Drugs for an "A"?

Rose Francois
Journal Staff

Throwing a good 'ole fashioned kegger in the future may require more than just money; it may now involve paperwork. If a new proposal by city councillor Stephen J. Murphy were to pass next year, any individual buying a keg with the city of Boston would be required to register before making such a purchase. Though Murphy's proposal is still being reviewed and would not be ready for presentation until January, many individuals - mostly college students - are keeping an eye on the keg issue.

Getting a keg would involve going to City Hall and filling out a registration form. A wait period may be included in the proposal that "could be almost instantaneous ... within an hour," Murphy said. "It's not our intent to delay," explained Murphy. "It is our intent to track." The impact the proposal may have on stores in the business of selling alcohol may vary. But many believe that the proposal would do very little to curb underage drinking. "People aren't gonna stop buying beer," said Joe Gomes, manager of Blanchard's Liquor Store in Allston. "They'll just buy it in a different form."

The proposal comes on the heels of recent events involving college students in often-violent situations where alcohol was a factor. The prime example that Murphy pointed to was the

Professor pens memoirs

John Forrester
Journal Staff

One of the things that makes Suffolk stand out from other universities is that the professors and adjunct faculty are not only drawn from the world of academia, but from many of the professions that the school offers as majors.

Most students who take courses in the English department don't realize accomplished writers often teach them. Suffolk University is home to quite a few published writers, one of whom is Professor Carol Dine.

Dine, author of numerous poems and essays, has recently finished her memoir, "Places in the Bone," which will be published by Rutgers University Press this coming spring. The book, which coincides with her creative non-fiction workshop, "The Memoir: Write Your Own Story" at Suffolk this upcoming spring semester, is about how she used writing to overcome personal tragedies and deal with the storing memories of a painful childhood.

"I was the product of a violent household, so I had to go inside myself to create a voice," recalled Dine. "A writer writes about what they know."

Since 1977, Dine has published over 50 poems, essays and journals as well as two books of poems: "Naming the Sky" (Golden Quill, 1988) and "Trying to Understand the Lunar Eclipse" (Erie Street, 1992). She has written about topics as diverse as paintings by Vincent van Gogh, the female reaction to September 11, 2001, and photographs of...
Students using drugs to study

Christopher DeFillippi
Journal Staff

At colleges across the country, the use of drugs such as Adderall and Ritalin to treat Attention Deficit Disorder and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder has become increasingly common. These drugs increase a user's ability to concentrate and increase their levels of energy and concentration abilities. The Director of the Counseling Center Ken Gami attests that there are more students who have prescriptions for these drugs.

"When I started here, we rarely if ever saw students on drugs of any type, we rarely if ever saw students who had been in therapy before," said Gami, who has been at Suffolk for 35 years. "I don't recall seeing a student with ADD or ADHD for the first 25 years I worked here. I think with the advent of psychotropic drugs which are symptom-specific, or symptom-specific, the University is now dealing with more students with ADD who are now able to get into college." Gami also noted that learning and psychological disorders have become increasingly de-stigmatized, leading to more people seeking treatment.

The counselors at Suffolk are trained psychologists and unlike psychiatrists, are not licensed to write prescriptions. Because of this, students interested in chemical treatment for ADD and ADHD must be referred to the New England Medical Center's department of Psychiatry. Gami said, and there has been an increase in student interest regarding ADD testing.

"There has been a doubling of students seeking testing over the past three or four years," Gami said.

"When we have referred students out for neuro-psych evaluation, ostensibly because they think they have ADD, at most half of them have a full-blown diagnosis for ADD."

There has been increased media scrutiny over illegal usage of Adderall and Ritalin as a study aid at colleges throughout the country.

These drugs are chemically similar to illegal methamphetamine, are similarly potentially addictive and can cause similar physical health problems, according to the National Institute on Drug Abuse. Even during finals, where the drugs' ability to increase one's energy and concentration abilities would be advantageous, there appears to be minimal illegal use of the drugs at Suffolk.

"I haven't seen it, and I haven't heard of it," said freshman Jennie Eisenberg, when asked about possible stimulant use as study aids.

"Is it a problem here?"

Sophomore Nick Mazzaro had.

"I've heard of it, but I've never seen it or had the chance to get it."" Sophomore Pete Knut, who has a prescription for Adderall, had seen only a small amount of abuse as a study aid, and once at a party.

"These people don't know about Adderall," Knut said.

"They think it'll get them drunk faster, like with Robotoxus."

Alyson Hedstrom, also a sophomore, has noticed only a slight increase in illegal usage.

"I've heard of a lot kids just using it to concentrate to stay up," she said.

"There's a lot of stress to deal with this year."

In regards to increasing workloads, and the stress of finals, Gami emphasized that the problem can be minimized.

"The one thing that students must understand is that even if there is a keg party at your house, that there will be changes in the way life, study, and interact with the University this time of year," Gami said.

"And how they react to these changes is often more important than the changes themselves."

