Suffolk becomes “Patriot Act Free Zone”

Jim Cronin
Journal Staff

Marking the second time in two years that the Student Government Association publicly sided with the political agenda of Students for Peace and Justice, on November 6 Suffolk University became the first college in New England - and tenth in the nation - to express its collective dissent over the Patriot Act, the antiterrorism legislation passed in the wake of the 2001 terrorists attacks that has spurred civil liberties groups to defend the constitutional principles of the United States.

The government association, in a 12 to three vote, with two abstentions, passed an SGA-sponsored resolution opposing the Patriot Act, effectively making Suffolk a “Patriot Act Free Zone.” The matter took up most of SGA’s weekly meeting, with students candidly expressing their support or opposition to passing the resolution.

With the 45 signed petitions SPJ collected over the past two months, executive board member Matt Wilding said that a large representation of the student body is “against this Patriot Act.”

“We urge SGA to support those who took the initiative in this university to stand up for our civil liberties,” Wilding said on behalf of the group.

Kendra Bucklin of SPJ said it was crucial that SGA vote in favor of the resolution. “Our lawmakers need to know that we won’t allow more restriction on our civil liberties,” she said. “Our lawmakers were not effective in preventing the passing of the Patriot Act and upholding our rights in 2001...Our lawyers need to know that the country will not tolerate it.”

Bucklin added that over 200 cities and 16 towns in Massachusetts have passed similar resolutions. “Suffolk University would be the first school in Boston to do this,” she said. “In the college capital of the United States, students’ voices need to be heard.”

SGA Treasurer Sean Duggan, who voted against the resolution, questioned the validity of the SPJ’s stance. He asked if anyone on SGA’s board had ever read the Patriot Act. Several of his peers raised their hands.

Then he said, “Four hundred and seventy-five signatures is not a clear majority of the student body.” Referring to SGA’s decision last year to pass an SGA-sponsored anti-war resolution, Duggan said, “We made the mistake of taking a stand last year without a majority. I don’t think we should make that same mistake this year.”

Representative Emily Ruskowski had similar reasons for voting against the resolution. She said she was “uncomfortable making statements on behalf of the entire undergraduate student body regarding U.S. policy. If [SGP] got 600 votes, I would have had no choice but to vote in favor of it. Six hundred is a huge number. Since there wasn’t a huge percentage pushing for it, I couldn’t do it.”

Representative Ryan Fatman, who also voted against the resolution, was unavailable for comment.

During the session President Dave Rodrigues temporarily gave up his role and passed off his gavel to speak about the issue as any other voting SGA member.

Contrary to what Duggan and Ruskowski felt, Rodrigues said, “We do have the right to do this...This is a representative government...We don’t need numbers...SGP went out and got 475 signatures. We don’t have any information on anybody that stands against it.”

Secretary Beeky Harlow said the reason Suffolk has such diverse student organizations is that it encourages students to have free assembly. She feared that the Patriot Act could possibly infringe upon that right. “I think we should support this resolution because it could limit your assembly...At Suffolk University it is our mission to allow students to have free assembly,” Harlow said.

Representatives Karlene Maiolino and Rachel Goldberg abstained. “I didn’t actually read the Patriot Act itself, so I didn’t feel like I knew enough to cast a vote,” Maiolino said. Goldberg would not comment on her decision not to vote.

Rob Laurent, SPJ executive board member, was naturally pleased with the outcome...see Patriot Act page 2

Jumpstart all smiles

Claire Jeffers
Journal Staff

In a preschool in Roxbury, a hefty handful of energetic toddlers eagerly awaited their evening routine. One of the main activities is the Jumpstart program comprised of Suffolk and Emerson students who come in daily to read to 17 of them after their regular preschool day has ended.

SMILE Preschool in Dudley Square is made up of 148 children ranging from six weeks to six years old.

As a preschool, one of SMILE’s main goals is not only to teach children how to read, but how to enjoy learning.

Kevin McMullen, who works as a liaison between SMILE and Jumpstart, believes that the after-school program is an “excellent opportunity” for preschools in the area. “Jumpstart has a great reputation...[They] help us achieve one of our goals: to teach our children how to read,” he said.

