**Discussion questions Obama’s economic policies**

**Sam Humphrey**
Journal Staff

University of Chicago Professor Casey Mulligan visited Suffolk University Nov. 5 to discuss his new book, *The Redistribution Recession: How Labor Market Distortions Contracted the Economy*, which became a standing room only event, packed tightly with students and professors.

Mulligan’s book examines why the labor market continued to shrink (put another way, why unemployment continued to rise) after Obama’s stimulus package spent hundreds of billions of dollars to put Americans back to work.

The lecture, titled Have Obama’s Economic Policies Worsened the Recession?, was jointly sponsored by Suffolk’s Economics Department and the Beacon Hill Institute, the school’s economic research center.

In the aftermath of the 2008-2009 recession, as the economy slowly began improving, Mulligan wondered why labor market participation had not steadily increased after falling during the recession.

After he researched the effects of Obama’s stimulus plan, Mulligan found that it increased the costs of doing businesses, and that businesses laid off workers that they needed as the costs of employment made hiring and retaining workers prohibitive.

He found that “redistributing incomes through social safety net security programs and minimum wage hikes also contracted the labor market,” as they increased the costs of doing business and decreased profits.

Supporting his theory is the economic law that the more governments do to subsidize the poor and unemployed, it leads to more people either becoming or staying poor or unemployed. This is because government subsidies take money from the employed, making their efforts less rewarding, and distribute it among the unemployed, who do not feel the urgency to find a job while receiving some benefits, Mulligan said.

“Not that we should end all government aid to the lower class and the unemployed,” Mulligan said. “We just have to know there is a tradeoff when governments start or expand these programs, and we have to be aware of that” when legislators create policies.

Mulligan also found that several attempts by the government to slow or reverse the rate of lay-offs backfired. Congressional bickering over the New Hires Tax Credit kept employers from hiring until the bill passed. Employers did not hire even after the bill failed.

“The outlook for the labor market isn’t clear,” Mulligan said. “But as long as tax rates stay high, the labor market participation will stay low.”

-Casey Mulligan, University of Chicago professor of economics

However, while Mulligan found that Obama’s economic policies did not help the economy as much as some estimates predicted they would, he did not put the blame for the long recession squarely on Obama.

“If you look back, there were other policies passed before Obama took office that would later hinder labor market growth, he said, most notably bills passed during George W. Bush’s presidency.

After his lecture, he took a poll among attendees, asking how many thought Obama’s policies had helped the economy recover, how many thought it had hurt the economy, and how many were unsure. A roughly equal number of respondents thought the stimulus had either helped or hurt the recovery, but the vast majority were unsure, highlighting the complexity of governmental policies and the many factors affecting the economy.

"As long as tax rates stay high, the labor market participation will stay low."

Casey Mulligan, University of Chicago professor of economics
Yellow Ribbon and G.I. Bill help veteran seek education at Suffolk

Erich Kirchubel, veteran and Suffolk freshman

In a five-year period from 2006 to 2011 Suffolk University received "upwards of a million dollars" in funding from the conservative billionaire Koch brothers, according to economics professor David Tuerck — a fact that has irked activist and Suffolk alumna Kalin Jordan.

The Koch brothers, owners of America's second largest private company, Koch Industries, have donated money to many causes nationwide that promote their conservative and libertarian beliefs. In political circles, the name Koch is associated with right-leaning ideas and the huge corporate wallet to promote them.

Jordan, who graduated in 2009 with a degree in political science, started a campaign this summer to raise awareness about Koch money flowing into Suffolk. After researching how much the Koch foundation has donated to the university (by her accounts, more than $700,000) and looking at criticisms of economic research coming out of the school, she decided to make a petition at Kochfreezone.org called "I Want to Keep Suffolk University Koch Free!"

Jordan's petition, which has more than 50 signatures, calls on the university to do three things: Tell the public where donations come from, stop taking money from the Kochs, and look critically at the analytical methods of the Koch family's research, including Koch's Foundations.

"My goal when I went into the Air Force was to stay all in include Afghanistan, Korea, and Italy. I got out last July. I was really ready to go, get back to the civilian life, and get an education. I am using the G.I. Bill now, which helped me get my tuition paid for."

In addition to that, Suffolk University's Yellow Ribbon program, which helps students pay for tuition and fees, is included in Jordan's petition.

"I spent eight years in the service," Kirchubel, a 26-year-old southern California native said. "I lived in Virginia for three years and England for four-and-a-half years."

Kirchubel worked as an air craft mechanic while in the military, the longest one lasting almost eight months. Areas that Kirchubel served in include Afghanistan, Korea, and Italy.

Tuerck countered, "people of [Jordan's] mindset are simply opposed to any form of speech that doesn't fit their own ideological preconceptions."

Dr. Tuerck, founder and executive director of BHI, explained that the research center is housed at the university but still a separate entity from the economics department. "Think of it as just another office at the university," he said. The institute relies on its own money for funding; it does not get money from tuition dollars, Tuerck explained.

Tuerck recently resigned from his post as chair of the economics department — a position he had held since 1982 — after the university decided to cut the economics Ph.D. program. Tuerck remains a professor here.

Suffolk University spokesman Greg Gatlin said in an official statement that "the institute conducts research that contributes to discussions of economic policy at the state and national levels. While not all parties will accept the findings of the Beacon Hill Institute, it is important that economic thinkers and policymakers have access to various perspectives."

Making Suffolk a Koch Free Zone!

Sticker for Suffolk alumna Kalin Jordan's petition

Suffolk has received $40,000 funded two research projects the Beacon Hill Institute conducted, one of economic research center at Suffolk.

"Generally, I support Suffolk. I love Suffolk — that's why I started this campaign," she said. "As a university, our reputation is diminished by having connections to the Koch brothers."

Tuerck and BHI Director of Research Paul Bachman explained that the money donated to Suffolk from the Koch brothers went primarily towards paying the salary of economics professor Benjamin Powell for his first three years at the university and fellowships for Ph.D. students through the Charles G. Koch Foundation.

The foundation has also donated to other universities, including a $1.5 million donation to Florida State's economics department in 2011. The Koch family has also donated over $20 million to George Mason University since 1985. Some Koch donations that Suffolk has received have gone towards the Beacon Hill Institute lecture series that brings speakers to the university. About $35,000 to $40,000 funded two research projects the Beacon Hill Institute conducted, one of which has "upwards of a million dollars" in funding from the Koch brothers, according to Tuerck. The Koch brothers went primarily towards paying the salary of economics professor Benjamin Powell for his first three years at the university and fellowships for Ph.D. students through the Charles G. Koch Foundation. The Koch family has also donated over $20 million to George Mason University since 1985.
Wit of comical lawyer entertains full house in this installment of Ford Hall Forum

Thalia Yunen
Journal Staff

A full house was drawn to the Ford Hall Forum, “Taking the Stand,” co-sponsored by Suffolk’s Rappaport Center.

