Graduates urged to remember their roots

By ALISHA COX

Swift resigns from Suffolk teaching position

By MEGHAN MATTUCCI

Graduates urged to remember their roots

BY ALISHA COX

Close to 1,000 students closed a chapter in their lives recently on the floor of the FleetCenter. Suffolk University held its annual commencement exercise for the College of Arts and Sciences and Sawyer School of Management on May 21.

"We know there is a reason for everything," Director of Campus Ministry Reverend Amy Fisher said. "It is a time to end and also a time to begin again."

For senior Christie Doyle, graduation was something that seemed so far away when she first moved into the dorm on Tremont Street four years ago.

"It was quite unreal," Doyle said. "I heard them call my name. All I really heard was 'Chris..." and then I remember shouting 'Suffolk President David J. Sargent,' and I didn't hear anything else, not the crosswalk or other students, until I sat back down."

Senior Christianna Dent greeted the graduating students. Dent graduated with a double major in English and journalism in addition to having the highest GPA of all of the graduating seniors, 3.987. Dent served as editor-in-chief of Venture, Suffolk’s literary magazine, and was a staff member of the Suffolk Journal during her tenure at Suffolk.

"This is our graduation, the moment where we enter into the omniverse and become a part of the universe," Dent said. "We are the new generation, the new millennium. Ahead of us are unprecendented advances and challenges that we alone have to face."

United States Senator Patty Murray from Washington state defended the commencement address, urging the graduating seniors to take a moment from their celebration to remember how far they have come.

"Your degree can take you anywhere. Don’t feel limited by what’s written on your diploma. Feel liberated," Murray said. "Do what you have chosen to do, and work so hard to achieve, but don’t ever think it’s the only thing you can do.

"Today you have reached the top of the mountain, but you didn’t get here alone," she continued. "I hope that at some point today, you take a moment to remember the people who helped you get here. No one becomes a success by themselves."

Murray went on to speak about how the graduating seniors can give back to their community and the people around them.

"Now that you have made it, you have a responsibility to help someone else make it," Murray said. "Realize what an inspiration you can become for someone who is just beginning their academic career."

Murray was also awarded an honorary degree as a result of her "forceful voice on education and women’s rights issue" according to Sargent.

Murray is recognized for her common-sense approach to politics and her dedication to the concerns of working families, according to her Senate biography. She is an advocate for education and women’s rights, and serves on the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pension Committee. She is also responsible for hiring 100,000 new teachers and installing new computers in the Washington public schools.

Honorary degrees were also handed out to the Former Prime Minister of Norway Kjell Magne Bondevik, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Connell Limited Partnership William F. Connell and United States Senator Patty Murray. According to Dean of Students Dent, the honorary degree recipients and the New Milennium lecture were chosen by a committee made up of members of the Suffolk Board of Trustees, Sargent and Vice President/Treasurer Francis X. Planetary, according to Dean of Students Nancy Stoll. The committee selects the honorary degree recipients and presents the list to the entire board of trustees, who then elect the commencement speaker.

Swift resigns from Suffolk teaching position

After receiving $25,000 to teach two graduate-level, under-enrolled Sawyer School of Management classes, Lieutenant Governor Jane Swift is resigning from Suffolk.

Swift’s teaching post received much controversy, particularly since other adjuncts receive a quarter of the pay they receive and have higher teaching demands. Questions concern the legitimacy of Swift’s position at Suffolk. Swift stated back in the beginning of May, after the Boston Globe reported that a lobbying firm was involved in the decision.

On May 11, the Globe reported that a partner in a large Beacon Hill lobbying firm, Donoghue, Barrett & Singal, had played a key role in arranging for Swift’s official and Swift to meet. Swift then made the pitch to Suffolk for the teaching position.

Paul Barrett, a partner in the State House lobbying firm, told the Globe he had spoken to a Suffolk law professor about Swift’s interest in teaching as the request of Michael Crossen, a Suffolk law professor about Swift’s interest in teaching as the request of Michael Crossen.

Swift is resigning from Suffolk.

Swift’s campaign chairman, Barrett said that he was simply doing a favor for Crossen, a friend of eight years, and he never directly discussed the matter with Swift.

Both Barrett and partner Donoghue are Suffolk law alumni, and are actively involved in law school community. Barrett and his firm have donated $20,000 to the newly-constructed David J. Sargent Law School, and plan to donate $10,000 more in the fall. President David J. Sargent declined to comment on the issue.

