WHERE DO STUDENTS LIVE?

By Thalia Yunen, Journal Staff

After a measure by Mayor Martin J. Walsh last year following a scathing report on detrimental housing conditions college students were living in, institutions in the city are required to submit addresses of students living off campus to the Inspectional Services Department.

The city has recorded a total of 2,093 Suffolk University undergraduate students living in off-campus apartments across the city, according to data the university provided to the city.

In 2013, a Boston University student named Binland Lee, who was living in an overcrowded apartment in the city, died after a fire rampaged the apartment she shared with other students.

Walsh’s measure was implemented after The Boston Globe conducted an investigation that resulted in a three-part series published last spring. The series, “Shadow Campus,” showed how commonly students moved into ill-managed apartments, and highlighted landlords like Anwar Faisal, who owns many properties in the city and has rented apartments that were not up to code to Boston students.

Although the Inspectional Services Department did not have data on exactly how many Suffolk University students have lived or currently live in apartments in violation of city code, the department’s spokeswoman, Lisa Timberlake, confirmed that some students are living in apartments that do violate city code.

From a sample of about 17 inspections that took place on Feb. 24 and March 25, the most infractions—nine—occurred in Fenway. Roxbury and Mission Hill had the second highest number of infractions, according to data provided by Timberlake.

West End has most Suffolk students per postal code

The most common violation was apartments without smoke detectors, according to the small sample of violations sent to the Journal by the department.

Based on addresses sent to the city by Suffolk University, the Inspectional Services Department’s data showed that the most undergraduate Suffolk students live in high numbers in the following areas: 224 in the North End, 259 in the West End, and 211 in the Chinatown/Tufts Medical area.

Hundreds of students also live in East Boston, Allston, Brighton, and the Fenway/Kenmore area.

Timberlake said in a telephone interview that the list was created in the fall after universities and colleges in Boston reported their students’ information.

Club denied space for Earth Day event

Heather Rutherford
Journal Staff

Suffolk’s Environmental Club is searching for a new place to host their first annual Earth Day Fest after the city’s Parks and Recreation department rejected their permit to host the event in the Boston Common.

The Environmental Club, partnering with Boston University’s Environmental Coalition, is planning to host its first annual Earth Day Fest on April 22 from noon to 5 p.m.

The location of the event, however, is still being finalized following the decision of

"This makes us upset because we're trying to promote the earth and want to do it in this location."

- Rebecca Jo Henry

Boston's Parks and Recreation department canceled the club's permit, according to Rebecca Jo Henry, secretary of the club.

"We were approved for the [Boston Common gazebo]. We went through the permit process and finalized everything weeks ago, however on Friday, March 27, Parks and Rec kicked us out, the reason being because of the marathon two days before," Henry said.

"This makes us upset because we're trying to promote the earth and want to do it in this location."

The club does have backup locations, including a space on BU’s campus.

"We are hoping to get the Suffolk community as well as Boston to join together and celebrate the earth, inspire sustainable methods of living, and share responsibility for the future of our planet," said Henry.

During the Earth Day Fest, the community can expect to see a number of local vendors, such as local eateries The Juicery, Equal

See EARTH DAY page 4
Brigitte Carreiro
Journal Staff

The Ritz-Garton was filled with students and faculty Tuesday night as dozens of nominations were made to find out if they were chosen as one of the outstanding members of Suffolk's community at the Student Government Association's annual awards ceremony.

A total of 24 recipients including students, faculty, and administrators were awarded at the two-hour ceremony. As a change to this year's celebration, all current and upcoming SGA executive board members were exempt from nominations in order to give recognition to other prominent Suffolk students, according to SGA President Tyler LeBlanc.

Zachary Barker and Thomas Burke, members of Suffolk's improv comedy group Seriously Bent, hosted the event. Suffolk's capella group, the Ramifications, and a contestant from the recent Suffolk Idol competition, Antonio Philippon, rounded out the entertainment for the evening.

Interim President Norman Smith thanked the student body for their outstanding work this year and congratulated everyone on all achievements.

"I'd very much like to thank all of you for everything you've done to contribute to the quality of life at the university this year...and congratulate you for being here tonight and being saluted," said Smith.

