A Word from the Editor

What a semester it's been! There was the campaigning, then the election, and now...uh, the speculation over what Obama will do. Okay, fuck that! We Zamboners are sick of all this presidential nonsense! There are only so many Sarah Palin jokes you can make before you get bored (the number is 5,892 by the way and we as a nation reached that yesterday). After two politically conscious issues, we're getting as far away from that bullshit as possible. Goodbye election and welcome The History Issue!

What is The History Issue? Why, it's Zamboni's generous early Christmas gift to you. Yes, you personally. Not everyone else reading this issue. Just you. Because really, who wants to spend their last few weeks at Tufts studying endless amounts of facts and theories that you won't even use come next year? The History Issue will provide all the information you need to know for any exam. Even the ones that have nothing to do with history. You'd be surprised at the glowing reception the answer "The Battle of Hastings" would get on a physics final. In fact, if more people thought that way, we'd have a working fusion reactor by now!

So, grab yourself a mug of hot cocoa (are you really pouring peppermint schnapps in it, you alchy?), curl up in the Reading Room of the Tisch (it's okay that everyone else there is definitely more prepared than you will ever be), and have yourself a merry little nondenominational winter celebration with The Zamboni.

Ain't that a kick in the head?

Disclaimer and Editorial Policy: The Zamboni is a student-run humor and satire publication of Tufts University. In no way do the views expressed herein necessarily reflect those of Tufts University, or even the editors. So, don't go e-mailing the people listed in the staff box, especially since we make some of the names up. All material is meant to be viewed as humorous and should not be taken seriously, but keep in mind, we still love a good Viewpoints face-off. We accept any and all submissions from Tufts students, but we will not take your first born due to legal reasons (the Gomstyn-Luz Clause). Submissions to The Zamboni are screened by the Editor-in-Chief and/or the Editorial Staff. Decisions are made on the completely subjective grounds of their humor content, but if you're a legacy, we have to take you (the Oliveira Clause).
Shit happens somewhere
by Ryan Oliveira

@%&!@* ??? CAN’T SPELL THIS SHIT - Some serious shit went down Thursday in some place that isn’t here. Some foreign place...I don’t know. But yeah - really serious shit.

Like, some people with guns were firing all over the place, or maybe some gorillas got loose. But like, crazy strong gorillas, or something, because apparently the government’s really interested in them. Or something. Fuck, I think it was that one really windy place next to the nation full of guys with funny beards. Are you fact checking? I’m not fact checking.

I think a monk set himself on fire. Or were those the guys that formed a picket line in front of the tank dudes?

Police forces or some crap like that are mobilizing to counteract the perceived threat by some group or another that was doing that crazy shit. No one could be reached for comment as the Zamboni can’t really remember off the top of our heads where this happened. But we were there, man. And it was intense. Probably.

This shit was preceded by other, slightly less crazy shit, probably done by the same guys. Oh yeah!

So stay tuned to your favorite news station, like CNN for example!

Scientist discovers Mercury in fish. Yes...this IS news
by Devin Toohey

LOS ANGELES – Last week, the scientific world was rocked with yet another instance of mankind ruining everything it touches. UCLA biology professor, Mark Ravinet, made a shocking discovery when looking through his results from a recent research trip up in Washington.

“It seems that there is Mercury in fish,” he told reporters. When told that this was old news, Ravinet replied, “No no no. Not mercury, the chemical. The god.”

Reporters asked Ravinet if he was indeed certain that the Roman equivalent for Hermes was living in the northwestern salmon. After much discussion over whether Mercury is indeed equivalent to Hermes, since a Roman god is merely a surveyor of a certain area while the Greeks believed that their gods were one and the same with their respective domains, and other discussion over how half the reporters were a bunch of pretentious, know-it-all fuckbags, Ravinet finally told everyone to “Chill the fuck out. I have more important stuff to tell you all.”

Ravinet went on to give his postulations over what could possibly cause a figure from a long-thought dead religion to reemerge in aquatic livestock.

“Well, Mercury is the god of communication. Consider the great proliferation of cell-phones and emails over the past decade. Clearly, he has to be working overtime, or at least hiring some work study kids to help him out. His business is clearly expanding, and I suppose with the real estate market being as shitty as it is, fish was the only office space that he could be sure wouldn't get foreclosed on him.”

Ravinet then added, "People must consider their ecological footprint. Every five text messages, Mercury has to take over another tuna. Who knows, he soon might even start taking over aquatic mammals if Gmail keeps getting more popular!"

Ravinet is currently requesting more funds to see if more than the deity is taking up residence in fish. “Parts of the planet, the Lincoln car, who knows what else could be hiding inside those deceptive scales of theirs?”

concept by Max Tolkoff
Alan Greenspan takes to petty theft
by Coorain Devin

RICHMOND, VA - Last week officials apprehended a suspicious character attempting to walk out of a Stop & Shop with a dozen or so steaks stuffed in his pants. When asked for identification, the man turned out to be Alan Greenspan, former Chairman of the Federal Reserve. “He looked mighty familiar, but I couldn’t quite place his face,” said Michael Feltis, the security guard on duty. “Then I realized he was the douche bag that screwed over the economy.”

This incident has followed Greenspan’s trend of theft, although previously his goals have been much higher, for example, stealing millions of dollars worth of stocks or several fur coats from Bloomingdales. When questioned about his crimes, Greenspan replied, “I love pulling one over on the little people. I mean really, everyone knows that I’m richer than God, so no one would suspect that I have 12 steaks practically shoved up my ass or am planning the end of the world economy as we know it. That would simply be illogical.”

When the news of the attempted meat-heist hit Wall Street, both the Dow Jones and the New York Stock Exchange hit new lows, both dropping by at least 7856%. Greenspan has a lot at “steak” in the world economy.