It's normal, it's predictable, and if they manage it in a productive way, it's short-lived.

College keg parties targeted

PARTY from page 1

American League Championship Series riots, when Emerson College student Victoria Snelgrove lost her life. Gomes believes the major impact of this proposal, if passed, would be that sales of kegs would shift to bars of beer. Questioning that the proposal could account for a couple of people's skulls."

"We're not saying never use these [weapons] again," said Laurent. "But we've seen them used once and they've killed someone and they've cracked for a couple of people's skulls."

"All we're asking for is that they stop using these weapons until they have the proper procedures and the training to determine if they can use these things in the safest way possible," Laurent said.

The subject of holding local law enforcement officials accountable for their post-game response has had its share of difficulties in the days following its first introduction.

After a series of short, staccato meetings, the original resolution was voted down, partly due to criticism among members who felt that it was not a fair representation of the student body's feelings. Others also felt there was no room for compromise in its calling for the resignation of police officers involved in Snelgrove's death if their behavior was indeed judged to be inappropriate.

With this newly revised resolution and corresponding signatures, Students for Peace and Justice hope that it will be passed by the student government.

"This is the version the students want," stresses Class of 2006 Representative Jack Hamm, who is sponsoring the resolution.

On Tuesday, Nov. 16, Emerson College passed three town meeting petitions: Mayor Thomas Menino, Police Commissioner Kathleen O'Toole and the Boston City Council to ban "lethal" weapons. It remains to be seen whether Suffolk University will follow suit.

Student group pushes for Snelgrove resolution

Kaitlin Beckley
Journal Staff

Persistent members of Suffolk's student activist group Students For Peace and Justice have reintroduced a resolution calling for the city of Boston to ban "less lethal" weapons, out of respect to the memory of Snelgrove and Omar Camara Ramirez, WSUB General Manager Jennifer Droney and students from Communications Professor Mark Rotondo's Rhetorical Communication course as well as students from the Psychology department under the direction of Professor Sue Orsillo all were honored at the event.

Each of the groups will be awarded $1,000 to implement their projects to combat depression among students.
Picasso eatery offers campus some new flavors

John Forrester
Journal Staff

Dwindling meal-plan funds and redundant campus cafeteria menus often drive Suffolk students to seek out local restaurants in search of tasty, cheap eats. Now along with the Deme St. Deli, Primo's Pizza, Cafe Podima and Venice Pizzeria, there’s a new option on Beacon Hill: Cafe Picasso.

Cafe Picasso, located at 4 Somerset St., is just a few steps away from the 10 Somerset dorm. The new restaurant offers a variety of Mediterranean-style salads, pies, and sandwiches.

“We make a unique sandwich,” owner Kalid Deen said. “Most of them I designed myself,” he said. Along with traditional Italian favorites like Prosciutto and Mozzarella and Eggplant Parmesan, Picasso serves one-of-a-kind sandwiches that blend Mediterranean and Italian flavors.

Deen’s mouthwatering creations include shrimp and ham; chicken ala Chili with string beans and spicy avocado; and roasted lamb, garnished with parsley and onion.

Deen and his two brothers, Sony and Amer, have been in the restaurant business for over 20 years. “After I graduated from Northeastern, I opened up my first restaurant, Il Villaggio, with my brothers in the North End,” said Deen. The Italian restaurant is located off of Hanover St. and has been very successful, though Deen says, “We wanted to try [opening a restaurant] close to a university crowd and office area.”

Many of Picasso’s salads and pies are made at Il Villaggio, such as the Italian tuna salad, made with lemon juice and olive oil, and the Salmon salad made with red peppers and a dill sauce.

“We only use the freshest ingredients and herbs. I want to make the healthiest, best tasting food I can,” said Deen. Among the various salads and sandwiches, Picasso has the usual cafe-fare, such as fresh baked muffins, croissants, coffee and cappuccino.

“We buy all of our beans from a local roaster, except for the cappuccino, which are Italian,” Deen said.

Not only will Suffolk students be able to get a decent caffeine fix in Cafe Picasso, but possibly a late-night option for food when the dorm cafeterias are no longer open. Students who live in 10 Somerset would benefit the most if Picasso has late hours, because of its close location. “It’s great that Picasso opened up because there aren’t a lot of options after the cafeterias close,” said sophomore Andrew Fishbone.

Currently Picasso’s hours are from 7a.m. to 7 p.m., but according to Deen their hours may be reconsidered.

Additionally, promotions aimed at Suffolk students are planned in the next couple of weeks. As a new restaurant in the Suffolk neighborhood, Cafe Picasso is definitely worth checking out for its distinctive sandwiches, salads, and coffee.

You Are Invited

Suffolk University
FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS
a multicultural and interfaith celebration of the season
Thursday, December 9, 1pm
Temple Street Park
(across from the Donahue Building)

Featuring the Suffolk University Chorus
Reception to follow in the Donahue Lobby

Sponsored by:
The Interfaith Center

You are invited to bring a donation of canned goods for local soup kitchens.
Dine's autobiography reaches across campus

MEMOIRS, from page 1

Mexican mumur, but the catalyst for her writing career was the personal tragedies she has endured in her life.

