Price was named Suffolk’s chief inclusion and diversity officer in July. The July Diversity and Inclusion Office is primarily responsible for overseeing the newly established office of diversity and inclusion as well as helping to recruit and retain a diverse administration, faculty, staff, and student population.

When Price discussed her new position, she expressed excitement and enthusiasm and shared an infectious laugh.

"Suffolk University began with inclusion as one of its main values. We have great potential to continue to enhance that legacy and I am happy to be the catalyst of continuing our mission into the future," said Price. "My primary mission is to provide a framework for Suffolk University's policies, programs, practices and procedures. I want to ensure that Suffolk has a culture of inclusion and respect for all members of our community."

Price says her legal training will help her succeed in her goal of enhancing Suffolk's colorful community. "This training helps me understand systems, their importance and the integral role people play in the success of a system," she said. "In this way, I can be an effective advocate for members of the Suffolk University community and work to make diversity and inclusion a natural part of our community."

Preceding this position, Price was the director of diversity, inclusion, and affinity relations at Suffolk Law School. Before that, she held the position of associate director for academic and multicultural affairs at Boston University School of Law. Price holds a JD from the College of William and Mary School of Law, and a BA in Rhetoric and Communications from the University of Virginia.

"One of my greatest strengths is my legal training particularly in this position," Price said.

"Nicole Price will provide solid leadership in advancing the University’s core value of building a culture of cooperation among diverse groups," said Suffolk University President James McCarthy in a press release from the university.

"Outside of diversity, Price is passionate about children's rights. She once worked in the child abuse field. "I witnessed children's amazing capacity to love in spite of life circumstances," she said.

Price is also a huge football fan. If you see her around Suffolk, make sure to ask her. You might be surprised at the answer.
And, your candidates are...

After an entire generation with Thomas M. Menino, Bostonians are electing a new mayor. Twelve hopefuls vied to win the seat in City Hall. Voters casted their ballots at Tuesday's preliminary election, and two candidates will battle their way to the Nov. 5 final election.

**Martin Walsh with 18.5 percent**

- “Marty” Walsh has been known as a union laborer through his campaign
- A Dorchester native
- Elected to the House of Representatives in 1997
- Represents the 13th Suffolk District
- An advocate for strong public schools
- Has been known as the State House leader on substance abuse and recovery issues
- Plans to fight crime with community efforts.
- Improve services for veterans and Military families

**John Connolly with 17.2 percent**

- Connolly is a Boston City Councilor
- A Roslindale native, who now lives in West Roxbury
- A former teacher
- Wants to make education a priority
- Aims for a sustainable, green Boston
- Hopes to end violence and break cycles of poverty
- Wants to make more affordable neighborhoods
- Transportation plan including late-night MBTA service

Election results according to *The Associated Press*. Facts from campaign websites.
Suffolk education helps Alum achieve dream job

Dan Olson
Journal Staff

A bachelor's degree from Suffolk University is the goal of more than 5,000 students. Landing a position in one's chosen field is an obstacle facing students many today. For Suffolk University Alumnus Ana Nichols, this is finally becoming a reality.

A member of the Class of 2010, Nichols graduated with a degree in public relations and journalism and was recently hired as an SEO accounts manager at 451 Marketing. In her new position, Nichols is responsible for "overseeing the strategy development and executing of all SEO accounts," according to a 451 Marketing press release.

"I wasn't looking for any new opportunities," says Nichols, 25, of Boston. "But, I met the CEO on vacation last year and realized there were positions available." Nichols began at iProspect in October 2011 and stayed for two years. She says that it helped train her for 451 Marketing.

Still, regardless of bullets on a resume, who you know is important.

"The whole time I was a student at Suffolk University, I was a waitress," said Nichols.

"We quite frequently get street recruits," Rosmarin said. College students spotted the group walking along the route from their first stop in Brookline heading towards the Cambridge Street location. Often times the students jumped in the walk for a little while, Rosmarin said.

"Some finish the walk in three hours," said Rosmarin.

"There were lots of people I met just by waiting on their table. You have no idea who's sitting next to you." For Suffolk students hoping for success, sometimes a chat with professors is the most valuable, according to Nichols. They may hold the knowledge necessary for a successful career.

"Talk to your professors and career services. Many professors already have other career experiences." At Suffolk University, Nichols studied both journalism and public relations and says that the skills she learned in doing so contributed to her position today.

"From taking PR courses I gained an understanding of how to work with compliances and with journalism writing valid content is always good to know how to do," says Nichols.

As well as being creative, which I also got from taking journalism.

As far as future prospects for Nichols, she has said that she is content where she is now. "I'm happy now—I would eventually like to be a director of digital strategy or something else that I'm really passionate about.

Nichols offers two pieces of advice to students. "Girls, don't wear flowy skirts in front of the Sawyer building," she warned. But on a more serious note, she said, "internships: graduate with as many as you can."
The Mock Trial team hopes to make history again & SUPERs give students health tips

David Frederick
Journal Staff

Suffolk University’s Mock Trial Team is the breeding ground for those looking to break into the field of all aspects of law, giving students a hands on experience of the inner workings of a court room by working on cases written by the American Mock Trial Association.

Over the summer AMTA distributes cases across the country to all schools that have Mock Trial teams. Students will take the cases and use them throughout the year in trials and tournaments, arguing it in the courtroom, using procedure and the rules of evidence to develop real-life strategies for real-world experience. The team takes on the role of prosecution/plaintiff or defense and another team from another school takes on the opposing role. Then both sides try the case using all their knowledge in the law, rules of evidence, and the case itself.

“Being a witness is the real creative aspect of Mock Trial,” said Tom Logan, a former team member who graduated in 2013. “Students can create personas that give them a look at different perspectives of proper court room etiquette.”

Adapting is a big part of Mock Trial; members have to get everything down to a science.

“It’s a science but also an art, allowing creativity in your argument, your theory – the one way I teach is very unorthodox,” said Mock Trial leader Benjamin Chertok. “You don’t write anything down, you have bullet points and concepts that you need to extrapolate from the witness...you have to adapt those questions because you never know what your witness will be.”

Mock Trial competes in the Innovational, which are tournaments posted by other universities, including UNH, Tufts, Brandeis, UMass, and Boston College. Students Lane Dubreuil, a senior, Chertok, a junior, and Logan all won awards at last year’s Innovational.

Following that, the next step is regionals and following that is the first round of nationals, which is called Opening Round Championships (ORC). Following ORCs, schools progress to the National Championship Tournament (NCT).