Jumpstart meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays around 3 p.m. Members of the group sometimes work at the school during the day to assist teachers.

George Middleton, a second-year student at SMILE and a favorite among the kids, has noticed a very positive change in his students as a result of Jumpstart.

Middleton has also learned as a result of Jumpstart. He said Jumpstart has given him “a lot of things on what to do and what not to do with the children...there are different things for different people.”

Each member of Jumpstart is responsible for harvesting one child’s growth and education, like learning how to read.

“The children are happier and have a better relationship with Jumpstart than with some of the teachers,” McMullen said.

Justin Lockwood, a junior at Emerson, said because of Jumpstart he is now considering a career in teaching.

Lockwood said that the biggest pay-off is “working with these kids, teaching them in your life.”

It’s good to come here when things get stressful in your life.”

CJN looking for own school

Diana Rossi
Journal Staff

The Communication and Journalism Department has expressed interest in possibly forming its very own school at Suffolk, a la CAS, SSOM, and NESAD.

Dr. Robert Rosenthal, chairman of the department, said there are no specific plans yet in the works. He said it would take a considerable donation in order to accomplish such a feat. “We would like to have a school of CJN. The only way that would happen is if there was a substantial donation so we could name [the school] after that person.”

Rosenthal said establishing CJN as its own school “would be a logical extension because we are very large, so it would be a very logical addition.”

This school year the CJN department harbors around 550-600 undergraduate majors, as well as 30 graduate students, with a large amount of CJN minors.

There are approximately 2,000 Suffolk students taking CJN courses this semester.

Mary Beth McGee, a print journalism major, relishes the idea of CJN as its own school.

“A separate CJN department would be really beneficial for majors because it would let us expand tracks and resources. I feel it would be more competitive, but I think that would only be pros­erity for Suffolk and its CJN stu­dents,” McGee said.

Rosenthal stressed the fact that “the university is not against this idea. They are very supportive of the CJN department in general.”

Rosenthal said President David J. Sargent has gone on record say­ing that one of his top priorities is to find additional space in order for Suffolk to achieve its academic mission.

If CJN were a separate school, it might attract potential students stack between Emerson College and Suffolk, some students have said.

“Emerson and Suffolk are such big rivals,” said Nicole Dunville, a media broadcasting major. “Devoting a separate school to the Communication and Journalism department might give us just the edge we need over Emerson.”

Although no blueprints are in the works, don’t rule out the possi­bility in the future.

The dorm at 10 Somerset is proof that Suffolk is committed to expanding the community. Perhaps 10 Somerset was Suffolk’s “one small step.” Maybe a Communications and Journalism school might be the university’s “giant leap.”

On page 3 the editorial board sounds off on this year’s $150,000,000 tuition-driven budget.
Support Hunger & Homelessness Awareness

The S.O.U.L.S. Community Service Center will be having a Warm Greeting, Soup and Canned Food Drive to support Hunger & Homelessness Awareness Month. During the month of November there will be donation boxes all over campus. All food donations will go to two local food pantries: St. John the Evangelist Church and the Paulist Center. All clothing donations will go to Rosie’s Place, a women’s shelter, and the New England Shelter for Homeless Veterans. For more information please contact S.O.U.L.S. at 617.305.6306 or E Mail SOULS@suffolk.edu. For a complete calen­
der of the events happening in Boston and Suffolk-supporting Hunger & Homelessness Awareness Month, check out www.suf­folk.edu/communityservice.

Assist with mailing newsletters for shelter

On the Rise, a local homeless shelter for women, needs help in mailing their newsletters. They need volunteers to assemble and label over 4,000 newsletters. Choose from any of the following dates and times: you can volunteer for an hour; two hours; what­ever fits your schedule! Tuesday, November 11th 9 am - 6 pm, Wednesday, November 12th 9 am - 7 pm, Thursday, November 13th 9 am - 7 pm, and Friday, November 14th 9 am 8:30 pm. If you are interested in helping out please contact Emily Dates at 617.497.7989 or Emily.Dates@onetrGeties.org

Check out the Fall 2003 Exec. Speakers Series

The Fall 2003 Executive Speakers Series for Graduate Students offers the chance for student to listen to an experts’ take on industry trends, challenges and their implications for career development. On Thursday, November 13th Edward Riley Jr., Chief Investment Strategist at State Street Global Advisors will give a lecture entitled “Bull Market: Believe it or Not.” William Doreno, Deputy Executive Director of Outreach will give a lecture on Tuesday November 19th entitled “The Making of the 2004 Democratic National Convention.”

