Panel takes on housing crisis

Roni Smith
Journal Staff

The current financial crisis has prompted many questions about the future of the economy, some of which were addressed during a panel discussion held yesterday at the Walsh Theatre entitled, The Current Economic Crisis: How did it get here? Where are we headed?

The reasons for the state of the economy were basically agreed upon by the panelists, who cited the subprime mortgage crisis as the primary cause.

"People bought houses they couldn't afford, these bad mortgages were packaged with good ones and sold back and forth between banks," said Henry Kim, associate professor of Economics.

Beginning in the nineties, the government wanted to get into the housing business to stabilize communities," said Kevin Cuff, executive director of the Massachusetts Mortgage Bankers Association. He advocated sustainable homeownership, but said that 70 percent of homeownership was unsustainable.

According to the Director of Undergraduate Studies at Harvard University and senior lecturer on economics, Jeffrey Miron, "It's not the place of the government to set a percentage for homeownership."

Not only did consumers buy houses they couldn't afford and banks are empty mortgages around the world," said Henry Kim, associate professor of Economics.

"People bought houses they couldn't afford, these bad mortgages were packaged with good ones and sold back and forth between banks," said the panel. "They were AAA rated," said Lynn Bowne, vice president of the Boston Federal.

"I'm sure that 2008 was prompted by people as a cost of living crisis as the primary cause."

"The government set a percentage for homeownership," said L Brown, vice president of the Boston Federal.

"After all, there are two economics professors here, and they were discussing the economy and questionable bailouts," said the moderator of the debate. "They are very knowledgeable and have a lot of experience."

Although there have already been three debates between Obama and McCain, this Suffolk debate was intended to make the candidates' opinions clear to the student body.

"We are trying to give students an idea of where both candidates stand," said Conte. "They will make the issues easier to understand."

This 90-minute debate was set up similar to those that the presidential candidates take part in. "I thought I would wear a tie but mine had too many elephants on it," joked Haughton in his opening statement.

Haughton went on to praise Obama's economic program, exemplifying how Bush's (and in turn McCain's) tax policies would not benefit those in need.

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Local experts discuss economic crisis

Reserve Bank, “but they were not looked at carefully enough.” These empty mortgages eventually caused large financial institutions like Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac Lehman Brothers, Bear Stearns, and AIG, to collapse, which explained. Because of the easy access to credit and amount of people buying houses, prices also skyrocketed, which caused the housing market to balloon, and ultimately collapse. With rising housing prices, there was a complete lack of the part of everyone,” said Browne. As a possible solution, professor Jonathan Haughton, who organized the event, mentioned John McCain’s plan of the government buying up bad mortgages and replacing them with lower, fixed-rate mortgages. Cuff agreed to the idea and said it would probably be better to use the $700 billion for this instead of using it to bail out Wall Street. The mortgage crisis has also caused houses to sharply lose their value. For example, a house that was worth $200,000 could now be worth $150,000, and homeowners could owe more on their house than it is worth. Cuff suggested that banks could lower the amounts owed on mortgages and although they would be taking a loss, “50 cents off the dollar is better than none.” His argument is that if banks made mortgages more affordable, less people would be foreclosed on, which would be better for the bank in the long run. He also said it would be better for the consumer. While there was a general consensus about the cause of the sub-prime crisis, the policy makers were more split on the solution, namely the bailout bill passed by Congress. Miron was a vocal opponent of the measures taken by the federal government, saying that the bill has language in it that will guarantee this will happen again, because it still talks about getting citizens in houses. He also still calls for deregulation, saying that regulation will give institutions false security: “If you don’t let things fail, capitalism is a disaster,” said Miron. Cuff gave the administration the benefit of the doubt, saying, “Hank Paulson is a bright guy but he didn’t know what to do.” Cuff suggested that banks could lower the amounts owed on mortgages and although they would be taking a loss, “50 cents off the dollar is better than none.” His argument is that if banks made mortgages more affordable, less people would be foreclosed on, which would be better for the bank in the long run. He also said it would be better for the consumer. While there was a general consensus about the cause of the sub-prime crisis, the policy makers were more split on the solution, namely the bailout bill passed by Congress. Miron was a vocal opponent of the measures taken by the federal government, saying that the bill has language in it that will guarantee this will happen again, because it still talks about getting citizens in houses. He also still calls for deregulation, saying that regulation will give institutions false security: “If you don’t let things fail, capitalism is a disaster,” said Miron. Cuff gave the administration the benefit of the doubt, saying, “Hank Paulson is a bright guy but he didn’t know what to do.” Cuff suggested that banks could lower the amounts owed on mortgages and although they would be taking a loss, “50 cents off the dollar is better than none.” His argument is that if banks made mortgages more affordable, less people would be foreclosed on, which would be better for the bank in the long run. He also said it would be better for the consumer. While there was a general consensus about the cause of the sub-prime crisis, the policy makers were more split on the solution, namely the bailout bill passed by Congress. Miron was a vocal opponent of the measures taken by the federal government, saying that the bill has language in it that will guarantee this will happen again, because it still talks about getting citizens in houses. He also still calls for deregulation, saying that regulation will give institutions false security: “If you don’t let things fail, capitalism is a disaster,” said Miron. Cuff gave the administration the benefit of the doubt, saying, “Hank Paulson is a bright guy but he didn’t know what to do.” Cuff suggested that banks could lower the amounts owed on mortgages and although they would be taking a loss, “50 cents off the dollar is better than none.” His argument is that if banks made mortgages more affordable, less people would be foreclosed on, which would be better for the bank in the long run. He also said it would be better for the consumer.
Suffolk hosts annual Family Weekend in Boston

Suffolk University's President's Council invited students, their families, and local Bostonians to attend the 3rd Taste of Boston where guests got a chance to experience the famous foods that make Boston so delicious. The event was held Saturday, Oct. 19, at City Hall Plaza.

