Students hungry for more choices

John S. Forrester

Living on campus or commuting, chances are you've eaten at one of the University's four dining halls. Regardless of whether students love the food or hate it, or eat at the dining facilities every day or once a year, it's part of the college experience that is universal.

Senior Lindsay Pelzar of Canton, Conn, said her experience with the University's dining services so far has been "for the most part positive." Pelzar, who lives at 10 Somerset and eats at the dorms every day of the week, says although she doesn't mind the dorm food and feels there is a lot of variety.

However, the quality and freshness of the food leave something to be desired. "It's not like home cooking, obviously. A lot of the salad is wilted and there isn't always a healthy option," she said.

"I was very impressed by the country, the educational system and how much effort they've put into letting people know about the University," she said.

"I'm used to eating lots of vegetables and fruits, but the variety is the same every day," said Scott Lucy, a freshman of Pawcatuck, Conn.

"It's tiring to eat the same vegetables every day, if there was more variety it would be better." Lucy, who lives in 10 Somerset and is a vegetarian, says he has started going out to restaurants and local stores more often because he dislikes the dorm food.

"In the dorms they don't always offer, but what they don't offer is a lot of variety," Lucy said.

Beyond the food itself, the dining facilities are not enough. There's nothing really special about the campus at all," Lucy said.

"I'm used to eating lots of vegetables and fruits, but the variety is the same every day," said Scott Lucy, a freshman of Pawcatuck, Conn.

The quality and freshness of the food leave something to be desired. "It's not like home cooking, obviously. A lot of the salad is wilted and there isn't always a healthy option," she said.

Carroll exposes 'dark twin'

Kristin Mortell - Journal Staff

It's late October and the noted peace activist James Carroll told a packed house in the newly renovated C. Walsh that this was the perfect time of the year for protesting. Sharing thoughts and ideas from his new book "House of War: The Pentagon and the disastrous rise of America power," Carroll spoke passionately on a subject that he felt to be his dark twin: The Pentagon.

Sharing the same week of birth in January 1940, Carroll asserted how it is as much of historical book as it is a memoir due to their parallel life timelines. Before taking questions he bellowed "Wake up America and don't blame this on Bush! It's you! True evil is making us believe we are innocent of it!"

Landon Richmond - Journal Contributor

Taiwan added as new study abroad destination

James Morean

While many of Suffolk's administrators were lamenting the passing days of summer and gearing up for the coming academic year, Younna Hinnawi was packing her hot weather gear for a flight to the 2006 Taiwan International Study Tour Program, held Aug. 20 through 26.

"It was very impressed by the country, the educational system and how much effort they've put into letting people know about their programs" said Hinnawi.

Hinnawi, the Director of International Education Study Abroad Programs, was recommended to represent Suffolk by the Vice President of Enrollment and International Programs Margarete Dennis as well as Jim Sintros consultant to President Sargent and co-director of the Center of International Education.

The invitation was sent by Dr. Shan-Lan Chang, the Director of Cultural Division and Taipei Economic and Cultural Division in the Ministry of Education.

The trip served as an opportunity for universities from countries spanning the world to engage in cultural exchange with Taiwan.

During the six-day trip, Hinnawi visited four cities and universities and spent a day in each; these included Kaohsuing City, Taichung city, Hualien City and two days in Taipei Capital City.

Hinnawi commented on the program saying, "It was my first time in Asia" and that she was taken back by the "unbelievable organization" of the program.

Another main focus of the trip, Hinnawi stated was to figure out, "how we can encourage our faculty to lead short programs to these universities."

As such, universities seminars were held to promote their particular school's specialties and strongest subjects; popular ones included business, computer science and engineering.

Hinnawi and her colleagues made local headlines in The China Post shortly after the trip concluded. As of now, Suffolk has established an agreement with Tamkang University, located in the Capital City of Taipei, where students from both the College of Arts and Sciences and Sawyer School of Management can attend classes abroad for credit in Taiwan.

Hinnawi praised the new program saying, "It was an amazing trip; living there for a week and experiencing their hospitality.

She continued, "I think our students would learn a lot from them."
SGA plays handyman

At the sixth General meeting of the Student Government Association on Oct. 19, a initiative to access the condition of each classroom on Suffolk University's campus was announced. The program, dubbed The RAMS (Revitalizing Academic Meeting spaces) Project is being coordinated by Housing and Facilities Committee chairman, Shawn Collins. Citing a lack of consistency in the quality of in the university's classrooms, Collins said that the program will focus on improving technology and bringing classrooms up to date with by replacing chalkboards with dry-erase white boards, and fixing minor issues, such as flickering lights. It’s a short campaign, but it's also going to be a bitz campaign," said SGA President Max Koskoff. The projected timeframe to complete the assessments is two weeks, after which Collins will present his findings to Provost Masseyer and Gordon King, the Senior Director of Facilities, Planning and Management.

