Students strike; coalition formed

Approximately 200 students jammed themselves into Room 3 of the Rigdoway Building at 10 o'clock Thursday, April 20 and gave near unanimous approval to a motion calling for a strike on Friday, April 21.

The meeting, chaired by Dean of Students, Mrs. Virginia Rupp, and student coordinator, Peter Butterfield, newspaper business manager, was called to action by Joe Shanahan, president of the student government. The following statement was issued prior to the meeting:

"With the recent resumption of the United States bombing of North Vietnam, students at various academic communities across the nation have localized their abhorrence of the bombing policy. In light of this, the Suffolk students have voted to participate in a three day school-wide referendum to be conducted on Friday to determine the feelings of the entire student body.

As students, as members of the college press, we have not organized this meeting for any pre-conceived end, but solely for the aforementioned goal of providing a forum in which all members of this community may participate.

"We are not, in any sense of the word, attempting to organize any strike, demonstration or other form of protest within this community but only to give those who feel that Suffolk should or should not join the ranks of the country's academic community the chance to discuss their feelings and to express whatever decisions they may reach in the wake of these discussions. For this reason, this meeting is of no more personal concern to us than it is to you. We will personally take no further organizational steps in this matter for, quite frankly, we have a newspaper to run.

"We shall only rejoice in the fact that we have planted the seed for exchange of opinion and ideas within the Suffolk community. Our personal feelings on the matter will soon be published as a JOURNAL editorial.

After long and heated debate, the motion was passed along with motions calling for a school-wide referendum to be conducted on Friday to determine the feelings of the entire student body.

At the close of the meeting Steve Dodds, coordinator of the Problem Center, and John Christopher, a JOURNAL reporter, and member of the Vietnam Veterans Against the War, were elected strike coordinators.

The referendum conducted the next day, showed that approximately 428 students were in favor of some type of strike action while 177 members of the community opposed it. Of the 478 calling for the strike, 243 voted to strike on Friday and meet on the following Monday to determine what, if any, further action would be taken; 109 voted to strike indefinitely; and 76 voted for the strike option but did not indicate any preference towards the two options.

Shortly after the ballots were completed, a delegation of about 200 Suffolk students left the University to participate in the anti-war march on the Common and the march to and a sit-in at Post Office Square.

Carrying the banner of Suffolk Coalition against the War, protestors left the auditorium and before leaving the Suffolk buildings, marched through the cafeteria in the hopes of gaining other members of the community to join the ranks of the protest.

The Suffolk Coalition, one of the first to appear at the Common, was only one of a multitude of area university groups which took part in the march. Schools such as BU, Northeastern, Simmons, U Mass, Boston, Emerson College, BC Law School, and Harvard Medical School, to name but a few, were all represented and their combined ranks totaled approximately 10,000 strong.

Suffolk Law School students, approximately 600 gathered in a room on the third floor of the Donahue Building, were meeting at the time the protest march was organizing on the Common, but never reached any decision on what action to take against the escalation of the bombing.

The strike action at Suffolk saw at least 200 students stay away from classes on Friday and Monday, and many of the strikers gathered in the auditorium Monday to vote on whether the strike would continue. The vote was almost unanimous to end the strike action at that time.

It was further resolved to form the Suffolk Student Activist Coalition, which would carry on the aims of the Coalition and be responsible for organizing activities of an informative and constructive nature in the Suffolk community.

A number of other types of activities are being organized by the Coalition and these will be reported on as they develop. The committees included curriculum, direct action, and communication.

Fulham speaks out

April 24, 1972

The Honorable Richard M. Nixon
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

I should like to add my support to those citizens of the United States who feel that the sooner that we extricate ourselves from the Indochina War, the better it will be for the Nation as a whole.

This prolonged encounter, so costly in human, natural and economic resources, should be terminated as quickly as possible in order that the energies of our citizens and the wealth of our Nation could be directed toward the educational, health and environmental needs of our Nation.

Respectfully yours,

Thomas A. Fulham

Trustees drop gym requirements

The Board of Trustees has voted to approve the recommendation of the Faculty Assembly to abolish the completion of the physical education program as a requirement for graduation for all present and future Suffolk students effective April 3.