While there were many events taking place on campus and in the city, such as the famous Fenway Franks and Boston Baked Beans, lobster rolls and New England clam chowder gave people a great taste of Boston's traditional seafood. And who could forget the Hub's signature dessert: Boston creme pie. This pie was created at the Omni Parker House hotel and is the official dessert of Massachusetts.

For local Bostonians the menu was comforting and delicious, but for families not familiar with the area, it was a chance to experience something new. Rebecca Goldstein, a freshman at Suffolk, attended the event with her father and mother, Elliott and Stacey Goldstein. The Goldstein family is from New Jersey and said they were very excited to come and visit Boston. The Goldstein family had been taking advantage of Suffolk's walking tour earlier that morning. They mentioned how helpful and knowledgeable the tour guides were and what a great overview it was of the school and the surrounding area.

"The Fall season is so nice, and it was enjoyable to walk through the Commons and see the school," said Stacey Goldstein.

Rebecca is enjoying her freshman year in the New England School of Art & Design as an interior design major.

"I love my classes and my teachers here at Suffolk," said Rebecca. "It is a great school."

The Taste of Boston inspired one woman to go exploring for other restaurants in the area. She explained how she wanted to take her family to Boston's famous locale, the North End, for its famous Italian cuisine.

"Science in the Park Exhibit," other families took a walk in the park in the "Science in the Park Exhibit." The Fischer family, from Connecticut, attended the Museum of Science with their daughter Caitlin Fischer, a freshman at Suffolk. They explained how rewarding their trip into the city has been the past couple of days.

"We love it here. The people are so friendly and Boston is so clean," said Elizabeth Fischer and her family. They stayed in a local hotel for the weekend and were looking forward to riding the Boston Duck Tours the next morning.

Since the Fischer family doesn't make frequent trips into Boston, they took advantage of other attractions around the city like Mike's Pastry in the North End and Fanueil Hall Marketplace.

Suffolk hosts night at the Museum of Science

Suffolk students and their guests dined and explored exhibits at the 14th annual Suffolk Night at the Museum of Science. Suffolk and the Museum of Science prepared an eloquent presentation for their guests in the museum's Blue Wing. A tasty dinner of salad, assorted vegetables, mashed potatoes, chicken with mushrooms and steak was served buffet style for the museum's visitors.

As a DJ played popular music in the background, students and their guests explored the 35 exhibits located on three floors of the Blue Wing. While some students built fish in the "Playing By the Rules: Fish, Fads and Fireflies Exhibit," others took a walk in the park in the "Science in the Park Exhibit."

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McCain aide addresses foreign affairs

Jeff Fish
Journal Staff

Last Thursday, journalist and foreign policy expert Robert Kagan held a conference call with Suffolk University and other colleges to discuss his essay, "The September 12 Paradigm: America, The World, and George W. Bush," which was published in Foreign Affairs Magazine for its September/October 2008 issue.

The essay discusses America's role in a post-Cold War world, citing that the solidarity between America and Europe coexisted during the Cold War because they had a common enemy in the Soviet Union. After the Cold War ended, the U.S. continued its role as a world leader through the nineties and resentment toward the U.S. peaked during the Bush administration.

"[It] began during the 1990s after the fall of the Soviet Union and there was already a degree of apprehension by the time Bush took office," said Kagan during the conference call, which was hosted by the Political Science Association.

The article contrasted Clinton's interventionist foreign policy with a pre-9/11 Bush policy that focused on U.S. interests. After 9/11 however, America once again took on an interventionist role, but Kagan argued that Bush's view did not change. He said that after 9/11 Bush felt it was necessary to become more involved to protect America's interests abroad.

He expressed in the article and in the conference that Europe's "sympathy for Americans did not create solidarity." It was a misconception on America's part that Europe was truly united with America after 9/11, because it happened to America and not Europe. According to Kagan, Europe doesn't share the same concern of Islamic terrorism that the U.S. does. He also argues that the U.S. and Europe do not share the common interests and goals that they did during the Cold War.

"I hope we never do anything like the Cold War again," said Kagan.

However, Kagan was not as critical of Bush, he acknowledged that Bush has begun to practice this and said we "shouldn't take it for granted that we haven't had another attack when most experts expected it." Kagan expressed in the end of his article a need for democracies to unite, saying, "The United States and other democratic nations share a common aspiration for a liberal international order, built on democratic principles and held together.

Prof's have heated debate

from DEBATE page 1

of his 10 'houses' he's living in."

After some back and forth, both professors were asked about foreign trade and why their candidate's plans were superior.

"Trade is essential," said Haughton. "If we are going to benefit, we have to make sure others can compete. John McCain is not completely a free trader. He opposed trade with Cuba."

The professors then moved to questions about healthcare.

"Neither candidate is going to solve healthcare, in my opinion," said Haughton. "In Barack Obama's plan, the government will renegotiate drug prices and allow seniors to buy drugs from overseas. The biggest difference between the candidates' plans is that Barack Obama will put in place Play-or-Pay, requiring businesses to either offer workers insurance or pay a tax," he continued, adding that small businesses would be spared.

"John McCain will have tax credits," said Tuerck. "This cuts through the third party payer. This will bring accountability to medical providers and the only people hurt [by tax credits] are high-end individuals."

We need to build a new kind of relationship that includes European interests," he said, adding that a promising area would be nuclear arms control. Kagan said that because of the current economic crisis the "next president will be on the international scene," and it will have nothing to do with terrorism. He acknowledged that "both an Obama and a McCain administration would take a broader look [on foreign policy], but both would still focus on the War on Terror. Either administration would work more multilaterally."

