Universities react in the wake of molly overdoses

Molly, a form of ecstasy, has received nation-wide attention in the past month as the suspected killer of three people during large electronic music concerts. Suffolk University reached out to students through email and in planning events to help raise awareness of the MDMA drug.

Olivia Rotondo, 20, of Providence, R.I., was one of two audience members who died from overdosing on the drug at the Electric Zoo music festival in New York City on Aug. 31.

The University of New Hampshire junior's death came less than a week after Plymouth State University sophomore Brittany Flannigan died while attending a concert at the House of Blues in Boston. Flannigan, 19, of Derry, N.H., and two other victims "appeared to be suffering from an overdose from an unknown substance," Boston Police said in a statement. The Suffolk district attorney's office is waiting on Flannigan's toxicological screening to confirm what drugs she overdosed on.

"I didn't even know people were dying," said Suffolk senior Caroline Margolis when asked if the recent deaths attributed to molly had made her more aware of the drug and its dangers.

Flannigan and Rotondo's deaths are some of the more recent fatalities from a drug that has killed more than 22,000 people in 2011, according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The number of hospitalizations from molly increased by 120 percent from 2004 to 2011. Molly is largely perceived as a purer form of ecstasy or MDMA, taken in either tablet or powder form.

Both local colleges that the victims attended sent emails to students warning them of the drug's dangers and commenting on the recent deaths, but the attempts may have fallen on deaf ears.

"I haven't really heard about (Rotondo's death) on campus or in classes or anything. So I guess, in my experience there hasn't been much of a change in the atmosphere," said UNH junior Laura Hipke.

"It's different when you hear of someone overdosing on cocaine that you didn't know that you learned in health class...This was a girl that went here and people knew," Suffolk University Assistant Director of Health Services and Wellness Promotion Paulette Giambalvo.

Giambalvo believes part of the reason the drug has become popular is an equally popular misconception about it.

"First off, people think if it's molly, it's not laced or not laced with as many things... people know other people who did it and didn't have a bad experience with it," said Giambalvo.

See MOLLY page 4

Suffolk "constructs" big plans for this year

It is going to be a busy year for Suffolk's facilities management department.

Along with the massive 20 Somerset St. project, Gordon King, Senior Director of Facilities Planning and Management, has several other construction and maintenance projects planned for the coming year and beyond.

"There's always more to do," says King.

Starting in his office on the 12th floor of the 73 Tremont St. building, it is easy to see the truth in King's words. More than 20 multi-colored file folders lie in neat rows on his desk, each filled to capacity with papers regarding separate slices of Suffolk's maintenance, management and construction plans.

One of those plans involves rebuilding the elevators in Sawyer—something King says is "dreadfully overdue."

The current elevators are old and small, causing serious congestion at high-traffic times throughout the day. Although the details are not finalized, King says he plans to work on one elevator at a time, similar to how the elevators at 150 Tremont St. were rebuilt. With only one elevator out of service at a time, the hope is that the students will not be greatly impacted by the construction, which is set to start sometime in the Spring.

Another sizeable project is an upgrade of the heating, ventilation, and air conditioning system in the 150 Tremont building. This HVAC replacement project is extensive and expected to cost around $8 million, over the course of several years. Construction is set to start in May. And that is not all of the improvements that King has planned for the 150 building. Starting later this month and continuing until November, the façade of the dorm building will be repaired. Scaffolding and mast-climbers will be set up along the entrance, allowing workers to replace mortar joints, broken stone, and make the structure waterproof and airproof. There have been issues with the airproof nature of the building in the past, causing burst pipes and cold rooms, so this project will decrease the chances of similar problems occurring in the future.

A new student lounge will soon be situated on the ninth floor of 73 Tremont as well. King plans to have that set up by mid-October. This will be especially convenient now that the Center for Learning and Academic Success has moved to the third floor of the library.

As King explains, deferred maintenance projects make up a large amount of the work to be done at the school.

See PLANS page 3

See page 3 for a 20 Somerset update
Police Blotter

Friday, August 30
12:12 p.m.
Tremont Street
Larceny. Inactive - all leads exhausted.

Friday, September 6
12:07 p.m.
Off campus
Fraud or uttering. Investigation pending.

Saturday, September 7
2:07 a.m.
10 West
Liquor law violations - possession of alcohol by a minor. Judicial internal.

Thursday, September 12
11:41 a.m.
150 Tremont
Possession of marijuana - less than one ounce. Judicial internal.

News Briefs

Operation Paper Cut

Suffolk University unveiled its plan titled "Operation Paper Cut" this semester. In an effort to conserve paper, the university is allowing students to print only 500 pages per semester. Unused printing will roll over from semester to semester. This environmentally friendly process has already been adopted at the Law School. Suffolk University officials are hoping students will welcome Operation Paper Cut and think about how today's sustainability can help the future.

Anna's Taqueria Walqueria

This Saturday Anna's Taqueria restaurant will host its 7th annual walk to benefit the Home for Little Wanderers. Participants will walk a 13.1 mile loop that covers six stops where refreshments will be served. For each person that checks in at a stop, Anna's will give $5 to the non-profit. Registration starts at 9:30 a.m. at Anna's on Beacon Street, and of course, burritos are on the menu. Look for a full article on the event in next week's paper.

Boston's city councilor race approaches with a surplus of candidates

Cody Farbish
Journal Contributor

Although all eyes remain heavily set on the Boston 2013 mayoral race, voters will also have to elect 13 new city council members: four for the city council-at-large and an additional council member from each of the city's nine districts. Preliminary elections for the race are on Sept. 24 and the final elections are on Nov. 5. There are 19 individuals running for the four available council seats. Only two of the 19 candidates are incumbents, as the remaining two incumbents, Felix Arroyo and John Connolly, have taken up stakes in the mayoral race instead. The 19 candidates running for council seats are:

- Frank John Addivinala
- Christopher J. Conroy
- Michael F. Flaherty
- Philip Arthur Frattaroll
- Althea Garrison
- Annissa Essaibi-George
- Jack F. Kelly III
- Keith B. Kenyon
- Martin F. Keogh
- Stephen Murphy (incumbent)
- Catherine M. O'Neill
- Ayanna Pressley (incumbent)
- Jeffrey Michael Ross
- Sarah Ribeiro Jr.
- Ramon Soto
- Seamus M. Whelan
- Francisco L. White
- Douglas D. Wohn
- Michelle Wu

District council members come from the nine separate districts of the city. Below is a breakdown of the nine districts, and the candidates running for seats as representatives of the districts:

- District One - Charlestown, East Boston, North End
  - Brian J. Cannon, Sal LaMattina (incumbent), John Ribeiro Jr.
- District Two - South Boston, South End, Chinatown
  - Suzanne Lee, Bill Lanehan (incumbent)
- District Three - Dorchester
  - Frank Baker (incumbent)
- District Four - Mattapan, Dorchester
  - Steven Godfrey, Divo Rodrigues Monteiro, Terrence J. Williams, Charles Yancey (incumbent)
- District Five - Hyde Park, Roslindale
  - Ava D. Callender, Marguerita Champa-Corne, Andrew Norman Couso, Patrick Gattozzi, Timothy F. McCarthy, Jean-Claude Sanon, Mimi E. Turchinetz, Michael E. Wells III
- District Six - Jamaica Plain, West Roxbury
  - Matt O'Malley (incumbent), Luis F. Valerio
- District Seven - Roxbury
  - Tito Jackson (incumbent), Roy Owens
- District Eight - Back Bay, Beacon Hill, Fenway, Mission Hill, West End
  - Angelica Elle Addivinala, Thomas Joseph Dooley III, Gloria Murray, Michael Joseph Nichols, Josh Zakim
- District Nine - Allston, Brighton
  - Michael C. Bronner, Mark Cionnmo (incumbent)

There has been no district favorites between any of the district or city at-large council candidates. Though, in an election cycle where topics including education, crime, and the environment are key issues, some candidates do retain a better standing than others. Experienced individuals and representatives of the communities are what voters are hoping for in the upcoming city council race.