Native American History Month hits Suffolk

Suffolk University is celebrating Native American History Month with various events around campus. A Native American Music Workshop will be held on Tuesday November 18th in Donahue 403 1-2 pm. Suffolk invites everyone to join in for this first celebration of Native American History sponsored by the President’s Office of Diversity Services. For more information contact Wilma at 617.393.9631.

S.O.U.L.S hosts speakers on homelessness

On November 12th the S.O.U.L.S. Community Service Center will host a conversation about hunger and homelessness. Representatives from On the Rise, Stand Up for Kids and Neighborhood Action, three local organizations, will speak about how to increase awareness and involvement hunger and homelessness. This event will be held in the McDermott Conference Room in Donahue Lobby. For more information contact the S.O.U.L.S. Community Service Center at 617.305.6306 or SOULS@suffolk.edu. Visit the S.O.U.L.S. website for a complete list of events: http://suffolk.edu/communityservice.

Breakfast Reading Club to hold second meeting

The Breakfast Reading Club will hold their second meeting on November 13th to discuss November’s topic: Poverty. The readings to be read around the table over 4,000 newsletters. Choose from any of the following days and times: you can volunteer for an hour; two hours; whatever fits your schedule! Tuesday, November 11th 9 am - 7 pm, Wednesday, November 12th 9 am - 6 pm, Thursday, November 13th 9 am - 7 pm, and Friday, November 14th 9 am 8:30 pm. If you are interested in helping out please contact Emily Dates at 617.497.7989 or Emily.Dates@onetrGeties.org

Alumni panel tips students

Valeria Mecozzi
Journal Staff

An impressive panel of four Suffolk alumni who have gone onto realize their career goals met with students November 4 to share their perspectives on landing a job in the media world. The panel was moderated by communication professor Christina McKenna, and consisted of Dan Jaehning, reporter and anchor for Fox 25; Doreen Judaica Vigne, a freelance writer for the Boston Globe; Nicolle Pizzi, an account executive for Purchasing magazine; and Janet Nolan-Biumell, a partner in the consulting firm of Bitchell, Nolan and Biggs. Members of the panel discussed their jobs and suggested students seek internships and co-ops as an essential ingredient to learning about the business. Some on the panel suggested signing up for independent studies and finding a mentor. Our discussion wrapped up was the importance of doing whatever it takes, within the bounds of decorum, to get noticed. Nicolle Pizzi talked about the importance of being confident and determined in such an extremely competitive business. She advised students to go to graduate school and not be afraid to take risks.

Professor McKenna moderates panel of successful SU alumni.

SU declares opposition to law

Patriot Act from page 1

of the meeting. “It’s nice to win and get something accomplished, because grassroots organizations like this usually don’t,” Laurent said. After the session, jubilant SPJ members zipped press releases about the resolution to City Hall and the State House.

At City Hall they spoke with Councilman Felix Arroyo, who recently succeeded in reclaiming his at-large seat on the city council. “He voiced his interest of working on these kinds of projects in the future,” said Jack Hamm, a freshman. “He was...happy to see students so involved in democracy,” said Johnson.

Students for Peace and Justice, a group of Suffolk students who have gone to Washington and New York to protest the war, also spoke at the meeting. “It’s...nice to win and get something accomplished, because grassroots organizations like this usually don’t,” Laurent said.

At City Hall they spoke with Councilman Felix Arroyo, who recently succeeded in reclaiming his at-large seat on the city council. “He voiced his interest of working on these kinds of projects in the future,” said Jack Hamm, a freshman. “He was...happy to see students so involved in democracy,” said Johnson.

Jeff Johnson of the philosophy department, who opposes the Patriot Act, seemed pleased with the outcome.

Johnson said: “University’s have a role in democracy, especially when civil rights and human rights are being violated. University’s have a responsibil­ity to be voices of reason and decency when those rights are being threatened.”