Tufts students upset that election is over; feel stupider
by Julie Gomstyn

MEDFORD – Sophomore Sally Morris is happy that Obama won the election. But part of her wishes that it had never ended at all. “During the campaign, it was really easy to sound politically savvy,” says Morris. “All you needed was a basic knowledge of geography. That, and an appreciation for SNL. But now that the election is over, people actually expect you to know stuff about the issues.”

Morris isn’t alone. There is an increasing number of Tufts students who wish that the campaigning was still going on. “I mean, they could have at least stretched it to the end of the semester, you know?” complains senior David Thompson. “Making fun of the candidates was one thing, but I don’t really know that much about politics in general. Someone mentioned NAFTA the other day and I told him that they test for that at the free clinic.”

Thompson says that this increase in intellectual expectations has also hampered his love life. “It just got so easy to sweet talk freshmen girls, especially if they were poli-sci. I dare any man to come up with a better pick-up line than ‘Rock the Vote’. That or, ‘I can see Russia from my house.’”

Campus publications are feeling the heat too. An anonymous Zamboni staffer has had writer’s block for weeks. “Look, that election was a comedic goldmine. What are we supposed to do now? Write about policy?” However, another member contends that all hope is not lost. “At least now there’s Proposition 8. You don’t need to be some sort of political genius to make fun of that.”

Shiba Inu denies "First Puppy" rumors
by Devin Toohey

SAN FRANCISCO - Akoni, one of the six Shiba Inu puppies from the Internet sensation, denied rumors last week that he was to become Obama’s first puppy.

"Arf arf arf! Woof! Bark bark!" said Akoni in an interview on Countdown with Keith Olbermann. "Grrrr! Woo woo woo!" he added. He emphasized his point by scratching behind his ear with his hind leg and then staring at the shadow that Olbermann was casting on the desk.

Obama remarked that he was disappointed about Akoni’s decision. "Akoni was my ideal pick for the First Puppy. He represents the hope, change, and appeal to bored college students who get all their news from viral videos and The Huffington Post. And he's just so precious. Oh yes he is! Yes he is!"

The media has responded quite strongly to Akoni’s decision. "This is quite a shock," remarked Rachel Maddow in a recent episode. "All those meetings between Akoni’s breeders and the Obama staff seemed to be pointing to Akoni’s appointment as first puppy. Unless...no, Ayumi is far too fiscally conservative to ever be offered such a position. Though it would be very fitting with Obama’s emulation of Lincoln's 'Team of Rivals.'"

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CNN launches Blitzerkreig on terrified audience

by Shakque Datbeh

NEW YORK- The media giant Cable News Network wreaked havoc on audiences across the country yesterday with the sudden announcement and implementation of a program they have called “The Blitzerkreig News Initiative.”

The Blitzerkreig is commanded, as the title implies, by veteran news general Wolf Blitzer, and is intended to shock its audience into attentive submission with “rapid, hard hitting, curb stomping, skeet-on-your-face news that only America’s most feared and respected 24-hour news channel can bring you,” said CNN spokesperson Doris Pouffendorff at a press conference.

"Obergerfreiter Blitzer’s success in 'The Situation Room' throughout the 2008 presidential campaign was most undeniably impressive to the Fur-er...board at CNN. His tactical prowess at using our random videos of illegal immigrants eating gelatinized gasoline, American flag burning demonstrations in the Middle East, fat people’s asses, Chinook helicopters, and crying babies combined with excess gravitas and unnecessary technology proved that he was the perfect Citizen to direct a new kind of news war, under which the world shall tremble.”

The Blitzerkreig was so successful at sending viewers into informational paralysis in large part due to its unique set up. Unlike the wildly popular “trench” news programs, which feature partisan anchors and correspondents peering over desks, lobbing random facts and occasionally charging suicidally at one another, the Blitzerkreig uses modern technology to “dive bomb” directly into audience members’ hopes, fears, and fantasies simultaneously. The show takes place inside a three dimensional globe aptly named “the blitz-o-sfear.” Mr. Blitzer floats in the middle of the sfeer in a high tech control suit, which allows him to feed American’s consumption culture with data at an unprecedented pace.

“The sfeer allows us to track at least 28 different asinine news stories at once, each with a panel of seven experts with seven wives and seven panzercats, and we do it all at such speed and with such reckless abandon that our victims hardly even know they are being informed,” an enthusiastic Blitzer proclaimed.

"'The Situation Room' was merely a test of our viewers’ will, from which we learned some important lessons. First, the more symbols of national pride we drape behind us during our speeches, the more representative our news becomes to the peoples’ will. Second, it is better for our news to be feared than loved. And, finally, through the undeniable might of our station’s greatness, we must craft unhelpful, masturbatory technology such as holograms and interactive boards to psychologically trample our audience into further appeasement of our thirst for profits and advertising space. Our competitors are nothing but miserable worms! They will cow before our might!” Mr. Blitzer, getting increasingly hysterical and sweaty, finished by adding, “what luck of news anchors that men do not think!”

In response to CNN’s newest attack on American’s ability to think for themselves, Fox News has announced that it will initiate “The Shep Offensive” this week, featuring anchor Shepard Smith reporting from tunnels below the White House as Fox giddily begins its “Guerrilla News Assault” on the Obama presidency.

Zamboni Celebrity News: Tips from the Stars

by Krystal Chandelier

Well, it is December once again. That time of the year when we try desperately to wish away our Thanksgiving dinners by going to the gym and restricting our sweets. Yet no matter what, it seems we can never reach the perfection of our false gods. How do they do it?

