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Machine causes controversy during Unity Week

Alyssa Mitchell
Journal Staff

Sparking controversy and conversation on campus, the Human Race Machine was intended to be both educational and entertaining for students and faculty alike. The race machine morphs the picture of participants into a different race, and for some the transformation was intriguing, while for others it was insulting.

The machine, which was featured in the Donahue building lobby during Unity Week, which was last week, strives to assure participants that there are no differences among the races genetically. “We knew it was going to trigger discussion and dialogue,” said Susan Leyva, Director of Retention Services. “Across the board, we had heard a lot of good things about it. Some thought it was cool, but some thought it was offensive.”

In order to reach out to students who both appreciated the experience or were hurt by the experience, Suffolk held a discussion on Friday and allowed students to express their opinions. “The conversations were truly amazing,” said Leyva. “We all agreed to disagree. You are all the generation that [is] much more open… Listening to the students I was floored by how accepting they were.”

The goal of the discussion was to provide an open forum where students did not have to worry about sharing their personal feelings towards the situation.

Dave DeAngelis, Director of Student Activities, was extremely pleased with the outcome of the forum and would like to see similar events occur in the future. “Any type of event that brings students together to have a wonderful meaningful dialogue is great,” said DeAngelis.

I would love to do that every week and just pick a different topic each time to have a discussion. One thing about our institution is we are allowed to do that.”

The discussion lasted approximately 90 minutes, most of which was spent answering questions and sharing views. There were between 30-35 students in attendance, and even though in comparison to the size of the school it was a small number, Leyva said numerous backgrounds were represented.

According to Leyva, one of the opposing views to the machine was the concern that not every race was identified, which mainly includes the broad categories of African America, Middle Eastern, Asian, Caucasian, and Hispanic. Those of mixed race or varying races are not properly represented.

“The machine did stereotypes a bit as well,” said Leyva. “If I was white and changed to African American they played on the physical stereotypes.”

According to DeAngelis, while the machine was on campus it was very well utilized and the students seemed to enjoy it. Each student who participated also received a pamphlet on race to start the thinking process.

“I would really like to see more student participation in some of these programs,” said Leyva. “Have the University be more open to hosting and dive into more serious topics. More dialogues on campus without the stimulation of a machine.”

Club loses their office in SAO miscommunication

Jeff Fish
Journal Staff

When Suffolk's Mock Trial team returned to their office after winter break, they found that it had been emptied and office supplies and awards that were previously there had gone missing.

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“I don’t think that any other members had been notified,” said junior KyQuan Phong, the president of the Mock Trial team. According to Phong, the group had secured the office space with an application, and when they approached David DeAngelis, the director of Student Activities, he said that they didn’t have an office for the group, but they would “keep an eye out.”

Among some of the missing items were two award plaques from the American Mock Trial Association (AMTA), one for being the best team to compete against, and one for first place in a competition in Buffalo.

“We went and asked where it was and we were told it was in storage and then [someone] found it in a box full of trash and when we asked David [DeAngelis] about it he said, ‘sorry, it must have been an oversight.’”

Phong found some of the other missing items in the corner of the office. “I was just curious and poked my head in the corner. I would have never known it was there if I didn’t look.”

DeAngelis said that the Student Activities Office asks for confirmation from each group that they will be using the office space every semester. “We heard nothing back from them. We asked each group for confirmation that they’ll use the space and we determined that the ones that did not indicate they used the space didn’t need it.”

“ar a group that wanted space,” said DeAngelis, who has been at Suffolk for a year and a half. “In the time that I’ve been here I’ve seen very low activity [in the Mock Trial Office].” However, he acknowledged that the group may have met when he wasn’t there.

“We’ve never taken space away from any group that has utilized the space. I hope some­day we have a student center with offices that can accommodate all clubs,” said DeAngelis.

The office formerly occupied by the Mock Trial team is now used as a media center that houses the Pulse, Suffolk’s year­-book, Venture, Suffolk’s literary magazine, and InHouse, a group of NESAD graphic designers.

As far as the award plaques are concerned, DeAngelis said, “The closet was cleaned out and the awards were in a box with papers on top. Whoever was cleaning didn’t know the plaques were in there and it was an honest mistake. I apologize and I’m glad someone got them.”

DeAngelis expressed that he would be “more than happy” to work with the Mock Trial team and find them empty classroom spaces as they need it. “They can apply [for an office] next year and we’ll treat them like any other club on campus.”
Tuition raised by 4.8% for 2009-10

In an e-mail that was sent to the Suffolk community on masse this week, President Sargent announced that the Board of Trustees voted on a 4.8% tuition increase for the upcoming 2009-2010 academic year. The raise is the lowest in 33 years, according to the e-mail. "Among Massachusetts colleges and universities, 38 have rates higher than Suffolk. Most importantly, the tuition increase is primarily directed to increasing funds available to our students for financial aid. More than 90 percent of the proceeds from next year's tuition increase are being targeted to fund financial aid," wrote President Sargent. That 90 percent will go to an increase in the financial aid budget by 19 percent.

Diner to be considered for 10 West

A 1960's-themed diner is planned to open on the first floor of the 10 West dorm, according to The Boston Herald. The 225-seat diner, planned by "Continental Concepts" would have its tables and booths modeled around the inside of a Lincoln Continental. Other features of the restaurant include a traditional soda fountain and exposed kitchen. Suffolk spokesman Greg Gatlin said, "We have looked at that concept, we like it. We've also had talks with other restaurant operators. No final decisions have been made. We intend to meet with the community to get community input. "The diner would be adjacent to the in-development Boston Beanstalk Coffeehouse and would be projected to open in a year.

13 jobs eliminated in administration

The Advancement Department, which is also involved in fundraising and alumni relations, laid off thirteen people last month during a restructuring of the department. University spokesman Greg Gatlin said in a statement, "The decision to eliminate any job is a very difficult one. But in this case, with Phase 1 of a capital campaign winding down, reducing the size of the university's advancement operation offered some cost savings for the University." According to the statement, affected employees have received severance packages and outplacement services. There are no plans for additional layoffs, according to Gatlin.

Modern Theatre construction begins

Work on the Modern Theatre has commenced in Downtown Crossing, as construction workers disassemble the building's mar­ble façade, according to a press release on Suffolk's website. The building, which Suffolk purchased last year, will house students as a residence hall and will also be home to a new theatre. According to the release, The Modern Theatre was included on the National Register of Historic Places in 1979 as part of the Washington Street Theatre District. In 1995 it was designated a Boston Landmark.

New Amnesty Int. chapter on campus

Mike Gomez
Journal Staff

Dictators and strongmen beware: a new chapter of Am­nesty International is about to open at Suffolk. A handful of students started the club to promote human rights and raise awareness about people who have been unjustly im­prisoned around the world.

