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# The Suffolk Journal

Suffolk University • Boston, Massachusetts

Volume 67, Number 5      www.suffolkjournal.net      Wednesday, October 11, 2006

## Commuters dye together



Kristin Morrell - Journal Staff

Students Monique Mitchell, Meredith McKenna and Mallery Brown get a little messy during Student Commuter Association's "Commuter Connections" week on Oct. 10. The group sponsors various events around campus geared towards getting commuters involved with the University.

## Iraqi scholar finds safe haven

James Moreau

Journal Staff

The freedom to educate is something that may be taken for granted by some Americans, but after speaking to Dr. Tahir Albakaa one cannot help but feel grateful for the safety and security of being in the United States.

Dr. Albakaa was born in Takir, located in the southern part of Iraq in 1950. At the age of 25, he moved to Baghdad and received his bachelors, master's and Ph.D. in History.

In 1983, he took a teaching position at Mustansiriyana University during the time which political turmoil was just beginning.

Though Albakaa was formerly a member of Saddam Hussein's Ba'ath party, he publicly separated from the group in 1981 because Hussein's vision for the country became progressively worse.

For his personal safety though, Albakaa maintained amiable personal relations with many people in the party.

Albakka has been an advocate for education within his country throughout his whole life. He says that within Iraq the value of education has always been high. During an interview with Harvard

University, Albakka said, "It's a family value for sons and daughters to complete their university studies. But, of course, accomplishing this goal has been negatively influenced by the economics and security in Iraq."

Eight months ago Albakka arrived in the United States and was hosted by Harvard University's Graduate Education department.

At Harvard and recently Suffolk University, Albakka has been doing research on his country's educational system along with how it intertwines with the current and projected political situation.

Albakka is part of a Scholar at Risk program set up by Harvard. It attempts to defend the human rights of persecuted educators by offering temporary positions at the university.

He is not sure by whom he was elected, but believes it may have been someone he had crossed paths with early on in his career.

Leaving Iraq carried heavy consequences, such as leaving behind his wife, three children and friends.

But, Albakka looks at his experience with bittersweet sentiment saying, "This country is very beautiful with much safety and security. Everything is well here." With

the possibility that he will not be able to safely return to his country, Albakaa is continuously looking for opportunities to take up positions at other universities in the United States or abroad where he can continue his research and until the situation is safe enough for him to re-enter Iraq.

Other potential countries when he could find safe stay including Syria, Yemen, Egypt, Libya and some European countries. Albakaa says with his research done in America is done with intentions to "develop and improve the educational system in Iraq."

With the insurgency tuning most of Iraq into a battleground, the education system has suffered tremendously. Albakaa warns against the possibility of a worsening military and political situation in Iraq if the educational system backslides much further.

When asked whether he would go back to Iraq in August when his time with Harvard is finished, Albakaa responded, "I hope not."

There is uncertainty surrounding the fate of education and its proponents in Iraq, but people like Dr. Albakaa are still committed to seeing their country come out of the fog of civil unrest firmly engrained with academics and desire to honor the pursuit of knowledge.

## Women's health made top priority

Tara Lachapelle

Journal Staff

Dr. Vivian Pinn's lecture on Oct. 5 drew a crowd of not just science professors and faculty, but students of all majors too. The renowned director on Women's Health at the National Institute of Health discussed her successes and challenges as a minority in the biomedical field, the goals and achievements of the NIH program, and the career opportunities now open to women and minorities in the sciences.

Just a few years ago, women's health and health research were thought by many primarily as that of the reproductive system. Little attention had been given to heart disease, stroke, IBS, sports injuries and other major health issues in women.

"As a compliment to the media, I have really seen the media grown in the last 20 years to respond to the health issues of women and I think a lot of it has to do with the NIH and its collaborators," said Dr. Pinn. She is an advocate for the advancement and funding of research toward sex appropriate studies and medical care.

As the only African American and the only woman in her class to graduate from the University of Virginia School of Medicine, as well as the first African American woman to chair an academic pathology department in the United States, Dr. Pinn is renowned for her tremendous efforts to better our understanding of science and medicine as it relates to each specific gender and demographic.

Dr. Martha Richmond, a Suffolk professor in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry and a colleague of the highly respected guest speaker, introduced the audience to Dr. Pinn's history and accomplishments before giving the stage over to her. "Vivian had something in her spirit that just drew us all together," said Dr. Richmond, speaking of how they were once classmates. She continued, "Under her leadership as director at NIH, tremendous changes have been made."