Swift announced that she was aware that the lobbyists arranged the position for her. "I knew that Paul Barrett and Roger Donoghue both have strong ties to Suffolk University," Swift said. "I don’t know the level of their involvement. There were new things that I learned in the Globe article.

"The firm is registered to lobby at the State House, and advertises its partners as government and legislative affairs experts."

On May 12, Swift resigned from Suffolk.

Swift and her partner Barrett and told him she "reluctantly" decided not to extend her $25,000 a year contract for the following academic year, according to the Globe. However, Swift was not listed in the course catalog for the upcoming semester.

Swift had previously said she hoped to teach in the fall semester, but that dream has since vanished.

"It was never my intention to bring undue attention to Suffolk," Swift said. "However, if even one college trustee has expressed concern for the university’s standings, then it is the right time to eliminate that distraction."

Swift’s board of trustees viewed Swift’s appointment as a "public relations disaster" and has damaged the morale of other instructors who work many more hours than Swift for less pay," according to the Globe.

"Members of the board of trustees have real reservations about Swift’s job," a Suffolk source told the Globe.

During the spring semester, Swift’s teaching schedule included a total of 15 hours of instruction for a six-week educational policy course with three graduate students. Her fall semester class, "Managing State Government," was team taught with Michael Brooks, another Suffolk instructor.

Swift continued on Page 2

Photos: Courtesy of Public Affairs

Swift presents Kjell Magne Bondevik, the former prime minister of Norway, an honorary doctorate of laws at the Class of 2000 commencement ceremony on May 21, 2000. Suffolk President David J. Sargent presents Kjell Magne Bondevik, the former prime minister of Norway, an honorary doctorate of laws at the Class of 2000 commencement ceremony on May 21, 2000.

Swift presents Kjell Magne Bondevik, the former prime minister of Norway, an honorary doctorate of laws at the Class of 2000 commencement ceremony on May 21, 2000.

Swift presents Kjell Magne Bondevik, the former prime minister of Norway, an honorary doctorate of laws at the Class of 2000 commencement ceremony on May 21, 2000.
Swift bids farewell to Suffolk adjunct job

Swift is not the only politician to take up teaching on the side. cellucci said that she took the job at Suffolk to aid in her financial troubles, especially after receiving a $30,000 pay cut when taking on her government position. Swift has no other teaching experience, other than a government job at Williams College that she taught at Williams College on a fellowship prior to her job at Suffolk.

Swift and Cape Cod expand “2-plus-2” program

Suffolk University and Cape Cod Community College have expanded their “2-plus-2” agreement so that students enrolling in the community college may work toward a bachelor’s degree with a major in public relations at Suffolk. In 1998, Suffolk University and Cape Cod Community College established a unique public-private agreement called “2-plus-2.” This agreement between a public college and a private university was the first of its kind in Massachusetts, and allowed Cape Cod residents to complete a four-year college degree in the comfort of their own hometown.

The “2-plus-2” agreement allows qualifying students to complete two years of courses at the public community college, then continue in Suffolk University’s bachelor’s degree program at the West Barnstable campus, with a focus on public relations and professional writing. Courses will be taught by professors from Suffolk’s College of Arts and Sciences, particularly the department of communication and journalism. Students who meet Suffolk University’s admissions standards may enroll directly in the four-year program. Otherwise, students who maintain a 2.5 grade-point average while enrolled at the college may transfer into the Suffolk bachelor’s degree program after earning their associate’s degree. Cape Cod Community College currently has no academic requirements for entering students.

“We are excited about welcoming students from the Cape Cod region into our public relations program, providing them the opportunity to earn a bachelor’s degree at a convenient location,” said College of Arts and Sciences Dean Michael R. Ronayne.

“Dean colleagues in Suffolk University’s Sawyer School of Management found enthusiastic and able students when they tried the trail by establishing a unique public-private partnership with Cape Cod Community College,” said Suffolk University and Cape Cod Community College both pride themselves on offering quality, yet affordable, educations, according to Ronayne. Ronayne also explained that because Cape Cod campus students will pay community college tuition rates for their first two years of higher education, the program is more cost-effective.

Ronayne added that Suffolk’s faculty and administration have made a long-term commitment to serving the Cape and Islands region. They plan to make themselves readily accessible to students at the Cape Cod site in order to ensure that the students have access to all of the university’s resources.