"The memoir is connected by two themes: first, my abusive childhood and second, my incidents with breast cancer," said Dine.

Much of Dine's earlier work was an outlet for the pain harbored as a result of the physical abuse she suffered as a child. "I had a secret I didn't fully tell. I didn't know I was writing about the abuse," explained Dine, adding that she made this realization years later, through therapy and self-realizations.

"Places in the Bone" details the complexities of the relationship between Dine and her father and the process of overcoming long-buried, painful feelings as an adult towards her family as a result of the abuse.

In 1980, Dine was diagnosed with breast cancer, the first of three recurring incidents with the illness.

During the course of her treatments, she wrote poetry and journals to deal with the daily terror she faced.

"It wasn't safe to talk about [breast cancer] in my community," Dine said. Writing was a valuable outlet for the emotions she felt during her time with cancer, as Dine felt that there was no one she could talk to who would understand what she was going through.

The American Cancer Society gave Dine the "Sword of Hope Award" in 1989 for the account of her experiences with breast cancer, "Treatments: A Journal," published the same year in the Boston Herald.

In a time when public awareness of breast cancer was very minimal, Dine's account drew attention to an issue that had long been ignored.

Near the beginning of the book Dine says, "I write to exert my will. I write to survive illness," Dine's work not only helped her survive the illness, but offered other women suffering from breast cancer a source of hope and comfort, including her own sister.

One of the most poignant moments of the memoir was when her sister, diagnosed after Dine, asks, "Do you think of cancer every minute?" Dine replies, "You train yourself not to. You force yourself to find the joy." Dine writes as means to live; to see past personal tragedy and find the happiness and beauty that exists in the world.

"Places in the Bone" is already beginning to generate some hype in the literary world. Dine has received praise from fellow authors and critics, including Pulitzer Prize winner Norman Mailer, who said of her work, "[the book] reads like a slalom course full of jigs, jags and quick jumps that capture a good amount of the fine surprises and sudden disaster in her life."

Memoirs can be a very effective tool for a writer to analyze personal changes and the progression of their work through life. In the process of writing "Places in the Bone," Dine made folders on topics relating to childhood, religion and work to organize important details related to her progression as a writer.

For students who want to try writing their own life's story, Dine will teach the workshop, "The Memoir: Write Your Own Story," next semester. Using the works of authors such as Gabriel Garcia Marquez and Maxine Hong Kingston, among others, as examples. Dine will help students write a memoir of 18 to 25 pages by the end of the course.

On the upcoming workshop, Dine feels that, "[students who take this class] will be able to express themselves about their lives in a private setting. It's a combination of learning to write well and gaining perspective on your life."
Voices of Suffolk

Q: "If you could ask President Sargent any question, what would you ask?"

"I would ask him how he likes the new building."
Wayne Atkins
Sophomore

"I would ask him why food on campus is so overpriced."
Tony Hui
Sophomore

"Why isn't there a parking garage for Suffolk students?"
Nicole Cassista
Sophomore

"When will there be an ATM machine on campus?"
Christina Georgoudis
Senior

"How much do you love Suffolk Free Radio?"
Stacia Russell
Senior

Compiled by: Jenn O'Callaghan

Happy Holidays

The Shamie Prize for Civic Innovation

Ray Shamie Prize for Civic Innovation
$1,000 Award

for the best student paper proposing private initiatives for improving government and society.

Deadline March 1, 2005
Dorm residents deserve better

Suffolk University Police and Security deserve much credit. 365 days a year they work hard to protect the place we call school and some students even call home. For those who do live in the residence hall at 150 Tremont Street, what some considered an invasion of privacy turned out to be the outside world was broken into on Monday, November 29.

A man entered the residence hall after telling a campus security officer he was applying for a job with the campus food services contractor. After entering the cafeteria, the unidentified man made his way into the living quarters of the hall.

It is reported that the man then entered resident’s rooms. It is believed the man stole a laptop from one room that was unlocked.

In this particular instance, the Suffolk Police failed to serve and protect. According to Suffolk Chief of Police John Pagliurso, procedures for allowing people doing such business were followed, however residents deserve better.

Students should be able to expect a certain amount of security in their place of residency. Suffolk has spent thousands of dollars installing security devices and surveillance cameras in the dormitory, not to mention the thousands of dollars spent training its officers. All of this for what? The equipment did nothing from stopping this unidentified man from entering what many believe to be a secure area.

It should be noted that very often when a crime occurs people tend to blame the police for lack of security and not the perpetrator. We do blame this man for the crime he has committed but we cannot turn the other way and not pay attention to a lack of service from our police force.

SUPD and the criminal are not the only ones to receive blame. Residents must make personal safety their first responsibility. Included in that is making sure their room doors are locked at all times. All to often this is not a normal practice.

Students can not continue to expect to be safe in their rooms if they are not willing to make their personal security a priority.

