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Ivan Favelievic  
News Editor

Suffolk University's Economics Department hosted a mock presidential debate on Tuesday at the Modern Theatre. Moderated by Dr. Robert Rosenthal, the event pitted two economists from The Beacon Hill Institute: Jonathan Haughton, Senior Economist and David Tuerck, Chair of the Economics Department at Suffolk. Each professor had to represent a presidential candidate, Haughton siding with Obama and Tuerck fighting for Romney.

The first segment of the debate concentrated on foreign policy. Tuerck said that “the difference between Romney and Obama is that Romney will defeat radical Islam.” Meanwhile, “Obama believes that the war is not real...much like a video game, zap here, zap there and the problem is gone.” On the defense, Haughton said that “Romney has no idea about foreign policy.” He cited his involvement in the Olympics games and the “confusion” with Israel and Palestine. According to Haughton, Romney’s policies are “completely the reverse” of what he is advertising.

The second segment focused on domestic policy and broke down into several segments. First off was the talk about jobs, with the recent unemployment numbers taking center court. Tuerck voiced Romney’s stance on feeding “American businesses that are standing on billions of dollars of untapped revenue. You don’t grow an economy by being nice to the poor.” The right-wing economic plan proposed by Romney seeks to end the “preposterous green energy” program and fix a job market that was “ruined by Obama’s policy.”

Haughton backed the idea that economic focus should be placed on education and infrastructure. He attacked the concept of lowering all taxes by stating that something must give in the end. “Romney’s approach is living in la-la land,” said Houghton. He backed democratic views on democracy, stating that there is “no need to spend five percent of our GDP on military development, much less encompass 45 percent of the world’s military spending.”

Once the debate had reached its time limit, Dr. Rosenthal said that what was just witnessed is a debate “where two candidates talk about issues that affect people’s lives.” If someone supported a different party “they are not evil people, they just have different visions.”

Modern Theatre Home to Presidential Debates

Miles Halpine  
Journal Staff

Election Day is less than 30 days away and the race is heating up more and more each day. Polls and public events are partially shaping people’s views, but nothing more popular is the Presidential and Vice Presidential, debates with one down, and three to go, the debates have potential to change what happens with voting on November 6.

Six Americans across the United States tuned in on Wednesday, October 3, at 9 p.m. to view the first of the debates. The debate, held at the Modern Theatre in Colorado, was hosted by FOX 31’s Jim Lehrer and lasted for two hours. The theme of the debate was domestic policy with topics ranging from ways that each will improve the economy to health care and the war government should work – though most of the time was used by each candidate to describe his own platform and make the economy stronger.

This year, Suffolk University is providing a free venue to watch all four of the debates. Conveniently located at Suffolk’s own Modern Theatre at 925 Washington St. the doors open at 7:30 p.m. At 8:30 p.m., the half-hour discussion starts. For each of the debates, Suffolk provides open admittance and an enjoyable conversation with some of the most knowledgeable political and communication professors and analysts in the area.

At the first debate, students who attended talked with the Government Department Chair, Professor Brian Conley and Communications and Journalism’s Gloria Boone. Conley and Boone discussed with the audience strategy of debating, the potential that the debate could have on the election itself, and peoples’ opinions of the two candidates. Professor Conley provided some comments about the outcome of the debate. Conley, a political science professor at Suffolk, explained that he “didn’t think that either of them delivered a decisive knockout blow.”

Conley said the economy remains a very important issue to Americans and that, in order to win, Romney must connect to voters on a personal level which what he attempted to do at the debate. After the 90-minute talk, the debate began at 9 p.m. Of the total 119 people that attended the event at the Modern Theatre, a large majority were students taking notes about what the candidates said. Twitter was also abuzz with many viewers tweeting quotes and their opinions during the debate. Most media outlets find that former Massachusetts Governor Mitt Romney won the debate, although it was his first. Even though President Obama seemed to be properly prepared, Romney was on the offensive and giving a some-what aggressive response to the moderator’s questions. It seemed as if Romney was not going to let the President stop him from answering the question or intrude on his own speaking time. It was a lack of time, apparently, that gave way to back-and-forth clatter between Obama and Romney.

Overall, it was apparent that Suffolk students had a wide range of expectations and reactions to the debate. Freshman and Public Relations major Lance Williams, a registered Independent, said that he “thought it was very weak on both sides, more could have been said on each candidate’s part, and that neither of them did a very good job.”

Williams said he feels that...
Tuesday, October 2
10:41 p.m.
10 West
9 weapon violation-illegal possession of a weapon. Judicial Internal

Wednesday, October 3
6:24 p.m.
Miller Hall
Disorderly conduct. Report filed.

Thursday, October 4
10:24 p.m.
Miller Hall
Liquor law violation-possession of alcohol by a minor. Case closed.

Friday, October 5
7:55 a.m.
Tremont Street
Other agency assist-larceny. Case closed.

Sunday, October 7
1:51 a.m.
150 Tremont
Drunkeness. Case closed.