Suffolk University and Cape Cod Community College currently offer a bachelor of science in business administration through the “2-plus-2” program. Majors include interdisciplinary business studies, accounting, and computer information services. For more information, contact the Sawyer School of Management or e-mail Cape Cod at capecod2p2@comcast.com.
Call Shotgun!

Or choose your favorite seat online.
With over 700 airlines, 42,000 hotels and 50 rental car companies, it's easy to find an incredible deal even on a student's budget.
McConnell sets a new standard for SU baseball

Baseball coach talks about terrific year, his beginnings at Suffolk and goals for the future of the program

NEIL O'CALLAGHAN
JOURNAL STAFF

Cary McConnell has never felt he coached in anyone's shadow.

This year he proved it to everyone.

On the heels of the most successful seasons in the history of Suffolk University's baseball program, McConnell was one of three members of the staff to be recognized by the Great Northeast Athletic Conference with a postseason award.

The fourth-year coach was named GNAC Coach of the Year for coaching the Rams to an unprecedented 38-9 season, two wins shy of the Northeast Division III record of 40.

"We had a great year," said McConnell. "We just got on a roll there. It seemed like when one guy was slumping, there were always other guys there to step it up."

McConnell took over in 1996 as the associate director of athletics and baseball coach, replacing one of Suffolk's most successful coaches of all time, Joe Walsh. Walsh left after the 1996 season to coach at Harvard University in Cambridge.

"There were certainly high standards here at Suffolk, but I didn't feel any personal pressure," McConnell said. "I just felt the need to do it for me."

Joe was a great job here. He helped coming in starting out from the bottom and building something. I looked at where the program was and said, 'Why can't we do it?'"

That incident led to following physical altercations between Randy Silva and Student Activities' first baseman Steve Fader in the next inning. Silva lowered his shoulder while running out a ground ball.

"You have to get kids interested in the program and make them want to come here," said McConnell, undoubt-ably a daunting task with Suffolk's lack of facilities.

McConnell also said that retaining players for one season to the next has gotten better partly due to the living facilities.

"We're also looking for quality of athlete," he said. "If the guy's a pitcher, we want to see the guy's velocity. We also want to see if the guy has moxie or toughness, somebody who isn't going to go back down. Somebody that's good in the clutch."

Despite all the attention from local media, McConnell says it's been a breeze for him and his family.

Cary McConnell brought the Suffolk baseball program from little more than a foundation to the Division III NCAA. This season was Suffolk's most successful and it was evident in the playing. Max Nunez of Lawrence was signed by the Boston Red Sox. Joe Duca was named the GNAC's most valuable player and Mike Anastasia was named the GNAC's rookie of the year.

"Joe did a great job here. It helped coming in certain that lack of facilities Suffolk has always been bur-dened with. He said when he started here he never would have expected this kind of season.

"We weren't in a conference. We had to work hard on our own. And so we just kept doing it."

"There was no call for that," said O'Callaghan. "If someone wants to take a run at Jay (Hale) or me, we understand. We talk a lot of trash. But for a guy of his girth to plow through our 90-pound second baseman, then to say that our first baseman was elbowing him as his only defense, that's just terrible. This guy was a student leader.

"That doesn't matter. This was the most participation I have ever seen in a softball Sunday in years," said athletic director James Nelson. "But when some­body wants to take a run at us, it's just not going to happen."

"I was elbowing him, just a routine ground ball. McCarthy was never let any rally get out of hand. He kept other teams in check and controlled games."

"It wasn't a definitive win," said the senior captain. "I felt every member of Team Suffolk did an excellent job today."

Outfielders Jay Hale and Evan Crockford and first baseman John carry all belted home runs for the Journal. Crockford's 3-bagger landed an estimated 350 feet from home plate.

"I don't think I've ever seen as much trash talking as I saw coming from the Journal dugout," said Suffolk baseball coach Cary McConnell, who watched from the sidelines. "It was incredible. They spent the entire day heckling everyone. And I'm glad I left my toddler son at home."

"If someone wants to take a run at us, we'll give them a run back," said the senior catcher. "But for a guy of his girth to plow through our 90-pound second baseman, then to say that our first baseman was elbowing him as his only defense, that's just terrible. This guy was a student leader."

"You have to get kids interested in the program and make them want to come here," said McConnell, undoubt-ably a daunting task with Suffolk's lack of facilities.

