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No guests allowed at 150 Tremont
Guest privileges revoked after repeated mayhem

Ethan Long
Journal Staff

A controversial memo was slipped under the doors of all students living in the 150 Tremont St. Residence Hall yesterday morning. The memo, sent by Amanda Grazioso, Assistant Director of Residence Life and Summer Programs, stated that "ALL guest privileges [sic] will be revoked from the entire building until further notice."

The memo went on to state that incidents have been reported where students were "urinating and defecating [sic] in common areas." Due to health concerns, the cleaning of such things requires extra work after hours, including excessive carpet cleaning. The memo goes on to say that, "this is your home and it is important to hold each other accountable for each other's actions."

Yesterday morning's memo stated, "Over the weekend, not only were signs torn down, but shaving cream and permanent marker were used to vandalize the elevators ($300 cleaning), a stairway railing was torn off ($250 repair), and a shower head was torn out of the wall causing flooding/water damage on at least 5 floors ($800 repair and cleaning)."

Along with guest privileges being revoked as of today, Nov. 4, the cost to repair the damages will fall on the shoulders of all students living in the dorm.

"That's not even a fair punishment," said freshman Brendan Clarke as he sat in the 150 Tremont cafeeteria discussing the memo with friends over lunch. "My girlfriend comes out to see me, now I can't see her anymore."

Along with personal relationships, many now are unable to use the areas they live in to socialize with those outside the dorms. Emilio Brantley, a freshman living in the hall, said that, "it's a little weird not having guests."

Mayor Menino wins unprecedented fifth term

Jeff Fish
Journal Staff

Mayor Thomas M. Menino won reelection yesterday for the fifth term in a row, making him the longest-serving mayor in Boston history. Menino beat City Councilor Michael Flaherty by a margin of 57 percent to 43 percent, after a contentious campaign that originally included four candidates, before it came down to two in the primary. Flaherty joined forces with Councilor at Large Sam Yoon who narrowly lost the primary to Flaherty, knocking him out of the general election. Flaherty had promised to make Yoon his Deputy Mayor if elected in the hopes that Yoon's support would vote for him instead of Menino, but this did not work for Flaherty, who ran against a popular, incumbent mayor.

Mayor Menino and his Deputy Mayor, Kevin Fay, both supported Yoon in the primary.

"I think that seems pretty high," said Maliny Penn, 2010. "I don't know what college presidents usually make, but that sounds like a lot. I mean, the President of the U.S. only makes $400,000 a year."

In a campus-wide email, Board of Trustees Chairman Nicholas Macaronis sought to "clarify details of President Sargent's compensation package, in the hope of better provid­ing an understanding following recent media accounts." In the email, Macaronis broke down the numbers that comprise Sargent's salary and defended it by saying, "President Sargent's vision over the past two decades has been instrumental in the
Saturday, Oct. 21

9:12 p.m.
150 Tremont
Received a report of a water leak at 150 Tremont St. On call facilities notified. Report filed.

10:41 p.m.
Hyatt
Received a report of an alcohol violation at the Hyatt Hotel. RA confiscated the marijuana pipe and disposed of the alcoholic beverages.

12:55 a.m.
150 Tremont St.
Units 75 and 73 removed banned guest from 150 Tremont. Report filed.

Monday, Nov. 2

9:08 p.m.
10 West
Report of a possible fight at 10 West St. Unit 27, 39, 41, 33, 102 (53) assigned call, not a fight, and no report.

9:32 p.m.
150 Tremont

9:40 p.m.
Public
Dispatch received a phone call from a student in need of psychiatric help. Student lives off campus. BPD notified. Report filed.
HARARE, Zimbabwe—David Coltart, Zimbabwe’s Minister of Education, has stated that the country’s education system should see an increase of quality within the next ten years, according to CNN.com. The current school system has seen the absence of current textbooks, with the last ones bought about a decade ago when the government was still funding the schools. Some schools even have as little as one book for thirteen students. Families of Zimbabwe are also finding it hard to pay the $25 cost of sending their children to school. According to CNN, 60,000 of the country’s teachers were on strike last year. Coltart hopes that donations will help fund the budget he needs.

GAZA STRIP, Palestine—The Israeli government has greatly reduced the amount of clean water available to Palestinians living in the Gaza Strip, according to Amnesty International, which gave an estimate that around 190,000 Palestinians are without access to running tap water. While Israel may be facing water shortages, Amnesty International told Al Jazeera that Israelis living in the area have “swimming pools, well-watered lawns and large irrigated farms.” Israel’s water authority responded to the accusations by Amnesty International, revealing that while there is such a gap, the reports that it put out were “biased and incorrect.”

