CLEARED

Charges dropped against math prof. accused of cooking meth

Jeff Fish
Journal Staff

Criminal charges have been dropped against the Suffolk math professor who was accused of running a methamphetamine lab with her son from their Somerville home.

The charges were filed against Irina Kristy on Nov. 14 and were dropped on Feb. 14 "in the best interest of justice," according to Cara O’Brien, spokeswoman for the Middlesex District Attorney’s Office.

The charges against Kristy’s son have not been dropped.

While Kristy is no longer in legal trouble from the incident, she was suspended from both of her teaching jobs at Suffolk and Boston University after news of the offenses broke, according to Paul Ezust, a professor and former chair of Suffolk’s Math and Computer Science Department. Her home was also condemned after the arrest, he said.

Now, she must pick up the pieces. Kristy took a "bad hit for this. I don’t know how she can ever come back from this," said Ezust, who hired Kristy in 1985 during his 32-year tenure as chair of the department.

Ezust described Kristy as a "really wonderful person," who is "absolutely reliable" as a colleague and is "pro-student." He said she was such a reliable professor, that she "never break a law," said Ezust.

He said that her Russian accent might throw some students off at first, but "if you get to know her, you find that she’s generous. [She’ll] never say no to a student that needs help."

Before she was suspended, she was one of the only few part-time lecturers that he would have teach major courses in the department. Usually lecturers only teach the general requirement classes.

“She’s such a moral person. She would never break a law.”

Brown leads Warren by nine points, says Suffolk poll

Soleil Boros
Journal Staff

Criminal charges have been dropped against the Suffolk math professor who was accused of running a methamphetamine lab with her son from their Somerville home.

According to a Suffolk University?7NEWS (WHDH-Boston) poll, Brown currently has a 9-point lead over Democrat Elizabeth Warren, with likely general election voters in Massachusetts. With Republican Brown receiving 49 percent of the votes and Warren 40 percent, 9 percent of voters were undecided, and 2 percent intended to choose another candidate.

Brown proved he can outshine Warren, but also displayed notable leads over two other potential candidates of the Democratic Party. Brown surpassed Marisa DeFranco, who totaled 22 percent to Brown’s 55 percent.

Broadcast students take to the streets for 'Suffolk in the City'

Melissa Hanson
Journal Staff

Each semester, Studio 73 selects three Suffolk students to broadcast and host Suffolk in the City. This semester, seniors Jim McMasters, Karina Bolster and sophomore Jessica Bard were chosen to work as reporters for Suffolk’s partnership with New England Cable Network (NECN).

Broadcasted Tuesdays

‘Suffolk in the City’ students interview passerby.
**POLICE BLOTTER**

Wednesday, February 15
12:05 a.m.
Sawyer Building
Student infraction at 8 Ashburton Place. Report filed.

5:44 p.m.
10 West

Friday, February 17
11:25 p.m.
10 West

4:53 p.m.
Ridgeway Building
Medical assist at Ridgeway. Report filed.

Saturday, February 18
11:57 p.m.
150 Tremont

12:58 p.m.
10 West

5:38 p.m.
Public
Medical assist across from 41 Temple at Alumni Park. Report filed.

Sunday, February 19
2:33 a.m.
Public

2:54 a.m.
10 Somerset
Medical assist at 10 Somerset Street. Report filed.

Monday, February 20
9:35 p.m.
10 Somerset

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**Three students take the helm at Studio 73 show**

From *CITY* page 1

and Thursdays of every week, NECN features a segment with the Suffolk City reporters, including a live shot introduction, clips from interviews, and a live shot to complete the segment.

McMasters, Bolster, and Bard are all broadcast journalism majors, a choice highly influenced by their passion for sports.

McMasters is a fan of all Boston sports, mostly the Bruins and Red Sox. During Suffolk in the City's first semester McMasters became interested, and took the initiative to audition this semester. "It was time to take a shot in my field. It's a great opportunity and experience is what you need," said McMasters, who claimed his first time on camera was "nerve racking," but is now more accustomed to live reporting. McMasters enjoys the interactions with people on Tremont Street, mostly when he can convince them out of the ordinary activities, such as encouraging interviewees to sing their favorite songs.

Aside from learning how to conduct live interviews, McMasters has enjoyed learning how to edit segments and has gained experience in his field by contacting producers.

Future segments for the Suffolk senior include any current events or pop culture. As a member to a military family, Bolster has lived in various states across the country which exposed her to sports teams from each state, but always stayed true to the Boston teams. "Live shot is amazing," said Bolster, who decided to audition after encouragement from the studio manager.

Bolster had visited Studio 73 before applying, but is now beyond comfortable working in the Studio, while learning how to operate all the machinery, cords, wires, and cables.

Before each live shot, Bolster plans words to put together to help calm her nerves during "that first adrenaline rush" when approaching individuals. One of Bolster's favorite segments includes the piece where individuals posing by the studio were asked about football. Bolster even encouraged interviewees to perform their own touchdown dances for the camera.

