Gilpatrick racks up funds for foundation

"It's going to be a great feeling for me and my foundation to help others." - John Gilpatrick

By Megan Mattiucci

Good Morning America.

"Don't scroll through your life like a video on fast forward," she advised. "Try and grab the moment and make it your own with examine. Take the time to think about your daily life, and the choices you make.

Shipman also told the graduates to remember their days at Suffolk, from dorm living and finals cramming to roommate squabbles and late nights at the "premier institution" known as the Red Hat.

Student commencement speaker Christopher W. Sampson also encouraged his classmates to reflect on their college days, "the greatest days of their lives," including opportunities of traveling abroad, living in dorms, meeting new people and hanging out with friends at the Red Hat.

Samposon, who graduated with a bachelor's of arts in communication, talked about both the good and bad times of the "days as a college student" being over.

"We are ready not just survive, but to work," he said. "There is evidence of freedom and opportunity all around us. I hope you remember fondly your days as a Suffolk student.

Gilpatrick continued on Page 8
Office of Campus Ministry/Interfaith Center at Suffolk University

The following resources are available to all students and Suffolk community members:

♦ A meditation room for students

♦ An 18-seat Interfaith room for worship for individuals and student groups of any religious tradition

♦ The University Chaplain who serves as a counselor, a spiritual guide, an educational advocate, an ethical voice on campus.

The chaplain is available to speak with you if you have questions or concerns about spirituality, religion, racial issues, ethics, morality or finding meaning and purpose in life.

The Reverend Amy L. Fisher
University Chaplain
Director, Campus Ministry/Interfaith Center
Suffolk University Interfaith Center
Donahue Building, 5th Floor
41 Temple St. Boston, MA 02114

phone: (617) 573-8325
fax: (617) 248-3905
afisher@acad.suffolk.edu www.campusfaith.org

Students “act out” real-life situations

By Megan matteucci
Journal Staff

Addressing concerns such as drug and alcohol abuse, date rape and eating disorders, a group of Suffolk students have joined together to form “Acting Out.”

“Acting Out is a peer educational theater program that presents social issues that are pertinent to members of the college community,” explained Kyle Carter, Student Activities orientation intern.

Sponsored by the Student Performing Arts Program, “Acting Out” has a cast of 13 volunteer students and will be performed at all new student orientation.

Chris DeStefano, assistant to the dean for performing arts, said he assembled the 45-minute script from programs from colleges and universities across the country.

“Peer educational theater programs are pretty standard at many universities,” he said. “I thought it would be a good idea to have a whole play dedicated to Suffolk.”

DeStefano explained that representatives from the Counseling Center, Health Services, Multicultural Affairs, Residence Life and Student Activities serve on a advisory committee to oversee the program and provide material to the orientation leaders.

Carter, whose role is to train the orientation leaders, what to look for and how to facilitate dialogue around these issues,” DeStefano said.

DeStefano said he selected the scripts that represented areas of concern to the students.

“The cast also had a lot of impact as to what issues they thought were relevant to their peer group at Suffolk,” he said. “With a more provocative, active script, the messages are more relevant to students.”

Senior Peter Morello, who is in the cast, said he thinks the program will help spotlight the resources available on campus, but in a fun, approachable manner.

“At the very least, it will get them relaxed enough to talk about these issues with their orientation leaders,” Morello said. “These issues are difficult to talk about. If it is thrown in their face, the people who need it will find the right resource to go to. It gives us a definite medium.”

Students “act out” real-life situations

In addition to the “Acting Out” performance, students will have the opportunity to discuss the issues brought up with their orientation leaders.

“The component with the show is that the orientation leaders will be shown how to facilitate dialogue around these issues,” DeStefano said.

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“Part of the reason for this approach is to show the subject in a different light,” he said.

In addition to “Acting Out,” the Student Performing Arts Program will present “Alpha Beta STEW” at the summer orientations.

STEW, Summer Theater Ensemble Workshop, was created by DeStefano three years ago as no original musical review.

“If it’s a mix of serious dramatic scenes and big, over-the-top musical numbers,” DeStefano said.

He explained that the cast of 11 students included 26 different scripts for each letter of the alphabet, each representing something the students can relate to.

“I think it is key to orient the student because there is so much information and so many resources, tests and lecturers that get crammed into the orientation program,” he said. “This is one of the only opportunities they’re going to get to sit back and be entertained.”

DeStefano said he really wanted to give the new students a chance to see what student life is like at Suffolk.