The group's president, Alex­andra Fryzer, is a junior at Suf­f­olk who has been involved with the Boston chapter of Amnesty and has attended a number of meetings at nearby colleges in­cluding Northeastern and Har­vard. She got together with a group of friends and set up the chapter's executive board. The e-board is made up entirely of juniors: Shannah Zilberkweit is the Treasurer, Ramatoulaye Diop is the Secretary, and Phil­lip Smyth is the Vice President. The group has already worked with the Program Advising Center (PAC) and written up a constitution, Fryzer said.

Despite the shared focus on international issues, Fryzer emphasized that the new Am­nesty chapter has specific goals and objectives different from any other club on campus. "Amnesty International is about protecting human rights and advocating for people who have been in prison for non­violent action, for example, protesting against their govern­ment," Fryzer said. "A lot of people know about the issues, but many don't know about the stories of these individuals."

Diop echoed this point. "People should know that Am­nesty is not just for human rights in general," she said. "They are trying to help detained people who are innocent."

The club will be encouraging Suffolk students to attend Am­nesty International's 2009 An­nual General Meeting which will be held in Boston from March 27 to 29 at the Park Plaza Hotel and Towers. According to Am­nesty's website, the conference will begin with a rally on March 27 in front of the JFK building in Government Center to pro­test the treatment of immigrant detainees in the United States." Diop said that Suffolk makes it easy to start a new group but also acknowledged the importance of building and maintaining student inter­est. "We're hoping to get more people involved," she said. "I mean, if you look at Model UN, they have more than a hundred members, so why not Amnes­ty? They've been around for a long time, but that's a goal we're trying to work towards."

The group plans to meet twice a month. It will be hold­ing its first general meeting af­ter Spring Break, Fryzer said.

The new Amnesty chapter seems to reflect a growing inter­est among Suffolk students in international affairs. Last week, the Journal did a story on a new club called the Foreign Policy Fo­rum. Other campus groups ori­ented towards this subject area include, among others, STAND: A Student Anti-Genocide Coali­tion, Model United Nations, the International Business Club, and the Political Science Association.

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Prominent journalist wins Ford Hall Forum award

Alyssa Mitchell
Journal Staff

In a category that has once honored such momentous public figures as Rosa Parks and Maya Angelou, Gwen Ifill, a broadcast and print journalist, was the recipient of the 2009 First Amendment Award.

The award was presented to Ifill through the Ford Hall Forum, which is partnered with Suffolk University. The forum acknowledged those who “promote freedom of speech,” and consists of a discussion with the honoree open to all of the community.

The discussion portion of the forum was moderated by Callie Crossley who can be seen on WBUR-TVs Boat the Parade, along with frequent appearances on news stations such as CNN and C-SPAN.

Crossley described Ifill as full of “integrity, wit and humor” and that her journalistic skills were “insightful, bold and balanced.”

Ifill currently works as the correspondent for The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer, which is a broadcast news show on PBS, but she is also the managing editor of Washington Week. Added to her resume was time spent in Boston working for the Boston Herald, a stint that was almost cut short after a coworker left a racially discriminatory note on her desk.

In both 2004 and 2008, Ifill was selected to moderate the vice presidential debates and most recently has gone on to publish, “The Breakthrough: Politics and Race in the Age of Obama.”

Although the main focus of the novel is not on Obama himself, it does revolve around the changing politics that have made him so obvious with his recent presidential win. According to Ifill, there is a new Civil Rights movement that is occurring as a direct result of the Civil Rights movement that older generations started.

“Every single one of them had been told that it wasn’t to be their time,” said Ifill.

“They were told by the black community that they were not black enough and by the white community that they were too black, but that’s another discussion.”

Bill credited these political figures with removing race from the ballot and focusing on agenda. Instead of trying to attack black voters, each worked towards creating a “coalition” of voters that were all determined to work towards common goals.

UN Human Rights specialists talk at Government Dept.

Rani Smith
Journal Staff

As part of the Government Department’s United Nations Studies Project, two UN human rights specialists came to Suffolk last week to discuss the UN’s 2006 unanimous switch to the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) to the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC). Professor Patrick J. Flood, Director of Human Rights Affairs at the US Mission to the UN in Geneva, and Peter Rothen, former Head of the German Foreign Office’s Human Rights Department spoke of how the change is affecting preventative policy and the protection of international human rights.

Although both disagreed with the decision to institute the UNHRC, they acknowledged why it was replaced and some of the benefits of this inter-governmental body.

“The UN Commission was not doing what the states wanted. The principle purpose of the UN Commission was the promotion and protection of international human rights,” said Flood, who also works as a Delegate to the UN Human Rights Commission. “The Commission did some of these things really well. Does it if it isn’t broken.”

One successful part of the new Council’s structure was the implementation of the special rapporteur (formally known as “special procedures” under the UNCHR). These 38 individuals, who are working on behalf of the UN, are each intended to monitor specific countries and investigate any mistreatment that may violate human rights. Although Flood deemed this idea “experimental and radical,” he also found it fairly successful.

However, despite their success in bringing other countries to justice, states and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) had to step in order to protect human rights, as the UNHRC can only do so much.

“Without politics there is no way this generation would exist if their parents hadn’t initiated the breakthrough,” said Ifill.

Featuring such political figures as Massachusetts Governor Deval Patrick and Newark Mayor Cory Booker, Ifill explores the similarities and differences among them that may have some correlation as to how they all achieved their political success. Every single one of them has been told that it wasn’t to be their time,” said Ifill.

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“Ifill cred credited these political figures with removing race from the ballot and focusing on agenda. Instead of trying to attack black voters, each worked towards creating a “coalition” of voters that were all determined to work towards common goals.

One of the most prominent examples of a politician avoiding the race discussion was President Obama.

“They knew that every day they spent talking about race was a day that they were not talking about healthcare or things that appeal to everyone,” said Ifill.

Ifill did warn the audience that having a black president does not mean that racial tensions and inequalities no longer exist.

“There are a lot of people that like to believe that we are over it now, that Barack Obama has put all this behind us, but that is not the case,” said Ifill.

“I think that one of the side effects of having a black president is that people can start the conversation without getting tense about it. We are at least heading in the right direction.”
University music service shuts down

Elizabeth Mullen
Journal Staff

Since Feb. 6, Suffolk University students and thousands of other users of the Ruckus online free music service have had to look elsewhere for their musical fix. According to TechCrunch, at about 5 p.m. on that day users were told that the service was being shut down for maintenance. A half hour later, a simple image of speakers and headphones was posted on the Ruckus homepage that read, "Unfortunately the Ruckus service will no longer be provided. Thanks."

Ruckus, which Suffolk had previously encouraged students to use instead of Peer-to-Peer programs like Limewire and torrents, stored music on a central server and allowed users to download the content directly to their computers. The songs were DRM (Digital Rights Management)-protected, and users could pay an extra fee to put the songs on their portable music devices or to burn them onto a CD. The licenses of the songs would periodically be renewed, so any content that users had downloaded previously cannot be accessed now.