"We were certainly high standards here at Suffolk, but I didn't feel any more personal pres­sure. I looked at where the program was and said, 'Why can't we go farther?'"

"Suffolk's program is a work in progress. We're just getting started," McConnell said. "We're still learning how to win. We're still learning how to play as a team."

"Suffolk's program is a work in progress. We're just getting started," McConnell said.
Opinions and Editorials

By Ben Thompson

"Be a fan, not a fanatic," is the message of a commercial that has been airing as of late on ESPN. The first dozen times I saw this commercial, I rocked it, as considered their depiction of a "fan" to be somewhat silly.

"I'm a fanatic and proud of it!" I declared to my roommate. After being born and raised greater Wisconsin, I was raised in cardinal and white on Saturdays and green and gold on Sundays. I list the rosters and statistics of the Packers and the Wisconsin University's football and men's basketball teams. I have yet to miss a Wisconsin basketball game in my college career, and just like the fanatic portrayed on that commercial, I can be quite vocal, especially when I feel my team has been cheated by the referees. Yeah, I'm a fanatic and proud of it, I found out the true meaning of fanaticism.

On April 10, 2000, Mark Chmura of the Green Bay Packers was arrested in Hartford, Wis., on suspicion of sexual assault of a 17-year-old girl (she was charged with said crime May 30, 2000). Chmura allegedly arranged for a post-prom party at 3 a.m., engaged in drinking games with several teens, and eventually ended up in a hot tub with the owner of the house (a friend of Chmura's) and several teenage girls. He then allegedly choked the 17-year-old girl for the bathroom and had sex with her. The girl said she did not resist because she was drunk.

Before I proceeded, I would like to remind everyone that Mark Chmura is innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

However, while he should not be condemned until convicted, it is understandable and expected if you or I were outraged upon hearing these accusations. Unfortunately, I was not, at first glance.

When this story first broke, I was surprised, but I shrugged it off, figuring that the situation couldn't be that serious and all would be fine come football season - my fanaticism at work (in my defense, most of the details weren't yet available).

That's how serious the matter was, my concern was still for the impact it would have on the Packers. I did not even consider it a 17-year-old girl.

My fanaticism had blinded me to the real victim.

I finally read about the reaction of Mike Sherman, the Packers head coach and Mark Chmura's former position coach. The report said that he was "devastated, especially by the fact he has a teenage daughter." Suddenly it hit me. That poor girl whose life had been scarred forever was the real victim. It was she who deserved my sympathy and concern. While most of us look back on our prom with a smile on our face, she would struggle to dream it from her memory. Finally I joined the rest of the state of Wisconsin in outrage. Finally I moved past my fanaticism, and saw the unpleasant reality of this situation. This wasn't about the Packers; this was about a girl whose whole life had been permanently damaged.

After coming to this realization, I was forced to reevaluate my devotion to my favorite sports teams. People mean so much more than a silly game, but when we lose site of this fact, we become fanatic, not just fans. Fanaticism isn't necessarily being displeased with the referees or knowing every statistic. Fanaticism is when we care about what our teams get more than for the people we love. We can be fanatic about anything, from sports to politics to our own popularity. Whenever I used to talk about the Packers, I would cross the line from fanaticism to obsession.

Regardless of the outcome of this case, this revelation has struck a chord with me, and I will never forget it. This realization of the true meaning of fanaticism forced me to reevaluate all the areas of my life and remember that people come first. The commercial I used to mock has now become my motto, and I hope yours as well. I encourage you all to: "Be a fan, not a fanatic."

By Josh Wickerman

How can our government ban information and allow advertising?

By Beth Shaw

How Congress bans information from communities

What am I going to do with my life after college?

by Beth Shaw

I have been having "what am I going to do with my life" questions pop up.

And the answer just isn't there.

It seems that all of my life I have been told how important an education is, and now that I am not quite aware of what that entails. I mean exactly how much of an education is important? Is there some measurement for this? I have heard that there is no such thing as too much of an education but exactly how does that apply to the real world?

When I am asked what I am going to do after I graduate, my first response usually is, "go to grad school." No one has ever seemed to take this seriously.

Upon talking to good old dad that other day I became more confused than ever. The man whom I thought would be behind me all the way to a Ph.D., told me his obligations were over after four years and that I could do what work and then go back to school.

The perpetual panning of "get an education" speech seemed almost void and void. Like when you get to college and realize that working hard in high school doesn't always pay off.

