A report of smoke in the Donahue building basement evacuated the Temple Street building on Fri., March 4. The evacuation of the Donahue Building went smoothly, according to Robin Brodsky, Manager of the Suffolk Environmental Health and Safety. Brodsky said that the source of the smoke was an NSTAR feed underneath Temple Street, not the electrical panel malfunction as previously thought. Brodsky said that the entry point of the smoke has been sealed off to prevent further incidents. No injuries or damage to Suffolk property were reported.

Partying coed improves after falling four stories

Stoll said.

A woman fell four stories from a Beacon Hill apartment this summer, in similar fashion as Cerra, died.

A little piece of paradise

A little piece of paradise

Ross Francois
Journal Staff

Tucked away on the third floor of the Sawyer Library is a paradise retreat. Now, during the long and dreary New England winter, the closest thing to a warm spring day can be found in Suffolk's new Oasis Room.

Created to battle the effects of seasonal affective disorder (SAD), the room contains a sun lamp, white noise machine, humidifier, cinnamon scents attached to the wall and pictures of scenic locales. Junior, Omar Ramirez, 23, creator of the Oasis Room, thought of the concept after he researched methods of obtaining the sunlight that is crucial for our bodies to properly function. Ramirez, who suffers from SAD occasionally, looked into the effects of SAD and developed ways to combat those effects, which include sleepiness and depression.

"I came from a warm climate, and you barely get enough sunlight here in the winter," said the Mexico native. In his research, Ramirez learned that SAD could be alleviated with sun lamps and warmer temperatures.

"I created [this] in my own house," explained Ramirez. After making his own oasis, Ramirez proposed the idea of such a room to Suffolk's Counseling center.

A winner of the Counseling center's "Samaritan Award," Ramirez received funding to make his Oasis Room come to life. The Samaritan Awards are given to students or faculty members who raise awareness of the symptoms of depression, offer prevention strategies, treatment options, and ways to support those who suffer from the disorder.

The Samaritan Awards are part of the ADAPT program, which stands for Action for Depression. See OASIS, page 2.
SGA questions admins. about tuition increase

Katelin Buckley
Journal Staff

With the university's recent tuition increase the topic of many faculty discussions, Suffolk Vice President and Treasurer Francis X. Flannery, financial aid director Maureen Stewart and Provost Patricia Maguire Meserve held a tuition forum to field questions from students at the last SGA meeting on March 3.

Flannery explained in his presentation to the forum that in order to stay competitive, the university had to increase tuition. Those who attended were presented with a list of the increases in tuition for all colleges and universities in the state for the 2004-2005 academic year. With the number one school being the most expensive and the higher numbered schools carrying a cheaper price tag, Suffolk was 43rd out of 58 institutions.

Compared with competing schools such as Bentley, which will experience a 13 percent tuition increase, and Stonehill, which went up 8 percent, Suffolk's tuition will be set to increase 6.8 percent in 2005-06.

"I think that our tuition increases have been very modest compared to our competition," Flannery stated. "We're in line with what other schools are doing."

Besides tuition, extra expenses such as housing and books were discussed, which put as increasingly larger strain on the wallets of students. "Suffolk is not like other schools in that a lot of people here are the first in their family to attend college. They are paying for college and for their roommates."

Flannery stressed that many of the university's trustees, who voted for the recent tuition increase, are Suffolk alumni and understand the financial difficulties especially when it's placed upon those supporting themselves through college. He acknowledged that the ever-increasing tuition of higher education in the United States was a national problem and in his opinion, is "creating a tremendous financial burden on families."

"No one wants to pay more tuition, but that is the reality of college," stated SGA Senior Class Rep. Chris Aguiar.

Monahan also commented on the increase in college tuition as a national problem, with climbing costs taking college tuition gradually out of the reach of the middle class.

With the increase in tuition, the question that's on most students' minds is where the money actually goes. Each year the deans from College of Arts and Sciences, Sawyer School of Management and Suffolk Law School meet with the board of trustees to map out the budget for the upcoming school year.

The deans make requests, which are then reviewed and narrowed down to fit into the projected budget.

"Each of the deans in our school are looking for more faculty," said Flannery, explaining that since the cost of living in Boston is so high, attracting new faculty is also difficult.

Flannery presented the forum with a breakdown of the prospective budget, citing the constant upgrading of new technology and the building of new facilities such as the 73 Tremont St. library in 2007 in endeavors taking up a substantial portion of the sum.

Also discussed was a 22 percent increase in financial aid for the upcoming academic year. 50 percent of students who enroll at Suffolk receive official financial aid, and 75 percent of students at Suffolk receive some sort of financial help, according to information provided at the forum.

Additionally, a grandfather grant, which automatically offers any Suffolk student with a 3.6 GPA or higher a sizable financial gift, is available to help offset increased tuition rates.

"He was informative about how the whole process happens," commented Aguiar on Flannery's presentation. "If increases are going up for good reasons, like hiring more teachers, then that is a good thing."

"Compared to other private institutions in the area, Suffolk's tuition increase seems pretty average," sophomore SGA representative Dan Kom said.