Some early November, the city of Boston will have a brand new council to make some of the most crucial decisions regarding city life. Voters remain hopeful that the incoming council will help to make Boston a safer and better educated community on the issues surrounding our generation and culture. And with such a grand pool of experienced candidates, there's no doubt that voters will receive exactly what they've been hoping for.

Suffolk students, remember to vote Sept. 24

Polls are open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Students can register to vote using the address of their dorm buildings

Contact the Election Department with questions
This is because of the age of the buildings and facilities at Suffolk. As with all old structures, it is a challenge to maintain Suffolk's buildings and make sure they are updated and running smoothly. But, King and the Facilities Planning and Management department continue to rise to the challenge, assuring that the buildings are safe and meet all of the students' needs.

Part of meeting students' needs means dealing not just with the big projects, but also with the small ones. As King realizes, it is the little things that can make a big difference. That is why he is continuing a pilot project this year in which the light bulbs in the Law School and other buildings will be replaced with energy-conserving light bulbs. This will drive down energy costs and make sure they are well-maintained. As King says that the more feedback he gets the better off his department and the Suffolk community can be.

Every detail counts, whether planning large, multi-year projects or changing the lights. Although King is a busy man, thinking about what it takes to keep a university running smoothly, he has not lost touch with the people he is doing these projects for—the students. He encourages students to give him feedback, whether positive or negative, regarding any of the new projects. King says that the more feedback he gets the better off his department and the Suffolk community can be.

The demolition process of the current building began June 21. Although 20 Somerset is planned to be the same size as the current building, it is being demolished, Gatlin said. "It is a very laboring process which involves separating steel and concrete and disposing of waste materials," Gatlin said.

Currently, the roof and penthouse have been torn down. Construction workers will continue disposing of the building from top to bottom. Demolition should be completed by the end of October, Gatlin said. A webcam is stationed outside the building to record the entire process. More information on where the webcam is and how students can watch it was not immediately available.

Gatlin says some of the newest highlights of 20 Somerset are plans to create active learning environments. Not all of the building's classrooms will fall under this category, but those that do will offer non-traditional seating. Students may be set up in pods and potentially will have projector technology available to them. This way work can be displayed on electronic white boards from student, to professor, to student.

After the current building has been completely abolished, the construction phase of the process can begin. This means the foundation will be built and the concrete structure will be established. Next in the process will be building the façade of the building and its exterior. Finally, the interior portion will be completed, followed by furnishing, Gatlin explained.

The building will stay on track with its budget of just less than $62 million. The university is funding the building through bonds, said Gatlin. "It is moving forward nicely," he said. The construction will be a backdrop of the university for the next two years. Student can imagine how the outdoor social space, new cafeterias, and updated classrooms will look upon completion.

"It's going to be a state-of-the-art building," said Gatlin, "A great asset for the Suffolk community."
New clubs make way at Suffolk
Students should join what fuels their fire

Dan Olson
Journal Staff

With the start of a new year, Suffolk University clubs are planning activities and urging students to find their passion among their peers.

The new club president, Katie Schinabeck, and vice president, Melissa Hanson, are excited to create a new environment and hold weekly meetings. It is not just a place for philosophy majors to discuss their interests. Any major is welcome and no prior amount of knowledge in philosophy is necessary.

"We are really member-oriented," says Chandler. "Whatever the members want to talk about, we talk about." During meetings, members discuss a wide range of topics, from Shakespearean plays to deep theories. The philosophy department also hosts monthly colloquiums where graduate fellows give lectures, which all members are welcome to attend.

At the end of the year, an exhibition in the works, where members will be able to create pieces based on their favorite themes of philosophy. As freshman, Schinabeck and Chandler discovered Suffolk's old philosophy club.

"We found its booth at the Temple Street Fair during our freshman year," says Chandler. "There were only five members, who were graduating, so the club would essentially cease to exist." With the help of philosophy professors Montgomery Link and Evgenia Cherkesova, the two picked up the club and became its leaders. "They were invested in all of us. It was a great way to network and learn from different professors."

Currently, the club is held every Tuesday at 1 p.m. in Sawyer 908. There are also occasional readings in the evenings open to all members.

From MOLLy page 1

Dance Safe, a non-profit organization promoting health and safety in the rave community, is often present at larger electronic festivals, offering to legally test substances on site to see what drugs are really in them. The organization has found cut molly to contain speed, PMA, and other drugs.

Local Boston DJ Fuse and Suffolk alumnus Angela Bray believes lack of education on the drug is part of the growing problem of overdoses. "In health classes in middle school, it was always marijuana and alcohol that you talked about. I feel there's no education. My parents never used the word ecstasy around me. I never heard it from them," said Bray.

Bray, a Suffolk Journal editor for three years, became a part of the rave scene a few years ago. She first began to learn about molly during a two-part investigative piece she wrote for The Journal in 2010. Through her investigation and personal experience in rave culture, Bray doesn't believe those in the underground scene are why the drug is becoming popular among high school and college students.

"Now that electronic music is very mainstream, it's happening more than before. Nothing happens at a rave. Every rave I go to, nobody comes out in ambulances...It's just at these big mainstream shows that all these young kids are going to and they don't know what they're taking or where it's from," said Bray.

Bray explained she has seen Dance Safe and similar organizations at shows, especially popular electronic dance parties, "I can spot a new kid who has never been to one... I can notice that people [on molly] will have really big pupils but besides that they're not reallyTell." Bray said.

Giamalbo also noted that perhaps students don't think about the long-term effects molly can have on someone, including Movement Festival in Detroit, where she played earlier this year but she doesn't think the students utilize such organizations.

"Students don't go around and tell you they're on something... I can see that people are getting really paranoid in learning and memory. "Students are going to other drugs because they lose their long-term effects but also want to succeed in the future and potentially have those long-term effects," she said.

Suffolk's Health and Wellness Center is currently planning events and campaigns to raise awareness about the dangers of molly. "I don't feel like I know much about molly," Suffolk senior Chelsea Szmania said. "I don't feel like I know it, but she does not think that is something the university needs to address.

"It's about student accountability—students should know that drugs are bad," she said.

Margolis had similar feelings on what role the school should play in educating students about molly. "Students should know that drugs are bad," she said. Un massacre recently canceled electric dance party "return to Fantazia" originally scheduled at the Mullins Center for Sept. 21 over concerns of students taking Molly. Boston University ran an interview with its own Dr. David Farb on its "BU Today" section of its website in prior to raise awareness about Molly.

How students will react to these actions from their schools and whether it will dissuade them from using Molly remains to be seen.
Operation Paper Cut makes students think before they print

Ellie Hawkins
Journal Staff

In the end of the spring semester of 2013, Suffolk was talking about starting a program called Paper Cut. This program would have students use their Ram Cards to print documents at printing stations around campus. The program was established this Fall and it seems like there is a love/hate relationship with this program by many different students.

Personally, believe it is great that our campus has established this Paper Cut program. There have been many times when I have been studying late at the Mildred F. Sawyer Library and come down to retrieve my documents I have printed, only to see huge stacks of paper sitting in the printers. I will admit that I have forgotten my documents in the printer before only to print another one in a different Suffolk building on campus.

Getting information to students about molly and going a bit deeper into what is was certainly a driving reason for our piece, especially with the recent deaths. As a student newspaper, it’s our job to make our readers as informed as possible regarding Suffolk and the great city surrounding us.

Personally, the deaths hit home for me. Olivia Rotondi and Brittany Flannigan went to the University of New Hampshire and Plymouth State University, respectively. Being from New Hampshire, I am friends with at least a dozen kids at each school.

This was a story that I knew The Journal had the contacts, resources and staff talent to cover and cover well. More than a few hours were put into the story to make sure it communicated important information to our readers. As college students, we all are old enough to make our own decisions about what we choose to do or take.

The staff and I are also quite aware that preaching at our readers won’t change anyone’s mind about molly. Our goal was to simply present students with a sufficient amount of information and to provide insight on a drug that has become popular among our age group.