I suppose the speech could have been more to my head, and now I am left with an impending feeling of doom, also known as, "What would life be like with that?" What if I get stuck in a dead end job where because of my lack of education leaves me stuck?

I am fully aware that many people graduate with a bachelor's degree, find lucrative and rewarding jobs and live the proverbial happily ever after.

But what about the others? I like my area of study but I don't love it and I don't want to go back now. My charts tightens thinking about what to do is to become of my future. How important is a degree? Does the opportunity make the choices or does the person make the opportunity?

All through high school I thought I knew what I wanted to do and I thought the possibilities were endless. But now it seems that I keep running into areas that interest me, but I will never be able to do them because I don't have the time or the money.

Now that I think of it, it's amazing how much one really learns in college.

Okay I am not a 4.0 student and I am definitely not one of those "I hate school" people, so maybe there is a happy medium for people like me. I don't have the time or the money. I guess wherever road I travel whether it's straight to the job world after I graduate or on to more school, I will never be able to tell me what is best for my future but me. Unless of course responsible members of the Internet community contribute to the body of knowledge as often as they throw out drug tips or engage in philosophical discussions. This communication was outlawed.

A community I used to mock has now become my motto, and I hope yours as well. I encourage you all to: "Be a fan, not a fanatic."
'60 Seconds' surprisingly bad despite action

SAMUEL McKEWON
DAILY NERBAKAN

"Gone in 60 Seconds" Oh, I wish.
It's surprising how unappealing this movie is. Given it is a Jerry Bruckheimer production you do not expect common sense or character building. But you expect more than Nicolas Cage bumbling his way through as car thief Randall "Mem­ phis" Raines like he's still in the tank.
The Bruckheimer people have produced some pulpy fun at the movies ("Top Gun," "Crim­ son Tide") and, well, crap. "Gone in 60 Seconds" regresses a place in the latter category. "Mission: Impossible 2" is a Rembrandt by comparison.
This movie has no heart, no heat, no guts and most of all, no familiar­ ity. There are so many characters to keep track of, it's ridiculous. And it's long, so long, with side­ tracks and detours that kill the fun. It's a remake of a B-grade car thief flick not "The French Connection." But I have a hunch that the director, Dominic Sena, was aiming for more of a B-grade car thief flick, not "The French Connection."
It may not be sex, drugs and rock 'n' roll, but don't call them unenergized. And new, was one of the most exciting perfor­ mance.

Academy Award-winners Angelina Jolie and Nicolas Cage up the "Connection" or "Bullit" chases here, just know Cage's wild ride through the Long Beach factory district in a vintage Mustang is less than gripping.
Part of the problem is the music - a techno beat accompanies the whole movie. Part of it is the editing. There is one adrenalin-fueled mo­ ment where Cage punches the nitro button and the Mustang boils to 160 mph. But that doesn't make up for 90 minutes of anticipation.
"Gone in 60 Seconds" not only thinks it's humorous, but a riot. So many dumb stunts have been added to the screenplay, probably after the fact.
The result is a light-hearted affair that takes the time to watch the crooks get stoked to the song "Low Rider" before the big heist.
It may please some people that there is little to zero blood, because really, it's hard to kill off cops trying to do their jobs in a movie not serious about its subject.
In fact, only one person dies in "Gone in 60 Seconds." These points to you for guessing who. But it still leaves you one point in the red for seeing the movie in the first place.

Ghoulies scare up some fun in Cambridge

By Jay Hale

Hot on the release of their latest CD, Trav­ els With My Amp, on Lookout Records, Sac­ ramento, Calif., The Ghoulies embarked on a 50 day, 50 show tour throughout the entire United States.
Hopeful­ly, their AAA is up to date.
"Traveling throughout the land is nothing new to The Ghoulies, as they are one of the hardest touring bands in the biz. Along the way, they have spotted two UFOs, visited Mr. Rushmore and toured Gatorland in Orlando with theirunlikely The Donnas.
It may not be sex, drugs and rock 'n' roll, but then again, they're not your average band.
Clad in a Boris Karloff "Frankensteinie" T­ shirt and sporting a drawn-on-black-marlin-tattoo, lead vocalist Kip bounced on stage with a giant Dunkin Donuts iced coffee and a Kool-Aid grin. Proudly proclaiming Massachusetts as the home of the best coffee in the world, he led the band into "The Ballad of Boot Hill" of their latest record.
The Ghoulies set a mish-mash of both old and new, one of the most exciting perfor­ mances to grace the Middle East's upstairs stage in quite some time. From the opening note to the final guitar lick, kids were popping and singing along.
Clanmates such as "The Bear With Four Heads" and "Valentine" went over huge with the Cam­ bridge crowd, as did the drumming expertise of Amy, The Ghoulies new drummer. Accord­ ing to the band, Amy, who worked on Travels With My Amp, has picked up the old songs with a maddening pace. Even tough she was a relative rookie behind the skins by her performance.
After an hour-plus set, The Ghoulies re­ turned to encore with "Island of Pogo-Pogo."