In an interview with The Journal, Chief Pagliurso said the procedure for people applying for jobs with Sodexho has now been changed, however residents deserve better.

Residents must make personal safety their first responsibility. According to Suffolk Chief of Police John Pagliurso, procedures for allowing people doing such business were followed, however residents deserve better.

It should be noted that very often when a crime occurs people tend to blame the police for lack of security and not the perpetrator. We do blame this man for the crime he has committed but we cannot turn the other way and not pay attention to a lack of service from our police force.

SUPD and the criminal are not the only ones to receive blame. Residents must make personal safety their first responsibility. Included in that is making sure their room doors are locked at all times. All too often this is not a normal practice.

Students can not continue to expect to be safe in their rooms if they are not willing to make their personal security a priority. In an interview with The Journal, Chief Pagliurso said the procedure for people applying for jobs with Sodexho has now been changed, however residents deserve better.

Residents must make personal safety their first responsibility. Included in that is making sure their room doors are locked at all times. All to often this is not a normal practice.

Students can not continue to expect to be safe in their rooms if they are not willing to make their personal security a priority.
 Broken wallet, broken dreams

By Mike Conte

I finally had to do it. I had to break down and get a new wallet. Some of you might not understand why this may be such a big deal. Some kids know I buy a new wallet every year or just buy better ones when they tear through Filenes. This wallet was different though. It was my first real wallet.

I had bought this wallet at Newbury Comics, there was a chain attached to it and I was in 4th grade attending Abraham Lincoln Elementary School in Revere. This wallet was the first sign of my identity. I loved that damn thing.

As I graduated elementary school and headed off to Middle School, my wallet came with me. As my group of friends began to change, my wallet stayed constant. It was always there in my back pocket. Sure it was starting to wear a bit but I stuck with it.

I then graduated on to high school. My wallet was with me when I broke my fresh man year. It was with me when I lost the race for Class Vice President my sophomore year.

It was there when my mock trial team beat our rival Nazareth Academy in the Mass Bar tournament my junior year. It was with me when I grabbed that Diploma and sat down knowing I had survived high school.

My wallet has even made it with me to my college years. It made the journey with me through Suffolk Orientation. It was with me when I was hired for my first job.

I took my old wallet and put it to rest. I cut a long strip of worn out leather from my old wallet and fashioned it into a Bookmark. That wallet had been with me for nine years. It grew up with me. I just couldn't let it totally go and hopefully I never will.

Intro to socialism: 101

Jake Hess, a sophomore here at Suffolk, am a socialist. I have many friends who are socialists. I work with a political party called Socialist Alternative. I, like my chief philosophical inspiration Karl Marx, recognize that a comprehensive overthrow of all existing conditions in the United States is the only way to bring lasting social justice to the oppressed people of this country and the world. It is in the interest of both my readers and I for me to explain the basic tenets of socialism. If, at the end of this interaction, you better understand why socialism has and continues to capture the hearts and minds of so many hundreds of millions of people across the earth, I will have met my goal in writing this article.

Socialists recognize that the interests of the capitalist class, who own the means of production and distribution of wealth in the world, are necessarily at odds with the interest of the working class, the huge majority of the world— in other words, that true justice will never be achieved so long as the most important decisions about society are left to profit-driven oligarchs. Socialists see that capitalism is a system of organized theft and exploitation, and we call for public ownership of wealth, democratic control of workplaces and national planned economies. Socialists say that the resources of the world should be democratically controlled and distributed in such a way that allows people's needs to be met - as a matter of policy. If people are starving, for instance, then appropriate food should be produced and provided. If our inner cities are decaying, then infrastructure should be revitalized and revamped. Socialists believe that alleviating want and misery should be the first priority of the government, not organized theft and exploitation of the sort we see under capitalism.

We can only achieve these ideals through a planned economy and public ownership of wealth. A planned economy would allow the tremendous productive resources of the United States to be put to good such a big deal. Some kids know I buy a new wallet every year or just buy better ones when they tear through Filenes. This wallet was different though. It was my first real wallet.

I had bought this wallet at Newbury Comics, there was a chain attached to it and I was in 4th grade attending Abraham Lincoln Elementary School in Revere. This wallet was the first sign of my identity. I loved that damn thing.

As I graduated elementary school and headed off to Middle School, my wallet came with me. As my group of friends began to change, my wallet stayed constant. It was always there in my back pocket. Sure it was starting to wear a bit but I stuck with it.

I then graduated on to high school. My wallet was with me when I broke my fresh man year. It was with me when I lost the race for Class Vice President my sophomore year.

It was there when my mock trial team beat our rival Nazareth Academy in the Mass Bar tournament my junior year. It was with me when I grabbed that Diploma and sat down knowing I had survived high school.

My wallet has even made it with me to my college years. It made the journey with me through Suffolk Orientation. It was with me when I was hired for my first job.