- Alex Hall, Editor-in-Chief

Overall, I think this program is wonderful for making other students aware of how much paper they are using; it might even help make each student more aware about recycling for the future. I know from fellow students it was hard to figure out how to print out documents the first time. It would have been nice if Suffolk had sent out an introduction video on how to print documents so it was easier for freshmen, as well as returning students, to start their fall semester.

College rankings reward spending, not the student experience

Gianna Carchia
Opinion Editor

U.S. News and World Report released its annual list of college rankings last week, and the results were predictable as always. Harvard and Princeton have frequently dominated the top positions, including a tie for the first place ranking last year. Princeton beat out Harvard for the top spot in this year’s rankings, followed by Yale, Columbia and Stanford. Many are beginning to study the effects of these rankings on current and incoming students and question the methodology involved with such a stagnant report.

The methodology used for choosing the best schools includes looking at high school class standing and the academic caliber of incoming freshmen. Another important factor that U.S. News should, but doesn’t, consider is schools’ success in graduating students into solid employment. A lot can happen in four years; judging a school based on its newest students says little about the total college experience at these top schools. Getting good grades is great, but college is supposed to prepare students for the real world. How far can a GPA and SAT score at 18 years old take someone in the working world?

The report comes out at a time when many high school freshmen are choosing which schools to send their college applications to. The rankings are also based largely on school reputation and aesthetics. In this way, the report is rewarding the Ivy League schools that can afford to spend a lot on their appearance. The more a school spends, the more they charge their students. The financial resources available to students also factor into the rankings, which is contradictory in that the study doesn’t penalize schools with outrageous tuitions. If they did, the Ivy League colleges would surely be nowhere near the top.

The study also examines graduate and freshman retention rates, faculty resources, student selectivity, grad rate performance and alumni donations. In other words, the U.S. News and World Report really doesn’t consider how schools treat their students. It would be great at the end of the semester to know if this Paper Cut program reduced our carbon footprint at Suffolk and how much paper and ink the Suffolk community saved. If this program is a success, will this become more prominent throughout campus, where every printer will have a card swipe attached to the printers?
CDC reports on teenage e-cigarette use, media exaggerates implications

Sam Humphrey
Journal Contributor

A recent Center for Disease Control (CDC) study revealed that electronic cigarette usage is rising among teens. However, many news articles have spun the data’s findings to make e-cigarettes seem scarier than they probably are.

E-cigarettes (e-cigs) use a battery to heat water vapor containing nicotine and other additives, like flavors. The user inhales the vapor like they were smoking a real cigarette, but the vapor does not damage lung tissue like tobacco smoke does.

The CDC report says that the number of students who have tried e-cigs more than doubled, from 1.4 percent to 2.7 percent, and 4.7 percent to 10 percent for middle and high school students, respectively. The study also found that 90 percent of those who had tried e-cigs had also previously tried tobacco cigarettes.

About 1.1 percent of middle school and 2.8 percent of high school students reported “current use” of e-cigs, but the study describes “current use” as smoking an e-cig at least once in the past 30 days. The study does not mention reported daily or weekly usage rates.

So why does the CDC consider these findings a “serious concern”? Mostly, because usage has doubled, which seems like a scary figure until you realize that over 90 percent of students have never picked up an e-cig. They also can’t carry e-cigs as a gateway drug to tobacco; as mentioned above, 90 percent of students who tried them had already used real cigarettes.

Nonetheless the CDC reports, “Given the rapid increase in use and youth susceptibility to social and environmental influences to use tobacco, developing strategies to prevent marketing, sales, and use of e-cigarettes among youths is critical.”

As Nick Gillespie points out for Time, e-cigarettes are a gateway drug to tobacco, and marketing makes them more attractive than nicotine patches, a widely used and uncontroversial alternative that smokers can use anywhere.

The ads target adult smokers who want a healthier and crowd-friendly alternative to traditional tobacco sticks, which have been banned in America in public places like offices, restaurants, and airplanes. A New Zealand study found that e-cigs helped smokers quit tobacco, and were slightly more effective than nicotine patches, a widely used and uncontroversial alternative that smokers can use anywhere.

A recent survey of 60 percent of Americans had tried tobacco (in different forms) by age 20. So, far more teens are experimenting with far more dangerous products, whose usage is far more likely to lead to cancer over their lifetime. But that’s assuming that these experimenters make tobacco a habit, and regular-smoker rates among adults small amounts of users who do use them are habitually making a far safer choice than striking up a real cigarette. So despite the recent semi-panic, e-cigs are really nothing to be afraid of.

from Rankings page 5
World Report releases an annual ranking of the best colleges as they appear on paper. It treats going to college like the business that it is, rather than the experience. The majority of a student’s most unforgettable experiences occur during their time and involvement with student activities, clubs and sports, none of which seem to be taken into account for these college rankings.

For schools like Suffolk University, which has two campus landscapes to maintain, competition on the basis of campus aesthetics is impossible with large universities and colleges like Princeton and Harvard, who have a distinct and well-maintained campus identity. Smaller schools have better resources for closer professor/student relationships, but maybe not the resources needed to elevate their national reputation. These close relationships and one-on-one interactions develop greater opportunities for growth and networking. A student may enter a smaller and lesser known college far under the academic standards of the U.S. News and World Report and leave more well-rounded and prepared than the students their age who entered Ivy League schools that attracted them through those rankings.

Perhaps the biggest failure of the rankings is in its examination of high test scores, class rankings and GPA. These are numbers that define students and says nothing about the extracurricular activities incoming students have engaged in. Some high school graduates may already have established themselves as philanthropists, hard-working or passionate about a certain subject. U.S. News only seems to care about where they fall in line, not what makes them stand out. The same goes for the colleges that they review. The study fails to look under the skin of popular colleges and remains mesmerized by beautiful campuses and good reputations.

As more people begin to recognize the flaws and harms in such a report, perhaps the methodology will change to examine more subjective information about schools. Until then, Harvard and Princeton will likely continue to reign supreme and the U.S. News and World Report will have little surprise in store for every fall.
Hybrid courses complement classroom time with online learning

Melissa Binari
Journal Contributor

Let us briefly indulge in the world of hybrid courses, which are becoming more popular than ever in universities across the map. If you are sitting there thinking “What in the world is a hybrid course?” here is a quick rundown: a hybrid course, or “blended course,” is a course that cuts down face-to-face classroom time and intersects it with online learning so that the two may compliment each other. Students become more familiar with web-based learning activities and experience a reduction of seat time with online learning.

I held this course, which I thought was a hybrid course that I could work on at home, I did have to commute to campus for an entire day, rather than having to commute twice or even three times a week for the same course. These hybrid courses also work fabulously for the students who like to be independent and complete tasks however they desire to complete them. As a commuter, this course was great for me. Due to one of my classes being a hybrid course it is great in retrospect because students that is completely entirely from behind a computer screen, and that is just not the case.

In my own experience with a hybrid course, the online portion of the course featured many lectures with voiceovers, as well as Blackboard-integrated activities that supplemented the lectures you listened to, but hypothetically you could complete assignments at any time during the day that works best with your schedule. Even though I have noticed in my own hybrid course that quizzes and tests were timed, the lectures and assignments could be completed any time before the said due-date, in the morning, after work, right before bed, etc.

As a commuter, this course was great for me. Due to one of my classes being a hybrid course it is great in retrospect because students might argue is treating the Palestinians like America once treated Native Americans. Take a moment to see out of the eyes of the “other side.” Government surveillance is not the key to combatting terrorism. Here in America, many people fail to grasp the basic driving forces behind the atmosphere of contempt against America that comes from the Middle East, as our government and its British counterparts in Saudi Arabia, and Android users, but also actively worked with its British counterparts in doing so.

By now, everyone is familiar with the arguments for and against the government surveillance that has been passionately tossed back and forth over the last few months. Supporters of the NSA’s secretive intelligence activities claim that they are necessary for protecting our country from terrorists, and that Edward Snowden is a traitor who deserves to be put into jail.