"So, unless there is some state conspiracy to raise tuition, the trustees seem to have made a reasonable decision this year."

Sawyer room transformed into haven for students

"OASIS from page 1

Awareness, Prevention and Treatment. The selection committee is comprised of two students, two faculty members and two staff members, none of which are affiliated with the counseling center.

"I think we all know what it feels like when it's too cold, too dark, for too long," said Paul Korn, Professor of Psychology and chair of the committee.

Korn, who is also a staff psychologist for the counseling center, said originally Ramirez was uncertain of a location for the room but agreed to the suggestion of having it in the library.

"This is really just a pilot to see if it's used and has the effects we expect," said Korn.

Korn stressed the importance of self-care for the student population, stating that though the counseling center is available to aid students, they also wish to encourage the community to prevent distresses through preventive work.

"People get depressed," said Korn.

"This project has resulted in a place people can get away from those negative feelings."

For senior Tawanna Stuppard, the Oasis Room is just the getaway she needed.

"I feel like I'm not really in the school, that I'm far away," she said.

Studying with junior Elizabeth Gomes, Stuppard stated the room was comfortable enough to be relaxing, but pleasant enough to study in. Comparing the Oasis Room to the library's other study rooms, Gomes felt that the other rooms are too dark and "prison-like." "Here it's more soothing," Gomes said.

Stuppard and Gomes offered some suggestions to make the room even better, including having the wall painted, putting a shade on the window of the door and bringing in a couch.

The two also believe that expansion of such rooms should be seriously considered.

"I believe they should have more rooms like this," said Stuppard.

Ramirez also looks forward to having the concept of the Oasis Room expand in the future.

"I really want to create a lounge," he said.

"I want support to make it bigger."

If Stuppard's opinion is any indication of the value of the room, the Oasis room should be a success.

"I've been waiting for a room like this and I'm mad that I'm graduating," she said.
Freshman doesn’t settle for status quo

Matt Wilder
Journal Staff

Freshman Sean Scanlon is, by his own admission, perceived as a crusader. That might be one reason he has started some of the most contentious debates in the Suffolk Student Government Association’s recent history.

Scanlon, who serves as Class of 2008 President, started the school year surrounded by controversy, after a Boston police officer shot Emerson College student Victoria Snelgrove with a less-than-lethal pellet gun after the final game of the Red Sox’ American League Championship Series victory.

Scanlon, with other SGA members, put forth a resolution demanding answers from city officials. At first he had the support of many of his fellow SGA members, but that quickly changed when two of the sponsors to the resolution removed their name from the legislation.

“When it became controversial, people started to contact me and express their frustration and then it seemed to divide some of our membership,” Scanlon said. “It seemed like their reasoning was because of the pressure that was being exhibited,” he said.

That move started off a myriad of debates within SGA, usually with Scanlon standing alone in the eye of the storm.

More recently, Scanlon lobbied to have the executive board of SGA (the board that oversees the group) elected by the student body. As it stands right now, the general membership of the SGA vote on who holds the high-ranking seats. The move was denied, but the debate is not dead.

“Right now those people are elected by the same majority that limits debate and doesn’t want to hear the complaints of the students,” Scanlon said.

Some members of SGA think that Scanlon wants to change the way executive board members are elected, because he thinks he could win the student body presidential seat in an election. Scanlon admits that he would someday like to be SGA president. “I think that someday I would, whether it is this year or in three years, that is all based on what happens,” he said. “Right now I don’t see that as an option. That might be because I don’t have the support of SGA members.”

Current SGA Vice President Alan Motenko is thought of as the next member to fill the president’s seat next year. SGA president Becky Harlow thinks Scanlon would make a fine SGA president, but not right now. “I would say in the future, but not for next year,” Harlow said. “The president’s position should be held by an upperclassman,” she said.

Scanlon still does not shy away from controversial topics. One of his campaign promises was to look into overhauling the “outdated” Residence Life policies.

“There are people being written up constantly for things they are not doing,” Scanlon said of current policy in the dorms. “I think that entire system needs to be overhauled,” he said.

Scanlon said that some of his SGA colleagues simply do not agree with him. “When I brought that to the attention of some members, they were like, ‘You know, Residence Life is going to fire you for that’... It doesn’t bother me,” he said.

The relationship between Harlow and Scanlon has been, at best, strained this year. At one point, during an SGA meeting in early February, Scanlon called for Harlow’s impeachment. The motion was denied and Scanlon was censured (barred from speaking) for the remainder of that particular meeting.

Harlow said she took the motion in stride. “I didn’t take it on a personal level, I just tried to do my job,” Harlow said.

During last week’s SGA elections, Scanlon was re-elected with 54 votes to the newly constructed senate SGA. Next month, SGA executive board elections take place and Scanlon is eligible to run for the presidential seat. Off campus, he works at City Hall for Boston City Councilor Michael Ross.

In the interest of full disclosure: Matt Wilder, who reported and wrote this story, is a Resident Assistant at the 150 Tremont Street dormitory - he has had no interactions with Scanlon in that capacity.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION
FROM THE OFFICE OF
FINANCIAL AID

As a result of the snowstorm on March 1, the Office of Financial Aid would like to advise you that the Undergraduate deadline to apply for financial aid has been extended to Friday, March 11, 2005.

