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Treasurer resigns

SGA Rep. Motenko likely successor

Adam D. Krauss
Journal Staff

Allan Motenko, representative for the class of 2006, has been preparing a speech that he hopes will convince his peers to elect him as the next treasurer of the Student Government Association.

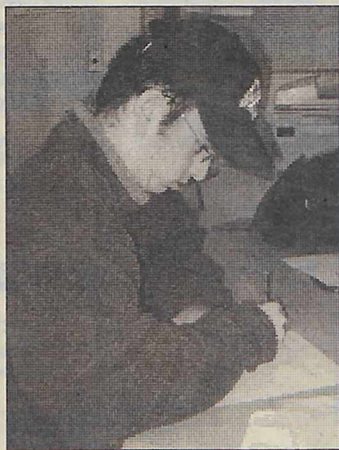
Motenko is the only person running for the position - a result of last month's resignation of Sean Duggan, who held the position for less than one year.

Behind the scenes different versions of why Duggan resigned are beginning to surface.

"The way it was handled was not, 'Oh, Sean wanted to leave.' It was more of pushing me to leave," Duggan said earlier this week, reflecting on how he and certain members of the SGA executive board had conflictive views regarding the student body. "I think there were points where my role was questioned. My role as treasurer wasn't respected. It was clear they didn't want me on the executive board any more."

Duggan said a key reason for his resignation centered on the limited amount of information SGA provides to the student body. "I was in favor of...having all finances discussed because it's everybody's money," he said. "I felt (students) deserved to know. The executive board was not in favor of everything being public."

Duggan, who remains the rep-



Gillian Reagan - Journal Staff

Allan Motenko

representative for the class of 2005, said under his reign as treasurer all of the finance committee's meetings were open to students, except for two that dealt specifically with issues affecting only SGA members.

President Dave Rodrigues seemed somewhat surprised when told of Duggan's comments. "Any use of student activity fees through the SGA is public knowledge," he said. He said he completely agreed that students should have access to information that deals with the disbursement of their money. "It's theirs as much as ours," he said.

"If one person comes up to me and says I want to see the budget, I'll show you the budget," said Rodrigues, who is in his first year as president.

But that assurance went see **Treasurer**, page 3

Ridgeway awash after flood

Journal Staff

It was a damp start to Suffolk's new year. Fractured pipes in the Ridgeway building sent water rushing through areas of campus, drenching parts of the school's gym and bookstore.

Between Jan. 1 and 2, a "pipe let go" in the ceiling of the fitness center on the second floor of the Ridgeway building, according to Coach Jim Nelson, athletics director. It caused flooding in the hallways and "cascaded" into the bookstore before continuing down into the gym where it "cupped several sections of the floor," Nelson said.

As a result, a floor refinishing company sanded out the damaged parts of the floor. Nelson said at the end of the basketball season or after final exams the entire gym floor will be replaced. The fitness center's rubber flooring needs to be "washed and sanitized," Nelson said.

At this point, Nelson said, the cost of repairs has not been determined.

Eric Cressman, manager at the library, said "truckloads" of books, more than 500, were damaged and left stains on parts of the stores' carpet and areas of the ceiling drooping with saturation.



Gillian Reagan - Journal Staff

Students perused the Suffolk bookstore's aisles on Jan. 20. More than 500 books were damaged during the flood.

Mice scurry into new dorm

Diana Rossi
Journal Staff

The residents of the new 10 Somerset St. residence hall have been hearing the pitter-patter of little feet.

No, not those little feet. Think smaller.

Mice have moved into the building. During early November 2003, complaints were made by multiple students who either had mice in their rooms or had seen them around the building.

Mat Rodriguez, a resident on the 18th floor, noticed he had a little visitor.

He was less than thrilled. "I was rather disgusted," he said. "I know this is a new building and not every place can be perfect, but I do have certain expectations for a dorm, especially when the complaint had been made by many others and yet it took them two months to take some serious action."

As much as mice in a Boston

building does not come as a shock, in dealing with a dormitory those lines of commonality become a little less definite.

On more than one occasion, mice were spotted in the dorm cafeteria, according to residents. Although the mice were found and removed, rodents of any kind in a place where food is consumed can never be too sanitary, some students may suspect.

On Jan. 18, the Residence Life department at 10 Somerset St. sent a memorandum to each of the rooms explaining the situation. In the memorandum from Assistant Director of Residence Life and Summer Programs Shannon Werner, students were informed that Residence Life is "aware of the problem and are doing our best to get rid of them."

The memorandum also offers suggestions as to how students may help prevent the mice problem.

"The mice we have seen are very tiny, and they are more scared

of you than you are of them," the memorandum informed students.

The fact that Residence Life is clearly in the process of taking steps to eradicate the mice issue, like placing sticky pads around the building to catch the mice, is comforting to some, but to others it is seen as a process that should have been enacted much earlier.

Mat Rodriguez was told that even though there had been other complaints, "nothing could really be done only because pesticides would kill them and if they got in to the walls, they would begin to stink." Since the residents would probably not enjoy living amongst the stench of decaying mice in the walls, exterminating became a debatable subject.

With Residence Life doing everything they can to try and rectify the mice situation at 10 Somerset St., residents may be able to sleep a little better without the paranoia that they might not be the only ones enjoying the haven of their rooms.

Activist week ahead

Jenn O'Callaghan
Journal Staff

Students for Peace and Justice are preparing for a litany of events that will be part of the first Progressive Week to ever be launched at Suffolk, currently scheduled from February 2-6.

The week focuses on issues like race relations and global oppression. There will be an event and movie each day of the week. On Feb. 3 there will be an anti-racism training session that will include a discussion about how racism can be overcome. The anti-oppression session will be held on Feb. 4. It will focus on gender issues, particularly sexism.

