Trustees to vote on commencement change

Claire Jeffers  
Journal Staff

University Trustee members will vote Nov. 10 to drastically change the program that shapes commencement day.

If all goes as proposed, undergraduates and graduate students will no longer receive their degrees during the same ceremony.

For the past two years Suffolk has held the ceremony at the harbor-side Fleet Boston Pavilion. The space holds just under 5,000 people, according to the venue’s website.

“The afternoon ceremony will be for undergraduates only,” President David J. Sargent said at a Board of Trustees' Student Affairs committee meeting on Oct. 27. “We have just run out of space.”

Traditionally, commencement has included both graduate and undergraduate students, but this year, because of the unexpected amount of students planning to walk on graduation day, the change will likely be implemented.

This proposed change would make more tickets available to the families and friends of undergraduates.

As for graduate students, they will be ‘hooded’ in a separate ceremony on Saturday, May 21, the day before graduation.

As officials change the way commencement will work, they continue on the traditional course of finding a student and invited speaker for the ceremony.

Student Government Association President Becky Harlow strongly encouraged students to apply for the student speaker position, as there are no applicants to date.

"The more student involvement, the better," Harlow said.

Associate Dean Elliot Gabriel is responsible for putting together the committee that will ultimately determine who is given the honor of speaking.

The committee will consist of five students, as well as a faculty member and administrator from each school.

Gabriel said that he does not usually receive more than 14 to 15 applicants and that most often, when students apply they are invited back for an interview with the committee.

University officials typically wait until April to announce who the invited commencement speaker will be.

Last year’s guest was Governor Mitt Romney, but there are no indications as to who will be invited this spring.

The applications for student speaker are available now and notices of consideration are sent out in January.

After that, students are expected to prepare a draft speech to present in front of the committee on a reading day scheduled in April.

Plans are set for commencement to take place as usual at Fleet Boston Pavilion on Sunday, May 22.

Law school defends reputation

Rose Fancois  
Journal Staff

Suffolk Law School has come under fire for what is widely considered the cornerstone of the University’s history; its diversity.

In what has become a heated argument with the University of Massachusetts at Dartmouth, Suffolk officials this week sharply disputed an accusation that they have low levels of minority and non-white students.

The conflict all stems from an unpopular move proposed by UMass to merge its Dartmouth school with the Southern New England School of Law.

Although Suffolk specifically by name, The Boston Globe reported that UMass insiders "make it clear that MacCormack’s racial reference was directed at Suffolk."

UMass officials reportedly quoted numbers from a US News and World Report that showed only nine percent of Suffolk Law’s students were non-white, a small number compared to the 36 percent of Southern New England School of Law.

For those who are familiar with the lore of Suffolk University, this number may come as a shock. Founded by Gleason L. Archer in 1906, Suffolk University Law School did not comment on the matter.

Suffolk officials say that the numbers used by MacCormack do not speak for themselves. "First of all, the quoted nine percent, that is old data," said Gail N. Ellis, Dean of Admissions for Suffolk Law school.

Ellis believes that the data is incorrect and a poor representation of what Suffolk Law currently enrolls as students of color.

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SGA strikes resolution
Representatives clash over proposed Snelgrove legislation.

Kaitlin Buckley
Journal Staff

After the initial shock of Emerson student Victoria Snelgrove's death from a "less lethal" projectile at the riots following the Red Sox' ALCS victory, the repercussions were felt immediately throughout Boston's closely-knit college communities.

Opinions quickly surfaced from the tensions students felt about the relationship between the police and college students in general.

These varying reactions were more than evident at the emotionally charged Student Government Association meeting held on Oct. 28, which was completely dedicated to discussing a proposed resolution calling for an investigation into the actions of certain members of the Boston Police Department regarding Victoria Snelgrove's death.