Many award recipients expressed their thankfulness to the Suffolk community during short speeches and were proud of their accomplishments.

Among notable winners were Jesse Beal for "Outstanding Administrator of the Year," junior Victoria Treton for "Unsung Hero - Student," Kelsey Johansen for "Outstanding Senior of the Year," Dean William J. O'Neill of the "Sawyer Business School for the Lifetime Achievement Honor," and Wyatt Costello for "Outstanding Junior of the Year."

Costello referenced the work he has done this year to raise awareness of Suffolk's blood drive restrictions after winning his award and emphasized his gratitude to all Suffolk students.

"It feels great to be recognized by my peers and respected," said Feathers. "It's a nice ending to my day."

During what LeBlanc called the "ceremonial 'passing of the torch' from president to president-elect," he said that he has enjoyed working with current SGA Vice President, and upcoming president, Colin Loiseau, and is confident in Loiseau's ability to take over the presidency.

"This year's been really awesome for me to see Colin grow into his role as vice president and make it something that he wanted it to be and bring up a lot of initiatives," said LeBlanc. "He's always willing to lend a helping hand with anything he can do with SGA."

Loiseau in turn said that he is more than excited to follow in LeBlanc's footsteps.

"This event is definitely bittersweet for me. While I'm beyond excited to take on my new role as president of SGA next year, I'm also bummed that another year has come and gone," said Loiseau. "There is no doubt that I'm ready to take on this new role next year, and that's because of the example that Tyler set for me, for SGA, and for all the Suffolk University community."

SGA Secretary Dennis Harkins remarked on the work that went into creating the SGA Awards and said he was more than happy with the outcome.

"A lot of details are involved in stuff like this... A lot of moving parts. It was fun, it was a good experience," said Harkins. I thought we had a very diversified group of award winners this year, and I'm really happy with how that turned out."

When students first attend Suffolk, they're often a new student or as a transfer, they are told about the benefits of becoming involved. There are courses designed to engage students in this way, and a variety of off-campus events held at various places seek to do this.

Students graduating this spring could benefit from alumni engagement, though, according to Steve Skiffington, president of the Suffolk's College Alumni Board. Skiffington believes alumni engagement is not only about being involved and meeting others, it's about paying it forward to Suffolk graduates.

Skiffington currently works as the director of the North at Veolia, and has hired several interns and employees throughout his time there. As alumni of the undergraduate class of 1983, and graduate class of 1993, Skiffington said his "whole purpose in life is to give back to current students and new graduates and keep the network together."

Elizabeth Conley, managing director of alumni engagement, works with Skiffington and to develop a variety of activities for alumni to participate in, such as fundraisers, local charity work, social outings, and outreach.

In his role as president of the alumni board, Skiffington said, "We start with four board meetings a year, and in those board meetings we try to break that up between exterior events, homecoming, graduation, and opportunities to do internal things like going to classes at the business school and doing outreach... I also team up with Elizabeth once a week."

Recently, Skiffington attended Accepted Students Day, and spoke to a group of about 100 parents about his success as a Suffolk graduate.

"I just want to make it clear that none of the success I've had would have happened without the student body," said Costello.

Emma Feathers, the winner of the "Outstanding Sophomore of the Year" award, expressed her appreciation for the acknowledgement she gained.

"It feels great to be recognized by my peers and respected," said Feathers. "It's a nice ending to my day."

According to Steve Skiffington, Suffolk alumni are working in their respective fields.

"I'm thrilled to be able to work with both alumni and the students," said Skiffington. "It's not as evolved as I'd like to see. I'd like to see more students get more people, and inform more students that our services exist," he said.

Skiffington has been nominated for and will serve as an alumni representative to the trustee board starting in the fall.
The first Ford Hall Forum of the spring semester brought a knowledgeable panel of local political experts to discuss the answers to tough questions at the Old South Meeting House Thursday. Professor and Chair of Suffolk's Government Department, Rachael Cobb, who has researched voter issues and other civic life topics throughout her career, moderated the event.

The panel featured Jim Stergios, the executive director of the Pioneer Institute, a conservative think tank in Boston; Alan Solomont, Dean of Tisch College at Tufts University and a former U.S. ambassador to Spain and Andorra; and David Paleologos, the director of Suffolk's Political Research Center.