HART hopes U.S. will warm to climate change discussions

Alex Pearlman
Journal Staff

An energy box, a foreign policy box, an economics box. According to former Senator Gary Hart, these areas of policy of decades past were unrelated, individual issues, dealt with by Congressional committees, each focusing on their own, single box. But Hart believes those days are over.

“The realities of the 21st century world have been shattering these boxes and merging these issues with massive force,” Hart wrote on his blog, “Matters of Principle”, last month. “I argue that, at the very least, we cannot separate consideration of and a search for solutions to energy, climate, and security.”

With the Copenhagen Climate Change Summit looming, those long involved in the environment and energy debate, like Hart, see an opportunity for the United States to be a key player in the negotiations and take on a leadership position in December. Hart perceives this as a likely move that would string the US energy policy, foreign policy and economic policy boxes together.

Hart, an early proponent of solar energy who served on the Senate’s Environment and Public Works committee, says that the US needs to take a stand at Copenhagen.

“The world is waiting for the United States. We all need to be concerned about this and involved in it.” While there are a multiple drafts of treaties in circulation regarding global warming and climate change in anticipation of the summit, there are two competing drafts that are gathering steam, one backed by the United States and the other championed by China.

The latter document, which is essentially an update to the 1997 Kyoto Protocol agreement, which the US did not ratify, would require industrialized countries to severely cut down on carbon emissions, while transitioning countries like China and India, two of the biggest polluters, would not necessarily be held to the same standards or be required to show results in the near future.

“India, China, the developing nations and economies are going to take their cue from us,” said Hart, who believes that the United State’s position has the ability to affect a resolution to the on-going debate. “If we don’t go and take a very strong position, they won’t follow. It all depends on what position the United States takes and whether it provides a leadership position. We don’t yet know what the Obama administration’s policy is, in terms of what we’re doing here, domestically, but also what proposals we will put on the table in Copenhagen.”

In addition to the text of the document that comes out of the talks at Copenhagen, which will seek to regulate carbon emissions, the former Senator is concerned about the larger picture of global warming.

“The issue isn’t how you do it; the issue is what the agreed objective is,” he said, explaining that the problem is navigating change on a margin of less than six tenths of a degree, Celsius. “[The objective] is to prevent the global climate from exceeding two more degrees. About 1.4 degrees of that is not changeable, and we have to achieve the objective of reducing those emissions in 30 or 40 years to prevent a tipping point that can’t be reversed.”

Still, the most important thing that needs to happen at Copenhagen is for the United States and China to work together to negotiate a treaty that all parties can agree on and that will begin to regulate emissions, be a promoter of cleaner energy technologies in all countries, and provide assistance to those countries that cannot afford to enact change themselves.

And Hart is optimistic that the United States “will take on the leadership role it is expected to at the talks. “I’m very, very hopeful that our government, on our behalf, takes a very strong position,” Printed with permission of www.globalpost.com
Letter to the Editor

The October 29 edition of the Suffolk Journal contained one of the most offensive articles that I have ever seen written in any school newspaper. It was an article that made me sit there and think to myself, “What is the point of this?” The article entitled “Anal Cunt” was an extremely offensive article about a band full of 40-year-olds that create highly offensive material and sing about it on stage. In talking with some staff members who were initially unaware of the article, we had discussed what the purpose of the article was, and why the Suffolk community needed to be aware of this band? I would ask the Suffolk Journal the same question: in what way did the article provide necessary enlightenment to the Suffolk community? The article itself was extremely offensive because it talked about songs the band had written that were extremely defamatory and extremely racist towards members of the Jewish community, and to women that attend Suffolk.

The pictures that were printed, although the band’s logo, were unnecessary and were highly degrading to women in the sense that personal and private parts of their bodies were being printed in a school newspaper intended to inform the student body of important and interesting events that happen around our community. In no way, from my interpretation of the article, did it inform Suffolk of any important or interesting event that happened. It was also very discouraging to see that the article was the top headline on the Arts & Entertainment section of the Journal. I think there are a lot of other interesting events happening around the community that are a lot more worthy of informing the student body than this highly offensive band that played at the Middle East a couple weeks ago.

I don’t want you to think that I am writing this to say that you, the Journal, have no right to publish whatever you want, that is the power and great freedom we get in this country thanks to the First Amendment. But I would encourage you to please think about those people that you could be angering and offending and take into account the purpose for each article that you are publishing in your newspaper. The use of your free speech was highly stretched with this article, because you did not print anything that was of pertinent information to the University, and I would encourage the editors of the newspaper to really determine what purpose this article served in being printed. If you could let me, and members of the Suffolk student body, know why you felt the need to print such an offensive article in a school newspaper, it would really answer some troubling questions that we have.