It was further recommended that a voluntary physical education program be established, that the intramural athletic program be expanded to include greater participation, and that the athletic director be responsible for this activity.
This issue is dedicated to the memory of:
Jeffrey Miller
Allison Krause
William Schroeder
Sandy Scheuer
Philip Lafayette Gibbs
James Earl Green
It just won’t accomplish anything!

As talk spread of the possibility of student strikes on the nation’s campuses in response to the escalation of the bombing over Hanoi and Haiphong, the idea was met with immediate vocal condem­nation. However, the con­demnation was not coming from the Nixon administration or campus administrators, but from the students. “We didn’t think the war in 1970!” they argued. “What good will it do now?” They pointed out. “Oh, yeah. Nice weather and it’s strike time again!” said those who had protested in 1970 but had become skeptical of the entire anti-war movement.

Despite the skeptics and the risks, as they would label themselves, the strikes were called and were of significant strength to force administrative responses to the Nixon policies at approximately 175 colleges and universities. Many smaller colleges also organized to protest the war. The movement was not as engaging as it had been in 1970, nor was it as strong. But it was there, and that is the point.

When Nixon ordered the bombing of the North, he was calling the bluff of the anti-war movement. He was testing the sensibility of the American public to the Indochina massacre. If the people remained complacent, it would mean a vote of confidence for his policies. But the people who protested in 1970 weren’t all slumbering. And with the renewed bombing, they spilled out into the streets: 100,000 in Boston; 50,000 in New York; 25,000 in San Francisco, to name but a few.

They showed Nixon that they were still watching, still waiting for that “secret plan” to end the war, and still condemning the American role in Vietnam. The people yelled and Nixon heard them. They yelled so loud that he went on nationwide television to reply. That is what the strikes were all about. Sure, they weren’t going to bring the war to a halt, but the thousands of voices were suc­cessful in telling the President that Indochina events for the past year were a spot in the hearts of the American people who, incidentally, will have a chance to elect a president his age in 1972.

Those who like to use the nice weather cliches also deserve notice and to them one might point out that if he lighting in Vietnam may come to a stand-still during the rainy season over there, then the anti-war movement may very easily justify its stand-still during what is commonly known as winter over here.

Another important aspect of the new campus protests is that they are not vague in their objectives as they were in 1970. The people know what a strike means, how it can tear apart an academic community and, thus, the strikes have usually been for only one or two days.

Then the students have returned to class, but in their spare time have begun to organize, to work, and to build up the tide of anti-war sentiment to where it washes away the U.S. involvement in Indochina.

The Readers Write

Editor:
Sewar campaigns and backroom trickery are a common occurrence in most kinds of politics and, in the recent Journalism Society elec­tions, this kind of political under­dealing was no exception.

President of the Journalism Society Kent Jones was the target of a two-allegation involving society funds. Students who highlighted and brought out the mis­behavior voted for the alterna­tive candidate.

The charges not only questioned the integrity of the current president but also the reputations of James Peterson, Director of Student Activities, and Treasurer of the Student Government, both who oversee all club expenditure.

It is a shameful situation when Mr. Jones, one of the organizers of the Society and who directed all of the Society events for the past year, could be ousted by a few individuals who decided for personal gain to allegedly slander a Suffolk student.

Everyone knows that at Suffolk it is hard to get students active in student clubs. It is even harder to find students who are willing to give up time and money to lead club activities and do it well. To malign such a student for personal gain says the worse for anyone involved.

The greatest tragedy is that Kent Jones lost the election by a 16 to 3 vote. Not one of these 16 students had asked Mr. Jones before the election about the false rumor but had taken upon themselves to act as judge and jury.

If colleges are intended to ex­pand the political and moral outlook of students, then obviously there will be some failures. But for 16 students to condemn a fellow classmate without letting him defend himself against false charges shows a serious flaw in the common notion that college students are more politically aware than other segments of society.

I believe joint faculty-student endeavors such as this will increase a sense of community in all of us at Suffolk University.