In an e-mail sent to students, Foad Yatim, Chief Information Officer at Suffolk's Information Technology Services, Yatim wrote, "Suffolk University is exploring alternative offerings, and we will inform you if and when digital media download services can again be made available through the University."

Yatim continued to emphasize that students should not turn to peer-to-peer programs to obtain music online since they can be damaging to computers and the Suffolk network. "...it's hard to blame them for pulling the plug on a still-highly-speculative offering."

"Peer-to-peer activities expose your computer to viruses and malware that could result in the corruption or loss of your personal data. Inappropriate activity that causes serious harm to the University systems may result in the immediate suspension of computing privileges without warning," he said.

The shutdown comes only months after Ruckus was quietly purchased by TotalMusic, an attempt at online music distribution pioneered by Sony BMG and Universal Music Group that EMI eventually joined with, which was also struck with an early demise days after Ruckus went offline. Unlike the Ruckus shutdown, which was virtually unacknowledged by their employees, TotalMusic's end came with a brief message from Jason Herskovitz, TotalMusic's Vice President of Product Management, on his blog, who touched on how the music industry should proceed with the online music issue.

Herskovitz did not go into much detail about why Ruckus was shut down or why TotalMusic was abandoned. "I regret that we didn't get to show you guys more about what we built - but in these extremely hard economic times (particularly for those in the music industry) it's hard to blame them for pulling the plug on a still-highly-speculative offering," he said.

The TotalMusic project looked hazy from the start, facing an antitrust lawsuit in early 2008, resistance from another big record company, Warner Bros., and the failure of a deal that would link TotalMusic with Facebook.

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For more information, please contact Carrie Baldassari by email (cbaldassari@suffolk.edu), call (617.573.8570), or stop by the CAS Deans’ Office on the first floor in the Donahue Building!

This ad sponsored by the Office of Retention Services.
This is just silly. What happened? A few weeks ago, SGA presidential candidates weren't trying to bring their opponents down at all, but now it seems everyone is crossing the line, using any means available. False Facebook profiles, YouTube videos, mass e-mails and mean-spirited letters targeted at Suffolk political groups have dominated this election. Students can't walk into a building and not see posters that are trying to make "candidate A" or "candidate B" look like a communist. When Brian LeFort and Chris Cataldo first started their campaigns, it seemed like it would be any other Suffolk election: the debates, the professionalism, the handshake, and the victor. Instead, the Suffolk community was given an election that was more reminiscent of preschool than college. Flyers once depicting messages of leadership were torn down and in turn unapproved propaganda with burning American flags were put up. Embarrassing YouTube videos of a candidate were posted online in an attempt to belittle the student in order to obviously deter votes. An endorsement letter from the President of the Suffolk Democrats bastardized LeFort and the College Republicans, while a fake Facebook profile spread "rumors" about Cataldo. Who seriously has the time to do all of this? It would almost be entertaining if it wasn't so petty - the amount of effort put forward by students trying to deter votes from either candidate is seemingly more than the effort put forth by the candidates themselves! The Journal would like to reiterate, one final time - we have not endorsed any candidate. And why should we when this is how the elections are run? The college experience is supposed to create long-lasting friendships, while preparing us for the professional future. The way these campaigns have been run lack the integrity and respect that those actual American political elections entail, the smears and jeers of this campaign give Suffolk a horrible public image. Is the University's dignity truly less valuable than the professional motives of these candidates, for one little student government election? The debate took place during voting activities period and could only run for an hour and fifteen minutes. As a result, each candidate had only one minute to respond to each question he or she was asked. If a position was contested, each candidate then had an unlimited amount of thirty-second rebuttals after the initial answer. Although these rules kept the event moving along, some students left C. Walsh Theater disappointed that there hadn't been enough time for them to question the presidential candidates. Different rules could have better allocated time and made students more satisfied with the event. First, it's puzzling why Mitch Vieira and Christina Panagiotakos, who are both running unopposed for their positions of Treasurer and Secretary respectively, were part of the debate. I don't mean to suggest they didn't have anything important to say to Suffolk students, but their responses didn't influence whether or not they'd get elected. The time allotted to them would have been better spent had it been divided between the candidates competing for President and Vice-President. Also, many of the students' questions provoked more interesting comments from the candidates than those asked by the moderator, Associate Dean of Students Richard DeCapua. His questions were more general, and as a result their responses were more vague. By asking about specific issues like "the high cost of books" and "the effectiveness of SGA outreach efforts," the students managed to create a more interesting debate. The contrast is evident in the fact that the questions from the students resulted in many more rebuttals from the questions from DeCapua. Since time was limited, it would have been better if DeCapua had allowed each candidate to give a brief opening statement to get everyone oriented and then immediately opened the floor to questions from the audience. If there weren't any at first, then he could have asked the questions that were prepared beforehand in order to get the discussion started. Finally, I think that while saving time, the one-minute response rule limited the quality of the debate. Because the candidates could only speak for short periods of time, they couldn't get into specifics. It was a little frustrating to see a candidate getting cut off by the one-minute rule when he or she was just about to give a specific example to support an argument. 

Mike Gomez 
Journal Staff

"It was a little frustrating to see a candidate getting cut off by the one-minute rule when he or she was just about to give a specific example to support an argument."
The first open SGA election for student body President has been littered with crude tactics involving campaign posters and nasty rumors, but the flames have only been fanned by the recent, hyper partisan endorsement of Chris Cataldo from Suffolk Democrat President Jimmy Quinn.

Quinn argued, in a letter he wished to remain private, that dishonorable campaign tactics have been used against Cataldo, such as the alleged usage of “secret Facebook profiles” by LeFort and using “radio hegemony to bash Cataldo without inviting him on air to defend himself.”

But Cataldo is not the only victim. An anti-LeFort poster found in 10 Somerset had a picture of an American flag burning with the caption, “Suffolk under Brian LeFort.”

Needless to say, dirty tricks have been played against both candidates and it needs to stop. Although siding with one candidate while completely ignoring the attacks on the other does not solve the problem, but makes it worse.

The root of Quinn’s endorsement seems to be his resentment towards certain members of the Suffolk Republicans and their apparent support of LeFort. Although the Republicans said they would remain neutral in the election and refuse to endorse any candidate for any position, according to Karl Hoffman, the Vice President of College Republicans. “They packed the audience of the open forum with Suffolk Republicans posting as concerned students,” said Quinn in his endorsement letter, as if the College Republicans aren’t allowed to be concerned citizens.

He set out to demonize the College Republicans and make it appear that they had some sort of plot to infiltrate the SGA and plan a coup from within, as Quinn writes, “They have since developed at least two (to my knowledge) talk shows on Suffolk Free Radio, and have infiltrated several media sources on campus (I won’t name any names.) Now, they are attempting to take over the Student Government Association, by running several of their members for Senate and managing Brian LeFort’s re-election campaign.” Quinn’s paranoid train of thought has caused him to inject partisan politics into a race where it previously didn’t exist. For the record, Quinn didn’t exist. For the record.