I took my old wallet and put it to rest. I cut a long strip of worn out leather from my old wallet and fashioned it into a Bookmark. That wallet had been with me for nine years. It grew up with me. I just couldn't let it totally go and hopefully I never will.

Intro to socialism: 101

Jake Hess, a sophomore here at Suffolk, am a socialist. I have many friends who are socialists. I work with a political party called Socialist Alternative. I, like my chief philosophical inspiration Karl Marx, recognize that a comprehensive overthrow of all existing conditions in the United States is the only way to bring lasting social justice to the oppressed people of this country and the world. It is in the interest of both my readers and I for me to explain the basic tenets of socialism. If, at the end of this interaction, you better understand why socialism has and continues to capture the hearts and minds of so many hundreds of millions of people across the earth, I will have met my goal in writing this article.

Socialists recognize that the interests of the capitalist class, who own the means of production and distribution of wealth in the world, are necessarily at odds with the interest of the working class, the huge majority of the world— in other words, that true justice will never be achieved so long as the most important decisions about society are left to profit-driven oligarchs. Socialists see that capitalism is a system of organized theft and exploitation, and we call for public ownership of wealth, democratic control of workplaces and national planned economies. Socialists say that the resources of the world should be democratically controlled and distributed in such a way that allows people's needs to be met - as a matter of policy. If people are starving, for instance, then appropriate food should be produced and provided. If our inner cities are decaying, then infrastructure should be revitalized and revamped. Socialists believe that alleviating want and misery should be the first priority of the government, not organized theft and exploitation of the sort we see under capitalism.

We can only achieve these ideals through a planned economy and public ownership of wealth. A planned economy would allow the tremendous productive resources of the United States to be put to good such a big deal. Some kids know I buy a new wallet every year or just buy better ones when they tear through Filenes. This wallet was different though. It was my first real wallet.

I had bought this wallet at Newbury Comics, there was a chain attached to it and I was in 4th grade attending Abraham Lincoln Elementary School in Revere. This wallet was the first sign of my identity. I loved that damn thing.

As I graduated elementary school and headed off to Middle School, my wallet came with me. As my group of friends began to change, my wallet stayed constant. It was always there in my back pocket. Sure it was starting to wear a bit but I stuck with it.

I then graduated on to high school. My wallet was with me when I broke my fresh man year. It was with me when I lost the race for Class Vice President my sophomore year.

It was there when my mock trial team beat our rival Nazareth Academy in the Mass Bar tournament my junior year. It was with me when I grabbed that Diploma and sat down knowing I had survived high school.

My wallet has even made it with me to my college years. It made the journey with me through Suffolk Orientation. It was with me when I was hired for my first job.

I took my old wallet and put it to rest. I cut a long strip of worn out leather from my old wallet and fashioned it into a Bookmark. That wallet had been with me for nine years. It grew up with me. I just couldn't let it totally go and hopefully I never will.

Intro to socialism: 101

Jake Hess, a sophomore here at Suffolk, am a socialist. I have many friends who are socialists. I work with a political party called Socialist Alternative. I, like my chief philosophical inspiration Karl Marx, recognize that a comprehensive overthrow of all existing conditions in the United States is the only way to bring lasting social justice to the oppressed people of this country and the world. It is in the interest of both my readers and I for me to explain the basic tenets of socialism. If, at the end of this interaction, you better understand why socialism has and continues to capture the hearts and minds of so many hundreds of millions of people across the earth, I will have met my goal in writing this article.

Socialists recognize that the interests of the capitalist class, who own the means of production and distribution of wealth in the world, are necessarily at odds with the interest of the working class, the huge majority of the world— in other words, that true justice will never be achieved so long as the most important decisions about society are left to profit-driven oligarchs. Socialists see that capitalism is a system of organized theft and exploitation, and we call for public ownership of wealth, democratic control of workplaces and national planned economies. Socialists say that the resources of the world should be democratically controlled and distributed in such a way that allows people's needs to be met - as a matter of policy. If people are starving, for instance, then appropriate food should be produced and provided. If our inner cities are decaying, then infrastructure should be revitalized and revamped. Socialists believe that alleviating want and misery should be the first priority of the government, not organized theft and exploitation of the sort we see under capitalism.

We can only achieve these ideals through a planned economy and public ownership of wealth. A planned economy would allow the tremendous productive resources of the United States to be put to good such a big deal. Some kids know I buy a new wallet every year or just buy better ones when they tear through Filenes. This wallet was different though. It was my first real wallet.

I had bought this wallet at Newbury Comics, there was a chain attached to it and I was in 4th grade attending Abraham Lincoln Elementary School in Revere. This wallet was the first sign of my identity. I loved that damn thing.

As I graduated elementary school and headed off to Middle School, my wallet came with me. As my group of friends began to change, my wallet stayed constant. It was always there in my back pocket. Sure it was starting to wear a bit but I stuck with it.

I then graduated on to high school. My wallet was with me when I broke my fresh man year. It was with me when I lost the race for Class Vice President my sophomore year.