Co-sponsored by senior representative Dan Monahan and freshmen Class President Sean Scanlon, the proposal was met with equal parts passionate encouragement and determined skepticism from SGA and members of the student body that chose to attend the open meeting. Emotions running high during this meeting and another held on Nov. 2 were only a part of the reason why the resolution's sponsors mutually agreed to withdraw it from the legislative table.

The students present at the Oct. 28 meeting were almost completely split on the issue of an investigation. Strongly opinionated defenders of both the police department and the college students provided a dialogue from which there would be no simple conclusion.

Some students faulted the actions of the college students at the celebration gone awry, stating firsthand that they were acting recklessly. "When you gather in a group like that," stated student Jared LaPore, "it causes intimidation."

Others, such as Molly Stark Dean, saw the resolution as a form of protection from reckless police behavior towards college students. "This is not just about Victoria. This is about all of us," Dean said.

Among the members of the student government, the Oct. 28 meeting ended in raised voices and walkouts.

In speeches given Nov. 2, co-sponsors Monahan and Scanlon explained their decision to move on. Citing the inability of the SGA to come to a consensus and the editorial denouncing the proposed resolution in The Suffolk Journal, Monahan strongly declared, "Today, the General Assembly and the Executive Board of SGA have failed to protect the students of Suffolk University. I hope we can all live with ourselves the next time a student dies and it's one of our own."

Both Scanlon and Monahan stressed that their withdrawal was not due to fear or intimidation from the opposing opinions of their peers, but that amendments both added and taken out of the resolution completely changed its meaning in their minds. Scanlon expressed his frustration with the resistance: "The people in SGA are really afraid of conflict and change," he said.

Although the resolution was withdrawn from the student government here at Suffolk, Scanlon stressed that it is not obsolete. "When something like Snelgrove's death happens and no one stands up, we all become insignificant with the city and how it works."

The original co-sponsors planned to take the original resolution to the Boston Intercollegiate Government, which will meet at Boston University Nov. 10 at 7 p.m. Echoing the sentiments of many Suffolk students expressing their opinions in favor of the resolution at the open forum, Scanlon stated, "The next time, it could happen to a Suffolk student."

Suffolk Law School responds to accusations

LAW SCHOOL from page 1

it seems to matter, especially when determining which school the highest number of minority students

Ellis pointed out the fact that Suffolk Law school has a larger student body than Southern New England School of Law. UMass Dartmouth's focus on race appears to correlate with its desire to gain Southern New England Law School. One of MacCormack's biggest arguments for a merger is that a public law school would bolster the number of graduates who would venture into the world of public interest work.

"There is no guarantee that because they are students of color, that they're going into the public interest world," argued Ellis. "I don't necessarily think that [this] is true."

Much has been said about UMass's proposed merger, both good and bad. There are those who argue having another law school is the last thing that Massachusetts need, public or private. "I understand UMass wanting to have a public law school maybe, but that would cost tax payers a lot of many," argues Martin Dubovic, a senior at Suffolk's undergraduate school.

"And there are tons of law schools in Boston, you have many to choose from!" UMass trustees also seem to be just as divided on the issue; the 19-member board has yet to decided whether to go forward with the proposal.

For now Suffolk Law is standing by their assertion that the facts may not be what they seem and UMass Dartmouth has not yet gotten the green light to merge with Southern New England Law School.

A few thousand members of Red Sox Nation stopped by to cheer for the world champions on Sat. Oct. 30. Residents of 150 Tremont Street residence hall had the best seat to view the rolling rally.

Voices of Suffolk

Q: "What class are you most excited about for next semester?"

"Buddhist philosophy with (Professor) Giancola because I'm a philosophy minor and I haven't taken any Buddhist philosophy yet."

James Liberge
Senior

"My Intro to American Democracy class."

Tifane Bryant
Sophomore

"I would say my management class."

Thuy-Lieu Vu
Sophomore

"Art history and stage management."

Selin Onel
Junior

"French."