Lea Garcia, a sophomore, was also happy with the resolution passing. She said the Patriot Act “cripples the fourth amendment...The government...blatantly ignores what our country was founded upon.”

Carol Rodriguez, a freshman, was unsure of the resolution’s meaning. She said, “If it only comes from our school, it won’t do anything.” But, she said, “If a lot of people come together to back it, it might do something.”

Students for Peace and Justice claimed the Patriot Act to be in violation of the first amendment of the Constitution, limiting rights of assembly and association. The group also said it allows the attorney general to “wield unchecked power to designate local domestic groups as ‘terrorists organizations,’ while lifting government vastly expansive pow­ers like wiretapping and e-mail monitoring.

Students for Peace and Justice are now working to get other col­leges in the area to draft and pass their own resolutions against the Patriot Act and to continue fight­ing to protect America’s rights.

Sports Law Forum includes Patriots owner

Suffolk University Law School and the Macaroni Institute for Trial and Advocacy present a Sports Law Forum: An Inside Look from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Suffolk University Law School, 120 Tremont Street, Boston. Robert Kraft, Chairman and Owner of the Super Bowl XXXVI Champion New England Patriots will be among the panelists.

<Insert weekly plea here>
Open the books

This year the budget for Suffolk University will likely surpass $150,000,000, pending a vote by the trustees in the next two weeks. That accounts for everything with Suffolk's name on it, from Boston to Somersall.

Students andfaculty are not allowed to review how the budget is broken down. Some administrators say it is because of "factions" that would arise from disclosing its contents. Others bluntly say the information is just "public." Considering the budget is predominately tuition-driven, we consider it in the discretion of the student body to withhold such information.

It's hard to gauge the pulse of a student body that is made up of so many commuter students. But from the work the Journal has done this year, it's clear that for the most part students want to know how their money is allocated and where their dollar ends up. Students who want to change things at Suffolk see examining the budget as the first step towards understanding how the university operates.

Since the administration does not disclose the contents of the budget, students are left with their rumor-fueled imaginations to figure things out, like how much it costs to rent the 25th floor of One Beacon Street, where the president's and vice president's offices are, in addition to the payroll and development departments, among other things. One student thought Suffolk was dishing out close to $4 million a year for "the view."
The president is set to address the record straight on this, but since Suffolk would not say how much they pay to rent the space, we left to rummage around to figure it out.

For those students interested, about five years ago Suffolk agreed to a lease with Richard Ellis, management company for Beacon, that cost roughly $40 per-square foot, according to company spokesman Jim Fox.

The 25th floor is about 30,000 square-feet, according to Mike Dwyer, Suffolk's assistant treasurer. So there, voila, it's safe to assume it costs the university $1.2 million each year to keep its downtown perch. But of course none of this has been confirmed. Arnold Agulnick at the Boston Redeaters Association said this figure was likely accurate and in line with the commercial rental market for downtown buildings like One Beacon.

It's interesting to note that the lease UMASS-Boston agreed to in 1998 to rent the 100,000 square-foot 25th floor of One Beacon Street amounts to less than $900,000 per year, according to John Hooty, university spokesman. Such information is public, as is the university.

Vice President and Treasurer Francis X. Flannery seemed less than pleased when asked about budget efforts last month. Concerning the budget, he said, "The more information we give out, the more faculty gets involved...everyone wants more information." He said discussing the contents of the tuition-driven budget would be "very time consuming...to deal with different factions."

President David J. Sargent said "like every private university the budget is the responsibility of the trustees and not public."

To both men's credit, each year they hold a tuition forum, usually in the spring, where they "try to be as open as they can" about the budget, Dwyer said. One source on the 25th floor said the point of these forums is to just go over tuition increases, and not answer specific questions regarding the budget. The increases "[have] been the focus of all moments."

From the work the Journal has done this year, it's clear that for the most part students want to know how their money is allocated and where their dollar ends up. Students who want to change things at Suffolk see examining the budget as the first step towards understanding how the university operates.

Suffolk's budget may not necessarily be out of whack. Perhaps the money is dispersed in a way that minimizes harm and maximizes opportunity. But who's to know? Not a student.