Vivian Pinn was born in Halifax, Va., a city where schools

were segregated and women were not expected to have much of a future. Pinn knew she wanted to be a doctor from an early age, but female doctors were almost unheard of. Pinn's family encouraged her to study hard in order to reach her goals and was very supportive of her ambitions. When she had earned a scholarship to Wellesley College in 1958, her mother became ill with cancer. "I interrupted my career and stayed home with my mother and took care of her 24 hours a day until she died," recalled Pinn.

Upon her return to college, Pinn was determined to become a physician: "I wanted to be the kind of physician who paid attention to my patients, and didn't dismiss my patient's complaints - something that has really carried through and I think has been central to my way of thinking and approaching women's health." Pinn graduated from Wellesley in 1963 and entered medical school at the University of Virginia. After receiving numerous awards and honors, Dr. Pinn became the first director of Women's Health at NIH.

Dr. Pinn plays a major role in the NIH program's goal to expand concepts of women's health and aim more attention towards the gender factors in health and disease both nationally and internationally. NIH is a government

agency composed of 27 separate institutes and centers located in Bethesda, Md. and numerous other satellite locations. It is one of the

many operating divisions in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. In 1991, Dr. Pinn was recruited to head the Office of Research on Women's Health, which focuses on a number of issues, such as women and minorities in clinical research, biomedical career development and women's health researchers, innovative interdisciplinary research, and the needs of special populations. "We collaborate and work with other institutes and advocates, of not just women's health, but all health research," said Dr. Pinn in her presentation.

NIH's two main areas of focus

see PINN, page 3



# Students explore roots while studying abroad

Alex Pearlman

Journal Contributor

China.  
New Zealand.  
Greece.  
Sweden.  
Senegal.

These are just a couple of more than a dozen countries Suffolk University's Study Abroad program can send students to learn new languages, cultures and gain a perspective on what higher education is like outside the United States.

Sophomore Danielle D'Ambrosio is planning on spending the spring semester in Florence, Italy taking a number of interesting electives including History of the Mafia and Daily Life in Pompeii, among others.

D'Ambrosio is taking courses in basic Italian and students going to Madrid are taking Spanish, the students going to Dakar, Senegal not only have to take French, but also a course in Wolof, Senegal's native language.

"Somewhere between 200-300 students a year [travel abroad]," said Study Abroad coordinator and advisor Isaac Stahl. However, those 200-300 students aren't just randomly scattered around the globe.

Suffolk's Madrid campus is by far the most popular, with about 40 students registered to go to Spain for the spring semester this year. Italy is the second most popular destination. Probably because of Italy's rich



Kristin Morrell - Journal Staff

**Blissful views of the Vltava River and Prague Castle await students who study abroad.**

background in art history and classes like Italian Food Fest are offered.

Madrid is not only the most popular choice for Suffolk students, it's also the most

financially friendly option.

Tuition for a semester in Spain includes housing, books and cultural excursions.

Although Spain seems like a fun choice

for a number of students, there seems to be a trend with students picking their ancestors' countries.

"My family's Italian, so I chose to go to Italy to see what it would be like," said D'Ambrosio.

Another sophomore, Andrew Jacobson used the same reasoning to explain why he is choosing to study in Stockholm, Sweden next semester. "My last name is Swedish and I knew I wanted [to go] somewhere in Northern Europe."

Jacobson is a business major and will be attending the Stockholm University School of Business.

Masa Tada, a Suffolk University senior and native of Japan has studied in Prague and France and is a marketing major. "Now there are three or four international business schools available when there weren't many before," said Tada.

Study Abroad coordinator and director Isaac Stahl knows what an international education can do for a person, having spent time studying in Spain and doing a diplomatic tour of Cuba.

"[The study abroad program] is part of maturation in a global perspective," said Stahl.

"It's a response to the chaos in the world. The students get interested in getting a new point of view and a new appreciation for the international community."

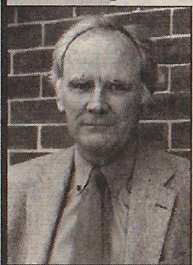
For more information visit the Study Abroad office - 4th floor, 73 Tremont St.

<http://suffolkjournal.net>

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He is also a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. There will be a book signing following this event.

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1 p.m.