If you haven't yet applied, please do so immediately so you can be considered as an "on time" applicant.
Staff Editorial

Breaking News

About nine years ago, on Tom Brokaw's NBC Nightly News, "The Fleeing of America" was a weekly segment. Each broadcast would expose hidden taxes and costs on items and services affecting many Americans. In five minutes, this simple report accomplished more than most modern news channels do in 24 hours.

Gone from newsmagazines, news channels and nightly news casts are the hard-hitting, explosive stories. Instead audiences enjoy two-minute segments dedicated to Darth Tater, the shawl casts are the hard-hitting, explosive stories. Instead audiences enjoy two-minute segments dedicated to Darth Tater, the shawl casts are the hard-hitting, explosive stories. Instead audiences enjoy two-minute segments dedicated to Darth Tater, the shawl casts are the hard-hitting, explosive stories. Instead audiences enjoy two-minute segments dedicated to Darth Tater, the shawl casts are the hard-hitting, explosive stories. Instead audiences enjoy two-minute segments dedicated to Darth Tater, the shawl casts are the hard-hitting, explosive stories. Instead audiences enjoy two-minute segments dedicated to Darth Tater, the shawl casts are the hard-hitting, explosive stories. Instead audiences enjoy two-minute segments dedicated to Darth Tater, the shawl casts are the hard-hitting, explosive stories. Instead audiences enjoy two-minute segments dedicated to Darth Tater, the shawl casts are the hard-hitting, explosive stories. Instead audiences enjoy two-minute segments dedicated to Darth Tater, the shawl casts are the hard-hitting, explosive stories. Instead audiences enjoy two-minute segments dedicated to Darth Tater, the shawl casts are the hard-hitting, explosive stories. Instead audiences enjoy two-minute segments dedicated to Darth Tater, the shawl casts are the hard-hitting, explosive stories. Instead audiences enjoy two-minute segments dedicated to Darth Tater, the shawl casts are the hard-hitting, explosive stories. Instead audiences enjoy two-minute segments dedicated to Darth Tater, the shawl casts are the hard-hitting, explosive stories. Instead audiences enjoy two-minute segments dedicated to Darth Tater, the

http://suffolkjournal.net
Time for Spring Break folks.
The Staff of *The Suffolk Journal* is off to Cancun.

Enjoy your drinks (non alcoholic of course) with the little umbrella in them.

Wear Sun Block!

We are back with another color issue on Wed., March 30.

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**Message from President David J. Sargent**

Dear Suffolk Community,

The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) requires Suffolk University to submit a report every two years detailing how students, faculty, and staff get to campus on a daily basis. The "Rideshare Regulation" requires every institution to survey its commuters and implement ways to reduce the number of automobile trips to help improved air quality. Suffolk University is committed to measures that help protect and improve the environment, and the survey information will be invaluable in helping us achieve this goal.

Students may complete the survey on-line by going to http://www.hshassoc.com/suffolksurvey/students.asp or may complete the survey in person at one of the tables which will be set up in various locations on-campus during the weeks of March 8 and March 21. All students, who complete a survey will be placed in a drawing for prizes including an Ipod and other prizes.

Faculty and staff may complete the survey on-line by going to http://www.hshassoc.com/suffolksurvey/employees.asp or may complete the survey in person at one of the tables or by submitting a paper survey which will be mailed through interoffice mail. Faculty and staff who complete the survey are also eligible for the drawings.

The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection requires a response rate of 75% to this survey. Please take a minute now to complete it!

Thank you for your cooperation

David J. Sargent
President
Suffolk University
Unity Week is Suffolk's annual celebration of diversity and community. It is a collaborative effort by students, faculty, and administrators and has traditionally consisted of entertainment, speakers, dialogues, open classes, food, and music. These events not only recognize the diversity represented within the University, but affirm the value and vitality that this pluralism brings to the individual and collective experience here at Suffolk.

The Planning Committee has put together an exciting calendar of events! For the most updated and comprehensive listing of events, visit www.suffolk.edu/unityweek.

Please direct any questions or concerns to Office of Student Activities and Service Learning at 617.573.8320.
And now our Feature presentation...

Traditionally, newspapers are instituted as the watchdogs or voice of a particular group. In the Journal's case, we answer to the student body. Unlike the Herald or Globe though, we are a stepping stone for student writers. Our most important duty is to provide a platform for writers to practice and improve their craft.

Unfortunately, we're sometimes forced to curb some writers' enthusiasm. This new section is just the place for lengthy, wordy, in-depth, cutting edge, gutsy articles that didn't have a home in our regular weekly paper.

Our roots are firmly in place here in Boston. As one of the oldest major cities in the nation, history lies in every corner. But at the same time, the city has become a Mecca for college students. Young blood flows constantly through city, bringing new energy and new ideas.

With this section, we're building on the 69-year history of the Journal. We can only learn and grow from the past, yet we couldn't ignore modern influences. Undoubtedly, many of us are attracted to journalism because of its dynamic and ever-changing landscape.