A Celebration of New Poetry

Melissa Hanson
Assistant News Editor

Tuesday October 9 was a night of poetry. The English Department and the Creative Writing Department held their first reading of the year featuring poets Jeanne Marie Beaumont and Martha Collins in the Suffolk Library Poetry Center from 7 p.m. to 8:15 p.m. The event was actually planned for last year, but was rescheduled for Oct. 9, according to Marchant. After his remarks on the English and Creative Writing Department's excitement for the night, he introduced Beaumont first. Beaumont studied at Columbia and taught at both Rutgers and the Robert Frost House. She has three books of poetry published. Currently Beaumont teaches in Manhattan and Southern Maine. Marchant says Beaumont channels Sylvia Plath. "It's a pleasure to be here and to read with Martha Collins," said Beaumont at the beginning of her reading. She spoke a little about her work and said she would start with some fairy tale poems. "I like to mash things up a little bit," said the poet. She described her first poem as an adaptation of Goldie Locks titled "It Rain My Bare Skin." This poem contained many examples of onomatopoeia. Her next poem was called "New Wires Tales, Index of First Lines," which included 10 lines of one of her last works. Beaumont said she has been reading Plath's poems for about 40 years. "And of course, the influence seeps in," said Beaumont. She then read another Plath poem. Beaumont remarked on her interest in the supernatural and then told the crowd an anecdote about a possible encounter with the ghost of Plath. "I should have brought my magic eight ball," said Beaumont. She claims she was able to communicate with Plath through the object. The Columbia graduate read the crowd a list of questions and answers from her encounter with the supernatural Plath, receiving many laughs over the contents of the conversation.

Beaumont then spoke more about her interest in the afterlife and how that by playing a part in her Catholic upbringing, reading four letters from limbo, which were influenced from the bible. She also read a poem from Theodore Roethke and remarked on his death. The end of Beaumont's reading was marked with applause from every member of the audience.

Marchant then returned to the pedestal to introduce Collins. She is the author of two books, one of which is a book-length poem and the other is based off the lynching her father witnessed as a child. Collins is the founder of the creative writing program at the University of Massachusetts.

"Many of the poems contained a missing word. The first poem she read never addressed the word "black," while poems she recited later in her reading would skip over the words "white" or "whiten."" Collins said she only remarked on the racism of places she had lived, and said many of her poems were based on New England. Third poem she read took place in the Boston Common, which got a reaction of "oh you can't do that," due to the extremely close proximity.

"We call ourselves white, but we're not white at all," said Collins in between poems. Her next reading was a list of white-colored objects. She then read a poem graduate read the crowd. "Like many of these poems, it's a collage," said Collins. She read two poems and then concluded, followed with as much applause as Beaumont received.

Marchant ended the night thanking the poets and telling the crowd there were copies of their poems available for sale that could be signed upon request.

About three Suffolk students from the poetry workshop class were present at the event. "Coming from a young writers point of view it was interesting to hear the prior generations writing," said junior Corey Howard. "Each writer had their own style." "I thought it was fantastic... both of the poets were fantastical," said junior Alex Euincke, "I was surprised both of their presentations of the poetry were very clear and enthusiastic."
Suffolk Students Participate in a ‘Feed the Homeless’ Event hosted by the Boston Rescue Mission

Ellie Hawkins
Journal Contributor

"If we did not have them there would not be an organization," said Mauricia, who is a volunteer at the Boston Rescue Mission. She was explaining that without the volunteers, that come help the Boston Rescue Mission, there would not be an organization. Boston Rescue Mission is one of the first soup kitchens that was established in the city. It has been around since 1899. For the past nine years, she has been preparing meals for the homeless who live in the downtown area of Boston. Every Saturday from 7:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. she prepares these meals along with other volunteers then drives over to the Boston Common to pass out the food.

A tragedy in her family drove her to want to volunteer and help other people. Mauricia had researched the Boston Rescue Mission and decided that this was the place that she wanted to volunteer. She explained how she was not just the only one making a difference in her life. The people she brings food to have changed her life. "They are regular people," she stated, "everyone has their own story."

Some of the homeless have mental and substance abuse issues. Some just lost their jobs and could not pay their rent because of the economy. Mauricia has even brought her daughter to some of these Saturday Morning Outreach events. She said that she wanted her daughter to realize that anyone can be in this position. Now her daughter loves coming and helping pass out the food. Mauricia explained how her daughter mentioned that people her age should experience events, like the Saturday Morning Outreach events. Volunteers come from businesses, churches, and schools in the area. Some organizations make their own sandwiches and bring them to pass out; otherwise they make the sandwiches at the Boston Rescue Mission, located at 39 Kingston St. They usually make whatever is given, but this past Saturday they made tuna sandwiches with tuna that was donated. The tuna sandwiches were either on white or wheat bread with cheese on top. The 15 volunteers made the sandwiches and passed them out in the Boston Common along with a pastry, a bowl of soup, and water or coffee. People coming through the lines were allowed a maximum of three times. They were only allowed one sandwich, one pastry, one bowl of soup, and one item to drink each time. The people who came through were enthusiastic and happy for the food.

Rachel Gresser, a senior at Suffolk University said, "I wanted to help out because I feel that people are given opportunities to thrive through the Boston Rescue Mission. People do not realize how many homeless are out there. I feel better when I'm volunteering, and I hope others will step up and help their community as well." Gresser came and volunteered this past Saturday. She explained how she has been working here for a little over a year and that it is one of the most humbling experiences she has ever had. She started volunteering here because she was required to do 60 hours of community service for a psychology class. Gresser completed her hours and still is continuing to help out today, and encourages others to do so as well.

"They are regular people, everyone has their own story."