PC hosts Monster Mash

As part of their ongoing "Freak Week," Program Council is holding two events this week to get Suffolk into the Halloween spirit. On Oct. 25, The Evacuane, a duo of minned-readers performs at the G. Walsh theatre at 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 27 the group is holding their annual Halloween Bash in the Donahue Cafeteria from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. The event will have a costume contest, DJ and dance floor, and the perennial student favorite, free food. During the bash the Vietnamese Student Association is creating a haunted house in D403. All events are free. For more information contact PC@suff-folk.edu or instant message them at SuprogRMMournd.

The BPD by numbers

On Oct. 23, the Boston Police Department released their updated crime data showing how rates of various crimes like vehicle theft, rape, larceny and robbery have changed during the past year. Homicide and rape have increased since 2005, according to the BPD's figures. From Jan. 1 to Oct. 22, 2006, there have been 61 homicides, compared to 57 during the same time period last year. Rape has also shot up, from 3,910 in last year to 3,354. Overall, crime in the city has been reduced by 3 percent in the last year, according to the BPD, with 774 less incidents than the previous year.

If the shoe fits

Matthew T. Mello became unruly and combative and was transported to the Boston Police district station.

Sodexho gets mixed reviews

Dining halls seem to vary from one another in quality and popularity. "Tremont was better because there was an ice cream machine, though I think Somerset has one now too," said Jennifer Butten, '07, of Skowhegan, Maine, who describes her experience with dining services as positive with no complaints. "Somerset has more space, but Tremont was more inviting to sit and eat in."

SGA has been working with Sodexho to improve service based on student input. Recently, one of their initiatives was to start "continuous dining" in the school's dining halls so that students could eat throughout the day, on their schedules, rather than Sodexho's.

"Students bring up concerns from service to the quality of the food to the pricing. Those are things that are worked out in the long term," SGA chairman of Student Affairs, Jeff Stinson, '09, of Hamilton, Mass. said, "Essentially right now we're working on service questions."

Meeting bi-weekly with Tom Fuller, general manager of dining services, and other managers from Sodexho, Stinson voices students' concerns given to him through the RCC, or Resident Community Council and works to resolve issues revolving around the cafeteria. Some of the suggestions, Stinson said, come from a comment sheet he posts on the fourth floor of Donahue. "It usually fills up every week," he said, "there have been a lot of complaints about the timeliness of being rung up at the register and shelves being stocked," he said.

While SGA is currently working with Sodexho to improve service, one of the barriers to making major sweeping changes is lack of student feedback, according to Tom Fuller, general manager of dining services.

"There's seems to be kind of an apathy from our customers - we get some feedback, but we don't get a lot. Sometimes it's hard to know what direction we should be traveling," said Fuller, adding that in the past year an online survey on sodining.com garnered only two responses from students.

Over the past few years Sodexho has tried to get a sense of students' preferences and concerns through paper surveys, but even that, said Fuller, was unsuccessful.

"We've done them at Donahue, Somerset and Tremont, for the last three years, and we couldn't get enough of a sample. We are in the process of working with a company called Synovate, an online survey company, and I'm working with Don Stoll and Provost Masseyer to see if we can get Suffolk to be a part of that process," Fuller said.

Don't wait up.

We'll be back next week. The new Journal hits stands November 8.

Leave the porch light on.
Gubernatorial Run

As the Nov. 7 Massachusetts Gubernatorial Election nears, the race is heating up. The most recent poll, conducted by The Boston Globe and CBS channel 4, showed democratic candidate Deval Patrick taking a strong lead with 55 percent of potential voters. Republican candidate Kerry Healey holds 30 percent of potential votes, while Independent runner Christy Mihos has 7 percent. Green-Rainbow candidate, Grace Ross, has the remaining 1 percent. In the past few months, the race has garnered significant attention across Massachusetts, both in the media and among voters, as controversial decisions and personal issues have arisen in the local media, not to mention mud-slinging by some candidates and provocative commercials - the 2006 Gubernatorial Election is shaping up to be a good, old fashioned political melee. Here is a sampling of their backgrounds and where they stand on a few issues relevant to Suffolk students.

Kerry Healey
Republican

Serving as the Commonwealth's Lieutenant Governor since 2003, Kerry Healey, 46, of Beverly, moved to the state from her hometown of Omaha, Neb. in 1978 to attend Harvard. Graduating with a bachelor's degree in government, Healey went on to get her PhD in political sciences from Trinity College in Dublin. Before her position in the Romney administration, she worked as a law and public safety consultant at Abt Associates in Cambridge. Healey is a proponent of capital punishment - which is currently not practiced in Massachusetts - and opposes gay marriage, favoring civil unions as an alternative.

MBTA Fare Increase: After allegedly flip-flopping on the issue this June, Healey told the Worcester Telegram and Gazette that some increasing of the fare was justified, "in light of a legacy of high debt accumulated by the MBTA that leaves little choice between raising fares or cutting train and subway services." However, she says that the proposed increase is "too high to include in a single-fare increase."