Rob Laurent, the group's lead organizer, said that a major goal of the events is to "open the conversation" about these issues and bring them to a "personal level." While the training sessions will provide a basic introduction to discussing race and oppression, Laurent said that SPJ hopes to

have more training sessions in the future.

There will be a roundtable discussion entitled "Iraq: One Year Later" on Feb. 2, co-sponsored by the Islamic Cultural Society.

Reverend Amy Fisher, student activities advisor for the Islamic Cultural Society, said that the society is looking forward to the event to engage students in more dialogue about Iraq.

On Feb. 6 there will be a vegan lunch in Donahue 403. Savannah Swentik of SPJ said that the lunch would provide an opportunity to raise awareness and "see how people eat with no meat."

"Bowling for Columbine" and "Roger and Me," both highly popular and influential films by Michael Moore, are among the documentaries that have been chosen for Progressive Week.

Another major event during Progressive Week will be a forum on Feb. 5 entitled "US Foreign Policy: Who is the Real Enemy?" see **Progressive**, page 3

NEWS

Briefs

Web portal merges services

Gillian Reagan

Journal Staff

Student clubs receive community printer

The Student Activities Lounge on the fourth floor of the Donahue Building now has a black and white printer to be shared by all clubs on the floor. SGA President Dave Rodrigues said this "will defer maintenance" and make sure all clubs have a working printer.

"It's a monster," Rodrigues said, bragging about a new copy center his office set up. "If clubs want color copies there will be money in their budget for it."

Diversity Services to host MLK celebration

The President's Office of Diversity Services, in conjunction with the Collection of African American Literature, will host a celebration in honor of Dr. Martin Luther, Jr. This event will be held on Jan. 22 from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Refreshments will also be provided in Sargent Hall, Function Room 170.

Japanese guest artists perform noh theater

Guest artists from Japan, Fukanoh Shinjiro and Hatta Tatsuya will host an intensive noh theater workshop. This workshop will be held on Jan. 22 from 1 to 4 p.m. in the C. Walsh Theatre.

On Jan. 23, the play chronicling the tale of a fisherman and angel titled "Hagoromo" ("The Feather Robe") will also be performed in the C. Walsh Theatre.

Noh theater is a traditional Japanese custom, which dates back through 600 years. The Center for International Education, Humanities Department, President's Office of Diversity Services and Cultural Events Committee will sponsor the event.

"Rhinceros" revival hits Studio Theatre

The Student Theatre performance of "Rhinceros" by Eugene Ionesco will be revived on Jan. 26 at 7 p.m. in the Studio Theatre. As a finalist in the regional Kennedy Center/American College Theatre Festival production competition, "Rhinceros" will be presented at Rhode Island College on Jan. 31.

Competition applicants to perform at C. Walsh

Ken Fonzi, Steve Gibbons, Molly Kimmerling, Maria LeBlanc, Nael Nacer, Aaron Pitre and Alex Pollock are this year's participants in the Acting Scholarship Competition. Students are invited to a performance of the monologues and scenes presented by this year's applicants. Beginning Jan. 27 at 1 p.m., the various performances will be performed on the C. Walsh Theatre stage.

Suffolk senior returns home from Iraq

Suffolk University senior Meghan Kelly was called into duty early last year during the war in Iraq. After spending less than a year overseas, Kelly returned home to Bellingham in December and was greeted by many members of the Boston media. Her parents moved from Franklin while she was in Iraq.

Kelly is three credits short of graduating, and hopes to pursue a career in public relations.

- Public Affairs

Matt Wilder, president of Program Council, will be able to check his e-mail, create an online chat room for a meeting with his executive board members, add a class to his schedule, include a dentist appointment in his calendar and get updated campus and national news on Suffolk's new web portal.

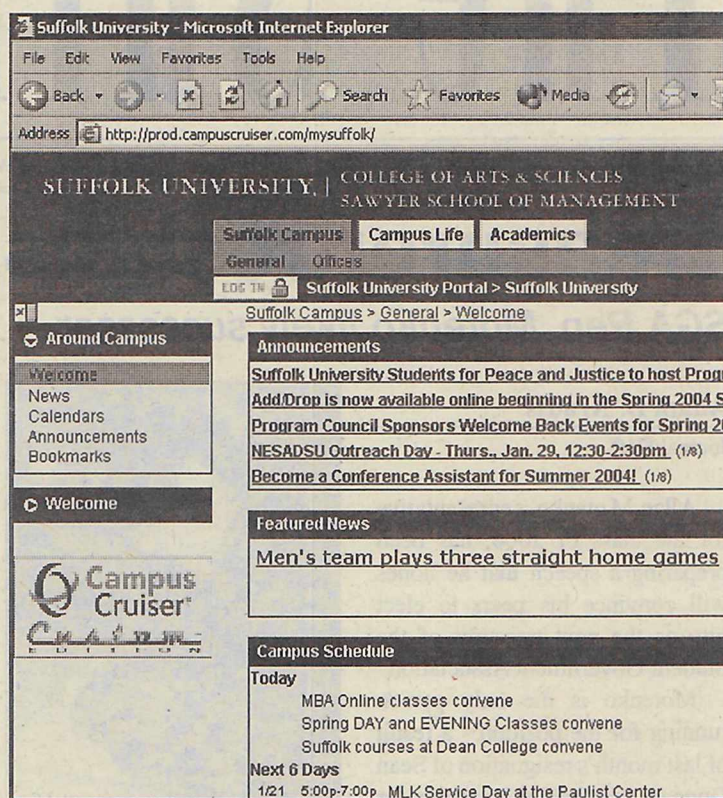
"It's a really smart program," Wilder said, who saw a demonstration on CampusCruiser. "I really like how everything is in one place. It brings everything together to one central point where we can get all the information out."