Last year was the first year for Suffolk to reach NCT, where the competition is normally between universities of Ivy League stature. This makes Suffolk’s Mock Trial team one of the only private colleges to face Ivy League schools, and sometimes even beat them too.

The group is dedicated, putting in around 70 hours a week around crunch-time of work on top of their already packed schedule. They start usually with two practices a week, both seven hours each. An almost entirely new team was able to get to nationals last year, helping students network with students from colleges across the nation.

While other schools have coaches, Suffolk does not. Although it may seem like a disadvantage, it has helped bridge a strong connection between students.

The past two years have been fantastic for Suffolk’s Mock Trial team since its inception seven years ago. Chertok is the only student at Suffolk to receive the most outstanding attorney at the National level, along with making it into the 2013 Boston Regionals top seven. Hoping to bring in fresh new recruits, the team looks fondly at what ever comes their way on the horizon.

Melissa Hanson
News Editor

The Suffolk University Peer-health Education Resource (SUPER) is the place to go for health questions among college students.

They are not just the group who hands out condoms. The SUPERs are currently hosting programs to reduce stress and plans to address college drinking next month.

“It’s all about education in a fun way,” said Mari Leclerc, a junior SUPER. “We give an approachable way to stay healthy in general.”

Right now, the group is hosting S.O.S., or Serenity Over Stress. Each Monday night they host an event to help students, especially freshmen that are having difficulty adjusting to college life, manage their stress. They have already hosted massage and zumba classes.

Next in store for S.O.S. is a stress on college Awareness Week. One of their strategies will be asking students “what would your night have been like with one less drink?” said Leclerc.

They are mostly trying to bring awareness to the affects of drinking and address overconsumption, said Leclerc.

“We’re asking people to think about their personal habits, not preaching to people not to drink,” Leclerc said. “We’re trying to think about alcohol culture as a whole.”

Other attractions for the SUPERs include the campus crawl. The SUPERs look forward to connecting with students during a night filled with fun events.

And, as always, they will have the free condoms they are most recognized for.

“What would your night have been like with one less drink?”

-SUPERs are asking students

NEWS BRIEF

Boston Police Commissioner Edward F. Davis announced his resignation Monday. Davis was a commencement speaker at the College of Arts and Sciences graduation in May, and his daughter received her degree during the ceremony. Davis served as Commissioner for seven years. He received national attention for his calm response to the April 15 Boston Marathon Bombings. However, officers who serve under Davis have criticized him for the lack of diversity in the Boston Police Department. It has been speculated that Davis will seek a higher position. His resignation comes as Mayor Thomas M. Menino steps down after 20 years.
Slovenian President Turk talks about vision of U.N. with students

Ally Thibault
Managing Editor

For its 6th annual senior lecture series, the United Nations study program at Suffolk University invited former Slovenian President Danilo Turk to speak to students about his work with the International governing body. Held on Tuesday afternoon, the lecture coincided with the first day of the 68th annual U.N. General Assembly meeting in New York City.

Turk most recently served as president of Slovenia from 2002 to 2005 and previously U.N. Assistant Secretary General of Political Affairs from 2000 to 2002. He also has an extensive career in research and teaching international law at the University of Ljubljana.

While the lecture and discussion with Turk was open to the entire university community to attend, the event was aimed specifically at students in the U.N. seminar class this semester that studies how the U.N. headquarters in New York City later in the year.

"It was really cool that we got to hear from someone who has experience in what we're studying," said Cori Simmons, a senior in the seminar course and the president of Suffolk's International Affairs Association. "It adds layers to our studies. It's incredible."

Turk spoke off some prepared remarks that reflected his experience in keeping international peace and security before taking questions from students. Alternating from historical examples to present day situations, Turk expounded on his vision of non-intervention and what the U.N. can, and should, achieve.

"There is always a difference between what is possible and what is desirable," Turk said. While using diplomacy over military force is always preferable, he says it is almost impossible to achieve diplomacy without a stable legal framework or threats of force.

Turk's thoughts inevitably lead to discussion of the current crisis in Syria. He stressed the importance of bringing all sides in the conflict to the table and ensuring that all parties are taken seriously. "Don't confuse rhetoric on one hand with real talk on the other," he warned.

"There is no such thing as light military intervention," Turk said, "It is always painful. Turk agreed with one student that it would be helpful to have a specialized armed unit at the U.N.'s will to enforce policy decisions agreed upon by the Security Council in certain situations, but that such a force cannot exist now.

In 1945 provisions for an armed force were allowed for by the charter but "never materialized." Again in 1992, charter in the U.N. circle around creating a force but the attempt fell flat once more.

Despite its past fates, Turk believes that the debate for a U.N. special armed force will rise up again someday and become possible. "At the level of legal arrangements, only the Security Council has the legitimacy to declare military interventions," Turk said. While the U.N. has its faults, Turk still believes it is the best forum for international policy and discussion, citing North Korea as an example.

The U.N. established a ceasefire in the Korean conflict of the 1950s but never officially ended the war, making the body technically still at war with the North Korean regime, Turk noted. But North Korea has also signed on as a member, giving the country a place to meet with the world and begin to slowly discuss issues.

"You always want to change what's hardest to change," Turk said, when asked what element of the U.N. he would alter if given the chance. "If I could have a miracle, I'd reduce the number of committees especially in development.

After losing his bid for re-election as president of Slovenia in 2012, Turk is now focusing on teaching, writing, and speaking at international conferences.

Turk welcomed the chance to interact with Suffolk students. "Teaching really requires knowledge in another occupation to be effective," Turk told the Journal after the event, "I like to explain diplomacy and public policy to students."
From All Corners:

International opinion

On newly elected Iranian President Hassan Rouhani

By Jack Constantine

Journal Contributor

The people of Iran have taken what seems to be a step in the progressive direction by electing the new, moderate, President Hassan Rouhani. Rouhani has promised to draft a civil liberties charter, recover the dragging Iranian economy, and amend foreign relations with Western nations. But how far will Rouhani go, or rather, how far can he go?

Although he is the President of the Iranian people, he is not the one who has the final say. Ayatollah Ali Khamenei remains the Supreme Leader of Iran, regardless of the presidential election. That means that no matter what Rouhani promises or tries to do, he will be at the mercy of the Ayatollah.

Ayatollah Khamenei is the "missing keystone" in Iran-U.S. relations, and as long as Rouhani remains the Supreme Leader of Iran, an office with a lifetime term, does it even matter that the Iranian people elected him as their president?