Who can say what's good or bad about Suffolk? Only students, since this is our school and our investment.

We're not seeking student involvement in working out the budget. We simply believe that students have the right to know where their money goes. When students complain of something they don't like at Suffolk, they think of ways to fix it. How beautiful the relationship between the administration and the students could be if the latter were allowed to know what those people on the 25th floor were doing with our money.

The Suffolk Journal
Suffolk University's Student Newspaper www.suffolkjournal.net

Letter to the Editor

What does hate mean to you?

Dear Suffolk Journal,

Compliments to James Cormier for his well written piece that is not only a good example of relevant journalism, but also celebrates what makes Suffolk University is all about. How many professors, or for that matter students and others on campus, took the time to respond actively to the instance of hate graffiti by creating an opportunity for discussion, exchange, and learning? I believe that such examples of hatred, ignorance and cowardice are inevitable; this is a sad fact, but also demands of us a commitment to respond, to not be surprised, and, since we are an institution of higher learning, to capitalize on such "reachable moments."

My thoughts about the swastikas on our walls follow.

What does it mean to you to have someone draw swastikas on our walls?

What does a swastika mean to me, every time I see one? It means, in a bone-deep, gut wrenching way, that it is okay to kill Jews. And it has grown to symbolize the act of excluding, of killing, of hurting, of shaming, and of disrupting anyone who is different. It represents, specifically now at Suffolk, a self-involved dishonesty of individuals who must now live in a situation which is dangerous and unsafe.

And it means that I have to speak up - especially these days. I have to assert that there are other voices in our community that understand the complexities and challenges of living in a world which includes a fascinating and daunting variety of people. I have to publicly celebrate my commitment to live fully in this world, struggling to be involved, respectful, curious, and courageous.

So again, what does it mean to you to have someone draw swastikas on our walls?

Paul R. Korn, Ph.D.
Suffolk University Counseling Center
Last week Icaroused around the Associate Collegiate Press bi-annual journalism conference in Dallas, Texas. Despite the number of fellow "journalists" who seemed better fitted to clove college as opposed to an actual accredited university, there were a few things to be learned. Not focusing solely on taming the ferocity that is the Journal, it was also in my best interests to look out for my own notions of writing.

Sitting in on what are called "breakout sessions" (basically a 30-minute class with "guest" speakers from different professional areas of the journalistic field), attendees at these types of conventions gain an edge in trying to improve their respective publications.

While it is true that I returned to Boston with an enhanced comprehension of my newspaper and how to run it more effectively, the boon fide lesson was one of a more personal temperament.

It was somewhere on the last day of the ACP conference, and I was flipping through the booklet that lists every single event of the weekend, including all breakout sessions. The group and myself were waiting to check out of the hotel, and I had just finished packing. There were a few Suffolk Journals lying around the room that I had left behind in hopes of scattering around the nearby streets of Dallas. Hey, any form of advertisement works, right?

It was in that hope of getting our journalistic name out there that sparked the thought: journalism is not a medium, it's an art form. Why else would we be proud of our name being published in a rag that reaches an entire Beantown campus, or the better regions of Boston for that matter?

Writing a weekly column, reviewing a horror movie or even reporting on a car accident - it's all the same, it's art, baby. For us here at the Suffolk Journal, putting out each newspaper is like releasing an album every week, an album that touches upon varied aspects of society.

I still hold on to two dreams that I've had since high school. The first one being my rock star dream, which, if I put a little more time into learning how to play the guitar instead of hammering out the same four or five chords all the time, could very well be possible. But there's still that second dream: becoming a professional journalist.

I seem to be on the road to attaining that dream. I'm nearly finished with undergraduate school, and plan on kicking ass in grad school right afterwards. But there's more to my quest; I consider myself an artist within the realm of journalism.

The field as a whole demarcates itself with a serious and sometimes somber overture. I'm not here to change that. I'm here to destroy it. Journalists need to lay back and recognize their work as the art form it is. It is only then that the end results will be more appreciated by the masses.

While I do admit it would be a tad cooler to be a rock star and have a different pair of black leather pants for every day of the week, I guess we'll have to settle for a more diminutive form of notoriety in being the type of journalists that we are.