CampusCruiser, located at www.suffolk.edu/campuscruiser, is currently available. Students are now able to accomplish "one-stop shopping" for all of their campus needs including posting to personalized message boards, calendars, class schedules and university announcements. The site will alert students about appointments and new club and university announcements.

The opening page of the site has general university announcements, the academic and student activities schedule for the week and has links to campus calendars, tutorials, frequently asked questions and news, including recent national headlines from CNN.com. All students have a username and password.

"Once you log in, all of the features become unique to you," said Aurelio Valente, director of Student Activities, who spearheaded the project. Their schedules will be available on their user homepage. Each course will include links to individual message boards and chat rooms available to discuss assignments or conduct peer meetings. Students can sign up for organizations, and receive updated information and event listings for that club. They can also upload documents, such as Word files or PDFs, that all members can access on the portal.

Wilder said CampusCruiser



CampusCruiser consolidates students services.

would help students get involved with campus activities.

"It'll help to open them up to what's available here. I don't think a lot of students know everything that's available, and if they do they don't take advantage of it," he said. "It'll really help the really involved people on campus and the people who aren't involved."

Each student has an email address and a personalized calendar, in which they can integrate club calendars, campus calendars and personal appointments.

The site will eventually become the new Suffolk Academic Internet Link (SAIL), where students check class schedules, access financial aid information add and drop courses, among other SAIL features.

But these features will not be available to students through the CampusCruiser web portal until mid-February, when adding and dropping classes will be prohibited.

The system and software were created by Timecruiser Computing Corp., which specializes in developing portals for educational institutions.

Universities such as Berklee

College of Music in Boston and Roger Williams in Rhode Island use the CampusCruiser system.

The Management Information Systems staff customized and administered the program. Management Information Systems' Director of Administrative Computing Roberto DiGuardia could not be reached yesterday afternoon for comment. In an interview last summer about the project, DiGuardia said the idea for the portal originated from the Suffolk University Law School staff, when they were trying to find a system that would allow students, faculty and staff to communicate.

DiGuardia said the university is "always looking for ways to build community."

He said the system's "tight integration with our database makes it a lot more efficient."

Students will also be able to use the portal long after they've graduated.

"We hope to make it a life-long connection to the university," DiGuardia said. "This is about community-building and a community relationship doesn't end when you graduate."

Opportunities

at the

Journal

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open office hours
Thursdays 1-2:30 p.m.



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Shuffling SGA

Treasurer from page 1

nowhere with Duggan, a business major, who said, "It's nice to say that but I'd like to see it in action...I think the students need to tell their representatives they want to know about their money."

Duggan resigned on Dec. 12. In a letter that was widely circulated through the Suffolk community, he said, "I feel (SGA) is in a questionable state and I question the administration's motives. I call upon the undergraduate population to watch carefully the actions of their representatives."

According to Duggan, at a meeting one day earlier between he and members of the executive board, including Rodrigues, he was told he "needed to make a decision if (he could) make a 110 percent effort" toward SGA. Duggan was then provided with three options - to resign entirely, resign only as treasurer and e-board member, or continue in the same capacity but with renewed effort.

"I was already giving 110 percent effort," Duggan said. He also said the meeting "turned into basically questioning me if I should be on the executive board." Duggan told *The Suffolk Journal* that during the meeting he said he "felt I was pushed into resigning."

Rodrigues took objection to Duggan's claim of being pushed into resigning. "I don't recall him ever saying he thought he was giving 110 percent," he said. "He didn't give any options."

Duggan, who said he was friends with members of the executive board, said this is "not a personal attack on anyone," and that his actions were strictly professional.

Rodrigues gave Duggan 24 hours to contemplate his future with SGA. The next day it was official. As he wrote in the letter, "I am formally resigning as treasurer...I have decided I will not resign as a member of the class of 2005 delegation."

For reasons of confidentiality, neither Rodrigues nor Duggan would disclose what was discussed during the meeting. "Those meetings are behind closed doors," Rodrigues said. "There were problems with certain aspects of his position and his handling of his position."

Julie Nataro, SGA secretary, would also not comment on what was discussed. "It's between all of

us," she said. "There was a lot of little things," added the groups' public relations chairwoman and junior class representative.

Rodrigues said, "It was a terrible situation. My desire to act in the interest of the student body superceded the difficulty of the situation."

SGA held an emergency meeting on Dec. 16 to inform members of Duggan's decision and give them a chance to ask questions of what was going on and begin the process of finding a new treasurer. Motenko was nominated by a fellow representative. Other people were nominated but declined the chance to be the next treasurer.

Now the job of treasurer is within short reach for Motenko, a political science major from Sharon, Mass. and chair of the academics committee. He said the position of treasurer is "not something I ever desired." Even though he has no opponents for the position, Motenko remains reserved about his chances. "I'm very much the type of person who doesn't want to count my chickens before they hatch."

"I have a basic understanding" of what the role as treasurer entails, Motenko said. "I will confess that right now my understanding is growing." Motenko said he has been "preparing, studying, and questioning" the appropriate sources to make the transition a smooth one and get a "better sense of the procedures and where things stand. It's more in-depth than I knew it to be."

"I will lead the finance committee in a responsible manner and make sure all clubs and organizations have a positive experience when it comes to financial matters," Motenko said.

Duggan said his likely successor, Motenko, "is a qualified leader," but was a "little concerned" over his lack of experience dealing with financial matters. "But he's a fast learner," he added.

"Allan Motenko's leadership and knowledge of the financial situation of SGA will help him throughout the semester," Rodrigues said. He added later that throughout this ordeal, "checks still got signed" and initiative requests were still dealt with.

SGA will vote on their next treasurer at their next weekly meeting.