# NEWS Briefs

## New research favors 'fairer' sex

PINN from page 1

are gender differences and differences among populations. Dr. Pinn feels that the NIH has been successful in that, "We have, I think, played a major role in helping to define women's health as beyond the reproductive system, which traditionally was how women's health was viewed. Dr. Marianne Legato likes to refer to it as the 'bikini' view of medicine." One of the objectives of the Office of Research on Women's Health is to increase the number of women in leadership roles in research and academic institutions in order to increase awareness. For this reason, the ORWH - led by Dr. Pinn - created BIRCH, which stands for Building Interdisciplinary Research Careers in Women's Health. BIRCH is a new program whose goal is to encourage professional societies to support career development for women within their organizational structures.

"I think an interdisciplinary approach to science is the way to go now. We've begun to see new energies and fresh insights into women's health, in general," said Dr. Pinn.

Topics that need to be given more attention include substance abuse and the fact that it is also gender-specific, heart disease - the leading killer of men and women in this country, eating disorders, violence against women and

stress. Most of these are caused by some preventable and modifiable behavior, such as cigarette smoking, poor diet, physical inactivity, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, and obesity, just to name a few.

"We're focusing on prevention," said Dr. Pinn who is eager to make this new program a success. Newly acquired research suggests that there are sex differences in osteoporosis, and that it is becoming more and more prominent in men. Also, HIV/AIDS, pain, depression and sports injuries all require sex appropriate medical care. "The basic reason for the research of women's health is to provide answers to questions that our health care providers and physicians don't have the answers too... and some of the same issues that apply to women can apply to men. We need to start recognizing that. I also think that the advocacy community needs to emphasize

the importance of what is being done and what needs to be done," said Pinn.

The ORWH has created an online course to further the understanding of gender-specific medicine. The course can be found at <http://sexandgendercourse.od.nih.gov/>. This course, along with all the efforts and funding done by the NIH and Dr. Pinn, has significantly improved our health research and awareness.

"There is still more to do and we at the NIH are funding this research," said Dr. Pinn. In order for this research to be successful, more women and minorities are needed in the biomedical fields.

Referencing an article from March 23, 1991 entitled, "Beyond the Gender Myths" Pinn said, "I didn't need *TIME Magazine* to tell me that the size of your brain didn't matter because I made it - So I've known all along."

The article discussed a study that proved the size of one's brain, nor the gender, did not matter in terms of intelligence. Women have more opportunities now than ever before. Dr. Pinn's advice stresses the importance of having a mentor, and she quotes, "And it is not enough to have a mentor, but to also be a mentor." The NIH continues to assist and encourage women looking into biomedical fields and Dr. Pinn continues to be a mentor to women and minorities everywhere.



Kristin Morrell - Journal Staff

Dr. Vivian Pinn

### Tremont dorm fails test

City of Boston's inspectional services division found that dining facilities in the 150 Tremont dorm were not up to code on the morning of Oct. 6. The refrigerated salad bar was not adequately cooling the vegetables lower than the required 40 degrees Fahrenheit. While the cafeteria passed the overall examination, the salad bar's contents were removed and the temperature controls were readjusted to safe temperatures. A Sodexo official stated, "In the past six years the school has not failed a single inspection but it is not unusual for the salad bar not to pass initially because the temperature is difficult to control." A re-inspection is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, Oct. 11.

### SGA Election Results

#### 2010 Senator

Gwyneth Chaffin  
Christina Panagiotakos  
Evan Lema  
Brian LeFort  
Jeff Umbro  
Marc Krupsky  
Jordan Nye

#### 2009 Senator

Adam Harrington

#### Senator At Large - NESAD

Sam Mullins

#### Senator At Large - Diversity Services

Cynthia Brown

#### Senator At Large - Sawyer Business School

Marco Luethy

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# Arts & Entertainment

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The Suffolk Journal

Wednesday, October 11, 2006

## Chicory Stout, IPA, winner of demolition derby

John S. Forrester

Journal Staff

The *Journal* conducted its first ever beer tasting this weekend, reviewing four domestic microbrews and one import. Here are the findings from the eight-member panel.

### River Ale - Berkshire Brewing Company - Deerfield, Mass.

Featuring a hazy copper complexion with citrus and spice flavors, River Ale is a smooth, mellow, well-balanced ale from the Berkshire mountains.

Its smooth finish is noted by a wood-like taste with a slight herbal flavor. Perfect for lazy fall afternoons.