Consider this section a literary stretching of the legs. Both writers and readers can explore topics affecting student life in Boston.

We've come a long way since 1936, here's hoping we keep moving forward.

Facebook nation.

Cut that out!

The Facebook site's down, I'm kind of short on options.

Pro-hockey on ice.

The NHL Lockout has affected more than just devoted fans. Local businesses are losing money, up-and-coming players are facing an even tougher up-hill battle, and the game's future is resigned to an uncertain fate. turn to page nine.

guns on campus.

Should Suffolk police carry arms? The president and Suffolk police chief sound off on this volatile issue on page ten.
JOHN FORRESTER

By now most Suffolk students are familiar with thefacebook.com. They have heard the term "facebook me!" at some point or another, or at least wondered what the hell "poking" is. Like it or not, with so many students at the university who are active users of the site, its presence is hard to ignore. Thefacebook.com made its debut Feb. 2, 2004, though originally the service was only available to Harvard students. Over the past year, 377 other colleges, along with universities, have been added to the site. As it expanded to other schools, thefacebook began to take on a life of its own.

Since Suffolk was added to the site on Oct. 25, 2004, membership has risen to around 1,500 students, according to statistics listed on the site. The current number of undergraduates at Suffolk is 4,617, meaning that roughly 30 percent of the undergraduates are users of thefacebook.

Thefacebook has also wielded its influence around campus this year's Student Government Association election, where candidates have used the service to get their name and information out more speedily than traditional methods, such as handing out flyers at school.

Suffolk’s most popular club is the Suffolk Drinking Team, the "Gambling Rams" Club, or Suffolk Statute, which has enabled students to do, with little ceremony.

Because the users create the groups, rather than being generated by the service, they have come to represent the culture of the school and the students who go there.

Not only are there clubs for each graduating class, groups have been formed for humorous purposes, junior Hannah Frigand found a club, "Crocheting/Knitting" to connect with others who like that, but I didn't know many other people who like that," Frigand said. "So I made a group hoping to get more people, or at least, find someone who knew a good place to get yarn."

The groups feature on the site allows users to list their current semester's classes in their profile. The luxury means students no longer have to wait until they see their friends' schedules to know the small details of the lives of friends or acquaintances, Hughes said. "It's a way to start conversations, to identify similarities and differences which can be further explored in face-to-face conversations, or even virtual (usually AIM) conversations."

Hughes explained, is a partnership with a file-sharing service called Wirehog (www.wirehog.com), which will enable users to share photos and other types of media.

With computers and the Internet becoming such a large part of the college experience, from registering online for classes to sharing photos online, the success and popularity of thefacebook.com is not surprising.

In the first year of its existence, the site has linked hundreds of thousands of students in North America. Only time will tell if "facebook me!" will become as standard a college term as "what's your major?"

"I think thefacebook is a place where people can put down and write out what they are interested in and how they define themselves as people," Hughes said. "That's interesting and complex is that the site itself becomes a part of student culture. A very important part, but only a part."
Inside the FleetCenter and around Boston, many hockey fans are wondering what stops the NHL owners and players' association will take before breaking up the on-product game.

Some NHL players were resolute in their effort to rein in escalating player salaries that were, in their opinion, making their businesses unviable.

When mentioned, it's just been a美好的 thing (

Boston, close to no one even knows it..."

"It goes all the way down even to the local polls," Ellis said. "For me, at that point it didn't matter to me. I gave up on it."

"To me hockey's more than just the money and that's why I gave up on it. Money's not bigger than the game and neither are the players," Ellis said.

While negotiating a new collective bargaining agreement with the NHL Players' Association, the league's owners were resolute in their effort to rein in escalating player salaries that were, in their opinion, making their businesses unviable.

"What they called "cost certainty" indeed was a commitment to a salary cap. Though a cap was eventually agreed upon by the players as a Panacea for the league's financial troubles, an affordable dollar figure never materialized for the two fighting parities.

"If you're not in the public's mind, you're going to lose out," said Suffolk University hockey coach Chris Glionna. "That's why I fear for the game."

"It's crazy back home. 'Hockey Night in Canada,' everyone watches it..." It's always on TV. Every bar I go to...

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"When I first knew the deadline was coming, I really didn't think much of it," Ellis said. "For me, at that point it didn't matter to me. I gave up on it."

"One chain, Friday's, has already gone out of business. We're talking about a $49-to-42.5 million cap figure, the final nail was driven into the 2004-05 season's cof-fin."

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Loaded Issue - SUPD and admin. face-off

GARRETT M. QUINN, JR.  
journal staff  

Deep within the bowels of the Mildred F. Sawyer building is the headquarters of the Suffolk University Police Department. Amid the narrow hallway lined with lockers and punch cards is the office of Suffolk Police Chief John Pagliarulo. The walls of his cramped office are either blocked by file cabinets and bookshelves or covered by plaques and pictures. Despite the absence of windows from his office, the chief still has a vision for the department. That vision is one of expansion and improvement.