Retaining Massachusetts' College Graduates after graduation: Citing the state's expensive cost of living and "high taxes as major factors in why many students who graduate annually from area colleges leave for jobs elsewhere, Healey told The Boston Globe she wants to offer tax-free savings accounts to graduates of Massachusetts' universities who stay after their education to work for a local company. Healey also said on her website that she will work with businesses in the state to provide "loan-forgiveness" as a part of new employees' compensation packages to make living in the state more affordable.

Christy Mihos
Independent

Despite his reputation as the former President and CEO of Christie's Markets, Christy Mihos, 57, of West Yarmouth, is no stranger to state politics. Serving as Vice Chairman of the Massachusetts Turnpike Authority from 1998 to 2002, and later director from 2002 to 2004, Mihos proposed a restructuring of management in the Big Dig project. In 1999, Mihos ran for the South Shore slate a nate seat, which he won. Mihos supports gay marriage, but believes that it should be put on the ballot for voters to decide; also he says he will support a "Castle Doctrine," allowing homeowners to defend themselves against assailants without fear of legal consequences.

MBTA Fare Increase: Going against the proposed fare hike, Mihos tells the Worcester Telegram and Gazette this June, "You never pass on a price to a consumer when you haven't first looked at your own organization and pared it down. If you move those fares up, you're going to lose riders." He believes cutting back on MBTA employees' pension and retirement plans is one way to begin reforming the organizations financial woes.

Retaining Massachusetts' College Graduates after graduation: If elected, Mihos says he will dedicate 40 percent of annual state revenues to aid local communities - dubbed Proposition 1. "One of the purposes of that is to support economic development, which means more jobs for recent college graduates," a Mihos campaign spokesperson said. In campaign materials, Mihos said he wants to cut costs for businesses to provide an incentive for them to stay in the state, thus leaving more jobs for recent graduates.

Deval Patrick
Democrat

Spending his childhood the south side of Chicago, Deval Patrick, 50, of Milton moved to Massachusetts as a teenager to attend Milton Academy. He attended Harvard for both his undergraduate studies and law degree, going on to work for the NAACP's Legal Defense Fund in the 1980s and as the Attorney General of Civil Rights in the Clinton administration between 1994 and 1997. Later Patrick served as the executive vice president of the Coca Cola Corporation until resigning last year. If elected, one of Patrick's initiatives will be to provide the Bay State with free Wi-Fi wireless internet service; he also supports gay marriage.

MBTA Fare Increase: Saying 'nay' to the proposed fare hike, Patrick says he opposes the measure because "at a time when gas prices are through the roof, we should not be raising fares. We should instead seize the opportunity to attract new riders and support current riders by making the subway, the commuter rail and our buses more efficient and appealing." Seeing public transportation ultimately as a means to save energy, Patrick says the T should focus on improving quality before raising prices, as well as expanding bus and commuter rail service throughout the state.

Retaining Massachusetts' College Graduates after graduation: Patrick suggests building more affordable housing around commuter rail stations and improving service between New Bedford, Worcester and Boston, reported The Boston Globe. He also wants to increase funding to area colleges and universities to drive down costs for students, so that they will be more likely to remain in the state after graduation.

The underdog of the election, Grace Ross, 44, graduated from Harvard and has worked as a social activist since the 1980's working to advance "anti-racist struggles, women's rights, union organizing and gay/lesbian civil rights," Ross' campaign website profile says. As one of her main causes is abolishing poverty, she founded Sisters Together Ending Poverty (STEP) in 1999, a non-profit organization that provides aid to homeless and low-income families in Massachusetts. Ross is the first open lesbian to run for Governor in the state and is working to gain equal rights for married gay couples.

MBTA Fare Increase: Ross has protested against the proposed fare hike on T, saying it is unfair to lower-income residents of the state. "Some of us actually still believe in public transportation and that the public as a whole should bear the burden, not those who can least afford it," said Ross to The Boston Herald.

Retaining Massachusetts' College Graduates after graduation: Intending to raise the state's minimum wage by $2, Ross says Massachusetts' economy will be boosted, providing more funds for housing and education. In addition, she wants to close corporate tax loopholes to gain more money for the public's use. "The answer is making sure we get back toward something that's more fair, seeing that publicly traded corporations and higher-income folks are paying their fair share, then we see the same taxes we're putting in go further, and we go, 'Oh, we're getting our money's worth.' It starts feeling worth it," said Ross to the Globe.

Compiled by Todd Olsson and John S. Forrester
As this is the last Journal before Election Day all of the editorials this week are about voting. Despite the positive news of increased turnout among young voters in the 2004 election talk of whether or not a particular policy is moral or just.

Without this debate some feelings are spared at the great cost of retarding our government. Thus rather than finding bipartisan solutions to the problems facing our nation we find ourselves in an endless cycle of "hot button" issues inserted into our national dialogue (which most of the time is nothing more than talking heads regurgitating talking points) around election time.

Gay marriage, abortion, the pledge of allegiance, prayer in school, even affirmative action in schools, perhaps these might be important issues in a lesser nation with less serious concerns, like Liechtenstein or San Marino. But as the world's lone superpower we face grave concerns such as global terrorism, poverty, healthcare, social security, and the ongoing wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Yet the most dialogue most people can muster on such serious issues is to slap a bumper sticker on their SUV or Hybrid commenting to us to "Support Our Troops" or a shrill "Bush Lied".