The event was moderated by Harvey Silvergate, criminal defense, academic free-dom, and First Amendment rights lawyer and co-founder of Foundations for Individual Rights in Education (F.I.R.E.) Harvey was a first year student at Harvard Law School when he met Alan Dershowitz, commonly referred to as one of the best criminal defense lawyers in the world, and simulta-

eously, “America’s lawyer of last resort.”

Thursday, Nov. 7, the fo-

rup dropped off with Silver-

gate explaining the blurs on the back of Dershowitz’s auto-

biography, which is also called

Taking the Stand. Most books, if not all, would include posi-

tive blurbs on the back cover.

Usually it’s: ‘Riveting read

says the New York Times,’ or ‘Can’t Put It Down’ says one

or another well-known figure.

‘Can’t Put It Down’ says one

tive blurbs on the back cover.

“America’s lawyer of last resort.”

The event was moderated

and First Amendment rights lawyer and co-founder of Fou-

don't read Dershowitz.” No

Among most people who

Dershowitz is controversial,

...
James McCarthy, his initial reaction was that it's an anti-free speech campaign from the radical left that has made the Koch brothers an object of demonization for their own political purposes. Gatlin explained that the school stands by BHI and confirmed Tuerck's breakdown of where the Charles G. Koch Foundation money goes.

"The University fully supports academic freedom and therefore does not attempt to influence the work of the Beacon Hill Institute nor its executive director, Professor David Tuerck," Gatlin said in the official statement to The Journal. "The Charles G. Koch Foundation grants primarily have supported graduate student fellowships and conferences convened by the Beacon Hill Institute in a manner consistent with other foundation grants."

The Koch brothers first started donating to Suffolk in 2006 when Tuerck says he was reached out to them to help bring in Powell, who was teaching at San Jose State University at the time. Tuerck wanted to bring Powell to Suffolk but did not have the financial means to do so, which is when he gave the Koch brothers a call. Bachman said that the Koch family had not donated to the Beacon Hill Institute for "a couple of years now." There are no public records showing any donations made by the Koch Foundation to Suffolk after 2011.

But Jordan believes basically a textbook view of how the economy operates... There are no preconceived theories for which data are selected here...there are no biases in data because data are representations of facts," Tuerck said.

Tuerck admits he is conservative and that his personal opinions are "radical right-wing," but he does not believe this affects research done at BHI. Tuerck noted he does not personally do any of the research at BHI.

"The positions of BHI follow the Koch brothers and what makes the Koch brothers money. Beacon Hill Institute has a conflict of interest because of the money they're taking."

-Kalin Jordan, Suffolk alumna

The university has not published any reports that disclose this funding, so Jordan's pet project became researching the scope of donations being awarded to Suffolk and trying to decipher what the funds are spent on within the school. "We want the administration to be 100 percent transparent. Tell us exactly what Koch money is going towards," Jordan said. "As someone who paid tuition to go here, you have the right to know.

"Even at the risk of providing information that the Koch foundation might not want us to provide, I want it to be transparent."

-Dr. David Tuerck, executive director of the BHI

"Even at the risk of providing information that the Koch foundation might not want us to provide, I want it to be transparent.

-Dr. David Tuerck, executive director of the BHI

paid tuition to go here, you have the right to know."

Tuerck said BHI is not reluctant to disclose our funding.

"Even at the risk of providing information that the Koch foundation might not want us to provide, I want it to be that transparent," he said.

"If she doesn't like what the Beacon Hill Institute says, she's free to criticize it publicly and to complain, but if she doesn't have any substance to her disagreements, then she should say nothing at all," he added.

Jordan admitted she is not an economist. "I'm relying on research that others have done that are experts in the field. I don't have to be an economist or an expert in the field to know that something is wrong," she said.

from the administration when it comes to funding and ending donations from the Kochs. She dropped off her petition, with more than 50 signatories, to McCarthy's office Oct. 22. She was told by an assistant that they would be in touch. Several of Jordan's follow-up emails over the past two weeks have been unanswered. Gatlin confirmed that McCarthy has received the petition.

"I'm not sure why they haven't got back to us," Jordan said. "It is a very simple problem to deal with...I know [the president] is probably very very busy, I understand that."

At the time of print, Jordan has still not heard back from anyone in the university administration. Jordan has also not attempted to reach out directly to BHI or Tuerck.
The Korean Peninsula: Conflict, opportunity, and hope for peace

Pierre Bono
Journal Contributor

Often overlooked until moments of fiery North Korean rhetoric or territorial skirmishes, the relationship between the two states and South Korea has been, and will continue to be, a powerful belligerence from either side. It is important to recognize the Korean dichotomy as an issue that cannot be resolved with further division and belligerence from either side. As Korean Consul-General to Boston, Kangho Park, emphasized during his lecture at Suffolk’s Poetry Center on Nov. 7, the intentions of South Korea are to redefine the relationship between itself and their northern counterparts. Effectively moving the dynamic from one of tension and bitterness to cooperation in the name of what Park referred to as Trust-Politik. Trust-Politik is being implemented in the hopes of creating a "new kind of Korea".

In a statement presented by Consul-General Park, current president of South Korea Geun-hye believes that it is necessary to pursue "peace through a combined effort to rebuild trust, which can transform the Korean peninsula from a zone of conflict into a zone of peace." Very hopeful rhetoric, however, rhetoric will not resolve any of the differences and injustices that continue to plague the Korean peninsula.

Going forward, it will be important to balance security and cooperation, by moving to address the issues that plague the region such as a burgeoning North Korean nuclear program, as well as the possible proliferation of that state’s weaponry and human-rights abuses, and economic insolvency; all of which make a productive and safe relationship difficult to muster. Consul General Park also referred to the necessity of a proactive international commitment to influence and hopefully convince North Korea that its leadership’s view of a model of statehood cannot be maintained, and that South Korean intentions are not geared towards the destruction of the north but rather towards the reconciliation and possible reunification of all Korean people, many of whom have been separated from their families by the Korean War in the 1950s. It is also important to efforts to communicate and cooperate with North Korea in a fair and open way are the only option to achieve any degree of enduring peace and stability in the region. It would be catastrophic to allow North Korea to collapse on itself or to engage in war as a resolution. Both sides will have to come to the table and make a productive and lasting arrangement to maintain peace on the Korean peninsula.
From All Corners: International Opinion

On the devastation and repercussions of Typhoon Haiyan

Dave Frederick
Journal Staff

The Philippines may have survived the terrifying ordeal of Typhoon Haiyan but it is of the utmost importance that we show our support. With the death toll expected to be in the range of nearly 2,500 civilians dead and thousands more injured and displaced. This storm was quite devastating, as it is unofficially being called the strongest typhoon ever to reach land with winds reaching in the range of somewhere between 145-195 mph. The stark truth of reality here is that there are going to be millions of innocent people that are in need of aid and help.