Panel says:

"Hoppy and citrus-y."

"Thanksgiving!"

"Good with ginger-y or maple syrup-ish sweet foods, or dark chocolate."

### IPA - Smuttynose Brewing Company - Portsmouth, N.H.

While the hop bite is a big part of what makes this beer good - and what is most prominent on the tongue - it's the floral and citrus-y undertones round it out to take the beer beyond your average run-of-the-mill IPA.

A caveat however: even hop-heads might feel a bit dry-mouthed by the end of the this



John Forrester - Journal Staff

### A sampling of beers that were reviewed.

bottle.

Panel says:

"Bold taste, fruity, but surprisingly smooth."

"SPICY."

"Bitter soda."

### Dale's Pale Ale - Oscar Blue's Brewery - Lyons, Colo.

A big, reddish hoppy pale ale from Colorado with tons of piney, citrusy

American hops that manages not to be overwhelming with a rich malt balance.

If you like Harpoon's IPA, check this out and prepare to be enlightened.

This baby packs a heap of flavor that could take some by surprise, given the fact it's in a can.

Panel says:

"Clean, sweet beginning, dry after-taste."

"Good for a canned beer, but no 'wow'

factor."

"Fruity and easy drinking."

### Chicory Stout - Dogfish Head Craft Brewery - Milton, Del.

Following a slew of Coffee-infused porters and stouts in the past few years, brewing odd-balls Dogfish Head released the Chicory Stout, containing organic Mexican coffee, chicory, and other unusual ingredients.

This unorthodox mix is a highly drinkable, complex stout with hints of smoky barbecue, pepper, chocolate with a thick, creamy body - Guinness, eat your mutha-fuckin' heart out.

Panel says:

"BBQ taste."

"Stinky weed and soy sauce."

Conclusion: By far the panel's favorites were Dogfish Head's Chicory Stout and Smuttynose's IPA.

You can find these beers at the following retailers:

Downtown Wine & Spirits (Somerville) 255 Elm St. (617) 625-7777

Martignetti's Liquors (North End) 64 Cross St. (617) 227-4343

Charles Street Liquors (Beacon Hill) 143 Charles St. (617) 523-5051

For more information on these beers and more check out <http://beeradvocate.com>.

## Jon Stewart and Boston's 'drunken buffoons'

Caitlin Castello

Journal Contributor

In a rare stand-up act, Jon Stewart, the notorious political satirist, did not fall short of expectations. On Oct. 6, Stewart entertained audiences at the Wang Theater for two showings. Stewart, star of "The Daily Show," did not have a shortage of material on hysterical political commentary and jokes about everyday life.

Stewart started the show, poking fun at the name of the theater, and of the character of Bostonians by saying, "I've never seen such diverse group of drunken buffoons before."

He goes on to say how much he loves Faneuil Hall, referring to it as "a model of an early 18th century mall, Ye Old Banana Republic." He goes off on a little story about the Ben Franklin impersonators, saying how he started to talk to one just to see if he was actually crazy, and his conclusion was the Ben Franklin was in fact crazy, since he refused to come out of character when talking to Stewart.

After the Boston introduction, Stewart dives right in to the Mark Foley scandal. Sparing no detail and making sure he criticized every aspect of it, he does not even get give the audience a chance to breathe before going into his Bush and Cheney impersonations.

He rendered Cheney completely useless saying he hasn't done anything right in his

whole political career. His Bush impersonations were priceless and hysterical, but he made it quick and did not drag it out.

The climax of his political commentary

Stewart retorted back, "Oh I'm sorry," he said, "I've been completely dominating the conversation, I'm so sorry. It's not like people paid money to stare at me and listen to

members who thought they were funny by shouting whatever they wanted.

Stewart went on to comment on other political issues like gay marriage, ripping on the Boy Scouts as "the gayest organization ever," and various other issues. After that he made a point of why the general public is not that active saying the most of the country is just "people with shit to do."

He went into the dilemma that is buying a new computer, how they become more outdated each day, what a joke the internet is, his past smoking habit, and his child. He started imitating a dance that his little four year old boy would do, very surprising, but extremely funny. The only part that was taken a little too far was his anecdote about his dog having explosive diarrhea.