“Hopefully the show will energize and excite them about starting Suffolk in the fall,” he said.

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White House Staffer returns to Suffolk Law

**BY MEGAN MATTUCCI**

White House Chief of Staff Andrew H. Card, 79, returned to his room on May 20, as he addressed the Suffolk University Law School graduating class of 2001 in the FleetCenter. Card recalled the day he handed his father his Suffolk Law degree 43 years ago to the 449 law school graduates.

"It's great to be back at the Hub of the universe," said Card.

"Suffolk has been a great school for those who serv on Beacon Hill, in City Council and in Washington."

A New England native, Card served in the Massachusetts State Legislature as a representative of Hollis before being appointed deputy assis tant to President Ronald Reagan. In President George Bush's administration, he served as assistant to the president and deputy chief of staff. Card served as secretary of transportation, before being appointed chief of staff by President George W. Bush.

"I've been blessed beyond expectation and it truly is an honor to be able to serve our current president, Bush."

Card said he got inspired to get involved in politics after watching his grandfather fight for the right to vote. He added that he continues to be inspired every day by President Bush.

"I believe politics is a noble and worthy cause," he said. "We agree to continue to practice politics because if people don't participate in democracy, our government will fail."

The honorary degree recipient advised the graduates to let the great politicians of the past teach us to serve as role models, including Jefferson, Lincoln and Teddy Roosevelt.

"People with vision paved the road and we pay them the power to turn adversity into success, now go forth and make your dreams come true," Card concluded.

The Class of 2003 degree recipients included both bachelor of arts and bachelor of science, along with master of arts, master of science, master of education, and doctorate of philosophy in clinical psychology.

Suffolk also presented six professionals with honorary degrees, including Shipman.

"I've been blessed beyond expectation and it truly is an honor to be able to serve our current president, Bush."
**Arts & Entertainment**

**"Pearl Harbor" lacks script, acting, intelligence**

By Gillian Reagan

"Pearl Harbor" is a distant American-Apple. It has the perfect summer movie formula to attract any backwater, frat-house basball-loving moviegoer: sappy romances, dashing heroes, guns, people blowing up and a "happy" ending with America as the big, flag-waving heroes. However, "Pearl Harbor" plays out more like a soap opera and lacks the performances and intelligence to make a quality film to pay proper respect to a tragic event in American history.

Baldwin's howlingly-cheesy acting and characters is a close runner-up for worst performance. Roosevelt and his scenes were the most interesting to watch besides the war ones.

The movie was good, it would've said that already. It was just that last dosage of fluff to make it even more irritating for the critical viewer.

Although it is not an Academy Award-winning movie, "Pearl Harbor" is definitely worth horrible to watch. The war scenes are reason enough to see it and the leads are not hard to look at. It's the perfect summer blockbuster for the average moviegoer.

**Musician John Mayer talended beyond his years**

By Valerie Cwierkowski

He casually leans back in the chair. A smile comes over his face, then a ponderous look and he says, "I think that what I do is self-indulgent. I get up on stage and I'm just going, 'This is how I feel, do you get it? Do you get it?'

And so John Mayer, a 23-year-old singer-songwriter extraordinaire from Atlanta, Ga., colly his work self-indulgent. However, based on Mayer's performance at the Iron Horse in Northampton on June 13, his work is un-doubtedly honest and soul-searching music.

For nearly two hours the audience captivated in sheer amazement as Mayer belted out tunes and played the guitar with pure passion and talent.

Mayer is of the rarest breed; his talent and genius extends far beyond his young years. His words of heartache and anguish roll off the stage and seek comfort and solace in the hearts of anyone fortunate enough to listen to him sing. Upon listening to a Stevie Ray Vaughan tape, Mayer began playing guitar at thirteen. He briefly attended the Berklee School of Music, but withdrew after a year, deciding that playing music, and not learning about it, was his true passion.

After moving to Atlanta with a friend, Mayer began keeping small shows with his acoustic guitar. Before long, word spread like wildfire about the young musician. Record labels were jumping out of their skin trying to sign him up, but Mayer decided to stay true to himself and continue playing music the way he wanted to.

During health inspections, Rafe hit on his nurse Evelyn (Kate Beckinsale) and they spend their time pining for the same girl are in focus during the second act of the movie. The war scenes are reason enough to see it and the leads are not hard to look at. It's the perfect summer blockbuster for the average moviegoer.