It was there when my mock trial team beat our rival Nazareth Academy in the Mass Bar tournament my junior year. It was with me when I grabbed that Diploma and sat down knowing I had survived high school.

My wallet has even made it with me to my college years. It made the journey with me through Suffolk Orientation. It was with me when I was hired for my first job.

I took my old wallet and put it to rest. I cut a long strip of worn out leather from my old wallet and fashioned it into a Bookmark. That wallet had been with me for nine years. It grew up with me. I just couldn't let it totally go and hopefully I never will.
Relieving resolutions

Towards the end of every year, we all decide that there are things in our life that should be changed. These New Year's resolutions have worked for me in the past, so I have taken the initiative to identify some problems around Suffolk which need to be resolved.

First of all, before I really get started, what is going on with the Sawyer building's men's room urinals? There are two positioned against the wall, with one around two and a half feet tall and the other a foot from the floor. Are you kidding me? I don't recall seeing circus midgets or jockeys around campus, so I don't see the point of having the midget urinals.

Another problem I have, is holding my exposed manhood one foot away from another man that is doing the exact same thing. It's bad enough I have to kneel down to relieve myself, so how about a little divider for some privacy?

Next on the list is my problem with pro- and anti-smokers. He is a slender guy and I don't believe he smokes, so I know losing weight and getting rid of the smoking habit is a far from impossible. It's not that I don't believe he smokes, it's just that I don't think it's going to happen anytime soon.

Finally, we need to improve on the registration process. Tuition fees, as always when it comes to registering for classes, turns this simple process into Operation Suffolk Screw Up. Most students, including myself, attempt to register for classes every semester, but always encounter problems. We received a message reading, "maximum number of users reached; try again later." This has prompted me to write this article, because damn it, I want changes!

I want the president of the university to make these changes himself. He is a slender guy and I don't believe he smokes, so I know losing weight and quitting tobacco use won't be an issue.

Don't know what to get that special person in your life? Give the gift that keeps on giving. Redeem this coupon for a year long subscription to The Journal, including our Sunday edition.

The Suffolk Journal

We want you!

Are you a journalism student?
An English major?
Like to write?
Like to take photos?
Like to ask questions?
Join The Journal staff

We hold assignment meetings every Thursday at 1 pm in Donahue 428.
Can't make it to the meeting?
That's fine, just e-mail us suffolkjournal@hotmail.com www.suffolkjournal.net
Foreign films, indie offerings and Harry Potter: The best of 2004, according to the Journal

Amanda Bellamy
Journal Staff

Despite the "Christmas with the Kranks" and "Dodgeball" duds this year, a few films emerged to restore hope in movie-goers and justify paying outrageous prices for popcorn.

As the first Chinese-language film to ever debut in the number one spot, "Hero" obviously drew audiences for reasons other than its simple dialogue. The triumph of "Hero" at the box office hopefully marks a shift in American cinema. Audiences are choosing style, substance and story over the hyper-sexed and fart jokes that dominate Hollywood offerings. Starring Jet Li as hyper-sexed and fart jokes that dominate Hollywood offerings. Starring Jet Li as Dragon," Li choose to spend time with his pregnant wife during this time and returned to film in his native China in 2002 with "Ying xiong."

Tarantino saw the film and campaigned heavily with American execs to have "Ying xiong" or "Hero" released in the States. "Quentin Tarantino presents" was added to the title and American audiences turned out in droves.

The non-linear, hypothetical plot keeps audiences guessing. The personalities and motives of characters are subject to change in much the same way as "Lost in Translation." Braff's tale focuses on a failing actor, forced to return home to New Jersey after his mother dies. Braff's main character, Andrew Largeman, combats disillusionment, dark secrets from the past and the medication his body and mind have become accustomed to. Ian Holm turns in a touching performance as Largeman's wayward father. If "Shaun of the Dead" appealed to Gen Y, then "Garden State" appeals to the Zolotof and Prozac dependant Gen Med. Armed with Natalie Portman and The Shins, Largeman finds the purpose and direction his life lacked.

"Shaun of the Dead" has crept its way into unlikely of places. Originally unmotivated zombie films, George A. Romero, Shaun and company proceed to hurl unfavorable reviews and shovels at the undead. Generation Y has found a hero in the most unlikely of places. Originaly unamused and aimless, Shaun finds purpose in a video game come to life. While Zach Braff isn't saying anything new with his directorial debut, "Garden State," but he has touched a cord in audiences guessing. The personalities and motives of characters are subject to change in much the same way as "Lost in Translation." Braff's tale focuses on a failing actor, forced to return home to New Jersey after his mother dies. Braff's main character, Andrew Largeman, combats disillusionment, dark secrets from the past and the medication his body and mind have become accustomed to. Ian Holm turns in a touching performance as Largeman's wayward father. If "Shaun of the Dead" appealed to Gen Y, then "Garden State" appeals to the Zolotof and Prozac dependant Gen Med. Armed with Natalie Portman and The Shins, Largeman finds the purpose and direction his life lacked.