"The school has grown. We're no longer on this little block on Temple Street," said Pagliarulo during an interview with the Suffolk Journal. "The school has grown. We're no longer just logistical and facility improvements; he wants to upgrade his ranks tactically by arming the department..."

Pagliarulo's vision is not limited to his office. He also wants to expand his department. That vision is one of expansion and improvement. The later part of Pagliarulo's vision is at the center of a continuing controversy involving the police department and the upper echelon of the administration. For several years, the two have clashed over the issue of arming the department.

It is a topic that many smaller and mid-size private universities have to face as they expand. Geography, alcohol policies, proximity to law enforcement and the level of crime in the community are important factors to be weighed in that decision. A veteran of the department for 20 years, Pagliarulo cites the rapidly expanding campus as one of the reasons he is pushing for arming the department. The university's addition of 73 Tremont St. increases Suffolk's presence in the Beacon Hill community and this, according to the chief, requires an expansion in authority.

"Do you ask a painter to paint a house without a brush?" Pagliarulo asked, claiming that that's essentially what his department has been requested to do. The chief said he appreciates what the administration has done so far but thinks they can do more. "It's a standard of the industry. Current policy limits what the [officers] can do. You have to be more cautious. It's tough to under-stand if you haven't put on a uniform," he said.

Current police protocol dictates that if there is a confirmed report of an armed individual committing a crime, the officers are to contact the BPD, go to the scene and wait for the BPD to arrive before proceeding further. "I would not send my officers into such a dangerous situation," said the chief.

Union President Corporal Aykaz Klain, who is unhappy with the current policy, asked, "Do you really want to get into a situation where you cannot defend yourself or others?" He, along with union vice president Officer Matt Knowles, expressed a concern about response times from the BPD. "All those minutes, all those seconds it takes for someone to come from somewhere else is critical in containing that kind of an incident," said Knowles.

In the case of the Feb. 17 robbery of Suffolk's Convenient Store on Tremont Street, there was no confirmation of the suspect being armed. The BPD responded to the C-Store within three minutes of being notified.

This policy puts minutes of response time in, where we could respond in seconds if we had a firearm," said Klain.

The International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators addresses the issue of an armed police force in their list of position statements: "If the campus provides a full service law enforcement agency to members of the entire community, the officers should be armed."

The administration and the department are both in agreement that the Suffolk police are a full service law enforcement agency.

Suffolk University President David J. Sargent said he is comfortable with the long-standing policy of not arming the police, claiming that a change "brings more dangers than it deters." According to Sargent, the reasons for the policy are not financial, but instead deal with safety. Sargent said that two armed people in close proximity may only worsen a situation. "A shoot out at a convenience store would not be protecting our students," he said.

The president noted that Emerson College does not arm its police and that they are located in a "historically dangerous area."

Suffolk Vice President Francis X. Flannery echoed Sargent's opinion, saying, "I think the mission of the police department is to protect students, faculty, administration and staff. I don't think guns are necessary to fulfill that mission."

Flannery, who is the head negotiator for the school, hopes that the arming plan will be resolved come October, when the contract with the police union expires. Protection is not an adequate reason to arm the officers, Flannery said. "I believe that they have everything at the police academy and now they have everything else except the guns," he said.

When asked whether the officers are involuntarily acknowledging a threat by wearing bullet-proof vests, Flannery answered, "There is potential, sure there is. Would they be better off to handle that with a gun? I don't know."

Klain said many of the union's concerns have fallen on deaf ears. "For years they wouldn't hear us," he said. "The administration gave false information to students regarding their safety, saying 'it's really a safe area' when it isn't," said Klain.

Klain thinks the administration is "so far out of touch with today" regarding the firearms issue. Officers from other departments have scoffed when they hear about the university policy.

Knowles recalled an incident where a student in the dorms questioned him: "It's actually been said to me by a student, 'Where is your gun? If you're real cop, where's your gun?'"

Not all large public universities have also lead to a turnover, too, he says. "I know for a fact that officers have left because we can't carry firearms," Klain said.

According to both sides, every time this issue comes up not much progress is made. That is until recently. The Suffolk Police and Security Association, the union representing the joint police and security forces at Suffolk, expressed in writing their desire to open a dialogue with the administration over arming the department. Both Flannery and Klain credit the provost, Pete Messecary, with addressing the issue. "The provost was somewhat receptive," Klain said.

The Office of the Provost could not be reached for comment. The Administrative Council, the top management of the university, moved to form a subcommittee that will meet with the union and Chief Pagliarulo to discuss the issue of arming the department.

The subcommittee will consist of Flannery, the dean of the Sawyer School of Management, William O'Neil, dean of students Nancy C. Stoll and an unconfirmed member. The decision of whether or not to arm the police department is up to the board of trustees of the university, in which Sargent and Flannery are members.

The chief and the union are both somewhat optimistic about their upcoming meeting. The group will bring about a change in policy. If it does not bring about a change, bothFlannery and Knowles will have to take for the administration to change its policy. They fear a potential tragedy.

"A lot of the patrolmen think it is going to be a chance for officers getting shot or stabbed, put in the hospital. Or God forbid someone else at Suffolk," Flannery said.
The Mars Volta bring prog rock to new hallucinogenic levels with Frances the Mute.