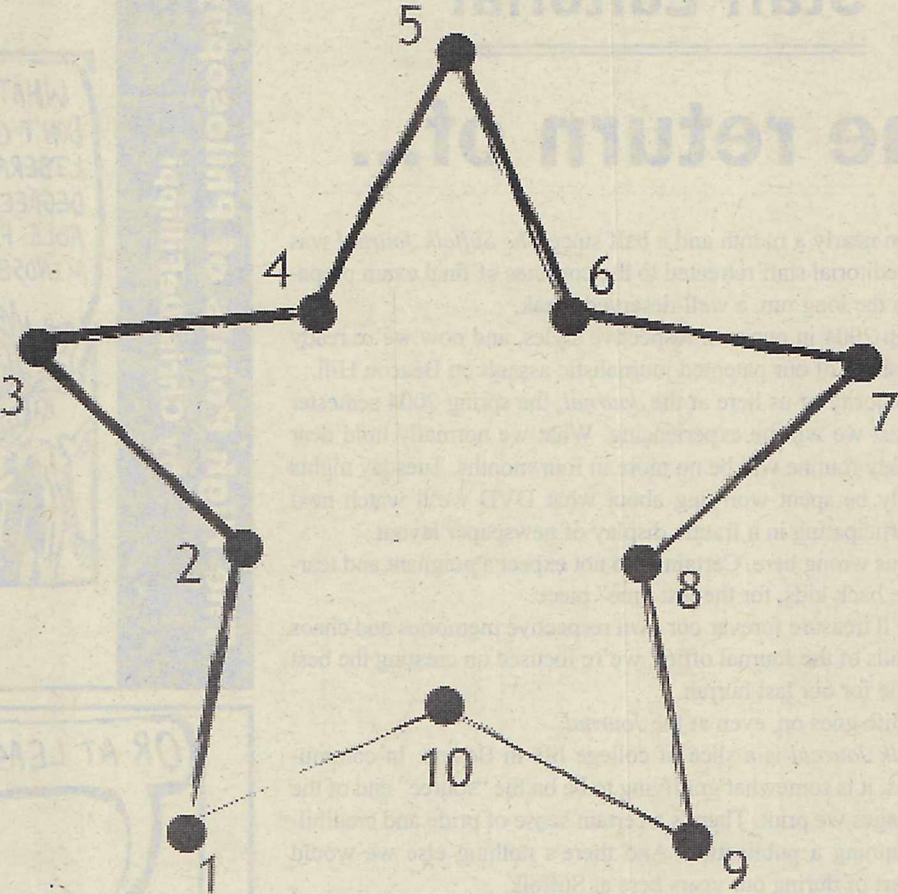
Progressing Suffolk

Progressive from page 1

It will feature Professor Emeritus Howard Zinn of Boston University, author of "A People's History of the United States"; *Boston Globe* columnist Jeff Jacoby; Professor Dennis Outwater of the philosophy department at Suffolk; and Professor Tracey Stark, a scholar in residence from the organizational and political communica-

tion department of Emerson College. SGA President Dave Rodrigues will moderate the forum.

In addition to Progressive Week, SPJ is pursuing the possibility of bringing other speakers to Suffolk later in the spring semester. SPJ also hopes to bring a pair of theatre troupes to Suffolk that deal with sexual violence and political issues.




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Staff Editorial

The return of...

It has been nearly a month and a half since *The Suffolk Journal* was printed. The editorial staff retreated to the confines of final exam preparation, and in the long run, a well-deserved break.

We rang in 2004 in our own respective styles, and now we're ready for the unleashing of our patented journalistic assault on Beacon Hill.

For the majority of us here at the *Journal*, the spring 2004 semester will be the last we will be experiencing. What we normally hold dear within a weekly routine will be no more in four months. Tuesday nights might actually be spent worrying about what DVD we'll watch next instead of participating in a frantic display of newspaper layout.

Don't get us wrong here. Certainly do not expect a poignant and tearful "welcome back kids, for the last time" piece.

While we'll treasure forever our own respective memories and chaos within the walls of the Journal office, we're focused on creating the best issues possible for our last hurrah.

After all, life goes on, even at the *Journal*.

The Suffolk Journal is a slice of college life in Boston. In communicative terms, it is somewhat gratifying to be on the "source" end of the weekly messages we print. There's a certain sense of pride and credibility behind running a publication. And there's nothing else we would rather be a part of during our years here at Suffolk.

What to expect this semester? Expect nothing. Just rely on us to be your voice and the voice of the university's student community, as we have now, in the past and will forever. After all, living in Boston right now brings about a wide variety of matters that one can appreciate: the New England Patriots going to another Super Bowl, the 2004 presidential election, just to name a couple.

While the next few months are most likely to fly by, one cannot yet look to our final babblings as a weekly rag. We'll take it one week at time, and rouse up the normal amount of noise we're known for, or maybe just a little bit more.