Imagine you have lived your entire life in a Yemeni village. You live a simple life, herding sheep with your family and neighbors. Then one day, an American drone swoops down from the sky and strikes the home of a villager known to be active in an Islamic extremists group. The extremist is dead, but your family and many of your friends were also caught in the explosion and have died or been maimed. Would you have a positive view of the U.S. after experiencing something like this? The best way to combat terrorism is to stop the counterproductive, self-hating practices that lead to us breeding generation after generation of Middle Easterners with contempt for America.

Instead of attempting to alter foreign policy to be more diplomatic and constructive towards a lasting peace, the government gives the NSA fall to see this. It is quicker and easier to simply carry out secretive programs that infringe on our constitutional rights. Especially in the NSA, peace means that their workers are out of a job. Of course, there will always be threats to our security for the NSA to handle, but if our current diplomatic disaster in the Middle East ever gets resolved, the NSA will not be as needed as they once were. Perhaps they will be subjected to budget cuts that many of their Republican allies support, and many will lose their jobs. Naturally the NSA will defend its work.

It’s also hypothetical to use illegal and inhumane practices in the name of combating terrorism. The justification of the conflicts we are currently in and have recently fought has been to prevent a Middle East, America, and world ruled by Sharia law. Such a world would not be free, subjected to the will of a repressive government forcing its people to conform to rules and values they don’t support. It is justifiable to win such a fight by implementing policies that would otherwise be in place if the people we are fighting were to win? Terrorism and rights violations are still terrorism and rights violations even if it is committed by a legitimate government, even our own government. Unfortunately, many Americans fail to see this.

Matt Bacon
International Editor

Since June, one of the hottest topics in the American political sphere has been the degree to which our own Intelligence agencies can use the Internet and mobile technology to gather information from American citizens. It has been over three months since Edward Snowden leaked the first documents suggesting that the NSA had the ability to access boundless information from our phones, and it seems like every week there are still new leaks coming out.

Earlier this month, a new Snowden leak reported by the German press claimed that the NSA had not only broken the codes protecting the information of Apple, Blackberry, and Android users, but also actively worked with its British counterparts in doing so.

But now, everyone is familiar with the arguments for and against the government surveillance that has been passionately tossed back and forth over the last few months. Supporters of the NSA’s secretive intelligence activities claim that they are necessary for protecting our country from terrorists, and that Edward Snowden is a traitor who deserves to be put into jail.

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Boston Calling invites music-lovers to festival hosted at City Hall Plaza

This Memorial Day weekend united students and music-lovers from various schools and hubs around the city during the Boston Calling Music Festival. Hosted in Boston’s City Hall Plaza, the festival returned with many headliners of all genres including popular artists Kendrick Lamar, Vampire Weekend, Diplo, and Solange just to name a few of the famous acts in attendance.

Boston Calling also cast light upon Boston-bred bands like Bearstronaut and Passion Pit, who were once-upon-a-time students at Emerson College and Berklee College of Music. “I honestly went to Boston Calling because I was given free tickets which had me pretty excited,” said Suffolk sophomore Robert Heap, “Passion Pit was probably my favorite, they make really awesome music. I didn’t know about Bat For Lashes before attending Boston Calling, they had really awesome energy during their set – I was a fan.”

The two-day long festival took attention to Boston’s downtown quarters, drawing listeners of all ages to the box office and even the lining of the fences surrounding Government Center plaza where many spectators paused for a listen. Filling the streets with live music, allowing new students to the city of Boston to have the opportunity to experience a full-filled musical outdoor event – all well worth the memories.

Time performances had the perfect setting of sunshine and the financial district buildings in the background of the sporadically built Red and Blue stages. The performances that flowed from sunset into the later part of the evening drew even more spectators to the crowd as festival attendees raced between the two stages following each set hoping to get a glimpse of their favorite performer. “I had passes for both days but was only super interested in the artists performing on Sunday,” said student Lindsay Clark, who attended Boston Calling along with a group of about 10 of her fellow classmates.

Sunday singer Solange lightened the ton lately, we had to make sure the turn up was very real.” Days following the festival Passion Pit was deemed as the best performance by the listeners at Boston Calling, closing the festival on the way from Los Angeles to Boston,” said Lamar expressing his happiness to have returned to the hub. “We’ve been hearing a lot about Bos-

The essence of the festival seemed to present a perfect transition from the summer season into fall, as the day was set as Clark’s favorite performance due to “the best music playing” – Major Laser and Diplo turned out to be her least favorite of Sunday’s sets. “I’ve seen Diplo perform a few times before outside of Boston and this was my least favorite performance,” said Clark, “it’s a bit different because Major Laser is more of a party and when Diplo played it was more all about the performance.”

The Swift drop in temperature the first evening of the festival reinvites music-lovers to festival hosted at City Hall Plaza.

Boston Calling

This Memorial Day weekend united students and music-lovers from various schools and hubs around the city during the Boston Calling Music Festival. Hosted in Boston’s City Hall Plaza, the festival returned with many headliners of all genres including popular artists Kendrick Lamar, Vampire Weekend, Diplo, and Solange just to name a few of the famous acts in attendance.

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Sunday singer Solange lightened the spirit of the day by delivering soulful fun sounds, as she encouraged the audience members to dance along with her funky bandmates. Sunday’s other performances included Wolfgang Gartner, Phume, Big Black Delta, Bearstronaut and Flostradamus, who small festival didn’t deter any interest of the few attendees joining the fest on Saturday evening to catch headline Vampire Weekend. Excitement buzzed as Boston Calling came to an end, presenting Kendrick Lamar, a popular rapper the Blue Stage. It seemed that most in attendance seemed to be swaying with the sounds of the locally-bred band. With the perfect atmosphere of sunset, light and energy of the crowd, Passion Pit ended Boston Calling 2013 on a flawless note.
Lo"re's The Love Club EP served up to be one of the best

Kate Franco
Journal Contributor

It seems to be that Ella Yelich-O'Connor, more popularly known as Lorde, has been one of the most talked about artists of 2013. It may come as a shock to many listeners when they discover that the Davenport, New Zealand native is only 16 years old. The young, motivated, artist blew fans away when her debut EP, The Love Club which was released in March 2013, Lorde puts her signature mark into the EP, leaving listeners utterly impressed with her work. The EP features five original songs, including her hit single "Royals" which debuted at No. 1 on the New Zealand Top 40 where it remained for seven weeks.

The 16-year-old, Lorde's hit single, "Royals," is a song where Lorde seems to shine light upon rap artists who put certain emphasis on their lyrics. "But every song's like gold teeth / Grey Goose, tripping in the bathroom." Lorde expresses in her lyrics. "Blood stains, ball gowns, trainin' the hotel room, we don't care / We're drivin' Cadillacs in our dreams."

Lorde is potentially illustrating a similarity as to the message a typical pop song is delivering. Clearly, Lorde is looking to address a particular point. The song continues with the lyrics, "That kind of lux just ain't for us / We crave a different kind of buzz." Lorde expresses herself by singing about her own fantasy and what makes her feel invincible.

Following with another single from the EP, the song "Love Club" is a track where Lorde attempts to be honest and open about her deep-hearted emotions. "There's nothing more I want / Except to be alone / My mother's love is choking me / I'm sick of words that hang above my head," and "be part of the love club / every thing will glow for you," are a brief overview of the artist's emotions and personal story. Songs like this one are what make Lorde such an unique artist with such an original, honest, and fearless sense of her feelings embedded in her melodies.

So what makes Lorde so different than the others up and coming? You could probably agree that the artist's ability to express and draw an image with her lyrics is pretty impressive for someone who is only 16-years-old. It is almost as if the EP would sound like it would come from someone who is twice her age.

After more interviews are conducted and information is released about this talented artist, it is clear that Lorde is easily influenced by the electro-pop sound with musical influences including The Weekend. This could be one of the many explanations as to why Lorde sings and illustrates the joy and pains of youth.

Lorde is a voice and talent that is consistently attracting new listeners, which openly has encouraged Lorde to continue on with her musical career and dreams. The EP was ultimately a success for Lorde, leaving listeners craving for more from the artist.