**Panda Squad rocks Mass Art**

By Gillian Reagan

Suffolk student Dave Conway of the Panda Squad "felt like a tiger" at the Massachusetts College of Art last Friday.

The Panda Squad, whose members include two senior friends and having a lot of fun on stage, is the latest band to make it big in the Boston area. The four-piece band, which is made up of bassist Dan Shean, guitarist Dave Conway, drummer Tim Eagan and keyboardist Alec Baldwin, is currently recording an album that is expected to be released in July.

"In the song, "My Stupid Mouth," Mayer writes about the inner debate over when to speak up and when to keep quiet. "So many people try too hard, but it just serves itself. I just want to be listened to."

Photos by courtesy of Touchstone Pictures/Andrew Cooper

**Photo courtesy of Touchstone Pictures/Andrew Cooper**

(front, left to right) Josh Hartnett, Ben Affleck and Alec Baldwin give war flick "Pearl Harbor" a tighter two-hour movie with less mushy dialogue.

The only reason for one to be compelled to view "Pearl Harbor" is through the well-done battle scenes.

However, watching a true story of thousands of people die for entertainment can be guilt-inducing. The special effects and broad set were impressive but even an astounding soundtrack couldn't save this movie, with its bad script and acting.

All three performances of the leads were unsurprisingly shoddy. Affleck is not good at acting emotional and Hartnett isn't experienced enough to be considered a serious actor.

"Pearl Harbor" is a cross between "Top Gun" and "Titanic." Rafe (the unadventured, handsome and charismatic Ben Affleck) and Danny (Josh Hartnett, who has been in bad thrillers "Halloween H20" and "The Faculty") have been best friends since they were young-uns in the midwest. They grow up to be sent off to the beaches of Hawaii to train.

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Musical "Moulin Rouge" met with mixed feelings

BY GILLIAN REAGAN
JOURNAL STAFF

With its graphics, blinding brighter colors and questionable character flows, the latest version of the musical "Moulin Rouge" sits comfortably on the movie listings, among the disappointing "Fool's Gold" and the mind-burning "The Animal." Next to these scary excuses for films, "Moulin Rouge" seems to currently be the best pick for movie night. In reality, its dizzying but impressive direction and lack of character development make it a mixed-bag film.

"Moulin Rouge" begins with the narrator Christian (Ewan McGregor) arriving in Paris, France. He was a young, fresh-faced writer ready to take on the "sinful city" in 1899. By some ridiculous chance, he meets a group of bohemian actors looking to put together their first production called, "Spectacular, Spectacular." The audience is introduced to a circus of crazy characters such as the witty midget Toulouse-Lautrec (Jocek Koman). With a stolen bellow of a narcoleptic Argentinian (Jonjo Harris) and McGregor was not terrible, but his distinctive use of bright colors would also be fulfilled.

The major conflict of the movie is rather typical. Satine is to choose between a wolfish, her lover who is deeply in love with her, and the Duke for his money so she will continue to fund "Spectacular, Spectacular" and she can be a star. The chemistry between Kidman and McGregor was not terrible, but nuanced at certain points due to an underdeveloped script. Though, Kidman is an excellent actress and gets a few laughs from the crowd during her seductive scenes, her character was not developed enough to really care about. Since the story is told through the eyes of Christian, we only feel for her through him. But, even our main character is not anything but the typical love foil with a goofy grin.

That's not to say that "Moulin Rouge" was a terrible movie. It had lots of laughs and it was something different on the screen. The mostinteresting aspect of the movie was introducing modern day songs into a story that is supposed to take place over 100 years ago. "Smells Like Teen Spirit," originally by the late-great Nirvana, and "Lady Marmalade," a Parti LaBelle classic modernized by Christina Aguilera, Lil' Kim, Mya and Pink, were re-mixed operatic-style and blended into an impressive choreographed can-can dancing scene. Even Madonna's "Like a Virgin" was woven into the soundtrack. Some of the songs work well, but "Smells Like Teen Spirit" was pushing it a little. However, sometimes one just can't create a movie that, in the end, is completely about "above all things love."

Simply put, "Moulin Rouge" is a roller of the dice. Either you love it or you hate it. For your silly, love-friedlead, I'm going to save my words until I've seen "Moulin Rouge" with an open mind. But, expect to be in for an emotional ride.

"Shrek" plays off fairy tales, does it well

BY LANCE MORGANIELLI
JOURNAL STAFF

The old adage "Don’t judge someone before you gou know them" may have been woven into cinematography.

