SGA candidate’s taunts result in several bigotry accusations

Rose Francois
Journal Staff

There only seven candidates competing for the seven available SGA senator’s seats for the class of 2009. One of them, freshman Robert Menje, is slated to run unopposed during the spring elections. But some public comments he made that some see as bigoted are causing a stir and plaguing the sole new candidate for the freshman class seat.

The allegations stem primarily from an incident at the Asian American Association’s Glimpse of Asia show on Feb. 4.

The event, held at the C. Walsh Theatre, featured a fashion show and several skits depicting issues that young Asian Americans face.

The controversy began, according to several members of AAA, during a particular skit by openly gay student Jason Tong. Robert Menje then allegedly started shouting at the performers.

“Menje’s words and left wondering, ‘Did he come to support us or make fun of us?’” said Marisa Tse, President of Asian Americans Association.

Confused students pay for free aid on website

Chris DeFillippi
Journal Staff

FAFSA stands for the Free Application for Federal Student Aid. Some Suffolk students missed the ‘free’ part, and were charged $79.99 in order to file their documents through fafsa.com, run by the for-profit company Student Financial Aid Services.

The official website is fafsa.ed.gov, and Suffolk’s Chris Perry, assistant dean of enrollment management, says the domain name fafsa.com is misleading.

“We did have a call from a student, probably, maybe three or four weeks ago, because he was upset, because he applied for financial aid and didn’t realize there was a charge for it,” Perry said. “At first I thought he was a little confused, you don’t get charged for financial aid.”

Another call to the office indicated the confusion wasn’t an isolated incident.

“Just in a week’s time, we had four more students call, and say, ‘I didn’t know there was a charge, I didn’t know there was a cost associated with it,’ she said. ‘So then I knew there was something going on.’”

Suffolk’s financial aid offices responded by sending out a mass-mail to all students who had applied for financial aid in the past, letting them know that fafsa.com is not the main site for filing the forms.

While the website does have a link to the free, government site at the top of its homepage, Perry said that students were still led to believe it was FAFSA’s official website.

In a formal letter sent to The Suffolk Journal, the company’s founder and CEO Michael Alexander defended the company. Saying that FAFSA contains eight pages and 14 items, Alexander said that Student Financial Aid Services helps students streamline a complicated process.

He added that by using his service to fill out FAFSA, errors in the form can be avoided. Forms with errors are thrown out, and one is never rejected each year.

Oto W. Reyer, director of financial aid at Western University of Health Sciences, said that although he has never used fafsa.com, he knows its founder and appreciates the basic idea of the site. He compared the idea of a private company filling out FAFSAs to companies that do people’s taxes; it takes a lot of time to fill out the forms, and sometimes it’s more effective to hire a service that will take care of it.

He added that, unlike other companies that offer help with financial aid, Student Financial Aid Services is more direct about what it can do and its use of the form’s name in its web address. Several groups and individuals have stated that it misleads students.

Critics have included the U.S. Department of Education, the Federal Trade Commission and numerous college financial aid administrators nationwide. Senator Edward M. Kennedy called for a Congressional investigation into the company in 2001. So far, no legal challenge against the company has been successful.

In addition to making the FAFSA easier to fill out, the site boast that, through a phone service, it can be completed more quickly than normal about 15 minutes.

Director of Financial Aid at the University of California at Los Angeles Ronald Johnson was another defender of the company. “There are people who want the convenience of these services,” Johnson said. “I had never had any dire complaints [from students] to me about the site. It’s basically something that’s being provided someone who wants these services.”

Perry, although she said she did not pay the $79.99 to fill out the form, said it was the site’s offering, looked through the website and was skeptical of what it could do.

For students who might be confused about filling out FAFSA, Perry said that libraries have been offered to walk them through it.

“Our career center, or other places like it, can walk them through it and sit with them one-on-one,” Perry said. “We didn’t have a big response, maybe for about six weeks, but we did go through it with them.”

Still, Perry was critical of the service. “It’ll pay somebody to do something that’s free,” she said. “Eighty dollars is a lot for a student.”
Nobel Peace prize winner speaks on human rights

Chris DeFillippi
Journal Staff

In a trial of a journalist, the Iranian government accused Shirin Ebadi, an Iranian lawyer, of fracturizing with Western powers. The government also accused her of convincing her client’s husband of going on a hunger strike, thinking his possible death might improve her case.

The militant theocracy has a long history of stifling critics, but Ebadi got a chance to share her stories about Iranian abuses of power with an audience at Suffolk.

“It’s a crime to criticize the Iranian government or constitution,” Ebadi said through her translator, Banashak Keyoush. “But you need to criticize the constitution for positive change.”

Ebadi was the winner of the 2003 Nobel Peace Prize for her work on human rights and the rights of women and children.

She came to Suffolk as part of the Visiting Scholars Program and delivered a lecture at the C. Walsh Theatre on Feb. 23.

Gregory Fried, chair of the philosophy department, asked Ebadi to visit Suffolk because her story would be of interest to the students.

“Because of her work on human rights and also because the United States and Iran have been having a lot of political differences, I thought it would be good for American students to hear an Iranian woman who’s not part of the government talk about her country,” Fried said.

Ebadi’s words on Iran, though critical, showed a country more complex than its shadowy, sinister image in mainstream America.

While women cannot vote in city council elections, they make up 65% of the nation’s college students, and their role in the country may soon change.

“Only a couple of years ago, women got identification cards,” Ebadi said. “Before, they weren’t even regarded as citizens.”