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Tuerck and Haughton wrapped up their discussion by saying, "It's a manifestation of [Obama's] insincerity."

In closing statements, Tuerck and Haughton wrapped up their own opinions about the other's candidate.

"Barack Obama should have waited," said Tuerck. "He would have been a better president. He is too tightly con­­nected to his slum lord roots to be trusted with the presidency. We should be worried."

Haughton concluded saying, "John McCain's attitude toward fairness is absent. He has an erratic nature and temperament that doesn't fit for someone who is going to lead this nation. Barack Obama's calmsness and willingness to talk — that is why I will be voting for him in 20 days."

The Office of the Bursar would like to remind ALL STUDENTS that the Fall Semester deferred due date is

November 1st, 2008

Please remember: You must have a $0.00 balance in order to participate in priority registration for the Spring 2009 semester.

You may securely make your payment online by visiting:

- www.suffolk.edu/onesource
- choose 'Make A Payment' located in the 'Tuition and Billing' section

Office Hours: • Mon-Thurs 8:45AM to 8:30PM
Friday 8:45AM to 3:00PM • (617) 573-8407

Students pitch inventor in 60 seconds at MIT

Victoria Acosta-Rubio
Journal Staff

The annual Elevator Pitch Contest transformed the MIT Stata Center into an idea-generating and idea-exchange venue last Saturday. Roughly 160 Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Harvard University, Boston University and Babson College students tested their invention ideas with a 60-second pitch before a panel of judges.

The event was split up according to various tracks such as biotech, mobile, energy and web/IT.

Pedro Santos, an MBA student at MIT who pitched his idea in the energy track, said it was a great learning experience. "I feel able to organize my ideas a lot better in a short and concise way to a real investor," he said. "Ideas are often complex and this helped me learn how to boil it down."

Sudhir J. Nunes, an investment manager at the Massachusetts Renewable Energy Trust and also a judge for the energy track, said that being able to explain a product quickly is an essential skill for entrepreneurs.

"If you can't explain it exciting about your business in a minute, then don't stand a chance in getting your business off the ground," said Nunes. "This event was a great opportunity for the participants to get that experience in a friendly environment."

Venture Capitalist Jeff Frenkel, a judge for biotech track, said the idea pitched exceeded his expectations, such as the product's development focusing on brain injury research to help recovery from brain injury.

The Elevator Pitch-Con was a new addition to the annual $100K Competition and in place receiving $50,000. Signorelli's idea involved a new innovative energy storage system that highly impressed the audience. The Elevator Pitch-Con was a new addition to the annual $100K Competition and in place receiving $50,000. Signorelli's idea involved a new innovative energy storage system that highly impressed the audience.

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**Middle East**

Kabul - An Afghan journalist who was sentenced to death in January for blasphemy has had his sentence overturned and will instead be sentenced to 20 years in prison. Sayed Parwiz Kambakhsh was originally jailed for “printing and distributing an article from the Internet about Islam and women's rights, on which he had written some comments about the Prophet Muhammad's failings on that issue,” said the *New York Times* this week.

**South America**

Rio de Janeiro - More than 1,000 penguins have washed ashore onto the beaches of Brazil in the past few months, causing many zoologists, geologists, and beach-goers to wonder what is causing the penguins to float so far north. The penguins, which are originally from the bottom-most point of Argentina, are expected to migrate north, but will usually turn around as soon as the hit warmer climates near the equator. However, this year it seems that because the currents that flow north are colder than usual, the penguins kept swimming, causing many of them to die of exhaustion as they were taken to area zoos in Brazil, according to the *Washington Post*.

Veterinarians, marine centers and zoos are overwhelmed by the appearance of so many penguins and have built a number of new penguin storage centers.

**Europe**

Moscow - About 3,700 Russian troops will be sent to military bases being built in Georgian break-away provinces South Ossetia and Abkhazia. Following this summer’s war with Georgia, Russia has signed treaties with the governments of both provinces, which both have a Russian majority citizenship and which have both seceded from Georgia. The bases are “aimed above all at defending our interests and those of these republics,” Russian General Nikolai Makarov said to the Interfax News Agency, as reported by *Al Jazeera*. The bases are anticipated to be operational by 2009.

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**Update from Suffolk in Dakar**

Ulrich Dossou
Editor, Suffolk Dakar News

Award-winning author will discuss African Lit

Mildred Mengo Barya, Ugandan author, psychologist and winner of the 2008 Pan African Literary Forum Prize for African Fiction, will be speaking at Suffolk’s Dakar campus on Oct. 23. Barya will give a talk titled New African Voices. New Visions on contemporary African literature and authors which will be held in the SUDDC auditorium. For more information visit http://mildredbarya.com.

Clubs reconvene for new year

SUDDC on-campus clubs have begun activities for the year. Clubs include BusinessME, Volunteer Club, Computer Club, Women’s Club and Dance Club.

Student body elects new government

Oct. 10 marked SUDDC’s annual SGA elections, ending a campaign between the two presidential candidates, Mathieu Poyode and Ngone Gindu. Poyode emerged the winner and Gindu was elected Vice President. Elected Senators include Aishia Bio-Sawe, Youssef Kabore, Alpha Ouédraogo, Thérèse Lattouf Mbaye, Veronica Niam and Frederick Aropomu. Among it’s priorities for the year, the SGA intends to set up a real connection with the SGAs of Boston and Madrid with the goal of enhancing the whole Suffolk Community, as well as create a kind of campus Olympics, the SUDC Games, which would include soccer, basketball, handball and table tennis.

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**World Briefs**

**Middle East**

**South America**

**Europe**

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**Write for the Suffolk Journal**

Email articles to SuffolkJournal@gmail.com
Yesterday an email was sent out by the Dean of Students, Anne E. Coyne. The contents of the email are printed on the next page but what it states is that there have been incidents of vandalism recently around campus and students to need to be on the look out and also to need to behave themselves.