David Capone, Class of 2012
Karen Phillips, Office of Student Leadership and Involvement

The Journal's Response

We, as a student newspaper, strive to inform the Suffolk community – all of the Suffolk community – about the goings on in all areas of interest, including those in the arts on campus and in Boston. This city is a vibrant one, full of culture and art of all different levels and kinds. As Suffolk is a diverse community, full of differing opinions, likes, and dislikes, it is only fair that the newspaper reflect that diversity.

The band in question strives to offend its audience and the author of the article stated as much. In the spirit of that band, the headline and graphics were chosen to reflect the content of the article and its subject, however the Journal regrets the use of the words “Anal Cunt” as the only words in the headline. That was an ill-advised decision and this newspaper will likely never use such a headline again, as we are drafting an obscene language policy.

However, whatever personal opinions of some members of the Suffolk community regarding the article, it was written for those people that enjoy the music of Anal Cunt and appreciate them as an art form, as well as for those who don’t listen to their music, have never heard of them, but might enjoy them. These are general reasons any band gets reviewed, and those bands and their lyrics or song titles do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Suffolk Journal staff, but they are necessary to include in a review.

Art is sometimes offensive. It is sometimes beautiful and mysterious and colorful and happy and depressing and lonely and awe-inspiring and hateful.

The Suffolk Journal is not in the business of censorship. And no one on this campus, the editorial staff of this newspaper included, is wise enough to say what is art and what isn’t – because it is in the eye of the beholder.

Thank you for reading.
Sincerely,
The Editors

Suck it, Lieberman

The Senator is an embarrassment to his constituents and his party

Matt McQuaid
Journal Staff

Senator Joe Lieberman is the embodiment of everything wrong with contemporary politics in the United States. Earlier this week, Lieberman announced that he would filibuster Republicans if the Senate Democrats don’t drop the public option from their healthcare plan. Not surprising. According to opensecrets.com, Lieberman has gotten way too comfortable in his seniority in the Senate and apparently thinks that he doesn’t have to answer to voters in his own state anymore. It was bad enough that Lieberman was a staunch proponent of the Iraq war, and it was really bad when he endorsed McCain, but this public option thing is the last straw. Beating his own state is more important than providing a social safety net to the people in his own state. Lieberman has gotten way too comfortable in his seniority in the Senate and apparently thinks that he doesn’t have to answer to voters in his own state anymore. It was bad enough that Lieberman was a staunch proponent of the Iraq war, and it was really bad when he endorsed McCain, but this public option thing is the last straw. Beating his own party in 2006 has made Lieberman think he can stay in office without serving his base. The next time Lieberman comes up for re-election, the state of Connecticut owes it to Lieberman to show him that he’s wrong.
The healthcare bill that went to Congress last week is just under two thousand pages – an obvious sign that the public does not know the full details of this bill.

While Americans were promised full disclosure of all bills, this one is obviously just too urgent, too important, and now, too long to tell the people of our country much about it. As something that will affect our everyday lives if passed, we sure don’t worry about the future of our children and breaking promises.

In his campaign, when everyone was terrified of the national debt, Obama promised not to sign any bills that would raise our deficit. Now the administration’s projected ten-year deficit will be near $9 million. I doubt this is the change all of his crazed fans had “HOPED” for. I can only hope that his fans can see this as more of the same growing deficit from the last administration.

The last thing that we need to do to aid our economy is nationalize healthcare. The healthcare bill passing will simply give Americans more of a reason to be lazy, not worry about the future of our youth, and completely abandon hard work all together.

Simply put, working hard will help our economy rise. Parents used to have a strong work ethic not only for their own success, but to ensure that their children would have a richer future. Now, however, everyone consistently considers only the short term and the right now-effect. Unfortunately, we can only take the laziness a short time longer.

There is something going on in our country right? Oh yes, we’re in a recession, and helping the recession will inevitably help the people in our country who are without healthcare at least a little, one step at a time. Obama’s healthcare fairytale is over.

"...if we are choosing nationalized healthcare, it should be based on what is best for all the people..."

The healthcare reform must take place right now, with no debate, no public approval option as promised, and simply as soon as possible. However, when the generals in the Middle East are asking for more troops to sustain themselves, Obama insists on taking his time on the decision, refusing to act before the elections are over.