Defenders of this current state of affairs would argue that you can't change people's views through a political argument. True, but through an open debate unhindered by vitriol and personal attacks you can come to a solution that will at least attempt to satisfy both sides of a debate.

Thus when we complain about an administration that is not receptive to opposing views or parties that have become too moderate or too zealized depending on where you stand we are partial to blame.

The Journal is taking a week off to indulge their pagan urges.

Look for our next issue to hit the stands November 8.

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Dedication, key to democracy

One thing I've never understood is the constant obsession about high voter turnout. Perhaps one of the facts that the two-party system in Washington stifles progress and creates an atmosphere of political stagnation.

But much of the blame for our current situation can be placed on the apathy of Americans, so how can we expect people to suddenly want to improve matters? This is especially true in local elections, which usually suffer from the lowest turnout rates.

Voting for town selectmen or your district's city councilor might not have the panache or high drama of a Senate or Presidential race but these have the most direct impact.

Local races foster the growth of viable third parties, as smaller parties or individuals without a party affiliation have a much greater chance of both reaching voters and winning such elections.

In addition to providing a more even playing field for third parties, local elections create accountability not seen in national elections or votes on the national level. Problems with local government are easily confronted as these politicians live in the neighborhood they represent and must interact with their constituents on a daily basis. Plus, the local political process is the first step toward advancing your long-term political aspirations.

Let's say you see a problem in your neighborhood, there's a short­age of affordable housing. But there isn't a question on the ballot or a candidate even talking about this problem; you can't simply show up on Capitol Hill and pitch your ideas to the first Senator or Representative you run into (unless you happen to be Janssen McCormick, have a suite full of non-sequential small bills).

But at the local level you can slowly build support for your cause first by getting together with like minded individuals and putting on an event in your local race.

With enough support you can elect a candidate who will try to solve your problem on the local level, but then you run into the hurdle of politics on the state level. Eventually, through much grass roots effort, your movement will have enough candidates and enough power to actually do something about the problem.

Is it a long arduous process? Undoubtedly, but what political struggle isn't? And even in failure it is certainly more admirable to try to stand against the current stagnation of ideas rather than to simply resort to an issue on an issue than to refuse because the majority of the people voted against your cause because you couldn't convince the one person who holds the exact same views as you.

Democracy must be a series of compromises, a constant clashing of ideas, which creates progress through constant refinement.

To those who have been beaten down because you cannot get your way immediately is incredibly selfish and childish. Instead of not voting why not find someone who can't make the system to the polls on Election Day because they face a long commute and vote for them. Call an inmate and ask them who they'd like to vote for if they could then head for the polls and vote for them.

And rather than harboring a high-minded disdain of voting as something below you consider that there are people beyond the walls of the United States who franchised on election day, consider that you've never had to take a vote, only choose between the lesser of two evils, and that you've never had to prove that your grandfather owned land, and consider that you've never been attacked by dogs, sprayed with a fire hose or locked up for protesting those very tests. Happy voting!

Boycott the face that is U.S. Politics

By voting, they tell the world that they think that their system is democratic, and therefore they approve of the government it does. In reality they do not approve, for their government oppresses and exploits them. Although, it is not as dramatic, a similar condition is developing in the United States. I will boycott all future elections, because voting suggests to us, our leaders and the rest of the world that we have a democracy. Did we vote to start an illegal war of aggression? Did the majority of us vote for Bush in 2007? Did we vote to make torture an acceptable practice in our pris­ons all over the world? Did we vote to let Bush illegally spy on us?

It is conceded that our votes can do some good. We have a degree of control when it comes to protecting the environment, enur­aging equal rights to the institution of marriage for everyone, ensuring rights for women to control their own bodies, and even thwarting slightly more altruistic, humanitar­ian representatives than others. But now that our media, our chan­nels of mass-communication that play a huge role in guiding public opinion and determining relevant issues, is run like a totalitarian propaganda machine, the average American is dumbed down to frightening levels.

Even if we were informed and could therefore choose the most civil and civic candidate (which we can't because our two-party system excludes them) that candi­date would be immediately over­shadowed by the most powerful and gobbled up by the institutionalized ruling class socialism at the top, where all the power is centralized. So we are left, over and over again, trying to choose between the lesser of two evils. As Nicolo Ignatiev points out, "the effect of the policy of choosing the 'lesser evil' is that over time it makes the choices worse."

In the past, the small effects that voting can have were enough for me. I felt empowered, fran­chised, even represented to some extent. Even now that I have taken under understanding of the way things work, I am still torn over whether or not to vote and do the small good that I can. But because the fundamental labor of our ruling class (globalization as they conceive of it, their class solidar­ity, zeitgeist and hoarding the wealth of the world, etc.) cannot be touched by our votes, the act of voting becomes a sham.