Bolster finds it difficult to get people to respond to her questions at times, but claims there are regulars who will stop by and talk each time. "Being a reporter for Suffolk in the City teaches me how to read people and see who is willing to and will be a good candidate to interview," said Bolster. "I don't know what I'd do without it."

Bard, a member to Suffolk's girls basketball team, has gained reporting experience from her own cable show, Don't Retire, Inspire, where she questions senior citizens about how they choose to stay active. With her prior experience, Bard thought she "might as well give [Suffolk in the City] a try."

Bard has enjoyed seeing what happens behind the scenes of reporting in Studio 73 and enjoys asking individuals about current events while live on the air. She especially enjoys talking with the professional people who walk by Studio 73, saying her most recent interview was with an interesting Boston Lawyer.

She has no specific plans for interviews in the future, but anticipating asking questions about any current events and the "real life experience" she will get being a reporter.

On Tuesday Bard will be reporting on a recent Facebook scandal, while on Thursday Bolster and McMasters will dress up for the red carpet in preparation for the Oscars.

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**COHEN'S Fashion Optical**

GUCCI PRESENTS A GUCCI TRUNK SHOW

338 WASHINGTON ST BOSTON, MA 02116

FRI, FEB 24TH, 1-3PM
Kristy cleared of charges

Colleague describes her as devoted professor

from CEARED page 1

from her jobs, the 74-year-old professor had a tight schedule, taking on two to three classes at both Suffolk and BU each semester, and often staying late at the math support center. She would leave the house at 6 a.m. every day and not return until 10 p.m., according to Ezust, who wrote a letter to the Middlesex District Attorney's Office on behalf of Kristy explaining that she was rarely home and didn't know about her son's alleged activities.

In an interview with the Journal, he spoke about her compelling past as a math professor at the renowned Moscow State University before she gave it up to become an activist and dissident before eventually moving to the United States. Instead of being tenured at an esteemed university, Kristy has worked for modest pay as a Lecturer, making between $2,000 and $3,000 per class at Suffolk and possibly a little more at BU, according to Ezust, who called the salary "a disgrace. Many universities could not exist without adjunct faculty," he said.

Now that she has been cleared of the charges, she will hopefully get her jobs back and work on getting her home "un-condemned," said Ezust. "I don't see any reason not to rehire her."

Kristy and math department chair, Edith Cook, could not be reached for comment.

BRIEFS

Bridgewater student attacked after writing pro-gay article

Tuesday, nearly three hundred students at Bridgewater State University planned to rally in support of a student writer who said she was attacked for her views on same-sex marriage according to NECN. Destinee Mogg-Barkalow was attacked after an article she wrote supporting gay marriage was published in The Comment, the University's school newspaper. Police have released the sketches of a man and a woman believed to have beat up Mogg-Barkalow, asking the community to aid in finding the suspects, according to NECN. Mogg-Barkalow is recovering from her injuries, after being punched in the face by the female suspect. The male suspect is also believed to be between 18 and 22, about 6-foot 1-inch tall with a slender build, and short, dark hair. The female suspect is between 18 and 22 described as a white female with fair skin, 5-feet 2-inches tall, with red dyed hair in ringlet curls, reports the NECN.

Underage teens deemed to be liable for hosting parties

The Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court ruled yesterday that teens that are hosts of parties with underage drinking, but have not supplied the alcohol, could not be held liable if someone is injured at the party, according to reports from the Boston Globe. The ruling was sparked by a lawsuit filed from an accident in 2007, when Rachel Juliano was left with permanent brain damage when her boyfriend at the time crashed the car the two were driving in, said the Globe. He had been drinking at a party hosted by Jessica Simpson, who was then 19, said the article. Juliano's family wanted to hold Simpson civilly liable for the accident on the grounds of a state law that makes it a crime for a host to supply alcohol, according to the Globe.

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BRIEFS

Boston University hockey player charged with sexual assault

A Boston University hockey player made his $10,000 bail yesterday after pleading not guilty to two counts of rape, according to the Boston Herald. Max Nicastro, 21, allegedly committed what prosecutors said was an on-campus sex assault of another student on Sunday, said the Herald. Nicastro has been ordered to stay away from the alleged victim. Nicastro, a business administration major, was said to have every intention of returning to BU, according to his lawyer Hugh Curran. According to Herald, Nicastro, a defense attorney on the Terriers, has been suspended from the hockey team as the university conducts its own investigation, in which he could face further disciplinary action. Nicastro is due back in court March 26.
The overlooked deaths of India
Over 15,000 dead every year from railroad mismanagement

Ron Foelevic
Journal Staff

Experts said stopping pedestrians from crossing the tracks is a nearly impossible task in the country of nearly 1.2 billion people. The panel revealed that 20 million people travel by train each day.

The committee asked for the government to replace all railroad crossings with bridges or overpasses, a project that could cost an estimated 800 billion rupees ($10 billion) with a time table of five years.

The panel was attacking the government's negligence on the number of deaths saying "No civilized society can accept such a massacre on their railway system." The deaths in Mumbai were the most highly criticized, stating a reform to fix the problem needs to be undertaken with "war-footing."