The Suffolk Journal

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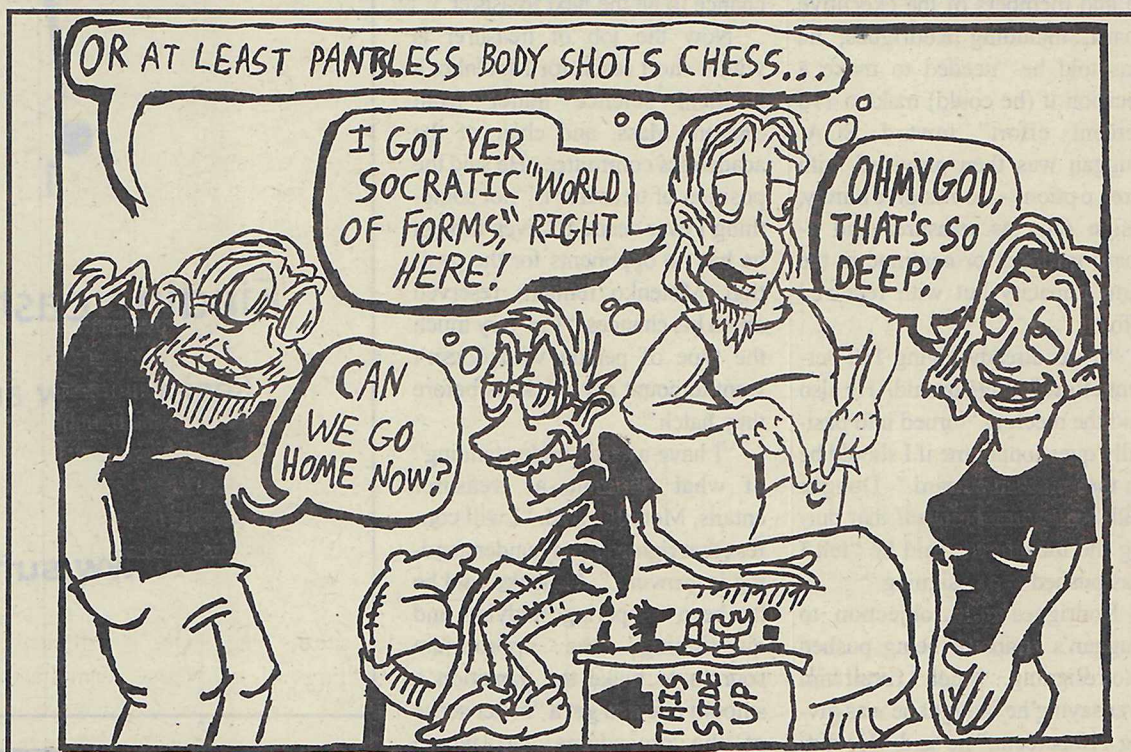
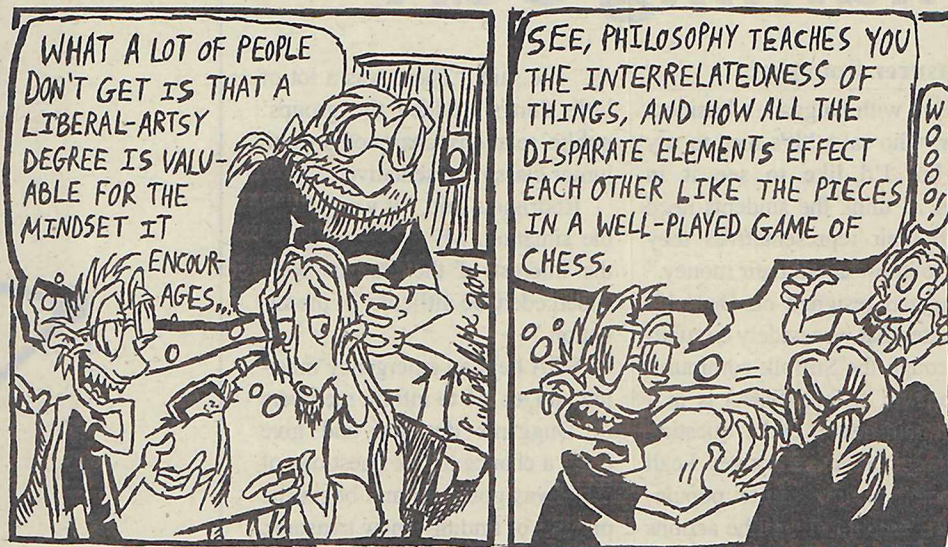
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The High Points of Philosophy by Chris DeFilippi



Rewards for good grades

After finals conclude a student's stress level should stabilize, but the week after finals is the time when we are forced to worry about grades.

Since we all hope to succeed in life, we become very concerned and nervous when the week before Christmas rolls around.

Before receiving grades there are three things that linger in a stu-

Michael Fruzzetti

dent's mind.

First, thank God school is over, but what am I going to do for an entire month without keg parties?

Second, I studied for my final more than all of the exams during that semester combined, so my professor should give me an A just for wasting all that time.

Third, I just paid thousands of dollars for tuition - or your parents emptied their pockets - and in either case, I better have kissed enough ass to get better grades.

So it is the morning of grade-posting and, because it is right before Christmas, these grades could increase (or ruin) the chances of getting the gifts you

really wanted.

In 2002, I asked my parents for an MP3 player everyday, so finally they gave in and told me they bought it as a Christmas gift. My mother said, "let's see how your grades are, then I'll decide whether you are worthy of such a gift."

As you can see, it no longer matters whether you were naughty or nice, just whether or not you meet your parents' unreachable expectations.

After not receiving all A's last year, my MP3 player was quickly replaced with two sweaters and a couple of music CD's. Isn't it convenient for grades to come out right before Christmas?

So here I am gazing at the computer screen on Christmas Eve, praying that my professors were too lazy or too preoccupied by football games to post grades.

Much to my dismay, as no one ever answers my prayers; all of my professors were right on time with their grades.

Hold on one second. They might not have been too lazy to post grades, but had they been drinking too much eggnog to post the correct grades?

Could it be possible that whatever I asked for would be under the tree this year?

A few weeks before Christmas

my mother called me on the phone, requesting a few gift ideas and asking how my grades were thus far.

Of course my response was, "I want a new Polo coat, electric shaver, and a watch. I'm getting good grades so far, but no promises here." That is the perfect response. You let your parents know what you want and leave them with uncertainty as to whether or not you received good grades.

After checking my grades I quickly called my parents and told them what I received. The next morning I rose out of bed, threw on my slippers and ran down the stairs to see what was under the tree.

After opening my gifts, there in the middle of the floor lied a Polo coat, an electric shaver, but no watch. I got straight A's; was my dedication to my studies not worthy of receiving a new watch?

My mother said, "I went to the mall and bought all of your other gifts, but I tried to buy you a watch on E-bay instead of at the jewelers. I got outbid."