Cities like Tacloban and Guiuan have been absolutely decimated. Families and friends are forever torn apart and displaced. Food and water supplies as a result in Tacloban are dwindling down to the point where a riot may happen. Men have seen their children taken away but there is still some hope in sight. Many citizens of the world have banded together to raise funds to help those in need. Sites like Reddit have raised funds in the past for Doctors Without Borders, who are currently hard at work assisting in the relief effort for the Philippines. "Medecins Sans Frontieres emergency teams are trying to reach the worst-affected parts of the country. Efforts to reach the city of Tacloban in Leyte Province are being complicated by roads that are blocked with debris, as well as strong winds and torrential rain that have led to many flights into the area being cancelled," The Atlantic reports.

There are other charities and organizations that are giving aid as well, such as the Red Cross Association, UNICEF, The International Medical Corps' Emergency Response Fund, Save The Children, Mercy Corps, mGive Foundation, World Vision, American Jewish World Service, Helping Hand for Relief and Development, GlobalGiving, AmeriCares, and the UN World Food Programme. Google is also operating the Google person finder, which is helping create a network for people displaced during the storm. Naderev Sano, a young Filipino diplomat gave a passionate and moving speech at the UN Climate talk and it gave way to someone who is profoundly human. While it may be hard for many poverty stricken Americans and Bostonians alike to donate, we must remember how many were able to donate funds after the tragic Boston Marathon Bombing. We have to remember that a functioning society is only as strong as its weakest link. We have to give our time, money and love so that we can help the Philippines during this awful disaster.

As these supplies start to run dry, so does the hope for these people. "At least 29 nations or government groups have sent or pledged aid, according to the Philippine government. The aid includes $25 million from the United Nations, $4 million from the European Union, $16 million from Britain and $10 million from the United Arab Emirates, home to a large population of expatriate Filipino workers," says CNN storm chasers. "The city (Tacloban) is a horrid landscape of smashed buildings and completely defoliated trees, with widespread looting and unclaimed bodies decaying in the open air. The typhoon moved fast and didn't last long—only a couple of hours—but it struck the city with absolutely terrifying ferocity. At the height of the storm, as the wind rose to a scream, as windows exploded and as our solid concrete downtown began to collapse from the impact of flying debris, as pictures flew off the walls and as children became hysterical, a tremendous storm surge swept the entire downtown." All that remained of the airport was the runway. Citizens lined up during the morning hoping for fresh water, food or a flight out. Economically, it is quite the awful time to ask for support but any and all support could greatly help someone in need. Websites like Charity Navigator (http://www.charitynavigator.org), which evaluates the financial health and efficiency of more than 5,500 organizations, or GuideStar (www.guidestar.org), which gathers and disseminates information on every single IRS-registered nonprofit organization are great places to look for further information.

Matt Bacon
International Editor

The typhoon that swept through the Philippines earlier this week has caused a great deal of tragic destruction. In the immediate aftermath of the storm, our focus must be to help those immediately affected and how we can help them. However, we must also focus on the fact that this is in fact one of the largest hurricanes ever recorded and what possible influence humans have had on the growing trend of "super storms." It seems like every year now we experience "the storm of the century." While there are some logical explanations for the increasing severity of these storms, how much of it is due to global warming? A lot of the to-do with these storms comes from the media. Declining ratings has lead to an atmosphere of hyperbole in the media, and having a "storm of the century" every year does a lot for ratings and mass dependency on the media. Storms are also increasing in the amount of devastation they cause because our population is growing. The more people on the planet, the more human and material capital will be potentially affected by these storms.

What about global warming? Climate change is now a commonly accepted theory amongst scientists, yet they seem hesitant to draw correlations between climate change and the increase in the severity of storms. While scientists who study weather and climate may not have the time to wait for anything negative about the climate change and the storms are true, it would still mean that we are not doing anything to make that environmentally conscious change to our lives.

The typhoon Haiyan makes landfall

Photo courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

For billions of people around the world, the reality of global warming is exactly what Al Gore called it, "unsustainable truth." Combating global warming is going to take a lot of change and buying in on our part. We need to change our daily lives and sustain ourselves. Our society, stuck in its ways, is coming around to this reality at a slow pace. Because of this, people readily accept anything that tells them global warming is not as bad as it seems.

If you would like to help those affected by typhoon Haiyan, you can donate to one of the many charities contributing to the relief effort. However, if you want to help the people immediately, make environmentally conscious changes to your daily life. Recycle efficiently, use energy-saving bulbs, conserve water, avoid driving when you can, walk or take public transportation. Most importantly, educate yourself. Read the reports on climate change and the growing severity of storms and come to your own conclusions. Science has not only been made up of hard working scientists who study weather and material capital will be potentially affected by these storms. This day and age, many reports are released by scientists who are funded by specific entities that may play a stake in the outcome of the report. I am not trying to say anything negative about the scientific community. It is far too hard working people far more intelligent on such issues than most of us will ever be. However, in this instance it seems like we may not have the time to wait for the scientific community to come to a conclusion. For the sake of getting things right, that is a noble and acceptable way to go about things. Every study of the effect of climate change on the intensity of storms is new, and perhaps the studies conducted so far actually have not been able to draw such a correlation. But do we really need the tedious scientific process to tell us what is already staring us in the face? For billions of people around the world, the truth of reality here is exactly what Al Gore called it, "unsustainable truth." Combating global warming is going to take a lot of change and buying in on our part. We need to change our daily lives and sustain ourselves. Our society, stuck in its ways, is coming around to this reality at a slow pace. Because of this, people readily accept anything that tells them global warming is not as bad as it seems.

For the immediate aftermath, make environmentally conscious changes to your daily life. Recycle efficiently, use energy-saving bulbs, conserve water, avoid driving when you can, walk or ride a bike, or take public transportation. Most importantly, educate yourself. Read the reports on climate change and the growing severity of storms and come to your own conclusions. Science has not only been made up of hard working scientists who study weather and material capital will be potentially affected by these storms. This day and age, many reports are released by scientists who are funded by specific entities that may play a stake in the outcome of the report. I am not trying to say anything negative about the scientific community. It is far too hard working people far more intelligent on such issues than most of us will ever be.
New Suffolk club, Students for Justice in Palestine, outlines its goals, agenda at first event

Suffolk Madrid Association brings Spanish culture to Boston, helps students adjust to new environment

Thalia Yunen
Journal Staff

It is Students for Justice in Palestine's first semester as an official organization at Suffolk, and for its opening event Nov. 11, it played the episode of Anthony Bourdain's documentary show "Parts Unknown" in which he travels to Jerusalem.