"Trespassing occurs because of lack of barricading, fencing, lack of adequate number of pedestrian overbridges and lack of facilities such as sufficient number of platforms, escalators, elevators for the disabled apart from insufficient train services. These are the main reasons why the new trains may see itself in a much harder place than it was before."

"Reluctance of the Indian railways to own up to the casualties, which do not fall under the purview of accidents, but are nevertheless accidents on account of trains, can by no means be ignored," the report said.

Leading scientist Amil Kalaskar dropped the blame on railway authorities, commenting on their inadequate safety standards and confusing management of the system.

The panel commented on the new addition to extra capacity passenger trains as a deterrent in maintaining safety in the Indian rail network. Without proper preparation for the new cars and the financial sinkholes some of them create, the rail system may see itself in a much harder place than it was before.

The upcoming elections can attribute much of the reasons why the new trains have been placed with a much higher rate than at other times. More trains means happier voters.

There has not been an increase in the train fare in over a decade. With a simple increase in the fare, many of the proposed renovations can take place. The committee suggested that a fee be taken from every ticket in order to form a "safety fund."

"Reluctance of the Indian railways to own up to the casualties, which do not fall under the purview of accidents, but are nevertheless accidents on account of trains, can by no means be ignored," the report said.

Suffolk Abroad: Vienna Part IX

Ryan Powell
Journal Staff

When given the opportunity, travelling to exotic destinations, which are hopefully not on the State Department's list of those cautioned, or maybe just with a mild risk, it is well worth it to try. Considering our month long semester break in Vienna, I felt the need to try something different. Rather than looking for pasta in Italy or precarious evenings in Amsterdam, I decided to head East into Turkey. At the beginning of the month I fulfilled the proper Austrian experience of skiing in the Alps and I had the urge to embark on something racier. This brought me to reason on Istanbul. With 15 million people and enough condemned housing to fit them all, I felt it the perfect fit. I am sure that crossing the border into Iraq or Syria would have been the real frivolous experience I was looking for, but Istanbul proved sufficient.

As I got off the plane, I really felt the contradiction of Vienna. No longer were there only Austrians and Western tourists, but a plethora of ethnicities and races that you simply do not come by in Vienna. It was a humbling moment in which I truly felt out of place. All the more reason to embrace the culture and find my way into the true depths of Istanbul, in which there are plenty. Also, when planning this trip, I felt it unnecessary to book any assured housing in advance. The preempty feeling that housing is overrated and a means to comfort actually played out in my favor.

With my nerve on edge and my curiosity thriving, I hopped on the next bus to the center of town (Taksim) and waited for the inevitable to hit me. Where do I stay? Considering it was already the evening and I had no shot of conversing in the native tongue, I called one of my few Turkish friends that happened to be living there at the moment. The beauty of living in student housing (Haus Erasmian) is that you meet people from all over the world and they are more than accommodating when you decide to travel to wherever it is that they are from. To my relief, my good friend was kind enough to put me up in an apartment of his friends. Of course I was not without the duty of building his cabinets and moving furniture around, but a warm bed, coach, or floor is always worth it.

Having my bearings and necessary tools for survival, namely the advice to not walk off the main streets, I embraced the city for a few days on my own. Running into interesting people and occasionally needing to consider VIENNA page 5
They contacted their friends for advice, it was one of the most learned and culturally satisfying adventures I have had yet. I met a few new acquaintances who felt it necessary to show me the real Istanbul as well. Braving me over to the Asian side, the more residential part of Istanbul, they showed me a few beaches, favorite cafes, bars, and native Turkish cuisine. Again, with a warm place to stay was I indefinitely complacent.

Having ignored the tourist scene just about entirely, I felt as though I got to know Istanbul for everything it offered the people. Taking the long ferry to the European side, waking up to typical Turkish pastries on the kitchen table, playing backgammon over chai (their frequent-ed black tea), and chatting with a friend’s mother about Turkish politics and religious attitudes all proved to be culturally pertinent.

Eight days in a foreign land without a place to stay does take some serious nerve and shamelessness, but when given the opportunity, I highly recommend jumping on it. You only realize how crazy and original it is until you are back in your dorm room, finally with a working cell phone and computer, and it all feels overwhelmingly familiar. I suppose it is the time to register for next week’s classes and find the will to embrace monotony.

**Swedish man survives two months trapped**

Alex Hall
Journal Staff

A Swedish man, who was trapped in a car for the past two months, was able to survive the past 60 days eating nothing but snow.

A local Swedish newspaper reported the man was found last Friday, in a very poor state according to a statement given to the BBC by police official Ebbe Nyberg. The car was covered in snow near the woods north of Umea, the northern part of the country. A rescue crew worker told the Epoch Times “Absolutely incredible that he is alive, in part because he hadn’t eaten any food, but also bearing in mind that it was really cold for a while there after Christmas.”

When the man was found, he was barely able to speak, uttering only the words “snow” and “eat.” After two months of no one noticing his snowed-in vehicle, some snowmobilers found his car, originally believing it to be the site of a car wreck.