I'm warm and comfortable in my coat, there is not a hair on my face, but I have no idea what time it is.

Those damn E-bayers.

Opinion

This Boston Life

Super Bowl fever



By
Chris Dwyer

Sports fans in the New England area rarely get the chance to bask in the garish gander of victory held for their favorite teams nowadays.

The Red Sox disappointed us once again as Aaron "Fuckin'" Boone terminated the hopes of a World Series last October. "Cowboy up," my ass.

The Boston Bruins started the 2003-2004 NHL season as the best team in hockey, generating hopes of a fiery fantasia of neo-'70s championship titles.

Midway through the season, they stand fourth in their division and are unlikely to make any significant noise.

The Boston Celtics? They just dipped below the .500 mark albeit standing strong as second in their division behind the New Jersey Nets. Will we see them in the playoffs? Probably not.

It is with exalted cheers and smiles that we see our beloved New England Patriots off to their second Super Bowl in three years.

The Pats will square off against the Carolina Panthers on Feb. 1 and attempt to bring the Lombardi Trophy back to Beantown once again.

Let's flashback to Feb. 3, 2002. The Patriots were the Cinderella squad story of the NFL, and most of us jaded New Englanders were jovial just at the fact that one of our teams was playing on Super Sunday.

Tom Brady fronted a clutch aerial assault and Adam Vinatieri made "The Kick," solidifying an NFL championship for the

Pats.

A couple of days later at City Hall Plaza, the glorious gang showcased the trophy for well over a million fans, who packed the nearby streets of Boston to envelop themselves in a rare occasion that many thought we would never see again.

Two years later, the Patriots are considered the best team in football, winning 14 games in a row and heading off to another Super Bowl.

Is it safe to toss the word "dynasty" around?

Bostonians deserve this feeling of triumph that we are currently experiencing. Disappointment is rewarded eventually, as we all had hoped for.

While we can't buy championships like the Yankees do every season, it's somewhat trivial to experience a local sports team's newfound production of conquest and triumph.

Should we be taking the Pats' season to heart? The answer is yes; besides habitual highs of sex, alcohol and music, it is another celebratory occurrence that we can escape to and take pleasure from.

While I use the term *we* very freely (much to the dismay of my own girlfriend, who claims that it wasn't *I* who won the game, it was the *team*), I believe it is somewhat warranted.

We are part of the New England Patriots, and the current parley surrounding Super Bowl Fever is something all of New England should not only appreciate, but fully take part in.

Chris Dwyer is the Editor in Chief of The Suffolk Journal. Listen to him on the Rock Show every Friday from 1 to 3 p.m. on Suffolk Free Radio.

Lunch with Kucinich

Not long ago in Portsmouth, I (along with about a dozen others) sat down for lunch with Democratic presidential candidate Dennis Kucinich. I volunteer as the local coordinator for the cities of Lynn and Nahant and have therefore been able to catch a glimpse into a national campaign for the highest political office in the United States. I have witnessed a grassroots effort that the media has largely neglected to report on.

I would like to share that experience with you, not just to swing your vote, but to offer a wider perspective into American politics

Charles Gallo

and to give you reporting which is, as Fox News ironically puts it, more "fair and balanced."

While most of the candidates running for president offer somewhat similar views on most issues, for example that every one of the presidential candidates serving in the House or Senate voted for the Iraq War, Dennis offers something refreshingly unique.

He is virtually the only one who focuses on important issues that are left out of the news and the debates including the removal of American troops from Iraq, the creation of a cabinet level Department of Peace,

legalization of gay marriage, cancellation of NAFTA, decriminalization of marijuana, universal single payer healthcare for all, free education for all from Pre-K through college, and reintroduction of the United States into the World Court, the Kyoto Agreement, and the United Nations. "If you examine his stand on each and every one of the issues, you will find that at the heart of each is his deep and consistent belief that government is for the people," according to Northeast Massachusetts regional coordinator Clare Ritchie.

In the 1970s, as a man in his thirties, he was the mayor of Cleveland and later served in the Ohio Legislature. Now, decades later, he serves those same constituents as a congressman in Washington, DC where he leads the Progressive Caucus.

While almost all of the candidates are millionaires, Kucinich is not; he lives humbly on a vegan diet in the same \$22,000 home he has lived in since the '70s. He grew up poor, having lived in over 20 homes (including a few cars) by his late teens and having to work 80 hours per week to get through college.

The support that Kucinich receives comes from a very diverse part of the electorate. Candidate Kucinich offers a campaign in which, as he puts it, "fear ends and hope begins" and accordingly I am proud to offer a glimpse into his rarely examined campaign.

Boston Confidential

(In)direct democracy



By
James Cormier

A friend recently remarked to me that firsthand accounts he had heard concerning the state of affairs in Iraq told of an atmosphere less than representative of the peaceful, burgeoning democracy toward which the Bush Administration claims to be working. The fervor with which the Shia Muslim population is seeking open, direct elections threatens to disrupt the delicate balance in place under the US-led governing council. And rightly so: the inability of the United States to commit to the democratization of Iraq - purported to be its ultimate intention therein - is incompetence at best and hypocrisy at worst.

The difficulties involved in planning nationwide elections at such short notice are numerous, to be sure, but the potentially dangerous response of a population on the verge of revolution and jihad should prove an effective catalyst. Ayatollah Sistani and his loyal multitudes have seen with the simplicity that comes only from a nascent experience with American democracy that the latter is distinctly American, and not terribly democratic.

The issue lies with the unwieldy and inefficient caucus system. The same mechanism that drove the recent results in Iowa is, supposedly, the only manner in which the United States could realistically grant the

people of Iraq a say in their new democratic government before the summer deadline.