As all of you know, I had a super exciting three way interview with Lindsay and Mary-Kate last month, and I was all, “OMG you guys are soooooo gorgeous, how do you stay so thin???” To my surprise the girls took one look at each other and then whispered to me together, “Tapeworms!”

I was a little surprised at first, but when they explained it to me, it all made sense. They told me having tapeworms was just like having a whole bunch of little friends in your intestinal tract who hang out and, get this, eat your food for you! After talking to my girls, I went down to a local shop in a hidden alley in Chinatown and got a whole bunch of super cute larvae and ate them with my Ramen. Now my life is totally fab. I never go to the gym, I eat like a pig, and I’ve never been thinner! Some people might say that tapeworms are parasites which cause serious health problems, but those people are just jealous. So to all you with the December blues: get down to Chinatown ASAP and get onto the Tapeworm Bandwagon. I know I did, and I’m going to go have a dinner party with my new intestifriends at the Cheesecake Factory right now to celebrate.
The Zamboni

by Ben Schwalb

MEDFORD, MA - This past Sunday, freshman Henry Schwartz made the toughest inquiry Tufts University has seen since the legendary “What the Fuck to Do With a Giant Stuffed Elephant” Debate of 1889. Schwartz was sitting in the quiet area of the main floor of the Tisch Library, when he looked up and noticed a sign: “The Winnick Current Periodicals Microforms Area.”

Puzzled, he asked his nearby friend, sophomore Emily Smith, “What the fuck is a microform?” Smith had no idea either.

Schwartz was intrigued by this puzzle and, not one to give up, consulted a myriad of professors until he eventually met with school historian Thelonius Barnum, III. Barnum was intrigued by the question of the “microforms” and recalled a few ancient scrolls referencing the mysterious objects. However, these scrolls offered little actual hints as to what “microforms” actually are.

But Schwartz, the persistent little shit that he is, “dug deeper” and ended up at the archaeology department with Professor Henry Jones, Jr. The two planned out an archaeological dig under the Tisch Library, using all of the department’s funding to obtain the latest in excavation and Nazi defense technology. Despite much protest from the pissy junior behind the circulation counter and the art student who works at Tower Café, the archaeology department struck ground this Tuesday to much fanfare and praise from the academic community.

Although no microforms have yet been found, many discovered artifacts have given archaeologists a better idea as to what microforms actually are. The prominent theory as of publication is that they are the alphabet (and by association, language) of an ancient group called the Supermasons, which created Atlantis 10,000 years ago in Boston Harbor.

However, Stanford University professor and licensed submarine captain, Arnold Nemo, discredits this idea, claiming that it is only popular because it allows historians to “name who the particular douche[bags] were who sunk Atlantis.” Captain Nemo argues that microforms were most likely ritual vessels in which the ancient Tuftonians sacrificed peanuts and babies to their elephant gods.

Archaeologist Daniel Jackson even posits that microforms were originally called “microfilms” and that the elephant gods were based on alien slave masters who worked the Tuftonians to death. However the Tuftonians were only repaid with useless degrees like “Slavery and Justice Studies” and “Latin”.

This theory is second in stupidity only to the idea that microforms are in fact ancient miniature magazines which one reads using some sort of special reading device (referred to in Dr. Peter Pepper’s paper on the matter as a lens). Although this idea is clearly stupid, as no one read magazines before 1987, academia continues to try to unravel this mystery through continued conjecture and excavation.

Conflicts at Tufts University throughout history

The Zamboni vs. The Lawnmower

In early 1987, two best friends had the idea of forming Tufts’ first humor magazine. Sadly, creative differences over the name of this proposed magazine (one favoring "Lawnmower", the other "Zamboni") led to a falling out between the two friends. After learning that there was only enough funding for a single magazine, a vicious shadow war began between the two would-be editors-in-chief and their respective writing staffs. After weeks of harassment, including much hurling of feces, the conflict culminated in a single midnight battle on the quad. Eventually the Zamboniers triumphed, and cast out their vanquished foe; forcing them to forever wander the Red Line writing articles that no one will ever read. There are, however, those who say that the two magazines ultimately suffered the same fate; how many people are actually reading this?

Engineers vs. Liberal Arts vs. Actual Art Students

Ah, the triangle of death. The epic struggle between the three factions of Tufts University. Ever since these three schools of study were established at Tufts, they have been at odds with each other. The secretive engineers, hidden away in Anderson Hall, designing speakers out of tampon applicators and enormous mechanized monsters of destruction. The art students, in exile at the MFA, looking down upon their classmates for being uncultured and mundane, while cursing the Tufts math requirement.

Finally, the liberal arts students, trying to strike the fine balance of learning enough to get a decent job, while still having enough time to go get drunk every weekend (except for Classics majors, they’re kind of like art majors in that they learn exactly zero marketable skills). Only time will tell who shall be the King of the Hill.

Elephants vs. Trains

The most important, perhaps, of all the conflicts in Tufts’ history is also the most violent. I speak, of course, of the struggle between pachyderms and high-speed freight trains. Historically, trains and elephants had coexisted peacefully, but the brutal assault against Jumbo in 1885 led to his subsequent martyrdom and a collapse in train/elephant relations. So the next time you take the T into Park Street remember: you are a traitor to Jumbos past and present!
Announcing New "Revisionist History" Major! by Matthew Luz

For the 2009-2010 academic year, Tufts University is proud to offer a new major from the History Department: Revisionist History. The history department hopes to offer alternate views of historical events and prevent narrow-minded dogma from dominating the curriculum. The department will offer several concentrations with exciting classes for the student body to enjoy:

**General Revisionist History:**
Students will gain a basic understanding of revisionism, including concepts such as speculation, controversy, cherry-picking, distortion, the evils of peer-review, and citation obfuscation. Students are encouraged to inject their own trenchant ideologies into the academic pursuit, fervently defending their views despite evidence to the contrary.