The healthcare reform bill will add about 15 million families, including what exactly healthcare would be like in America if it were nationalized.

While our health plan will take place right now, with no debate, no public approval option as promised, and simply as soon as possible, the healthcare reform bill will only be a short-term solution to the massive problem of our current economy. It will take more than government involvement to halve the deficit by the end of Obama’s term, as he promised.
Mash-up artist hits Suffolk annual concert

Girl Talk rocks the House of Blues with Sean Kingston

Derek Anderson
Morris Holt
Journal Staff

Last night at the House of Blues, a Girl Talk/Sean Kingston concert was held exclusively for Suffolk students and their limited guests. Both of the artists provided a contrast to one another and brought in a diverse and lively crowd.

Those attending the concert were filled with anticipation waiting for Kingston to start the show. Eventually he appeared wearing a large, flashy necklace and air force ones. Part of his set was a live band that included guitar, bass, multiple keyboards, and a DJ. Songs performed by Kingston included “Beautiful Girls,” “Fire Burning” and “Take You There.” Glow sticks were handed out before the concert started. Some of them were thrown in the air, sometimes literally. Despite being somewhat drawn out, it at least entertained audience members before Girl Talk.

Girl Talk, however, seemed to be the more favored performance of the two. “We’re excited to see Girl Talk,” said Kristina Michael, a sophomore at Suffolk. “We heard he’s got a new mash up!”

This was the general feel in the atmosphere while the crowd waited for Girl Talk to take the stage. Gregg Gillis, the man behind Girl Talk, finally came to his table set up after a large screen in the background spoke to the audience through text. Although the idea initially was entertaining, the text on the screen got old quickly, even as it continued through the Girl Talk performance. This did not, however, take away from Gillis’s act. The crowd went wild when he took his spot at his table, pumping them up by starting the show off with a bang. His mash-ups were newer, involving recent pop songs as well as some older tunes not used in his albums.

The mash-ups should be something recognized above all. Gillis’s crafting of his mash-ups are done beautifully. It was incredible to see how he could control the crowd’s emotions and movements with his music. Not to mention, Gillis’s taste in music is a great blend of multiple genres, giving the sense that he appreciates all forms of music. With clips from Lady Gaga to Metallica, his mash-ups cover a wide variety of songs. Many students had no idea what they were getting into. “I don’t know what it will be like, but I’m excited,” said freshman Jay Gibbons. “There’s a lot of hype behind this concert.”

Students were sprayed with toilet paper through automated guns, blasted with confetti, pelted with glow sticks and hit with a multiple array of concert lighting, including spot lights and strobes, providing the perfect dance and party scene. With music constantly blasting, the tracks were all blended into one long song. Audience members barely had time to breathe through their laughter and screamed as the everlasting beats continued.

Not only was the standing room floor turned into a dance party, but some select students were chosen to dance on stage with Girl Talk. These students could be right next to Gillis, and even became part of the show themselves.

Overall, the concert was an excuse to have a good time and brought Suffolk students together. Some preferred Kingston, while others favored Girl Talk, but everyone seemed to get what they wanted in the end. The atmosphere was positive except for a few fights that took place in the crowd. Besides these minor occurrences, the concert was a success. Kingston put on an acceptable performance and Girl Talk blew the night out of the water with his mash-ups and mixes. It provided a great time to Suffolk students, allowing them to dance away their problems and completely forget about the past and future. Among the blur of glow sticks, strands of toilet paper and multiple faces, everyone was just living in the moment.

Students get dance their faces off to Girl Talk

Sean Kingston performs for Suffolk-filled crowd

Mash-up master, Girl Talk, mixes is up for Suffolk
The annual Suffolk Drag Show offers the chance to let loose and cross-dress for fun’s sake, while gaining a greater understanding of a culture generally viewed as on-the-fringe. Though the show got off to a slow start, the end result left the audience blown away. The professional drag queens really knew how to put on a performance. They lip-synched and danced to some of the raunchiest songs ever heard, interacting with attendees in a highly suggestive manner. The performance was very open about the topic of sexuality. During the show, some of the drag queens bluntly asked the female members of the audience if any were “lesbians until they graduated” and even inquired about the sex lives of the audience.