Anthony Wong
Sophomore

Compiled by: Jenn O'Callaghan
VSA Casino night a hit

Garrett Quinn
Journal Staff

It is a disturbing trend across much of the third world; indigent families receive a visit from a well-dressed man promising riches and a better future. These men speak of working in the big city as a waitress, actress or secretary and offer them a contract. If the contract is signed, what happens next is dark and cruel: The child goes to the city hand-in-hand with their suitor, who takes them to dark room. Quickly, the child finds out they're not going to be waiting tables - they're going to be a sex slave. Child prostitution and trafficking is a serious problem in Southeast Asia, particularly in the communist nation of Vietnam.

Over the summer members of the Suffolk Vietnamese Student Association discussed this among other topics at a conference of the North American Vietnamese Student Associations. While at the conference, held at Emerson College, VSA students were shown an exclusive report produced by Dateline NBC about the child sex trade in Southeast Asia.

VSA members were moved by the report, deciding to organize a fundraiser as part of an effort to raise awareness about child trafficking. "We found human trafficking to be a big problem," said VSA treasurer Stanley Chu. With the help of the Program Council and the Suffolk University Book Store, VSA put on an event billed as Casino Night. Gambling was one of the first forms of entertainment for the original Asian American immigrants in the 19th century, explained Chu. On Friday, Nov. 5, Casino Night was held in the Donahue building. Attendees estimated that over 50 people were present that evening and a total $461.50 was raised for charity.

Gambling is not allowed on campus property so VSA had to adapt their plan to strict rules. The event was more in line with a raffle than a Texas Hold’Em tournament. Students would pay a certain amount in real dollars and in return they’d receive a set amount of VSA dollars and some raffle tickets. Participants could then use the VSA dollars in any manner they saw fit. A raffle was held at the end of the night for prizes ranging from a digital camera and I-Pod to gift certificates at the Suffolk bookstore. Students with the most money at the end of the night were also awarded special prizes. Along with the staples of Blackjack and Texas Hold’Em, students were introduced to traditional Asian gambling games like Lucky Chess and Big/Small. Traditional Vietnamese refreshments were served as well.

VSA has yet to determine the organization they will donate their money to. "We're performing background checks on the groups," said Chu, emphasizing that the government of Vietnam is known for its corruption and has not acted to the best of its ability to stop child trafficking.

"Who has put me here?"
-Pascal

Isaiah 40:26
Lift your eyes and look to the heavens: Who created all these? He who brings out the starry host one by one, and calls them each by name...

Psalm 139:13—14
You made all the delicate, inner parts of my body and knit me together in my mother's womb. Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex! Your workmanship is marvelous...

Real Life
BOSTON

More about our college ministry at RealLifeBoston.com

Women in Business

Women and Entrepreneurship

Guest Speaker Gretchen Dock will join us from the Center for Women & Enterprise.

You need not be a business major to benefit from this event! Whether you aspire to open your own patient practice or law office—let us teach you how! Join us to gain valuable advice on defining your business, and refining your ideas while learning how to formulate action plans.

Tuesday, Nov. 16
1:00—2:15 pm
Sawyer rm. 322

Snacks will be served!

All are Welcome!
A Welcomed Change

Barring an un-foreseen change by the University's Board of Trustees, undergraduate students will stroll into the Fleet Boston Pavilion on commencement day without their graduate student counterparts.

It is not every day that the administrators at this university make us happy, but they have very rarely done it. They are all well-intentioned, truly nice and generous people. However, through some cosmic imbalance, or more specifically, through the positions they hold, we as students are forever pinched against them. Whether it is a complaint regarding the obviously high tuition prices or having to take a class that scholastically holds no purpose, like Science 301.