Police officials told BBC that at times during his entrapment, the temperatures in his area had dropped to -22 degrees Fahrenheit.

One physician told io9.com that the reason he was able to survive, was through hibernating. “A bit like a bear that hibernates, humans can do that,” Stefan Branth told the website. He probably had a body temperature around 31 degrees Celsius which the body adjusted to.”

Other doctors believe that one of the reasons he was able to survive on top of eating snow was due to the snow surrounding his car serving as insulation. “This is a case in a lifetime” Dr. Ulf Segerberg told the Telegraph.

Reports state that he is recovering well since being taken to a nearby hospital, where he is eating for the first time since Dec. 19.
Boston's got a song

Local jingle, project, performances are 'so good!'

Angela Bray
Journal Staff

"If you can write a jingle for a product, why not for a city?" Eytan Nicholson asked himself when taking a jingle-writing class at Berklee College of Music.

That was in the spring of 2009. Three years later, "The Boston Song," is a project-gone-viral.

After considering his own idea in Jon Aldrich's class, Nicholson spent over a year writing the perfect Boston anthem. In that time he met Vince Sneed, another Berklee student, through a mutual friend's show.

"Eytan came to me and said he wanted to start a band," said Sneed, "and I thought it would be cool to join a new band."

Growing up in Seattle, Nicholson started jamming with friends at 10 and was a jazz drummer for years until he experimented with different styles at 14. He even made it onto Broadway's "Stomp" a few years ago. He took up songwriting and piano upon enrollment at Berklee.

Sneed said his musical background was "basically non-existent" until he attended a five-week program at Berklee in 2008.

"Since I came here, I've grown as a musician. I play, sing and write," he said. "Before actually writing the song, we took about six months to research the right tempo, instrumentation and topics. That helped us put together a formula for a Boston song."

"So Good! (The Boston Song)" is now a hit combining traditional and current city elements. As soon as it was released, people all over the city picked up on it and requested The Boston Song to perform at schools like BC High and the South Shore Education Collaborative, as well as events like Fashion's Night Out, TEDx New England, and the tree lightings at Newbury Street, Faneuil Hall and Boston Common.

The "So Good!" music video was filmed in familiar local spots like Fenway and the Charles River. "We picked places people could relate to," said Sneed, "and people were always around watching."

"We like to emphasize local elements. As soon as it was released, people all over the city picked up on it and requested The Boston Song to perform at schools like BC High and the South Shore Education Collaborative, as well as events like Fashion's Night Out, TEDx New England, and the tree lightings at Newbury Street, Faneuil Hall and Boston Common."

"The idea is to keep the music industry alive and use it in their own communities and make it theirs," said Nicholson. "The music therapist [at South Shore Education Collaborative] introduced our song a few months ago to students, and asked us to visit and perform. It was a cool experience to see how different people use it; the kids responded really well, whether through singing and dancing, sign language or art work."

After attracting attention from local and regional news sources, Nicholson said they are now looking for a college push. The guys were guests on Suffolk Free Radio last Friday!
**Fifth Annual Rammy Awards call for submissions**

Ally Thibault
Journal Staff

This April, Suffolk will host the fifth annual Rammy Awards to honor students for their work in 11 different categories ranging from photography, to videos, to public relations and marketing portfolios.

"The Rammys are meant to showcase untapped talent in the Suffolk community," said Mike DiLoreto, a staff assistant in the Communications and Journalism (CJN) Department.

The awards feature work done in the CJN fields, but any and all students at Suffolk are encouraged to participate, DiLoreto stresses. Students may submit work to be considered for nomination in 11 different areas: hard news reporting, feature news reporting, in-depth reporting/documentary, music video, short fiction, commercial/PSA, spot news photo, single color photo, single black-and-white photo, photo essay, and strategic communications campaign.

Students are allowed to submit up to two items in one or more categories. Short fiction and in-depth reporting/documentary submissions must be less than 30 minutes. Other guidelines can be found at blogs.cas.suffolk.edu/cjn and by contacting DiLoreto (mdiloret@suffolk.edu).

Registration forms can be picked up in Ridgeway 305, and submissions are due by 3 p.m. on Friday, March 9 in Ridgeway 305. After student submissions are in, all of the work is sent to a panel of anonymous judges from outside of the University. Anyone can win," DiLoreto said, explaining the judges have no knowledge of who each student is and therefore, have no bias. Judges can be from other universities around Boston or even from out of state, he said.

These judges will nominate a top three in each category and all nominated students will be personally invited to attend the awards ceremony on April 12 at Suffolk's Main Theater. In previous years, the Performing Arts Office has put on acts during the show, including the Rami
cifications acapella group and demonstrations by martial arts groups.

However, anyone in the Suffolk community is invited to attend the free awards ceremony, regardless of their participation in the event. Following the show, there will be a reception at Max and Dylan's restaurant, just around the corner from the Modern and directly across from the 10 West residence hall.

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The recent attack of a student writer at Bridgewater State University is absolutely appalling.

Destinie Mogg-Barkalow was assaulted by two unknown assailants for writing a column in support of gay marriage. It is utterly disgusting that people would actually take it to that level because someone expressed an opinion.