- Mauricia

Melissa Mazuca, sophomore, bagging tuna sandwiches

Rachel Gresser, Senior, making sandwiches

Volunteers serving soup and coffee
An alternative Congressional candidate for the people

A.P. Blake
Opinions Editor

One district in Massachusetts has an especially heated Election Day. The Massachusetts 6th Congressional District is currently represented by John Tierney (D, Salem) who is seeking his ninth consecutive win for the seat. The opposition is former State Senator and Senate Minority Leader George Tisei (R, Wakefield) and the Libertarian first-time candidate Daniel Fishman (L, Beverly).

The 2012 race was destined for attention as Tierney became embroiled in controversy after his brother-in-law and his wife were indicted for illegally operating an internet gambling service during his 2010 election. It is alleged that his wife played a role, and she later pled guilty to aiding her involvement of aiding and abetting in filing false tax returns. Her role included stashing some of her brothers' money away in her joint account with Tierney, to which he claimed no knowledge of.

Tierney won his 2010 election by a large margin despite the controversy, as it was only still developing at the time. Now, Tierney's brother-in-law is claiming that he had little knowledge of the operation and even set his wife to take the fall in order to save himself and his campaign.

The story could cost Tierney his seat in the U.S. House of Representatives, and as such the tightening race quickly gained media attention and was found that his wife played a role. We're offering two columns in an upcoming issue for you to explain why cutting public broadcasting from the homes of the families, especially the underprivileged, who enjoy it such an important issue to you.

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Who deserves credit in the first debate?

Chris Musk
Journal Contributor

The Presidential debate on October 3 was quite a surprise to everyone as both candidates appeared in an unexpected light. Romney impressed both parties, with even liberal media claiming he did well afterwards, while Obama held his ground albeit rusty. Obviously, Romney has had more recent debating experience coming out of the primaries, but the overall remembrance of Obama's 2008 debates loomed.

It has been established that both Governor Romney and President Obama are renowned to have told lies in this debate. I don't think anyone is shocked from these accusations. The debate's moderator, Jim Lehrer, was quite entertaining with his occasional jokes and failure to keep both candidates under control as far as speaking within the time limit and not allowing for interruptions.

I was troubled by both candidates' remarks on how they believe there is a sustainable future in Social Security for my generation (people of ages 16-24). Neither revealed any plan to how they would keep it afloat. The highest growing population in the United States right now is seniors (or people who are retired) and the highest unemployment rate among age groups is my generation, which in July 2012 had an unemployment rate of 9.8 percent. The unemployment rate for the entire United States as of September 2012 is 7.8 percent. I'm not saying that Social Security is 100 percent doomed for my generation, but it is safe to say that we may need to give up part of our income to people that will actually promise us a return for him to take over. Nonetheless, he has definitely spent and contributed to our debt.

Some people tend to forget how bad things were when Obama became president, blaming him for things that happened under Bush's presidency; the legislation to have our troops removed from Iraq by January 2012 was signed by President Bush and the Prime Minister of Iraq in the very end of Bush's second term. Obama was simply in office while the event took place and is trying had stepped his game up, more so than opposition thought was possible. In contrast to Obama's exceptional public speaking skills, he seemed like a scratched CD repeating the same part over and over again until you want to throw it out your car window. I give a round of applause to both men for stepping up to the plate in trying to resolve this country's issues, as it is a tremendous task for any human being.

Obama will appear stronger in the next debate now that he knows exactly what he's up against. I'm sure Romney still feels high as a kite with his first performance, as he should, with the media declaring a "defeat" of Obama despite speaking four minutes less. God could not help Jim Lehrer, and our ears, in getting these two men to speak within cohesive time limits.

Obama and Romney both seemed very strong and ran into a great amount of common ground on environmental issues. Both stand behind clean coal, which I have always thought of as an oxymoron, and expanding nuclear power. Obama has done a significant job with the automobile industry, having them promise to make all cars to 54.5 miles per gallon by 2025. Romney wants to repeal the Clean Air Act, which was enacted in 1970 and amended again in 1977 and 1990. I do not know why Romney would want to deregulate the control on how much hazardous air pollutants are released into our atmosphere. Maybe he is one of those Republicans who denies global warming and thinks there is no individual responsibility for cleaning up the Earth.

Obama has done a pretty good job as president of the United States over the last four years. No doubt about it, these four years have been some of the hardest times America has seen, with our country holding the highest debt ever recorded by any nation in the history of mankind (currently residing at roughly $16 trillion.) It is true Obama walked into office with most of this debt already in place, and inherited the mess that was left on our investment one day.

Obama and Romney both need to take the credit. By the end of the first debate it was clear that Romney and our ears, in getting these two men to speak within cohesive time limits.

President Obama does not deserve the full criticism by any means. Remember this to take the credit.

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Who’s campus? Her Campus.

Jess Karnazyn
Journal Contributor

From “Campus Cuties” to tips on tailgating fashion, Her Campus has become a popular website among Suffolk students. Since January 2011, co-editors Mackenzie Newcomb and Erika Markle have worked hard to make Her Campus full of new tips and information about campus life at Suffolk.

“We wanted [Her Campus] to be something every girl can relate to and have fun with,” Newcomb said.

The website consists of news, blogs, “Campus Cuties,” events, “Campus Celeb,” polls, and a “Campus Style magazine.” Newcomb and Markle split their editing duties among the site, but they are the perfect team.

“Erika and I became close friends because of it. We never would’ve met otherwise,” Newcomb said.

Her Campus has become a successful website, but the most popular section is “Campus Cuties.” The Her Campus committee votes on potential “cuties,” and they are then contacted to fill out a survey. If the survey is up to par the candidate will be chosen.