Every once in a while, the folks up on the 25th floor of Oue Beacon know how to make us smile. President David J. Sargent announced that the Board of Trustees will vote Wednesday Nov. 10 to change the commencement plans. It almost goes without saying that the Board will take Sargent's recommendation and pass the measure. For the past two years graduates have been given three tickets to the commencement ceremony and invited to enter a lottery for more tickets. Students were rightfully disappointed and agitated with the university. Many had to choose which family member was more important and give the others a pass. Whether it is a complaint regarding the amount of graduates got up and left after receiving their degrees, or an idea is a true home run and the administration deserves recognition for implementing the change. Now, we just have to talk with Mother Nature and ask for her help on May 22.

The decision to separate the graduate and undergraduate ceremonies makes sense. Students will be allowed to invite more family members to the special event and graduates will have a special more intimate occasion to mark their special achievement. This idea is a true home run and the administration deserves recognition for implementing the change. Now, we just have to talk with Mother Nature and ask for her help on May 22.

Letters to the Editor

President must push agenda

Dear Suffolk Journal,

First off I would like to congratulate the President on his re-election to the Presidency. He ran a good campaign and he deserved to win. The Democrats can't find this time around, they clearly lost. But now that the campaign is over and the winner is known, what's next? What will the President do now?

Well first things first. He should concentrate on Iraq. Now that the election is over, this nation as a whole should support the President and the military in their campaign in Iraq. The elections there scheduled for January must be successful or we will suffer the consequences later down the road. He should also focus more on Afghanistan and catch Osama bin Laden and bring him to justice once and for all.

On the Homefront, the Patriot Act is set to expire in early 2005. Instead of muscling through a renewal of the bill, the President should take the road less traveled and work with the Democrats to reach an agreement they can agree to, after all they do make up 49% of the country. Bush should do the same when it comes to Social Security and Healthcare. These are pressing matters that must be solved in a bipartisan way. Moderates in both parties should work together to reach a compromise. Or else the two sides will squabble over the issues until its too late.

On potential Supreme Court nominees the President again can't ignore the Democrats. They still have enough seats in the Senate to filibuster any judicial nominees.

The court should have wise and practical justices on the bench, not radicals from either side of the aisle, forcing their beliefs on the public at large. All of this talk of bipartisan action that I speak of and the unity the candidates spoke of would be a great thing for this country.

But odds are it won't happen. President Bush and his Republican allies in Congress don't need the Democrats to govern.

This is not to say that if John Kerry were in the same position that he would unite us. But President Bush will probably push for such things as a ban on abortion and gay marriage and the privatization of social security, something the Democrats oppose with a passion.

The question over the next four years for the President will not be how can I work with the opposition to get things done, but rather what can I get away with to satisfy my right-wing supporters? And with control of the government, that could mean quite a lot.

Sincerely,

Dan McGugh
Managing Editor/Arts Editor

The Suffolk Journal is the student newspaper of Suffolk University. It is the mission of the Suffolk Journal to provide the Suffolk community with the best reporting of the University's news: current events, trends and styles, entertainment, sports and opinions. The reporting, views and opinions in the Suffolk Journal are solely those of the editors and staff of the Suffolk Journal and do not reflect those of Suffolk University, unless otherwise stated. The Suffolk Journal does not discriminate against any persons for any reason and complies with all university policies concerning equal opportunity. A comprehensive copy of the Suffolk Journal's editorial and advertising policy is available upon request. Copyright 2004

http://suffolkjournal.net
Liberals learn lessons the hard way

Twenty-two percent of the population, who voted overwhelmingly for Bush, put "moral issues" on the top of their list of election concerns. These people, who have revealed in calling the Democrats "out of touch" and "weak on defense" thought it was more important to come out on top in a pissing contest between urbanites and themselves, than resolving issues like terrorism, the war in Iraq, or jobs and the economy. They didn't think about the issues and they didn't ask the tough questions. They voted for the guy that reminded them of their old drinkin' buddy, instead of the one that sounded like the nerd who made them feel like dumbasses in high school civics class.

This wasn't about protecting children, or providing for a more moral future. So what was it, to roughly 22% of the population, that this election was all about? Trivial things like insurance and tax benefits and hospital visitation rights to gay couples, if we have not viewed their way of life with comfort at home, than for your neighbor who lost his job, or his kid who's in Fallujah. You'd be lucky if the first word that came to mind isn't "monstrous."