By voting, we give our consent to the government. The government has hijacked our country tarnish the name of our people, our class, and our future. We cannot pre­dictly play our part in this cha­rade that stands in place of a democracy. I refuse to play my assigned role. I insist on having the real thing.

Democracy doesn't necessarily mean voting. It means our freedoms guaranteed under the Bill of Rights. It means that everyone gets their own voice and gets to use it. I will exercise these demo­cratic rights by using my voice in the way I think it will be most effective: I will boycott and protest at polling places, explaining to people why I am doing what I am. I will continue my struggle to resolve our current system with a far more democratic, humanitar­i, egalitarian, and intelligent one.

As authoritarian oligarchy tears democracy out of our hands, vot­ing in the United States is turned into the farce that it is in Mexico and so many other places. I have recanted the point where I am now for two reasons- because things are getting worse, but more impor­tantly because things are getting worse every day. Is there a point at which you will boycott the vote? Can the system that exists today con­vince you to join the boycott? Or will things have to get worse?
Career Week
OCTOBER 30 - NOVEMBER 9

MONDAY, OCTOBER 30
Professional Dining Etiquette
downtown cafeteria - 47 Temple Street 5:45-8pm Enjoy a four-course meal and get advice from Winston Jenkins of Mannersmith on how to make a winning impression at a business meeting or lunchtime. Advance sign-up required at the NAB or Career Services by Wednesday, October 25.
Cosponsors: Senior Class/Student Government Organization.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31
Women for Hire Job Fair
Sheraton Boston Hotel - 90 Dalton Street, Boston 10am-3pm Join more than 50 employers representing for-profits, non-profits, and government agencies as they look to recruit talented, diverse women. For more information, visit www.womenforhire.com.

Junior Career Event - It's All About the Experience
Sawyer 1008 ~ 8 Ashburton Place 5:45-8pm Find out how to obtain career-related experience through on-campus internships.

Gradual Resume Resumes
Sawyer Graduate Student lounge - 8 Ashburton Place, 4th floor 2:30-4:30pm Get feedback on your resume and enjoy refreshments. Resume a time, RSVP to mrap@suffolk.edu.
Convener: Graduate Student Association.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1
Graduate Student Career Expo
Suffolk University Law School - 120 Tremont Street 11am-4pm Join fellow graduate students for networking with Boston-area employers representing the finance, biotech, and health care industries. Participating employers include Fidelity, JPMorgan, Genzyme, Harvard Pilgrims, and more.

Senior Career Event - Acting the Interview
Sawyer 1022 - 8 Ashburton Place 12-2:15pm You've worked hard to get in the front door for an interview—now it's time to get an offer by making a compelling case for your candidacy. Come for tips on how to improve the likelihood of landing a job.

Graduate Event: Executive Speaker Series
Call for location. 7-11-10-12:30pm "Ethical Sourcing in the Global Economy," presented by Doug Gom, Vice President of the Human Rights Program, Rainbird International, Ltd.

Alumni Event: First Thursday Networking Night
Red Sky Restaurant & Lounge - 18-19 North Street, Boston 5-7pm Join Suffolk University alumni and friends for an evening of informal networking and socializing. Sponsor: Alumni Office.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3
The Grad School Option - What, When, Why, and How?
Sawyer 122 ~ 8 Ashburton Place 12-1pm Contemplating graduate school? Hear the perspectives of a graduate admissions expert and current graduate student.

Winning Resumes in Thirty Seconds
Sawyer 127 ~ 8 Ashburton Place 1:30-2:30pm Get tips on crafting a content-specific, visually appealing resume that will capture employers' interest in less than a minute.

International Students/Alumni Networking Reception
Suffolk University Law School - faculty dining room - 120 Tremont Street, 4th floor 5:30-8pm Get career advice from international alumni working in Boston.

Career Connections Conference for Students of Color (also offered on 11/4)
John Hancock Hall - 180 Baydale St 1-2:15pm Participate in leadership development workshops and networking opportunities, and interact with Boston employers. For more information, visit www.thepartnershipinc.org.
Sponsors: The Partnership, Inc.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6
On Target Dress for Success Workshop for Men & Women
Call for location. 12-1pm Fashion consultants and human resources personnel from Target stores will share their advice on style trends and suitable attire for the workplace.

Fresh/Soph Career Event: "Who Wants to be a Millionaire?"
10 Somerset St, Miller Hall - 1st floor lounge 6:30-8pm Play Suffolk's version of the popular TV game show and learn about career planning while competing with freshmen and sophomores for prizethe RSVP to Career Services.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7
The Life of a Child Marketing Officer
Sawyer 291 ~ 8 Ashburton Place 11-2:15pm Learn more about the marketing field and what it's like to head the marketing department of a large company.