It's hard to imagine writing a column about something you feel strongly about and then being punched in the face because someone doesn't agree. All journalists need to stick together in solidarity to preserve the right to say what we like, whether it is controversial or not. We need to try to present the world as we see it. It does not mean that everyone will always agree.

Despite that, there should always be a level of respect for the naming of an opinion. That is to say that all opinions are valid. But in order to keep a solid line of decency, we all need to realize that there are times in life when we are not going to like what someone else has to say. That doesn't mean that you run out and try to hurt the person that you disagree with.

The hope is that if we unite, actions like this will be thought about twice before carried out for fear of repercussions. To all you guys at Bridgewater, keep up the good fight and know that we at the Journal support you all the way.

Our entire staff stands with the Bridgewater campus in solidarity over this terrible act of cowardice. We would also like to express our appreciation for all of the support that Destinie has received. As aspiring journalists, this could have been any of us for a number of reasons any of us have written. It is essential to stand by our counterparts at other universities, especially when incidents like this occur. The hope is that if we unite, actions like this will be thought about twice before carried out for fear of repercussions.

Staff Editorial

The Suffolk Journal

Suffolk University's Student Newspaper

The recent attack of a student writer at Bridgewater State University is absolutely appalling.

Destinie Mogg-Barkalow was assaulted by two unknown assailants for writing a column in support of gay marriage. It is utterly disgusting that people would actually take it to that level because someone expressed an opinion. Others did not agree with it. It is hard to imagine writing a column about something you feel strongly about and then being punched in the face because someone does not agree. All journalists need to stick together in solidarity to preserve the right to say what we like, whether it is controversial or not. We need to try to present the world as we see it. It does not mean that everyone will always agree.

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Typical greed from Saugus

A.P. Blake
Journal Staff

An independent audit of the town of Saugus has revealed a Boston suburb rife with political graft. The independent audit was authorized by the Saugus Board of Selectmen following the departure of Town Manager Andrew Bisignani and the subsequent discovery of financial inconsistencies by a transition team. The Board of Selectmen declined to comment on the full extent, nor disclose the number of town employees involved, but the report by Powers & Sullivan LLC states there were numerous financial violations, many of which are significant.

One of the inconsistencies found in the audit was that town employees were receiving two salaries for their work; one paycheck was for directly for their work as a town employee, and the other was for work as an independent contractor for the town — a direct violation of laws set by the U.S. Internal Revenue Service and the Massachusetts Department of Revenue. Powers & Sullivan also cited that employees were being paid out of department expense accounts, including $100,000 from the town's sewer fund. Some departments were even charging their expenses to unrelated departments.

The report by Powers & Sullivan was only a preliminary one, and not all of the information was revealed to the public. Upon receiving the report, the Saugus Board of Selectmen took further action, authorized an in-depth audit of town finances to commence. What the preliminary report has revealed could be the beginning of a very lengthy investigation, and all employees responsible, both in actions and in knowledgably failing to report wrongdoing, should be held accountable. Selectman Crabtree warns that the town could be faced with a $3.1 million deficit, based on the report.

As a town which has been struggling financially for years, this audit is far overdue, and those who have prevented such action in the past should be thoroughly investigated. It is shameful that employees serving for the public good would be hiding behind smoke and mirrors in order to skim extra pay from a town which has been on the brink of making cuts to education, youth programs, and senior programs. All who are confirmed to have knowledge of financial violations should be terminated from their positions with the full knowledge of public. Saugus does not stand alone on this issue either, and it has long been assumed that many towns on Boston's North Shore are drowning in corruption.

Numerous towns are struggling to maintain funding and have repeatedly been forced to burden the tax payers. Saugus should be considered lucky to have a Board of Selectmen which is not corrupt or involved with the graft.

"Saugus should be considered lucky to have a Board of Selectmen which is not corrupt or involved with the graft."
Gay rights battle in NH a 'live free or die' situation

Ally Thibaudt
Journal Staff

While some states, like New York and Washington, have recently legalized same-sex marriage, New Hampshire is considering repealing its two-year-old gay marriage. Passed by a democratic state legislature in late 2009, the law now faces opposition from a republican controlled legislature.

Proponents of the law in the 'live free or die' state were proud to have gay marriage legalized by normal voting procedure, as opposed to an executive mandate or court order, but that fact has now made the rights of homosexuals vulnerable to the whims of whoever controls the state congress. The governor, a democrat, says he will veto any bill seeking to repeal the law, but republicans currently hold a veto-proof majority.

Although recent polls cited by NPR show New Hampshire voters oppose repealing the law by about a two to one margin, the republican congress and a minority of conservative activists in the state still want to take it off the books.

Of course the legislature has the power to repeal laws, but that does not mean laws should have to change every time a new party wins a majority. Changing the law to celebrate equality and acceptance under the law and now their government wants to pull it out from under their feet and reduce homosexual couples to second-class citizens once again.

Legislatures should be listening to the will of the people they were elected to serve, not acting against an overwhelming majority only to advance partisan and ideological differences on hot button issues in an important election year.