All in all the show was great and extremely worth the anticipation. Stewart used material other than politics, which was refreshing because an hour and 45 minutes based solely on political jokes could get monotonous. He interacted with the crowd a lot more than most comedians would. It was amusing to see him out of a suit and away from the desk of "The Daily Show," though it was half-expected that Steven Colbert to walk out on stage yelling, "Jon, Jon, Jon!"

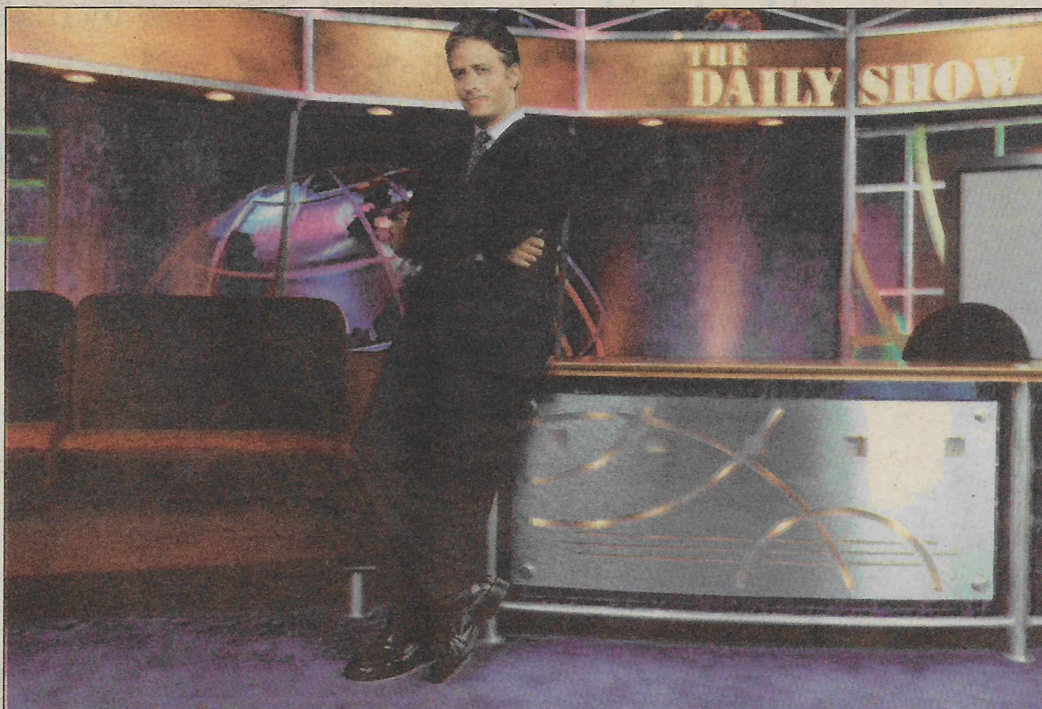


Photo Courtesy of Comedy Central

### Jon Stewart on the set of his TV show "The Daily Show" on the Comedy Central Network.

was when an audience thought it would be funny to yell "Shut up," at Stewart. Proving that he can improv when needed, a shocked

me talk. Come on everyone, let's all take out our mics and have a discussion!" The only negative part of the show was audience



# The reel way to catch a flick in the city

Kristin Morrell

Journal Staff

So you think you're a movie buff? Did you know that nearly 400 movies have been filmed in the Boston area? Well, if you answered "yes" to question one, and "no" to question two, then you better take a Boston Movie Tour to see where all of your favorite Boston-based movies were filmed.

It all started in 2002 when John Coveney and his wife, Rachel Coveney, were on their honeymoon in Hawaii, where they took the Hawaii Movie Tour, after seeing where movies like, "Jurassic Park" and "Raiders of the Lost Arc" were filmed and then they came up with the idea for a Boston Movie Tour.

As you step onto a bus barely big enough for twenty-five passengers, you pick the seat of your choice that is monogrammed with the names of celebrities that have filmed movies in the Boston area. You can pick from heart-throb Ben Affleck, from the film "Good Will Hunting," Sean Penn from the film, "Mystic River," Drew Barrymore from, "Fever Pitch," and many more.

While waiting for the bus to take depart you are greeted by Jeff Coveney, Boston Movie Tours founder, who is the tour guide for the extravagant two-and-a-half hour ride. As soon as you take off there are miniature screens that drop from the ceiling that project a short scene from, "Good Will Hunting."