“Honestly, when they first came up to me I was really happy about it. It got me pumped for the rest of the day and put a pep in my step,” Sean Riddell said.

Many guys around campus often ask Newcomb why they were not chosen, but each week someone new gets a chance to shine.

“At first I thought it was going to be a bad thing, but now it’s sort of a fun competition thing,” said Connor McCarthy.

Riddell doesn’t see the competition in being a “Campus Cutie,” but McCarthy sees a friendly, harmless amount. The “cuties” are all different types and personalities so every girl on campus can relate to at least one.

With so many sections on the website and with 50 writers this year, Newcomb and Markle are busy editing and making Her Campus as perfect as possible.

“The hardest part [about being the editor] is my whole heart is in Her Campus so it’s hard to focus on school work even though I know it’s important,” Newcomb said.

The Her Campus team puts on events such as their Pretty in Pink Party for Breast Cancer Awareness. The event will be on October 16 from 9 p.m. to 1 p.m., located at the OM Lounge in Cambridge.

“Being involved with Her Campus gives me a feeling like I have a place and importance in the school,” said Newcomb.

Adele a perfect fit for the Bond sound

Mackenzie Cummings-Grady
Journal Staff

When Adele released her album 21 last year, it went 10x platinum and was deemed the greatest album of the 21st Century by MTV, Rolling Stone, and contemporaries alike. The album still reigns supreme as the highest selling pop album in history and is currently placed at number ten on the Billboard Top 100.

Unfortunately, after the global success of 21, Adele was forced to cancel multiple tour dates and performances due to a serious vocal hemorrhage that resulted from her chain-smoking habit. From then on, gossip on the British singer faded to black. She was last known to have undergone microsurgery in November of 2011.

Then, out of the shadows, Adele released “Skyfall,” the next anthem to the James Bond film of the same name. “Skyfall” is Adele’s first studio release since 21 and the song reassures fans that all is well. While “Skyfall” may not be Adele’s strongest vocal performance, it does satisfy Bond fans and Adele fans alike with a bold, brash sound that both the 007 films and the singer without the strong ensemble, this song wouldn’t have resounding sound of “Set Fire to the Rain” or “Rolling in the Deep.”

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Showtime series shocks viewers in new season

Alex Hall
Managing Editor

Dexter has been Showtime's flagship show for almost a decade now and this season has done its best through the first two episodes to remind everyone why that is.

After a captivating season finale and Morgan's ability to connect with another person despite his serial killer tendencies, the show went off the tracks but it appears the show runners have found their way back on the path to multiple Emmy nominations.

The season seven premier picked up with the same exact scene where the audience was left with at the end of the previous. Dexter's sister, Debra witnesses him execute the Boomsday Killer, Travis Marshall. In easily one of the top five scenes in the show's history, Debra goes into full cop mode and questions her brother as to why he was so prepared to kill Marshall.

Dexter does his best to easily explain the knife collection, rubber apron and gloves to his sister but is unable to keep her off his trail throughout the episode. After 55-minutes of Deb snooping through the Ice Truck Killer evidence box, helping her brother cover up Marshall's murder and interrogating Dex once again, the episode's final scene gives us the epic moment that Dexter hoped would never happen.

The camera focuses in on Dexter opening the front door to his long-time apartment until it quickly pans the room and shows Debra sitting in a chair with his victim's blood slides strewn across the living room table. She proceeds to ask him if he killed all of those people, to which Dexter confirms he had. To top it all off, Debra's next question is "Are you a serial killer?" to which her brother says "Yes."

While there were several other subplots established during the premier, including the murder of Detective Mike Anderson by the only family Deb has left, the only story that truly is has been the relationship between Dexter and Debra.

In the new episode, Deb is involved in the cover up of Travis Marshall's murder, but she now believes he can learn to control his need. For one of the first times in the season, Debra finds herself in a place she has never been before, attempting to control her urges for both of their sakes.

The Lieutenant was smarter than that. Amidst flashbacks to the Lieutenant's story highlighted by Dexter threatening the intern and the Captain confirming the slide to contain Marshall's blood, the episode leans heavily on the interaction between Debra and Dexter, and works perfectly. Seeing Dex move into Deb's place, and having him explain to her what actually happens when he gets the urge to kill is intensely painful, but also humanizing for him in a way.

The pilot episode of the series, Dexter says in one of his first monologues that if you had feelings for anyone, it would be his sister. He has always shown it, but Dexter truly cares about Debra and her attempting to control her urges for both of their sakes.

The best example of this is when he drugs Louis, feels the urge to kill him, but follows out both of Debra's first two rules and calls her to come talk him down.

Dexter sits on the edge of his chair and tells his sister how badly he wanted, even needed to kill that night, but respected her wishes and made the call. Deb tells Dexter that "this is a good thing" and tells him that the lieutenant was smarter than that. Amidst flashbacks to the Lieutenant's story highlighted by Dexter threatening the intern and the Captain confirming the slide to contain Marshall's blood, the episode leans heavily on the interaction between Debra and Dexter, and works perfectly. Seeing Dex move into Deb's place, and having him explain to her what actually happens when he gets the urge to kill is intensely painful, but also humanizing for him in a way.

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Former Israeli Ambassador to the United Nations Visits Suffolk

Gareth Jones
Journal Staff

Gabriela Shalev, the former Israeli Ambassador to the United Nations (2008-2012) spent the last week touring Suffolk University, hosting and guest-speaking in a lecture series as well as visiting classes.