We know from Khamenei's past actions and, blatant oppositional statements towards Western culture that he remains absentient to most forms of negotiation with the U.S., especially regarding the Iran nuclear program. There is no doubt that Khamenei holds lingering distaste for the United States, as he showed support for the Iran hostage crisis in the later years of the 1970s, among other anti-western circumstances. So, if Khamenei remains the Supreme Leader of Iran, an office with a life-long term, does it even matter that the Iranian people elected him as their moderate to "improve" Iran-U.S. relations?

Taking a look at the newly elected president's past, an apparent answer may begin to surface as to whether or not he can inspire the Ayatollah to budge on negotiations with the U.S. Though Rouhani is far more liberal than the conservative Khamenei on foreign policy and civil liberties, he remains a longtime follower of the Ayatollah's practices. Rouhani first began following Ayatollah Khomeini (the first supreme leader, not the current one) in 1965, eventually leading to his exitement from Iran prior to the 1979 revolution. Being an ardent follower of the Ayatollah's clerical preaching and policies, Rouhani was granted several prestigious titles of office following the downfall of the Shah of Iran. Most notable of all the positions that Rouhani held was that as the Representative to the Supreme Leader on the Supreme National Security Council (SNSC).

It is easy to deduce from Rouhani's past that he will trustfully follow the Ayatollah, regardless of where or not he is being forced to by the Iranian political system. So, although we may all think that Rouhani is a "new moderate" that is simply not the reality of the situation at hand. In the big picture, the Ayatollah has complete command of everything in Iran, and he will not budge on negotiations surrounding Iran's nuclear ambitions.

I can confidently say that yes, Rouhani will slightly improve diplomacy between Iran and the U.S., but in a very superficial kind of way. Rouhani is far from being the "missing keystone" in Iran-U.S. relations, and as long as Ayatollah Khamenei remains in power that will stay the case.

Photo courtesy of: Wikipedia Commons

Cody Furbish

Journal Contributor

The people of Iran have taken what seems to be a step in the progressive direction by electing the new, moderate, President Hassan Rouhani. Rouhani has promised to draft a civil liberties charter, recover the dragging Iranian economy, and amend foreign relations with Western nations. But how far will Rouhani go, or rather, how far can he go?

Although he is the President of the Iranian people, he is not the one who has the final say. Ayatollah Ali Khamenei remains the Supreme Leader of Iran, regardless of the presidential election. That means that no matter what Rouhani promises to accomplish, it still has to pass through Khamenei first, and there are no exceptions to that rule.

Rouhollah Khamenei has been the Supreme Leader of Iran since 1989, after the death of Ayatollah Khomeini (who lead the Iranian Revolution against the Shah of Iran, Mohammad Reza Pahlavi), and has enjoyed boundless public support over the decades since his coming to power.
Passion Latina: salsa, reggaeton, and more set to take over campus

Passion Latina is the newest student group to hit the extracurricular scene on Suffolk University's campus. A Latin dance group open to practicing all kinds of dance and music, Passion Latina is currently focusing on merengue, reggaeton, salsa, and bachata. The group eventually would like to add other genres such as vallenato, cumbia, and samba to that list.

Suffolk student Claudergine Aspilaire is the founder and president of the fledgling group. Aspilaire has been enthusiastic about dancing from a young age, and in high school could not find an available dance group. Her influence to dance came from her first dance instructor, Viviane Gauthier.

"What inspired me the most about Viviane Gauthier was her passion and devotion to dancing, especially the fact that she is 96 now and still dancing," Aspilaire said. "She definitely gave me a strong base to evolve in the dancing world. Not only in Latin but ballet and Haitian folklore. She shaped the best dancers in Haiti and helped shape the dancer that I am today."

When she became a college student, she was inspired to start a Latin dance group on campus at the Nuestra Cultura, an event organized each year by the Suffolk University Hispanic Association as a celebration of Latin culture. She decided to start her own group when she discovered that there was no actual extracurricular group that primarily focused on Latin dancing.

Passion Latina, a group in its infancy, has many goals for the year. Eventually, they would like to perform all over Boston with other groups. Their first performance of the school year, and second ever, will be Oct. 25 at the C. Walsh Theatre, during the Nuestra Cultura celebration. They debuted their dancing skills earlier this year at the Spring Showcase. "Passion Latina is working really hard with rehearsals to get all the choreographies done in a timely manner," Aspilaire said of the group's preparation for their next performance.

Students interested in joining Passion Latina should be passionate about dancing and will be given a warm welcome when they decide to audition for the group. Their first auditions, held earlier this week, are closed. Passion Latina will be holding more auditions during the spring semester, and will looking for as many performers as they can get. The auditions were filled with students that all seemed to be very happy and enthusiastic about dancing for a school group.

"Follow your dreams because that is what I'm doing," Aspilaire said about what she would like to communicate to the Suffolk student population. Through the medium of dance, students can practice a hobby, channel their stress, or meet new people. Leaving a mark on Suffolk history, is not only an achievement for the members of Passion Latina, but also can potentially positively affect generations of students into the future.

Students interested in contacting the group can e-mail SU.Passion.Latina@gmail.com. Passion Latina meets every Monday from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at Fenton 134A and again on Sundays from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Jeannette Neill Dance Studio in the North End.

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Photo courtesy of Wikimedia Commons
Alt-J brings their UK melodies to Bank of America Pavilion

Soleil Barros
Arts Editor

Famed Leeds’ band Alt-J return to America to tour with their latest album An Awesome Wave, uplifting fans worldwide. The early September tour brought along the four-piece British band and their light tunes to the Bank of America Pavilion located on Boston’s legendary Wharf, inviting fans to an evening of perfect melodies and harbor breezes.

Fans of all ages sang and danced along to their favorite songs as Alt-J performed under colorful, alternating lights and seemed to deliver an essence that they seemed to be enjoying themselves just as much as the members of the audience. Hosted under a large white tarp, the stadium was filled with a mellow four-piece orchestra that delivered unique tunes that met the par and clearly exceeded the Friday night expectations of audience members.

For the better part of their performance, Alt-J looked out upon a sea of fans, which held their hands in their air as they swayed to the entire show. Playing about a 13-song set, Alt-J’s complicated rhythms seemed to flow so perfectly as the members of the band performed ever-so effortlessly, exposing Boston to a distinct sound. It was apparent that most members of the audience had been looking forward to this particular show by the international artists for quite some time as they danced along to every song – not a member of the audience was posted in their seat for more than a song or two. It seemed that plastic clear beach balls with blinking multi-colored lights flying through the audience illuminated the faces of pleased listeners as they popped them in the air, hoping to catch it in the wave of a new note the song was set upon the stage was vocalist/guitarist Joe Newman, who delivered the main set of House of Blues, Fuse said.