The band's latest effort, "Frances the Mute," is a sprawling 77-minute concept album that defies easy categorization. It's a amalgamation of progressive rock, post-punk, electronica, and Middle Eastern influences, all wrapped up in an aural vision that is both chaotic and mesmerizing.

The album kicks off with the introductory track "Cygnus... Vismund Cygnus," which sets the stage for a musical journey that is both unpredictable and rewarding. The listener is immediately drawn into a world of soundscapes that are both familiar and foreign, with the guitars of Omar Rodriguez-Lopez weaving intricate patterns that are both jarring and beautiful.

In typical Volta fashion, the song starts out loud and fast with a catchy dance-like melody, but then falls into a progressive jam that builds tension. This is the part some call musical masturbation, but truly it captures the beauty and essence of ingenuity. "Cygnus" even contains orchestral string arrangement backing up the Latin drumbeat and Zavala's powerful croon.

The second suite entitled "The Widow" brings the energy down a tad and has a bluesy feel to it. Cedric leads out his soulful side and his vocals prove increasingly impressive with each high note he hits. If there is a male version of Bjork, it is Cedric Bider Zavala hands down.

There has not been such a dynamic voice since Robert Plant and that is the biggest compliment one can receive. However, like the rest of their songs, "The Widow" stops mid-way in order to slip into a psychedelic moment of synthesizers and random noises. It then sneakily moves into the third suite on the record entitled "Lia L. Vaiquez." The track showcases the Puerto Rican roots of the band with Zavala singing mostly in Spanish.

It is almost like a drug-induced tango with Zavala leading the dance. The sped up drumbeat, playful piano and sonic guitar work make the track feel like you're dancing, but on the lip of a volcano not a dance floor. The track ends with beautiful piano runs and dissontant guitar work, which make it one of the more interesting tracks on the album.

However, it is on the 4th movement to this hallucinogenic symphony that melody really dominates. On "Miranda That Ghost Just Isn't Holy Anymore," simplicity takes precedent over intricacy. The track contains crafty trumpet work courtesy of Flea from Red Hot Chili Peppers, and doesn't even start the vocals until five minutes in. When they do kick in, it clicks with Zavala singing, "everyone turned away used to the noose that they obey." The track is just setting the listener up for the final suite "Cassandra Gemini."

The remaining sub-divisions, tracks five through twelve, occur in this last movement of the record. Every resource that is used on the record is brought together for the finale. The stream of consciousness that dominates the album begins to make sense as Zavala and Rodriguez Lopez join forces to detonate the bomb.

They pull out all the stops and they take no prisoners as Zavala blares out, "and his multiple sons with their mandible tongues set cacihed fire to petrified homes." Each track flowing into the next without warning brings the vision to an orgasmic climax and beautiful close.

The denouement could not have been better to this movie-like album. With their continuous innovations and motives that keep the listener guessing, The Mars Volta has proven their staying power. Frances the Mute is a truly stimulating opera on acid that is sure to please with every listen. This supposed masturbatory band has reached its climax so to speak. It has been a pleasure.

The band will be playing the Avalon on May 10 and tickets go on sale Friday March 11 at 10 a.m.

Dolls unite punk and cabaret

Colleen Fimnerry
Journal Staff

The Dresden Dolls are just a guy and a girl with a piano and a drum set, but boy are they making a lot of noise.

In the past year, they have been praised in publications such as The Globe, The Phoenix, The Globe, The Village Voice and Boston Magazine, among others, as one of the most original and promising recent acts to come out of Boston.

Their hybrid blend of German cabaret, do-it-yourself punk and minimalist experimental music has resulted in a sound with incredibly broad appeal.

Their fans range from fans to fans of singer-songwriters to cabaret aficionados. They call their style "Brechtian punk cabaret," a description that upon further explanation makes perfect sense. Brecht was an influential German poet and playwright who made many contributions to the theater, but the main inspiration that the Dolls seem to have taken from him is the idea of audience involvement during performances.

While on tour, the band encourages fans to display their creativity and wear 1920's inspired costumes to their shows. Fans have also been known to bring bizarre costumes for their shows. Fans have also been known to bring bizarre costumes for their shows.

"Punk cabaret" also refers to not only their sound, but also their performance ethic. Each song is like a different act involving a new form of entertainment. Their songs range from the lighthearted and cheeky "Coin Operated Boy," which describes the advantages of having a mechanical boyfriend, to the more serious and confessional "Bad Habit," which discusses lead singer Amanda's history of self mutilation.

Then there is the band's distinctive acid wit, displayed in songs such as "Missed Me," a subversive satire of a children's taunt, and "Girl Anachronism," a portrait of a shattered, bitter and hilarious ex-mental patient who is "not the way I obey." The track is just setting the listener up for the final suite "Cassandra Gemini."