Now You See Me film thrills audiences

Kaisy Conery
Journal Contributor

If you have found yourself in dire need of a mind-boggling movie full of unexpected twists and turns, then you have also found yourself in luck. Now You See Me is the perfect movie for you to watch. It has everything you need in a great film. It is filled with suspense, action, humor, and even some romance. From the plot to the production designs, you cannot take your eyes off of the screen.

As the second film starts rolling, the viewers are filled with non-stop wonderments of what is actually occurring and the mystery of where scenes will take viewers after a few scenes. The movie is filled with the individual acts of four different magicians who are illusionists and entertainers. The plot goes on when the viewers are shown a mysterious hooded figure watching each individual act and each scene to follow, leading the viewers to believe that random strangers are common occurrences in prior scenes to follow. This is where the mind-boggling, suspense-filled, and action-packed scenes come into play during the entire film.

On the movie becomes more focused on the four people together as one act called "The Four Horsemen" than as each person as a separate solo act. The "Four Horsemen" at first, appear to be typical, yet extremely original, magicians who have their first performance in a Las Vegas stage. But, that is when the movie begins to go to an even more interesting level.

As shown in the previews, their first act is robbing a bank all the way in Paris. From then on, the viewer is most likely unable to predict what occurs in the scenes to follow. This is where the mind-boggling, suspense-filled, and action-packed scenes come into play during the entire film. This movie also will come to favor for history buffs by this favor for history buffs by seeing NYSFM on pg-10.

Rockstar's Grand Theft Auto release excites gamers Worldwide

Journal Contributor

When Grand Theft Auto hit the scene back in October of 1997, video game fanatics were beside themselves with this new source of entertainment for their gaming devices. Fast forward to 2013 — with the release of Grand Theft Auto V, nothing has changed. Rockstar Games released the next set to the series Monday Sep. 16 at midnight for die-hard gaming fans to brawl with one another for purchasing rights to the existing copies in stores.

Being released as one of a kind game for home consoles, Grand Theft Auto continues to have fans lining up hours before release at local Game Stop locations all over the country. Now available for the Xbox360 and Playstation 3, GTA V is shaping up to be the talk as if "Christmas came early" it has been noted to explore new territories that the prior series have been a tad too shy to shine light upon.

Rockstar in contrast to other major game developers to the fun-filled game claimed the game mentioned that GTA V would feature three different unique characters, as opposed to the usual option of only one. The game also takes place in a fictional setting that similarly mirrors Los Angeles, Calif., reaching new heights.

With this project Madonna stated she was looking to "inspire change in the world through artful expressions," said Madonna in a statement released Tuesday. "I hope my film and other submissions to Art For Freedom will be a call-to-action and give people a voice to share their own creative expression to help fight oppression, intolerance and inequality."

As of the late wave of Instagram photos being released by the studio, Madonna has shared multiple trailers for the secret project as she raised fans awareness to the films release before the date of premiere. Tuesday the singer announced that the energy extracted via the 16-minute film are set to promote a global initiative and promote freedom of expression under the umbrella of Art for Freedom.

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ally thibault
managing editor

fresh italian herbs placed around the main gallery at the new england school of art and design last thursday night for the opening of the "away for the summer" exhibit filled the room with the aromas of europa. watercolor paintings of the valle de ebro and photographs of spanish cities transported spectators from the space at 75 allston st. to the beauty of tuscany's gardens and the bustle of madrid's streets.

graphic design professor wallace marosek led his 10th summer course to italy this year while photograph professor ken martin led a photography course to spain for the first time. "i've never traveled before," said senior graphic design major victoria burnett, who took the italian art course, "it was so exciting to not paint in a stuffed-up classroom."

marosek's watercolor class, combined with professor grace consoli's art history course, both based in florence for about six weeks, gave students the chance to live and learn while immersed in italian life and history. "students interested in [renaisance art] in their books have access like i had," marosek said.

i loved studying renaissance art in class, so it was great to be able to see it in person," burnett said. marosek has been visiting europe over summers to paint "since diapers" and has connections with royal families and the author of "under the tuscan sun" which allows him bring students to exclusive places.

"i wanted students to have access like i had," marosek said. "i'm always determined to give them the most incredible, wow experience." students spent most of the time in florence, but also enjoyed a few days in rome, a week in venice, and some day trips to pisa, florence, and murano.

musical especially enjoyed the travel aspect of the illustration and graphic design reason why you should - no, need - to see this movie. it is definitely worth the time and undoubtably worth the money. "you need to see this movie," burnett said. "it's a must watch of the season and all within good reason."

" away for the summer " exhibit showcases students work from italy and spain

"spain is much different than italy," martin said. while he has many contacts in italy to help facilitate his suffolk trips there, he had to "make new friendships" in spain. "i can't say enough about the suffolk madrid faculty and staff - they were just great." lens on spain traveled to several locations in the country. based in madrid, the class also brought students to cordoba, granada, bilbao and toledo to name a few places. "it's so easy to only see the tourist sites, it's much harder to get into the spanish history," mar

the gallery is open from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. monday through saturday, and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on saturdays and sundays.

jamaican queens visits allston's great scott with new album wormfood

jamaican queens aren't simply a band which is trying to adhere to any music industry standards. they are lucily taking their love of folk and electronic music and incorporating them in a way they call "detroit trap-pop."

currently living in a day and age where most bands look to channel a certain sound or genre, it's refreshing to hear something as unique as jamaican queens describe their music. "you don't get to choose what you get to play," says lead singer and rapper spencer cody. "we're just going to go down the path of whatever it is we write."
Opinion: To strike or not to strike, Intervention in the Syrian crisis

Benjamin Linares
Journal Contributor

Teddy Roosevelt once said, “Knowing what is right doesn’t mean much unless you do what is right.” I was taught that no matter what the outcome, Americans stand up for what is right. Not what looks better in the papers or on CNN but what is fundamentally the right thing to do. I am sad to say that we failed to stand up for what was right in Syria. 1,429. That’s how many people were killed because of the gruesome and horrendous acts of the Syrian dictator Bashar al-Assad. As Americans, we should have stood up for all of them. Hundreds were innocent children who, I never experience any sort of happiness or freedom. I don’t claim to be a military expert, and I certainly agree with the fact that no American boots should hit the ground in Syria, but I know that as a country, we should have helped. I believe that we should have helped the Syrian rebels. We should have struck with such a force that every room in Bashar al-Assad’s presidential palace crumbled to the ground. Not because it would make us seem powerful or heroic but because it was the right thing to do. America is the world’s only pre-eminent power. What would it mean if we just stood by and allowed hundreds of thousands of innocent people to die from outlawed chemical weapons? In my opinion, it doesn’t make us any better than the dictator who commits these crimes.

I applaud President Obama, Secretary Kerry and the international community for coming together and figuring out a potential way around this problem without force. I am the first to agree that if diplomacy can be reached without further bloodshed, then that is the right position to take. So, the next question is, what can Obama do? US officials have to implement a plan in which the Syrian regime hands over its chemical weapons stockpile to the international community. All countries should be stripped of even single chemical weapon in their arsenals. But is that enough? Assad gets away with murder? If you ask me, the crime does not fit the consequence. There should still be grave penalties for these heinous crimes.

Those who are elected to Congress should show their desire to give control of Syria back to its people and to do so without the cost of any American lives. This is no easy task, I am aware of that. But what I do know is that we cannot stand idly by and let these atrocities happen. This op-ed is not a call to arms or by any means mean to encourage war. It’s a call to common sense, a call to heart, and a call to hope.

A couple of years ago, I learned what’s known as the serenity prayer. “God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference.”

Some things cannot be changed, but others can. I hope that other countries have the power to do so, and we will come together and not only have the wisdom, but the courage needed to do the right thing.

Sam Humphrey
Journal Contributor

On Saturday, U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry and Russian Foreign Minister Sergel Lavrov announced a plan to remove chemical weapons from Syria. The announcement followed reports that President Bashar al-Assad’s forces used nerve gas on civilians on Aug. 21. President Obama said that using chemical weapons crossed “a red line” and necessitated U.S. intervention.

However, numerous recent policy shows that Americans overwhelmingly oppose Obama’s proposed missile strike on Syria, likely fearing that any “limited action” could escalate into another ground war with no end in sight.