Slightly quirky and more sincere and heartfelt than most flicks, "Garden State" is the most recent flick to say, and say it better than most films, "live life." Harry Potter grew up this summer and got angry. In the best entry in the series to date, "Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban" showcased the growing talents of its three stars, Daniel Radcliffe (Harry), Emma Watson (Hermoine) and Rupert Grint (Ron). Hardcore fans were disappointed with director Alfonso Cuaron's deviation from the book, but savvy moviegoers were ready to acknowledge the new classic Cuaron had created.

With a pseudo-masturbation scene opening the film, audiences knew from frame one, this was a different installment than first two kidlde friendly "Chamber of Secrets" and "Sorcerer's Stone." Cuaron, shamelessly altered the world Christopher Columbus created to better suit his artistic mood. Cuaron's laid, decadent and detailed world took J.K. Rowling's words and made them real, something very few directors and films can do.

And films keep getting better. The latest Chinese import rocking the socks of critics and audiences alike is "House of Flying Daggers." Supposedly far better than "Hero," Harry Potter fans hope is high for the film. Best of all, the fourth Harry Potter film "Goblet of Fire" is scheduled for release in November 2005.
The best music of 2004

The Journal Staff delivers the best records released this year in this convenient, easy to read format.

Best Soundtrack/Compilation Album

The best movie of 2004 has also produced the best compilation/soundtrack of 2004. "Garden State" launched a new appreciation of indie rock and classic tunes alike. The album features some high profile players like Coldplay, Remy Zero and Simon and Garfunkle, but introduced undergrounders like The Shins and Frou Frou. Producer Zach Braff chose the perfect amalgam of light melodic tunes to compliment his film. It is one of those soundtracks that stays in your constant cd rotation and doesn't leave for a month. The ever-catchy theme song to the movie, "Let Go" by Frou Frou, will no doubt be stuck in the head of any listener, but this is no negative. It will be impossible to listen to Simon and Garfunkle's "The Only Living Boy in New York" without picturing Sam, Large and Mark screaming into the infinite abyss. "Garden State" will not only leave you satisfied at the movies, but its music will remind you of that at every listen.

Lark Rissetto - Journal Staff

Best Solo Performance

Bjork has always been a little "out there" for most people. Her latest record released this year, Medulla, proved to be Bjork's most outrageous stretch of imagination. The record is strictly and primarily vocal, only using minimal electronic touches. The beats on the record are all done by human beat box virtuosos and are backed by a melodic choir. Bjork even experimented with guest singers for the record by inviting Rahzel from the Roots and Mike Patton from Faith No More to the studio. Whereas Bjork's previous records involved tapping into the sounds of her native Iceland, Medulla goes back to the primitive. Bjork wanted to capture the sound of man in his basic state with no music accompanying the voice. Aside from her first single, "Oceania" whose aquatic-like composition landed her a gig at the Olympics, the record contains several hit-worthy tunes. There is no doubt Bjork will push the musical limits again.

Lark Rissetto - Journal Staff

Best Rap/Hip Hop Album

It has been five years since rapper/actor Mos Def released his debut album Black On Both Sides in October, 1999. A decade later finally brought his fans The New Danger. For his strictly hip-hop fans he manages to give them some of his hardest hitting rhymes to date. Songs like "Close Edge" and the Kanye West produced, "Sunshine" are just a couple of main hip-hop songs, but one of the most impressive verses he has ever performed came in the cover of the Jay-Z battle rhyme to Nas "Takeover," in which he called "the Rape Over." As Jay was going at a few of rap's well known artists, Mos named no one but unleashed a verbal assault on everyone addressing the current state of the industry and where it is going if it continues. Mos Def shows his "dangerously" undeniable gift as a musician on his second LP.

Billy Thegenus - Journal Contributor

Best Alternative Record

Hailed as the latest in a wave of New New Wave bands, The Killers, with their debut release, Hot Fuss, have fused together the catchiest aspects of pop and punk, without sounding like another Simple Plan or Good Charlotte. Originally a Las Vegas lounge act, The Killers' ode to sexual confusion, "Somebody Told Me" had everybody singing "somebody told me that you had a boyfriend who looked like a girlfriend that I had in February of last year." Specifically drawing from '80s pop influences (i.e. Bowie's "Let's Dance"), The Killers have created the next big thing with tracks like "Jenny was a Friend of Mine" and "Everything Will Be Alright."

Amanda Bellamy - Journal Staff
Stefani creates pitch perfect pop with debut

By Mary Beth McGee
Journal Staff

Gwen Stefani has always had an affinity for the past. With her band No Doubt she incorporated her love of ska with alternative style rock; but Gwen has left both the boys and guitars of No Doubt in favor of synthesizers and dance tracks. L.A.M.B. or Love Angel Music Baby marks Stefani's solo debut and has sold more records in its opening week than any other No Doubt release.