Michael A. Fruzzetti is Editor-In-Chief of The Suffolk Journal, and can be heard every Friday from 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. on Suffolk Free Radio as part of The Rock Show.

Voices of Suffolk

Q: Do you think you have a right to see Suffolk's overall operating budget?

"I'm 5'11" with brown hair and hazel eyes. I enjoy smoking expensive cigars on the golf course, taking peaceful walks through Boston Common and reading The Wall Street Journal in Starbuck's before making my way to work."

That sounds like a personal ad for a 40-year-old businessman, right? Not exactly. That would be a description of myself and the comparable qualities that I share with balding middle-aged men.

I've felt like I'm getting old in my days of youthfulness, but I'm going to leave it for you to decide, because I hate believing that I'm maturing so quickly. So here is a typical day that should help you come to a verdict of whether or not I should be purchasing Viagra and Rogaine.

Most mornings I wake up feeling enigmatic and ready to start the day. Now I struggle to roll out of bed, and the only way I can begin to process thoughts is by drinking a few cups of strong, black coffee. Now that I've had my coffee and watched CNBC's Morning Call, I'm all ready to make my way to Suffolk. Rather than walking a few blocks, I jump on the T at Copley and get off at Park Street. That would be the first sign.

Upon finishing classes, I jump back onto the T and speed walk home so I'm back before the start of "The Price is Right." Watching Bob Barker should automatically qualify me for admission into a nursing home; that way I can knit and drink tea with geriatric women. Since the fun can't last forever, once again I jump back on the T and head to work. This is where I get to wear my khaki pants and dress shirt, talk about the stock market, sports and politics, all while I watch CNBC's Power Lunch. Let me tell you one thing, not only does watching CNBC tell a person that they are old, but it isn't even healthy to listen to all of the complicated jargon that fifty year-old brokers use.

After work I head to dinner with some of the guys, which makes me feel young, but that is before I actually order. Most college students would just get a burger with everything on it, cooked medium-well and with greasy french fries on the side. Of course I cannot make it that simple. 'Til take the bacon cheeseburger. Could I please have that without tomato and mayonnaise and a cooked well done one. Instead of the fries I will substitute that for the salad. As the food is served I notice that there is a little piece of tomato on the side of my burger. Rather than just picking it off and keeping my mouth shut, I have to take the elder's approach and complain about the slice of tomato on my burger. Far from finished, I still haven't complained about the medium-well burger and wrong salad dressing.

So now that I'm done leaving a bad tip, I have to make my way home on the "T" and get back to finish my homework and start this article. If I have yet to convince you and myself that I'm becoming old in my youthfulness, listen to this. It is a Thursday night around nine o'clock, and rather than being out at the bar throwing back a few beers, I'm sitting in my apartment writing this article and listening to Journey.

There is just one more real sign that I'm getting older, my metabolism has slowed down to the speed of an old woman behind the wheel of a Geo Metro. Sometimes it is cool to be older, but I'm no Hugh Hefner.
"Elf" rockets to head of Christmas class

Mike Conte
Journal Staff

You can tell a movie is great when it makes a jaded movie critic smile. "Elf" did just that. It made one smile, laugh and laugh some more. Then it aroused laughter again.

Starting to see a pattern? "Elf" was directed by Jon Favreau and stars Will Ferrell ("Old School") as Buddy the Elf. Buddy lived in an orphanage as a baby, but accidentally crawled in Santa’s bag. Buddy then finds himself at the North Pole were he is adopted by Papa Elf played by Bob Newhart ("The Bob Newhart Show").

Buddy grows up in the elf world, but never exactly fits in since he is actually a human.

When Buddy realizes that he is not a elf material, he packs his bags and sets off to New York where his real dad lives.

Will Ferrell really lives up the term “star” in this movie. He truly shines as all the other actors play to him.

Quite simply, without Ferrell, there is no movie.

If the role of Buddy was played by anybody but Ferrell, this movie would have stunk on ice.

That is not to say the other actors did not go a great job in their roles, however Ferrell is just the crux of this movie. He does an incredible job outlining the “fish out of water” scenario as Buddy tries to bond with his father, played by James Caan ("The Godfather").