As the only predominately Muslim country that has religious figures governing it, Ebadi emphasized that countries can still respect Muslim values without restricting rights as much as Iran.

She said that Indonesia, Pakistan and Bangladesh have all had female presidents or prime ministers.

“We need an interpretation of Islam with a place for human rights,” Ebadi said.

She later added “Islam has no color, it is only the color of our hearts... interpretation is in the hands of those who have political advantages in its interpretation.”

Though she addressed issues of elections in Iran, she stressed that voting alone is not enough for a free society.

“Even a majority that has won through free and fair elections cannot rule however they like,” she said. “Let’s recall that many dictators came to power through elections. The majority is free to rule according to human rights principles... this is how they gain legitimacy.”

Ebadi said that the complexities of building a free society was forgotten when the Iraq war was waged.

“Democracy is not a good you can import to another country,” she said.

“Usually, when we’re young, we’re impatient and want results fast but a quick change overnight can’t be called a reform. It’s a revolution, and the age of revolution has passed... they result in nothing but bloodshed.”

In a question and answer session at the end of the lecture, she was asked what she expected to accomplish by speaking to college audiences in America.

“I believe when people outside of Iran hear about human rights abuses, it will make a difference,” Ebadi said. “In the end, it’s public opinion that can influence policy.”

Her next lecture that’s open to the public will be at 1 p.m. on March 2 at the C. Walsh Theatre, where she will address the laws and constitution of Iran.

Comments by candidate anger many

SGA from page 1

asked Menje to leave.

I didn’t think something like that could happen,” said Tse.

When asked about this incident, Menje stated “it’s a complete fraud.”

He said that the conversation between him and Tse never took place.

For many, the impact of this incident is made more intense due to the fact that Menje is set to represent the class of 2009. There are those in groups that are wary of the fact that Menje would be in the position to make decisions regarding Suffolk’s various clubs and organizations.

“I don’t think people should vote for him if he doesn’t understand the point of diversity,” said Tse. Opposition to Menje’s candidacy is also coming from within SGA’s own ranks.

Class of 2007 Senator Max Koskoff said he believes Menje’s actions should be taken seriously and “held against him.”

“If these actions continue once he’s on SGA then it becomes a problem,” said Koskoff, who explained that although he believed in free speech, “negative types of speech should not be tolerated.”

SGA President Allen Motenko also expressed his opinion on the matter.

“The alleged behavior is unacceptable and inappropriate and is not how we expect SGA members to act,” Motenko admits that he has personally had to speak to Menje regarding his comments on two separate occasions because, “I though his comments were offensive.”

Motenko recalls that on one of these occasions “[Menje] used the word homo several times.”

Motenko did state that he has had to speak to other SGA members to watch their language, and that it was not just Menje.

“I’m concerned about Robert’s behavior in our office and I’m going to confront him about it,” said Motenko.

Many individuals are keeping an eye on Student Government elections to see how this incident will play out.

Menje is on the ballot as an eligible candidate for the election.

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We have a limited staff, so we need you to be our eyes and ears.

Send anonymous tips to suffolkjournal@hotmail.com

Or, if you have the time, think about joining. We meet in D428 every Thursday at 1 p.m.

Voice of Suffolk

Q: How Much Studying Will Do for Your Hardest Midterm?

“A one whole day, plus the hours during the week that I review and go over my stuff.”

Tony Hui
Junior

“Maybe like an hour for math. I just can’t study for longer than an hour.”

Amy Frizzi
Sophomore

“Probably just do a day of studying for my history class. There’s a lot of dates and names to remember.”

Jessica Ross
Junior
College Democrats gear up for
governor's race in the Bay State

James Moreau
Journal Staff

At Suffolk, the College Democrats are already at work ral-
lying behind their party in the up coming gubernatorial race.
They are initially aligning themselves with a particular can didate
until the convention takes place.

What's being looked at right now is the candidates' stances on a
slew of issues that Massachusetts is dealing with, such as the econo-
my, healthcare, the environment and education.

Suffolk College Democrats President Chris Dwelly acknowl-
edged that each of the college Democrats have their personal preferences as far as candidates
go, but that, "no matter what hap-
ens, we have no problem [what ever candidate is chosen]."

Dwelly said that he believes the party's main concerns are that "Massachusetts will stay on track," and that Democrats, "are liberal in spending in the right places."

The 2006 gubernatorial race will make or break a decades-old tradition of Republican governors.

This may be because of the widely held notion that Republicans in the governor's office can limit the excesses of the overwhel mingly Democratic legis-

Many college students aren't
develop insights into their past behavior and 
identify positive life goals, their inner walls begin to come tumbling down," Spitzer said, referencing the Biblical story about the col-
lapse of the walled city of Jericho, after which the project was named. "The basis of the work we do in prisons is to create safe 'containers' where inmates can do the difficult work of looking within and finding out what makes them tick."

To ensure the effectiveness of his plan for rehabilita-
tion, Spitzer had vis-
ited a variety of pris-
ons and observed the differences in their inmates.

"Based on work I have done at Folsom Prison in California and for a number of institutions in Massachusetts, I was con-
vinced that men in prison can become more educated, literate and accountable," Spitzer said. He spoke of the vicious cycle of crime; while jail time keeps criminals off the street for a while, they are ultimately released. The people that leave jail are often more maladjusted and more dangerous criminals than when they went in.

One of the key methods of the Jericho Circle Project is to reflect on prisoners past in order for them to form positive plans for their future.

Once those who have committed crimes

According to a study conducted by the U.S. Department of Justice, the number of prisoners in custody has expanded 34% in just a little over a decade.