Caucuses are almost gleefully ineffective and unnecessarily complicated: based on the candidate preference of caucus attendees and the later distillation of those preferences, ultimately reaching a small, theoretically representative group of delegates who will do the actual voting, the caucus system is not only blatantly indirect in its democratic function, it provides no definitive guarantees of a truly representative result.

But then, the American power elite have always feared the apparently unworthy masses, doubted their ability to self-elect and self-govern. If American citizens cannot directly elect their leaders, whether it be because of the existence of caucus systems or the Electoral College, why then should we trust the questionable (read: Islamic fundamentalist) abilities of the common Iraqi to do so?

While Americans have become relatively used to this form of bastardized democracy, American and UN leaders may find that Iraq is not prepared to replace tyranny with bloated bureaucracy and Western hypocrisy.

Grant the Iraqi people their popular elections, whatever it takes. Not only, in the negative view, will it avoid impending disaster at the hands of an ignored and disaffected Iraqi people, but it will positively affect the future of that nation and ours.

James Cormier is the Opinion Editor of the Suffolk Journal, and can be reached online at <http://bostonconfidential.org>.

NESAD Outreach Day

Open Office Hours With
PRESIDENT SARGENT

Thursday, January 29, 2004
1-2:30p.m.
@NESAD
75 Arlington Street
Conference Room 218



PRESIDENT SARGENT INVITES YOU TO MEET
WITH HIM TO ASK QUESTIONS, EXPRESS
CONCERNS, SUGGEST IDEAS, AND
TELL HIM HOW YOU FEEL
ABOUT SUFFOLK.

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Arts & Entertainment

Wednesday, January 21, 2004

The Suffolk Journal

6

U2, Velvet Revolver rock their way in 2004

Chris Dwyer
Journal Staff

The underlining of winter is the thought of new beginnings in spring, and that's just for the folks who need *something* to look forward to after a dark and dreary winter.

While we anxiously attempt to recover from the bombast that was the world of rock music in 2003, 2004 is quickly proving to blast its way past the recoils of the past year and front a sonic wall of new-fangled and innovative musical upbringing.

Early in 2000, disciples of rock legends U2 salivated at the thought of a new release that hinted at a return to the Edge-guitar-driven style of old, following the electronic dismay of 1997's *Pop*.

It's now 2004, and those same rabid fans are eagerly awaiting the sanction of U2's much-warranted follow-up to the critically acclaimed *All That You Can't Leave Behind*.

Working with veteran producer Chris Thomas, who helmed the controls for the Sex Pistols, INXS and Roxy Music, both Bono and The Edge are promising that the new effort is their rockiest since the act's early days, and claimed to have the album nearly finished since October.

The disc is looking for a release sometime in spring, possibly May or June, with a single hitting radio in late March or early April.

While U2 leads the pack of what to look forward to in 2004, there are many other discs that are guaranteed to garner attention in the new year.

Industrial icon Trent Reznor has finally started putting the finishing touches on the next Nine Inch Nails opus.

Tentatively titled *Bleedthrough*, the disc is anticipated before the end of the year.

Speaking to *Alternative Press* magazine, Reznor said the album goes against the grain of "the sound of Pro-Tooled perfection and everything being 'fixed.'"

Working with mix engineer Rich Costey and Rock Rubin, expect the disc to be unlike anything Reznor has created in his gothic-toned industrial metal catalogue.

Alt-rockers Incubus drop their much-anticipated follow-up to 2001's smash *Morning View*, entitled *A Crow Left of the Murder*, on Feb. 3.

Lead single "Megolomaniac" is getting heavy radio play, and furthers the emotional boundaries that the band is known for.

In a very unlikely pairing, veteran nu-metal producer Ross Robinson has been hired to produce the new album by goth-tinged new-wavers The Cure, who just signed the band to his I Am Recordings label. The disc is expected to drop in mid-June.

Meanwhile, fans of The Cure can check out a four-CD box set entitled *Join the Dots: B-Sides and Rarities 1978-2001* (The

Fiction Years) on Feb. 3.

Box sets are also due for metal pioneers Black Sabbath and Judas Priest, who have recently reunited with estranged frontman Rob Halford.

Foo Fighter Dave Grohl hops behind the drumkit once again, as his metallic *Probot* project is expected to be unleashed on Feb. 10. *Probot* features Grohl on drums, ex-Zwan guitarist Matt Sweeney and Foo Fighters producer Adam Kasper accompa-

nying the likes of some of heavy metal's most accomplished vocalists, including Lemmy of Motorhead, King Diamond, Snake of Voivod, Max Cavalera of Soulfly, Mike Dean of Corrosion of Conformity and others.

Ex-Rage Against The Machine frontman Zack De La Rocha has been working on his debut solo disc for more than three years since leaving his former band mates.

The political fire burns as De La Rocha has racked up some credible guests on his solo LP, including The Roots' Questlove, DJ Muggs of Cypress Hill and DJ Shadow, all while recording in Nine Inch Nails' ring-leader Trent Reznor's New Orleans studio. De La Rocha is finally projected to release the disc before the end of the year.

In what could be the greatest actual rock 'n' roll offering in years in terms of raw, unabashed profligacy and decadence, three remaining members of the defunct original Guns 'N' Roses lineup have solidified a lineup with Scott Weiland, whose own Stone Temple Pilots saw the end of their tumultuous yet lucrative musical career end with a greatest hits disc titled *Thank You* late last year.

The creation is called Velvet Revolver, and guitarist Slash, bassist Duff McKagan and drummer Matt Sorum along with Loaded axe-man Dave Kushner are attempting to recreate that GNR formula of old with Weiland's crooning abilities.

If last year's "Set Me Free" contribution to "The Hulk" soundtrack is any indication of the full-throttle rock glory the band is capable of, the rock world will be kissing sweet velvet when the act's debut disc (tentatively titled *Contraband*) drops in May.