Over the past years at Suffolk, we have heard of some stupid things students do, but it’s events like this that put us residential neighborhood. We are the first ones to offer us. Please heed the words of Dean Coyne wisely.

The Suffolk Journal
Suffolk University's Student Newspaper

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Science majors discover the Maine reason to study Bio

The Majors' Biology-114 class headed up to the R.S. Richardson Field Station of Suffolk University in Cobscook Bay State Park during the fall of 2008. Dr. Nolfo-Clements and Dr. Peter Bums, two of the biology professors, made a trip to Maine. The purpose of the trip was to allow students to examine various organisms in the field and in lab.

The trip was very successful, and the students were able to observe marine life in the intertidal zone, understanding the field of biology. The students were able to see new and intriguing information during the hikes and adventures on the trip. The Maine trip made the students aware of how welcoming and helpful the biology department could be.

Going with everyone in the large lecture brought the class closer as we all hiked through mud, built fires, and tried to keep warm in a tiny cabin.

Science majors discover the Maine reason to study Bio.
Dek Boo manages classes, label & band

Don Ciencialski
Journal Contributor

Between studying and homework, a college education is a lot of work for most students. Imagine being in a band and managing your own independent label on top of the typical college orders. This is the reality for Suffolk University student and Electrical Engineering major Jack Barrett. Along with his friend Devin Disanto, the two comprise the band Dek Boo, an independent group located out of Hartford, Connecticut.

The idea we both had from the beginning was to make something we’d never heard before,” said Barrett. Classifying themselves as “other/otherbeat beat” on their MySpace, the duo truly has a sound that doesn’t fall into any genres. Barrett plays guitar and sings while Disanto accompanies on drums. Their sound is fairly heavy, with an emphasis on guitar and underlined by drum work, but retains an atmospheric quality due to the repeated use of simplistic notes. “We get upset if someone else,“ Barrett explained as their reason for being so different.

As for their name, they like it to have no specific meaning. “A long time ago it used to mean something as a joke. Now it’s changed a little bit, and we’re taking the name a little more seriously.” he said.

Dek Boo has officially been together for about four years, since Barrett and Disanto met as sophomores at Conard High School in West Hartford, CT. They had mutual friends and were in the same guitar classes. “We just started playing together,” Barrett said. “We’ve gone through a lot of phases musically,” he said. “It’s always changing. Lately it’s more composer-oriented. We started listening to stuff that’s very minimalist, specific to one thing, or only using one instrument.”

This past summer, Dek Boo put out a 7-inch split EP with the band Open Star Clusters. The record was put out by Pregnant Records, the independent label started by Barrett and co-owner Jeff Poleon. “It’s cool because if you put out a record by yourself, without a label on it, you support it.” Barrett said of producing his own band’s album. The record is an interesting mix of different sounds. Songs like “Desoto” and “This Funk” are comprised of unusual song structure and erratic, rough vocals echoing behind the instruments. The songs wash and fade over unusually arranged, yet simple, riffs without break for most of the songs.

Barrett said starting a record label wasn’t all too difficult. They went through the standard procedures of filing legal papers and setting up business plans to become a company. They wish to keep Pregnant low-key, though. “The most important thing we’re doing now is the compilations,” Barrett stated. Currently, Barrett and Pregnant are working on a compilation record comprised of bands from their label and other indie bands.

People will see it and say, “Hey, this label is actually doing something.” People will check out the smaller bands we have,” Barrett said.

Regarding signing to another label, Barrett says Dek Boo has no stance: “I’d love to do everything on my own label, but at the same time…”. Barrett is aware of the limitations of a small company, but they’d never agree to sign entirely to another label, he claims.

Dek Boo has already completed two East Coast tours. In the summer of 2007 they toured with two bands, Space Bop and Weed Blade. Their second tour was in early 2008 with Open Star Clusters. Barrett said the second one went very well, and he recently booked an upcoming tour for D. Gookin, an indie-pop musician signed to the Pregnant label, in support of his new record “How to Deal.”

Touring in Dek Boo’s music scene is very low key, Barrett explained, and usually venues are in houses. Often times, other bands will throw shows and book touring bands. “They have a great party atmosphere,” says Barrett. News of the shows usually spreads by word of mouth. Barrett explains that places where they know more people score bigger crowds, as their friends will bring people out to see them. Barrett chuckles when recalling Boston shows. He says they’re the worst and it’s usually just the hipsters who come to see them. “I’ve played shows with two people and shows with a hundred people,” Barrett says. “With this kind of music, it’s very tossy turf!”

“We always joke [and] a serious about working day job and doing the label at night. The sad truth is we all have other priorities, like right now school is really important to me,” Barrett said. He confesses that he can manage the label and the band and college work, but there’s no time to do anything else.

Dek Boo is currently working on a full-length follow-up to the 7-inch split and can be found online at www.myspace.com/dkbbo while Pregnant Records can be found at www.weirddiner.com
Suffolk’s own improv group, Seriously Bent, won a East Coast Regional Championship title at the Improv Slam in the North End Saturday, Oct. 11.

The second annual Improv Championships had eight hoots on the East Coast in their comedy skills front of Norm Laviolette, Artist Director Improv Asylum; Will Sara, Artist Director Improv Boston; and Ick Zaino, The Boston Globe’s Comedy Writer.

The ten members of seriously Bent went against improv groups from Emerson College, Boston University, and her East Coast schools while they impressed the minds of three judges with supreme humor.

"The competition is ally an internal battle. It’s an attempt to outshine the other groups while you are out on stage," said Bent member Jonathan Curtis, a Suffolk junior.