As the populations of prisons grow, pro-
grams for inmates decrease as more resources are stretched further and further. The lack of resources can hurt prisons' already limited goal of rehabilitation.

Professor Steven Spitzer, who teaches criminal justice and sociology at Suffolk, is one individual that is working to address this trend. He started the Jericho Circle Project in 2002 as a way to help convicts build skills that would help them on the outside.

"I wanted to offer opportunities to incarcerated men to reflect on their choices in life and learn more about themselves," Spitzer said of the Jericho Circle Project. "Without this understanding it is hard for them to have little incentive to or interest in change."

One of the key methods of the Jericho Circle Project is to reflect on prisoners past in order for them to form positive plans for their future.

Old enough to remember what life was like in this state when there was a Democrat in the governor's office, but now, there's an opportu-
nity to choose a new executive for the statehouse and no incumbent in the running to deal with.

The College Democrats have already been involved with various elections in 3rd Ward, the Suffolk County area, and the 5th Ward, which includes Beech Hill, Back Bay, Fenway and parts of Quincy. At these caucus elections, dele-
gates are chosen for the Democratic convention coming up in June.

Suffolk student Blake Webber has already been chosen as a dele-
gate for the convention representing Cape Cod.

Currently, the College Democrats are conducting signa-
ture drives for both of the contending

Democrats.
The group has also organized signature drives for Worcester Mayor Tim Murray, who is run-
ning for Lieutenant Governor, and incumbent Senator Edward M. Kenney.

These signature drives ensure the candidates' names appear on the upcoming ballot.

This year's upcoming election is leading to more action on the Democratic's side than on the Republican's. Acting Lieutenant Governor Henry Healy is seen as a sho-

Christy Mihos for the Republican primary nomination, according to opinion polls and political analysts. She will be uncontested if Mihos decides to run as an independent.

For the Democratic ticket, Deval Patrick and Attorney General Thomas Reilly will com-
nittee.

Patrick, who worked for former President William Jefferson Clinton, is known for his progres-
sive views on a number of social and economic issues.

His campaign promises have included working to bring more jobs and business to the state, encouraging more environmental-

He spoke of the vicious cycle of crime; while jail time keeps criminals off the street for a while, they are ultimately released. The people that leave jail are often more maladjusted and more dangerous criminals than when they went in.

Another factor contributing to the cycle of crime is the families that are broken up when someone is convicted and incarcerat-

Another of Spitzer's ideas, the Daddy Stories project, attempts to deal with this.

"The Daddy Stories project supports connections between fathers and grandfa-
thers in prison and their chil-
dren by affording these men an opportunity to read chil-
ren's books on videotape," Spitzer said. "The tapes and books are then sent home to enable the children and inmates to stay connected over time."

Although Spitzer's programs may be helpful to prisoners, he also recalled the dif-
ficulties that volunteers may have in helping inmates. "The process of 'breaking into' prison is almost as difficult as breaking out, in many respects."

Steven Spitzers
Professor

Daniel Johnson
Journal Staff

...
Opinion

Staff Editorial

Last week, our staff editorial dealt with how overt racism is dying out. This week, our front page has a story about an SGA candidate getting in trouble for making racist comments. To see if the fates would prove us wrong again, we were thinking about writing a staff editorial about how college journalists are rarely recognized as the sex symbols they should be. But, instead, we decided to come back to the topic of racism. As under-appreciately sexy seekers of truth, we have a duty to deal with the issues that are important to the public. You’re welcome.

Anyway, before everyone gathers their torches and pitchforks to go after the SGA candidate, we stand by our assertion that overtly racist words, phrases and jokes are only the tip of the iceberg in regards to the damage of racism can. When racist motives and logic start creeping into discussions about government policy, such as regards to illegal immigration, the problems can be huge.

If you concede that this is mostly an economic issue, the racism comes into sharper focus. Few people are foaming at the mouth over the deficit and even the jobs lost to outsourcing have failed to generate the same level of fury as illegal immigration has. Since most people would agree that it's okay for a man to steal a loaf of bread to feed his family, the fact that so many people feel righteous in fighting illegal immigration is perplexing. The illegals coming here are escaping Hellholes in pursuit of a simple goal; to go from desperately poor to just poor. The trip here isn't easy, with more than its fair share of fatalities. It often means walking for days through the desert or riding a raft through shark-infested waters. They're coming here illegally because legally coming here isn't a realistic option. It's not because they have contempt for American laws or paperwork.

This is not to say that illegal immigration doesn't cause problems. The number of illegals in small border towns can put a serious strain on social services such as health clinics and the public schools. Most of the immigrants are poor and some turn to crime as a way out of it. Of course, there are those who will pitch in and throw their weight around, but the anti-immigration crowd will be a more cost-effective way of stemming the tide of illegal immigration than just hiring more border patrol.

If you don't have to be a bigot to be furious over illegal immigration. However, it's the jobs those illegals keep "taking" is what really gets the secure-our-borders crowd rabid. This is understandable, but where is the comparable wrath for the small business owners who keep hiring them? If an undercurrent of racism hasn't infected this debate, how come grass-roots activists aren't shrieking about cost-cutting bosses who keep giving jobs away? Whatever one's thoughts are on the matter, tougher penalties and enforcement for hiring undocumented workers would probably be a more cost-effective way of stemming the tide of illegal immigration than just hiring more border patrol.