Chris DeFillippi

Weathering the Storm

Oh, so the weather is changing, there is a major flu vaccine shortage in America and the high temperature in New England fluctuates by 40 degrees everyday. Since this happens every year, why have we yet to get accustomed to this?

Now that it is November and the winter months are creeping in, I've begun to realize how much I dislike those people who still can't cope with New England weather. I despise those 135 lb., 5'9 businessmen that carry canopy-sized umbrellas. You know, the umbrella that covers the person holding it along with the other five people standing beside them who are also holding umbrellas.

Doesn't that jackass realize they use that umbrella to cover the gummy carrying a 300lb. pregnant woman from the parking lot to the maternity ward. Don't get me wrong, it has other uses. I've seen caddies holding it above their golfer and bag, but I don't see Tiger Woods standing next to him, swinging a five iron.

When we get to November that's when it starts getting interesting and you'll see even more asinine people walking the streets. You have to love those who are bundled up in Michelen man snowsuits on a 48-degree morning, knowing that the temperature is going to increase 20 degrees throughout the day.

Give me a break people. You can wear a sweatshirt and jeans if there are people running along the Charles River wearing shorts and a long sleeve T-shirt.

There is no need to have two scarves, five layers underneath your down jacket and thermals under your wool pants. Are you trying to go for the Ralphie look from "A Christmas Story?" Another weather casualty is snow, which makes students feel it is unnecessary to attend classes when two inches of powder hits the ground.

We will wake up in the morning around 6:00 O'clock, which happens to be the only time a college student will be awake before 7:30 and check the local school cancellations.

When we discover Suffolk has only postponed classes for one hour and Emerson has cancelled all day classes and activities, we, regardless of already being awake for class, decide to sleep in for the morning.

Of course we tell ourselves that we are skipping classes to get a head start on future assignments, as if that might actually happen. Students will have no problem waking up to play football or build a snowman in Boston Common, but walking from the dorms requires too much effort.

Now let's advance in time and look into the future, around summertime. Those same people that were hoping for a groundhog to see his shadow and a shortened winter for a quicker arrival of hot weather, are now the ones complaining about the warm summer days.

They would complain about the costly heating oil and talk about how much money they are going to save when the temperature rises. Now that there is a chance of breaking a sweat, they run their air conditioner 20 hours a day only to offset set their oil costs with a high electric bill.

At this point, I would like to commend those guys who, in the middle of winter, will still be wearing a T-shirt, sandals and the same pair of sweatpants to class for an entire week. Also, a shout out to those girls who endorse the agendas of below freezing weather and continue to wear short skirts and half tops to the clubs.

It's amazing how a 110 lbs. girl can wear practically nothing to a bar and bear the cold weather, but every obese businessman in a wool suit and new parka has the flu for half of the winter.
Maeghan E. Lenz
Journal Staff

Steakhouse mixes prime beef and history

Founded in New York in 1977 by founder of T.G.I. Friday's, Alan Stillman, Smith & Wollensky has significantly raised standards in regards to the perfect dining experience.

Lavish portions of exquisite food, a strictly American wine list and unprecedented customer service standards complement the nationalistic décor throughout the former armory.

Newly renovated, the "castle" was built in 1891 to house Boston's elite First Corps of Cadets.

The corps established the armory as a volunteer militia of upper-class men in an effort to protect the city in feared uprisings especially during the police strike that occurred in 1819 in Boston.

Throughout the restaurant's four floors, fireplaces glow, original dark woodwork stands strong and electric converted light fixtures hang above the patrons who, if it weren't for stricter laws, would be indulging in a cigar to go with their sherry.

Aged American flags displayed on the mezzanine level overlook bar patrons and diners in the first floor dining room. Class radiates on the second floor in the formal main dining room as a prominent fireplace warms the smaller third floor dining area.