CAREERS IN CHEMISTRY AND BIOLOGY
Cosponsors: Chemistry Department.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8
Hub Crawl with the Financial Services Industry (also offered on 11/9)

Topping Library Resources for Career, Employer, and Industry Information
Sawyer Library Reference Desk - 73 Tremont Street 1:15-2:15pm Learn from a reference librarian about the wealth of resources available to help you become a smarter, more successful job-seeker and professional.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9
The Art of Networking
Morina Conference Room - Arbor 110-20 Dane Street 1:15-2:15pm Learn how to network effectively to advance your career and get information on specialized professional associations. Co-host: Office of Diversity Services.
Sofia Coppola says ‘Let them eat cake’

Marie Antoinette indulges herself in sweets and shoes to counter her feelings of unacceptance in France.

Erica Lawton
Journal Contributor

Overfowling glasses of champagne, pink-frosted pastries upon pastries, and exquisite, vibrant shoes as far as the eye can see; this is Marie Antoinette's heaven and it is conveniently located at the palatial paradise of Versailles, at the snap of her fingers.

Sofia Coppola's "Marie Antoinette" is not making any apologies for her extravagances either. She is simply a 14-year-old girl acting as any teenager with (seemingly) inexhaustible wealth and diversions would, meanwhile sort of forgetting any responsibilities that come along with it.

Throughout the film Marie (Kirsten Dunst) does mature, transitioning from naive child to rebellious teen to doting mother all in front of the excruciating public eye, but she remains ever oblivious to the plight of her own people.

The focus of the film is not on history, or the political state of France, both of which would be of no interest to Marie. It is a story of a young woman, Coppola suggests, whose lifestyle has been too quickly condemned in the past, and whose story is ever relevant in the present.

From her three-day 21st birthday bash, to her excessive shopping sprees, and incessant tabloid gossip, Marie could easily be a Lindsay Lohan or a Paris Hilton of today.

She giggles with her friends as she looks at a picture of her fiancee she has never met. She then goes on to cheat on him with a cute soldier from a party she snuck out of her house to attend, all with artists like The Cure and Bow Wow playing in the background.

Even the character's accents, not French at all, almost insist on the viewer shifting the time frame from the 1700s to present day.

The film is less verbal than many period pieces, but Coppola's focus has never been on dialogue, resulting in greater than usual emphasis on music and scenery, both of which she does very well.

The film is visually stunning, much of it shot on location in Versailles, whose beauty was only rivaled by the dresses of the gossiping, conniving ladies of the French court, including Molly Shannon and Asia Argento.

At front and center of this frivolous romp is the very serious issue of consummating the royal marriage bed. It seems that all the protocol and ceremony in the world, including the archbishop blessing the bed, and a dozen onlookers as Marie and her inexperienced husband, Louis XVI (Jason Schwartzman), climb in for the first time cannot create even a forced intimacy between the two. What historians now have suggested to be impotency on the Dauphin's behalf, was then simply a cause of humiliation and immense pressure for the young couple who spent seven years of marriage without sex.

As an abashedly shy husband and lover, Louis does not have many moments of eloquence in the film.

His simple plea at realizing his ascension to the crown, however, is one that succinctly summarizes he and Marie's life together; "Dear God, protect and guide us. We are too young to reign." Throughout their marriage, he is almost a father to Marie, despite only one year between them, always reminding her of expenses, the dangers of gambling, and her bedtime.

While Coppola does include some sarcastic commentary on the absurd protocol and stiffness of the royal court and the awkward human interaction that comes along with an arranged marriage, she does not focus on this, but on celebrating Marie as a woman.

Once Marie gives birth she falls in love with her baby, and draws away from society, into a more naturalistic, wholesome version of herself.

By the last scenes of the film, as the chants of angry mobs echo in the background of their elaborate dinners and decadent home, Marie has matured.

She still does not understand her role as a ruler, but she bravely faces the criticism. In one of the best scenes of the film, Marie finally walks out on her balcony in front of the hordes of starving peasants, as both she and the audience acknowledging them for the first time.

Although this homage to France's most famous queen gets a bit lengthy, overall "Marie Antoinette" takes the shape of a delightful piece of cake; substance topped off with a scrumptious layer of fashion, fun, and rock n' roll.
Kutcher, Costner give the Guard some credit

Katie Maillet
Journal Contributor

Many would not believe a mix of Ashton Kutcher and Kevin Costner would be anything to see, but the duo captures the screen in the new hit by Touchstone Pictures, "The Guardian," quite nicely.

"The Guardian" began with gushing water pounding the screen from every angle, and ended with hearts pounding throughout the theatre.

Directed by Ron L. Brinkerhoff, the film's opening scene started with excitement of a rescue mission from the United States Coast Guard, and continued with twists and turns that lead viewers to believe the obvious would happen, but the plot never followed anyone's expectation.

The film did not create much hype before entering the box office, but it is by far one of the best movies that has come out in awhile. It was refreshing to see a movie that was about pride and hard work while also motivating.

The movie is difficult to assign to a certain genre, because it encompasses comedy, romance, action, and drama.

As described by one of the movie's amateur critics leaving the theatre, "That movie brought me on a roller coaster. I started crying and two seconds later I was laughing hysterically." Once you believe that the movie is going to end with a solid conclusion, it continues on to shock and create a new situation.