In a Sept. 10 speech on Syria, Obama himself promised, “I will not take military action unless and until we have an ended action,” politically, the politically correct word for war. (These days) like Iraq or Afghanistan. I will not pursue a prolonged air campaign like Libya or Iraq. This would be a targeted strike to achieve a clear objective—deter the use of chemical weapons and degrading Assad’s capabilities.

But a one-time strike would be shortsighted. The best we could hope for, in Obama’s words, is that “a targeted strike could make Assad, or any other dictator, think twice about using chemical weapons.” A strike could make Assad think twice. Or, it could encourage him to double down and deploy even nastier tactics to stay in power. One just knows until he or she tries. Luckily for Obama, America, Kerry and Lavrov, a quick, relatively straightforward plan with a timetable and an endgame goal, so Obama can take a U.S. missile strike off the table for good.

U.N. inspectors will submit an inventory of Syria’s chemical weapons stockpile to the U.N. Security Council this week. All of Syria’s equipment used to produce the weapons must be destroyed by November, and all poisonous materials and weapons must be destroyed by mid-2014, according to CNN. Personnel from the U.N. and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons will oversee the destruction and collection processes. No U.S. troops have been requested.

That doesn’t mean removing the weapons will be easy. Plenty could go wrong during the process, and verifying that inspectors have removed every last weapon and component could be contentious.

England

If all goes according to plan, the chemical weapons won’t really slow the bloodshed in Syria. A single chemical weapon attack killed less than 100 this week. The total casualties of the war. Assad will still cling to power, and the rebels will still fight him despite the fighting and TECHNOLOGICALLY INFERIOR WEAPONS.

Neither a missile strike (which Obama himself said would be unlikely to hurt Assad) nor a ground war would stabilize Syria. If the U.S. removes Assad’s regime from power, there will be no clear successor, and the situation would likely deteriorate further. Assad’s forces were killed because of the brutal civil war that came by boat from Indonesia seeking asylum.

Australia

Tony Abbott was sworn in yesterday as the new Prime Minister of Australia. Abbott, 55, has been a flying conditions are since 1994 and is the leader of the conservative Liberal-National Party. He won the office of Prime Minister, defeating his Labor Party predecessor, Kevin Rudd. His election ends a six-year rule of the conservative Liberal-National Party. He won the office of Prime Minister, defeating his Labor Party predecessor, Kevin Rudd. His election ends a six-year rule.

In a speech after he was sworn in, Abbott promised he would immediately get to work in his new job. At the top of his agenda is to repeal a tax on carbon emissions, as well as working to quell the influx of illegal immigrants that come by boat from Indonesia seeking asylum.

Greece

Economic chaos and instability continues in Greece, as public sector workers have called for more strikes to protest civil service cuts and forced transfers. The planned cuts would place 25,000 doctors, 10,000 police officers, and 1,300 teachers on a reduced salary before being transferred or laid off. Fifteen-thousand of the workers affected will be jobless by 2015. Greece is currently in its third year of economic crisis, and was arguably hit worse than any other European country during the most recent financial meltdown. Protests have been rampant in the last three years, threatening political stability in Greece and the economic stability of the European Union.

Iran

Iranians had access to Facebook and Twitter for the first time in four years yesterday, as a technical glitch temporarily removed the government block on the two sites. Twitter and Facebook have been blocked by the government since 2009, when some 20,000 Iranian Twitter users blocked the site. The government restored the block on a reduced salary before being transferred or laid off. Fifteen-thousand of the workers affected will be jobless by 2015. Greece is currently in its third year of economic crisis, and was arguably hit worse than any other European country during the most recent financial meltdown. Protests have been rampant in the last three years, threatening political stability in Greece and the economic stability of the European Union.

Mexico

Deadly floods have forced a mass evacuation of the Mexican resort town of Acapulco. More than 2,000 tourists have been airlifted by the Mexican Army. The region was hit hard by Tropical Storm Manuel, immediately followed by Hurricane Ingrid, marked the first time in 20 years such powerful storms hit Mexico in less than 48 hours. Although 2,000 have been rescued, it is believed that about 40,000 tourists and residents remain stranded in the town. Forty-seven people have already been reported dead. The weather has made it hard to evacuate the trapped because flying conditions are difficult and airports and runways remain closed.
...Takes on issues

- All Night Long
  Plus 211 points

- P-I-Z-Z-A
  Plus 500 points

- Bruce's commute is too long
  Minus 50 points

- Breaking Bad ends soon
  Minus 500 points

- Journal editors move to Eastie
  Plus 400 points

- Donahue Cafe still closes at 4 p.m.
  Minus 400 points

- It's cold already
  Minus 200 points

- Polar Seltzer
  Plus 100 points

- Gianna got stuck in an Elevator
  Minus 150 points

Total points this week: -81

Opinion: Verdict in on gang rape in India

Ally Johnson
Journal Staff

The four men accused of raping and murdering a 23-year-old woman in India were sentenced to death by hanging on Sept. 13.

Seven months ago, a young woman was beaten and gang raped by the group of young men. She was then dumped on the side of the road along with her male friend who had been beaten.

The men had found her and her friend while driving a New Delhi bus and had tricked them into getting into the vehicle, which appeared on all accounts to be safe. She and her friend were beaten and she was held down while repeatedly sexually attacked. She was taken to a hospital where she was treated for intensive injuries that resulted in the removal of internal organs. She died two weeks later in a hospital in Singapore.

The four men stood in court with Judge Yogesh Khanna who said that the court could not ignore cases such as the bus attack in December. The judge called it "the rarest of rare category," one deserving capital punishment. This is a crime that's drawn international attention due to the protests inspired in the country about sexual violence in India.

Protestors this week have been asking for the death penalty for the attackers- Akshay Thakur, Vinay Sharma, Pawan Gupta and the younger brother of the bus driver. Two others were involved, one of which was tried as a minor and the other who hanged himself in prison. After the announcement there was an enthusiastic response from the crowd in and outside of the courtroom. However, there are some human rights activists who are calling for the courts to take a second look at the judgment, saying that no matter how harmful the crime, death is never the answer. The four men's lawyers will also be looking for an appeal for life in prison rather than capital punishment in the following weeks.

Sexual violence has distressingly often been a crime swept under the rug all over the world. It happens and people acknowledge it, but not without a moment of hesitation or doubt. There are still newscasts that say that the victim involved may be lying; in the Steubenville sexual assault case the news made sure to paint the attackers, young football players, as the victims of the crime. Girls are still told to never walk alone, to never dress in a way that may appear provocative to men who can't resist their urges, to invest in pepper spray, walk in the middle of the street, and never ever appear to be an easy target.

For women there is a fair share of rules to safely exist day-to-day in a safe environment. The case in India and the verdict are a step in a direction that hints at progress leading to the question: will this case reduce the number of sexual assault cases seen in India?

The ruling serves as a message to the collective Indian public and hopefully anyone following the case. If there is any silver lining to come from such a heinous attack, it is the hope for a growth in awareness and consequences to the atrocities women face at the hands of sexual abusers.
Red Sox bounce-back season moves towards playoffs

As Major League Baseball winds down its regular season, post-season matchups are becoming clearer, and teams are fighting for their proverbial lives. With the new extended wild card this year, teams who are usually looking up from the middle of the standings have a chance to grab a second spot. The new wildcard format will include two teams capturing a birth to a stress filled and matchups based one game playoff to determine who will play in the ALDS.

One of those teams that doesn't have to worry about capturing a wild card spot are the back-from-the-dead Boston Red Sox. After a disastrous and embarrassing 2012 campaign which included a historic September collapse, a clown of a manager, and a beer and chicken rebellion amongst players and management. Some much-needed extermination of all that was poison in the Red Sox clubhouse was needed after the soap opera that was Fenway Park's 100 year anniversary. Players with loaded contracts got dumped away to —

Photo courtesy of Flickr User Keith Allison

Asst. Sports Editor

Jeremy Hayes

Suffolk University's women's tennis team is back in full swing as they are three games into the 2013 season. It has been a rocky start for the Lady Rams starting out 0-3, but they will still have plenty of conference games to try and make it to the postseason.