You don't have to be a bigot to be furious over illegal immigration. But there's a lot of racism that's poisoning the debate, making it angrier and less fact-oriented. Unless we start seeing concerned citizens go after the SGA candidate, we stand by our assertion that overtly racist words, phrases and jokes are only the tip of the iceberg in regards to the damage of racism can. When racist motives and logic start creeping into discussions about government policy, such as regards to illegal immigration, the problems can be huge.

I despise doing laundry, but I lust for the smell of clean clothes. However, doing laundry in the dorms is a totally different chore. The clothes smell like detergent, fabric softener and other chemicals and you can't believe how much sense does that make?

So you do so far have a line and a limited amount of machines, but does the madness end there? Of course not, you then have to worry about the jackass who puts laundry in and forget about it. So an available machine is far from available, because you need to wait for them to come get it out of the machine.

There are those rebellious people who will pitch in and throw your laundry all over the table if you are delinquent on your retrieval, but I am not among them. That in fact is one of my pet peeves, because I would be pissed if someone scooped my laundry, so I won't do it to someone else. However, they're out there and if you don't get your laundry the second it's done, then you'll be searching for your panties all around the laundry room.

The headaches don't end there. There is the chronic problem of broken machines. A few weeks ago I went down to do laundry and six of the 12 dryers were down. So just because you get your clothes in the wash doesn't mean you're drying them too fast. It goes without saying, but laundry is one of the worst chores for any college student, even without the added stress of lines, impatient people and broken machines.

I will say that Laundry-View can be a useful tool, just log-on to www.laundryview.com, click on your dorm and it allows you to see which machines are broken, used, or available. It really helps to prepare you, and even allows you to see how long is left on your machine, so some guy doesn't go throwing your under-things all over the room. My final recommendation would be a dispenser for laundry detergent, fabric softener and other laundry-going needs.

It won't make it fun, but it will make it easier.

Feel free to contact me directly if you have suggestions or topics, shawn.collins@suffolk.edu.
Everyday individuals throughout the world fall short of achieving what they are capable of due to their inability to fully utilize their brain.

Though this dilemma cannot be fully prevented as the true capabilities of the brain have yet to be measured, one may be able to lessen this problem through meditation. One reputable organization, the David Lynch Foundation, has proven the benefits that transcendental meditation has on the brain. Evidence of this exists in a study endorsed by the group between students at Maharishi University of Management in Fairfield, Iowa, that practiced transcendental meditation and those in another Iowa high school that did not.

Over a two-year period, students practicing transcendental meditation became capable of making more accurate decisions at quicker rates then those not practicing meditation.

Vice President of the David Lynch Foundation, Bob Roth explained that this was not an isolated incident, "There's been tremendous helpful." Over a two-year period, students practicing transcendental meditation became capable of making more accurate decisions at quicker rates then those not practicing meditation.

When asked about the dangers of full-brain potential, Roth commented, "The research shows 'no negative side effects'. The research shows...when a person is healthy, happy, clear-thinking, creative, energetic, compassionate and even moral and honest are those times when his or her brain is functioning to its maximum and the times when we are violent, deceitful, depressed, angry, bullying, are the times when our brain is under stress and not functioning fully."

In terms of stress being reduced by meditation, Suffolk University Statistical Consultant, Dr. Matthew Jerram noted, "More often than not...meditation can be an excellent tool for people to use to help themselves manage the stress in their lives and I actually think that anything that can kind of encourage people to use...particularly some of the principles of meditation can be tremendously helpful."

Included in the stresses that can cut down full brain potential significantly are the major changes that occur in every person's life. These stresses can range for the death of a close friend or relative to the shift from high school to college.

When asked about these stresses Roth described the ability for meditation to limit these concerns, "People who go through change, from a person who's been in a job for 43 years and then they retire or a person who has had a loss of life you know their spouse died or there's a divorce any of these junction points in a person's life of great stress-transcendental meditation because it's a way for a person to, on a twice daily practice eliminate the buildup of stress on the nervous system, can empower an individual to overcome and rise above these inevitable stressful experiences that come in daily life and that's not just my opinion, that's been born out by millions of people."

Aside from the David Lynch Foundation, whose website can be found at www.david-lynchfoundation.org a number of other sources can be found for further information regarding how the brain works.

Jerram suggested the works of Oliver Sacks, "The reason I'm recommending them is because they are very readable...he's written a number of books and they are all very interesting in that he sort of addresses how when things go wrong in particular parts of the brain how they manifest themselves and how a person interacts with the world...they're well written, they're very interesting, and they're very informative about what's going on in the brain."

Regarding different forms of meditation available at Suffolk, Chaplain Amy Fisher of the Interfaith Center offered the following information, "This semester the Interfaith Center offers Hatha Yoga on Thursdays at 12:45 p.m. and again at 1:30 p.m. Both are in the Interfaith Center, D540 and the Interfaith Center offers Ashtanga Yoga on Wednesday nights at 7:30 p.m. for residents of 150 Tremont. In past semesters, the Interfaith Center has offered Tai Chi, Theravadan Buddhist meditation and Rastafarian style meditation."

Whatever your view is of transcendental meditation or full brain potential may be, one detail is certain, that this method is available to you.

Roth speaking for the David Lynch Foundation said in closing, "We'd like to tell people that transcendental meditation is for everyone and it requires no beliefs, no philosophy, no change in lifestyle, it's for everyone, it's as natural as drinking water or breathing or thinking and that everyone now has an opportunity, if they wish to see just how healthy, happy, creative, and successful they can be."

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**Are you reaching your full brain potential?**

Daniel Johnson

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**TODAY, March 1, 2006, is the financial aid deadline for UNDERGRADUATE students.**

All application forms should be forwarded TODAY to receive the best possible consideration for funding next year.