Seriously Bent strengthens their comedic abilities on a regular basis, rehearsing two days a week and attending workshops with coaches and improvisers. In preparation for any improv competition, training in all aspects of improv, including short form improv, long form improv, and musical improv is necessary.

"Every competition has a different format," said junior Trevor Livingston. "We have to change to better fit each format."

After winning round one in the middle of the day, the ten competitors from Suffolk advanced to the final round against Theatre Strike Force from the University of Florida.

"Competition style format encouraged me to try my hardest for the team," said Curtis. Their hours of training and practice paid off after midnight when a unanimous decision from the judges granted Seriously Bent the title and a spot at the National Semi-Finals and Finals in Chicago, Ill. Nov. 15.

"I was certain that as long as we brought the energy," Curtis elaborated, "we would take home the win."

They have another chance to fight for the National Title after making it to the Quarter Finals last year on an invite spot in the competition. The group is currently doing fundraising for their trip by planning other improv shows, including Beats and Treats, a Halloween-themed show on Oct. 27 at 8pm in the Donahue Café.

"It was exceptionally amazing to win this competition because it gave us the chance to go back to Chicago," said Livingston. "It is giving us a chance to redeem ourselves from a disappointing trip last year."

Remember the '80s? So does Fall Fest!

In its 34th year at Suffolk, all Fest brought the C. Walsh heater back to the '80s this past Sunday. Friday and Saturday. The show included a number of tribute '80s performances by the ensemble, themed with a variety of fun performances from slanted Suffolk students.

"Come Dancing," originally by The Kinks, which was performed by the entire ensemble, was a great opening number, kicking off the show with all the elements of the '80s: the hair, the wardrobe, the movie star persona, and of course the dancing. It was the perfect taste of what was in store for the rest of the evening.

Matt Naccarato-Garufi, a independent performer, was the following act. He waltzed in "Always" by Bon Jovi while playing the music in his keyboard. The female audience looked like a bunch of love struck teenagers pinning over Jon Bon Jovi himself. Perhaps it was the leather jacket and ripped jeans that pushed Naccarato-Garufi to the level of stardom in Fall Fest.

While "Always" was certainly a tough act to follow, Amy Strong was a fantastic lead in Cindy Lauper’s "Girls Just Wanna Have Fun" accompanied by the ladies of the ensemble. It was amazing to witness Strong’s powerful voice explode out of her pint-sized stature; she could literally blow you away. Strong also performed the Eurythmics’ "Sweet Dreams are Made of This."

With blue eye shadow and teased hair, the girls made you "wanna have fun" on stage with them. There were certainly plenty of rivalries in pop music in the '80s, and this weekend was no different. There was a battle of epic proportions as Prince and Michael Jackson groups danced to "Little Red Corvette" and "Thriller.

The purple adorned Prince allies were undoubtedly defeated by the zombies fighting for Jackson. Their routine was very comparable to the original music video, and the costumes and make up were certainly spooky.

Another famed '80s song, "Centerfold," originally by the J. Geils Band, was performed by Craig Rubin, a freshman, and the women of the ensemble. The scantily-clad centerfolds were smitten with Rubin as he sang and danced his way through the number. Being the only freshman with a solo in the show, he said "I really enjoyed performing. It’s really good to be performing as a freshman, and really nice to give back to the Suffolk community."

Watching his performance was definitely a nice way to travel back to the '80s rock scene. With a transition from rock to pop, Marc Picariello performed a dramatic impersonation of Cher. With his tight, sequined leotard and expertly applied makeup, Picariello embodied the pop star as he lip synced "If I Could Turn Back Time." From dancing, to personality, to pumping up the audience, he was a true performer.

The music selection during the performance ran the gamut from rock to pop and then hip hop as Wicked!, Suffolk’s hip hop dance group, performed to a compilation of music called "Showtime." Watching the dancers have such a good time up on stage got the entire audience fired up. It was like being invited to watch the filming of a music video. The dancers were all extremely talented, performing seemingly gravity-defying moves that would make anyone want to take a hip hop dance class.

There were two other featured and ensemble performances which were particularly crowd pleasers. Mike Morderki played his original song "Castle in the Wood" on acoustic guitar and harmonica, and Amber Lee, a student band originating at Suffolk, performed "I Fell in Love with a Boy."

Vicky Hanes, Nick Panagiotou, and the rest of the ensemble sang a rendition of Dionne Warwick’s 1986 hit "That’s What Friends are For."
LaMontagne releases new album, hits on Meg White

LaMontagne laugh (something many thought he never did) and "Henry Nearly Killed Me." One surprising track, "Meg White" clearly directed at the White Stripes' drummer, an excellent transition between the first and second half of the album. It's a sweet, almost innocent song with lines like "Meg White/you're alright/In fact I think you're pretty swell/can't you tell." While those light-hearted tracks bring a new element to the mix, LaMontagne doesn't cease to do what we know he love for. His raspy voice in lyric-driven songs like "Still Care for You" and "Let Me Be" are nice reminders that on any given day, his voice could slice through you. Another track, "A Falling Through," probably one of the most reminiscent songs of LaMontagne music before this album's progression. Here he tells a story of the pain felt when someone leaves you. "Don't you find it may seem unkind/It'd rather breathe than drown in sorrow."

"Gossip in the Grain" do not disappoint; there's a stirring lightness to some of the album that will leave you wondering what he'll come with next. The bottom line that no matter what your miscalculation is, Ray LaMontagne will find a way to make your heart feel something you never knew was there. He knows exactly how to evoke raw emotion that you can feel in yo bones, and when he's finished you'll be left longing for more.