Vice President Leila Sadeddin introduced the event, which took place in Sawyer 324, stating "This organization is a political group, not only a cultural one. And we are 100 percent for the rights and for justice in Palestine."

The film is described by CNN as an exploration of "Israel, the West Bank and Gaza. While the political situation is often tense between the people living in these areas, Bourdain concentrates on their rich history, food and culture, and spends time with local chefs, home cooks, writers and amateur foodies."

"We chose to show this movie for our first event as a step towards the events that we have planned for next semester," Sadeddin said. "This film provides a good cultural background and outlines the main issues that SJP stands for."

Following the documentary, students were able to ask questions to the members of SJP, a conversation that led to an interesting exchange and clarification of ideas they stand for. SJP representatives offered personal insight on their experiences living abroad in the affected regions, as well as debated solutions and propositions to end the complication.

"What we want Palestine back as it was before the 1948 war, Pre-1948, there was no Israel. Before that war, Muslims, Christians, and Jews lived peacefully together for centuries, but then Israel declared the Israeli state upon them," SJP member Dania Muddi said. "What we're saying is that the whole land should return to Palestine, and everyone who lives in it, can stay. SJP president Yasmine Hamdoun explained that although their views will not be easily implemented, they believe promoting it is a strong first step."

"We are not saying it's going to be easy," Hamdoun said. "The state of Israel is extremely powerful. They are able to break international laws, and sometimes even their own laws, and they get away with it."

"Israel [took] a religious aspect and made it into an extreme ideology to use as an alibi for their crimes that are forcing people to flee," Mauddi said. "Israel has no religious basis. People say that it is a homeland for Jews, but those people should go back to the Torah and read it. It says that a Jewish state will be established after the Messiah comes. But where is the Messiah? I don't see him."

Hamdoun and Sadeddin took initiative to start the club last spring semester after learning that other universities across the nation hosted the organization and even held annual conferences.

"Our mission statement is to let people know the situation in Palestine from a Palestinian point of view," Sadeddin said. "It is a perspective that is not portrayed enough in the media in the way that we want it to be. Palestine is very secluded, so we can't get our own voices out there. That what SJP is for."

Suffolk Madrid Association

Plaza de Cibeles, Madrid

Madrid Association comes in.

"The idea for the club was started, in the most general sense, during my transition from the Madrid Campus back to Boston. I saw among my peers a need to extend the excitement surrounding Madrid to Boston. The club itself wasn't started until I collaborated with friends from Madrid and also Alina Choo, my boss, and Melanie Funken, both of whom were heavily involved with the Madrid Campus," said President of the Madrid Association Jonathan Vantassel.

The Suffolk Madrid Association is a fairly new club. It has been around for less than two years, and was established as a common place for students to network and share anecdotes and stories from their study abroad trips. "We provide a forum for students to be able to congregate and keep their experiences alive," said Choo.

Meeting on the first Thursday of every month, the club is also a place to promote students about the Madrid experience. "Membership is not only open to students who have been to Madrid. It is also open to those who are interested in going for future semesters. You can find out more about the student perspective through attending our events," says Choo. One such event was a Skype party held on Nov. 12, with students in Madrid. Students were able to ask each other questions and make acquaintances from thousands of miles away.

They also send care packages to and from Madrid and Boston. Choo believes that the gifts help strengthen the ties between the Boston and Madrid campuses.

In terms of their initiative to promote the Madrid experience, Choo said, "I definitely think that studying abroad is important because it's a way to get you out of your comfort zone and experience another culture and another way of life, and it can enrich your experience as a student." So far, over 60 students have participated in events that the club has held and many have also expressed interest in studying abroad after attending its open meetings.

Suffolk Madrid Association continues to form events that are related to Spanish culture and to the Madrid campus. It is best to stay informed on the group's upcoming events via its Facebook. Vantassel mentioned that on Nov. 18 it will bring a chef to Suffolk to demonstrate how to make paella, the delectable and national dish of Spain.
Popular artist J. Cole visits Suffolk in celebration of Fall Concert '13

Serina Gousby
Journal Staff

The Lights dimmed slowly away from the audience and proceeded into the stage as the band played the intro to "Trouble," off of J. Cole's Born Sinner album.

The crown rose in excitement chanting "J. COLE! J. COLE!" while they waited for the popular rapper to make his grand entrance and take his first steps onto the stage. Moments later, the 6'3" superstar came down the stairs with black jeans, a long black t-shirt; his custom made "SINNERS" snapback hat, and a silver diamond Jesus piece necklace around his neck.

As the Born Sinner album cover was shown on the large projector screen, red lights appeared under him as he walked to the microphone; yelling out "Suffolk!"

Nov. 6 was definitely a night to remember as the Suffolk University's annual fall concert was held at the Royale Boston nightclub on Tremont Street; with the help of the Student Government Association (SGA) and Student Leadership and Involvement (SLI).

By 6:15 p.m., a huge line took over the sidewalk with many anxious students wanting to graduate the historic venue, while two security guards stood at the entrance checking out Suffolk IDs and tickets. By 7 p.m., the club was filled with students facing the stage on the dance floor, waiting for the concert to start.

Although there did seem to be a bit of a time delay, a trend many concerts seem to engage in, SGA and the concert committee eventually stood as the Emcees to announce the opening acts, including Wicked Hip Hop Dance Crew and Suffolk's Step Team.

Wicked bounced on the stage confidently wearing different outfits in combinations of black, red, and white colors. From dancing very assy and sophisticated to Beyoncé's "til the End of Time" to hool and gangsta on Meek Mills "I'm a Boss," the crew gave the crowd energy to prepare for J. Cole.

Suffolk's very own Step team performance spiced up their usual routine by collaborating different steps with a funny and exhilarating skit about broken hearts and cheating boyfriends. performing songs from his sophomore album, Born Sinner, including: "Trouble," "Land of the Snakes," "Runaway," and "She Knows." In addition, he performed "Can't Get Enough," "Work Out," and "Nobody's Perfect" and invited his day one fans to rap word by word his old classic "Lights Please," from his second mixtape, _The Warm Up_.

He expressed through humor that he wanted people to know the song, "this is your opportunity to go to the bathroom, we will do Power Trip in a few minutes," then he interrupted the performance to say "next song, not being prejudged by a woman on an airplane. Within his story, he revealed that he loved the Patriots and danced as his band played football themed music and was accompanied by magnum cum laude at St. John's University. While performing the show with his top two singles, "Crooked Smile" and "Power Trip," he gladly stayed and shook the front audiences hands before he left the stage.

J. Cole delivered an incredible performance, amazing from beginning to end, and left the entire Suffolk community in awe.

