on the fascism scale.





# 9. Hamilton College

You might think it has something to do with the musical, but it actually got its name by being located on the outhouse where Alexander Hamilton used to take shits while going on camping trips.

\*All of this information may or may not be true

- 6. Every year, former Dean Coffin sends in several thousand applications in his own name, just so he can reject them and lower the acceptance rate. Tufts really isn't that selective.
- 7. The fates of the top 24 students on the waitlist (after the snack gofer, of course) are decided by a Hunger Games-style deathmatch on the President's Lawn. The winning student is rewarded with both survival and an acceptance letter. "We've received several human rights complaints," comments former Dean Coffin, "But we feel it goes to show how quirky Tufts is."
- 8. Tufts University in Medford, MA isn't even the real Tufts University. Its low acceptance rate is to drive away any "undesirables." The real school's location and application process is a closely guarded secret, held only by those President Monaco deems "acceptable." He doesn't think it's elitist.

ADVERTISEMENT



# Advice / 8

# 8 Great Life Hacks for the College Freshman

By Jonathan Minoff

Making the transition to college can be tough for most people. Here are some common conundrums and methods we recommend to overcome them.

- 1. Need to study for upcoming exams? Just watch the next episode of *Parks and Rec* instead. That way, you'll have more time to study later.
- 2. Not getting any matches on Tinder? Change all your pictures to guacamole. Bitches love the guac.
- 3. Have an essay due tomorrow that you haven't started yet? Just take a flight to Europe to get an extra 6 hours before the deadline.\*
- 4. Need to lose the freshman 15? Go to the gym and stop eating like shit, you fucking animal.
- 5. Not sure who to vote for in the upcoming election? Write in "Ugthovor, He Who Destroys All," and you just might be saved from his wrath.
- 6. Someone took your coat at ATO? They'll probably give it back if you ask nicely in the Facebook group.
- 7. Don't have any friends? Me neither. My number is 617-531-8008 if you ever want to hang out or something.

Editor's note: This phone number spells "Boobies716" when read backwards. We have no idea whose number this is, please don't call it.

8. Don't think you're funny enough for Major: Undecided? Join *The Zamboni!* For real tho.

\* Apparently, Europe is 6 hours ahead, not behind. But you should still keep it in the back of your mind.

## Seven Ways You Could Own Orientation

By Douglas Goldwater



Make lots of loud jokes and remarks during the mandatory assemblies. For example, if a student speaker is going on about the effects of alcohol, yell "But alcohol gets you, like, mad turnt," or something like that. It will be sure to attract attention, and it will earn you 5-7 new friends.



Show up hungover to as many assemblies as you can. It takes focus and preparation to persevere through that Friday morning class with a bad hangover. Orientation assemblies will give you the opportunity to get in the practice that you need.



During anything related to sexual assault, bring in a cup of tea and sip it quietly during the speech. You might not understand why now, but you will thank me later. You will get 4-14 new friends.



Buy a big-ass fan. It will earn you 10-15 friends.



Pretend that you are interested in joining an acapella group, and then go back to never talking about acapella once orientation ends. This will earn you 30-35 new friends.



Bring a hoverboard. Sure, they're banned on campus, but you will look like a badass who isn't afraid to violate campus laws. It will earn you 30-50 new friends.



Make a monetary donation to the *Tufts Zamboni*. It will earn you 500-1000 new friends.