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Mary Beth McGee
Journal Staff

From the Sandelles to the Dropkick Murphys, Boston is a city with a long history of artists who have an almost distinctly Boston-bred sound. It is the kind of city where you can go out any night of the week and find some kind of performance. Whether it is the Boston Symphony or a basement show, something fresh is happening. Eventually all these genres (of which there are many) begin to crossover and hybrids begin to form. A band like the Larkin Brigade are a perfect example of what Boston music really is: their influences range from traditional Irish music to hardcore punk—both of which have an active scene within the city.

The members of the Larkin Brigade grew up listening to one kind of music, but played in bands with a completely different sound...or so it would seem. Listening to their self-titled EP and talking with Pat Kennedy (or Paddy Keys as he is known) further proved the point that there is a universal sentiment to most music and it is known) further proved the point that there are many) begin to crossover and hybrids begin to form.

The Larkin Brigade are a three piece outfit consisting of Paddy Keys on vocals and piano, Paulie "Thunder" Kennedy on bass and vocals and "Dynamite" Jack Donahoe is a universal sentiment to most music and is known) further proved the point that there are many) begin to crossover and hybrids begin to form. The comparisons to the Pogues are probably enviable for any Irish punk rock band, but Kennedy addresses that by explaining: "We’re all big Pogues fans, but I have to say I think our biggest tribute to them is not trying to sound exactly like them."

The Larkin Brigade has certainly succeeded with producing an original sound. The almost seamless incorporation of Irish folk, Boston hardcore and old time American piano music sets them apart from being pigeonholed into just one of those categories.

Up next, the Larkin Brigade will continue to tour as well as release some colored vinyl on old band mate Andy Hegarty’s label. ("It’s in our current fans, i.e. our friends for the most part, can have something a little more tangible and collectible than a reissued CD.

You can see updated show information on their website: www.geocities.com/padraig1976/larkinbrigade.

"Crowd reaction is so key. If people are dancing and singing along, you just get in the zone and play your best," says Kennedy. "And this is where the Larkin Brigade; spokesmen for irish Boston rockin’ one that our friends in the punk scene would appreciate."

Pat Kennedy The Larkin Brigade

The Larkin Brigade; spokesmen for Irish Boston
Suffolk Journal staff member sits down with the members of Boston’s own Larkin Brigade

News from the Office of the Bursar

Just a friendly reminder...

Spring 05 Tuition is due on March 15, 2005
Please note, you will not be allowed to register for the summer or next fall unless your spring balance is paid in full.

The Perkins Loan Program is under an unprecedented threat to its existence thanks to the proposal in President Bush’s budget to eliminate it. We are asking for your assistance in saving the Program.

COHEAO (Coalition of Higher Education Assistance Organizations) has a website that offers a wealth of information on this subject. We encourage you to visit this site at www.coheao.org to learn more and write to your Senators and Representatives to express the need to save the Program.

The Office of the Bursar has put together form letters for your use and if you visit us on the 3rd floor of the Donahue Building, you can sign a letter and we will fax it to the appropriate office for you. Help us save the Perkins Program by giving this your attention today!
DRESDEN from page 11

Halloween party.

The duo clearly has explosive chemistry together musically and in terms of stage presence. Their live shows aim to recreate the intimacy of cabaret and engage the audience in the dialogue of performance. Every detail is engineered to create an atmosphere of cheeky theatricality. Imagine all the quirky creativity of art students, minus the irritating pretension. Their typical getup usually involves Brian in a bowler hat and black three piece suit and Amanda in Victorian lingerie, a style they picked up after performing with a burlesque troop. Throw in some theatrical white face paint, a convention Amanda became familiar with during a stint working as a living statue, and you have the band’s signature gothic mime look. They also integrate dramatic elements inspired by the circus and early Vaudeville shows. For their next tour, they hope to perform in circus tents at outdoor venues and have old fashioned variety shows for their opening acts.

In the past their shows have involved everything from clowns and mimes to live S&M demonstrations. They are true entertainers, clever lyricists, musical innovators and a definite must-see local act. You can catch them next opening for Nine Inch Nails in May - tickets are on sale now through Ticketmaster.
BC takes home title

HOCKEY from page 16

exciting back and forth affair that ended in
an Eagles’ 4-3 victory. Sophomore Brian
Boyle’s two goals led the Eagles into a tie
for first place with the Wildcats.
The following night, BU and New
Hampshire laced up again, this time at the
Whittenore Center on the UNH campus.
The Terriers took home the 3-2 win behind
the spectacular goaltending of sophomore
John Curry.
The Wildcats’ loss left the door open for
BC to declare itself champion, needing only
a tie to earn the one point that would give
the Eagles title back to Chestnut Hill. Boston
College met up with Maine in a match that
would ultimately determine the 2005
Hockey East champ.
The Black Bears jumped out to a 2-0
lead, only to see it slip away with two unan­
ersted Eagles’ goals in the third period.
Senior Ryan Shannon put one in net with
just under six minutes left, while junior
Peter Harrold tied the score with only 16.9
seconds remaining on the clock for Boston
College. The game ended in a 2-2 tie and
BC took three points over their last two
games to win the Hockey East champi­
onship.
Next up for these teams is the Hockey
East tournament. Boston College and
Boston University, with the one and two
seeds in the tourney, should have no trouble
with their quarterfinal opponents.
However, New Hampshire and Maine,
with the third and fourth spots, are primed
for upsets in the first round, having to face
tougher colleges.
Regardless of what happens in the tour­
nament, it appears that the Eagles, Terriers
and Wildcats are headed to the sixteen-team
NCAA tournament, while Maine is still on
the bubble.