**Asian Revisionist History:**
An interdepartmental major, it will focus on reinterpretations of Asian historiography. Courses offered include “Japan and Nanking: Happy Fun Times” and “Tiananmen Square: Jewish Conspiracy?” Aizawa Seishisai’s *New Theses* will be required reading, along with Gavin Menzies’ *1421: The Year China Discovered the World.*

**Religious Revisionist History:**
This major is intended for students who are interested in non-traditional theology. All students must take adjunct professor Bill Maher’s course “Why Religion Will Give You Cancer.” Those choosing this major will reshape their views on Christianity with guest lecturer Dan Brown and his seminal work *The Da Vinci Code.* Jewish history will be covered, from *The Protocols of the Elders of Zion* to Mel Brooks’ illicit affair with Princess Di.

**Engineering Revisionist History:**
Another interdepartmental major, engineering students can appreciate the historical context of their popsicle-stick bridges. Courses will cover topics like: "The Pyramids: Built by Italians," "The Leaning Tower of Pisa: Built by Jews," and "Rethinking 9/11: Controlled Demolitions, Bush and the Cupcake Lobby." Coursework will involve an internship with the paramilitary unit that brought down WTC 7.

**Revisionist American History:**
The most demanding of all the concentrations, students are expected to be familiar with all 450 years of the United States (if you don't think that’s a typo, this major is for you). Among possible courses are “Slavery: A Mutual Partnership” and “The 60s: How the JFK Assassination was Filmed on the Moon.” This major is an alternative to American Studies, which is a gross lie put forth by the Library of Congress.

**Revisionist Military History Lecture Series:**
This lecture series will cover military history from 1776, when the damned tea lobbyists tried to prevent Washington’s crossing of the Delaware, to 1972, when Nixon ordered the evacuation of South Vietnam, per the recommendations of George McGovern, secretly running the country since 1966. Special guests include David Irving and Winston Smith.
The Zamboni Presents: Sexual Fantasies Throughout The Ages

Have you ever been in a lecture, listening to your professor ramble on about the War of 1812 or The Second Triumvirate and thought, "Who cares about this? What got these people off?" No one? Okay, well, we at The Zamboni have. A lot. So, after some intense research and also spending most of our budget taking top members of the Classics, English, and History departments out to Top of the Hub, we’ve compiled an impressive list of sexual fetishes from the prehistoric times to the recent past.

c. 10,000 BCE: First cave paintings appear. Most paleontologists believe that human beings started this form of proto-writing in order to remember their sexual fantasies (as human memory was not fully developed). Popular sexual fantasies involved reaching or orgasm while not being eaten by a sabertooth tiger or large snake. Very few of early men were able to achieve this fantasy, and often those that did became the Ukta of the Kimuo (The Stud of the Tribe). Also, there was a lot of poop eating.

c. 2500 BCE: Golden Age of the Old Kingdom of Egypt. Pyramids built as giant orgy centers. Exteriors were popular, both for their sharp points, and to be used as slides for a particularly kinetic session. However, the insides were well-renowned for being filled with the pharaoh’s favorite toys, servants, and animals to sodomize, as well as a lot of gold (because what is an orgy without gold?). Unfortunately, one careless servant accidentally locked the pharaoh and his guests in his orgy room and did not realize his mistake until everyone had suffocated. Hoping to cover up the regicide, the Egyptian government hence rewrote on all the papyrus that pyramids were tombs. They were always tombs. Nothing else ever went on in there and no one accidentally died when they just went to get their rocks off. Also, there was a lot of poop eating.

c. 800 BCE: The poet Homer is said to have lived and wrote The Iliad and The Odyssey. However, though a great success among the ancients, his erotic epic, The Heleneid, which tells the story of the gang-bang of Helen and the sack of Menelaus after the sack of Troy, lost favor among the monks of the Middle Ages and thus only survives in fragments [see opposite page].

756 BCE-476 CE: The Romans were infamous for their prudishness and stuck purely to sex in the missionary position for reproductive purposes. Though, there was the occasional poop eating.

1300s CE: The Black Death ravages Europe. The panic caused by this plague leads many to harken back to an older, gentler time and revive the prehistoric fetish of “not dying during sex.” Another, almost paradoxical, fantasy was to have sex with a plague victim. A common myth at the time was that the plague resided in the breasts and would cause them to swell, as evidenced by a dialogue between William of Ockham and a monk.

William: Brother, brother, I doth believe that such an act would have the potential to be sweet to the point that one may find it freakish.
Monk: Aye, brother, brother, do you not ever wonder why some call it the “Boob-banic Plague?”
William: Brother, brother, let us open our palms and cause our hands to meet.
Monk: Brother, brother, I hath just received the tapestry so-entitled, “Two Comely Maidens, One Holy-Grail.” Let us admire it.
William: Brother, brother, the time for such antics, desirable as they may be, must wait till a later rotation of yonder sun around the earth. Forssoever, I hath obtained the latest “Jesus’s Halo” for our X-Box, all the way from the Orient.
Monk: Brother, brother, such a proposition is similar to taking one’s foot, whether it be sandaled or not, and raising it so that it

1550–1292 BCE: The Eighteenth Dynasty of Egypt. Towards the end of this dynasty, Nefertiti married Pharaoh Akhen-
Fantasies Throughout The Ages

may meet another’s posterior with great force.

1439 CE: Poop eating saw a massive decline with the advent of the printing press. The Gutenbergs were fervent non-poop-eaters and used their new tool to print much anti-poop propaganda.