Brian’s ass that they’re accidently snorting undigested kernels of corn... a vote for Brian LeFort is a vote for Jim Wilson, Karl Hoffman, and the rest of the Suffolk GOP.”

Letter to the editor from Campus Dining Services:
Information for Suffolk University customers about recent health department inspections at Miller Hall

For Sodexo customers, food safety is a matter of trust. As our customers, you know we are deeply committed to providing high quality and safe food service. In fact, we put significant resources toward food safety and food safety training at Suffolk University. Sodexo contracts with NSF International, a leader in food safety audits, to do an annual unannounced independent audit of our operations. We have taken steps to have NSF return on a monthly basis for the remainder of the year to insure our continued compliance.

Sodexo will share all health department inspection reports with the University immediately upon inspection.

Sodexo voluntarily utilizes a comprehensive industry leading food safety system called Hazard Analysis of Critical Control Points (HACCP), which exceeds regulatory requirements. All Sodexo managers and supervisors are ServSafe certified and then recertified every three years. (The city of Boston requires only one manager needs to be certified with recertification every five years).

We take the findings of the recent health department inspections very seriously and want you to know that immediate actions were taken after the initial inspection was conducted. All of the items in the health inspection were resolved on the day of the inspection. We sincerely apologize for the drop in communication to you and the University.

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NESAD working for a sustainable future through 'Design for the Environment' trade show

Shoshana Akins
Journal Staff

NESAD's third annual Design for the Environment trade show, created to exhibit new environmental methods for architecture and design to students and the public, was held Mar. 5 in the 10 Saint James Street Galleria. "Trade shows are usually pretty intimidating for students because they feel pressured to buy the things presented," said Khaing Sabe, a grad student who organizes and orchestrates the trade show. "This show helps the students get familiarized with the products without the stress."

Many companies were there, such as Lightolier and Toto, talking to the students and public alike. Most of these companies are already involved with Suffolk, such as participating in the construction of the Modern Theatre dorm on Washington Street in order to make it environmentally friendly, and continued by showing their support at the design show. "It's important to continue to be environmentally conscious even during a recession," commented a Toto representative, whose company is putting water-saving toilets in the Modern Theatre residence hall. "Reanalyzing a building's energy use could save a lot of money."

The show is also meant to exemplify what interior design means to the public and what interior design is all about. There were information booths and interior design students posted around to provide insights and field questions. "Most people who pass through the Galleria don't even know we [NESAD] are in this class," said Sabe. "It's important to continue to be environmentally conscious even during a recession [...] Reanalyzing a building's energy use could save a lot of money."

The idea for the show came from Karen Clarke, a professor at NESAD, and her Sustainable Design class. She has lead the show for the past three years and requires her students to participate in it as part of the class. "This gives the students the ability to ask questions right to the source: why is this product green? Where does the material come from? Is it pre-consumer or post-consumer?" explained the passionate Clarke. "They also handle marketing, coordinating vendors, facilitate, and clean up."

Shepard Fairey to face 29 additional charges

Attorney doubtful charges will stick due to lack of evidence

Clay Adamczyk
Journal Staff

After appearing in court yesterday, famed graffiti artist Shepard Fairey faces 29 additional charges and is due back in court today, his attorney Jeffrey R. Wiesner said in a phone interview yesterday with The Journal. "It's ridiculous," Wiesner said. "They have no evidence."

A spokesman for the Boston Police confirmed yesterday that Fairey will, in fact, be facing 29 additional charges, though they could not confirm when he would be arraigned on those charges. Jake Wark, Suffolk County District Attorney spokesman said yesterday, "he could be arraigned [for the additional charges] as early as tomorrow."

Fairey is already scheduled to face a preliminary hearing today in Roxbury District Court for allegedly defacing Massachusetts Turnpike Authority property at Massachusetts Avenue and Newbury Street around Jan. 24. According to Wiesner, 12 of these additional charges would appear in Roxbury District Court, while the remaining 17 would be arraigned through the Boston Municipal Court's Central Division. Fairey faced a preliminary hearing in Brighton District Court yesterday regarding a vandalism charge for allegedly posting images on an electrical box in Allston dating back to Sept., 2000. Fairey's case was continued to April 14. With over 20 years of graffiti work and 14 vandalism arrests, Fairey's most notable pieces include his "Andre has a Posse" sticker campaign and "Obey" images, all of which feature iconic professional wrestler Andre the Giant. Fairey's most recent notoriety stems from his Obama "HOPE" image now on permanent display in the National Portrait Gallery at the Smithsonian. He is also still involved in a copyright dispute with the Associated Press over an image taken by freelance photographer Mannie Garcia, that Fairey based his "HOPE" piece on. Garcia recently expressed a lack of interest in fighting over the image to the Associated Press.

The idea for the show came from Karen Clarke, a professor at NESAD, and her Sustainable Design class. She has lead the show for the past three years and requires her students to participate in it as part of the class. "This gives the students the ability to ask questions right to the source: why is this product green? Where does the material come from? Is it pre-consumer or post-consumer?" explained the passionate Clarke. "They also handle marketing, coordinating vendors, facilitate, and clean up."

"It's important to continue to be environmentally conscious even during a recession [...] Reanalyzing a building's energy use could save a lot of money."

The students in Clarke's class were happy to participate in this project and even book their own initiative to make their own presentation; they created seeded paper made entirely from recycled materials along with an information sheet, also printed on recycled paper, of course, reinforcing why it is important to be environmentally conscious. "I have always been interested in interior design," said Emily Murphy, a NESAD grad student and one of Clarke's students. "The industry is definitely moving to make environmentally safe products a requirement. What I have learned in this class will allow me to prepare for that change."

The show ended up being a success and NESAD is looking forward to hosting their fourth next year.
"Watchmen" film incarnation finally hits theaters

Ashley Maceli
Journal Staff

With the highly anticipated release of "Watchmen," (Warner Bros., 2009) the graphic gore, intense fight scenes, and continuously moving plot lives up to the lofty expectations set for it. Fans of the highly celebrated Alan Moore and Dave Gibbons graphic novel should be very pleased with the film's final product.

Set in 1985, the movie follows the anti-superheroes, the Watchmen, after the murder of their comrade Edward Blake, a.k.a. The Comedian (Jeffrey Dean Morgan). The rowdy Rorschach (Jackie Earle Haley) tries to warn the other Watchmen that he believes someone is out to get masked vigilantes. Rorschach sets off to warn the two and a half hour movie, Dr. Manhattan (Billy Crudup), the physicist, Jon Osterman (Malin Akerman), With Dreiberg following Rorschach's plan to warn Dan Dreiberg, the former Nite Owl II (Patrick Wilson), Laurie Jupiter (Malin Akerman), to tell him about the suspicious murder of his fellow superhero. The plot continues to move and build throughout the story, whether or not it would make the universe of "Watchmen" come to life. Though it is in one's best interest to read the graphic novel before seeing the film to really appreciate it, anyone can walk into this movie and enjoy it to the fullest.