The Drag Show also parodied celebrities such as Amy Whinehouse and Liza Minnelli and was nothing short of brilliant. Whinehouse and Minnelli were unique because the performers playing the infamous songstresses actually sang their songs with incredible accuracy instead of just lip-synching them. The students who participated in the Drag Show did a splendid job as well, acting out songs such as “My Oh My” by Liza Minnelli, or a more attractive look-alike, rocks her stuff

Aqua and “What Was I Thinking” by Dierks Bentley. They didn’t really interact with the audience like the professionals, but nevertheless managed to pull off a good show, despite minor technical difficulties. One of the most interesting things about the show were the drag kings. When the drag queens were on the stage, it was easy to tell that they were men dressed up like women, but the drag kings looked authentic. It was really hard to tell if they were actually women or men. Overall, the Drag Show was an enjoyable experience that gave an interesting look at sexuality allowing people to laugh while feeling uncomfortable. It was an engaging and fun experience for all regardless of sexual orientation.
Falun Dafa relieves stress and increases energy
Banned by Chinese government in 1999 while prosecuting practitioners

Alexander Sessa
Journal Staff

Falun Dafa, or Falun Gong, is a spiritual practice that relieves stress and increases energy. The practice became particularly popular in China during the 1990s, which disturbed the Chinese government and caused them to ban it in 1999. Consequently, thousands of Chinese citizens have been persecuted for the past ten years. This past week, the State House held an exhibition of artwork depicting the brutalities of persecution in China.

The artwork on display was created to educate people of the horrific behavior against Chinese practitioners of Falun Gong and to inspire others to continue its practice. A few of the paintings depicted wives and mothers of persecuted husbands and sons. These paintings were grim and dark, another, more disturbing scene, a little girl cries as she holds the ashes of her deceased parents. On the other hand, several of the portraits were inspirational and optimistic. One such painting depicted heavenly beings descending to Earth to educate the world about Falun Gong. The Earth, at this point, is depicted as happy and peaceful with followers praising their gods. Another painting depicted a western culture angel protecting a Chinese follower of Falun Gong. Steve Gigliotti, a graduate student at Union College, explained to a group of spectators the accuracy of the messages in these pictures and believes in the messages the pictures convey. "I first learned about it in China, but I started practicing in Boston," Gigliotti said. He went on to explain that he lived in China for three years and was arrested and interrogated for his practice. "The Chinese secret police had copies of my transcripts," he continued. "I was pulled out of my car and had a bag put over my head; they interrogated me for two days." Gigliotti explained that he was released after two days in prison when it was discovered that he was not a practitioner of Falun Gong. Gigliotti insists the actions taken place in China are genocide.

Many practitioners of Falun Gong have fled China in an attempt to save its practice and speak out against the alleged genocide taking place. Among the artists whose work was displayed were Zhang Kunlun of Ottawa, Canada; Zhang Cuiying of Sydney, Australia; Gu Ruizhen of Taipei, Taiwan; Yao Chongqi of San Francisco, Calif. and Wei Jang Chir of New York. All of these artists were born and raised in China, but left to start new lives teaching Falun Gong.

Newlyweds share stage and tour
Husband's 'Say Anything' with wife's 'Eisley' take on House of Blues

Ashley Maceli
Journal Staff

Say Anything, though only a few years old since their official signing with Doghouse Records, have become enormous in the alternative rock world. From their hilarious catchy single "Wow, I Can Get Sexual Too," to their utterly ridiculous and loathing-yet-uppity-songs, it is easy to see why one would love a band like Say Anything; there really is no other band like them.

This past Friday, Say Anything played the House of Blues, making Mischief Night one large anthem-filled event. Opening the night with the single "Wow, I Can Get Sexual Too," Say Anything began strong with an audience filled with true fans who could be heard singing every word to almost every song they played. Frontman Max Bemis was completely animated and fun in his performance, which may have been caused by his crazy nature, or the numerous amount of red bulls he guzzled down.

After playing another one of their singles, "Alive With The Glory of Love," Say Anything played their newest single off of their new self-titled album. "Hate Everyone." "Hate Everyone" is surprisingly catchy than their past songs, if that is even possible. The song, along with many others, depicts Bemis' woes from the past with his bipolar disorder. Bemis has been said to be doing better with his mental issues, and with his beautiful and equally talented new wife, Sherri DuPree, it seems Bemis will have someone to be there with him through his time of need. Lucky for him, he has the honor of touring with his wife's band, Eisley. Eisley performed before Say Anything, giving the audience a different taste of music. The band consists of all the kids of the DuPree family. With three sisters and two brothers, the DuPree kids are a completely new kind of Partridge family. The siblings have been writing songs since they were eight years old, and after 12 years of writing and performing music, it is clear that all of the practice and experience has paid off. With an indie soft rock feel and girlish vocals, Eisley is certainly a band you do not want to pass up listening to. Eisley played the sweet song "Marvelous Things" with a lullaby feel that truly portrayed how amazing the three girls' vocals were. The band is planning to release their third album in early 2010, and hopefully this album will give them the recognition they deserve. Monica performed before Eisley, another completely different band from the rest of the lineup. Moneen, an indie rock band from Canada, was nothing more than average with their music. Great stage presence from the lead singer may have helped out in the live performance, but the lack of uniqueness in the music made it easy to pass up on listening to this band.