Michaelsen stands up for cancer research

"BE OK" EP aims to ensure that everyone will be okay

Robert Boudreau
Journal Staff

Ingrid Michaelsen's new EP, "BE OK" (Cabin 24, 2008) is a scrumptious compilation of live cuts and covers, songs off her album "Girls and Boys" (Cabin 24, 2007) and never-before-released tracks that create a peaceful yet danceable EP. Michaelsen put together this EP, which features some of her favorite tracks in her catalogue, as a means to raise money for Stand Up To Cancer (standup2cancer.org).

Michaelsen's title track on "BE OK" provides an upbeat introduction to the EP, while the other songs create an eclectic mix of acoustic sounding pop/rock, further validating the reasons we love her. Listeners are most likely to remember tracks on "Girls and Boys" such as "The Way I Am," Michaelsen's breakthrough single, while new songs such as "Lady In Spain" continue Michaelsen's thoughtful sound. Each of these tracks compliments the other both in sound and idea, so even sadder songs make the listener smile.

One cover on "BE OK" is of Harold Arlen and E. Y. Har­nurr's "Over the Rainbow," a classic feel-good song that every listener will recognize. Other tracks, such as "The Chain," "Keep Breathing" and "Oh, What A Day" were written by Michaelsen herself and are exclusive "garage" record on Michaelson's website and Stand Up To Cancer" saying the Mission Statement on the website, and by pulling together the best and brightest minds in the cancer research field, SU2 hopes to make this a reality as soon as possible. The video for Michaelsen's "BE OK" can be found on the SU2C website.

Michaelsen's EP was released on Oct. 14, and her "BE OK Tour" begins on Oct. 29 with shows in Michaelson's hometown of Staten Island, NY, Boston, and Northampton, MA. Tickets are on sale now at www.ingridmichaelson.com. "BE OK" can be purchased on iTunes, Amazon and at her website, and in retail stores nationwide. There is also a free exclusive "garage" recording of the song "The Chain" on Michaelson's website.
Web band contest hits Boston

Jeremy Lindy
Journal Contributor

What do you get when you mix together American Idol and the internet? Picktheband.com. "I wanted to create a forum to give fans a direct say in how bands are marketed and promoted," founder and president of Pick the Band, Roie Avin, explained.

With Pick the Band, people now have the choice if who they want to make big and who should just stay in the garage so the world doesn't have to listen to them. A team of eleven judges will pick from a number of hopeful bands trying to make it big. Fifteen bands will be picked to move on and be voted on by fans. The competition uses professional judges with experience in the music business, such as producers, musical advertisers and record label employees.

There are no hilarious YouTube moments with terrible singers embarrassing themselves. Pick the Band only shows the bands the judges have deemed suitable to the listener's ears.

The competition is having three rounds in which the 15 bands compete against one another. Each band will upload new videos that the fans will then vote on. "Currently we have over 200 bands registered for the event, about half are from Boston and the other half are from out-of-state," Avin explained.

When asked about the creation of the company and how innovative it is, Avin stated that "The current trends in popular culture have been leaning towards various forms of Internet outlets. It is a logical step in the recording industry since traditional brick and mortar labels can't invest the amount of money they used to. Labels are as a result, signing fewer bands. There are more unsigned bands now than anytime in history."

As for the future of the company, Avin hopes to expand to new markets and reach more bands. "We would like to give unsigned bands the best opportunities possible and provide them with the best avenues to succeed."

"We would like to give unsigned bands the best opportunities possible and provide them with the best avenues to succeed." Band registration is as easy as uploading a video, the judges will do the rest. Registration for bands ends on Oct. 25 for the current cycle, and voting starts on Nov. 3 and ends on Dec. 1. Also, there are incentives to the voters, like being entered to win a variety of prizes including an iPod or Xbox 360, as well as getting the chance to listen to some new music. The first round of the showcase will be held at Church on Sunday, Nov. 9, on 69 Kilmarnock Street, Boston, MA.

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Back by popular demand!!!! Career Services and SGA present

PROFESSIONAL DINING ETIQUETTE

Thursday, November 6, 2008
5:45-8:00 pm, Holiday Inn Boston

Sign-up at the HUB or Career Services by Monday, 11/3
Get the advantage you need in a competitive job market!
Enjoy a 3 course dinner with an Etiquette Consultant who can help you learn to act professionally in an interview or professional/networking meeting involving food!

Seating is limited. $10.00 deposit required!
(your cash only deposit will be returned to you at the dinner) Call 617-573-8480 for more information
YOUR WEEK
THE SUFFOLK JOURNAL

$30 a weekend with Delia and Emily
Delia Mooney and Emily Roache
Journal Staff

With Halloween only a couple weeks away, everyone seems to be getting into the season. If you want to avoid the hokey, tourist traps, venture out and try these haunted tours, they are sure to send chills running down your spine.

Salem is the obvious Halloween destination, since colonial times, Salem has encompassed the spirit of Halloween. It is known for its terrifying haunted houses and grisly murders. Witch Trial Trail and of course the notorious Salem Witch Trials. Tickets are $12 for adults; groups of 12 or more are discounted $5.00 per person. Also, Thursdays are Date Night at the USS Salem and couples are admitted for $15.00. Take the MBTA red line subway from South Station to Quincy Center. Exit the station toward Hancock Street. Take bus 220, 221, or 222 to the rotary at the foot of Fore River Bridge for 75 cents. Walk through the parking lot and the USS Salem awaits you.

For a little more laid back Halloween experience, head over to 1253 Cambridge St in Cambridge, MA. Improv Boston is performing "GoreFest VI: Boatload of Blood." This show is an original comedy that promises to feature plenty of blood and gore! Shows run from October 23-26th and the 29-31st.

Answers to Last Week's Crossword Puzzle

Got Notes?