I give the most gratitude to SGA and SLI for creating a marvelous concert and for J. Cole for bringing Boston and Suffolk together to experience such a wild and mellow Wednesday night.
Debut actor Oscar Isaac talks of new film Inside Llewyn Davis

B.E. Alexander
Journal Contributor

Inside Llewyn Davis is the poignant new film from Joel and Ethan Coen (directors of No Country for Old Men and Fargo), about a struggling folk singer living in the Greenwich Village folk scene during 1961. It is loosely based on the life of Dave Van Ronk, a folk singer nicknamed the "Moyan of MacDougal Street." Llewyn Davis (played by Oscar Isaac in his breakout performance) is finding it more and more difficult to make a living out of his craft after the death of his former music partner.

The Journal was able to interview Isaac. Here is a Q&A from that interview:

Q: How did you get involved with this movie?
A: I saw that they were making a movie on the Internet, and I got the casting director to get me an audition.

Q: Was the audition focused more on the acting or singing and playing guitar?
A: You needed to do both. You had to do two scenes and perform the song, 'Hang me. Oh Hang me' that Llewyn sings in the film.

Q: How did you prepare for this role?
A: It was a lot of work. I had to learn to do this particular style of guitar playing called "travis picking." I had to research more on the physicality of the character, and how I wanted to express what was happening to him emotionally in an external way. So, I had to make a decision. Alright, why am I doing this? Do I still have something to contribute to the medium? What's more fulfilling to me as an artist? And I think that is what Llewyn is struggling with.

Q: The Coen brothers work so closely together that they seem like one directing entity. Can you explain the difference between the two brothers?
A: To a certain extent, Joel is more in charge of the technical side, and Ethan is more in charge of the creative side. If there is ever any disagreement between the two, who ever wins is the director for the film. Can you explain the difference between the two directors?

Q: In the film, themes of cycles and farewells are repeated. The word "farewell" is in the last line of the film, and the last word of the entire film is "weary." What do the ideas of cycles and farewells in the film mean to you?
A: I think grief is a big thing that is happening in Llewyn Davis. He's having to say goodbye to not only his former partner and the ghost of his partner, but to that strange moment in time before the folk messiah, Bob Dylan, comes. It's a little bit of an apocalyptic film. This guy (Llewyn) is wandering around in this time before the rapture happens, and so the theme of goodbye is definitely there.

Q: Many of you remember the yellow "Livestro" bracelet that everyone wore in high school supporting the movement and then found deadbeat father.

 MTV produced film Bad Grandpa shows Jackass' Knoxville still has it

Lindsey Nolette
Journal Contributor

11 years since the release of its first film, the Jackass production hasn't changed much. Bad Grandpa, the seventh movie for the Jackass franchise, is a devilishly funny movie that leaves the audience with 93 minutes of cheap laughs. Featuring Johnny Knoxville's "Grandpa" character, Bad Grandpa illustrates the journey of one of America's most successful comedians to dressing his vending machine to wandering Billy and Zisman, which is loosely based on the life of actor Knoxville (played by Oscar Isaac of Dave Von Ronk, a folk musician who was always in a state of struggle.

If you wish to find out more about this film, the official movie website for Jackass Presents: Bad Grandpa is http://www.jackassmovie.com/social/

Q: Did your experience playing with your band, The Blinking Toddler, influence how you approached this role?
A: Yes. I think it did. I was playing punk/ ska at the time when interest in it was starting to go away. So, I had to make a reasonable living out of performing after the death of his father.

Q: Did your experience playing with your band, The Blinking Toddler, influence how you approached this role?
A: Yes. Well now, you're going to be the one directing entity. Can you explain the difference between the two directors?

Q: In the film, themes of cycles and farewells are repeated. The word "farewell" is in the last line of the film, and the last word of the entire film is "weary." What do the ideas of cycles and farewells in the film mean to you?
A: I think grief is a big thing that is happening in Llewyn Davis. He's having to say goodbye to not only his former partner and the ghost of his partner, but to that strange moment in time before the folk messiah, Bob Dylan, comes. It's a little bit of an apocalyptic film. This guy (Llewyn) is wandering around in this time before the rapture happens, and so the theme of goodbye is definitely there.
**Film 'Nebraska' tells tale of Woody Grant, unbeknown millionaire learns more to life than money**

With surprise appearances by Rance Howard and Bob Odenkirk to round out the interesting casting choices, a few left behind. A film that has a true heart and hope even though it's surrounded by the negative decay,

**Nebraska** is a film that is still true to Payne. My only complaints are that the show isn't quite as good to drag and the scenes that you wish you could dig your teeth into, are gone before you are able to digest them.

While the pacing does curve the effectiveness of the payoff, the film's message does still manage to resonate.

After the screening, Will Forte came out to interact with the audience through a Q&A where he talked about how he bonded with his co-star Bruce Dern, how this was truly a "happy accident" that he got the role; and that this character is the closest to him as a person. Forte addressed that he "doesn't plan on stopping comedic acting but that the only thing he wouldn't do is porn. "You know what, I wouldn't rule out porn," he said. Nebraska comes out on Nov. 15 and if you love the questionable decay of Americana; then this would be up your alley.

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**David Fredrick**
Journal Staff

In the day and age where films of nostalgic and apocalyptic values are the current hot commodity, Alexander Payne's return home with *Nebraska* serves as not only a requiem for an antiquated man longing for preservation but a look at a culture (or lack of) that is fading like celluloid.

Perhaps that's the reason for the stylistic choice of opting to shoot the film digitally and in black and white. Like all films that indulge in obsessions, Payne decides to plant the audience in the ever fading world of Woody Grant (Bruce Dern) and his exodus from Billings, Mont. to Lincoln, Neb. to collect $1 million dollars that he has supposedly won in a sweepstakes. Payne, but they are subdued to the point where you cannot recognize them anymore.

The once rapid, dark humor has been eased down to a putter. A great amount of it is due to June Squibb who plays the mother and wife Kate Grant, who holds the is a stubborn drunkard who is slowly losing his mind. I believe that's another theme in the film, decay. Decay of relationships, values, culture, families, wealth and most importantly decays of self. When the duo have to stay with family in Hawthorne's, we

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**Thalia Yunen**
Journal Staff

Harmonic and high-spirited, the Ramifications are Suffolk University's only co-ed A Cappella group.

The Ramifications were formed in the spring of 2001, and have performed at various events and competitions in the Boston area. They have sung the National Anthem at a Boston Celtics game for example, and have performed under the DCR Hatch Shell on the Esplanade.

This year, there are six new members and a total of 17 musical performers, and they are accompanied by Senior Andrew Hull and Senior Andrew Hall and

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**A cappella group Ramifications harmonizes its way to top because they haven't really heard this kind of performance, so it's an exciting experience for all.**

Last semester, they also performed at Rosie's Place - a homeless shelter for women in the city.