The movie trivia starts, "What is the big line in Good Will Hunting?" asks Coveney, as some of the bus does not recognize it, some reply with, "How bout them apples?" Unlike at the movies, we are given an apple to snack on. There is also, "movie cash" that you receive for answering trivia questions right as the bus is divided into two teams.

First, you take a short trip through the North End, which is the location of the apartment that Jimmy Fallon's character in "Fever Pitch." The clip of a scene where he receives his season tickets for the Red Sox and comes out wearing nearly nothing just to get those precious tickets in his hand plays on the screen. The North End is too narrow for the bus



Kristin Morrell - Journal Staff

**The L St. Tavern was a popular hangout for Matt Damon and Ben Affleck in "Good Will Hunting" as well as a stop on the Boston Movie Tour.**

to drive down, so the tour quickly moves on.

After the North End, the bus crosses over into Charlestown to Bunker Hill Community College. This is one of the countless places around Boston that "Good Will Hunting" has been filmed.

Also, you drive by the famous stairs on Monument Ave. where the movies, "Blown Away" and "Celtic Pride" have been filmed because of the picturesque Boston skyline. Also passed is the Charlestown Navy Yard where the movie, "The Departed" was filmed.

Next, you head over to the Leonard Zakim Bridge, in the west end of Boston, "Much prettier than the Tobin Bridge," says Coveney. This bridge was seen in the movie, "War of the Worlds," where everything blows up except for the bridge. Coveney asks, "Anybody actually like that movie?" as the entire bus laughs and agrees with him.

The Boston Movie Mile is where over thirty movies were

filmed and is also the next destination for the movie tour. A hotel is being built where the jail in the movie, "Boondock Saints," was located. As we cruise down Charles Street the Charles Street Cleaners, on your left, was converted into a Brasserie for the upcoming movie, "The Departed." "Blown Away," was taped on Joy Street, where the jeep crashes, as well as the movies, "The Verdict" and "Amistad" that were both taped inside the State House.

"We are going to switch to TV shows now," says Coveney as the tour drives down Beacon Street where "Ally McBeal" had been filmed, before it was actually taped in Los Angeles. Coveney continues on to say, "This is what I call the Jack Nicholson triple threat," where Nicholson appeared in the three movies; "Witches of Eastwick," where they used the Wang Center as his house, "The Last Detail," and "The Departed."

Next stop is the famous, "Cheers," where you get to stretch as you stroll over to the famous bench in the Public Gardens where Robin Williams and Matt Damon have their heart-to-heart talk in, "Good Will Hunting."

Copley Square is a place where a number of movies have been filmed like, "The Firm," with Tom Cruise at the Copley Plaza Hotel, and the movie, "Boondock Saints," that was filmed right in Copley square. In addition the movie, "Blown Away" that was filmed here exploded Copley Square.

While there are countless more places you see on this exciting tour, you should take one for yourself and learn more about the movies and shows that were filmed here, as well as some of the historical significance of Boston. You will probably learn more movie trivia and information that you had never known before. Also look for these movies coming to a theatre near you that were filmed in Boston; "Gone Baby Gone" and "Sticks."

Bus tours are available every Saturday by reservation only, but if you are in a walking mood and it is a beautiful day, take the walking tour that is Monday through Friday at 2 p.m. during the month of October and take the same steps that your favorite movie stars took. [www.BostonMovieTours.net](http://www.BostonMovieTours.net).

Gunther von Hagens'

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# Opinion

## Staff Editorial

With North Korea's nuclear test on Oct. 9 a number of parties have faced blame. The "blame Clinton crowd" gleefully cites his "gift" of two light-water reactors in 1994 as hollow appeasement. Meanwhile the left likes to blame the Bush doctrine of preemptive war as the cause for North Korea's shift toward nuclear weapons development, citing North Korea's decision to reconstitute its program and expel IAEA inspectors during the buildup to the Iraq war in 2002. Yet neither administration is to blame, the light-water reactors North Korea received were not suitable for extracting weapons grade plutonium. On the other side, Bush's foreign policy does not change the fact that Kim Jong-Il's mania and the 1996 introduction of his *Songun* policy, which emphasizes North Korea's military over the welfare of its citizens, insured that this situation would have played out even if the American President were an ardent pacifist.