BLUNDERGRADS
by phil flickinger (www.blundergrads.com)

MY PARENTS WANT ME TO MARRY A WEALTHY, INTELLIGENT, CONSERVATIVE ASIAN BOY, THAT'S WHY I'M DATING MURPH.
Women's Tennis
Conference: 3-1
Overall: 9-2
Competed in an exhibition
surrnament, The New
England Championship.

Men's Soccer
Conference: 3-4
Overall: 4-8
0.15.08 vs. Rivier, W 4-1
0.19.08 @ St. Joseph's (Maine), L 2-0

Women's Cross Country

Women's Cross Country
10.17.08 Emmanuel Invitational
Did Not Qualify

Men's Cross Country
10.17.08 Emmanuel Invitational,
10th place out of 10
-Matt Stas 29:15
-Dan Hassan 29:41
-Craig Rubis 31:32

Women's Volleyball
Conference: 3-7
Overall: 6-16
10.16.08 @ Lesley, L 3-1
10.18.08 vs. Rivier, L 3-0
10.18.08 @ St. Joseph's (Conn.), L 3-2

Pull the Pin for me Tiger

You're on the eighth hole, trying to decide between using the 9 iron or the
wedge. You decide to turn to your caddy for some advice, and your caddy just
happens to be Tiger Woods, the most successful golfer of this generation. This is
the round of golf that John Abel, 59, of New Jersey experienced Monday.

Buick sponsored a "Tee It Up with Tiger" sweepstakes that allowed the win­
er to have Tiger Woods serve as someone's caddy for nine holes. Woods im­
mersed himself in his new duty, wearing a green caddie's bib and riding the
course in a golf cart customized to look like a mini-Buick.

The round of golf took place at Torrey Pines in San Diego, CA which was the
site of Woods' last victory, where he defeated Rocco Mediate for the U.S. Open in
a heads-up playoff. After the win, Woods underwent season-ending knee surgery,
missing the final two major championships.

Woods is still unsure when he is going to make his return the PGA, but for the
moment has done a pretty good job as a caddie. What's going to be next, David
Ortiz as a bat boy?

Because of Tiger Woods serving as an average golfer's caddy, the Journal listed some other athletes that might be cool to spend a day with...

Adam "Pac-Man" Jones, Troublemaker Extraordinaire: Pac-Man's a crazy guy, and a day with him is bound to be a memorable one. Whether it's
iterations in a strip club or a fight with a bodyguard in a hotel lobby, Pac-Man's definitely going to keep things interesting. Possible events for the day
include a recording session with Pac-Man's National Street League Records, or maybe some training with his TNA wrestling friends.

Jose Canseco, Musclehead: If nothing else, Jose Canseco could certainly tell some waldy entertaining stories. The man whose book brought about one of
the biggest doping scandals in American sports history has done plenty, from allegedly injecting teammates with steroids to getting caught with illegal drugs
at a Mexican border crossing. Just watch out that Canseco isn't left alone at the dinner table, or he might try to sprinkle a little HGH on that salad, then tell
your boss and get you fired. Ouch.

Alexander Ovechkin, Hockey Superstar: Alexander the Great is not only arguably the best player in the National Hockey League, but a pretty cool guy
do. He has his own clothing line, and has been seen riding around Washington, D.C. on a Segway in his hockey jersey, shouting "Go Caps!" to passers-by.
Also, it might be beneficial to hang out with a man who recently received a key to the city of D.C. and has a pretty strong female fan base as well. After all,
Ovechkin DID have 47 "assists" last year. He shoots, he scores.

Anna Kournikova, Model Who Sometimes Plays Tennis: She's incredibly attractive. What more reason do you need?
**Corey Habib**  
**Journal Staff**

The only thing in this country more widely hated than George W. Bush is college football's Bowl Championship Series (BCS) system. The infamous bowl championship series is a selection system designed to give the top two teams in college football a chance to compete for the national championship. This week, the first BCS national rankings poll of the season was released, with the powerhouse team of Texas holding down the fort at #1.

The BCS system is celebrating its 10 year anniversary this season. Instead of the usual controversy and outrage that most people have regarding the system, wouldn't it be a nice change if we could pop open a bottle of champagne and celebrate a change that would end the biggest case of corruption in America since Watergate? Wouldn't it be nice if college football decided it wanted to join the rest of American sports and implement a playoff tournament instead?

In all other major sports, there is a playoff tournament and the winners advance until one team is eventually crowned champion. Instead of pitting the best two teams against each other, the BCS is about something else entirely. Yes, you guessed it: money. All those undefeated small schools are left at home thinking about what could have been, while the usual big-program teams are fighting for the title of national champion. But are they truly national champions? Why should individuals and voters decide who is the best and not the records of the teams? Yes, with so many teams and conferences and Division I-A and I-AA, it's hard to have a perfect system, but a tournament is surely better than the current BCS disaster.

In the meantime, those big school Athletic Directors and Presidents, along with television producers, are filling their pockets with advertisement money and bonuses from the BCS bowl games. The big schools are getting bigger while the small schools are being left in the dust. This is one of the fundamental issues when money comes over reason. It seems like there are no boundaries when it comes to sponsorships and advertisements. The Bowl Series has become watered down with ridiculous bowls as the BCS tries to repent for their bogus system. With bowl games such as the Chick-fil-A Bowl or the Papajohns.com Bowl, this stuff is going too far. Sports are big business, but should that priority be placed above the integrity of the game?