"The feedback was incredible," said Wright, "People were dancing and singing. Others were dancing and kept screaming "Encore! Encore!"

We were able to create something memorable that we will think about for the rest of our lives and we're looking forward to performing at Rosie's Place again.

It is apparent that the Ramifications are a hardworking A Cappella group who have a full schedule of events planned for this next year. On Dec. 7, for example, they will be performing at The A Cappella Festival at Wayland High School. Also on their agenda is a new album, which should be releasing sometime next year.

If you're interested in finding out more information on their upcoming events, which are plenty, visit their website at Suffolkramas.org, or keep in touch through their Facebook page.

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**Photo courtesy of Paramount Pictures**

**Photo courtesy of Suffolk University's Ramifications**
Gun violence still needlessly taking lives

Ally Johnson
Asst. Opinion Editor

On July 20, 2012, 20 people were killed and 58 were wounded in an attack in Aurora, Colo. In a movie theater playing a midnight screening, it was devastating; it shook the public to know that such a scene could take place where people sat unsuspecting. It made it so when the warnings pop up before the movies play to check where the exits are, the audience takes heed, so that when you are choosing your seat maybe a second look is taken. The shooting made us cautious.

On Dec. 14, 2012, an armed man entered Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn. and gunned down 26 individuals, including 20 school children before turning the gun on himself. As a collective unit, as a country that prides itself on our youth and on its ability to protect, we promised that things would get better after that massacre of innocence. We questioned how it was possible that such a despicable crime could take place in a small town, in a place that was considered safe and nurturing.

We would like to see Suffolk publish a report of who denounces to the school and what the outside funding buys for our education. This request seems in line with the university's new strategic plan and President James McCarthy's efforts to be more transparent.

We don't play politics here at The Suffolk Journal. We never support one side over another when reporting on a topic. This week's cover story about the Koch brothers donating hundreds of thousands of dollars to university high-ups for their expressed purpose of influencing your views on such topics as tuition increases and the importance of Suffolk alumni giving is meant to promote the views of alumna Kalin Jordan or Beacon Hill Institute Director David Tuerck. But the story does bring to light a separate issue for students to take note of.

The administration and BIII were very open to requests from The Journal about disclosing how much funding they received and what they spent it on. As journalists, the idea that the university will answer tough questions when asked by adhering media is a great sign that shows Suffolk University's commitment to free press. In addition, many members of the editorial staff have had little problem contacting university high-ups for stories over the years.

But Suffolk does not publicize anywhere what organizations donate to the school, how much they donate, and what the university spends the money on. Giving access to this information to media is honorable, but what about the rest of the student body, alumni, and faculty who are not a part of the process? Why don't they have access to information about their school? It shouldn't be a scavenger hunt through the Internet for those looking for these disclosures.

Information on what money the university receives is only publicly available through the university's own independent databases on the Internet and able to decipher years of 990 tax forms filed by non-profit organizations. If someone wanted to know all the organizations that donate to Suffolk, they would have to guess which organizations information to search for and then hope they thought of everyone.

Suffolk is indeed a private institution and due to this, it doesn't have certain obligations to give the public to look up what the university receives and how they use the money. They have received, why would they not want to publish the information for the general public to look up?

As a collective unit, as a country that prides itself on our youth and on its ability to protect, we promised that things would get better after that massacre of innocence. We questioned how it was possible that such a despicable crime could take place in a small town, in a place that was considered safe and nurturing. We asked how it could possibly get worse and those few still hopeful said surely after this tragedy the government would make it harder to attain a gun and decrease the likelihood of more deaths by gun violence.

The shooting made us furious. Then, only a few months back on Sept. 16, 2013, a man walked into a Navy Yard and shot and killed 12 people. In a year that had already seen so many tragedies take place the public was in need of answers: why did this happen, why was this man allowed access to what ideally would be a heavily secured unit, how was it that a man who has been rumored to be struggling with erratic behavior, who had been arrested two times previously for gun related incidents, gained possession of one? After the shooting we learned the repercussions of complacency. On Nov. 1, 2013 there was a shooting in the LAX airport where one man was killed, and only a few days later a man walked into a New Jersey mall and began shooting.

It is time to ask what on earth is happening? How is it that in the wake of so much gun violence, a member of society may successfully go about their day and feel safe?

We have discussed the issue, shouted over the issue, some cases have wept over the issue, so why is it that when you turn on the news, or open a paper or receive an update on your phone that it seems that the violence is only increasing? When did our fear turn into normality?

When did our shock and outrage at these shocking news events turn into society simply nodding their heads in apathy? This is a cause to be furious over. Guns have needlessly taken the lives of too many innocents in the past year and despite our initial response to action, to have a stricter gun law put into motion, to have more thorough background checks on gun owners, to make sure that those who purchase a gun do so safely, lawfully and without any ailments that could result in the irresponsible ownership.

How do we stop gun violence?


National accomplishments for LGBTQ, U.S. making strides

Ellie Hawkins
Journal Staff

It is amazing to think that the city of Boston and Boston Children’s Hospital released the first Health of Boston’s Children Report this past year. It is crucial for a city to know about its children’s health, because they are the future for that city and others. It is not surprising to read that the children who come from above the federal poverty level have better conditions. Also, that the people who come from below the federal poverty level have worse health and are usually born pre-maturely.

To many, it will be great to hear that 90 percent of the children in Boston “have at least one usual place of care,” said Mayor Thomas Menino’s press release about the issue. However, there is much room for improvement and children are needed to be representatives that they are not forgotten about in such a big city.

A second thing that should be important to any school system is explaining the proper fitness for children because having a proper fitness routine not only keeps a person fit and healthy, but also will help them in the future to know how to work out.

The city of Boston should keep doing these children’s health reports to make sure that children are not being forgotten about in such a big city. Also, it will help them keep track of which areas in school and learn more.

One major accomplishment for the hard worked-for equality that the LGBTQ people of the U.S. have earned and long deserved, this increasing number of victories provide America with a clearer conscience towards the international controversy to take action.

Everyone should have the right to work hard and earn a living, “It’s clear he doesn’t intend to make a big deal out of it,” Pollis said. “It’s done and he’s ready to get back to work.”

In Washington, the Senate passed the landmark Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA), which eliminates discrimination in the workplace based on sexual orientation and gender identity. Current government regulations previously protected against bias due to gender, nationality, age, or disability, but failed to extend to gays, lesbians, and transgender individuals.

It is crucial for a city to know about its children’s health, as the ‘Boston Health of Boston’s Children Report’ should be annual.
David Ortiz for Mayor? It could work

Katie Dugan
Journal Contributor

Nearly a week after the 2013 Boston Mayoral Election, it is no secret that the Bostonians are putting their trust into David Ortiz now more than ever. According to the Boston Election Department, most of the 560 write-in votes were cast in favor of the designated hitter taking the place of Thomas Menino. Seriously.