Much of the blame rests on the Sunshine Policy, practiced by North Korea's most unlikely ally, South Korea. Drawn from Aesop's fable of "The Sun and Wind," where the wind tries to remove a man's coat by blowing it off and the sun persuades the man to disrobe by providing warmth; the idea being that deemphasizing military tension while giving aid to North Korea would persuade Kim Jong-Il to take off his coat and stop threatening to turn Seoul into a "sea of fire." In 1998, newly elected South Korean President Kim Dae Jung introduced the policy believing it would be his greatest legacy in a long career of service to the Korean people and democratic ideals. While it did win him the 2000 Nobel Peace Prize, today it seems as if President Kim will find his name next to Neville Chamberlain's in the history books. At the time, with North Korea testing its ballistic missile technology by launching a Taepodong-1 over Japan, it's hard to see why anyone would think North Korea needed more money.

Under the Sunshine Policy the South and businesses based in the South such as Hyundai have poured aid and most importantly hard currency into the pockets of Kim Jong-Il's regime. This came despite Pyongyang's tendency to kidnap South Koreans, dig tunnels under the DMZ large enough to transport tanks, and the devastating famine North Korea was and still is suffering as a result of *Songun*. But wait, with all that cash the North is making off of tourists from the South, its allies, and the Hyundai Corporation, the "Dear Leader" must have put an end to the famine and not wasted all that food and cash on the army, right? Sorry, trickle-down economics are just as ineffective in a Stalinist hermit kingdom as they are in the United States. Citing an, "inability to account for the eventual use of their aid supplies" groups such as Oxfam and Doctors without Borders withdrew from North Korea due to government restrictions. Despite stalls in talks between the two Koreas as a result of a June 2002 naval battle that left six South Korean sailors dead, in 2005 current South Korean President Roh Moo-hyun gave \$324.3 million of aid to the North including over \$400,000 to stage a series of friendlies between the nations' national soccer teams.

It took Monday's test to finally send the message to South Korea that Kim Jong-Il still wants to turn Seoul into a wasteland and has no intentions of peaceful reunification. So the world reaches for their coats, it looks like a mighty cold war out there.

## DPRK's nuke is nothing to fear

As many have heard by now, North Korea claims that it completed its first nuclear test on Monday. The reaction in the American media and from American-led international groups is to be expected: total fear and condemnation, as if Kim Jong-Il had just gained possession of Kryptonite.

The reality of the situation is far from this. To begin with, many scientists currently believe that the

missiles, which the United States intelligence community knew the North Koreans possessed. These tests, therefore, have also shown that we have an accurate picture of the Pyongyang's armaments.

These tests could have two effects on Asia as a region. On the one hand, they could persuade the Chinese and Japanese to divert boatloads of cash and resources away from their normal varieties of economic activity and begin programs of their own.

More reasonable, if played properly by the United States and its allies, is the alternative. The United State has, both throughout and following the Cold War, used its advanced weaponry for the purposes of forming alliances in the name of "mutual defense."

Why not employ the same tactic here? Existing regional defense initiatives could be strengthened or new ones formed, bringing China, Japan, and others under the American security umbrella and lightening the economic strain of increasing defense budgets on these nations.

For its part, the American position would be reinforced with valuable alliances in a region vastly interpreted to be at the forefront of the global economy in the near future. For example, a closer and more symbiotic relationship with China might give the United States enough leverage to convince them to loosen up their monetary policy, long a point of contention between the two nations.

Furthermore, such an arrangement would further isolate the North Korean regime. The current response to these tests is the exact wrong one. The North Korean's

purpose in all this was to attract world attention through the use of threatening power. The present plan seems to be to impose strict sanctions and a stern diplomatic tongue-lashing. Sanctions, as a policy, have never worked throughout the history of their use. One needs not look further than 90 miles off the southern coast of Florida, to Cuba, to see a painful reminder of this reality.

This problem needs to be dealt with in a different way. Rather than coalesce with the wishes of Kim Jong-Il, he should be further marginalized and trivialized. The failure of the test should be played up, as should the archaic nature of the weaponry employed. The United States and its allies should turn North Korea from the darkest and most feared nation on the planet into the laughing stock of the world stage.

Obviously, the reaction to such a policy would differ from that which would be wrought if the present policies are continued, which would essentially give North Korea everything they asked for: increased respect and the world spotlight. Needless to say, this would also set a bad example for other nations considering the development of nuclear weapons.

Clearly, if the fear-mongering and politics of the issue are dissected, the tests not only show that North Korea poses little or no military threat to the United States, but they could actually be a good thing for the United States and its objectives around the world. As Franklin Roosevelt once said, "we have nothing to fear but fear itself."