As a former United Nations Ambassador, she brought to the table unique insight into both the inner machinations of the United Nations itself, as well as the situation that exists in the modern international scene.

She served as the guest speaker for a series of lectures and discussions whose topics span most of what Israel makes the headlines for these days, specifically the Israeli nuclear threat and the Palestinian situation, as well as internal Israeli politics. What she said was never less than insightful, and sparked plenty of discussion on issues that were already relevant; all of her lectures saw impressive turnout rates, and audiences still had hands raised for questions and discussion long after the allotted time in every case.

Some of the highlights of her tour here at Suffolk included description of her background and how she approached the difficult role of the Israeli representative to the United Nations when speaking to Professor Peashmer's International Organisations class last Tuesday. At one point, while discussing Israel's approach to foreign policy, she went so far as to describe Israel as a militaristic state. Israel does have a mandatory draft for military service for every eligible citizen aged 18 and over, one of only few nations to be actively involved in a border war, and is number five on the list of national military expenditure as percentage of GDP at 4.5 percent, behind only Eritrea, Oman, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates. By most standards, Israel is considered a militaristic state. However, Israeli rhetoric on the subject tends to be much less straightforward, and officials in general tend to favor vague and noncommittal language when discussing Israeli foreign policy at all.

Ambassador Shalev described Israel as militaristic, and it showed both her ability the cut straight to the issue while maintaining a diplomatic atmosphere in what could easily have turned into a contentious environment. The diverse nature of the Suffolk student body and the lack of international consensus on the Israeli-Palestine situation could have made her initiatives more volatile.

All of this came to a head during the question and answer part of her lectures, specifically after her Israeli Nuclear program discussion. In this discussion, she maintained steadfast diplomacy throughout what was undoubtedly an active, engaged, and at times direct audience. Ambassador Shalev began by pointing out that the title of the lecture, "Iran's Nuclear Program, Containment or Pre-emption?" speculation that the unusually high number of accidental delays in Iran's sluggish approach to nuclear capability has been no accident at all. Many fingers point to the Israeli equivalent of our CIA, the Mossad. If these allegations were true, Shalev states, it would suggest that Israel is not unfamiliar with a preemptive style approach to the Iranian nuclear situation. These are not unlike the blitzkrieg tactics adopted during the 1967 war with Egypt, Syria, and Lebanon, which saw a swift and decisive victory for Israel. However, consider the recent turmoil that Iran's currency, the Rial, encountered. In the last week or so, the Rial has dropped more than 40 percent against the American Dollar. This was an unprecedented plummet that has the Iranian people in an uproar. Both the international community and Iranian President Ahmadinejad as the future of Iranian economic security looks more and more bleak in the eyes of the people.

The plummet of the Rial is largely a result of a series of stricter tariffs and embargoes imposed by the International Community in response to the Iranian nuclear program and perhaps an answer lies at the hands of a diverse, adaptable policy. This opposed the black or white nature of the talk that Ambassador Shalev guest starred in last Tuesday. Ambassador Shalev also sat in on a panel discussing the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, where she was more diplomatic, and less willing to indulge in non-official rhetoric. Ambassador Shalev continued her habit of staying away from official policy rhetoric, by repeating several times the idea Ambassador Shalev herself, "they are attacking us. We do not wish conflict with anyone. They attack us." Some of the questions thrown were wormed away once more, but Ambassador Shalev reverted back to a diplomatic restraint and spoke of a potential peace process.

Perhaps the toughest question that Ambassador Shalev handled directly, would be a very specific query into the nature of successful embargoes Israel had implemented in the past. After some dialogue with the professor who asked the question, Shalev admitted that Israel herself did not have the buying power or the economic sway to truly affect Iran's economy.

She went on to discuss the importance of international cooperation (a fitting comment from the former United Nations Ambassador of all people,) and outlined what she hoped to see accomplished in the vein of oil embargoes in the near future. This discussion came on the eve of the current Iranian Rial crisis, and thanks to insight from Ambassador Shalev who predicted the very embargoes that are now largely responsible for Iran's economic strife in the economic way to truly last Tuesday. Thus, thanks to Suffolk University's excellent visiting scholar program, students can say they heard it here first, as they scan the international news headlines of newspapers around the world.

"Ambassador Shalev began by pointing out that the title of the lecture, 'Iran's Nuclear Program, Containment or Pre-emption?' was somewhat vague, and that Israel's approach to the situation was never so stagnant as to be simplified to an either/or."

Photo Courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

Israeli-West Bank Barrier in Jerusalem

"Ambassador Shalev also sat in on a panel discussing the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, where she was more diplomatic, and less willing to indulge in non-official rhetoric. Ambassador Shalev continued her habit of staying away from official policy rhetoric, by repeating several times the idea Ambassador Shalev herself, "they are attacking us. We do not wish conflict with anyone. They attack us." Some of the questions thrown were wormed away once more, but Ambassador Shalev reverted back to a diplomatic restraint and spoke of a potential peace process.

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Russian Democracy: Yea or Nay?