In the end, state Representative Marty Walsh received 52 percent of the votes, beating out City Councilor John Connolly, who received 48 percent of the votes. A close race indeed, but it seems both candidates want the best for the people of Boston. After the election had ended, Connolly said of Walsh: "He wants to do good things for Boston, and he will do good things for Boston, and he has my full support."

All this mayoral talk got me thinking, what if David Ortiz was elected? Would he make a good mayor? Well, his nickname is not "Big Papi" just for giggles.

He has attitude for the job. Boston is a strong city, and we always say, compromise is key. Ortiz has shown the ability to continue with taking risks and trying to put out the fire, helps a city heal. After his short but memorable speech at Fenway, he quickly became a face to the phrase "Boston Strong."

So there you have it. Sure, David Ortiz does not have any kind of political background, but what he does have is love for this city. That is no doubt in my mind that Walsh is a class act. This is a quality that Ortiz is lacking. However, the real surprise is not the movie but the distributor. Netflix is making a name for itself as being a network that takes risks when it comes to how it conducts its business. The company has had some huge successes, gets high profile actors such as Kevin Spacey to lead in its series, and manages to outdo any other network show with its level of inclusion, diversity and content. Moving to movies is its logical next step. People have been discussing lately how it seems like the Internet and online services seem to be slowly but surely taking over and with the content they are producing, can you blame them?

It will be a testament to the site if the documentary indeed does well, critically and otherwise. If they do succeed, it does not simply open viewers' eyes to a conflict due to a well-made documentary, but it also paves the way to allow Netflix the ability to continue with taking risks and trying to put out the best content that it can.

Netflix wise to scoop up Oscar-worthy documentary

Ally Johnson
Asst. Opinion Editor

By and large, Netflix is having a pretty phenomenal year. It first turned heads with hosting the return of cult favorite, cancelled-too-soon television series Arrested Development, followed soon after by the critically acclaimed House of Cards and Orange is the New Black. The former even received some Emmy nominations. And now, with its recent pick up of the upcoming documentary The Square, it seems that Netflix could be possibly heading to the Oscars.

Directed by Jehane Noujaim, The Square is a politically-driven documentary that focuses on the Egyptian revolution. Netflix, the online website that allows for streaming and renting movies, acquired the rights to the film last Monday. The film centers on the real-life protestors in Cairo’s Tahrir Square. It is viewed as an observational documentary, taking part in the views of six different individuals on the protests and how they discover victories and risk their lives in order to fight for what they believe in.

The film won the audience award at Sundance Film Festival hosted in January and more recently won another Oscar contender this year. Currently, films such as Stories We Tell, directed by Sarah Polley about family truths, and Blackfish, about the corruption at Sea World when it comes to orca whales, have people buzzing but it is not a closed race by a long shot. In past years, political documentaries as well as foreign documentaries have garnered critical acclaim and it is not completely unheard of for athletes to become politicians. Jon Runyan, offensive tackle for the Philadelphia Eagles, now a U.S. Congressman, Dave Bing, seven time All-Star guard for the NBA, along with a slew of other accomplishments, now the mayor of Detroit. If Ortiz ever decided he wanted to play politics instead of baseball, his popularity among Bostonians would certainly give him a head start on the game.

He dedicates his time to the NBA, along with a slew of other contributions and value to the city of Boston. Ortiz has done a substantial amount of charitable work for children in the United States, Haiti, and the Dominican Republic. He loves Boston. Just like the rest of us. This past year has been a roller coaster ride for Boston. In the aftermath of the Boston Marathon Bombing, David Ortiz and the rest of the Red Sox did everything they could to help a city heal. After his short but memorable speech at Fenway, he quickly became a face to the phrase "Boston Strong."

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Let me be clear, Ortiz does not have any kind of political background. He has attitude for the job. Ortiz is an all-around act. This is a quality that is vital for politicians to have. You need to be able to have civil discussions with your enemies on occasion. As they always say, compromise is key. But he never fails to remind them who is boss. 2004 ALCM, anyone?

He is a good guy. He has got that charisma similar to Bill Clinton or Barack Obama that makes you enjoy talking to him. When he talks to his fans, he genuinely cares about what they have to say. You want a mayor that will listen to you and take your words into consideration.

Hello students,

The Student Government Association (SGA) would like to share some updates from this week.

In our SGA meeting on Nov. 7, we covered topics regarding the upcoming Commuter Open Forum as well as a few other issues, which were brought up in our open forum.

On Nov. 6, we had our annual Fall Concert, which was put on by the Concert Committee, Student Learning and Involvement (SLI) and SGA. We know that many of you were very excited to see J.Cole perform at this year’s concert. Over 900 students attended and presented an outstanding amount of energy within the venue.

The Step Team as well as Suffolk's Wicked Hip Hop Dance team opened for the show. This concert was certainly one to remember.

Our weekly meetings are every Thursday in Donahue 311. As always, if you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us at sga@suffolk.edu.

Have a great week,

Student Government Association

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Lightning's Stamkos out indefinitely
The Tampa Bay Lightning took a big hit on the roster as center Steven Stamkos was carted off the ice. Stamkos will be out indefinitely for the Lightning with a broken tibia suffered in a game against the Boston Bruins on Veterans Day. Stamkos has been the leading goal scorer and in points leader early so far this season. The Lightning is the best team in the Eastern Conference as well, but the absence of Stamkos will hurt the team in the division. When Stamkos went down, the Bruins took over to beat the Lightning 3-0, which is a huge cause of concern for the Lightning since the Bruins are part of the new revamped Atlantic division. Other contenders in the division like the Detroit Red Wings and the Montreal Canadiens will only make the season tougher on the Lightning and even hurt playoff chances down the road if Stamkos misses a good portion of the season.

James Harden fined $5,000 for flopping
The first fine for flopping has officially been dealt to Houston Rockets' guard James Harden. Harden has been fined $5,000 for his apparent flop against the Los Angeles Clippers’ forward Blake Griffin. It was Harden's second clear flop of the season, first flop results in a warning, the second is when a player can expect to get fined. It isn't until a sixth flop violation that would require discussing of team discipline or suspension. Other players in the league have received warnings already, big names like Minnesota Timberwolves' forward Kevin Love and Washington Wizards' guard John Wall. Plenty of fans have been vocal about getting rid of flopping in the NBA, and this fine is really taking a step in the right direction to warn players that falling on the ground to gain possession or go to the free throw line is cheating and now frowned upon.