Given the balance in the Hockey East
conference this year, any of the top six
teams are capable of winning the NCAA
tournament and with this kind of excite­
ment, who needs the Bmins?

Men’s Pre-season Schedule

Saturday 3/12 Vs. Husson College, ME
Sunday 3/13 Vs. Ripon College, MN (2)
Monday 3/14 Vs. Johns Hopkins, MD
Tuesday 3/15 Vs. Montclair State, NJ
Wednesday 3/16 Vs. Wheaton College, MA
Thursday 3/17 Vs. Springfield College, MA
Friday 3/18 Vs. Dickinson College, PA
Friday 3/18 Vs. Hamilton College, NY
Saturday 3/19 Vs. William Patterson, NJ

What’s your scholarship?

Find your scholarship opportunities
at our re-launched Scholarship Channel.

Visit www.suffolkjournal.net
STUDENT MEDIA

OPEN POSITIONS:
Fall 2005–Spring 2006

EDITOR-SUFFOLK JOURNAL
EDITOR-VENTURE LITERARY MAGAZINE
EDITOR-BEACON YEARBOOK
GENERAL MANAGER-SUFFOLK RADIO
GENERAL MANAGER-WSUB PRODUCTIONS

Applications available at the Hub, Donahue Lobby & Student Activities, Room 529, Donahue Building

Applications Available
FRIDAY,
FEBRUARY 25TH
A sure sign of spring

Junior Infielder Matt Batchelder seen here during a game last year is part of the team again this season. The Rams will travel to Clearwater, Fla. Thursday, March 10, to open their 10 game spring training schedule.

Hockey alive and well

College pucks filling the void left behind by the NHL for fans in the Hub

Tim Rosenthal
Journal Staff

Despite the fact that the Boston Bruins' season was over before it even started, there has still been plenty of exhilarating college hockey for pucks fans in the Hub. The Boston College hockey team did its best to sweep away any remnants from the NHL debacle on Saturday, March 5, seizing its third consecutive league championship and the team's tenth overall title in university history.

It was another outstanding regular season for the Hockey East conference as the race for the regular season crown and the number one seed in the league tournament, came down to the final day. Hockey East has been one of the most distinguished conferences in college hockey for a number of years and this season did not disappoint.

Boston College, Boston University, the University of New Hampshire and Maine were each in the hunt going into the final week of play, with only four points separating these nationally ranked powerhouses in the Hockey East standings.

As luck would have it, BC took on Maine and UNH faced off against BU in back to back games, in what was a fitting way to wrap up the regular season.

At the beginning of the year, many coaches, writers and fans were speculating what would happen in the final two games of the season between the Boston College Eagles and the Maine Black Bears.

In early October at Hockey East media day, Maine coach Tim Whitehead said, "BC is a tough team and we respect that and the last two games of the year with BC are going to be very good and entertaining."

The event was hyped at media day because the two teams were separated by a mere one point in the coaches' pre-season poll, with the Eagles securing the number one spot.

Both clubs needed to win their last two games against each other in order to have a chance at winning the league championship.

Maine entered the pair of games in fourth place, needing points to move up in the standings and possibly help their NCAA tournament chances.

Boston College entered the final stretch in the second position, one point behind the first-place UNH Wildcats, who had a fingers­ tip grip lead on the division.

The Eagles had to take care of business against Maine and needed a little help from the Boston University Terriers in the process.

With at least one New Hampshire loss to BU, the Eagles would have a chance to sneak in and steal the championship away.

On Thursday, March 3, Boston University and New Hampshire skated to a 4-4 tie at Agganis Arena, with the Wildcats scoring their last two goals in the final minute of regulation.

Maine and Boston College hit the ice for their first game on Friday, March 4, in an

see HOCKEY, page 14

University Dateline

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

Wednesday, March 9
Catholic Mass
12:15pm
Interfaith Center, Donahue 540

Thursday, March 10
Commuter Student Association Meeting
1pm Donahue 302

Lecture: Meera Venkatraman to speak about India
1-2pm Donahue 403

Program Council Meeting
1-2pm Archer 426

Rainbow Alliance Meeting
1-2pm Donahue 309

Friday, March 11
Buddhist Meditation and Mindfulness
11am-Noon Interfaith Center, Donahue 540

Taost Retreat: 12 Days of Reading, Reflection, and Practice
1-2pm Interfaith Center, Donahue 540

VSA Extravaganza/Fahrenheit
7-11pm C. Walsh Theater

Tuesday, March 15
Spring 2005 Tuition Due
Bursar's Office

Deadline for Summer 2005 Summer Abroad Applications
Office of Study Abroad Programs

Merrimack MBA/MPA Information Session
6-7pm
Sakowich Student Center President's Reception Area, Merrimack College