Gareth Jones
Journal Staff

Using the words “Russia” and “democracy” in a sentence is like going to Fenway Park and looking for a fair price on beer. It’s not there. To recap briefly Russian history in one sentence, there were the Middle Ages, a series of kings (574-1917), Lenin for about ten minutes, then Stalin (1927-1953) and several other Soviet leaders (dictators) until the breakup in the early 1990s. Admittedly, the early 90s saw many multi-party elections, breaking Russia’s previous record of zero such democratic practices, and indeed Boris Yeltsin, the predecessor to the current head of state Vladimir Putin, enjoyed 57 percent of the popular vote in the 1991 election that put him in office. And for eight years, with some contention over Yeltsin’s reelection in 1996, democracy in Russia looked feasible. Then, in 1999, after surviving the second impeachment attempt on his presidency, Yeltsin fired his entire cabinet (the fourth time in eight years he had done this) as well as his prime minister. He replaced the PM with Vladimir Putin, then named Putin as his successor, and five months later, aired his official resignation on national Russian television (possibly the first bad news about Yeltsin’s administration state television had ever aired.) Vladimir Putin, after a few weeks of maneuvering, took the helm, and has more-or-less been in charge of Russia ever since.

To give you an idea of Russia’s current press situation, publishing the last two paragraphs in Russia would more-or-less guarantee me a visit from a few overweight thugs armed with crowbars and low IQs. Or, depending on Putin’s mood that week, a free ride to jail where I could sit next to the likes of Pussy Riot members Nadezhda Tolokonnikova and Maria Alyokhina, who made the news recently for their public protests and arrests. Civil Archipelago,” this is explainable in part by what he considers a formerly apathetic public interest. While this may or may not have been the case in the past, the mounting demonstrations that have made headlines for the past months in Moscow are.

Or, if I was particularly brutal (or honest) about Putin’s “democracy,” I could end up like Gadzhimurat Kamalov, a journalist shot dead in a drive-by shooting outside his office last December. Regardless, democracy as we know it in the west, where President Obama will defend my right to slander him outrageously, in comparison with Russia, puts them far from being free.

However, recent Russian history has revealed an interesting characteristic about Russian society. As a whole, they seem to be largely uninterested in politics. Putin, despite his fairly blatant transgressions against the standard democratic method, has enjoyed the sort of approval ratings most American presidents might sell limbs for, in the range of 60-to-75 percent, which Putin had in the last five years. As David Remnick discusses in his recent article “The testament to the fact that the political climate is heading for a change. Whether this will mean more democratic policy, or indeed whether democracy is really what Russia needs remains to be seen. But Putin’s plummeting approval ratings mean one thing for sure, if democracy in Russia ever had a chance that the likes of Boris Yeltsin couldn’t squander with loud threats and intimidation, that time is now.

Doe Sebanakitta
Journal Staff

Clifford Levy’s article, “Russia’s Knockoff Democracy” published in the New York Times this past week, paints an accurate picture of the kind of political society that was being played out in 2007’s Russia. A picture that was more autocratic than democratic. Levy makes the case that the policies the Russian government implemented were contradictory to democratic principles and they need to be called out on it. The efforts which Russia’s ruling elite use in showing Western countries views and the fraud of their so-called democracy installation. Levy revisits’ ground work he was referring to when he points out that “Democracy begins elections... elections, accountability, and turnover.”

Another policy that negates democratic standards is Putin taking part in the nomination of a Presidential candidate. Levy describes how Putin is presented with a nominee whom the public have had no say in regarding the decision that led to his selection. By Putin misrepresenting the candidate as one who “reflected the views of a broad variety of Russians,” he attempts to portray a democratic process that doesn’t exist.

Even when elections actually take place in Russia, there is intimidation of opponents, corruption, and voter fraud. Jackson Diehl, in his article, “Autocratic status quo is crumbling in Russia, China,” describes how Russia and China face challenges in maintaining their autocracy due to a rising, more educated middle class. Diehl illustrates the fact that “in Moscow crowds of tens of thousands have turned out to denounce fraud in December’s parliamentary elections,” is a good example to show how nature of the “knock off democracy.” True democracy requires free and fair free elections, coupled with assurance that the rights of all voters are protected.

A free election campaign involves freedom of speech, freedom of assembly, and most of all, safeguard of basic human rights. All of these components are absent in an autocratically run election. Putin’s active development toward a less democratic strategy of rule than what he depicts, speaks to the history of Russian autocracy, which has failed to break free of.
Discussion at Suffolk: How to End the War in Afghanistan

Gianna Garchia
Asst. Arts Editor

Last Thursday the Suffolk University Law School hosted an event run by Massachusetts Peace Action on how to solve this major financial crisis and keep the 'Euro' currency. According to Cortright, the director of Policy Studies at the Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies at the University of Notre Dame and chair of the board of the Fourth Freedom Forum. As the author or editor of 17 books on non-violence and human rights and end war in Afghanistan. Third, there must be a diplomatic contact group of neighboring states, and there must be an interim protection force put in place. Lastly, there must be sustained large-scale support for development and human rights. Cortright explained that "This policy is not moral," he said. "It's not effective, and it is leading to chaos. This is what the Taliban lives on." Cortright believes that terrorist groups have political agendas. Currently, their only purpose is to remove opposing occupation. There have been no records of Taliban attacks outside of their own territories. In fact, over 90 percent of suicide bombings have occurred to drive out foreign forces. "They are waging war on the United States because we went there," he said. At this moment, there are over 400,000 American troops fighting against an estimated 20,000 armed insurgents. Cortright believes that the United States should focus its energy and spending on social development programs instead of military planning. "If your main tool is a hammer," he said, "every problem looks like a nail. Military planning is our primary instrument." He laid out a five-step action plan for the United States regarding its involvement in Afghanistan. First, foreign military diversion would have to occur, followed by political reconciliation, and power sharing with Afghanistan. Third, there must strongly emphasize public education programs as part of Afghanistan's social development. Since insurgent groups have political goals, they must at some point face the public to strengthen their cause. Cortright believes that if the Taliban were to form their own party and face the political process in Afghanistan, they would fail. When they were in power they were not a popular group. Furthermore, the insurgents do not have the fire power to take over the capital city of Kabul. In order to implement the strategy that Cortright outlined, individuals must be trained to do the policing in Afghanistan, security must be provided for those working on social development programs, and there is always the possibility that the country will default and a civil war will occur. Still, Cortright believes that no progress can be made until the soldiers are removed from Afghanistan. How to End the War in Afghanistan