Senior tennis player Stacey Politis is not troubled about their first two losses of the season, and appears confident about the Lady Rams as a tight and more experienced group.

"I feel that each year we get closer and stronger and we only lost one senior from last year and gained three new girls this year," said Politis, from Saugus, Mass. "We feel more comfortable and know how everyone plays. We build on our strengths and work on our weaknesses."

The only senior the Lady Rams lost was Kelly Conrad, who played 13 matches as the first slot going up against the best each college had to offer. It would appear that three of the six starting slots for singles matches are going to be held by seniors including Politis, Allison Weisenbach, and Lizzy Arkins.

Every match is going to be tough this year for the Lady Rams considering that they only have four matches on their home court the whole season, understands the importance of the matches versus the outdoor courts a majority of other schools we play have," said Politis. "We have our own routine on the court whether it be a 30-minute trip or a two hour trip. I'm big on traditions and we have a couple songs we always listen to pump us up. All the traveling isn't ideal but we always put up a fight and leave everything out on the court."

Arkins, who played the second singles slot to open the season, has also been a big contributor offensively stroking 12 home runs and plating 62 men. Other players who have raised their game have been outfielder/infielder Daniel Nava and Jarrod Saltalamacchia. Nava is hitting over .300 in 123 games this year. The catcher

Photo courtesy of Flickr User Keith Allison

of Mike Carp, Gomes has blasted a dozen homers and driven in 49 team members. Two walk-off home runs in a span of two weeks in July sparked the team to a solid month of baseball in August. The team has not cooled down in September. It would appear that three of the six starting slots for singles matches are going to be held by seniors including Politis, Allison Weisenbach, and Lizzy Arkins.

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So many players have contributed to a Major League best 91-59 record which includes a nine-game lead over the second place Tampa Bay Rays. This season has highlighted the play of Mike Carp, who gives one of the most professional at-bats on the team. Shane Victorino has been a defensive animal in right field, although he has battled injuries all season he has been playing almost every day and was nominated for player of the month in August. Shortstop Steven Drew (yes, brother of JD) and Daniel Nava have been solid in the field all season. Drew has turned is around this season and a big part of that has been manager of the year candidate, See SOX page 14

Women's tennis looks to improve on 2013 season

Suffolk University's women's tennis team is back in full swing as they are three games into the 2013 season. It has been a rocky start for the Lady Rams starting out 0-3, but they will still have plenty of conference games to try and make it to the postseason.

Senior tennis player Stacey Politis is not troubled about their first two losses of the season, and appears confident about the Lady Rams as a tight and more experienced group.

"I feel that each year we get closer and stronger and we only lost one senior from last year and gained three new girls this year," said Politis, from Saugus, Mass. "We feel more comfortable and know how everyone plays. We build on our strengths and work on our weaknesses."

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Rafael Nadal wins U.S. Open

Rafael Nadal shocked the world by losing in the first round of Wimbledon back in June this year, but he has certainly muted the critiques by winning his second U.S. Open title. The sensational Spaniard defeated world's number one ranked Novak Djokovic 6-2, 3-6, 6-4, 6-1 in only three hours and 21 minutes. Nadal showed once again that he can beat anyone easily when he is playing his best, even number one in the world. This statement might not be true on grass courts, but on all other courts it is very true. Nadal seems to be back on top after his serious injury and long pause from tennis. Back in May he won the French Open and it now seems that Djokovic has a serious rival for the world's No. 1 spot. "Rafa" is still behind by a lot of points in the world rankings, but the gap is getting smaller and smaller now.

Samuel Eto'o Signs with Chelsea

The living legend Samuel Eto'o is back at the top of the European soccer scene with his new Chelsea deal. The Cameroonian player spent two years at Russian club Anzhi where he became the world's highest paid soccer player with a lucrative contract. Recently the club's owner decided to cut down in the budget of the club and that's when the club had to say goodbye to almost all of its star players including Eto'o. The Camerooner player could very well be the attacking force that Chelsea is looking for. Eto'o has played both in the Spanish and Italian leagues scoring almost 250 goals during his time in Mallorca, Barcelona and Inter Milan combined. The talented forward has made almost all possible trophies and has made 122 appearances for his national team.

Christiano Ronaldo becomes World's Highest Paid Soccer Player

Even though Lionel Messi is still arguably the best player in the world, he is not the highest paid anymore. With Christiano Ronaldo's new five-year deal for the galactic club Real Madrid, he is now the highest-paid soccer player. Last season rumors sounded that Ronaldo was about to leave Madrid, but things in the soccer universe tend to change extremely fast and now Ronaldo seems to be more committed to the "Royal" club than ever. There is no doubt that with this fantastic contract Real Madrid show Ronaldo that he is the man of the future and the man that has to lead the team to glory both in Spain and on the international stage. So far Ronaldo has had a great time in Real Madrid scoring goals like the unstoppable force he can be. Who will win the Spanish league title this year? Certainly this contract puts its pressure on Ronaldo to make sure Real wins the title.

From SOX page 13

John Farrell. Farrell was a long-time pitching coach for the Red Sox before becoming the manager of the Toronto Blue Jays in 2012. Farrell was acquired by the Sox in the offseason for utility infielder Mike Aviles. A new coaching staff has handled a very closely-watched 2013 season for a team having something to prove after their meltdown at the end of the previous year. Relatively new GM Ben Cherington has succeeded in compiling a group of guys who have good attitudes and genuinely like each other...it's just a bonus that they're playing championship caliber baseball.

The Red Sox rank as the fifth-best pitching staff in the American League, and are the most prolific offense in all of baseball. The Sox have scored 782 runs this season, 37 more than the second place Detroit Tigers. The Sox have hit 339 doubles, 27 triples, 162 home runs, and are hitting .276 as a team. Classic staples in the Red Sox line-up remain in David Ortiz, Dustin Pedroia, and Jacoby Ellsbury. All three players have had noticeable seasons. Pedroia and Ellsbury have both had gold glove-caliber years along with solid numbers at the plate. And all David Ortiz did is miss the beginning of the season yet leads the MLB in intentional walks while slaming 27 dingers, driving in 92 runs, and hitting .305. You could say this year has been a turnaround year from a sloppy 60-93 record last season. Baseball is back in Boston and the city is poised for postseason play for the first time since 2009. After the tragedies that transpired earlier this year, the Red Sox have embodied the Boston Strong brand. Adorning their sleeves every night is a Boston Strong patch, along with a jersey hanging from the dugout no matter on the road or at home that is numbered 617 with Boston Strong surrounding it. The ballpark is electric again and beard pulling has been a norm in the surrounding areas of Landsdown street and Yawkey way. The guys in red are closing in on their first division title since 2007. The Yankees sit in fourth place scratching and clawing at that second wild card.

Photo by of Flickr user Keith Allison

Men's Soccer

1. Norwich 1-0
2. Saint Joseph's 1-0
3. Lasell 0-1
4. Emmanuel 0-0
5. Johnson & Wales 0-0-1
6. Rivier 0-0-1
7. Suffolk 0-1
8. Mount Ida 0-1
9. Albertus Magnus 0-1
10. Anna Maria 0-1

Women's Soccer

1. St. Joseph (CT) 1-0
2. Lasell 1-0
3. Emmanuel 1-0
4. Albertus Magnus 1-0
5. Simmons 1-0
6. Saint Joseph’s (ME) 0-1
7. Suffolk 0-1
8. Anna Maria 0-1
9. Johnson & Wales 0-1
10. Norwich 0-1
11. Rivier 0-1
12. Mount Ida 0-1

Soccer Schedule

Women: Suffolk @ Emerson, 5 p.m. Thursday, September 19th
Men: Suffolk @ Anna Maria 12 p.m. Saturday, September 21st
The Suffolk University volleyball team has posted a 6-4 record, giving it a better start after the 10 first games than last year's 4-6 start. With the recent victories against Salem State and Curry College, things are looking bright for the Lady Rams and they appear to be on the right track to do well this year. Last season the squad was seeded ninth in the GNAC tournament, but judging from the season so far there are reasons to believe in a much higher position in 2013.