Two fellow performers that Fuse & Glowkids are excited to see take the stage on Friday night are A-Borg and Case & Point. “I’ve only seen Case & Point play at Gypsy Bar, so to see them play at a place multiple times with all the more people will be awesome,” said Fuse. The 18+ show does enforce a strict dress code, however. Women must wear dresses, skirts, nice denim, heels or flats. Men are encouraged to wear nice denim, shoes that aren’t sneakers and a collared or neat t-shirt. Doors open at 7 p.m. and tickets can be bought at illuminalive.com or HouseofBlues.com. Tickets start at $31.65. The Suffolk Journal is also giving away one pair of tickets to the show. Visit the Suffolk Journal Facebook or Twitter account to find out how to enter.
Audiences anticipate Joseph Gordon-Levitt’s Don Jon

Ally Johnson
Asst. Opinion Editor

Set to release Friday, Don Jon stars character Jon Martello (Joseph Gordon-Levitt,) a handsome guy in his late twenties who has no problem attracting women. Barbara Sugarman (Scarlett Johansson) is beautiful in a nearly unattainable fashion.

Martello developed an unhealthy reliance on pornography and Sugarman to romantic Hollywood movies that promote the idea of “one true love” and Prince Charming. The two try and navigate a relationship dominated by media culture projections and false fantasies to try and find a unified love.

Judging by the trailers alone you may believe this to be just a simple cute boy meets girl, but what you are delivered is much more than the premise promised.

The story at the outset is basic in its premise, but as the movie moves along in its narrative, you realize you’ve been fooled by the same visuals that lead characters have been.

Two attractive leading stars, a quick witted opening monologue, a character who needs a change in his life-it is the makings of a romantic comedy and we take that idea in without questioning it, without wondering if we’ll be delivered anything deeper. So when we see it as an extra-satisfying treat.

The acting is all top notch with every performer dropping their vanity to turn in some wildly ridiculous performances. Johansson and Levitt, with special appearance from Tony Danza, get the votes for the most unadulterated performances. Johansson is playing an uptight New Jersey woman who is used to getting everything she wants whenever she asks for it. Due to her rom-com obsession, she is built a male prototype in her head that all future potential husbands must live up to. Johansson is hilarious, Days of Summer it does not seem like much of a stretch of his abilities. He is clearly a versatile actor and has the chops to become a rare triple threat in today’s Hollywood.

How we perceive others and how we perceive ourselves is often altered by the images projected to us: ads that promote weight loss, thigh gaps, teeth bleaching, tight abs and large breasts tell women that there is a desired appearance we must love.

Men are taught a pseudo masculine character to adopt, one that says cars and beer and sports are the key to being a man in current popular culture and anything else is less than that. We project on loved ones what we want to be, how we want them to act and how we want them to treat us.

The concept of how we see others, how others see us and how much of these ideas of how we see one another are fabricated by a highly manipulated and distorted self-image, most can’t identify with Levitt’s girl chasing addiction, abiding, masturbation. It can be difficult to identify with Johansson’s sexually assured character or Julianne Moore’s grief stricken one but most identify with searching for a person who understands you without any changes. That is what Jon is searching for behind the scenes. We are all searching for a person whether it being a friend or romantic partner who just clicks and understands. And maybe you will be thinking about that a little bit more after Don Jon.

The film opens Friday, Sept. 27.
Boston Ballet celebrates 50 years with free fall performance in the Boston Common

Annie Walsh
Journal Staff

One of the most prestigious dance companies in the world, The Boston Ballet, is known for its brilliant performances, educational success, and community outreach. It has been 50 years since the Boston Ballet first graced the stage with the American citizens of the world with its performances. The company presented, Night of Stars on Boston Common, featured a range of works from classical ballet to contemporary dance, including George Balanchine’s “Serenade” and Christopher Bruce’s “Rooster.”

The company performed with the Boston Ballet Orchestra, which accompanied “Rooster” with The Rolling Stones. According to its website, the Boston Ballet stage, built on the corner of Beacon and Charles Street, was the largest stage ever built on the Common. The dancers rehearsed a little more than 900 hours for this one-night performance. The dancers on the stage also represented 15 nationalities. The company was the first professional repertory ballet company in New England and has continued to uphold its artistic authenticity standards. Founded in 1963 by E. Virginia Williams, The Boston Ballet made its debut in a film in Italy and then continued to tour Europe and the United States. It was not until Fall 2009 that the company made the Boston Opera House its official home.

Popular game series

Grand Theft Auto generates buzz with lastest edition to series: GTA V

Lindsey Nolette
Journal Contributor

Have you always wanted to pull off heists, live a life full of adventure, and have a way to fulfill all your lavish needs? Well, wait no longer. Grand Theft Auto V now grants the video game generations of gamers what they have been waiting for.

Released to the public on Sept. 17, Grand Theft Auto V (GTA V), grossed a record, breaking $1 billion in sales in its first three days on sale. Featuring all new game play, GTA V is easily the best Grand Theft Auto in the series. As many loyal gamers and reviewers have claimed, Grand Theft Auto V Blows All Other GTAs Away, which isn’t hard to believe.

New vehicles, a multiplayer mode, and stunning new graphics allows players to explore further into the fictional world of Los Santos than ever before. Gamers can now switch between, potentially, three of the most authentic characters in Grand Theft Auto history.

One includes Michel, a former bank robber who is now in the witness protection program living out a boring life and dealing with a cheating wife. The game also includes Trevor, Michael’s former partner, (a meth-making redneck) and Franklin, a gang-banger looking to make his mark. These three characters’ stories reconnect creating the feel of three different games. Like every Grand Theft Auto game, the gamer must use a variety of cars and guns to explore the game world, taking on heists and unlocking challenges as they go along. Unlike its predecessors, GTA V increases its world map, adding fixed-wing aircrafts, boats, dune buggies and a variety of other vehicles to get around this new world. Also added to the world map are beaches, stuns, deserts, cities and mansions expanding Los Santos to a massive level. Don’t like video games? CBC News calls GTA V an interactive ensemble TV drama.