The first order of business was determining why voter participation was lower than it could, and should be. Each panelist agreed that was true, but each gave different reasons why. Stergios noted that voters' trust in the government is at the lowest point it has ever been. Paleologos pointed out that a disproportionate number of respondents in a 2012 USA TODAY/Suffolk poll of unregistered and unlikely voters were young, disabled, and people of color, compared to a typical likely voter poll. This indicated, among other things, that those respondents in a poll of unregistered voters are unhappy with the current political situation.

The day of the week that elections occur may play a bigger role than some think, according to Solomont, who pointed out that elections often fall on Tuesdays. Many voters report they can't make it to polls during the busy weekday, he said, and voter identification laws also make the voting process harder. "Three and a half million people would have voted in the last presidential election if same-day registration was available across the country," he said, adding that people who register closer to election day are more likely to vote. To put that figure into perspective, about 129 million Americans voted in the 2012 presidential election, according to the official election results by the Federal Election Commission.

Another problem keeping Americans from the polls is how much influence voters feel they have. "As issues move into the federal level, voter interest declines," Stergios said. However, he also noted that fewer voters participate in local elections, because they perceive them to have less power than federal elections. Voters feel that national issues are of greater importance, and often look to the federal government to solve issues that were once considered local or state issues, he said. During the question and answer period, audience members suggested a variety of ways to get more voters to hit the polls. One person noted that voting is mandatory in Australia, where eligible citizens who don't vote pay a fine, and that Australia has a more high voter participation because of this. The participant also added that colleges are expanding their civics education there. In their response, panelists seemed to agree that better educated voters would only go so far in boosting turnout.

More transparency would boost confidence in the political system," Stergios said. He noted that politicians get to keep their jobs regardless of an election, but did not use. This leaves them better prepared in their next campaign, where they can get a jump on newer candidates who have to start raising money from scratch.

Another audience member wondered if allowing universities to host polling stations on Election Day would boost young people's involvement. Cobb said the proximity might help, but that federal regulations dictate where polling stations are located.

As Stergios noted, moving polling stations to colleges may not necessarily reach other demographics fairly. Holding polling stations at a college may benefit the more affluent young people who go there, but isn't as advantageous for less affluent young people, he said.

The next Ford Hall Forum called "Viril" will discuss how politics, science, and human nature intersect to curb the transmission of diseases.

During the Ford Hall Forum, panelists explored the possibility of testing voters and politicians on their knowledge of civic matters.

Katherine Yearwood
Journal Staff

Despite the frigid weather, more than 750 people from all over Massachusetts and its neighbor staties traveled to the W Boston Hotel to take part in NOH8 campaign's open photo shoots. Most participants were NOH8's classic uniform, a plain white tee, temporary NOH8 face tattoo, and duct tape over their mouths. Some even brought their own props to personalize their photo.

NOH8 is a nonprofit organization aimed at raising awareness for marriage equality and anti-discrimination through its interactive media campaign. Their main means of protest is through photographing people with the NOH8 symbol on their body, and mainly on their face. Those in attendance wore their attire with pride as they lined up to have their picture taken by celebrity photographer and NOH8 co-founder, Adam Bouska. The NOH8 photo shoot had such a large turnout that the timing for the event needed to be extended. Rather than starting at 1 p.m. and ending at 4 p.m., the event started at 11 a.m. and ended at 6 p.m.

NOH8 was founded in 2009 as a response to Proposition 8, a California state constitutional amendment, that prohibited same sex couples from having their marriage recognized under California law. Although the Supreme Court deemed Proposition 8 unconstitutional in June 2013, the NOH8 campaign continued to thrive as a nonprofit.

Participant Crystal Diamonds said, "It promotes our pride for who we are. It gives the world a chance to be able to change the outlook on others. There's not too much of this out there for us, so to come out here and do photo ops like this is even better."

Each participant could take a solo photo and/or do a group shot. A single photo cost $40 per person and a group photo cost $25 per person. Participants also had the chance to show their support for NOH8 and the people they represent by buying merchandise such as bumper stickers, T-shirts, and silicone bracelets.

Bouska wanted to make sure that everyone felt they could be a part of the event, and the event was open to everyone, including children and family pets. "It's important to show that everyone can support; it's something that everyone can be a part of to matter their age, race, or sex," said Bouska in an interview.