End the war in Afghanistan. Massachusetts Peace Action is a non-profit organization which aims to promote human rights and end war through grassroots organizing and community education. The guest speaker was David Cortright, the director of Policy Studies at the Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies at the University of Notre Dame and chair of the board of the Fourth Freedom Forum. As the author or editor of 17 books on non-violence and human rights and end war in Afghanistan. Third, there must be a diplomatic contact group of neighboring states, and there must be an interim protection force put in place. Lastly, there must be sustained large-scale support for development and human rights. Cortright explained that terrorist groups have political agendas. Currently, their only purpose is to remove opposing occupation. There have been no records of Taliban attacks outside of their own territories. In fact, over 90 percent of suicide bombings have occurred to drive out foreign forces. "They are waging war on the United States because we went there," he said. At this moment, there are over 400,000 American troops fighting against an estimated 20,000 armed insurgents. Cortright believes that the United States should focus its energy and spending on social development programs instead of military planning. "If your main tool is a hammer," he said, "every problem looks like a nail. Military planning is our primary instrument." He laid out a five-step action plan for the United States regarding its involvement in Afghanistan. First, foreign military diversion would have to occur, followed by political reconciliation, and power sharing with Afghanistan. Third, there must strongly emphasize public education programs as part of Afghanistan's social development. Since insurgent groups have political goals, they must at some point face the public to strengthen their cause. Cortright believes that if the Taliban were to form their own party and face the political process in Afghanistan, they would fail. When they were in power they were not a popular group. Furthermore, the insurgents do not have the fire power to take over the capital city of Kabul. In order to implement the strategy that Cortright outlined, individuals must be trained to do the policing in Afghanistan, security must be provided for those working on social development programs, and there is always the possibility that the country will default and a civil war will occur. Still, Cortright believes that no progress can be made until the soldiers are removed from Afghanistan.
Womens' Volleyball Breaks Skid With Big Win, Ready for Playoff Push

MATT BACON
SPORTS EDITOR

The womens' volleyball team has finally snapped a seven game losing streak with a 3-2 victory over St. Joseph (CT) on Monday night.

The team has been streaky this year, winning two then losing two, winning four then losing seven, etc. Despite a ravaging series of injuries, including starters Hailey Atkinson, Jessica Bard, and Kathryn Babb (who played in only her third game of the season on Monday,) the team has hung in there and is still in the playoff hunt.

Head coach Noel Moran, in her second season as head coach, was very proud of the team after the win. "Our bench really came through for us. We have been dealing with a bad string of injuries, and the girls stepped right up to the challenge. Taking St. Joe's to five showed how much winning means to them. We had a long weekend with four games and 11 hours traveling in buses. I'm beyond pleased they ended the trip on a positive note," said Moran. After seven straight losses and a grueling weekend, the team refused to give up and showed what being a Ram is all about.

Coach Moran also gave high praise to her team's fortitude and determination in Monday's match. "Mental toughness mixed with physical toughness was key. When St. Joe's would come through for us. We have been dealing with a bad string of injuries, and the girls stepped right up to the challenge. Taking St. Joe's to five showed how much winning means to them. We had a long weekend with four games and 11 hours traveling in buses. I'm beyond pleased they ended the trip on a positive note," said Moran. After seven straight losses and a grueling weekend, the team refused to give up and showed what being a Ram is all about.

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With one team out of the way, Albertus Magnus stands alone as the last threat to the Rams' record. Erica LeBlanc, who played in the number two spot against Mount Ida, believes the victory is a step in the right direction. "We defeated Mt. Ida which is great and we are definitely feeling confident about Albertus Magnus," said LeBlanc, sophomore. "Our focus is really on preparing for the playoffs and to do that we have to practice strong, and make sure we put what we work on in those practices to use for the final season matches."

Other players, like Stacey Politis, understand the importance of conference games. "The next two conference games mean the world to our team and to our morale especially," said Politis, junior.

"Everyone has had their own obstacles to get through at some point in this season and we've had a tough schedule from the beginning."

The Rams take on UMass Boston Thursday at 6 p.m., and then play against Albertus Magnus in the season finale. "We've grown as players throughout the season," said LeBlanc. "We are ready to take these last few matches."

The win improved the team's record to 9-13, and we needed it, which led to a victory for the Rams," she said. "The team has been taking the losses to heart. They know what they need to do to fix it and will put in the work at practice. We are bouncing back and practicing all week to get back on the winning side of the few matches we have left... We are on a new course to better the outcome and make the playoffs."