There have been a lot of changes in the team this year as former assistant coach Kristine Michelson has become the new head coach for the team. Michelson has served as the assistant volleyball coach for two years with the team and prior to that she had an incredible career as a college athlete for Bentley University. She played all four years of college and never missed a contest posting almost 1000 kills, 399 digs and 299 blocks. In 2006 she led Bentley to the North East Conference much more difficult when they were playing in the mud, but this soccer team might put most teams down in their true colors.

The 2013 season for the Suffolk men's soccer team has not been what they had hoped for. The team has dropped the first five games of the season, being outscored 13-2 and that makes it even harder. In our last game against St. Joe's of Maine. Although the taste may be bitter, the end goal is to have something great will come out of it. The changes in the team have made it has made its new coach believing the Lady Rams are stronger and ready for the challenges this season will bring.

The September seventh tilt to Somerville. Tufts scored four goals in the first half, then added another five in the second to blow out the Rams 7-0. It was a game they had to move on from quickly with the Monks this year. Last year Suffolk finished seventh in the GNAC conference and lost in the first round of the playoffs to eventual conference winner St. Joe's of Maine. Although it was an early exit, the Rams had to play a tough team and will look to switch places with the Monks this year.

The Rams have a strong core of seniors who are all key to the final score 7-0. The rematch of the game that ended their season last year left a bitter taste in the mouth of Rams players. After a scoreless first half of soccer, St. Joe's Ralph Houanche put the Monks on the scoreboard 67 minutes into the game. Another goal was added for St. Joe's in the 77th minute that led to the final score 2-0.

Although the taste may be bitter, the unlikely start is pushing the team to improve every practice and to show that they are a team to be watching as the season progresses. Senior midfielder Jeff Williams is not getting down on his team and knows that their record isn't an indication of their true colors.

"It has been a rough start. We have a couple of games by one or two goals and that makes it even harder. In our last game against St. Joe's, we conceded the first goal with about 20 minutes left to play. Up to that point, we had a couple of good chances offensively and had shut them down defensively. We have a number of injured players and minimal substitutes, so it's making it tough to close out games against such tough opponents."

The team is also working on their conditioning at practices to ensure that they are up to tempo with their opponents.

"Our coaches have run us through a number of offensive drills such as finishing shots on goal and finding space to make shots. We also have run quite a bit to ensure our fitness level is where it needs to be. The offensive chances will come in time, right now we need to continue to focus on playing together and possessing the ball," says Williams.

The Chicago native is optimistic about the season and knows that the players on his team have the potential to make some noise this year in the conference.

"Defensively, we have a solid group of four players led by our captain James Harvey, that are playing extremely well. Offense we have struggled, but Djibril Niang and Tyler Purnell are two players that really help us get things going on the offensive side of the ball," said Williams.

"Even though our record doesn't show it, we have a solid squad. Our defense is solid and our offense will come. For whatever reason, we haven't had the better fortune at the end of games and have lost a couple of close ones. I have faith that with a couple of tweaks to our starting lineup and more training together as a unit, we can turn this season around and make a run in the playoffs."

The September seventh tilt against cross-town college Emerson was the third time in three games being shut out. Emerson tallied one goal in each half to take the game 2-0. The most crushing defeat of the season came on Sept. 11 when Suffolk traveled to Tufts for a 4:30 p.m. match in Somerville. Tufts scored four goals in the first half, then added another five in the second to blow out the Rams 7-0. It was a game they had to move on from quickly with the Monks this year.

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McConnell to serve as athletic director for 2013

Sarah A. Lokker
Journal Contributor

Head baseball coach Cary McConnell will serve as the Interim Director of Athletics for Suffolk University for the 2013-2014 calendar year. McConnell will be replacing Jim Nelson, who had previously held the position for 47 years. "He left such big shoes to fill. He was such a good athletic director for so many years," McConnell said when asked if replacing Nelson was going to be a challenge. "I'm excited about the challenge. You want to do a good job, and at least I'm still a coach, so it's part coach part administrator, so I'd like to be successful. I want our teams to be successful." 

Originally from Cleveland, Ohio, McConnell graduated from the College of Wooster, where he also played baseball. During his time at Wooster obtaining his Bachelor's Degree in Political Science, working with different departments such as a resident hall director, he knew he enjoyed the higher-end positions. From there, he went to the University of Rochester and became the head coach there while also attending graduate school, obtaining his Master's Degree in Educational Administration. McConnell replaced Joe Walsh, the former head baseball coach at Suffolk University in 1996. McConnell plans to keep his same work ethic that he brought to his baseball team for the past 18 years to the office as athletic director. He plans to further the legacy left by Jim Nelson by continuing to network, recruit, and contact other facilities to allow access for Suffolk's athletes. "The bottom line is that people need to like you to give you their facilities," said McConnell. He feels that keeping the same level of respect for the athletes and the facilities that Nelson had will be a challenge, but it's something he looks forward to achieving.

Although McConnell is only stepping in as an interim, he wants to make some changes that will last for the upcoming years. McConnell wants to make the experience for the student athletes as welcoming as possible. "I want the teams to be successful," said McConnell. "My focus is really on what is the experience for the student athlete: how can we improve that? How can we make that a top end, professional experience, something that attracts athletes into coming to Suffolk?"

During his time with Suffolk, he has won 453 contests, brought Suffolk to four NCAA Division III Championship Tournament appearances, and four Great Northeast Athletic Conference titles, one of which included the 2000. McConnell was inducted into the Suffolk University Athletic Hall of Fame last May for that championship year. When asked if he would want to continue as the director, he said "It's a challenge, but challenges are always fun."

Tough start for women's soccer, confidence still high

Vassili Stroganov
Sports Editor

Two years ago the Suffolk University women's soccer team reached the GNAC final where they lost 2-1 to a very strong Lasell College team. The Lady Rams were ranked as one of the best offensive Division III teams in the nation and were scoring goals like it was the easiest thing. These glory days have been replaced by a tough reality. Last year, squad posted a below .500 6-11 record and has been struggling so far this year as well. So far the team is 0-4 and still fighting to get its first win of the season. Before the Lady Rams had star players such as Leslie Hayden and Taylor Miranda carrying the team, but now both have graduated and times have changed. The conference has become tougher and it seems like Lasell are the favorites again this year. In order to get back on their feet, Suffolk must improve their defensive abilities. Too many goals are being scored on them these days. Another concerning factor is the fact that the ladies have not scored a single goal in four games. This shows that the offensive abilities must be improved as well. It is extremely important that experienced players Gabrielle Balestrier and Monica Wolf show character and lead the way for the younger players this year. Suffolk's next game is against Emerson and that might just be the game to turn things around. After all, the first four games of the season do not define a season in any way and the early results seem to be a motivational factor for the Lady Rams.

Head coach Earnst Cleophat believes in his players 100 percent and is positive that things will turn around for the Rams. "It's been difficult since the graduation of Leslie Hayden. We need that striker who can score goals is always important for the team. It is not a coincidence that the manager of Arsenal football club in England Arsene Wenger once said: "The best form of defense is attack." Those are words of wisdom and it looks like Suffolk might have found those words to be true when it comes to the new striker Erica Tavares, who just joined the team. Tavares could be a key to unlock the door to all the goals that the Rams need. As long as the Lady Rams can score goals, it does not matter if they are conceding some in their own net. This is exactly why the best defense is to score as many goals against the opponent as possible. Not only it is a great strategy, but it is also the way entertaining soccer should be played. Attacking soccer with many goals is always much more entertaining than goal-less defensive soccer. Suffolk attracts athletes into coming to Suffolk and playing the entertaining and attacking goal scoring way. The next conference game for women's soccer is on Saturday, Sept. 21 against a Simmons College team that looks very strong. This match is extremely important since it is a conference bout and the ladies have to be fully prepared for a tough fight. Despite the statistics, the confidence is high and the Lady Rams believe in capturing a GNAC playoffs spot at the end of the season. The main thing is to keep fighting and not be discouraged by the early string of losses.