These extras give a sense of reality to each avatar and to the imaginary world of Los Santos, adding a new level of fun to the game. A newly established online multiplayer mode allows up to 16 players to either compete against each other or to explore single-player settings in order to cooperate in bank heists or races. The online multiplayer mode will be accessible through Grand Theft Auto Online and will become available on Oct. 1. Currently, the game is available for PlayStation 3 and Xbox 360. Developed by Rock Star North this is the fifth game in the Grand Theft Auto series.
Since all of our editors have been at Suffolk University, neither of Boston's major newspapers has been available on campus for students. The Student Government Association (SGA) decided that The News Today and The Boston Globe were sponsored by the SGA, but neither paper or magazine contains several positive pieces regarding President McCarthy and 20 Somerset.

At one time, Suffolk had the Boston Globe available along with The Times. It is believed SGA banned New England's most recognizable paper on campus several years ago due to less-than-hailing stories. The Globe ran a story about former Suffolk President David Sargent. If this is the case, the SGA members who made this decision have graduated. It's been at least three years since the last time the Boston Globe was offered on the Suffolk campus. To our knowledge, the Boston Herald has never been offered on campus, Suffolk is a university that prides itself on being in the heart of the city so its students should be offered the Hub's top news sources. Suffolk even has a partnership with the Herald for its political polls. The university also hosted a mayor's forum that was sponsored by the Herald and WGBH.

As the Globe, Suffolk constantly promotes and encourages journalism majors to apply for the paper's college co-op program each semester. There doesn't seem to be any noticeable bad blood between the school and the Globe left over from the Sargent years. At the very least, the Globe has been more than fair. Suffolk will get its papers back if the decision is made to approve them again.

For the start of the 2013-2014 school year, Suffolk University has implemented a new policy for those coming into residence halls, which is to scan your ID card each time you enter. As much as it adds a deterrent to unwanted visitors, for those who live in the halls, it is more of an annoyance than a safety procedure. Each time you enter your residence hall, you are forced to have a security guard scan your ID, a way to prove that you are who you say you are and you are not an immediate threat to the dorm's budget. But first to get into the building, you need to scan yourself in from outside. If you are asking yourself, "Doesn't that seem a little redundant?" you are not alone.

Prior to the new policy, students had a sticker on their I.D., which represented the number of times you lived in, and when you came into your respective building, you had to hand ID to a person, and you would have access in. Although that seems much easier than having to fish around in your bag to find your ID, it definitely has its fallbacks. With the previous policy, that allowed anyone to use a Suffolk I.D. to check into the building, and that alone is a major security threat.

As a student, you do not ever want to think about having to worry about security or feeling safe at school. After what happened in April with the bombings, I would want any added security feature to make sure I was fully protected away at school, especially when I live so far from home. I am sure my family and friends at home would feel the same way. With the new policy, it seems like Suffolk is taking an approach to make sure that students feel safe. But the real question is: Is it actually helping?

Personally, I am not a fan of the new system on the account of a few things. For starters, it is a major inconvenience when you have to struggle to find your ID when your hands are full rather than have it in your hand because you came from the café, or if you have groceries, or whatever the case may be, it is a major annoyance having to hand it over to security while you're having a chat.

Also, there have been a few accounts of which the line has been so far out the door to check in, that students have waited for an extended period of time before getting into their building. It is not the worst thing in the world having to wait in, for the fact the school is only taking an approach of safety, but when you have had a long day at class it is kind of a buzz-kill. The number one thing I find annoying about the new policy is that, if a student has to scan outside of the building, obviously they have a reason to be inside, so why do they have to scan in again? Again, I see why I have to do it, but it is just redundant. Both sides of the arguments have their pros and cons. The safety of not having anyone who does not belong in your residence hall versus the convenience of quickly being able to scan in and not having to wait around.

Increased security in dorms causes inconvenience for students

Sarah Lokker
Journal Contributor

The iPhone 5C is inexpensive, unique alternative to 5S

Gabby Pinto
Journal Contributor

On Friday, Sept. 20, millions of people lined up in front of Apple stores around the world to get their hands on the new iPhone. This time Apple released not just one but two new iPhones including the colorful iPhone 5C. The iPhone 5C is not very different from the iPhone 5. It's just as fast, equipped with the same A6 processor and the same 8MP rear-facing camera. It does contain an improved front-facing face time camera, and it is thinner, making it easier for people to use wireless LTE bands. What makes this iPhone stand out is the colors. For the first time since the iPhone 5S in 2009, Apple went back to using plastic and designed the shell in five colors: white, green, blue, pink and yellow. The SC completely replaces the iPhone 5, and the 8GB iPhone 4S is now available free on contract. This glossy new iPhone costs $99 for the 16GB model with a two year contract and $199 for a 32GB model on contract.

Before it was released there were lots of rumors that the iPhone 5C would be a "budget phone" or the "cheap" version. In reality, this iPhone is only $100 dollars cheaper with contract than the new iPhone 5S. Some people believe this was a terrible move for Apple, but I disagree. Looking at a company like Apple, it's easy to see that they are the best at marketing. Instead of coming out with just one phone to replace their previous model, it found a way to continue selling their previous model as if it was brand new. I had a chance to go down to the Apple store this weekend and check out the phone myself. Even with the plastic shell, it felt solid and felt more similar to the Apple store this weekend and check out the phone myself. Even with the plastic shell, it felt solid and felt more similar to the iPhone 5S.

We prefer aluminum and glass over plastic, the SC feels solid and well built. The colors are bright and vibrant and I think that will definitely be the most appealing feature to customers. Comparing it with my iPhone 5 it feels slightly heavier and a bit thicker, but not by much. The iPhone 5C comes with the KitKat operating system and by default Apple set the background color to match the shell. Apple is offering soft silicon rubber cases that match the different colors of the phone as well. The company is reaching the customers who prefer more customization and styling of their phones by having these small additions. The bottom line is that the iPhone 5C is an improvement and it's good competition for the other smartphones in the market. It is a good phone for people who are price conscious and love a dash of color.
Melissa Binari
Journal Contributor

How many of you can tell me President Obama’s stance on Syria? How many of you can tell me a thing or two about the Anthony Weiner scandals? Today’s political media is more flawed than ever. Whether you are watching Fox News, MSNBC, or CNN, the same message resonates through each and every household; the media cares more about selling drama and scandal than being informative fact-giving. I can recall back to the good old GOP primaries, a series of debates and campaigns that were almost totally dependent upon personal destruction, scandals and public humiliation. If you tuned in to MSNBC’s network focused on you, how many times have you tuned in to Mitt Romney strapping his dog to the top of his car during a road trip. If you tuned in to Fox News, it was showing the scandal of Herman Cain’s sexual tendencies down your throat. Was this the information we really needed? What was this going to achieve besides making us more knowledgeable about personal background checks on candidates rather than their actual stand on policies.