1480-1530 CE: The Spanish, under the advice of Queen Isabella and Tomás de Torquemada, threw the largest, most insane S&M party of all time. Sadly, the vast majority of surviving accounts are from people who did not get invited and were very bitter about it. They thus endeavored to have everyone believe that they were fortunate to miss the Spanish Inquisition when, really, anyone who was anyone was there.

1604 CE: Shakespeare’s pornographic play, OH! OH! OH!-thello, premieres. It was renowned among contemporaries for dealing with a very common fetish of the time: finding out that the really hot woman you were hooking up with was actually a prepubescent boy.

1793 CE: Marie Antoinette becomes famous for her head.

1837-1901 CE: Queen Victoria’s strict moral codes led to one of the most sexually repressive periods in history. With almost everything, from table legs to cutlery, being sexual that also meant that, de facto, almost everything turned people on. Most people were unable to get through an afternoon snack without having at least four accidental orgasms. Jack the Ripper became the most popular figure of sexual fantasy, probably because he was the man in London most capable of finding the g-spot...by any means necessary. Poop eating also saw a brief resurgence in popularity, as evidenced by Oscar Wilde’s An Ideal Poop, where a character says the famous line, “There is only one thing in the world worse than eating poop, and that is not eating poop.”

1908-1915 CE: Master of Industry, Henry Ford, realizes that many of his workers are spending too much of their time having sex. In order to curtail this heinous waste of time, he invents and perfects "The Quickie," forever revolutionizing sexual efficiency. Emma Goldman criticized this innovation, saying that, "When we can't take our time in bed any longer, when we can't spend at least three hours on foreplay and take our fair time with afterplay and are forbidden from incorporating chocolate sauce, we die."

"Brother, Brother, thou shouldst take to thy mind that thou art pwned to a level that thou wouldst find most astounding to thy eyes."

Excerpt from The Heleneid

With the speed of a thousand arrows shot from mightiest Apollo, She removed her outer garments and was descended upon by Swarms of lustful soldiers, having grown tired of Having to spend their nights with Patroclus (O! One bunghole could take only So much pounding!) The first to Helen was Odysseus, That wily old donkey-puncher, Whose sword found its way, Like one who walked a path so many times And whether in obsidian blackness after the sun has sunk Or in the brightest burning light of midday, He can make his journey without pause or error. And by that, I mean that he totally stuck It into Helen. Like, really hard. Her hands, skilled with the grace of Venus, Handled the swords of many of the soldiers all at once. Of big Ajax’s little Ajax and little Ajax’s big Ajax. She became the bearer of Achilles’ spear, And caused me to have to think of a Greek word For “Bukake.” I think I’ll use That fully looking “P” that sounds like an “r” Somewhere in there. I dunno.

"Men eat poop because they are tired; women, because they are curious: neither are disappointed." - from The Importance of Eating Poop
Since ancient times, people have been completely incompetent when it comes to solving their own goddamn problems. However, the people back in the days before indoor plumbing had wise old King Solomon to do all of their thinking for them. Currently, we have no one. Well, that was until now! King Solomon has returned and he's ready to direct you through all your woes...with an advice column!

Dear King Solomon,
I've been desperately trying to lose weight to no avail. I've tried Atkins, South Beach, even the Raw Foods and the Cabbage Soup diets, but continue to find myself buying XXXL clothing. What should I do?
Thanks,
Thinking Thin
TT,
Cut your portions in half, and you'll be fitting into those smaller clothes in no time! What you eat does not matter, but how much you eat does. Look at the French: they have a diet of nothing but cheese, bread, and intravenous injections of lard, and yet they always look emaciated. They've learned to halve their portions, and you should too!
Sincerely,
King Solomon

Dear King Solomon,
I think my girlfriend is cheating on me with my best friend. I don't know what to do. Should I try to catch her in the act, or bring it up to her in hopes that she'll be honest? I just don't know what to do if she denies it or if I'm wrong. And how can I possibly go out with my friend tomorrow night when all I can think of is him screwing my girl?
Yours,
Cantankerous Cuckold
CC,
I understand what a troubling, emotional time this must be for you. Fidelity is important, but so is saving the relationships we've made with friends and lovers. Therefore, you must cut your girlfriend in half! Keep the half of your choice for yourself, and give the lesser half to your friend. This will show him that you still value him as a friend, but also let him know what will happen to him if he messes with you again.
Sincerely,
King Solomon

Dear King Solomon,
I've been feeling depressed for the past month. I don't know why...but I just have not been getting the same enjoyment out of things as I used to. What should I do?
Please help,
Sadly in a Slump
SS,
The solution to that problem is easy! Simply cut your depression in half! Half the depression means half the sadness! You'll be feeling better in no time.
Sincerely,
King Solomon

Dear King Solomon,
I have a nice body but horrible acne! I can never get a date because my face looks like an unpaved road! Do you have any sure-to-work acne cures?
Thank you,
Pathetically Pimpled
PP,
Cut your face in half!
Sincerely,
King Solomon

Dear King Solomon,
My partner just gave me an STD. What should I do?
Worried,
Gruesome Genitals
GG,
Believe me, you don't wanna know.
Sincerely,
King Solomon

Dear King Solomon,
There's only one cookie left and my friend and I both want to eat it. What should we do?
Always,
Chocolate Chipaholic
CC,
You present a unique, hard-to-solve issue. Since it would be unfair for only one of you to enjoy the cookie's deliciousness, I suggest you both suffer together and mail the cookie to me.
Sincerely,
King Solomon

Join us next week when the Marquis DeSade gets on board as a guest columnist. He's already getting prepared: "I've yet to meet a problem that couldn't be solved by shoving a penis into it. Or pooping on it. Or burning it alive. It's all good."

compiled by Devin Toohey
Zamboni: Mr. Spitama, thanks so much for taking the time to talk to me. It’s great for me to be able to interview someone from your time period. I’ve actually studied the Persian Empire for many years.