Application forms can be obtained at: www.suffolk.edu/finaid/download_forms.htm.

There we said it. We know you’ve heard a lot of it already and unfortunately you’re only going to hear more. It seems every break-through film this year featured a main character whose reason for happening to be gay. Not that there’s anything wrong with that.

So sit back, prepare a grain of salt and read the Journal’s resident film geeks’ (Garrett Quinn and Amanda Bellamy) annual Oscar predictions.

Best Actor

GQ: Phillip Seymour Hoffman as Truman Capote in “Capote.” Hoffman locked up this award the day the film debuted, Hoffman’s portrayal of the Andy Warhol of the literary world was breathtaking as he not only played the part but looked it as well. The only performance that comes remotely close is David Strathairn for his role as Edward R. Murrow in “Good Night, and Good Luck.”

AB: A tricky category to predict considering the Golden Globe winners for both Best Actor in a Drama (Philip Seymour Hoffman, “Capote”) and Best Actor in a Comedy or Musical (Joan Quinn Phoenix, “Walk the Line”) are represented. Unfortunately for Phoenix and his inspired performance, biopics are so last year. Gay has become the new standard for picking roles. Expect Hoffman to walk away with the statue. Now there’s a prediction you can take to the bank.

Best Supporting Actor

GQ: These Oscars are so gay! We go from gay cowboys, Truman Capote, and now a transsexual woman who meets the son she fathered as a man years earlier. The hardest working woman on Wisteria Lane, Felicity Huffman, switches roles as a working mother of three to a man about to become a woman in “Transamerica.”

AB: Getting ugly, starring in a biopic, or playing a mentally challenged person—that’s all you had to do to get an Oscar in the old days. Now you simply have to switch teams. Felicity Huffman’s transformational role in “Transamerica” will see her walk away with a golden statue and rightly so. Watch out for the established actress in coming days. Expect to see her in higher profile films and take over the indie circuit from husband William H. Macy.

Best Supporting Actress

GQ: I have never in my life picked this category right. It is so often a rogue nominee. However, I doubt that will be the case this year with Michelle Williams walking away with Oscar for her role as Heath Ledger’s unsuspecting wife in “Brokeback Mountain.” Her facial expression when she discovers her husband is gay is enough for me.

AB: Personally I’m in Michelle Williams’ corner. Her performance in “Brokeback Mountain” proved her worth as a serious actress and I want, no, DEMAND to see the actress in more dramatic and challenging roles. However, Rachel Weisz is considering the front runner with her Golden Globe win. Either way an actress in an expensive gown will walk away with the title. Now there’s a prediction you can take to the bank.

Best Animated Film

GQ: Hayao Miyazaki weren’t you just hearing about “Spirited Away”? Unfortunately, the Academy won’t be on his side this year. He’s going against Wallace & Gromit in the “Curse of the Were-Rabbit.” You know Wallace & Gromit! It’s the show you try to watch on PBS except it’s never on because they’re always fundraising trying to give you a damn tote bag.

AB: Finally! A return to hand-drawn animation. Disney’s latest old-school efforts failed miserably in comparison to their shintier and more expensive cousins that are computer generated. The Japanese “Howl’s Moving Castle” proves that hand-drawn animation isn’t dead. It just needed a good story to breathe life into the forgotten art form.

Best Film

GQ: “Brokeback Mountain,” a controversial story about two forbidden romances between two gay cowboys masquerading as straight married men has forever etched itself into the annals of pop culture. Only after the awards can we hope for a world without “Brokeback Mountain” being on the butt-end of every joke. “Good Night, and Good Luck” is clearly better but it lacks the gay love story that is so in right now in Hollywood. Silly.

AB: If there’s any doubt in your head about “Brokeback Mountain’s” sure-fire win then you’re a crazy person. The film has been a triumph in terms of portraying a gay romance in a very serious way—essentially “Romeo and Juliet,” you know, only Juliet’s a guy. The only Brokeback drawback (ha!) are the repercussions of the film’s success. Rumor has Brad Pitt searching for a “gay” role. Sexuality isn’t a light-switch!

Best Director

GQ: George Clooney for his direction of “Good Night, and Good Luck.” The Academy is a big fan of directors who star in their films, too. If that’s not enough, “Good Night, and Good Luck” is filled with newsreel footage and is very accurate in its portrayal of a newsroom during McCarthyism.

AB: Ang Lee - praise the lord - has returned to the character study, dramatic films he’s best at. After “The Hulk” there was a fear that Ang Lee would never again. However, “Brokeback Mountain” has reaffirmed his immeasurable talent.

Can you tell I’m smitten? Let’s forget the green menace and collectively applaud Lee for tastefully bringing controversial stories to the screen. (“The Ice Storm,” go watch it now if you don’t know what I mean).
Leading the dance, dance revolution

Alex Kelly
Journal Staff

In a music scene where The Killers, Hot Hot Heat and The Bravery are dominating the airwaves within a sound that has more hooks than a badly made slash film, there is little room for change.

Underground dance clubs and hardcore kids alike have a hard time breaking the dance music mold and becoming the forefront of a music genre. The band that is driving the force of power-pop music is the Boston-based band, Head Automatica.

The boys in Head Automatica ended up in a whirlwind of success after they wanted to make the music they enjoyed. The sound they were creating was a mixture of hardcore, punk and rock.