Although Suffolk doesn't compete at the Division I level, even people outside the college football universe can appreciate this tragedy. Whether it's in politics, health care, higher education (and the list goes on and on), money makes the world turn, and while sometimes it's for the better, in this case and others, it is for the worse. On the BCS website, it states, "From the beginning, the BCS was designed to pair the top-ranked teams in a national championship game and to create competitive match-ups among highly regarded teams in three other games as part of the bowl system." So you're telling me they pick the two best match-ups? What the BCS fails to include here is that the biggest schools and most prestigious programs are not necessarily the best teams, there is more parity amongst the teams. America loves underdogs. Don't pretend you weren't on the George Mason bandwagon during March Madness 2006, or that you don't still hold tight the memory of Patriots legend Adam Vinatieri hitting that field goal and sending "The Greatest Show on Turf" back to St. Louis empty handed.

Let us take the time to pay tribute to those great teams that were denied a chance at the national title. In 2001, Oregon was ranked #2 in every poll, yet was denied a chance at the title. Instead, #4 Nebraska was sent to the championship and was routed by #1 Miami, 37-14.

Last year, undefeated Hawaii was denied a chance to compete for the title, as instead the two-loss Ohio State Buckeyes were given the spot, and were ultimately trounced by Louisiana State University, 38-2.

Perhaps the most controversial season of all was 2006, when undefeated Boise State was denied a shot at the national championship again the only other undefeated team Ohio State. Boise State was passed over in favor of the University of Florida Gators, and went on to defeat Oklahoma in the bowl game. Florida beat Ohio State in the title game, leaving Boise State the only undefeated team of that season, yet the BCS didn't even crown them.

Here's something else I chew on: the current system is an agreement with the ACC, Big East, Big Ten, Big 12, Pac-10 and SEC in which the winners of each conference receive an automatic BCS bowl berth. Why about the rest of the schools? Is it for the better, in this case and others, it is for the worse.

This system has more holes than a pinball machine and it is only going to cause more controversy in the future. BC committee, can you please stop being outliers and just have a playoff tournament like college basketball? There is nothing more exciting than March Madness. Now if college football was the same...

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**Rams Soccer sweeps at spirit night**

Tim Rosenthal  
**Journal Staff**

In the past, the Office of Retention Services at Suffolk University has sponsored sporting events in the spring. This year, the office decided to take a chance and sponsor a fall event, last Wednesday's men's and women's soccer doubleheader at Dil Stadium in Somerville.

Retention Services made the event accessible to Suffolk students by bringing a shuttle of fans from the Do-
SPORTS page 14

A good idea to do something like this more often. "The students kept saying they had to have more of these," Loyda. "Last month we did men's volleyball and we had a really good turnout and what I really amazed me was the other athletes in and supported other athletic teams."

As for the actual games, both men and women red big wins that the spirit night was exciting and put back on track head-down the stretch run of the season. The men 4-0 while the Rams improved 4-1. The saw significant efforts from Nick aon and the men's side freshman star Leslie Alikn for the women's game had a hat trick has now scored 14 goals on year, while Celia Notch earned the goals for the men to increase his season total to five. The women's goals Emily earned her first shutout of the season. The men now at 3-4 in their conference overall, poised to claim a top spot, while the men are 3-7 in the conference (4-8 overall) still have a chance to tai one of the eight top spots available.

Although athletics it always the univer-sity's number one priority, keeping the teams going on is a great event, with the free t-shirts, last Wednesday's doubleheader free pizza and snacks as well. As the event was overall a sucess, thanks to the or-ganizers and sponsors.

"Susan Loyda is really getting involved with the teams," said women's soccer Gracie Sanchez. "She is really keeping the event going. It's all thanks to her." Also, as a part of the eve-ning's events, the only senior member of the women's team, Shannon Benesh was honored as senior night as he spirit was also the last home game for the women's team. Benesh has been a multiple sport athlete at Suffolk for her entire 4 years and was a mem-ber of the club soccer team during her sophomore season before joining the varsity team when it was created in the 07/08 school year. As a part of the celebration, both head coach Ernst Cleophas and AD James 

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The Suffolk Women's Tennis team is a force to be reckoned with this year after finishing number two in their conference, right behind Simmons College. Prior to this week, the girls played in the New England Tournament, where they honed their skills and perfected their playing style in preparation for the upcoming six team GNAC Tournament, taking place this week. Suffolk will receive a bye in the first round (today) because of their extraordinary play during the regular season which earned them the number two seed and will begin their play on Oct. 25 in the semi-final round, hoping to advance to Sunday's final.

After the New England Tournament, co-captain Alexandra Hernandez revealed that the competition was the perfect way to foster the team's already great chemistry. "It was the perfect bonding experience," Hernandez said about the event. "We were together virtually 24/7 for three days." This Saturday and Sunday, the Lady Rams hope to defend their GNAC Championship title, which they won last year during an undefeated season. With undefeated singles players Kaitlynn Cates, Alexandra Hernandez, and rookie sensation Lauren Cammoro, the team has soaring expectations.

"Nerves will not be a factor this weekend," says Head Coach Isaac Stahl. Firmly standing by the belief that intimidation is not going to be an issue, captains Hernandez and Cates will pave the way for a team that plans to average their only conference loss to Simmons from earlier this season. "We're the two benchmark teams," said Stahl, who is actually one of the two Suffolk alumni who will be coaching in the tournament. Robert Rosseau, from the class of '84, will be in charge of Simmons. "It should be a premiere tennis. We plan on playing our best, and that's what it's going to take to win this weekend."

The GNAC Championship will take place at Weymouth Club, where the semi-finals and finals will take place at 6 p.m. The competition consists of three doubles matches and six singles matches, where the best-of-nine winner advances to the next round. Prior to the tournament, the team has been staying focused and is practicing as hard as they can, since Stahl firmly believes that good preparation is the key to success. "The girls have big shoes to fill. Defending a conference title is never easy, but the team has rallied together and the attitude is overwhelmingly positive. "We're really hitting our stride," said Coach Stahl. "The team chemistry has established itself very well, and that's what it's going to take to win."