Upcoming Concerts

FleetBoston Pavillion (Harborlights)
July 8 - Susan Tedeschi
July 10 - Brian Setzer Orchestra
July 22 - B52's, The Go-Go's
Sept. 13 - B.B. King Blues Festival 2000

Tweeter Center (Great Woods)
July 16 - Red Hot Chili Peppers, Foo Fighters
August 2 - Santana, Macy Gray

Avalon
June 25 - Punk-O-Rama Tour featuring The Bounc­ ing Souls, Dropkick Murphys, The Dwarves

Axis
July 6 - Sunny Day Real Estate, No Knife

Suffolk Downs (E. Boston)
July 20 - Vans Warped Tour featuring The Mighty Mighty Bosstones, Green Day, Long Beach Dub Allstars, One Man Army, Suicide Machines, Hot Water Music and more.

FleetCenter
August 8 - AC/DC
Bombs explode at Middle East

By JAY HALE, Journal Staff

With an alleged shred of probation hanging like an ominous cloud over The Middle East nightclub in Central Square, one would think the last band to show up on the schedule would be the U.S. Bombs. Trouble seems to follow these guys everywhere they go. Whether it's fights on stage with sound people or an AIID benefit on the west coast or lead vocalist Duane Peters punching a dog out cold while spending the night at a fan's home, it doesn't matter. It's not the way you want things coming your way when your trying to stay in the graces of John Law.

Regardless of their sullied past, The Bombs show went off without violence, and alcohol for that matter, and contained even a few surprises.

The last time the bass was in Boston during their historic debut at The Rat in September 1998. After playing a starring part of old school Orange County punk rock (including a breakdancing session by Peters on the germs-infested Rat floor), The Bombs were rumored to have spent the night on abandoned runways in an alley behind the club. Although the conditions were a bit more hospitable, the music was steadfast in its intensity.

On their second trip through Boston, The Bombs traveled as a four-piece as guitarist Johnny Two-Bags recently parted ways to join Social Distortion, replacing the recently deceased Dennis Darrell. Darrell died in April of an apparent brain aneurysm.

Despite being one guitar short, Peters, bassist Wade Walston, drummer Chip Hanahan and guitarist Kerry Martinez didn't miss a beat. Performing energetic anthems of poverty and despair off their two albums on Heliotrope Records, War Bathing: The World, The Bombs captivated the crowd of over 230 late into the night. Tracks such as "Bootleg," "Orange Crush" and "That's Not Enough" highlighted Peters' vocal anger. He wasn't done yet. As a one man, he still is entertaining even when on the wagon.

Concert Review

Frenetic frontman Duane Peters lives up the stage, even without the booze last month.

As special guest going on before opening act Union 13 was the hardcore punk foursome F-minus. Playing a set of several blistering less-than-30-second songs, the band was over before they even got warmed up. Vocalist Brad Logan was amazing on the mic.

Unfortunately, Union 13 was not as awe-inspiring. To say their set was a little flat would be an understatement. Although they pulled off a convincing rendition of "Life's Story," their performance left many in the crowd wanting more. More -minus, that is.

On the local tip, The Explosion also gained exposure from being on the bill. Although heralded as the next big thing, their set was lackluster as well, except for the vocalist's precious between song banter.

Bombs explode at Middle East

Despite sluggish new summer release, BB is still the King

By NEIL O'CALLAGHAN, Journal Staff

We may all have as much vigor as the 74-year-old B.B. King, but maybe a little vacation is in order for the elder statesman of the blues.

Last year, King pumped out Blues On The Bayou and proved that he still has as much life left in him as the 20-year-old Kenny Wayne Shepherd. Blues On The Bayou was a tremendous commercial and artistic success, garnering King a Grammy for Blues Album of the Year. So it's only reasonable that his next album would be an elegant and hearty sequel.