Stefani, once considered to be just a flash in the pan star, has in the past few years become a household name, rising to pop icon status. With No Doubt proving its staying power, Stefani has become one of the most recognizable faces of pop music and fashion. Recently she unveiled her own line of clothing and handbags with the same moniker as her album. On L.A.M.B., Stefani attempts to totally define herself as an individual performer, something that is hard to do as a member of a successful group dynamic.

Stefani tries out all the best of '80s and early '90s dance pop on the album. Her sound ranges from Salt-N-Peppa type jams to New Order-esque guitar riffs. One of the reasons for the eclectic style of L.A.M.B. is the number of collaborators that Stefani brought in for production. The Neptunes, Jimmy Jam and Terry Lewis were all among the producers on the album, not to mention Dr. Dre's work on the track "Rich Girl," which once again features Stefani duetting with rapper Eve.

Not only does the sound of L.A.M.B. differ from Stefani's work with No Doubt, but as does the subject matter. Many of the song lyrics are playful and personal in nature, something that Stefani could not always pull off with her band mates. Dance-offs, vehicular sex and living in the lap of luxury are just a few of the subjects Stefani toys with. The first single "What YouWaiting For?" deals with Stefani's nervousness of going solo by transforming her anxiety into a bouncy club track. " Hollaback Girl" has a pounding beat that makes you want to stomp your feet on the floor, while "Bubble Pop Electric" revisits when the '90s revisited the '50s. Perhaps one of Stefani's most unique efforts is the track "Luxurious," where Gwen gets straight up gangsta (or gangsta wanna be at least)! Borrowing the same Ikele Brothers sample that Notorious B.I.G. used on "Big Poppa," Stefani talks about all life's pleasures including champagne, Egyptian cotton and "the hypnotic love" (if you catch my drift).

One of Stefani's new obsessions has found itself a title track. "Harajuku Girls" is Stefani's ode to the Harajuku youth and fashion culture of Japan. Mentioned continuously throughout the album the Harajuku girls (which means cool and cute in Japanese) are a major influence to Stefani's clothing line and have been bringing them to appearances and performances. For her first solo effort, it seems Stefani has made something that's no great work of art but definitely a great work of fun pop. She takes the keyboards that were so familiar to her ska roots in No Doubt and synthesizes it up with plenty of bleeps and blips. Stefani set out to make a dance record, in that aspect she has definitely succeeded. The album does have its rough spots, but as Stefani said in a recent Spin magazine interview, she has no problem being "your guilty pleasure."
Young players are making an impact

Mike Miccoli
Journal Staff

Hockey season is now in full swing here at Suffolk, with the Rams looking towards winter break and over a month to rest their skates. As the break looms over the horizon, there continues to be a lot of talk brewing with the team.

Many of the players that have been stepping up and scoring goals for the Rams are underclassmen. Four of the top five scorers on the team are freshmen, the top two being forwards Dan Pencinger and Ryan Coakley. In the past two games, eight of the 10 goals were scored by first year players, five of which came from Pencinger alone.

On Saturday, Dec. 4, the Rams notched their second victory of the season against Worcester State, winning by a score of 5-3. The Rams jumped out to an early lead, scoring three of their five goals in the first period.

Goaltender Greg Blais, a junior, made 35 saves and allowed only three goals in 60 minutes of play.

Pencinger scored the first hat trick of his college career, while freshman center Joe Keane racked up three points, on a goal and two assists. "It was a very exciting, hard fought game," exclaimed head coach Chris Glionna. "It was a big win for us, because it was a league game and we got the upper hand in the head-to-head battle."

The win, however, doesn't mask the team's 6-5 loss to Franklin Pierce College last Wednesday, Dec. 1.

"It was disappointing. We really saw, in spurts, how good we could be," commented Glionna. "There were a few spurts throughout the game, including the third period. If we could play that way every game, we'd be in a great spot."

The past two games have brought Suffolk's overall record to 2-4, with one very important conference game left before the semester's break against Salve Regina on Wednesday, Dec. 8.

The past few years have shown that these two teams are always neck and neck in the standings and every head-to-head game will matter, should there be a tiebreaker involved for playoff positioning.

Cheering the rams along

Rich Parenteau
Journal Staff

There's a new addition to the athletics family this year and if you have recently attended a home basketball game, you may already know about the latest secret of Suffolk University.

For the first time in four years, according to Director of Athletics Jim Nelson, Suffolk University has a cheerleading team supporting the Rams from the baseline during home basketball games at Regan Gymnasium.

The squad is made up of 14 females, who all have high school cheering experience and who put the team together under their own will and determination.

According to freshman and current member Sarah Kantany, the idea for a cheerleading team originated last year amongst a few of the girls.

This simple idea turned into reality earlier this semester when the girls held an open meeting for those who sought to take part in cheering at the college level.

"We've all cheered before, everyone one of us," said Kantany. "We wanted to continue to do cheering," she said.

"I think all of us show that we love it, because why would we waste our time."

Establishing a team from the ground up is an accomplishment in itself, but it hasn't been all calm waters and smooth sailing for the newly established squad. Aside from the fact that they do not have