The film's plot, settings, and dialogue were very true to Moore and Gibbons' novel, except for the ending. Though the ending was slightly altered, it was necessary for the movie version and fit rather well. The casting was also another aspect that seemed to be perfect for each role. Haley's performance as Rorschach could not have been done better, with his raspy deep voice, red hair and freckles, it was as if the character was literally picked up from the comic and put onto the big screen. Wilson's performance as Dreiberg brought comic relief and true heart to the Watchmen.

Zach Snyder's directing could not have been better. Taking on the challenge of bringing the popular graphic novel to life turned out extremely well because of Snyder's superb direction. Through the use of bloody violence, nudity and vulgar language, Snyder stayed true to the dark world of "Watchmen." The film did, however, leave out a large part of the graphic novel: the comic within the comic. A young boy sits at a newspaper stand and reads a comic series throughout the novel which serves as a parallel to the "Watchmen" story. A DVD will be released March 24 entitled "Tales of the Black Freighter" which will be an animated version of the comic book the boy reads throughout the story.

The effects were genius and made the fantasy of the superheroes completely real, including bones breaking out of flesh, and Rorschach's moving mask. The biggest piece of work was the creation of Dr. Manhattan. From an accident in a science lab, the physicist, Jon Osterman, obtains superpowers including teleporation, seeing the future, and the ability to manipulate, destroy and create almost anything. With his blue glowing appearance, the effects team had a large task on their hands. Needless to say, the vision of Dr. Manhattan was better than expected. Not only was the blue superhero just given blue skin and white eyes, but there were streams of electricity and energy visibly moving underneath the skin, making a wonderful add-on to the uniqueness of Dr. Manhattan.

The soundtrack to this movie was ideal, with songs from the early rock-and-roll era including Bob Dylan, Simon and Garfunkel, and Jimi Hendrix. The closing credits were the only time where recent music was played, with a cover of Bob Dylan's "Desolation Row" by My Chemical Romance. The score, written by Tyler Bates, truly embodies the feel of the film with a haunting and dark sound. "Watchmen" has been raising a lot of controversy over whether or not it would make or break Moore's creation. If anything, it has truly made "Watchmen" come to life. Though it is in one's best interest to read the graphic novel before seeing the film to really appreciate it, anyone can walk into this movie and enjoy it to the fullest.

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Ethan Long  
Journal Staff

Many years ago, a projector's bulb blew inside of a mov­ ie theater which was showing a series screening to critics around the area. As the critics sat wait­ ing, they started to talk amongst themselves. Before long, each of them would tell the story of how they became critics. Like most of them, Professor Daniel M. Kimmel explained his story. "It was dumb luck."

The professor has taken on many professions over the years. After attending the University of Rochester and graduating with a psychology degree in 1977, he moved to Boston to attend Boston Uni­ versity School of Law. After practicing for a few years, Kimmel latched onto a city council campaign in 1983. The candidate helped him eventually lost the bid, but a local paper at the time decided that they wanted him to write an article about his experiences during the race.

Then, it started, as Kimmel asked the editors of the paper if he could write reviews as well. "My best break was when I was looking around and a friend of mine told me to check the Worcester Gazette."

After 25 years, Kimmel has been paid as a freelancer for Comedy Central Staff. His freelance work has included many top-notch events and functions, including the annual meeting to decide who get to be president of the Boston Society of Film Critics. A few years ago, he took on a few duties such as running the annual meeting to decide the year's picks for best mov­ ies. Also, he had to talk to the publicists from different companies. Kimmel explained that when "Mu­ lian" was so well received a decade ago, the only press invited to the screening were from The Herald, The Globe, The Phoenix, and Kimmel. Kimmel approached the publicist and asked why they didn't invite more of the area's press because it might create resentment between the corporate papers and the less known pa­ pers. Although Kimmel made a few good points, the pub­ licist just nodded and explained that the rest of the media will see it when it was released. Many years have passed since then and many mov­ ies have come out. Out of the films released in 2008, Kim­ mel cites his favorites as the documentary "Found & Heart" (Fox Searchlight, 2008) and the blockbusters, "Mamma Mia!" and "Blindside," which was on my radar for a while. What students see this year? He re­ commends "Paris 56" (Pathé, 2008) and "Crossing Over" (Universal, 2009).

Given to me by the editor, 
Elizabeth Mullen

The Casualties  
"Under Attack"

Moving beyond the three­ chords and ol' shouts of their earlier years, the seventh album from the NYC street punks is a step in the right direction.

Matt McQuaid

Elizabeth Mullen  
Journal Staff

Now on view at the NESAD gallery are the winners and honorable mentions of the Stephen D. Paine 2008 Scholarship. The Scholarship, established in 1999 by the Boston Art Dealers Association in honor of Paine, is given to a select number of students entering their final year in a studio art program at Boston colleges and universi­ ties. Last year's winners were Christopher Dombek (School of the MFA), Teresa Partridge (School of the MFA), and Erin Charpentier, while the Honorable Mentions went to Dustin Farrankopf (Mass. Art), Matima Hassan, Cora McGreivy (Mass. Art), and Jennifer Zigino (Mass. Art).

It seems that the small sam­ pling of works from each artist don't do service to their work. If the works of Charpentier are good enough to win this scholar­ ship, then she must be able to do something better than her "We Are Getting Soft" work, with the name of the piece cut out from pieces of cardboard standing on the floor. Maybe it's the judges that are getting soft.

Partridge had the greatest number of pieces at the exhibit, most of which centered around the "Alice in Wonderland" story. Featured are a pair of gloves, a sugar bowl, and a piece of light blue cloth displayed against the wall to look like a dress with quotes from the story handwrit­ ten all over them. Another piece incorporating the "Alice" story was an upright wooden structure with a shape similar to an ampersand, with a fan of playing cards splayed across the top. This by far was the most visually interesting piece at the exhibit, enticing the viewer to look at it from all angles. Although most of her pieces were interesting, she also dis­ played one of the weakest pieces at the exhibit. Her "Seven Peo­ ple #1 Difference is to Identity as Individualism is to Status" works collect tattoos from seven and eight people, respectively, and are superimposed over one another to create two bodies covered in tattoos. Most of the individual tattoos are cliché and tacky, and without seeing the accompanying photo album of the original tattoos, one can instantly tell they are from different people. The piece serves as an inter­ esting "we are one" commen­ tary, but the execution is weak.

One of the most fasci­ nating pieces is from win­ ner Dombek, who features a looped audio track among his "Unified Perception Exercises" and in addition to the "Art­ works I've touched" photo se­ ries. The audio track includes computerized voices read­ ing various texts looped over one another, almost sound­ ing like an alien language.