Ed Reed cut by Houston Texans
Future Hall of Fame head coach Bill Belichick once referred to Ed Reed as the best safety to play football. Unfortunately for the veteran, Reed has been cut by the Houston Texans after having a disappointing first half of the season. He had only played in seven games, accumulating 14 total tackles, but was not the ball hawk they had hoped him to be. With no interceptions in his time with the Texans, Reed will now go on the waiver wire and if no team picks him up, he will be a free agent. What may be a coincidence, the Texans lost every game that Reed has played in, and the secondary isn’t to blame too much since the Texans have one of the best defenses against the pass in the NFL. Age and injury have obviously caught up to Reed, and although some team is sure to sign him, he may not ever be at the level he was a year or two ago.

Men's Hockey
1. Johnson & Wales 2-0
2. Nicholas 2-0
3. Salve Regina 3-1
4. Suffolk 1-1
5. Wethersfield 2-3
6. West. New Eng. 2-1
7. Curry 1-2
8. Becker 0-3

Men's Basketball
1. Anna Maria 0-0
2. Albertus Magnus 0-0
3. Emerson 0-0
4. Johnson & Wales 0-0
5. Saint Joseph's (M.E.) 0-0
6. Rivier 0-0
7. Emmanuel 0-0
8. Lasell 0-0
9. Mount Ida 0-0
10. Norwich 0-0
11. Suffolk 0-1

Women's Basketball
1. Emmanuel 0-0
2. Suffolk 0-0
3. Saint Joseph's (M.E.) 0-0
4. Rivier 0-0
5. Albertus Magnus 0-0
6. Emerson 0-0
7. Johnson & Wales 0-0
8. St. Joseph (Conn.) 0-0
9. Lasell 0-0
10. Norwich 0-0
11. Anna Maria 0-0
12. Simmons 0-0
The Suffolk University men's hockey team looked to earn back-to-back wins to open up the season on Nov. 9 to improve to a record of 2-0. In their first game, the Rams tallied an impressive 3-1 win over Assumption College.

Goal tending and defense were solid, while Tim Sprague and Jon Stauffer led the way offensively for the Rams.

The second game of this young season would be an away matinee against conference opponent Salve Regina. Salve had also started the season stong with a record of 2-0 coming into the contest.

The first period was a disaster for the Rams. Only a minute-and-a-half after the puck was dropped Suffolk found itself in the penalty box. Although Salve did not capitalize on this power-play, it would towards the end of the period be Simon Leahy's cross-checking which would be a deadly combination two goals this season. His goal gave a breath of life for himself and his team, and they responded. Just two minutes after Leahy's goal, Tim Sprague decided to join the party with a goal of his own, and his third in two games. His goal was assisted by Carmen Mastrangelo and Stanton Turner, this would be the second assist in as many minutes for Turner as he also assisted Leahy.

Just one minute and eleven seconds after Suffolk's second goal, they scored once again. Senior Charlie McGinnis potted his first goal of the year assisted by Garrett Stephenson and Rochard Woodworth. There were no goals scored in the remaining six minutes and the Rams fell to Salve by a final of 6-3.

Suffolk was unable to convert eight power play chances which really hurt them on the scoresheet. Also, the Rams allowed two power play goals to be scored upon them, look for special teams to be a focal point of practice this week for Coach Gliona.

And that was the last goal Suffolk would look to extend three-game winning streak.
Men's basketball recruits strengthen team

Vassili Stroganov
Sports Editor

The Suffolk University men's basketball team has gone through a lot of changes since last year. There are many new names on the roster with legendary names like Pecpjonovic and Halpin no longer on the squad. These two skilled players will be greatly missed this year, especially when it comes to the offense of the team. Pecpjonovic and Halpin were major forces for the Rams last season and both scored more than 1,000 points in their four-year careers. It is going to be interesting to see how the team will do without these two titans this year and with the recent recruiting's things are looking more than bright for the Rams.

Watching practice, it is clear what coach Adam Nelson has brought in this year that was missing in some parts last year: physical strength and size. Several of the new recruits are around 6'5" and muscular enough to be UFC fighters. Having these kind of guys on the team does not only intimidate the opponents, but it also useful for improvement in both defense and offense. With the physical strength and structure of this year's team, the guys could easily pass as a football team. Of course strength is not the only thing you have to have in your team to win matches – pure talent and motivation is as important. The team showed all these three elements in their season opener against Division I school University of New Hampshire.

In this game we saw that the Rams have what it takes to challenge a DI team. Last year the guys lost this game while this year the score was much closer. Suffolk lost 70-84 to the Wildcats to the strong New Hampshire. Suffolk played an outstanding match and gave all they had out on the court. Especially in the first half the Rams were doing very well as they only lost the half by 8 points. In the second half Suffolk was close as well as the Rams lost it 32-48. A couple of players stood out for the Rams. Two of them were Matt Powers who scored 19 points and newly recruited Sam Nwadike who got 15 points and five assists. Also last year's Suffolk rookie of the year Caleb Sonti had a great game with 10 points and one assist. After the game junior forward Adam Kaplan praised his team: "Our team is really good. We have a young team and it should be exciting to watch how we will do this season." Next match for Suffolk men's hoop is on Saturday.

Boston Celtics are playing to win, not to tank

Jeremy Hayes
Asst. Sports Editor

The deepest pool of draft prospects in a decade will be available for the 2014 NBA Draft, and many teams are looking to have a weak season just to improve their draft stock. They are showing a lot of heart early on for rookie head coach Brad Stevens, and are keeping every game close. Even in their four losses, the Celtics kept games within 10 points, which proves that there has been no thought of not being able to compete with other teams in the NBA.

Even though the Magic (who the Celtics have beaten twice) and the Utah Jazz, the Celtics managed to beat the defending champions Miami Heat with a game-winning shot by Jeff Green that was pure clutch.

The road ahead is going to be the real challenge. Over the next two weeks, the Celtics will have to face some legitimate contenders. In order, the Celtics will face the Portland Trail Blazers, Minnesota Timberwolves, Houston Rockets, San Antonio Spurs, Indiana Pacers, and the Atlanta Hawks. Four out of six of those games will be on the road, and those teams currently have a combined record of 34-11 as of last Monday night.

The irony of it all is that the Brooklyn Nets are currently tied for last place, who not only have former Celtic players Paul Pierce, Kevin Garnett, and Jason Terry, but where they finish in the standings will determine the draft pick that the Celtics possess due to the blockbuster trade over the summer. It is way too early to say who will finish on top, but if the season ended now, the Celtics would be in the playoffs and a lottery pick for the 2014 draft.

The Celtics will have a shot to get their first winning record of the season against the Charlotte Bobcats before they have to take on that brutal six-game run.

One thing is for sure, Coach Stevens will continue to push this team and it's top ranked defense to continue to stay in games that people count them out of before the ball is even tipped off.