His latest release, Makin' Love Is Good For You, lacks the cohesion and energy that made Blues on a huge success. The album has its bright spots with its stripped-down approach, but overall it sounds tired. Nothing about recording stands out as weak, but you can hear the difference between the Bayou sessions and these. There are no songs about rocket science or mathematics, just simple themes and messages.

King wrote six songs, while the supporting band included the rest. King also produced the album. While bandleader Jared Fink (bass) and Jami Bates (drums) did not write any of the tracks, they did do an excellent job of backing up and providing atmosphere.

Record Review

"Makin' Love Is Good For You" lacks the cohesion and energy that made Blues on a huge success. The album has its bright spots with its stripped-down approach, but overall it sounds tired. Nothing about recording stands out as weak, but you can hear the difference between the Bayou sessions and these. There are no songs about rocket science or mathematics, just simple themes and messages.

King wrote six songs, while the supporting band included the rest. King also produced the album. While bandleader Jared Fink (bass) and Jami Bates (drums) did not write any of the tracks, they did do an excellent job of backing up and providing atmosphere.

The opening track, "I Got To Leave This Woman," is sure to be on the playlist for concerts this summer. King displays that even in the twilight of his career, he can still play guitar better than most. The song's theme is simple enough a woman that takes advantage of her relations to rip the life out of the man. Hence, you got to leave that woman.

"I Know" is a great track for keyboard player James Toney. His nible introduction shows why every blues band ought to have a piano player. His play is sharp.

The title track is probably the best song on the album and another that will undoubtedly be a concert favorite this summer. Another simple theme in this Tony Joe White tune, "Take Care Of Your Body, Make A Little Love Today."

"I'm In The Wrong Business" is a great funky tune. A paranoid look at his own career written by A.C. Reed, King jokes about sending his guitar home and moving back to the farm. Michael Dobson is excellent on bass on this song in particular. The horn section consisting of Stanley Abernathy (trumpet), Melvin Jackson (tenor), Walter B. King (tenor and Bolden) (trumpet) also shine.

Songs like "Peace Of Mind," "Too Good To You Baby" and "Monday Woman" aren't necessarily bad songs, they just seem to lack the drive that the other tracks have, dragging down the overall flow of the album.

It's a fine album in its own right, but overall it's a bit of a letdown for fans that expected more.

Overall, Makin' Love Is Good For You's a good album. It is a self-revelatory album of any kind, similar to Santana's Supernatural release. But if the bad is to do all over again, King should have waited until the summer tour was over, then released this album with as much energy as some of the songs could have used.

Shaft returns with attitude

By DANIEL PEPPER, The State News

Funky wash guitars, cool clothes, one liners and the state of being a bad man add up to just one thing: Shaft, John Shaft.

The cult classic blacksploitation flick gets a modern sequel from director and co-writer John Singleton and writers Richard Price and Shane Salerno. The flick has all the trimmings of its predecessor, but for the most part it tries to jettison the cheesiness that makes the original so enduring when viewed by modern audiences.

Samuel L. Jackson is Shaft, and he is Shaft. He performs the role just as well as Richard Roundtree, who also makes an appearance in the sequel.

"Shaft has gone through a few changes in almost 30 years, and the plot is updated for 2000. Never fear, though, Isaac Hayes' original title theme is still here, although in a slightly different form.

John Shaft is the namesake and nephew of Roundtree's original character. Old Shaft is still a private eye and sex machine to the female population. Young Shaft is now a cop, but a cop who's torn between 'black and blue.' The film follows this point to make the extraordinary and entirely fictional claim that a few members of the New York Police Department might harbor some ideas that see a bit racist.

Shaft is the investigating detective on a hate crime in which Walter Wade Jr. (Christian Bale) stabs a young black man to death for out-smarting him in a nightclub war of words.

Shaft knows who has done it, but the case becomes much harder when the only witness, Diane Palmieri (Toni Collette), takes off. Wade makes bail because he's the son of a very rich and important father, and hands himself to Switzerland.

Wade dodges the system again and meets Peoples Herald (Jeffrey Wright), a verbose Dominican drug dealer who forms a connection with Wade. Now Shaft must locate the witness and keep Hernandez and Wade from slipping off their path.