Accompanying this is a list typed definitions of "subject" and "object" and their derivative words that em­ phasizes that how an object is interpreted is based on the sub­ ject, and vice versa. Dombek's pieces dig into the mind of the viewer, and his works on display clearly show that he was deserving of this scholarship.

The Stephen D. Paine Scholar­ ship Exhibit is on view now through March 14 at the NESAD Gallery.
Ramy Award deadline approaching

Don't forget that Friday, Mar. 13 is the deadline for submissions for the second annual Rammy Awards, which are given to visual media projects and sponsored by the Department of Communication and Journalism and will be awarded on Apr. 9 at 5:30 p.m. at the C. Walsh Theatre. Submissions must be delivered to Mike DiLoreto in Ridgeway 305 before 5 p.m. on the 13th and be accompanied by a registration form, available in the same location. This year's categories are news: short, news: long, narrative: short fiction, narrative: short nonfiction, music video, photo essay, spot news photo, black and white single photo, and color single photo. Submissions must be on DVD or CD for photo essays and photos.

Correction

The Suffolk Journal would like to apologize for the misspelling of Brittany Maier's name in last week's issue.

write for arts meetings every Tuesday @ 1:00pm D428
Word Search Puzzle

GO BOSTON! Come out Thursday, March 12th to support the Boston Bruins as they take on the Ottawa Senators. The Bruins will play at the TD Banknorth Garden and the game starts at 7:00 p.m. Tickets are available through Ticketmaster.

Friday, March 13th at Good Life is sure to start your weekend off with a bang! “Seed in the city vs dirtybird” presents DJ Bradford James with Special Guest DJ Bruno spinning tracks upstairs while Tanner Ross with Special Guests Christian Martin and J. Philip entertaining downstairs. Door charge is $5 and the event beings at 9:00 p.m!

Answers to Last Issue’s WordSearch Puzzle

Be sure to check the next issue for the answers for this week's puzzle.

Delia Mooney
Journal Staff

Your week: Delia’s Pick

Wednesday March 11 - Friday March 13
(Happy vacation!)

Thinking about studying abroad but haven’t the slightest idea of where to start? On Wednesday, March 11th the Office of Student Affairs is holding a Study Abroad Workshop that will help students find new international opportunities. Topics such as class requirements, programs, academic credits and cost will be addressed as well as any other questions regarding international studies. The workshop will be held in the First Floor Function Room at SU Law School. Event will run from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Delia Mooney
Journal Staff

Word Search

Made with http://www.armoredpenguin.com/wordsearch/

- rose
- wallflower
- lily
- holly
- iris
- dandelion
- bellflower
- violet
- hyacinth
- chrysanthemum
- marigold
- daffodil
- geranium
- juniper
- buttercup
- pansy
- anemone
- aster
- poppy
- jessamine
- sunflower
- tulip

Blundergrads

What’s the secret to convincing a girl to come back to my place?

A toothbrush?

A toothbrush?

A gentleman would give his ladyfriend an opportunity to brush her teeth.

Do I have to buy new ones, or can I just keep re-using the old one?

Maybe you should just stock up on hand lotion.

by phil flickinger (www.blundergrads.com)
USA TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS AT WBC

The United States is currently 2-0 at this year’s World Baseball Classic, by virtue of a 6-5 win over host Canada and a 15-6 pounding of Venezuela. Members of the Red Sox have been representing the home town team well, as Dustin Pedroia has two doubles and two RBI, and Kevin Youkilis has two home runs and three RBI. The Americans will face the winners of the Italy vs. Venezuela game on Friday to see who wins Pool C. Other notables include Team Korea, which won Pool A with a 3-0 record, and, despite more recent three RBI. The Americans will face the winners of the Italy vs. Venezuela game on Friday to see who wins Pool C. Other notables include Team Korea, which won Pool A with a 3-0 record, and, despite more recent

TURMOIL IN MONTREAL

If there’s one thing Bruins fans love, it’s watching the Montreal Canadiens struggle. This year has provided a bonanza for B’s fans, as the Habs, considered by many to be Cup contenders before the season started, have made headlines on and off the ice for all the wrong reasons. The mad house continued on Monday, as head coach Guy Carbonneau was axed by general manager Bob Gainey, who will coach in his place. Carbonneau compiled a 123-83-23 record behind the Montreal bench, but this year’s team has been a disappointment, with lackluster and emotionless play becoming the norm. Carbonneau’s firing is just another cloud over Montreal’s centennial season, which has been marred by the benching of star Alex Kovalev, the inconsistent play of goalie Carey Price, and allegations of connections to organized crime against brothers Sergei and Andrei Kostitsyn.
Men's Tennis looks to backhand the competition in '08-'09

Matt West
Journal Staff

Last season, the Suffolk Men's Tennis team finished the year with an impressive 8-5 record, but was ultimately eliminated in the first round of the Great Northeast Athletic Conference championship tournament. This year, the team begins the season as the top ranked squad, according to a GNAC preseason poll. The ranking, which consisted of a vote by a collection of the league's coaches, saw Suffolk receive three first place votes, ending up with a total of 22 points in the poll.

First year Head Coach Isaac Stahl, who previously held the position of assistant coach, hopes to bring this revamped and extremely motivated team back to the top of the GNAC standings, where they seem to have carved out a nice little niche the past couple of years.

"I expect big things for this team," said Stahl. "We're returning a majority of our starters. We came so close to winning the championship last year, I think that now we really have motivated my veterans in the offseason, and it has infused the season with a new drive, commitment and focus toward achieving a championship manner."

This year's team will have ten players returning from last year's edition, with the third through tenth spots in the singles lineup solidified from last year. In addition, two incoming students will lead in the first and second slots.

"Our goal for this year is to win the championship; we're practicing more focused and we're expecting the team to be a really strong team," said Michael DeMoranville, a sophomore returning for his second season with the team. "We're returning most of our starters and we're expecting a lot from our incoming class."

The biggest difference between this year and years before is that we started earlier," added senior captain Greg Garrison. "We hit in the fall for the first time this year and we also did conditioning as part of our season."

Garrison concluded that they, "have been working a lot harder because we have always been that second place team, we feel we needed to do something a little more to put us over the top. We really finally have it this year where all the starters know each other and hit well with each other; practice is fun and productive."

It seems that the overall camaraderie this team has built over the past few years, coupled with the addition of some very impressive young players, will help them battle for the top spot all season long.

In addition, the hard work and dedication the players have displayed thus far has not gone unnoticed.

"I am very pleased with the leadership of my captains and their ability to pull the team together, and keep us focused on our goals," noted Stahl. "They requested conditioning, practicing nine to eleven at night. That is championship behavior that is the type of stuff that makes the difference in a tight league."

The willingness to do that is because we lost the close one. A little more effort in practice, a little more conditioning, could have been the difference maker."