How can a state that so fervently champions individual liberty as New Hampshire does justify stripping rights from certain people against the will of the majority?

A related issue is currently playing out in New Jersey, where the state legislature has passed a law legalizing same-sex marriage but Gov. Chris Christie, a Romney supporter, has vetoed it. Democrats do not enjoy a large majority in that state's legislature, making the potential to override the veto difficult but not impossible.

California's hotly contested Proposition 8, a ballot initiative ban on gay marriage in the state passed by voters in 2008, was recently ruled unconstitutional by the U.S. appeals court. Judge Stephen Reinhardt said the rule 'serves no purpose, and has no effect other than to lessen the status and dignity of gays and lesbians,' according to the San Francisco Gate.

As the Prop 8 issue may move onto the Supreme Court and various other states continue to host fights between the people, legislatures, and governors over the rights of gays, America is left to wonder why the civil rights of a certain group of people must be regulated by states instead of protected by the federal government.

Many argue the 10th amendment to the U.S. Constitution empowers states to rule on the issue of marriage, but if Americans saw gay marriage as a civil rights issue, as it truly is one, then federally protecting it would only seem natural. In America, everyone is supposed to be equal and religious ideologies or personal biases are not supposed to guide the rule of law—so why do we let gays have equal rights in certain states and reduce them to inferior citizens in others?

Today's state battles over the rights of homosexuals bare a strong resemblance to the battles over civil rights, as different states allowed different rules to govern the rights of black Americans. Some may call this argument radical, but it's not so far off from the truth.

While the civil rights battles of the mid-20th century focused on segregation and voting, today's battles are centered with marriage.

The same ignorance and hate involved in both issues cannot be left up to individual states to decide who is worthy of living equally in society and who isn't just as the rights of black Americans needed to be protected by constitutional amendments after the Civil War and enforced by laws in the 1960s, gay rights need federal recognition and protection today.

The city of Malden needs to stay out of its own way

A.P. Blake
Journal Staff

The Malden Planning Board unanimously voted in approval of presenting the City Council with a new zoning code for downtown Malden. The intent is to make development easier and more economical in Malden's struggling central business district.

The Malden City Council's Ordinance Committee must review the new zoning code recommended by the Planning Board and must submit a final recommendation to the City Council within a month. Any changes to the zoning code must be approved by the City Council in order for codes to go into effect.

The new downtown zoning code, which was approved by the Malden Planning Board recommends reducing the current 12-story cap on development down to six stories. The proposal would allow retail and commercial uses on the ground floor of a residential development and reduce the off-street parking minimum on new developments within 2,000 feet of the Malden Center MBTA station.

Currently, new residential developments require 1.5 parking spaces per unit, and the new code recommends either one or 1.25 spaces per unit.

Although the proposed changes to the downtown zoning code do include some steps in the right direction for proper planning and land use, the proposal does include one daunting element. If the City Council decides to cap development in downtown Malden at six stories, the city may find itself continuing to struggle for many years to come.

Malden Center was the victim of the very destructive urban renewal processes occurring throughout the United States in the 1950s, which left downtown Malden dysfunctional and still bearing the scars to this day. Surface parking lots and bombed out blocks can be found in the area, ready and waiting for the right development to come along.

What the Malden Planning Board has apparently disregarded, however, is that developers are enticed by conditions which are economically and politically to build in, and in many cases the key to an economic development is height. Although we should not blindly praise lofty towers, we can easily maintain an economic environment without degradation of quality of life. Allowing developments to have mixed uses by allowing retail and commercial development on the ground floor of a residential building is a great step towards achieving this as it brings life and vitality to urban areas.

The reduction of parking requirements near the MBTA station not only makes development more profitable due to the high cost of parking infrastructure, but it is also a great move in creating a dense, sustainable, urban environment. This is especially important where Malden has been blessed with the presence of an Orange Line station, a commuter rail stop, and numerous bus routes. In order to improve, the city must also remove its city hall, which clearly divides downtown from the MBTA station. Malden is ripe for pedestrian-friendly, sustainable development if done right, and it appears to be heading towards the right track. The City Council must not spoil their chance by further reducing the city's height limit and making development uneconomical; now is the time for the city of Malden to wipe away uncertainty for the future of its downtown.
Aries (3/21 - 4/19)
You are at the top of your game this week, and with this you'll find a new life resolution interesting. Consider something to reduce selfishness.

Taurus (4/20 - 5/20)
As the new moon energizes your goal setting, Jupiter gives you luck fortune; focus all of this on your professional life, and you're in for a good week.

Gemini (5/21 - 6/20)
Take hold of the steering wheel, because this week your life can handle a few sharp turns. Your reputation is open for tweaking.

Cancer (6/21 - 7/21)
The new moon this week focuses on your learning. Strive for high goals and absorb information from all sources.

Leo (7/22 - 8/22)
In this week of resolutions with the new moon, the best thing to do is focus on how to better handle shared things.

Virgo (8/23 - 9/22)
It's time to fine tune your close relationships. Become aware of your behavior and how it affects the people around you.