This time Shrek coats it with layers of tongue-in-cheek scenes and one-liners that keep the movie glibly going and keep everyone in the theater anticipating the next pun. Packaged for children designed for adults, "Shrek" plays off the gaggle of "Mother Goose's Fairy Tales," complete with characters and plot.

The framed narrative, an unexpected literary device, open the story with Mike Myers reading the tale, which becomes the premise of the film. The movie opens with the same leather-bound book closing. Princess Fiona, voiced by Cameron Diaz, is a nun who tries her best to make her rescue and love interest follow the stereotypical tale. Fiona soon realizes that her rescue does not have to fit textbook and falls in love with the alternative, a kind-hearted ogre that resides for a reason, but he didn't have to be textbook and falls in love with the alternative, a kind-hearted ogre that resides for a reason, but he didn't have to be textbook and falls in love with the alternative, a kind-hearted ogre that resides for a reason, but he didn't have to be textbook and falls in love with the alternative, a kind-hearted ogre that resides for a reason, but he didn't have to be textbook and falls in love with the alternative, a kind-hearted ogre that resides for a reason, but he didn't have to be textbook and falls in love with the alternative, a kind-hearted ogre that resides for a reason, but he didn't have to be textbook and falls in love with the alternative, a kind-hearted ogre that resides for a reason, but he didn't have to be
donkey. The Donkey, voiced by Eddie Murphy, holds a near monopoly on the fairy tale reference jokes but the other characters have their shot at goofing on their own tales.

The worst witicism came from a tortured Gingerbread Man who was dunked in milk and had his left leg snapped off. When Lord Farquaad, voiced by John Lithgow, interrogated him, the Gingerbread Man squatted out "Rite me" in a Mr. Big-pitched voice. Shrek delivers one of the best double meanings when answering, "Where are you going?" and "I'm going to save my words until I've seen "Moulin Rouge" with an open mind. But, expect to be in for an emotional ride.

The soundtrack complemented the modern, colloquialisms used in the dialogue, both of which overlay the medieval time and location. A song in the soundtrack was akin to an expected "tale-type music" during the Robin Hood scene.

After opening the movie with five minutes of ethereal faithland music, Smashmouth's popular "All Star" echoes on the audience to introduce Shrek. The pop music was better than anything the music directors could have composed.

A "Mister" spoof, in which Princess Fiona freezes jumps in the air and the camera does a wrap-around pan was worth the effort, sparking the unanimous uproar of laughter from the viewers.

Milt Myers can be all drama and no laugh - it's just not natural. The Donkey, voiced by Eddie Murphy, holds a near monopoly on the fairy tale reference jokes but the other characters have their shot at goofing on their own tales.

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Opinions and Editorials

Suffolk Journal offers boundless opportunities

As the orientation advisors drag you from building to building, sitting you down to listen to drudgery talk about your future at Suffolk or endure yet another round of the "get acquainted" games dreamed up by a consultant forced to find a new line of work after his cushy gig with the khmer regime as director of morale fell through, if you're like us you may be looking for an escape route.

You've heard a lifetime of clichés in the last couple of days, and you think you've heard a lot more before it's over.

But there's a kernel of truth in some of those clichés looking for it might be one way to keep awake throughout the next speech. For example, "your college experience is what you make of it."

So look us up. The Suffolk Journal offers a table at the orientation activities fair. There'll be posters up the first week of classes inviting you to an introductory meeting. We're in our office on the fourth floor of Donahue (in truth, we preferred things back in the days when students were allowed to wander Temple Street, instead of being cooped up on the fourth floor of Donahue). In truth, student life at Suffolk is still evolving. It wasn't that long ago that this was a consumer campus, with a handful of activities stuffed into "activity periods" on Tuesdays and Thursdays. There still aren't that many programs, many clubs are more ideas than established organizations, and too many students remain entirely disenfranchised. But there's no reason for you to join their ranks—there's plenty of opportunities for you to jump in and reshape things to your tastes.

One place you might want to start is with "The Suffolk Journal. The Journal is not just another club; it is the glue that holds the campus together. Every week the Journal reports on campus events, administrative actions, student organizations, sports, and the local entertainment scene. We offer a forum in which students, staff, and faculty can learn what's going on around campus, voice their opinions, and develop a sense of community. We are the voice of the student body.