Buddy’s childlike manerisms and sweet-as-chocolate demeanor never loses its charm. Throughout the movie Ferrell never deviates from his role as the sweet, innocent 30-year-old human raised by elves. He plays the role so perfectly, it really makes you think that Ferrell maybe, just maybe, was really raised by elves.

The supporting cast was great, but it helped that they had Ferrell to play off of. James Caan was great as Buddy’s human father Walter. Walter is a corrupt children’s book executive. To make matters worse, he is on Santa’s naughty list. Buddy makes it his personal mission to get Walter off the list and fill him with true Christmas cheer.

Bob Newhart does an excellent job as Papa Elf; his deadpan humor and comedic timing fight his character perfectly. Mary Steenburgen (Clifford) plays the caring mother role, one that she has played in numerous other movies. Zooey Deschanel plays Jovie, a cashier at the store that Buddy stumbles into.

Captivated by his innocent nature, she eventually becomes Buddy’s love interest. Deschanel plays the role well, she always comes off as a real person who just happens to fall in love with a guy who was raised by elves.

Rounding out the cast is Daniel Tay, who as Buddy’s younger stepbrother Michael. Tay is surprisingly good at his role of the neglected son who finds a friend in Buddy.

Kyle Gass from Tenacious D and Andy Richter, formerly of “Late Night with Conan O’Brien,” make guest appearances as two children’s book writers who work for Walter.

What makes this movie truly great however is that it never relies on “dirty” humor. There are no swear words or “f bombs” thrown casually around. There are no overtly sexual comedy bits or gross out humor.

This movie doesn’t need that. Some movies use things like that as crutches since the movies themselves are weak. “Elf” can stand on its own two legs however, without the help of swear or jokes about the sexual situations. This is good clean humor that anybody and everybody can enjoy.

Plus, this movie is about Christmas; how can you go wrong with a movie about Christmas? A shot in the dark is guess is that in five years this movie will be on TNT’s 24-hour rotation on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day instead of the famed “A Christmas Story.”

As sacreligious as that sounds, it is true. "Elf" is the ultimate comedy movie and the definitive Christmas flick.

Me Am I” flows on edge of prosaic vividness

Eleni Bourinaris
Journal Staff

As the audience settled down into their seats and the lights dimmed, director Mark Anderson shot out of the side with a quote from Albert Einstein, “There comes a time when the mind takes a higher plane of seat and the lights dimmed, director Mark Anderson shot out of the side with a quote from Albert Einstein, “There comes a time when the mind takes a higher plane of thought. I’ve always hated the morning. I’ve always hated the morning. I’ve always hated the morning. I’ve always hated the morning. I’ve always hated the morning. I’ve always hated the morning. I’ve always hated the morning. I’ve always hated the morning. I’ve always hated the morning. I’ve always hated the morning.

Suffolk University was delighted to welcome the second artists in residency for the theatre department.

“Me Am I” is a prosaic expressionist play that brought life to mundane experiences that no one thinks twice about. Theatre Department General Manager Jim Kaufman said, “This residency was a brief time for everyone to step away from the ‘ordinary’ to investigate their world in a new light.”

Nael Nacer who plays an artist doesn’t feel particularly fond of the morning. “I hate the morning. I’ve always hated the morning. I built my life avoiding the morning and the phrase, the ‘early bird catches the worm’. Birds are more important than worms. I’m going to come out when the birds are taking their naps.”

Directors Mark Anderson and Isabelle Kralj took a very hands off route in instructing the cast of Suffolk student’s during their week long workshop on performance.

The two ensemble members of the Milwaukee Dance Theatre “specialize in creating adventurous, original work that combines diverse performance techniques including theatre, puppetry, stand-up comedy, dance, improvisation, text, and music.”

Beginning on Saturday the cast and the duo worked four to five hours per day right up until show time, developing the dialogue and movement.

Anderson and Kralj came into this project with an idea of what assignments to start with, but the rest was completely improvisational.

For the first assignment, the cast was told to come up with five shapes that encapsulate them, then very mechanically make the poses flow together. “The pressure on all of us was one great intense, learning experience,” said Anderson.

The overall mind-set of the cast was that the entire experience was very accepting. There were no auditions for this workshop so all students were welcomed.