Libra (9/23 - 10/22)
Improvement can be found in every aspect of your life this week, particularly in your health. Get fit and live a most premium life.

Scorpio (10/23 - 11/21)
The new moon is giving you the boost you need to figure out how to spend your money. Make it efficient and fitting to your needs.

Sagittarius (11/22 - 12/21)
Although this month is centered on fun occasions, this week needs to be about your life at home. Make sure all is well.

Capricorn (12/22 - 1/19)
Evaluate your communication style. Is it clear, genuine, and energetic? This week is perfect to find the balance of how much you will try.

Aquarius (1/20 - 2/18)
The new moon is giving you the boost you need to figure out how to spend your money. Make it efficient and fitting to your needs.

Pisces (2/19 - 3/20)
As there is always room for improvement, this week is all about your image. Adjusting your reputation or appearance will work well.

Across
1. Average person will eat about 35,000 of these in a lifetime.
2. Makes you want to work toward something.
3. Erased.
4. Chocolate said to be healthy.
5. Can be chewed and blows bubbles.
6. Beethoven dipped his head in this before he composed.
7. Pinocchio is Italian for what?
8. Still or sparkling.
9. Not exactly a professional.
11. Never-ending shape.
12. Chirping insect.
13. Chirping animal.
14. In the city of_.
15. Quick time unit.
16. Tastes good.
17. What is this?
18. What is this?
19. Something to achieve.
20. Impossible to do with open eyes.
21. Takes 1 million years to compose.
22. Can be made in 293 ways.
23. You will never hear this.
24. Something that can be chewed and blows bubbles.  
   Makes you want to work toward something.
25. In general, takes approx. 12 hours to digest.
26. Can be sugar or wafer.
27. Made engines for the first Fords.
28. Animals that can hear ultrasound.
29. Animals immune to cancer.
30. One's personal thought.
31. One's personal thought.
32. One's personal thought.
33. One's personal thought.
34. One's personal thought.
35. One's personal thought.
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44. One's personal thought.
45. One's personal thought.
46. One's personal thought.
47. One's personal thought.

Down
1. Something given.
2. Answered with, "who's there?"
3. Chirping animal.
4. Alternative type of something, usually more healthy.
5. Make-your-own dessert.
6. Has an average of 18 million items for sale.
7. Short month.
8. Cold treat.
9. Hunt kids go on.
10. Something to achieve.
11. Impossible to do with open eyes.
12. Earning.
13. To go for something.
14. Takes 1 million years to compose.
15. Can be made in 293 ways.
16. Earn these with courses.
17. Can be sugar or wafer.
18. Animals that can hear ultrasound.
20. Animals immune to cancer.
21. One's personal thought.
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Rising star brings amazing 'Linsanity' to Knicks

Athanasios Armenis
Journal Staff

Carmelo Anthony, Amar'e Stoudemire, Jeremy Lin? When the New York Knicks entered the 2011-2012 shortened NBA season, the two point guards on their opening day roster were Tony Douglas and Iman Shumpert. Who? Exactly.

The Harvard product has taken the NBA by storm and he's had some luck. After injuries to all-star guard Anthony and power forward Stoudemire, the Knicks had become so depleted that they had to skip the D-League, the NBA Developmental League.

They needed to stop the bleeding, and before "Linsanity" mysteriously rose out of the mist of the D-League, the Knicks had lost 11 of their previous 15 games and were sitting outside the Eastern Conference playoff picture.

Lin's first game couldn’t have been scripted any better as the Taiwanese sensation capped off 25 points and grabbed seven rebounds coming off the bench in a 98-94 win against the Nets. Since then, Lin has sparked an improbable Knicks run with remarkable performances against Devin Harris and the Utah Jazz, John Wall and the Wizards but most impressively against five-time NBA Champion and two-time Finals MVP, Kobe Bryant and the Los Angeles Lakers.

Lin has stepped in and fit have captivated the entire sports world.

Fifteen-time NBA all-star, Shaquille O'Neal's recent tweet after the buzzer beating three-point shot against the Raptors shows how the young guard has created quite the buzz throughout the association.

"Linderella story of the year...Jeremy Lin has single handedly played sensational incredible. I m impressed all he does is Lin Lin Lin gd job [sic]."

The Knicks, and especially Head Coach Mike D'Antoni, have welcomed Lin with open arms as rumors swirled of D'Antoni losing his head coach position prior to Lin's arrival. Since moving Lin to the starting lineup, D'Antoni has seen incredible performances out of the star, but most importantly the Knicks are back to their winning ways.

Lin's emergence has led New York to an 8-2 record in the past 10 games. Most interestingly his amazing play has created quite the stir surrounding Knicks fans as they await the expected return of forward Carmelo Anthony who will be back in the starting lineup on Monday night.

Will Anthony's all-star stature demand the offense to flow more through him? Or will Lin be able to have the ball in his hands during critical situations in the game?

Regardless of how rocky the start of the season was for New York, the Knicks are back and ready to compete. They will be a tough out for any team in the playoffs and with the lockout having a major effect on scheduling, this season, having Lin should dramatically help on the more frequent back-to-back matchups.