The wins will not come easily, as Stahl also explained how tough their schedule will be. He focused on schools like Norwicht and Emerson, two teams the Rams have seen a lot of in the past, and both of whom have added considerable talent in the offseason.

"The Men's Team will open up regular season play at MIT tomorrow at 4:00 p.m. The new season begins with the hope of being one of the top four teams in the GNAC standings part of our league in April," said Stahl.

Women's Softball '08-'09 Preview

Tyler Duke
Journal Staff

Suffolk University's Women's Softball Team has been preparing for the start of their season, which kicks off this Saturday in Cocoa Beach, Fla. The girls open their schedule with a weeklong tournament consisting of 10 games throughout Florida against various out-of-conference teams, including Frostburg State of Maryland and Keene State of New Hampshire.

The Lady Rams finished last year with a record of 17-20, and a conference record of 16-10. Finishing in the middle of the conference (7th out of 14th), the Rams are eagerly anticipating the beginning of the season and firmly believe they have what it taken to move up in the standings.

"Our team is so positive going into the season," said Rebecca Schalit, a senior and first baseman. "There's so much confidence and we've been practicing every day since the fall. We've got a few new players and they all want to win, which is great."

Schalit did address one concern about the upcoming tournament, however.

"The problem with the tournament is that it happens right in the beginning of our schedule," said Schalit. "The girls have only practiced together—we haven't played any games or a team yet and it's tough to have a tournament right at the beginning of the season, but we're going to do our best."

During practices, Schalit revealed that the team is working on both offense and defense.

"The two podcasts are split into two halves," she said. "Defense is practiced first, and then we follow up with offensive drills."

The Lady Rams are hoping to have an ace up their sleeve with their pitching staff, which was a problem last year but seems to have been addressed during the offseason.

"We have a couple of new pitchers that seem to have real talent," said Schalit. "Since we only had two pitchers last year, these new girls are eager to play and are really going to give it their all."

Freshmen Carissa Roche, Brook Hirschfeld, and Elizabeth Galvin all hope to add their pitching talents to the team.

"They seem excited to get going and they are really going to be able to provide for the team," Schalit said.

Overall team chemistry has also improved since last year.

"It's much better," observed Schalit. "We're all really good friends on the team and we all have the desire to win, which pulls us closer together."

One thing Schalit wants to see happening is more students attending home games.

"More fan support during the games..." she said, "would really feed off the energy if more Suffolk students showed up at DuPolo Field, where we play our home games."

The Rams' first home game is on Saturday, March 28 at 12 p.m. against Johnson & Wales.

Bill's should have said Buffa-NO to T.O.

Pat Nohrrego
Journal Staff

Last Saturday, wide receiver Terrell Owens was signed by the Buffalo Bills to a one-year, $6.5 million contract. Known for his showboat antics and excessive touchdown celebrations, let's just say that up to this point, Owens has had a very "colorful" NFL career since his start with the 49ers in 1996. T.O. as Owens has been dubbed, made his big debut with the 49ers on Dec. 17, 2000 against the Chicago Bears. With Jeff Garcia as quarterback, Owens broke a 50-year-standing NFL record with 20 catches and 263 yards in a single game.

But after a less than ideal season with the 49ers in 2003, T.O. decided it was time to leave. After using some very questionable tactics to cut all ties with his former team, Owens gave an interview with Playboy where he stirred up controversy by insinuating that former teammate Jeff Garcia was gay. This marked only the beginning of T.O.'s infamous reputation for being a controversy magnet in the NFL.

In 2004, T.O. gave an interview to ESPN's Tiki Barber, who signed with the Philadelphia Eagles, scoring a seven-year, $49 million contract with a $10 million bonus. It was here with the Eagles that Owens' true colors came through (not to mention his famous "bird flap" touchdown dance). After the '04 season got off to a great start with the Eagles winning 13 of their first 14 games, things got choppy. On Dec. 19, in a game against the Dallas Cowboys, T.O. suffered a badly sprained ankle and a fractured fibula. Despite what doctors said, the rambunctious wide receiver vowed to play in Super Bowl XXXIV against the New England Patriots (which, as fans remember, made us the second team in NFL history to win a Super Bowl three times in four years). But after a few weeks of rehab, T.O. used special medical techniques to heal his body fast enough for the big game. T.O. played well, pulling in nine receptions for 101 yards. But for this show-off, it...
coaching good pitchers, including Peter Quinn (class of 2000), who set three individual season records during his senior season en route to the baseball team’s first ever NCAA appearance. While individual season records haven’t been set since that season, this year’s pitching staff is quite good.

Last year’s leader in wins, Tim Doyle, who transferred from Bentley Massasoit, and Alex Torres, who is very solid and Mark McConnell mentioned that it’s "a work in progress, but with multiple left-handed pitchers on the staff" works hard," on the staff goes, McConnell mentioned that it’s "a work in progress," but it still remains the team’s backbone. 

"Where Reid Jackson’s on he can be lethal," said McCon­ nell. "We also have Tim Doyle who is very solid and Mark Doyle, who transferred from Massassau, and Alex Torres, who transferred from Bentley College, who are looking to get into the rotation. It’s a work in progress, but with multiple lefties and good flamethrowers, I think it’s our team’s strength."

"Every year everyone [on the staff] works hard," said Jackson, one of three left-handed pitchers on the roster. "Hopefully this year we do really well again."

The Rams were supposed to play Southern Maine in Farmingdale, New York this past Sunday to kick off the sea­ son, but due to weather condi­ tions, the game was postponed. Now they can focus on their trip to Win­ ter Haven, Florida, where the team will travel for Spring Break. On the schedule for the Rams are Trinity (Conn.), listed as the pre­ season No. 3 team in the coun­ try on D3baseball.com, Mount St. Joseph, Keystone, Rowan, Ripon, Hamp­ ton, Salem State, Westfield State and Hamilton.

"I can’t wait to get away Thursday morning (and go to Florida)," said Jackson jok­ ingly. "It is the highlight of our season. It’s rewarding, but at the same time we need to focus on the games on hand. It’s not going to be easy, but it will be a good test for us." The team has prac­ ticed for quite sometime and is eager to take the field.

"We’ve practiced four weeks indoors and we are ready to compete," said McConnell. "Our goal is to be in the NCAA tournament. It’s going to be chal­ lenging, but I think we’ve set ourselves up to be successful."

Larqueue returns a, "OK, good luck man," and the fight follows.

What the casual observer fails to notice is that the ma­ jority of fights in the NHL oc­ cur well within the boundaries of "the Code," which is what makes this recent call to ban fighting somewhat disturb­ ing. Scraps like the aforemen­ tioned Orr-Thorton bout or Georges Larague’s fighting formalities rarely make head­ lines. Instead, the incidents that end in violence, and in some cases tragedy, are the ones that draw the most attention.