But we'd like to encourage you to consider making a commitment— to yourself. Joining the Suffolk Journal does not require some hard work, but we've been named "Outstanding Organization of the Year" for the past three consecutive years by our fellow student leaders. Last year we earned a national award from the Associated College Press, which ranked us one of the top six weekly student newspapers in the country. While it's not always the most fun, we've been named "Outstanding Organization of the Year" for the past three consecutive years by our fellow student leaders. Last year we earned a national award from the Associated College Press, which ranked us one of the top six weekly student newspapers in the country. While it's not always the most fun, we do.

Everyone reads "The Suffolk Journal. That's the easy part—every Wednesday stacks appear all across campus.

But we'd like to encourage you to become a part of Suffolk University's premier organization. As a member of the Journal staff—whether as a reporter, photographer, columnist, advertising representative, web guru, editor or designer—you have the opportunity to make your voice heard, and to help the Journal staff community realize its potential. You have the opportunity to celebrate what's right about your university, to expose problems that need to be addressed, and to offer solutions. And as a member of the Journal staff you will develop skills that will last you a lifetime.

Of course, you need not be a member of the staff to contribute. All students are welcome to write a column or a letter to the editor, to review books, to write about your experiences offered to you.

Letters to the Editor

SGA welcomes new students

On behalf of the Student Government Association (SGA), I would like to welcome you to the Suffolk University Community.

Suffolk University has the unique responsibility of raising a quality education with a diverse list of curricular activities that will help you grow not only academically, but also personally. I encourage each of you to involve yourself in any activities that interest you along with your course load.

Through the Student Activities Office, you have the opportunity to take part in many different organizations that range from the Student Government Association, "Your Voice on Campus," to more sports and intramural opportunities. So if you are looking to compete against other colleges and universities or if you just want to play a game of flag football with your friends, the Athletics Department will give you the opportunity to participate in all the sports.

As the orientation advisors drag you from building to building, sitting you down to listen to drudgery talk about your future at Suffolk or endure yet another round of the "get acquainted" games dreamed up by a consultant forced to find a new line of work after his cushy gig with the khmer regime as director of morale fell through, if you're like us you may be looking for an escape route.

You've heard a lifetime of clichés in the last couple of days, and you think you've heard a lot more before it's over.
The many reasons to love your time at Suffolk

by Ilya Popov

What's to say about Suffolk that hasn't already been said? Allow me to speak a few words about the Suffolk University experience.

A few months before arriving at Suffolk for my freshman year, I was in a room with a group of friends in Kalamaazoo, Michigan, who explained to me all the reasons why I would hate college. I was warned that professors would be complete idios and so would the students. The classes would be a waste of time. I'd have little or no choice but to travel in groups only on traveling by bus or by renting a room. I wouldn't learn anything useful. I'd be wasting money on a worthless experience.

When I first got to Suffolk, I was very pessimistic. I refused to believe it was possible to be that serious. It was a big mistake.

There were undoubtedly about "family values" and the Bushes' platform, as always were questioned. The issue was quickly overblown and in the ensuing outcry to justify the media blitz, a "principle" behind the "family values." The consequences of this were the depression, the media turned the issue to the issue of 21 as the legal drinking age. And in the process, Bush became is a victim and martyr.

A June 1 Boston Globe article, "In Jenna, they see themselves" profiled Bush as a "soccer" and the "frustrations" of "frustrations" of college-aged adults who "can drive, buy firearms, vote and serve in the military" but cannot purchase alcohol. Bush may have voted in the military but can not purchase alcohol. Bush may now be a football player, a "frustration" of college-aged adults who "can drive, buy firearms, vote and serve in the military" but cannot purchase alcohol.

There were also a few months now to reflect upon the experience. I've found that I cannot, the least bit, agree with any of the above statements. Like many things in life, college is a subjective experience: you make of it what you will. Myself, I've enjoyed every single experience. I've had at Suffolk and I've enjoyed it to the utmost.

My first few weeks were spent wandering around, finding out where all my classes were, learning the names of the professors and students and memorizing my schedule. While I certainly had bad classes that I wouldn't have normally taken had the choice been mine, I found them to be otherwise extremely rewarding. Although it may sometimes seem as though Suffolk is nowhere near on the same level of education as Boston University or Brandeis, it's because Boston is a university. A university has many more opportunities to do a lot of things.

A professor once told me that the former president of the student government had "been an 8 a.m. class worth attending.''

Had I the opportunity to transfer to other schools, such as the University of Wisconsin and Brandeis, I never took it. I love Suffolk too much.