The opener of the tour was Moving Mountains, a hard rock screamo band. Though good to listen to, the live music was not as good as their record songs. Moving Mountains were another band that would have been easy to miss out on.

The odd mix of bands for this tour made it an interesting and diverse show that is all that can be done with an incomparable band like Say Anything headlining. It was impossible not to bob your head, sway your body, jump up and down or scream out the creative, yet depressing lyrics when all six members of Say Anything were all over the stage. Bemis leading the group with ridiculous motions and complete enthusiasm.

"I was pulled out of my car and had a bag put over my head; they interrogated me for two days."
You’re invited to the **SWEETEST event this year**

Date: Tuesday, November 10, 2009  
Time: 1–2:30pm  
Place: Suffolk University Sargent Hall  
120 Tremont Street, First Floor

Have a sweet tooth or two?  
Join us for an entrepreneurial education and a sugar rush to remember.  

Cousins and 2009 Suffolk alumni GREG BALESTRIERI and JOE MELVILLE will share the secrets behind the recent launch of their successful online store, CANDY.COM.

Enjoy free pizza, soft drinks, and raffle prizes. And, of course, an assortment of candy!

Pass the word and bring your friends. This event will put a smile on your face and sweeten your day.

Sponsored by the Center for Entrepreneurial Studies at Suffolk University  
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**SUFFOLK UNIVERSITY**  
SAWYER BUSINESS SCHOOL
Sports briefs

Kessel set for Toronto debut

Former Bruin winger Phil Kessel is set to make his debut in Maple Leaf blue and white this week after missing the first month of the season while recovering from shoulder surgery. Kessel, who was traded to Toronto after the Bruins didn't have room for him under the salary cap and didn't see him as a necessary part of the team, will be expected to provide an offensive boost to a Maple Leafs team that, entering play Monday night, was the worst team in the league. Kessel had surgery to repair a torn rotator cuff and labrum, and, according to TSN, is waiting for medical clearance to return to play. He practiced with the team earlier this week, and is said to be close to returning to action. Kessel was the Bruins' leading goal-scorer last year, potting 36 in the regular season.

Brows are finally "sick" of losing

After spending the better part of the last decade watching his team become the laughingstock of the NFL, the owner of the Cleveland Browns has had enough. According to FoxSports.com, team owner Randy Lerner made the "sick" comment following the Browns' 30-6 thumping at the hands of the Chicago Bears this past weekend. Lerner said he wouldn't fire head coach Eric Mangini this week, despite various media reports throughout the season indicating that Mangini was tremendously unpopular with his own players. Even if it wasn't Mangini, someone's head had to roll, and ESPN.com reported that GM George Kokinis was the fall guy, with Chris Mortensen reporting that Kokinis was fired on Monday. Since returning to the NFL as a franchise in 1999, the Browns have finished with a sub-.500 record eight times, including six seasons of five or less wins.

Revs take first leg of playoff series

The New England Revolution started the MLS Playoffs on the right foot on Sunday, beating the Chicago Fire by a score of 2-1 in the first match of their home-and-home series. The Revs fell behind early, but got goals from Emmanuel Osei in the 40th minute and Shalrie Joseph in the 75th minute to seal the come-from-behind victory. The second game of the series will be next Saturday in Chicago.

West indicted on weapons charges

Former Celtic guard Delonte West was indicted on additional weapons charges in relation to his September arrest in Maryland. ESPN.com reported the current Cleveland Cavalier was pulled over after cutting off a police officer on his motorcycle in Maryland on Sept. 17. The officer then discovered that West was carrying two loaded handguns, an eight-inch Bowie knife and a shotgun in a guitar case. Due to it being illegal in Maryland to carry concealed weapons or transport loaded firearms, West was indicted on two counts of carrying a dangerous weapon, two counts of carrying a handgun, two counts of transporting a handgun, one count of reckless driving and one count of negligent driving. Each weapons count comes with up to three years in prison. The case isn't expected to go to trial until early next year.