The big apple hasn’t seen a title in nearly 40 years and with Lin playing lights out, the presence of the two all-stars, Stoudemire and Anthony, along with a true center in Tyson Chandler, the sky’s the limit for these Knickerbockers.

Patriots draft board: potential players for next season

Jeremy Hayes
Journal Staff

There is no team that is as brilliant in the draft as the New England Patriots. The Patriots are a dangerous team that could trick another team into trading multiple draft picks or even trading a player of their own to acquire a high draft pick.

This year will be a strange year for the Patriots, as this is a very weak draft outside of the first-round, so don't expect the usual nine to 10 draft picks in one year. Instead expect smart and safe picks, as well as some trades for other players since the Patriots have four picks in the first and second round.

The Patriots have the 27th pick in the draft but this pick will be traded for a second-round pick and a future first-round pick.

So assuming that the team will trade one pick and keep the other 27th or 30th picks, the Patriots will select Vinny Curry, an outside line-sively against five-time NBA Champion and two-time Finals MVP, Kobe Bryant and the Los Angeles Lakers.

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Women's basketball team claims fourth playoff seed

Alex Hall
Journal Staff

Suffolk University's women's basketball team needed to win their last two conference games to capture the fourth seed for the Great Northeast Athletic Conference playoffs, and the Lady Rams answered the call.

Head coach Ed Leyden's team put up some impressive offensive numbers during their last two regular season GNAC battles, posting 80-plus points on both Anna Maria College and Emerson St. Joseph's (CT). Fresh off defeating their archrival Emerson College on the road Feb. 17, Suffolk played Anna Maria four days afterwards and demolished their competition by a score of 89-32. The 89 point output marked a season-high for the Lady Rams, with senior Meg Flynn Black leading the team with 17 points offensively.

New Hampshire natives senior Mary Garon and junior Jasmine Viennmau weren't far behind in the points department, with 13 and 14 respectively.

The game was over almost from the starting tip at Ridgeway, as Suffolk went on a 25-6 run through the first seven minutes of the contest. Part of the reason for the low-scoring output for the AMCATS was a result of their 35 turnovers on offense, leading to plenty of points off of takeaways for their opponent.

After suffering an out-of-conference loss to UMass Boston five days after their blowout win, the Lady Rams needed to put the past behind them and focus on winning a key game against the St. Joseph's Blue Jays to end their regular season.

Suffolk clinched a playoff berth with their win against Emerson earlier in February, but a win against the Blue Jays secured that at least one of their postseason games will be played on their home court. The dynamic senior duo of Garon and Black were determined to play the opening playoff round at Ridgeway, recording 19 points each in a 82-67 victory for their first member of the Suffolk women's basketball team to accomplish the feat, putting her 264 assists away from the conference record set by Lisa Mertens of Norwich University.

The Lady Rams entered the tournament as the fourth seed, placing them in the same bracket as first place Emmanuel, who handed Suffolk one of their three in-conference losses in the season. The Saints will take on the eighth seed Norwich Cadets in the tournament's first round, with a potential rematch between the Suffolk and Emmanuel in the second round.

Though if Suffolk were to defeat their first round opponent and Norwich were to pull of the tournament's first upset, the Lady Rams would be playing a Cadets squad that defeated them handily during the regular season.

Suffolk defeated Mount Ida 93-59 in the quarterfinal round of the Great Northeast Athletic Conference Tournament on Tuesday evening, Suffolk will play either Emmanuel or Norwich in the semi-finals on Thursday.

During the game Garon recorded her 500th career rebound becoming the seventh Suffolk player over the past decade to reach this accomplishment. She finished the game with a season-high 21 points and 30 rebounds.

Men's basketball falls in regular season finale

Alex Mallon
Journal Staff

The men's basketball team was unable to clinch a berth in the GNAC conference tournament, losing to Anna Maria College 78-66 on Saturday afternoon.

The Rams had a balanced offensive attack, with Matt Pepdjonovic, Justin Barall and Chris Torres all scoring 13 points each, but it was not enough to overcome the 61 FG percentage from Anna Maria. Suffolk was outrebounded 37-25 and outscored in the paint by a margin of 40-24.

With the loss, the Rams were forced to wait and see how both Emerson College and Mount Ida fared in their last games. But unfortunately for Suffolk, the team was left on the outside looking in after all was said and done as they finished ninth in the GNAC conference. The top eight teams in the league earn berths to the postseason tournament.

It was an up and down season for the Rams, as the team never really operated at their best. Theytrusted in six games and, never had a winning streak of longer than three for the whole season.

The Rams will graduate just one senior in Barall, who averaged 6.5 points a game while starting 17 games this year. The Rams will bring back both their leading scorers, Torres, and their leading rebounder, Pepdjonovic, next season.

Pepdjonovic averaged 17 points and 13.6 rebounds per game and eclipsed the 1,000 point mark in his career this season.

With the Rams returning all but one of their players on their roster, the team should drastically improve and be a threat in the GNAC conference next season.