I clearly remember a segment that really opened my eyes to political media and its skewed values. It was during a crucial time in the GOP primaries and Newt Gingrich was topping the polls. I flipped to CNN to see what it covering only to discover one of the most ridiculous segments I have ever seen. The topic at hand was the apparently excruciatingly scandalous fact that Newt Gingrich had spent tens of thousands of dollars on a Tiffany necklace for his wife. Obviously this was something they exited the store.

Did I miss something there? Does Newt Gingrich’s expenditures on his wife’s taste in jewelry affect my opinion on his political standing’s whatever? I think not. You see, the inherent problem with political media today is that they do not care about solely delivering you the facts; they care about the momentum. As in, what intrigues the viewers and what keeps the blood pumping? For example, take the current issue of whether or not President Obama wants to engage with Syria in a combative way. For a while, the media, as well as the rest of the United States, was fairly certain that what was what he was planning to do. So naturally, the media voiced their individual opinions on why going to war with Syria would be right or wrong and they built it up to the absolute maximum. Then, Obama addressed the nation and declared that a war was not what this would result in. You would think this would please the media, but instead they countered with a resounding, “Well, you cannot back down now, we have already built this up too much.”

In this day and age it is time for a media makeover, for lack of a better term. We want facts rather than scandal and gossipy fluff. As U.S. citizens we deserve to be able to listen, to learn, and to know without being clouded by nonsensical personal attacks and unrelated anecdotes.

David Frederick
Journal Staff

“We don’t let animals suffer, so why humans?” A basic but infinitely poignant remark from theoretical physicist Stephen Hawking as he talked to BBC last week, changing his former stance on euthanasia. “There must be safeguards that the person concerned genuinely wants to end their life and they are not being pressurised into it or have it done without their knowledge or consent as would have been the case with me.”

This is a great change from Hawking’s former opinion in 2006: when he said, “I think it would be a great mistake. However bad life may seem, there is always something you can do, and succeed at. While there’s life, there is hope.” Although Stephen Drake, a research analyst for the disability rights group Not Dead Yet said, “In fact, it’s a myth that we don’t let animals suffer. “First, it ignores all the reality of factory farming and what we do to obtain meat. Those are anything but humane conditions.”

Let me start by saying that I understand this is a hot button issue. We’re talking about the right to have an existence and I am grateful for that every single day. Even the days that are soul-crushingly unbearable. As humans, we have the right to choose how we live our lives. If someone is living in a situation that turns their own body against him or her, and they feel that they are ready to leave, then it is his or her own decision.

Almost any response to my statement would be the formulated attempted at trying to disarm someone, “What if it was you in that position?” Well, if it was me in a situation, I guess I would have to try living that life out first. If I had a disease that decayed me at a rapid rate—well, that would be something to think about.

In 2009, I spent time with my family in a rehab hospice facility. My grandmother had been battling cancer, and it was a defining moment for me. Cliché as it might be, nothing will set a person down an existentially questioning path like confronting mortality. My grandmother still possessed every personalized attribute when she entered the facility. She would still crack jokes, she would still watch “Law and Order,” and everything just felt routine, like clockwork.

As the cancer spread, the outlook of the situation began to look bleak. She was awake less and less to the point where even when she was awake, her communication was barely audible at best. She became a shell of her former self, and I hated that such an awful thing happened to her. I remember thinking that if I were ever to slip into such an entropic situation, I would never want ourselves? I think not. You see, the inherent problem with political media today is that they do not care about solely delivering you the facts; they care about the momentum. As in, what intrigues the viewers and what keeps the blood pumping? For example, take the current issue of whether or not President Obama wants to engage with Syria in a combative way. For a while, the media, as well as the rest of the United States, was fairly certain that what was what he was planning to do. So naturally, the media voiced their individual opinions on why going to war with Syria would be right or wrong and they built it up to the absolute maximum. Then, Obama addressed the nation and declared that a war was not what this would result in. You would think this would please the media, but instead they countered with a resounding, “Well, you cannot back down now, we have already built this up too much.”

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Hawking switches opinion, reignites right to die movement debate

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I think the Right to Die campaign has made great strides overcoming religion, politics and the witch hunt against Dr. Jack Kevorkian (or Nicklinson. He suffered from locked-in syndrome following ending life; it’s about ending
United States must be proactive, not reactive, when making gun laws

Ally Johnson
Asst. Opinion Editor

I wish I could say that I can't believe we have to talk about this again but the sad, sad truth is that I'm not very surprised.

When there are pot holes on a highway and someone gets into a car accident, you fill the pot hole. When drunk driving sees a steep increase, harsher restrictions are put into place. When bad things happens the obvious course of direction would be to fix them.

So why does gun violence only seem to be getting worse?

On Monday, Sept. 16, 13 people died after a gun rampage at the Washington Navy Yard. The gunman was former sailor Aaron Alexis and he caused the worst attack on a U.S. military base since Fort Hood. The gunman opened fire with an arsenal as reported by law enforcement to be three weapons: an AR-15 assault rifle, a shotgun and a hand gun that he had stolen from a police officer on the scene. Aaron Alexis had been arrested at least twice before for gun related incidents.

When the tragedy of the Sandy Hook massacre took place last year, there was a seemingly general consensus that something needed to change, and quick. Kids dying from gun violence in a place that was supposed to provide a safe haven, a place of growth and nurturing, was supposed to sit biding our time.
Mayweather wants Miley

Miley Cyrus has been all around the gossip news in Hollywood. And the mystery is: Is she going to be her next move? That’s right, champion and arguably the best pound-for-pound fighter in the world Floyd Mayweather Jr. wants to bring, who he calls the “next queen,” to his next bout. Mayweather had rapper Lil Wayne and pop star Justin Bieber walk out before his latest bout. Wayne actually rapped opposed to Mayweather having a “walk-out song” for his latest bout. Mayweather has yet to announce his next opponent, but expressed the idea of having Cyrus walk out with him next match and perform. “Money” Mayweather is at it again, doing everything possible to get the fans and the media’s attention. Like him or not, he knows how to entertain, and Cyrus might steal the show.