Reserved strictly for private events, the fourth-floor Banquet Hall will bring you back in time as Sinatra echoes off the high ceilings and into the attached private bar area.

No matter which dining room you choose, satisfaction awaits, especially with the delectable fare served by the exuberant waitstaff.

"Our number one concern here at Smith & Wollensky is to make sure our guests are happy by giving them the product and attention to make their experience worthwhile," said Rebecca, one of the many proficient servers. "Anybody can put a steak on a plate, but we put some fun into it."

Don't worry vegetarians, executive chef, Tindaro Losurdo, formerly of the Chart House and McCormick & Schmick's, gives you options, such as the lightly breaded Angry Shrimp as well as their wide array of salads and a la carte vegetables.

Desserts at Smith & Wollensky are simply irresistible. Everything is made in house, except, of course, for the New York "Store Bought" Cheesecake. Splitting a banana split or piece of carrot cake is both fulfilling and imperative to your dining experience.

Lunch will be served starting in November after 11:30 and dinner begins at 4:30, seven days a week. Reservations are suggested and can be made by calling (617) 423-1112.

Impress your parents, relatives or significant other with your sophisticated taste in restaurants for a fantastic graduation dinner or during this upcoming holiday season at Smith & Wollensky.

Suzi Brander - Journal Staff

Film noir: Jay-Z's new film fades to letdown

Billy Thegenus
Journal Staff

It seems like only yesterday Jay-Z released his 1996 debut Reasonable Doubt. At the time he was still trying to find his footing in hip-hop among other New York rappers. He was far from a millionaire and Roc-A-Fella Records was only a pebble.

Fast-forward 8 years and albums later, Shawn Carter had reached the apex of his career. The day was Nov. 25, 2000 and Jay-Z sold out Madison Square Garden in two hours, a feat that even the likes of Biggie or Nas had accomplished.

Jay had still not come down from the high off the buzz surrounding his most anticipated work, The Black Album, released only two weeks prior. It supposedly was the last his fans would hear of him.

With all of those accomplishments under his belt there was nothing more to do than give the Empire State his most anticipated work. With all of those accomplishments under his belt there was nothing more to do than give the Empire State his biggest concert ever. This is what inspired directors Michael Anthony and Andrew D. "Andy" Kingsbury to see the artists as humans in their everyday lives. "Backstage" had shown both the business side and artistic side of the hip hop industry and how these rappers deal with the paths they had chosen for themselves.

In the eyes of the die hard fans Jay-Z can do no wrong in "Fade To Black" but if he really wanted to impress the general film watchers he should have taken some pointers from "Backstage" while Warren and Paulson should have taken notes from the film to have seen the way a concert documentary could have and should have been done.

"Fade To Black" is currently showing in Loews Copley Place and is rated R.
OUTSIDE SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY FOR WOMEN

If you are a female receiving an undergraduate degree BEFORE May 2006 AND (as of fall 2005) have at least 24 hours remaining to complete your undergraduate degree AND have graduated from high school on or before September 1995, you may be interested in applying for a TALBOTS scholarship.

Full and part-time students may apply.

Applications and program details can be obtained online at www.talbots.com/about/scholar/scholar.asp. In addition, applications can be obtained at all TALBOTS stores.

This information has been provided by The Financial Aid Office.

Rocky Comes to Suffolk

The Performing Arts Office is excited to announce the department has obtained the rights to perform "The Rocky Horror Picture Show." Auditions will be held on Tuesday Nov. 16 from 6-10 p.m. Signups and audition packets are located outside the Performing Arts Office, D409. Participants can expect the auditions to consist of singing, dancing and reading. Originally a London stage production "The Rocky Horror Picture Show" was made famous by the 1975 film starring Tim Curry, Susan Sarandon and Meat Loaf. The story follows couple Janet Weiss and Brad Majors as the two stumble across transvestite Dr. Frank-N-Furter and his creation Rocky Horror. Ultimately a tale of acceptance, sexy fun and cheeky humor run amok in this musical.