In January, Don Sanderson, a junior player for the Whiting Bruins in Canada, fell ill to a cheap shot during a game. The 21-year-old’s helmet slipped off during the scrum, and Sanderson’s team­ mates said his opponent did nothing dirty during the fight, that it was, by all hockey ac­ counts, a "normal" fight. This is not an attempt to gloss over what happened. Sanderson’s death was truly a tragedy, and one that shouldn’t be forgotten. 

However, while the fight may have been normal until the end, it needs to be called what it was, a freak accident. While it is understandable that hock­ ey leagues want to take steps to protect their players, people shouldn’t "take advantage of something like [Sanderson’s death] to make their point," as Canadian broadcasting legend Don Cherry said in an New York Daily News article on the subject.

Other incidents have drawn similar media atten­ tion as well, but Sanderson’s death has prompted many to call for serious discussions on the subject of fighting in the NHL. As Cherry said, the anti­ fighting advocates have found something to point to, and are using it to make a statement that fighting is more blood­ sport, and that incidents like Sanderson’s are far more com­ mon than they may in fact be.

There is no argument that fighting isn’t dangerous: there’s no way to make mash­ ing for the puck face a peaceable or “family friendly” occurrence. How­ ever, when fighting is done right, the “Code” way, it is as much a part of hockey as the one-timer or the glove save.

The reason this comes up now is because the NHL’s 30 general managers are currently meeting in Florida, and fighting is one of the topics the league’s braintrust is expected to discuss.

In fact, an argument can be made that fighting decreases actual violence in hockey. With a slugger like Eric Godard on his team, Pittsburgh super­ star Sidney Crosby doesn’t need to worry as much about a cheapshot from an opposing player, who would know that any rough stuff with Crosby will result in a visit from the hulking Mr. Godard.

The belief here is that "the game polices itself," (i.e. the game usually goes along as planned after a fight), the ten­ sion of the Fighting Advocate, the backup, etc. The team members are also good friends, and the perpetrator answers the bell.

Truthfully, the media hype is probably all for naught: the coaches, players and general managers are seemingly all in favor of keeping fistscuits in the game. However, one of the pos­ itives that the debate does brings up is the importance and the place fighting has in the game. A good hockey fight, as universally recognized by the players, is one between will­ ing opponents who are usually seeking to right a perceived wrong against their team or in some cases simply to get the crowd going. Sometimes there isn’t even bad blood involved, as recently Thornton fought good friend George Parros of the Ducks, and in the past for­ mer Bruins goalie Byron DeFoe fought fellow netminder Olaf Kolzig of the Washington Capt­ ials. The reason that there were no hard feelings was because they were friends?

Each served as the other’s best man at his respective wedding.

For old school hockey fans, fighting is expected, anticipat­ ed, and, to put it bluntly, loved, particularly in this lunchpail hockey gang city. This explains the fervor that has resulted from talk of debates, as fans are reluctant to part with a key part of the game they love.

While injuries and trag­ edies do occur, and will un­ fortunately occur in the fu­ ture, fighting needs to remain in the game, in the game, if the entire essence of hockey will change. Unless the players who are tak­ ing and throwing the punches begin to clamor for an end to pupilism, fighting will, and should remain an integral part of the National Hockey League.
Celtics' Prez pays visit to Suffolk's campus

Roni Smith
Journal Staff

Legendary Boston Celtics coach Red Auerbach once said, "The only correct actions are those that demand no explanation and no apology," which the Celtics franchise can more than relate to. Before their 2008 championship, the Celtics had not seen a championship trophy since the 1986-87 season.

On the same day the Celtics clinched a playoff berth for this season, Celtics President Rich Gotham spoke to Suffolk students, faculty and community members regarding the Celtics' success, specifically about the business ventures necessary to bring the Celtics back from a 22-year championship drought.

As part of the Boston Celtics and Suffolk University partnership, Gotham arrived at Suffolk to share the ins and outs of the business-side of the Boston Celtics and how business decisions affect the team. Although the Celtics make news with their trades and play on the court, to continue their financial success, it's the business decisions that have kept the team afloat, especially during losing seasons.

"We need[ed] to generate top line revenues," Gotham said of the 2002-03 season, when the Celtics were struggling. "We need[ed] a good product to build revenue. We were a mediocre team, and there was nothing you could look at to break the cycle."

Gotham, a longtime Celtics fan thanks to Larry Bird, took over as team President in April of 2007, and is credited (along with Danny Ainge, Celtics Executive Director of Basketball Operations), for the recent success of the team, which includes inking one of the best players in the game.

"We tried like hell to get KG [Kevin Garnett], but at the time he wasn't ready to be traded," Gotham said, of the 2006-07 season. "We went to the next best thing and we acquired Ray Allen from Seattle. No sooner did we do that did Danny go after Garnett again."

However, this could not have been possible without savvy business decisions and improving the team not only on the court but behind the scenes as well, according to Gotham, who sought to focus on the fan experience at the Garden when the Colts were struggling, in order to continue to bring revenue to the organization. "We want the fan to leave the game and say 'that was a great time. I had a blast,'" said Gotham, who instituted a new high definition scoreboard, improved sound and lighting and created a dance team to improve the game experience. "From a business perspective there are things we can control. [I had] to go out and create demand for this product because there was no demand."

Gotham is also a big believer in giving back, not only through improving the fan experience, but getting the players closer to the fans through volunteer work, which is also a smart business venture as well, as Gotham noted. According to Gotham, charity work is mandated by the team, but it doesn't need to be enforced as players regularly work with local communities, mainly because Celtics players are just "big kids" themselves, according to Gotham.

"We also launched the Shamrock Foundation. We've gotten our players out there doing community service," said Gotham. "We do it because it's the right thing to do. This is good for business as well. We want fans to see our players in a different light."

These business decisions have clearly paid off, as the Garden is regularly sold out and fans are much more excited about the team and the decisions being made by the front office, according to Gotham.

"In a survey [for Boston, Com or BostonHerald.com-] 90 percent of our fans said that we shouldn't trade Al Jefferson for KG," said Gotham. "I felt a little bit of pride; they loved Al and didn't want to see him go."

However, before "the stars aligned" for the Celtics, as Gotham puts it, he went through some low points, specifically after the 2006-07 season when draft picks were determined.

"We ended up with the number five pick in the draft. I was pretty dejected [because statistically this was the worst possible outcome for us]," said Gotham, who credits this as the reason Garnett and Allen were able to come to Boston. "[After getting Garnett and Allen out of the deal] my lowest point was actually my highest point, we just didn't know it at the time."

Business and player decisions go hand in hand, as Gotham exemplified, and while the Celtics currently reign in the East, and have done so seemingly effortlessly, the work it took to get there is staggering and continuous. The combination of smart trading and savvy business ventures led to the Celtics success and will be necessary for them to continue to have success in the future. "We were winning, we grew our business," said Gotham. "Even when we were struggling, we knew we were a good franchise, we just needed to give people a reason to [believe]."

"Al [Jefferson] is one of the best organizations in all of sports history," said McConnell.