Fines, Suspensions for Sabres-Leafs Brawl

Let the games begin. Hockey is only a week away, and fists were flying at the start of the week with a battle between the Buffalo Sabres and the Toronto Maple Leafs. The fight involved players like Phil Kessel, David Clarkson, and even Sabres goalie Ryan Miller. A fight in the preseason comes with a cost, and the last man guilty of the Maple Leafs. The one man bench clearing fight was a move by Clarkson that showed he’d stick up for his teammate, but also showed that leaving the bench during a preseason game would cost him 10 games in the regular season. Clarkson’s suspension is the only major one as a result of the brawl. Kessel will miss the rest of the preseason, but will start in the Maple Leaf’s home opener. Sabres coach Ron Rolston will also be fined an undisclosed amount, since the NHL is finding him partially responsible for the brawl.

No Rondo until December?

For people still upset over the blockbuster deal between the Boston Celtics and the Brooklyn Nets will only have more heartbreak knowing that injured point guard Rajon Rondo might not play until early December. Boston general manager Danny Ainge recently told 98.5 The Sports Hub Rondo might not be back until then. The Celtics are possible playoff contenders this year being led by Rondo, but missing him for a month or two won’t help the Celtics’ cause. They will have to go through the first month with guards like Avery Bradley and Phil Pressey at the helm of the offensive attack. New head coach Brad Stevens will have plenty of choices to make as far as who starts and who sits, because it would appear that Jeff Green is the only player that is a lock as a starter. Key players like Green and rookie Kelly Olynyk will have to step up on defense to really give the team any type of offensive presence.

Men's soccer earn first victory of the season

Men's Soccer
C.J. Haddad, Journal Staff

Another week is in the books for the Suffolk Men's soccer team. This week featured just one match against Anna Maria on Saturday, Sept 21.

This afternoon game proved to be the first win of the year for the men's club. Tallizing three goals in the first half, and another before the final whistle, Suffolk was victorious by a final score of 4-0.

Suffolk's first three goals all came in a 10 minute span. Andres Cohen started the party by notching his first goal of the year at the 26-minute mark. Jeff Kelly assisted Cohen’s goal, and he was just getting started.

Just over four minutes later, Cohen doubled his season total for goals by netting another, with a gorgeous assist by Senior Jeff Williams.

The final goal of the half was right around the corner as Aaron Haggas was good for an unsanitized goal just seven minutes after Cohen’s second. Suffolk went into the half finally being rewarded for their offensive woes that have finally been rewarded for their offensive woes that have transcended the first five games of the season.

In the second half, Suffolk realized their lead and did not just hold onto it, but extended it.

In the 51st minute of the game, Andres Cohen completed the hat trick and secured the first victory for the Rams soccer team. Cohen's third goal of the season, and of the game was assisted by Juan Lazcano bello.

The final score was 4-0, and Suffolk is still 1-1 in the conference and will play a majority of their remaining games against conference opponents. This week they will have two games, one being against conference opponent Lasell, Saturday at 1 p.m.

The team's other game this week will be Wednesday at home at 7 p.m. Be sure to watch if this men's soccer team can make a run and start to improve their record. They are a hungry group of players who are determined to turn this season around.

Women's Soccer

Women's Tennis
1. Anna Maria 4-1
2. Johnson & Wales 5-2
3. Simmons 5-2
5. Albertus Magnus 1-3
6. Mount Ida 0-4
7. Suffolk 6-4

Volleyball
1. Saint Joseph's 11-2
2. Simmons 2-3-5
3. Rivier 4-9
4. Albertus Magnus 8-4
5. Anna Maria 6-5
6. Emmanuel 8-8
7. Lasell 7-7
8. St. Joseph (Conn.) 6-7
9. Mount Ida 2-12
10. Norwich 1-10

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

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Women's Tennis still looking to hit stride this season

By Jeremy Hayes
Asst. Sports Editor

A rocky beginning does not imply a rocky finish. The Suffolk University women’s tennis team is hoping to turn things around after a very rocky start. The Lady Rams are 0-4 in the 2013 season, and were dealt their first conference loss by GNAC rival Johnson & Wales. The next match will be interesting for the Lady Rams, who face a tough 3-3 Wentworth team that will look to stay above 500. Stacey Politis, a senior Lady Ram, understands the reason for the tough start this season.

"No one on the team is freaking out over our record because we know our schedule for the season and we know we are facing all of our toughest ones now and early on," said Politis. "We each have fought hard in each match we’ve played and that’s all you can do." It is very true that the top of the Lady Rams’ schedule is the more elite of teams, that is how it is every season.

They are getting into the grind of conference team coming up this October. The Lady Rams are 3-33 in total matches so far this season. The next conference team they will face is Anna Maria, who is a potential opponent that they can beat. Anna Maria also happens to be the first home game of the season for the Suffolk. Players on the team are really trying to push through the losses and play at the best level they can.

"We have different obstacles to deal with such as school obligations and schedule conflicts so that has been the biggest obstacle," said Politis. "Everyone has played with someone different and the line up changes constantly to see which will be our best fit. We just practice hard and play hard. I, personally, am recovering from an injury that happened recently so I’m resting and supporting the girls." The Lady Rams take on Wentworth this Thursday, at 3:30 at Harvard. They will then have a week off until they have to play at Springfield College on Oct. 3rd.

The Anna Maria game, the Lady Rams’ second conference game, will be the Saturday after Oct. 5th.

The Lady Rams have their work cut out for them. It will be interesting to see how they handle October and if they can manage to pull out their first victory sooner rather than later. Suffolk may find a smoother road as they make their way down the schedule.

All good things must come to an end, even for you, Roger Federer

By Vassili Stroganov
Sports Editor

The world of tennis has always been extremely competitive. Only few players have been able to cope with this pressure and maintain top ranking. Players can have great years and then they suddenly drop in rankings. This is not the case for Rodger Federer. The man who by many people have described as the best tennis player the world has ever seen has totally dominated world tennis from 2001-2012. For 11 years, Federer was the one above them all and for that he deserves to be considered the best of all times. Never before has anyone been able to stay at the top of the ranking for so long. The Swiss master was able to hold his No. 1 position for 362 weeks, having a 237 consecutive-week stretch from 2004-2008 avoiding any serious injuries. The living legend has won an all-time high 17 Grand Slam titles and a ground breaking 77 tournaments in total. Especially the Wimbledon tournament has been a Federer favorite.

Having won the world’s most prestigious tennis tournament seven times, the “Yoda of tennis” as some people like to call him. He earned this nickname due to his intellect on the tennis court and ability to read the game, simply because he is such an incredible player so it looks like he uses telekinesis to control the ball has achieved something that only the legendary Pete Sampras has.