Darius: Oh, it’s no trouble.

Zamboni: Now, before I ask my questions about ancient Persian society, my bosses are making me… I have to ask you about your… achievement. So, before that first question, I’ll just say that… that you have achieved notoriety for a certain… innovation…

Darius: Yes…

Zamboni: It was… how can I put this delicately… you were a true… pioneer…

Darius: Yes…

Zamboni: You were the first… the first…

Darius: The first person in recorded history to hide something in his ass in prison.

Zamboni: Sigh. Yes. So, how did you happen to become the first person to do… that.

Darius: You can say it. It’s okay.

Zamboni: That’s… I’m fine…

Darius: Say it…

Zamboni: Really, it’s no—

Darius: Come on… just say it…

Zamboni: Fine. How did you become the first person to hide something in your ass in prison?

Darius: Well I’m glad you asked! It was the fifth century BC, during King Darius’ reign over the Persian Empire. I was working for the Satrap of Media—

Zamboni: Fascinating! Now, Media is modern-day Iran. What was it like back then?

Darius: Please. I’m trying to tell a story about my ass. Anyway, I was arrested for embezzling some of the Satrap’s tax revenue. I was about to be taken to prison, but I didn’t want to lose all the gold coins—

Zamboni: Persian coins were also known as ‘Archers,’ because they had an archer on them—

Darius: --Excuse me. Please let me finish this anecdote about my colon. So, I didn’t want to lose all the gold I had stolen. Now, I was in my house, and I had stacked all my stolen coins into one pile and put them on a bench. I was trying to figure out what to do with them when the Emperor’s guards—

Zamboni: --The Immortals--

Darius: SHHH!! This is butt-story time! The Emperor’s guards started breaking down my door! I was so surprised that I just had to sit down. And when I sat down—

Zamboni: --Okay, I get the picture ---

Darius: When I sat down, I realized that I had found the perfect hiding place for my thousands and thousands of gold coins!

Zamboni: Great—

Darius: The hiding place was, of course, in my ass! And believe me, nobody thought to look in there back then. I was held in prison for a while, but because they couldn’t find the evidence, I got off scott free! And I’ve been hiding things in my ass ever since!

Zamboni: Well, it looks like that’s all the time I have, so I’ll have to leave my questions about Persian Civilization until next time. Thank you very much, Zamboni Editorial Board.

Darius: Well, I can arrange to meet with you again if you want to focus more on other aspects of my life. Just give me your number.

Zamboni: Great! It’s 555—

Darius: Let me just get my cell phone.

Zamboni: No problem!

Darius: Actually, this might take a while. I like to keep it in a safe place just in case.

Zamboni: Oh?… Oh!
What if every historical event was exactly what it sounded like? In the spirit of Thucydides' philosophy of “translating terms from other languages be damned, cultural sensitivity be damned, and the Wright brothers be damned,” we present Literal History.

**Enola Gay** – The plane that dropped the first atomic bomb was gay. Like, really gay. Like, the nuclear explosions weren’t the most flaming thing in Hiroshima.

**The Velvet Revolution** – While on the subject of gay...

**The Great Depression** – Young people today just don’t have the character my generation had! All you young folks do is complain about your recession. Well, if the NASDAQ existed in my day, it would’ve dropped by more points than times that your grandmother farted without saying anything during Thanksgiving dinner. But no, we weren’t complaining, we thought it was great! That’s why it’s called the Great Depression. It was so awesome! We were so happy about it, we built power plants in the middle of nowhere and played fun games like “try to stand up for 2 hours and pretend you don’t have polio!” Now that was one fantastic depression!

**The Bay of Pigs Invasion** – God, what a ridiculous night! John F. Kennedy’s biggest failure during his presidency! Turns out, the Aqua-Pigs were more tenacious fighters than McNamara thought. But luckily he was able to make it up to the American people with his charming good looks and large quantities of bacon that he got from somewhere....

**The Diet of Worms** – This one is pure historical gold! Better than gold, it’s platinum, or unicorn blood! And the greatest part... 92% of Zamboni readers don’t actually know what the Diet of Worms is!” Mwahahaha-haha!!!

“The Diet of Worms was an important historical event in the life of Martin Luther, when he was punished for instigating the reformation. His punishment: he had to eat worms for the rest of his life. I mean, imagine that! Worms are really small, and there aren’t very many of them, so you’d pretty much be digging for at least 3 hours a night! Wow, you’d have to be a real dumbass to question the Catholic church.

*Based on a November 17, 2008 Gallup Poll

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**ZAMBONI ROASTS JOAN OF ARC**

We here at *The Zamboni* are frankly quite tired of Joan of Arc (we do hear about her on a daily basis after all). Sure, she “saved” France, but did anyone really want France to be saved? And hey, why aren't FDR and Churchill saints then? Oh, but she "saw" God, so clearly she has a place in religion. Yeah, sure Joan. Any nutter can claim to see God.

She would just go on and on about talking to these saints. I asked her, is talking to saints going to put food on the table? But no, she just kept at it and look where it got her. You know, none of this would have happened if she’d just married a nice Catholic boy!

- Isabelle Romée (Joan’s mother)

Like, I dunno why we’re roasting her. I thought it was really brave of her to, like, wear pants and dress like a guy centuries before Stonewall. Joan of Arc, you’re the first famous tranny! You go girl! I know that you wouldn’t have voted for Prop 8! No on Prop Hate! Woo! When did I get to vote on your marriage?

- random gay-off-the-street.