After lead singer, Daryl Palumbo, called it quits with Long Island-based hardcore band Glassjaw, he went on to collaborate with producer Dan "The Automator" (Gorillaz mastermind), and Larry Gorman (drums) to bring Head Automatica to the surface. Palumbo and Gorman joined forces with Jessie Nelson (keyboards), Jarvis Morgan Holden (bass) and Craig Bonich (guitar) to create complete Head Automatica.

The band started touring before their 2004 debut album, Decadence (Warner Bros., 2004), was released and it was very well received and regarded as a stellar power-pop dance album.

In regards to Decadence's success in comparison to his expectations it Palumbo said, "I just wanted to... ya know... play some different music so that was kinda the essence of it. It went past that. I'm here now doing this. I'm happy as shit to be doing it."

Head Automatica combines rock 'n' roll energy with ass-shaking dance beats and sexually explicit lyrics that will make anyone want to move their bodies in indecent ways. When it was brought to Palumbo's attention that Head Automatica was being played at dance clubs in Boston he said, "It's pretty cool. That's really good. The dance element was an important part of us, especially in the beginning."

When Head Automatica rolled into Boston's Axis on Saturday they brought beats, family, friends and energy.

Despite stormy weather conditions fans started to line up at 4 p.m. for the sold out show at 6 p.m. Ohio natives, We Are The Fury and Morningwood (NYC-based) warmed up the crowd before Head Automatica.

"Most of the people on this tour are our good friends from home...it's a family event," said Palumbo. After We Are The Fury's set, the Axis was packed with people ready to get down to Head Automatica's beats, but not before they experienced Morningwood's set.

Morningwood revved up the audience's energy during their unforgettable live set. Front woman, Chantal Claret, burst onto the stage with a combination of feminism, energy, power and pep. She took control from the moment she stepped foot onstage to the moment she belted her last note.

At one point in the show, she asked an audience member to take off his clothes during the song "Take Off Your Clothes," and in turn she stripped him down to his boxers and left his bare ass to face the astonished crowd.

They went on to play the radio hit "Nth Degree" that spells out the name of their band in a surprisingly catchy way and other songs from their self-titled album (Capitol Records, 2006). When the lights went down and the boys of Head Automatica stroked on stage they were coy, but one could tell they were bursting with excitement and energy as soon as the lights came on. They played almost all of Decadence including popular songs such as "Please Please Please," "Beating Heart Baby" and "Brooklyn is Burning." Their set was fueled by the crowd's energy and Palumbo's creative dance moves.

Singing a-long and dancing was strongly encouraged during their set and the audience gave it back to the band as hard as they dished it out. If he couldn't stand sitting anymore, keyboardist Jessie Nelson, erupted from his seat multiple times during their set and went to the edge of the stage to get the audience to clap, sing and dance to their songs.

Head Automatica also played new songs from their unreleased sophomore album Popaganda (set to be released in May) such as "Curious."

The band took four months off from touring to complete their second album and Palumbo described it as "very different from the last CD."

In an attempt to gauge Head Automatica's attachment to Popaganda Palumbo said, "I want this year to be the most special one. This record means a lot to us."

The encore took the audience by surprise when Palumbo escorted his friends DJ Crazy Glue and Cage out to the stage and introduced them. Crazy Glue dropped beats harder than Hiroshima bombs, and complimented Cage's raps to the fullest.

Palumbo acted as on-stage posse, chiming in on some parts of the raps and at the end welcomed the rest of Head Automatica onto stage to do a few more songs for the audience before they ended their hyped-up set with the all-time audience favorite "The Razor."
"Cache" proves to be cliche

James Moreau
Journal Staff

"Cache" does not serve as one of the many independent movies that gets rave reviews and then delivers in theatres. The term "suspenseful thriller" does in fact apply to the general premise behind the movie's theme and plot, along with heavy doses of guilt and paranoia, but the anti-climactic ending is enough to send any attentive viewer into a fit of cata­tonic despair and confusion.

The movie starts out in a long and monotonous stream of credits and is left practically begging for something and a rival "family" is ready to take action against the man they think is joining with the movie abruptly ends dark and sad.

The director, Michael Haneke, does play very well with the viewer by contrasting intense emotions of this paranoid family terrified of being watched with the extremely still shots. These shots keep bringing the family closer to the edge of sanity until the main character finally has to make a decision of what his conscience can handle for his wife and son's peace of mind.

Haneke masterfully built up the suspense which in turn lead to an incredibly thrilling climax, but after the climax the movie literally jumped off the edge. It's hard to appreciate an incredibly crafted three-fourths of a movie without the last fourth matching that same craftsmanship.

Too many loose ends were left to straggle when they definitely should have been brought together; especially with a storyline like this.

The movie is set between the hours of 8 a.m. and noon, where "Snaps" is getting ready to host a group of snobby bankers in his house who will put him on the right track to going straight. But in these four hours, "Snaps" soon realizes his hopes of going straight are going straight to hell.

The suspense-snapping gang­ster has to deal with a countless number of obstacles standing in between him and his promise of do-gooding.

Among his obstacles is Anthony Rossano (Vincent Spano), his accountant who has stolen $50,000 from him, his daughter, Lisa (Tomei), who tells her father she is in love and pregnant with their terminated chauffeur Oscar's baby and a woman named Theresa, who shows up at his doorstep claiming to be his illegitimate daughter.

As his promise to his father is threatened, and "Snaps" is tempted to revert back to his old ways to deal with all of these new developments, the police are keeping watch, thinking "Snaps" is up to something and a rival "family" is ready to take action against the man they think is joining with another group.

With a new story-line practically every five minutes, you will be as flustered as Chazz Palminteri's character Comrie, but just as proud and relieved when you figure it all out.