This movie also brought pride to one of the military branches that do not seem to get much credit, The United States Coast Guard. "The Guardian" goes through the extensive training that the men and women have to partake in to become part of the United States Coast Guard.

"The Guardian" does not make the training appear easy, and identifies the struggles that men and women in the military go through to gain the expertise to defend our country.

The men and women of this branch were rightfully glorified for the risks they take each day through "The Guardian."

Kevin Costner who played Ben Randall, a Senior Chief in the Coast Guard, defined the term, legend. He risked his life, taught others, and conquered feats that seemed unattainable. Costner's character is very relatable as he brings drama, heartache and passion to "The Guardian."

This movie makes one feel as though they have known all of the characters their whole life and every trial that they go through.

"The Guardian" makes one question their own life, and wonder how much impact he or she is giving to others. The end of "The Guardian," leaves the viewer in shock after every emotion has surged through their body.

Also, the viewer contemplates if they would be able to risk their life for the motto that the U.S. Coast Guard lives by, "So others may live." "The Guardian" shows that one does not become a legend by way of setting records, only by way of personal sacrifice.


Ashton Kutcher and Kevin Costner bring drama and humor to the U.S. Coast Guard in "The Guardian."
Live art creates ‘Legends of Style’ in ‘Future Shock’

Erin Riley
Journal Contributor

‘Future Shock’ hit Boston for the third year via the Boston Center for the Arts from 7 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. where Bostonians were given the chance to take part in the fifth event of the Legends of Style series produced by Future Classic.

This event occurred on Saturday, Oct. 21 at 7 p.m. with over 45 well known and up and coming artists work on display, music provided by San Francisco’s J-Boogie, live painting by Project SF, a cash bar and urban culture driven fashion seen on the individuals attending, Future Shock provided a treat for all senses.

Promotional pioneers of urban art, Legends of Style, was originally founded in 2003 in New York City as what they call “an exclusive event to feature the work of the nation's best underground aerosol artists and designers,” and since then has broadened its scope.

At an event tagged to “showcase urban, contemporary, and pop art, as well as photography, music and fashion” the original take on nightclub meets art gallery meets threshold to urban culture is a breath of fresh air.

The art is set up in a circularly constructed area. At one end: the bar, at the other: J-Boogie dropping his beats. Typical Saturday night, right?

Wrong.

Aside from the eye catching art on all sides, the attention grabbing center belonged to Project SF. Glowing from the light of high-rise chandeliers throughout the event, many of the art was lost in the shadows.

Through these shadows many artists seemed to shine on their own, and over 200 pieces of original work could be purchased ranging anywhere from $40 autographed posters from artists such as Lokis and feature artist Rolland Berry to $7,000 for the larger than life Charcoal Psycho Landscape from the artist known as Mouse.

Unlike the art around you, Project SF is live. Around and inside the four walled, window incorporated white area, Project SF's artists make use of their time by doing what they do best...art.

According to their mission statement, their “fans and friends are the trend setters and hipsters who set the tone for what's hot in music, fashion and culture.”

From the art on the walls, to the art being made, and what many consider to be art displayed on the bodies and feet of the congregate culture driven public, the event itself revolved not only on the art displayed but the art brought in by friends and fans.
Queens far from drag

Marisa Melo
Journal Contributor

"Borat: Cultural Learnings of America for Make Benefit Glorious Nation of Kazakhstan"

Jagshemash! Comedian Sacha Baron Cohen brings his controversial character Borat to the big screen on Nov. 3. This is the movie Kazakhstan doesn’t want you to see!

"Y'all look like a bunch of dogs watching TV."

She interacted with the audience by pulling audience members up to dance with her on stage and taking lollipops out of people’s mouths.

She was a combination of Shaquille O’Neal, Twiggy and Scary Spice and had bling that would make Paris Hilton salivate.

She worked the room and made many friends by sandwiching people’s heads in between her cleavage, making audience members reach out and touch her larger-than-life chest.

Another highlight of the show was the gorgeous Cheyenne’s seductive dances. She had the crowd laughing with everything she did and said.

The show did a great job at tying in the diversity of the students and faculty at Suffolk and the ladies that performed gave their all for the crowd.

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REVIVING THE AMERICAN DREAM
THE CRISIS OF ACCESS IN HIGHER EDUCATION
FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

A college degree is still the strongest path to personal prosperity, social mobility, and an engaged citizenship. Yet, rising costs, government cutbacks, shrinking Pell grants, and even some unwise decisions to scale financial aid for national rankings have combined to place a huge burden on low- and middle-income students.

This decade more than four million qualified students will be denied access to the life-transforming experience that is a college education, simply because it is beyond the financial reach of their families. Are colleges destined to become gated communities available only to the wealthy? Or is higher education a societal investment whose returns far outweigh the costs?

Join Suffolk University and a nationally-renowned panel of thinkers, writers, scholars, and government leaders as they ask the tough questions—about the growing divide between the promise of the American Dream and what we as a nation are actually delivering.