Some of the cast members had no on-stage theatre experience, but felt very comfortable after this week long immersion in dance theatre.

The bonds formed by the cast were apparent at the reception after the performance in the C. Walsh lobby where they gathered with friends and family to answer any questions and elaborate on their experiences.
Britney's new 'zone' is one of sexuality

Diana Rossi
Journal Staff

Forget the Mickey Mouse ears; the world is about to meet an all new mature, overtly sexual, grown up Ms. Britney Spears.

In the Zone, which will be released on November 18th, faces the ultimate competitor- the Beatles and their new album, Let it Be...Naked.

Although none would hesitate to call Britney anything but innocent, she takes her sexuality to an entirely surprising new level on In the Zone.

Hot off the heels of their infamous MTV VMA performance, referred to as "the kiss seen 'round the world," the first track, "Me Against the Music," features Madonna with hyper-dance driven vocals.

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"I Got That (Boom Boom)" features southern rappers the Ying Yang Twins, and a new sound for Britney. Her voice sounds anything but pop against hip hop beats, cementing once and for all that Britney has officially said bye-bye to bubblegum pop.

"Breathe on Me" showcases yet another new sound for Ms. Spears. The European-sounding sexual romp is quite comparable to something off of a Kylie Minogue CD, only better. With orgasmic lyrics and a sensual beat, "Breathe on Me" definitely has potential- both in the bedroom and on the radio.

"Shadow" succeeds in giving compassion to this album, showing that even Britney Spears can have a broken heart. Undoubtedly about her notorious ex, Justin Timberlake, "Everytime" is a song about heartbreak, showing the vulnerable and broken side of Britney.

Working with such an eclectic mix of big name producers as Moby, R. Kelly, P. Diddy, The Ying Yang Twins, and Bloodshy & Avant, Britney co-wrote seven of the 12 tracks.

In the Zone crosses many boundaries, showcasing many different sounds. From hip-hop to techno-ish to reggae, Britney ultimately leaves no stone unturned, even quasi-rapping on a few of the tracks.

In the Zone has something for everyone proving that she's still got it, and in fact never lost it. Silencing her critics, Britney is better than ever, reinventing herself on her fourth studio album.

Do you have an event or program you would like to advertise in the Suffolk Journal?

1/8 Page Ad: size: 4.875" x 3.875" or 4 7/8" x 3 7/8" price: $30 on campus $60 off campus

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All advertisements must be submitted by 5 p.m. the Friday before publication to avoid late fees.

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For more information E Mail SuffolkJournal@hotmail.com or call 38323
"Gothika"

Halle Berry plays a brilliant and respected criminal psychologist who finds herself trapped in the confinement of the very asylum she used to work at. Penelope Cruz and Robert Downey Jr. also star. "Gothika" opens nationwide on November 21.

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Suffolk University recently passed a new law stating that all undergraduates who do not write for The Suffolk Journal must undergo a series of lobotomies in a lab located in the dank underground of the Archer Building.

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Head over to Donahue 428 or visit suffolkjournal.net
so... psychology, huh?

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Hand-crafted leather artwork presented to Congressman Moakley by the Salvadoran Community in Washington.

El Congresista Moakley: A Symposium and Exhibit on Congressman Joe Moakley and El Salvador

The Symposium
Join Congressman Jim McGovern and three panels of experts as they discuss:

• The Search for Truth - The "Moakley Commission" on the Jesuit Murders
• Salvadorans in the U.S. - Congressman Moakley and Immigration Reform
• Lessons Learned from El Salvador - Congressman Moakley's Legacy

Friday, November 14, 1-5pm
Suffolk University Law School
120 Tremont Street, Boston
RSVP to 617.305.6295

The Exhibit
El Congresista: Joe Moakley en El Salvador explores the late congressman's involve­ment with Salvadoran refugees and citizens as he fought to improve immigration condi­tions and led a Congressional investigation into the murders of six Jesuit priests and two women at the University of Central America in San Salvador.

Friday, November 14 - Sunday, February 29
Suffolk University's Adams Gallery
120 Tremont Street, Boston
Daily 10am - 5pm
For information on the exhibit, call 617.573.8508