Certainly, we may not have a large on campus populace. Although we are predominately a consumer school, that by no means lessens the worth of Suffolk, Because we lack a typical college campus, students are presented a serious challenge of meeting other college students. Those of you who flouted the law of the land, and if not, rather than spending time with the guys down the hall for no reason, other than that they're there. They are there go 1,445 Suffolk graduates. Some who did it in four years and others in five and more. They used to know it all, but not any more.

Legal drinking age should remain at 21

by Jen Nagonajury

When the news of Jenna Bush's second alcohol-related arrest in less than a week made headlines, my stomach soured. Truth be told, I'm embarrassed to acknowledge that her father is our President and I welcome all reports that will do nothing to enhance the use of him and those to do it at his expense. He who does not wish to drink illegally. I could not reconcile my desire to drink legally, argue law and maybe even write a book with a lifestyle that involved drinking several of them on a regular or occasional basis. I decided that illegal drinking could have no part of my life. When I enter law school, I'm going to get a legal career and talk to my children about drinking safely, it will be with a clear conscience.

That was my choice. I am not suggesting that it is the right one for everyone, but it was only for me. And I think that's the best individual choice, despite the disbelief of college students and some sympathetic adults. It is about the law. Law enforcement. I worked as an intern for the author of the 21 as legal drinking age. There is absolutely no argument for raising the minimum age. The current drinking age laws have been saved.

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Legal drinking age should remain at 21
Bourque brings Cup home to Boston

by Valerie Cwiekowski

According to the National Weather Service, there was no precipitation in the immediate Boston area on June 9. However, thousands of grown men were like babies in basins and being nose重要ing from Maine to Block Island that Saturday night when former Boston Bruin, hockey legend and future Hall of Famer Raymond Bourque won the Stanley Cup. They say there was no rainfall, but tears flowed out of basins from Causeway Street down to the Fenway area like the mighty Mississippi.

Bourque first wore a Bruins jersey back in 1979. A player with intense grit, an immeasurable work ethic and an enormous wealth of talent, the city of Boston instantly adopted the man and he became one of the city’s most beloved players. For the next 20 years, Boston fans filed into the old Garden like soldiers marching into battle to watch Bourque, a legend in the making.

A highlight reel of Bourque’s playing days with the Bruins would span days, possibly even weeks, as Bourque played every night with a level of intensity and skill that is rarely evinced in sports today. His sportsmanship showed off the man Bourque was a person of all ages and walks of life who suffer from spinal cord injuries. Remember all the people who helped me in the past,” he said. “Now I want to give back and help other people through my knowledge and experiences.”

Based in Gilpatrick’s hometown of Hanover, the organization will focus on aiding people throughout New England.

State Rep. Robert J. Nyanza, D/Hanover said: “Gilpatrick is not only a汉over hero, but a role model for all of Massachusetts.”

“We’re really proud of him. It gives everyone a sense of inspiration to see him overcome such obstacles. It’s great for the university and for the community,” Nyanza said.

Gilpatrick graduated from Suffolk in 2000 with a bachelor of science in criminal justice. He also just completed his first year of law school at Suffolk.

In addition to serving as the foundation’s president and going to law school, Gilpatrick serves as assistant coach to the Suffolk hockey team.

“Got a lot on my plate, but I like that,” he said.

Gilpatrick starts charity

Gilpatrick’s mother, Elaine Jones, who serves on the foundation’s board, said her son has always been active, whether he’s playing hockey, talking at a local school or speaking at the William F. Duggan Memorial Road Race in Quincy.

“He never sits still for a minute. John wouldn’t be as far as he is without computers. We were lucky we had all the support,” Jones said. “You can go to school and get a job on computers, so why not use them to make a person’s life easier? His mission is to raise enough money to give back.”

Gilpatrick’s parents aren’t the only ones who have impacted. Suffolk Hockey Coach Brian Horan said that the assistant hockey coach has been a mentor for the team.

“The players respect him. When John talks, the players listen. Just because he has a handicap, doesn’t mean he doesn’t know the game,” Horan said. “The kids look up to him and I look up to him. It’s a win-win situation for everyone.”

Michael Ford, attorney and lifelong friend of Gilpatrick’s, said he was honored when Gilpatrick asked him to help with the foundation.

“When you know John as long as I have and you’re dear friends, like family, playing hockey together since you’re five—you can’t help but want to help him,” said Ford.

The benefit at The Rack was the first of many charity events to come, Gilpatrick said.

“People have been sending checks and just showing their support,” he said.