Everywhere I went, it was always Joan-this and Joan-that. I couldn’t even bring a girl home without her asking for Joan to autograph her Bible. God, now I know how Tito Jackson felt.

- Jean d’Arc (Joan’s brother)

“Joan of Arc?” Me-dammit! I told them to contact *Jane* of Arc! She was supposed to bring about world peace and everything! Hm, I guess that would explain why the universe still sucks. So, what ever happened to Joan anyway?...Yeah...Uh-huh...You don’t say...Burned alive? Figures.

- God (creator of the universe, ruler of Heaven and Earth)

Bloody right twat, she was. Jolly good, tally-ho, pip-pip!

- The British

Geez. And I thought that I got a rough deal because of that damn flood.

- Noah of the Ark (no relation)

Oh, I get it. So when she hears voices, she’s talking to God, but if I want to have multiple personalities, then I’m crazy???

- Sybil

compiled by Julie Gomstyn and Devin Toohey
A scroll retrieved from the wreckage of an ancient Greek ship was found to contain two lost passages from Euripides’ adaptation of The Odyssey. Painstakingly translated over many months by Professor Zoobookz of the University of Stuttgart, these excerpts shed new light on Odysseus’ relationship with Alcinous, the king of Phaeacia.

At the beginning of the play, Odysseus regales his hosts with tales of his deeds.

**ODYSSEUS:** Noble Phaeacians! Wise Alcinous! I thank you for your kind hospitality. I have traveled many years and endured many hardships since I left Troy. Yet through it all, I have wanted nothing more to return to my beloved Ithaca and set eyes on my dear wife, Penelope, wisest of women. Yes, I had many adventures! I lost many men fighting a Cyclops! I was made to share the bed of the enchantress Circe, who also turned my men into pigs! I went to the kingdom of the dead, and survived an encounter with two terrible monsters: Scylla and Charybdis!

Most recently, I was held captive on the island of that beautiful nymph, Calypso. While it’s true that I was forced — forced! — to share her bed every single night for years, every day I wept that I could not return home. Then I left Calypso’s island, on a raft I built with my bare hands, but I was shipwrecked! I lost everything, including my clothes — which is why I was forced to accost your lovely princess Nausicaa wearing nothing more than an olive branch. Truly though, she behaved in a manner befitting a royal princess, and brought me here to your palace! And that’s how I arrived here, great Phaeacians. I shall always keep the memory of your kindness and hospitality in my heart, and I shall sacrifice many oxen in your honor when I return home to Ithaca!

Later, after Odysseus has left, Alcinous delivers this powerful soliloquy.

**ALCINOUS:** Thank Zeus, Odysseus is finally gone. That guy did nothing but talk from the minute he got here until the minute he left. You know, when a stranger arrives in your land it’s considered polite to ask him where he’s from. But the guests in your land are not supposed to tell you their life’s story. But that’s exactly what he did. Odysseus literally told us the story of his entire life. It took, like three days for him to finish, and I kept trying to politely interrupt, but he just ignored me. That guy cannot take a hint.

Oh, yeah, I’m sure he’s totally going to sacrifice so many oxen in our honor when he gets home. You know what would have been nice? If he hadn’t made me sacrifice so many of my own fucking oxen in his honor.

Odysseus is so full of shit. Don’t even get me started. First of all, that whole business about the Cyclops – I’ve been to that island, and there are no fucking Cyclopses on it. I don’t even think Cyclopses exist. And I’m a little suspicious about the whole “monsters ate my entire crew” aspect of his story. I really think it’s more likely that he’s just an incompetent captain. You can just tell that he’s making shit up. Scylla? Charybdis? That’s like something a five year old would think of. I can come up with something like that off the top of my head... Draxion. There. Next time I stay out drinking, I’ll just be like, “Sorry I’m late, honey. On the way home, I was attacked by a monster called Draxion. Its hands are poisonous snakes and it has like, twelve lion heads, and each lion head has laser eyes and the brain of a magical shark. Everyone was killed except me.” She’ll totally have to believe me. She believed Odysseus. Everyone believed Odysseus.

And Odysseus expects us to believe that during this ‘epic voyage’ of his, he was forced — forced — to sleep with not one, but two hot magical chicks who own their own islands? And not only that, he complains about it? Wow, Odysseus, it sure does suck to have beautiful enchantresses constantly throwing themselves at you. It’s probably not even true. I mean, really, who wants to sleep with Odysseus? Maybe those two supernatural sexpot witch-vixens are really turned on by guys who just constantly yammer at them throughout sex. But even if that part of the story is true, I bet Circe and Calypso probably aren’t even that hot.

Well, at least we can relax now that he’s gone. Servants! Bring me my favorite robe! (The Chief Steward whispers something to Alcinous) What? He did what? Odysseus took my favorite robe? I know I said to give him gifts, but I didn’t think he’d actually take anything! I was just trying to be polite... and get him to leave. Well, how much gold and bronze did we offer him? (More whispering) All the lords of the island gave him a cauldron full of gold and bronze?! And he actually took all of it?! What’s wrong with that guy? Do you know how much we’re going to have to raise taxes to pay for all the oxen we slaughtered and all the wine Odysseus drank, and now all the gifts that everyone apparently gave him without telling me? I can’t believe it!

That guy is such a dick.
At *The Zamboni*, we fully endorse computer games like *The Oregon Trail*. It gives children a compelling way to learn about a period of history, but also lets people shoot buffalo without having to deal with that endangered species crap. So why not do the same for other important historical eras?

by Matthew Luz and Julie Gomstyn

**Burn Baby Burn: The Salem Witch Trials**

Sure, it might start out a little boring. Some farming, some praying, maybe a little floating around in the water...that is, if you’re a WITCH. It’s high noon at Salem and the rule is kill or be killed. You better accuse someone quickly before they point the finger at you. Who cares if they get a little hung up on it? Incidentally, the makers are currently working on another game called “McCarthyism.”

you get the point. This sequel comes with enhanced blood-splatter technology. Not recommended for children under six.