An ironic fact is that the first time Rodger Federer was noticed as an aspiring tennis star was after defeating Sampras himself in Wimbledon 2001. Tennis fans were shocked by this match because no one knew who this long haired 19-year-old Swiss guy was. Soon everyone would know the name Federer and the Swiss marathon would last for more than a decade. As much as we would love to see Federer dominate for another decade, all good things must come to an end, even if you are the greatest tennis player of all time.

We have to realize that Roger’s glory days are over and the now 32-year-old athlete’s career is lacking towards the end. Compared to his previous results, the 2012-2013 season was a complete disaster with no tournament titles and not a single Grand Slam tournament final for the first time since 2002. Even in his favorite tournament, the Wimbledon things went wrong and he lost in the fourth round of the tournament. Right now, Federer is No. 6 in the world which is amazing for someone his age but not for Federer. You could say it is time for Federer to retire, but knowing how much this man loves tennis it is hard to imagine a tennis world without him. There can no doubt that the Swiss tennis king wants to finish his career with one more Grand Slam tournament win so he will have 18 wins in total. This would make sure his record will be even harder to reach for his rivals Rafael Nadal and Novak Djokovic. The best of them all is slowly falling off but he is not going down without a fight.

Photo courtesy of Suffolk Athletics

Photo courtesy of Wikimedia Commons
Impressive win for women's soccer as they secure first victory of the season

Vassili Strogonov
Sports Editor

Saturday was a glorious day for the Suffolk University women's soccer team, who earned its first victory of the season by defeating Simmons College at Dilboy Stadium. The GNAC victory was a huge relief for the women as the start of the season has been nothing but a struggle. Going in to this match, the Lady Rams had suffered a heartbreaking 3-2 overtime defeat against Emerson College. At the same time, the overall team statistic sneaking 0.5. Having only scored two goals in five games, the Lady Rams were eager to put an end to the depressing situation. In order to defeat the Simmons Sharks, Suffolk had to put up a real fight.

Simmons got a great start in the game as Taylor Miranda scored the first goal of the in the 16th minute to put her team ahead 1-0.

In the rest of the first half, Suffolk was under great pressure as Simmons would dominate the match with four shots and three corner kicks. In the end, it led to a score for the goal-hungry Sharks. On a corner kick in the 37th minute, Kristyn Heuslein put the ball in the net with a header off the corner for Simmons sprung the game to the score of 1-1. Luckily the Rams were saved by the ball as it was time for a break before the second half of the match.

The break could not have come at a better moment as it was obvious that Simmons created momentum and could have scored at least a couple of goals if it was not for an extremely well-playing Suffolk goalkeeper in Melissa Brrouillette.

During the halftime break, Suffolk head coach Ernst Cleophat must have said something that really motivated the girls. The way Suffolk played in the first 13 minutes of the second half was impressive. In these minutes, the Lady Rams played some of their best and most entertaining soccer. This season which was rewarded in the 57th minute when forward Binglei Zhou scored the match winning goal that secured the victory for the team.

The rest of the match was a true thriller full of intensity and a level of suspense not seen in any of Suffolk's past games this season. With 13 shots, 5 in the second half, Suffolk was doing everything they could in order to get that equalizer, but the performance of Brrouillette, who made nine great saves out of the 10 on target during the match helped the Lady Rams secure the win.

After the match, Cleophat and his team celebrated as if they had just won the GNAC championship. Everyone on the team was beyond happy with the well-deserved win. "This was a fantastic performance. I want to congratulate the whole team. The intensity was high throughout the whole match and now I believe we have found our rhythm. The team spirit is great and I'm happy that we fixed the things we needed to fix," said Cleophat.

It does look like the team has improved on the things it needed to. The Lady Rams have finally solved their goal-scoring problems as forwards Zhou and Miranda put the ball in the net while Brrouillette made sure the girls did not concede 10 goals in their own net.

"I told her how much she had matured and grown since last year. She has been fantastic, just excellent" praised Cleophat.

The combination of incredible individual performances such as Brrouillette's and the overall team spirit are what makes the Lady Rams such a powerful team. The Suffolk squad was simply too much to handle for Simmons in the end. Coach Cleophat will hope to carry this momentum into the coming games on the team's schedule.

Impressive win for women's soccer as they secure first victory of the season

Vassili Strogonov
Sports Editor

With two losses this weekend, the Suffolk University volleyball team has experienced a little setback in the run for the playoffs. The Rams are now 7-7 this season after defeating Lesley College 3-0 on Tuesday evening. The next few weeks will be crucial in order to secure a playoff spot in the GNAC tournament.

This year the volleyball team hopes to go all the way and win the GNAC championship, something the team has never done before. Head coach Kristine Mickelson was asked if this year was the year for the volleyball Rams, replying: "We have really turned the team around in terms of attitude, and we have conquered its milestones such as winning a tournament for the first time in at least six years. I think we could be strong contenders for the GNAC playoffs and if we continue to improve throughout the season, Mickelson said.

There is good reason to be optimistic, because the future is bright for Suffolk volleyball.

The team seems to be showing chemistry both on and off the court. Perhaps chemistry is what helped the team win the David Hildebrandt Memorial Tournament. In the end, it's all about winning games and tournaments, that is the main goal for the Lady Rams. "We had really great moments of solid team chemistry and focus. That is the team that I want us to be 100 percent of the time," said Mickelson. "We know that we can compete with strong teams in the conference, and now we know where we stand in comparison. To win those games, we needed to have the passion and focus the entire match."

Focus is something the Lady Rams will need in order to win concerned about her team's form prior to the Lesley game. "I do think we can beat them. They've played some strong teams out of our conference, and have played a few in the conference that we have also been competitive with. Our main focus will be to keep our team driven throughout the entire match. We have the skills we need to beat Lesley. We just need to have the mental toughness to strongly compete against a team and not be afraid to win." It turned out that Mickelson was right.

Another factor that could change a game is the superb play by a star player with top quality. Suffolk does have those star players, but unfortunately one of them left the team. The missing player this year is Maggie Hillman who has left a huge gap to fill. Mickelson understands how much the team could need a player like Hillman.

"Maggie was an incredible athlete. It was such a pleasure to coach her the past two years. Unfortunately, due to personal reasons, she was unable to continue her athletic career with us. She would have absolutely been a top player for us.

Top players can lead their team to championships. The Lady Rams definitely have star potential to go far this year. Last time Suffolk volleyball made the GNAC tournament was back in 2006 but this could be the year it happens again.

A very important weekend for the Rams will be the last weekend of September when the girls face Bridgewater State and Salem State University.