Fajitas and ‘Ritas, good and cheap eat

By the end of their freshman or sophomore years, most Suffolk students quickly become fed up with the lack of food joints that are both cheap and edible at the same time. If, however, they know of such a restaurant that had a surprise bathroom message that said "It's hard to live life down on your knees, those are dark days indeed," they might be more than a little curious to discover it.

Fajitas and ‘Ritas, located at 25 West Street on Boston Common, is one such place for Suffolk to discover. From the moment you walk in the door, your eyes are met by murals of every color, walls adorned by disco balls and hubcaps and thousands of scribbles filled with sentiment.

There are dedications to first dates and significant others written next to raves about the nachos. Customers have even moved messages into the restrooms, including words of inspiration while on your knees from all of the frosty margaritas.

With this type of atmosphere in a hidden Tex-Mex joint, it may surprise some to see the variety of patrons that choose Fajitas and ‘Ritas as their weekend hot spot. It is frequented by entrepreneurs for business meetings and by fellow college students desperate for anything but cafeteria cuisine.

A typical night of feasting begins with a basket of chips, perfectly seasoned salsa and a carbon-copy menu that gives any hand with a pen the freedom to doodle while they choose from the traditionally alluring menu.

A popular appetizer among customers is the cheese quesadillas, filled to the brim with cheddar and chicken, steak or shrimp for the gourmet-oriented. The homemade chili, though a bit watery, is easily kicked up with habanero chili sauce, which will bring even the most rugged Mexican to tears in a heartbeat. And for $2-$3 for appetizers and $5-$8 for entrees, students won't burn a hole in their pockets trying to get a decent meal.

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These aren't the only reasons why Fajitas and ‘Ritas has won so much acclaim. It won Boston's Best Crème de la Crème award in 1993 and was featured in the Boston Herald of August 1996. Although food and atmosphere are certainly factors, the popular frozen margaritas are the icing on the cake.

If there is anything to rave about time and time again, their strawberry and raspberry margaritas would be it.

With its fun and eclectic atmosphere, good prices and even fewer food is a spot that your taste buds will crave for night after night. All in all, if a night of cafeteria pizzas and Salisbury steaks simply won't cut it, Fajitas and ‘Ritas will not only feed you for cheap, but will leave you "on your knees" begging for more.

Staff Sounds

Garrett Quinn - DJ Tiesto, Myana - There's a reason this guy is rated the #1 DJ in the world. And I'm looking forward to seeing him at Avalon on Dec. 7.

Marc Wilder - Flogging Molly, Drunken Lullabies - It makes me happy while walking to class.

Rich Parenteau - Twiztid, The Green Book - It's my favorite music to listen to. I like to put them on when there's a lot of work to get done. It keeps me motivated.

Amanda Bellamy - Razorblade Romance, Love Metal and Deep Shadows and Brilliant Highlights - I've been listening to HIM like it's my job. I'm really excited about seeing them live on Friday.

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Sports

The Suffolk Journal

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Ram's runner sets pace for cross country

Rich Parenteau
Journal Staff

There is no "I" in team, but the Suffolk University women's cross country team came as close as you can get without breaking this old cliché.

This year Suffolk was represented by two talented female athletes, including freshman Jaime Mancuso and All-Conference Great Northeast Athletic Conference award winner Samantha Urwin.

Urwin, a native of Newton, New Hampshire and sophomore here at Suffolk, carried the torch virtually on her own this year. Unlike other teams in the conference, Urwin didn't have a full roster of teammates lined up by her side throughout the season.

"It was a different experience being on this type of team," said Urwin. "It's fun. The coach is really able to focus on you."

At meets, Urwin would be surrounded at the starting line by complete teams from other schools. "The Emerson girls would always ask where the rest of my team was," Urwin joked. Nevertheless she was not intimidated and in the end didn't need any help defeating the competition.