Though the story is genius and very well played out, the real gems of this movie lie in its cameos. "Oscar" boasts Curry as a speech therapist, Don Ameche as a con­ fused priest, and the Finucci Brothers, played by Martin Ferrero and Harry Shearer, who engage in a rousing game of Scopa amidst the side-splitting debauchery.

"Oscar" remains funny and smart throughout every twist and turn of the plot and takes its right­ful place as the diamond in the rough of satirical mafia movies.
Keep it cheap and local with Metal

METAL from page 7

The only reason this genre of music receives press is because magazines have getting letters from middle-aged metalheads wondering why they no longer cover "REAL METAAAAAAAL."

Of course by skipping the NEHMF you miss out on a chance to be filmed screaming at a camera like an idiot by a crew from MTV's "Headbanger's Ball" or Fuse's "Metal Asylum."

Dumb, there goes your one shot at fame. There is bound to be plenty of coverage from these vanguards of the "underground" metal scene because as we all know nobody has more passion for this music than the people at Viacom.

Sadly, MassConcerts is gearing their fest more and more toward these people, turning what was once one of the better fests in the U.S. into a trend-hopping marketing vehicle to milk high school kids out of their parents' hard-earned money with Hot Topic faux rebellion and dark imagery.

If you have any doubts that the NEMHF is not a money grab, attend this year's pathetic fest and ask Fuse VJ Mistress Juyja why she stopped playing Korn and Disturbed videos. Or you could wait two years and ask her why she no longer has Arch Enemy and Dead to Fall as guests. You are probably better off questioning her this year before MassConcerts institutes their "One Kidney, Three Days of Metal" payment plan.

The alternative is simple, skip the fest and use that $109.50 and your food and lodging budget on a local show, buy some $8 demos and $10 shirts from the bands, and spend the rest of your money on gas and your ticket to another venue out of state. You can feel good knowing that your dollars are doing more for the local music scene than this fest does and you can see the bands you wanted to see without going to that miserable building in Worcester.

Tom Cruise lies!

The Truth about the Science of Depression and Treatment.

Samaritan Award Presentation

Thursday March 9, 1:00-2:00pm

Archer 350

Presenters:
Jennifer Button, Biochemistry major, Suffolk University
Andrew Clark M.D., Medical Director, Children and the Law Program, Massachusetts General Hospital

Everyone Welcome
REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED
Don't forget to VOTE!!

Spring 2006 Student Government Elections
Make your voice heard - vote for your SGA Senators!
March 7th—9th

Voting will take place at the following times and locations:
Tuesday 9AM-5PM - Sawyer Lobby
Wednesday 9AM-5PM - Donahue and NESAD Lobbies
Thursday 9AM-3PM - Sawyer and Donahue Lobbies

CLASS OF 2009 CANDIDATES

Robert Menje
Candidate for 2009 Senator
I would like to see Suffolk University be the best possible University that it can be. I will make that happen in word and deed.

My goals are to:
• End wasteful spending.
• Reduce Student Activities Fee.
• Help students with any problems that come up.

Jeff Stinson
Candidate for 2009 Senator
I hope to continue what I have begun here at Student Government. Complete the great projects I have started, and keep helping the students.

My goals are to:
• Finish the extension process for Student Cafe hours.
• Continue listening to the students and getting them what they need.
• Work on getting a third activities period.

Sophie Mondsir
Candidate for 2009 Senator
The purpose of the running is to enhance the diversity, share my opinions, experiences, and create a legend, vote for me and never expect more!

My goals are to:
• More Events!
• Special Diversity.
• Meet Student Needs.

Esmeralda Serna
Candidate for 2009 Senator
SGA has continuously strived to represent the students to the fullest extent. For the class of 2009, I will do just that.

My goals are to:
• Serve the class of 2009 to the best of my ability.
• Voice committee student concerns.

Jennifer Schmidt
Candidate for 2009 Senator
I hope to work towards a more unified SGA, campus, and community that are both open and respectful to their respective leaders, and constituents.

My goals are to:
• Allow students to freely express ideas to their respective senators.
• Provide all students with a voice.
• Bring unity and accessibility into SGA.

Casey Dinneen
Candidate for 2009 Senator
I want to address the concerns and needs of my fellow students and become the voice of the class of 2009.

My goals are to:
• Have more mud books available in the book store to meet the financial ability of students.
• I would like to establish off-campus center for the school year.
• Allowing students to use credit/debit cards in cafeterias.

CLASS OF 2008 CANDIDATES

Jason Mancuso
Candidate for 2008 Senator
I will continue to work with SGA to improve campus activities, make the student opinions heard and streamline the initiatives process.

My goals are to:
• Work to make SGA more efficient when dealing with student issues.
• Listen to student's complaints and recommendations and make them heard in SGA.
• Work to streamline the initiatives process for clubs and organizations.

Amanda Cripps
Candidate for 2008 Senator
I would like to continue the work I have been doing on SGA as well as representing the students' voice to the administration.

My goals are to:
• Work on building the relationship between SGA and other clubs/organizations.

Lauren Bachar
Candidate for 2008 Senator
Personal Statement:
Vote for Lauren!

My goals are to:
• Give students a voice as Suffolk expands.
• Increase availability to students.
• Reach out to commuter students on campus.

Jared Cain
Candidate for 2008 Senator
As Suffolk continues to expand, the students will play a crucial role.
Whether it be a commuter or resident, it is imperative that they have a unified and distinct voice.