This is Shaft, and Shaft doesn't care about plot: it's all about attitude. Jackson's Shaft has it all. He's bad, funny, but underneath, a good guy. The bad guys receive cool looks and the back of their hand. In short, he's not afraid to stick out his neck for his brotherhood - or pistol whip drug dealers in broad daylight.

What he doesn't do so well as he did in the previous films is the sex machine-to-all-the-chick thing.

Apparently, the filmmakers followed the Motion Picture Association of America's dictum that movie is OK, but sex and naughty words can get one in trouble.

Bale does his slimmy yuppie character almost as well, but he played a similar character in "American Psycho." Wright gives his character a fast-talking charisma and confidence that doesn't make him the equal of Shaft, but at least makes him a worthy adversary.

The main problem with the flick is the overall end: it attempts to become an action film. "Shaft" just isn't suited to this. The character's innate coolness is all that is needed to carry the story, not some pretentiously staged gunfights and car chases. Singleton does do anything special with the action, so it's in the movie just isn't apparent. The resolution for Bale's character is a bit of a letdown.

Old Shaft makes an elegant statement about the role of the cop in the universe - and entirely fictional claim that a few members of the New York Police Department might harbor some ideas that see a bit racist.

Shaft's paradoxical look at his own career written by A.C. Reed, King makes an appearance in the sequel.

Overall, Shaft is a good album. It is a self-revelatory album of any kind, similar to Santana's Supernatural release. But if the bad is to do all over again, King should have waited until the summer tour was over, then released this album with as much energy as some of the songs could have used.
Old Sawyer cafeteria under construction

BY MEGAN MALTEUCCI
JOURNAL STAFF

After completing the new Donahue Cafeteria last fall, Suffolk has moved on to its next major construction project, the reconstruction of the Sawyer Cafeteria into four new high-tech classrooms.

The university is currently putting up new walls, resurfacing the floors, rewiring, installing new furniture and redoing the lighting in the Sawyer cafeteria space to accommodate 150 students at a time in five or six new technological classrooms.

The old Sawyer Cafeteria, located on the third floor of the Sawyer School of Management, is currently being turned into five or six new classrooms. Construction is supposed to be completed by the start of the fall semester.

BY ANNE BENJAMINSON
THE DAILY CALIFORIAN

BERKELEY, Calif. — A U.S. House of Representatives subcommittee has called for the termination of the university's contract to manage Los Alamos National Laboratory, even though nuclear secrets that disappeared from the University of California-managed facility were primarily missing material and have prompted only Los Alamos, leaving the other two national laboratories under federal government — in under fire as well.

A letter to Richardson, signed by six Democrats on the House Commerce Committee, urged the Department of Energy to terminate its $2.6 billion contract with the university.

The U.S. system has run Los Alamos since its inception in the 1940s, when it was the home of the Manhattan Project, the nation's formative nuclear weapons program.

It is clear that the University of California, whose contract to run Los Alamos gives it the full responsibility to maintain security at the lab, is incapable of carrying out its contractual obligations," the letter stated. "Because of the University of California's total inability to carry out its security obligations under its contract, we request that you terminate the department's contract with the university as soon as possible. There is no more time for excuses and finger-pointing."

The letter also stated that it was not in the "best interest of the government" to allow the UC system to continue to manage the labs.

In response to the letter, Richardson said the department would examine the university's role in security problems.

"I am attacked by scientists that say too much security," members of Congress that don't like polygraphs, civil libertarians who say I've gone too far. I can take the heat. I just want to fix this problem."

The university has launched two separate investigations into the formerly missing material and has promised appropriate action will be taken.

Both investigations have been postponed upon Energy Department request until its own investigation with the FBI is complete, said UC laboratory spokesperson Rick Malaspina.

Malaspina said the government has the authority with 18 months notice to terminate the contract at any time, although he said the university has seen no indication of such action.

Further, the government has the authority to end UC management of only Los Alamos, leaving the other two national laboratories under university control.

The contract for all three laboratories expires in September 2002. "UC is unique in providing this service, especially in the matter of scientific quality and scientific excellence," Malaspina said. "The regents remain committed to managing all three labs for as long as the government sees there's a valuable service. We want to be responsible for change."

The latest Congressional apprehension is the second time in a year the university has come under fire for its management.

In December, the U.S. Senate released transcripts in which Rep. Dianne Feinstein, a Democrat from California, blasted the university for its handling of the Wen Ho Lee case.

Lee was accused of downloading nuclear secrets onto a diskette.