## Stephen Maher

nuclear test was, in fact, a failure. American, French, and South Korean experts say that there is only evidence of the detonation of 500 metric tons of TNT; surprisingly puny for a nuclear blast. Obviously, this has raised serious questions as to whether the test was a success at all. The response this information should invoke is not one of terror, but quite the opposite.

Prior to the tests, we did not know in any concrete way the capacity of the weapons held by the rogue state. Now, they have tested the weapons, lifting the veil of secrecy and lending insight into a program previously obscured in shadow. Even if a nuclear explosion did occur in the course of this test, the prospects of which are dubious, it was about as small and weak an explosion as we could have hoped. Secondly, there were no surprises here. The weapons that were used were all Soviet-era

## The Suffolk Journal

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## SPORTS CALENDAR

### Wednesday, October 11

3:30 p.m. Men's soccer at UMass Dartmouth

7 p.m. Women's tennis vs. Rhode Island College

### Thursday, October 12

1 p.m. Golf at Nichols Invitational

7 p.m. Volleyball at Roger Williams

### Friday, October 13

4 p.m. Cross Country at Emmanuel

### Saturday, October 14

12 p.m. Volleyball at Norwich, vs. S. Vermont

2 p.m. Women's tennis vs. St. Joseph's

7 p.m. Men's soccer vs. Emmanuel

### Tuesday, October 17

7 p.m. Volleyball @ Rhode Island College



# Sports

Wednesday, October 11, 2006

The Suffolk Journal

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Photo courtesy of Dan McHugh

## Soccer Save

Sophomore Defender Clayton Plumer jostles for space with Emerson midfielder Casey Shane in front of Suffolk's goal during the Rams 4-2 victory at Emerson on Oct. 4 as Dakota Roemer (2), Babacar Ndour (4), and goalkeeper Scott Panzano watch the action. The Rams fell to 6-2-0 with a 2-0 loss at WNEC on Oct. 7. WNEC's Golden Bears (8-4-1) improved to 4-1-0 in conference play on goals from Scott Rogers and Evan Heymann. Suffolk who entered the game tied with WNEC for second in the GNAC fell to 3-2-0 in conference play.

## DATELINE

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

**S 8**

**M 9**

**T 10**

**W 11**

**T 12**

**F 13**

**S 14**

9 a.m. - Commuter  
Connections Week  
Coffee Break - Sawyer,  
Donahue and NESAD

10 a.m. - Senior  
Yearbook Photos -  
\$5.00 Fee - D 535

12 p.m. - National  
Coming Out Day  
Celebration - D 403

4:45 p.m. - Wednesday  
Night Supper Club - D  
209 - (S.O.U.L.S.)

10 p.m. - Project  
Runway Finale - 150  
Tremont, 5th Floor

9 a.m. - Commuter  
Connections Week  
Coffee Break - Sawyer,  
Donahue and NESAD

1 p.m. - Coldstone Ice  
Cream Social -D 403

4 p.m. - Donahue  
Lecture Series: Mary L.  
Bonauto -Sargent Hall

6 p.m. - Dodge Ball:  
Residents vs.  
Commuters -Ridgeway  
Gym

8 p.m. - Fall Fest - C.  
Walsh Theatre

Alternative Spring  
Break Application Due  
- Donahue 209 -  
(S.O.U.L.S.)

Family Weekend  
Begins

9 a.m. - Commuter  
Connections Week  
Coffee Break -  
Sawyer, Donahue and  
NESAD

8 p.m. - Fall Fest - C.  
Walsh Theatre

2 p.m. - Fall Fest - C.  
Walsh Theatre

**S 15**

**M 16**

**T 17**

**W 18**

**T 19**

**F 20**

**S 20**

9 a.m. - Making  
Strides - Donahue  
Lobby - (S.O.U.L.S.)

1 p.m. - English  
Department Open  
House -F 134A

1 p.m. - Safe Zone  
Training for Faculty  
& Staff - Located at  
73 Tremont Room  
1324

9 a.m. - Blood Drive -  
Ridgeway Gym

7 p.m. - Common  
Grounds Coffee  
House Drag Show -  
Donahue Cafe

Nuestra Cultura - C.  
Walsh Theatre and  
Donahue Café

1 p.m. - Free Lunch  
(Breast Cancer  
Awareness Month  
Event) - 73 Tremont  
5th Floor