With this kind of energy and work ethic in the locker room and on the court, women's volleyball will definitely be looking to make a huge statement in their seven remaining games. They most certainly have the talent and drive to do so.

The women's volleyball team is looking to inch closer to the playoffs when they take on UMass Dartmouth this Friday on the road. Their next home game is Tuesday against Rivier.

JEREMY HAYES
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The Suffolk University women's tennis team is going into the final week of the season with a great start, by defeating Mount Ida on Columbus Day 9-0. The win improved their overall record to 5-7, placing them sixth in the conference. The Lady Rams are 3-4 in conference play.

The Rams will now face two more schools at home, so the strategy against Albertus Magnus stands alone as the last threat to the Rams' record. Erica LeBlanc, who played in the number two spot against Mount Ida, believes the victory is a step in the right direction. "We defeated Mt. Ida which is great and we are definitely feeling confident about Albertus Magnus," said LeBlanc, sophomore. "Our focus is really on preparing for the playoffs and to do that we have to practice strong, and make sure we put what we work on in those practices to use for the final season matches."

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NFL Week Five: Brady Beats Manning; Is Rex Ryan Ruining the Jets?

Roy Ben-Joseph
Journal Staff

Rivalry might be the best thing about sports; the passion, the competitiveness and the desire to win. Rivalry in sports could be based upon ideology, mutual history or political views of both fan bases. It might also exist as a result of one side being a great success, while the other a constant failure.

That is not the case though in the great rivalry of Peyton Manning and Tom Brady. This rivalry is simply because both are the best at what they do, arguably of all time and most certainly in their generation. But who is the greatest of all time? Brady leads in passing yards and touchdowns. Manning leads in interceptions and season passes. Brady is known for his impulsive style, while Manning is known for his arrogant and his “unique” coaching style.

It was about more than health and safety. It was about integrating them into the culture. It was about value excellence in competition but equally important having a well-rounded amount of extracurricular activities, said Nelson.

Rivalry is simply because both are the best at what they do, arguably of all time and most certainly in their generation. But once again, despite all the struggles, the two are the best in their respective positions.

Photo courtesy of Suffolk Athletics

Suffolk University’s Jim Nelson was awarded for his work as the school’s athletic director this past June, winning the 2012 NCAA Division III AD of the Year for the Northeast Region.

"It was thrilling," Nelson said. "I consider it to be an award that recognizes our student-athletes and our coaches as well. Without them, the recognition would not have gotten as far as it did." Nelson received the award at the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics 47th annual convention down in Dallas, Texas where he was not only recognized but also able to partake in some interesting seminars and chat with others who hold the same title as him.

"There were athletic directors from Division-I and Division-II schools at the conference. I had the opportunity to share in not just the honors ceremony but various seminars; ideas with these award winners as well as promote the name of Suffolk,” Nelson commented.

The longtime Suffolk men’s basketball coach explained that he especially enjoyed the seminars where the well-being of student-athletes was heavily discussed.

"The future Hall of Famer has joined the Denver Broncos in one of the most discussed topics of the off-season. The two future Hall of Fame Quarterbacks entered the 13th meeting of all time with Brady leading in the win column with an 8-4 record.

Although the meeting between the two two years ago was the main discussion of Week Five throughout the NFL, it is safe to say that running back Stevan Ridley stole the stage. The second year RB out of Louisiana State University ran for 151 yards and 1 TD, making it the second straight game in a row he had 100+ rushing yards. The Patriots overall had 251 rushing yards after being held out for the first time in more than 30 years that the Patriots had back to back 200+ yards on the ground.

But Brady wasn’t absent from the show. On the second possession of the game, the Patriots had a 1st and 10, but Brady threw an eight yard Touchdown pass to Wes Welker, putting the Patriots on top 7-0. Brady completed 23 out of 31 pass attempts for 74 percent completion and had 223 passing yards with one touchdown pass and another yard touchdown run which Brady scored on a quarterback sneaks.

The other big story from Week Five was the New York Jets, who are coming off one of the worst games in franchise history. That game was shot out by the San Francisco 49ers in a 34-0 loss. Quarterback Mark Sanchez entered the game with a huge chip on his shoulders. In 2011 Sanchez threw more interceptions than TD passes, completing less than 46 percent of his passes, leading the Jets to an 8-8 record and missing the playoffs. The real chip on his shoulder is Tim Tebow. The former Bronco was traded to the Jets due to the acquisition of Peyton Manning by the Broncos in the off-season. Let’s not forget that Tebow’s passer ratings last season were as bad as those of Sanchez. But Tebow’s famous running game compensated for those horrible numbers. Tebow had a 4.4 record with Denver as a starter, leading them to the playoffs. Head coach Rex Ryan has since decided that Sanchez has started to upset the most patient Jets fans. Ryan, who is known for his arrogant and impulsive style, mentioned before Week One that he has the best football team in America, something he has consistently said since last season’s failures.

He is looking more and more like someone who is losing his fan base and any connection with reality. With Jets fans cheering during the Monday Night Football game against the Tennessee Titans on Monday and the Jets Latino fan club (one TD, two interceptions, 45 percent completion) left the field and was replaced by Tebow, it is not going to shock anyone if Tim Tebow starts a full game soon. But with the new season starting, Sanchez needs to live up to his “unique” coaching style, it is not going to shock anyone if "Tebowmania" does not hit New York anytime soon, and Mark Sanchez will continue to enjoy endless credit as the Jets continue to look like the most pathetic side in the NFL.