Dean Robert C. Wahrler

To my friends who read the paper this year:

Just a little note to say goodbye and that I hope you enjoyed the JOURNAL.

I’d like to call attention to the fact that the paper would never have been anything if we weren’t for people like Pete Butterfield, Paula Kelly, Bob Jahn, John “Chris” Christophoro, Scott Davis, Rich Macolini, Jim Scuttellaro, Al Davis.

I’d also like to thank the trustees and administrators this year, because for all the mud we slung at the University, they respected our right to freedom of press, and for that, even if for nothing else, they should be congratulated. That’s just about it. Thank you and so long.

GOLD KEY

Seven students, one faculty member, and one administrator were inducted into the Suffolk University Gold Key Honor Society April 30.

The 1972 initiates were Leslie Colburn, Robert Coughlin, Steve Dudley, Tom Heslin, Bill Lee, Joe Shock, Lesa Jill Sullivan, and Ms. Judith Dushku, assistant professor in government, and Ms. Evelyn Reilly, administrative assistant to the president.

Mr. Colburn and Ms. Reilly were honorary initiates.

Even though this is the last “issue” of the 1971-1972 JOURNAL, don’t go away yet.

Before the year is out we’re going to give you all a nice, big surprise. Keep watching those newstands.

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Rams' Bush ‘bright spot’

Ken Busa, senior linebacker from West Palm Beach, has been the bright spot for the Suffolk football team this year. The Rams’ record to date, stands at 4-5 after losing to the hands of games against Quinnipiac.

Busa, who has a 2-3 record and has been injured several times, has added some ball punching. In the last 12 games, Brian Love, who was the winning pitcher, delivered a bases-loaded triple, scoring the Rams to a win.

The veteran southpaw also posted a .436 batting average with six home runs and two RBIs. Assumption on April 22 to give Suffolk a split of the doubleheader with a solid 6-1 victory, scored the win in the contest.

In South Vietnam alone, the U.S. military has dropped 9 million tons of ordnance on enemy positions. This has already dropped 3.6 million tons, with casualties reaching over 600,000, 80 per cent of whom were civilians. (Equivalent damage in South Vietnam is estimated to have killed no more than one-fifth of the population.)

The air war over the Ho Chi Minh Trail in southern Laos has steadily escalated since 1966, with some 1.5 million tons of munitions dropped this year. This year, bombing has been so intense that the U.S. military and economic survival are threatened. The air attack on the Ho Chi Minh Trail in southern Laos has steadily escalated since 1966, with some 1.5 million tons of munitions dropped this year. This year, bombing has been so intense that the U.S. military and economic survival are threatened.

The Board of Trustees formally approved the purchase of the Wright & Potter Building, adjacent to the Student Center, at its April 27 meeting. The university has been working on a master plan for the future.

President Fullam expressed confidence that the purchase will be paid for by the end of July, noting that the university must move forward from the present crisis to ensure that the building can be used for educational purposes.

He also pointed out that it will be two years before Suffolk can complete its property because of present tenancy arrangements.

The building, located at 32 Delta Road, was donated by the Wyman Trust, has approximately 38,000 square feet of space and was used as a printing plant for more than 40 years.

Cornell group presents data on Indochina bombing

A research report released by a group at Cornell University presents for the first time the most detailed picture of U.S. bombing of enemy positions in the Indochina war in Indo-China. The report contains both a historical account of the U.S. military's air war in Indochina and a technical analysis of the problems connected with air bombardment.

This provides the basis for an estimation of the present level of deployment of American air power in the region and for a study of the trends for the immediate future.

By the end of this year, the total air effort has been devoted to that country's mangrove forests have been damaged by U.S. air activity in Indochina which is about the same extent as the area that was done in all theaters in World War II.

In the last eight months of this year, over half a million tons of air-dropped bombs have been dropped, 17 million of the total amount used in the war. British in 10 years of successful coalition bombing.

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In the last eight months of this year, over half a million tons of air-dropped bombs have been dropped, 17 million of the total amount used in the war. British in 10 years of successful coalition bombing.

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