**Red China**

It’s your chance to partake in the Communist Chinese Revolt. Silly work uniforms, little red books (not to be confused with little black books) and a guy named Mao. Will you live to farm another day or will you be sent to a re-education camp? Make it through the next fifty years and you’ll be rewarded with some American debt.

**SimSpeakeasy**

It’s the roaring twenties, but Prohibition is cramping your style. Keep the sauce flowing and the music booming in your underground Chicago club without getting snared by Elliott Ness and the flat foots. Bonus points if Al Capone stops by.

"Okay, Dan, you drew the Witch card. Burn.*

**Holy Land II: The Children’s Crusade**

In the first game, the ol’ Pope’s plans to recapture Jerusalem didn’t turn out so well. That’s what happens when you leave it to the elderly to get something done. Now it’s your turn to trek through the Middle East to reclaim your birthright! Just don’t get sold into slavery along the way. Fun for the whole family!

**French Terror 2: Revolution**

Liberté, égalité, and a motherfuckin’ guillotine. What more could you ask for? It’s the ultimate bloodbath of the 18th century. Kill that monarch! Storm that Bastille! Tell Marie Antoinette that she can go eat her own damn- wait, she never actually said that. But Let the Fire Flower of Mario’s love enter the Bowser’s Castle of your heart.

Coming soon to bootleggers in Shanghai, Peking, Beijing, and Guangzhou!

**The Messiah**

Your prophet is in another castle!

**War Torn: The Epic Beginning**

The year is 1861 and the nation is divided in the midst of a civil war. It’s a fight to the death, so pick a side, any side. (Except the South. Don’t pick the South. What are you, retarded? Do you not know how this ends?)

**The Bubonic Plague**

What, too soon?
Students each year are always titillated about the prospect of running around the quad naked before buckling down and studying. It's hard to pin down what it is about NQR that really excites the student body. We here at The Zamboni, however, have plowed through the history books in an attempt to discover the origins of our most beloved practice. So read on and bone up on your history!

10,000 BCE - Mankind invents clothing. Creepy old men everywhere weep.

7,000 BCE - Mankind begins drinking alcohol. The species’ rate of progress slows by a factor of five.

3,500 BCE - Prince Broskaphat of Egypt attempts the first keg-stand using an urn.

1798 CE - Napoleon finds a pyramid with hieroglyphs depicting naked and drunk Egyptian girls. It was actually kinda hot.

1815 CE - The British Museum hosts an exhibit on Ancient Egypt. The Victorian women are inspired by the depictions of nudity and wear only three layers.

1820 CE - Photography becomes economically feasible. Porn is invented two hours later.

1926 CE - Boston’s speakeasies promote provocative dancing

1941 CE - Women realize that all the men are going to war, so they finally make good on all that provocative dancing.

1945 CE - World War II ends. Europeans can now freely and peacefully bathe in the nude.

1973 CE - Drunken Tufts frat boys begin to run around campus naked just for fun. Tufts’ illustrious history of nudity begins.

1977 CE - Frat boys encourage Jackson College (Tufts’ sister school) girls to run around the quad naked with them. The boys are really just trying to show off to their friends who live uphill.

1980 CE - Tufts and Jackson College are united, Tuftonians male and female run naked in celebration. It was the men’s idea.

500 BCE - According to Herodotus, the great thinkers in the Greek brotherhood of ATΩ discover how to use alcohol they call “Nile juice” to get cute girls naked and act like they’re from Lesbos.

65 CE - Roman emperor Nero invents peer pressure.

1340 CE - The Bubonic Plague ravages Europe. The church encourages victims to shed their diseased clothing, calling the movement “Wear Anything But Clothes”

1341 CE - People really get into it.

1620 CE - Puritans establish the colony of Plymouth. Nudity takes a step back.

1984 CE - Townies start showing up to NQR regularly, compromising the sacred tradition. A Betamax video of NQR spreads around the greater Boston area like wildfire. Like naked wildfire.

1994 CE - Bill Clinton offers tax breaks to everyone who runs NQR. Many students choose to run with American flag capes in support of their president.

1998 CE - During the dot-com boom, many Tufts students are fooled by “Penile Enlargement” e-mails. Medical issues prevent half the male population from running this year.

2002 CE - Bacow arrives at Tufts and witnesses NQR for the first time. He is appalled, but just can’t look away.

2007 CE - Somerville Journal publishes photos and a video of NQR on the internet. This is the first time that anyone from outside of Tufts finds a Tufts student attractive.

Present Day - This year, The Zamboni is pregaming with Bacow. You’re so jealous.
I came, I saw, I barked and ran around in circles before quickly losing interest and gnawing adorably on a bone.
-Chewlius Caesar

I have made it a rule of my life to trust a fish long after other fish gave him up, but I don't see how I can ever trust any flounder again.
-Ufishes S. Grant

Be a llama whenever possible. It is always possible.
-Dalai Llama

The greatest pleasure is to vanquish your enemies and claw their drapes, to rob them of their catnip and see their owners then bathed in tears, to use their scratching posts and clasp to your bosom their wives and daughters.
-Kitten Khan

The superior monkey, when resting in safety, does not forget that danger may come. When in a state of security he does not forget the possibility of large jungle cats. When all is orderly, he does not forget that disorder may come. Thus his person is not endangered, and his States and all their bananas are preserved.
-Monkeyfucius

Most people say that it is the intellect which makes a great bear. They are wrong: it is salmon.
-Albear Einstein