Undoubtedly a gifted athlete and skilled runner, Urwin became the first Suffolk runner to place in the top 10 at a GNAC meet, which is a 3.1-mile race for the women. She placed sixth with a time of 22:03 at the meet, which took place Saturday Oct. 30 at Rivier College.

While being on a team with only one other teammate was something new, the competition Urwin faced was old hat.

"I've always been on cross country, since the fourth grade," commented Urwin. "I didn't do it last year because I was watching out for my grades. Minus my freshman year, I've always been on a cross country team."

In between working two jobs, Urwin would spend time training for her meets. If she wasn't practicing at an indoor track, Urwin would take it to the streets of Boston.

"I'd do the 'Charles run,' down to the B.U. Bridge and back to Ridgeway," said Urwin, who also does demanding hill workouts up and down Beacon Hill.

She also spent time running with her coach Don Murray, as well as with the men's cross country team.

"I practiced with the guys on track work outs," mentioned Urwin. "With the guys team, I've always felt like part of a team."

Urwin, who has worked at a special needs camp for the past four summers and hopes to pursue a career in the field of special education, will be transferring across the city next year, to UMass Boston.

However, Urwin will never forget the time she has spent here at Suffolk and credits those around her, especially her coach, for the fond memories of this past year. "It was a great experience. The people here are great and the coach is great," said Urwin.

"I love my coach. He's one of the main reasons I stuck with cross country."

Star strong in adversity

Rich Parenteau
Journal Staff

If you are looking for some sort of inspiration to get back up on your feet after being knocked down, you need not look any further than the Suffolk University men's soccer team for encouragement. Specifically, have a talk with senior midfielder Carlomagno Ortha and you will hear a story of magnetic will and determination.

Ortha, a computer information systems major who will be graduating this December, originally did not intend to play soccer here at Suffolk. He came to America from Caracas, Venezuela and enrolled into a part time program at Boston University where he earned English.

Ortha's father, who has a real estate company here in Boston, convinced his son to come live in the United States. "I wanted to experience American life," said Ortha. "It was a different life and I really liked it."

At Boston University, Ortha tried out and made the soccer team. However, his season was cut short after NCAA rules prohibited him from playing because he was not officially enrolled fulltime at the institution.

"I was very disappointed at the beginning, but then I realized that rules are rules," remarked Ortha. Soon after, he applied to Suffolk and in virtually no time he found his new soccer team.

Ortha excelled during his freshman year, earning Rookie of the Week honors after scoring two goals in one game. Yet, his promising season was put off again and this time there was no quick return in sight.

"That day was very cold, and I didn't warm up very well," recalled Ortha. "One guy kicked me in my leg and I fell on my leg very bad."

Ortha tore the anterior cruciate ligament in his right knee, sidelining him for eight months. Ortha made a full recovery and returned to the team his sophomore year, although his physical ability couldn't keep up with his intensity on the field.

"I was having some trouble with my knee," Ortha said. "I kind of had a new knee and I wasn't feeling very well at the beginning."

Ortha continued to work at regaining his strength and kept faith in himself that he could overcome the injury. "I concentrated on doing well and at the end of the season I was one of the starting players," said Ortha.

Ortha came back at full strength his junior year and went on to earn both Player of the Year and Outstanding Athlete of the Year honors for Suffolk.

This season, finishing at 11-5, the Suffolk men's soccer team put together one of its best regular seasons in recent memory.

"We were very close with each other," explained Ortha. "We were not only a soccer team, we were friends on the field, which I believe is very important."

With graduation approaching fast, Ortha has been thinking about life after school and outside of soccer.

"I realize that I have to work. I have to do other things," said Ortha.

"I want to keep playing but it depends if I have the chance or the time. But for sure I'll do my best to continue playing for any team that I can."

"No matter where he goes, whatever team or company he is in future part of, Ortha will continue to be a welcomed inspiration to those around him."

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