Pre-season basketball polls out

The NCAA basketball season is mere weeks from being in full swing, and that can mean only one thing: pre-season polls! The ESPN/USA Today Coach's poll was released this past week, ranking the nation's top 25 teams despite the fact that a game has yet to be played this season. Kansas comes in at number one, followed by Michigan State, Texas, defending-champion North Carolina and Kentucky. Finishing out the top ten are Villanova, Purdue, Duke, West Virginia and Butler. Kentucky is considered a strange choice by some, as the team didn't finish last season in the top 25. However, new head coach John Calipari, who led a successful Memphis program to lead the Wildcats, appears to be bringing heightened expectations along with his recent successes to Kentucky.
Thumbs up: Rondo to remain in Celtic green

Matt West
Journal Staff

Whether he comes across as arrogant, enigmatic or just plain difficult, there is no denying Rajon Rondo’s value to the Boston Celtics. Because he has secluded himself from the media since being drafted in the first round back in 2006, many people view him as a player who doesn’t care about his teammates and constantly plays with a chip on his shoulder. And while the latter may be true, his play over the last few seasons has proven to the masses that he has a singular focus: winning basketball games. That is why his recent contract extension for five years and $55 million is so important.

Over the summer, rumors and speculation swirled as to what Danny Ainge and the rest of the organization felt important to bring him back down to earth. Whether he comes across as arrogant, enigmatic or just plain difficult, there is no denying Rajon Rondo’s value to the Boston Celtics.

Rondo’s new deal cements his place amongst the NBA’s elite point guards, along with players like New Orleans’ Chris Paul (right).

Rondo brings a unique set of skills to this team, one that makes him almost indispensable. The point guard may be the most important position on the floor, seeing as he always has the ball most often, manipulating the game with each one-handed pass or fall-away jumper.

Rondo brings a unique set of skills to this team, one that makes him almost indispensable. The point guard may be the most important position on the floor, seeing as he always has the ball most often, manipulating the game with each one-handed pass or fall-away jumper. With three potential Hall of Fame players in Kevin Garnett, Paul Pierce, and Ray Allen, it would seem difficult to appease each of them, while also trying to constantly evolve into a better player. For Rondo, those problems don’t seem to exist, and he has proven as much with his continued ascent up the basketball food chain. Even with his off-the-court distractions, Rondo had a career playoff run last year. He became the first Celtics player since Larry Bird to record two triple doubles in the same playoff series. Also, in Game 6 of their first round clash with the Chicago Bulls, Rondo tallied a career-high 19 assists without turning the ball over.

While some people thought the Celtics should have stood strong and waited until he became a restricted free agent to match the highest offer, signing him now secures his rights for the next five years. As he has proven the last three years, he has the tools and mindset to be a winner in this league for a long time.

Bill Simmons, author of The Book of Basketball: the NBA according to the Sports Guy, explained in the first chapter what “The Secret” is to winning championships in the NBA.

"The fans don’t get it," said Simmons. "We measure players by numbers, only the play-offs roll around and teams that play together, kill themselves defensively, sacrifice personal success and ignore statistics invariably win the title." That seems pretty indicative of what Rondo has done in Boston thus far. And with his new contract, he may help the Celtics win a few more rings.

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Men's soccer ousted from GNAC playoffs

Alex Mellon
Journal Staff

The Suffolk men's soccer team recently saw its season come to an end with a heart-breaking 1-0 loss to Emerson in the quarterfinals of the GNAC tournament. Despite winning their final three regular season games by a combined score of 15-1, the Rams could not continue their hot streak in the playoffs and came up short against the rival Lions of Emerson. The Rams' three game winning streak vaulted the team into third place in the division, while giving them the #3 seed and an opening-round home game in the GNAC playoffs. The Rams were led this season by upperclassmen, as three of their four top scorers were seniors (Nick Celia, Arman Palian, and leading scorer Bernard Lotterier). Leading the team in goals was sophomore sensation Danny Lloyd, who scored 12 goals to go along with three assists. Ben Rollins also was impressive in his freshman year with the team, starting 14 of the Rams 16 games, while notching five goals and four assists. The team will look to both Lloyd and Rollins to provide the same offensive spark next season, and to help the Rams continue to be successful. Junior goalie and captain Jack Defjesco (1.43 Goals Against Average in 15 games) will also be returning for his senior year, and will be counted on quite heavily to remain steady between the pipes.

Thumbs down: It's time for MLB to adopt extended replay

Don Ryan
Journal Staff

For decades, the game of baseball remained essential-ly the same while the world changed drastically around it. Over the course of the 20th century, the players and fans may have changed, but the soul of the game stayed the same: still used wooden bats, leather gloves and fly-ble balls, and was still played throughout the summer by generations of American youth.