October 27, 2006
3pm–5pm
Tremont Temple Baptist Church,
60 Tremont St., Boston

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL 617.573.5443

*Image from the Department of Information Technology Services, Suffolk University.
Daniel Ryan
Journal Staff

This past Saturday, Oct. 21, 2006, Suffolk University's ladies' tennis team played Simmons College in the Great Northeast Athletic Conference (GNAC) Tournament semifinals. The Lady Rams' tournament run ended far too soon, with the team losing 7-2. Suffolk junior Jen Nelson, a native of Newburyport, Mass., won both of Suffolk's matches. She won her singles match in straight sets (6-4, 6-1), and won her doubles match with partner Laila Bdour (Oneida, NY), 8-3. The team finished the season with an 8-5 overall record (5-3 GNAC record), and finished the year as the fourth seed in the GNAC tournament.

The team's head coach, Stephen Counihan, after the game said "I thought it was a good effort." The team fell just short of advancing to the finals, and Counihan said that the team "could have had a couple of matches" and added "we fell short, it was a tough day." Overall, coach Counihan could not have been disappointed with his team's performance this year. The Lady Rams were a mere game away from the championship and improved over last season. In the 2005 season, the team finished 7-5 overall (4-4 GNAC record), and was a fifth seed in the GNAC Tournament.

They improved their win total by one game this season, and moved up a seed in the tournament rankings. Coach Counihan was pleased with the overall result of the season, saying "I thought [the season] went a little better than expected." The team got great season-long performances from junior Jen Nelson and senior Mindy Moy. Nelson was the 2005 GNAC Player of the Year, and was named the GNAC Player of the Week for Oct. 3, 2006. Moy was named the GNAC Player of the Week for Sept. 26, 2006. Coach Counihan said "Mindy Moy and Jen Bradley played very well," and he was definitely proud of all of his players.

In talking about the season gone by, Coach Counihan said that there were some things that his team did very well.

The coach felt that the team played a lot better in the doubles matches, saying "We picked up our doubles play from last year quite a bit. Our close matches always come down to that." The improved doubles play gave the team a key advantage in close games, which was one of the reasons that they made it so far into the tournament. However, since the team didn't win it all, the coach clearly felt that there were some areas that could be improved.

He said that the team needed to improve its performance in the clutch, saying "We had some trouble getting ready for the big matches, getting up for the big games." With this year's semifinals appearance, coupled with last year's tournament appearance, there's no question that this team now has the big game experience.

Junior Jen Nelson finishes the season with a win in both singles and doubles matches. While this past weekend's loss may still sting the memory of the team, there is no doubt that next season will bring many new opportunities, and undoubtedly an improvement upon this season's finish.

While there is no shame in losing in the semifinals, the ladies' tennis team will definitely be hungry again next year, seeking to take that elusive next step to the GNAC Championship.
New England honors Nelson for achievement

Tim Rosenthal
Journal Staff

In his fourth decade of being involved in the athletic department at Suffolk Athletics, Jim Nelson has received the honor of induction into the New England Basketball Hall of Fame under the Distinguished Achievement Award category. The ceremony, which was held on Oct. 6, was attended by more than 1,000 people at the Ryan Center at the University of Rhode Island.

It featured a class which included Nelson, current George Mason head coach and former Providence College player Jim Larranaga and Satch Sanders, a former Celtic who also coached the Harvard men's basketball team.

Billy Paicker, a CBS Television analyst who has covered many NCAA Men's Final Four events, was the Master of Ceremonies.

When asked about his enshrinement, Nelson beamed with pride. "It was both surprising and pleasing that the New England Basketball Hall of Fame recognized my love for basketball and for my tenure here at Suffolk University."

A Catholic League All-Star performer for North Cambridge Catholic High School in 1960, Nelson averaged 30.3 points per game.

One of his most famous moments while at North Cambridge was his 45 point performance which led his team to a victory over one of the best Division I teams, Cambridge Rindge Technical High School. His record stood for 30 years.

From there, Nelson went to Boston College and played from 1962-1965. He was coached by the legendary Celtics point guard Bob Cousy.

After college, Nelson played professionally in Europe (Athens, Greece) for a short time. In addition to that, Nelson was also a player-coach for the Cambridge YMCA team which he led to the New England YMCA championship in 1970.

Coach Nelson began his career at Suffolk as an Assistant Basketball Coach and Assistant Athletic Director in 1966. He was successful head coach of the Ram's men's basketball team from 1976 until 1995.

He has been Athletic Director since 1975. Nelson is celebrating his 40th year at Suffolk.

Over the years, Nelson has had some great moments not just on the court, but off as well.

In 1992, Nelson was selected as a member in the then inaugural NABC Division III Congress, a position he still holds today, where he serves as the association's NCAA Legislative Advisor.

On top of that, Nelson served as a National Chairman for the Division III Basketball committee, a post he held from 1997-1999.

Out of all of these great memories over Coach Nelson's career in hoops, he did not state any one great moment as his fondest memory of all time.

"It is difficult for me to categorize one specific recognition or meaningful occurrence over the past four decades as each day has provided its own opportunity and challenges that have made my career so special."

Jim Nelson.