My goals are to:
• Make SGA more accessible to the general student body.
• Work with the students rather than with the bureaucracy.
• Bring about a "tradition" or precedence to the office that has been lost.

CLASS OF 2007 CANDIDATES

Michael Rispin
No Picture Available
Candidate for 2008 Senator
Personal Statement:
I want to work for you!

Matthew Talaszy
No Picture Available
Candidate for 2007 Senator
Personal Statement:
I am running because I feel that I bring balance, fiscal responsibility, and a clear independent voice to student government.

My goals are to:
• Lower the student activity fee.
• Reduce wasteful spending.
• A voice that opposes tuition hikes.

Michelle Quinones
No Picture Available
Candidate for 2007 Senator
Personal Statement:
I want to bring in the issues of our other clubs and work with them side by side to improve our Suffolk.

My goals are to:
• Make senior week the best ever.
• Bring other clubs issues into SGA to try to help.
• Work for the students voices to be heard.

Alyssa Lemenger
Candidate for 2007 Senator
I hope to represent my constituents as a 2007 class senator because I am committed to being an open, contributing member of the Suffolk community.

My goals are to:
• Form unity in SGA.
• Continue work with minors on diplomas.
• Represent the student body well!

Chris Dwelley
Candidate for 2007 Senator
If re-elected, I will continue to advocate for the members of the class of 2007 and work to ensure that they have an unforgettable senior year.

My goals are to:
• Ensure that students have fair representation.
• Continue to fight for lower book prices.
• Implement the umbrella incentive program.

Ryan Fattman
No Picture Available
Candidate for 2007 Senator
Personal Statement:
As an undergraduate Suffolk student, I am running for Senator to unite the Suffolk community and represent the class of 2007 through activism and awareness.

My goals are to:
• Community building: making students active in and aware of campus life.
• Creating a proposal to the Board of Trustees for an extra-curricular scholarship rewarding students who get involved at Suffolk.
• Develop better communication between students and their elected representatives.

Max Koskoff
Candidate for 2007 Senator
To best represent all ideas in a positive meaningful way to the administration, so that your ideas can become a reality.

My goals are to:
• Have the organizations play more of a role in administrative policy and goals.
• To represent my class and all students in a positive manner to the Suffolk community.
• To plan a wonderful Senior week that goes along with our centennial celebration.

CLASS OF 2009 CANDIDATES

Hard work for the students voices to be heard.

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Amanda Cripps
Candidate for 2008 Senator
I would like to continue the work I have been doing on SGA as well as representing the students' voice to the administration.

My goals are to:
• Work towards improving the core curriculum.
• Advocating for new course offerings/options, such as Latin.
• Improving SGA's relationship with other clubs/organizations.

Lauren Bachar
Candidate for 2008 Senator
Personal Statement:
Vote for Lauren!

My goals are to:
• I would also like to help unite my class through various projects.
• The students who have to commute to NESAD should have free T-Passes.
• I would like to see a 3rd activities period in the future.

Jared Cain
Candidate for 2008 Senator
As Suffolk continues to expand, the students will play a crucial role.
Whether it be a commuter or resident, it is imperative that they have a unified and distinct voice.

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• Develop better communication between students and their elected representatives.
Sports opinion: 2006 Olympic wrap-up

Harold E. Krogh
Journal Staff

Though each piece is different from the next you better come and see for yourself and see what you think. The exhibit is only up until March 16, so what are you waiting for?

Where do we come from?

Kristin Morrell
Journal Staff

Kristin Morrell - Journal Staff
Jaune Quick-to-See Smith's bizarre and intriguing painting "Addiction" now on display at the NESAD art gallery.

Jaune Quick-to-See Smith's art collages are very bold contemporary art. Artist Jaune Quick-to-See Smith is a well-known artist both with a national and international reputation, which was born in St. Ignatius on Flathead Reservation.

Smith's political painting "Fixing the Hole in the Sky" also showing at NESAD.
Sports hall of fame planned for centennial

Chris DeFillippi
Journal Staff

Although it's over a year away, the Suffolk University Athletics Department is planning a Suffolk sports hall of fame to celebrate the accomplishments of people involved with sports at the University. By May 2007, Suffolk will have just passed its 100th anniversary as a school, and Director of Athletics Adam Nelson said it's as good a time as any to start preparing.

"It's been in our minds for at least five years," he said. "The thought was that it would be appropriate to make [the hall of fame] a part of the centennial events."

The Hall of Fame will honor those who made a substantial contribution to athletics at Suffolk and will include old photographs of Suffolk athletes, administrators and games.

The event will be held in a Boston hotel conference room, with the presentations, pictures and plaques to be preserved somewhere on campus, possibly in the Ridgeway Building or the archival room in Sargent Hall.

Other than student athletes, influential administrators would also make it into the hall of fame. Nelson cited his predecessor, Charles Law, who served as director of athletics for 33 years before leaving in 1997. "During that time frame [Law] also coached the athletic department, which has a lot of artifacts in their position, to gather the material and display it appropriately."

The artifacts are from as recent as the 2000-2001 academic year to as far back as the 1940's, when Suffolk first developed an athletics program.

Much work remains to be done in planning the event. Not only are most of the candidates underdetermined, but committees will have to be set up to decide what criteria will be used for being inducted. In the meantime, Nelson is pleased with the idea of recognizing the history of Suffolk athletics.

"As an individual who has been fortunate to be involved in Suffolk athletics over the past four decades, I will have had a personal association with most of our inductees into the hall of fame, and as such, look forward to this event with great pride, enthusiasm and excitement."