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To say that the game of baseball—however chippy, how change is a bit of an understatement. The game is beloved for its purity and American heritage, and those in power are extremely careful (one might even say overly cautious) to avoid making changes that would affect the aforementioned "soul" of the game.

It is understandable, than, that Major League Baseball has been slow to adopt what can be called the biggest marriage of sports and modern technology since the television: the use of instant replay to review, and sometimes overrule, calls on the field, court or rink. The National Football League uses replay from "the War Room" in Toronto to determine whether or not the puck crossed the goal line and the National Basketball Association uses replay to determine whether or not a shot was taken in time, amongst other things.

Baseball was a little late to the party, but decided only to use instant replay to review home runs specifically when the third or fourth umpire or both of them were not in agreement.

One big step, but others wanted to use it to decide whether a ball hit down the line was fair or foul or, perhaps most importantly, whether a runner was safe or out, and in the latter case, which runner was safe or out.

If the calls for more replay were mere rumblings before, they have developed into a roar that MLB cannot ignore due to a series of controversial calls and fan anger made by umpires this post-season.

Red Sox fans will recall a couple of blown calls in the first two games of this year's American League Division Series in Arizona, specifically one missed at first base by umpire C.B. Bucknor. Bucknor called Angel Hernandez safe at first base, while replays showed he was clearly out. Another glaring error was made in the other ALDS, in which Joe Mauer's fly ball down the left field line was ruled foul, despite replays that showed the ball landing in fair territory by a good margin.

The mistakes didn't end in the first round, as the Yankees were victimized by a blown call in which Phillips' first baseman Ryan Howard was ruled to have caught a line drive, even though replays showed the ball bounce before he caught it. The Phillies ended up recording a double play as a result.

The point of all the discussion isn't: "harp on the umpires. To use a horribly overused phrase, they're only human and mistakes are to be expected. The problem is that these mistakes are that can easily be corrected. The camera angles and technology are already in place for MLB to expand its use to areas other than home runs. The main argument against it is that the games are already long enough, and do fans really want more delays?

The opinion here is that the answer, clearly, is "of course." Baseball fans would much rather see an umpire admit a mistake, take a few minutes and get a call right rather than see a favorite team lose a game because of a mistake. The replay debate won't be going away anytime soon, and it may take a blown call on the sport's biggest stage to change commissioner Bud Selig's mind. Fortunately for those calling for a wider use of instant replay, with the way these playoffs have been going for the man in blue, a blown call in the World Series is probably inevitable.

Some good, some bad in the world of sports

Andrew Macdougall
Journal Staff

Thumbs up to an entertaining World Series

Anyone who thought that last year's Phillies-Rays World Series was one of the worst of all time (with the horrible calls, delays, and lack of intrigue), must be thrilled for most home runs in a single World Series. The entertainment was provided by both Lloyd and Palian being ejected after receiving red cards from both head coaches in the Series. Along with those two, and talented players like Ben Rollins and Luis Flores, the Rams should be just fine next season with Lloyd and Rollins to provide the same offensive spark. The question is: Will the Rams continue to be successful?

Thumbs down to a slow start for the Bruins

True, it's only 13 games into the season, but the reigning number-one seed in the Eastern Conference has not been able to get their act together. They are only 500 at home, a disappointing mark that the team needs to improve on. Their losses have not been impressive either, as they have lost to teams they should have beaten (the Phoenix Coyotes), and lost to good teams they need to beat to gain respect (Washington Capitals, Colorado Avalanche and Philadelphia Flyers, just to name three). It is still a bit too early to bring out the boo-birds, but the Bruins as a team need to step up their play.

Thumbs up for possibilities, but thumbs down for easeiness

The Patriots face Miami both this Sunday and again at the end of this five-week stretch in what will likely be the biggest game this season. The Patriots have developed into a team that can beat anyone given the chance, and are coming off of a dominating win over the New York Jets. The Patriots have a good chance to win the AFC East, but they will need to stay focused on their game and not get ahead of themselves. The goal is to win the division and make it to the Super Bowl, but they need to focus on the task at hand.

The Bruins have a tough road ahead of them, as they face off against the New York Rangers in the Eastern Conference finals. The Rangers are a tough team, but the Bruins have a solid defense and a strong offense that can put up points. The key for the Bruins will be to stay focused and not get rattled by the pressure of playing in the playoffs. The Bruins have a chance to win the series and move on to the Stanley Cup finals, but they need to stay calm and focused if they want to succeed.