Not to be outdone, there have been teasers of burnout Axl Rose's "new" Guns 'N' Roses finally releasing the much-hyped and forever-delayed *Chinese Democracy* record sometime this year.

Don't worry Axl, we've learned to wait.



Photo courtesy of Interscope Records

"It's like punk rock made on Venus." Bono and the rest of U2 lead the list of 2004's new releases.



Photo courtesy of RCA Records

Axl who? Scott Weiland joins three-fifths of ex-Guns 'N' Roses members for the high-octane rock 'n' roll of Velvet Revolver.

Burton catches mastery in his 'Big Fish'

Amanda Bellamy

Journal Staff

"Big Fish" is such a tender and loving movie that you'll be offended at the couple in the back making wet, sloppy kissing sounds.

For his latest masterpiece, director Tim Burton chooses to highlight the complex and incomplete relationship between a storytelling father (Albert Finney) and disillusioned son (Billy Crudup).

As offspring Will Bloom prepares to become a father himself, he seeks the truth in his father, Edward Bloom's tall tales.

These extraordinary fables range from the circus leader with a secret (Danny Devito) and the perfect town, Spectre, Bloom bought and restored to its former glory.

Audiences should be surprised at every turn, whether it's the trees that move, a gigantic legendary fish that morphs into a beautiful naked woman or Devito naked and in eyeliner.

Burton successfully mixes the fantastical and magical images he's best known for with the wisdom that can only arise from age.

With widespread mainstream reception the director has obviously touched an emotional chord with audiences.

Ewan McGregor is posed to become the most charming and delightful movie star of modern cinema. His talents are no secret to any savvy moviegoer, but in "Big Fish" McGregor smiles and winks his way into even your mother's heart.

McGregor has ensured his place among the greats, despite not being singled out for awards.

Where most have failed, the actor should be commended for successfully adopting an Alabama accent. New generations should discover Albert Finney, an equally charismatic lead actor, perfect to play an aged



Photo courtesy of Columbia Pictures

Karl the Giant (Matthew McGrory) beams down on Will Bloom (Ewan McGregor).

McGregor.

Finney should be recognizable as Ed from "Erin Brockovich," ("They're called

boobs, Ed").

Here, Finney seemingly effortlessly plays the disarming, charming and dying

patriarchal figure of the Bloom family.

The golden god, scarcely seen since "Almost Famous," Billy Crudup plays the frustrated Will Bloom. Without stepping into the waters of annoying and irritating, Crudup makes the audience share his struggle. Crudup maintains an aura of pristine adulthood, yet adds the remnants of a quizzical tyke to his role. It's a shame that Crudup chooses smaller roles when he's capable of carrying a film.

While the focus of Burton's film is the strained relationship between father and son, the central aspect of Edward Bloom's story is the incredible strength and power of his love for wife Sandra, played by Jessica Lange.

Bloom spends three months shoveling elephant poo just to learn her favorite flower. He enlists the aid of conjoined twins to make it home to his wife.

These far-fetched tales of love and war shape young Will Bloom's childhood and haunt him until his wedding day. During a wedding toast, Finney slips into one of his best-loved stories and angers his son.

This leads to a rift between the two and they don't speak to one another for the next three years. When Finney is believed to have fallen deathly ill, Crudup returns home.

Crudup seizes the opportunity to find the truth in his father's stories and learn who his father really is. The two journey into Edward Bloom's fantasy world. However, Burton's tale is nowhere near as hokey as the premise sounds.

The touching tale of a son trying to close the distance between he and his father touches all audiences.

Burton should be commended for masterfully combining his trademark gothic style with an embraceable tale that will stand the test of time. Stunning visuals combined with a remarkable love story and familiar troubled parent/child relationship makes "Big Fish" a worthy catch.

www.suffolkjournal.net

University Dateline

For more information for getting your event listed in Dateline contact the Student Activities Office at (617) 573-8082.

Wednesday, January 21

MLK Service Day at the Paulist Center, meet in Donahue Lobby at 5 p.m.

Thursday, January 22

MLK Celebration Luncheon, 1:00-2:30 p.m., Law School (Room 170)

Saturday, January 24

MBB vs Daniel Webster (H) 2 p.m., Ridgeway Gymnasium

Monday, January 26

Maya Angelou tickets available to Undergraduate Students at the HUB, \$10

Tuesday, January 27

Study Abroad Fair, 11a.m. - 2p.m., Donahue Café
PC Comedy Night with Mike Birbiglia, 7 p.m., Donahue Café
Unity Week Planning Meeting, 1 p.m., D403

Wednesday, January 28

1st S.O.U.L.S Steering Meeting, 1 p.m., D535

Thursday, January 29

NESADSU Outreach Day & Presidents Open Office Hours 12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.
1 p.m. - 2 p.m. STARS Meeting in D403, 1 p.m. - 2 p.m.

NESAD OUTREACH DAY

THE NEW ENGLAND
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UNIVERSITY

- Show off what your organization or department has to offer!
- Learn and educate others about student life here
- Meet people. Recruit new members!
- Enjoy free food

Thurs., Jan. 29, 2004

12:30-2:30 P.M.

NESADSU GALLERY

If you have any questions please call The Office of Student Activities and Service Learning at 617-573-8320

If your club/organization/department would like to be a part of this great event, please contact Bianca Moruzzi in the Office of Student Activities and Service Learning, ext. 8320, or email bianca.moruzzi@suffolk.edu

Come join these great people who have already signed up!

- SU President Sargent (open office hours)
- Public Relations Club
- Campus Ministry
- S.O.U.L.S. Community Service Center
- Campus Designers
- Student Government Association
- Ballotti Learning Center
- Office of Retention Services
- Performing Arts Concert in the Gallery
- Orientation Leader Information Session