Bouska started the campaign when he put duct tape over his mother's mouth and uploaded the picture that he took of her on Facebook. Part of Bouska's inspiration for the idea came from another organization's protest against inequality.

"I saw people using victims of photo shoots where the logo was covering up people's faces. As a photographer it hurt me to see people hidden behind a logo, so I tried to show people," said Bouska.

"I'm at this event to raise awareness for certain things that haven't gotten enough attention such as women's rights, gay marriage, racial inequality, and religious discrimination," said Nick Wholley, a two-time participant of the campaign's open photo shoot.

"We've seen a lot of an impact with our protest. We've done over 45,000 photos and a picture is worth a thousand words," said Chris Hayden, the NOH8 studio manager and the organizer of all of their local public service announcements.

According to Hayden, the NOH8 campaign has had over 25,000 photos in 19 different countries and in 45 of the 50 states. Saturday was NOH8's third time coming to Boston to do a photo shoot.
Firearm search forces evacuation of students from residence hall

Melissa Hanson
Journal Staff

Suffolk University police and Boston police searched a dorm room in Miller Hall Monday evening after resident assistants heard a student make a comment about obtaining a firearm, according to police and a statement sent to students.

No weapons were found in the room, according to the statement and Boston police spokeswoman Rachel McGuire. The male student who made the comment was escorted from the residence hall and will undergo a review process, or whether the student will be allowed to return to the dorm room, were not available.

Just before 7 p.m. Monday, the resident assistants, who were conducting health and safety inspections, heard the comment and reported it to SUPD, the statement said.

The incident occurred on the fourth floor of Miller and 12 residents on the floor were evacuated from the area, according to Gatlin. The students were allowed to return in about 30 minutes.

Sophomore Marcella Luby lives on the fourth floor and said she was not evacuated from the area Monday night. "I was looking through the peep hole [in the door]," said Luby, who saw SUPD and Boston police entering the student's dorm room.

Luby added that school or police officials never knocked on her door instructing her to leave the area.

Gatlin said that police only evacuated some students, asking others to stay in their dorm rooms.

Luby said she was not scared by the incident because she believed the student was not actually in possession of a weapon.

John Rodriguez, the resident director at Miller, declined to speak about the incident, forwarding questions to Gatlin.

The floor's resident assistant, Rakan Alzaydi, was not able to comment on the incident. The student's name was not released because he is not facing any charges.

University officials declined to provide the Journal with a police report for the incident, citing that because the university is a private school, police reports are not made public.

The statement asked students with questions or concerns to call SUPD at 617-573-8333.

Earth Day Fest to promote sustainability

From EARTH DAY page 1

Exchange, Pipert, and Sweet Green. All vendors are known for promoting nutritional, flavorful food with energizing atmospheres.

The club is also working with Boston Haule, a music blog and Boston events guide, that is a "source for all the best underground sounds flowing in and out of Boston," according to their page. Local groups such as local hip hop and indie groups such as Lewis M and Stony Love have been confirmed, with more to be added, according to Henry.

By inviting sustainable food companies, bands, and poets, to come together to support sustainability, Henry believes it will bring the Suffolk and Boston community together to promote sustainable living.

In addition to local music groups, there will also be games, demonstrations, and workshops promoting sustainable living. Henry said the Environmental Club has reached out to several activist groups that will also attend the fest, including ELM, Greenovate Boston, Mass Energy Consumer Alliance, Enactus, MASSPIRG, and UCS.

Not only will members of the Environmental Club be enjoying the event, but members from Suffolk's Real Food Challenge and Suffolk NORML, student groups be involved.

Henry has not yet decided on how the Environmental Club will inform the Suffolk and Boston community where the fest will be held.
Student captures phenomenon in Arctic Circle

Do you prefer mountains or the beach? That has always been an essential question in getting to know a person.

Having been born in Sunnyvale, California, where it was always sunny (no pun intended), my obvious answer would be the beach, right?

Well, not exactly. After moving to New England and living there most of my life, I have formed a certain attachment to mountains.

Growing up, my father’s job as a scientist frequently demanded travel. That was the beginning of my love affair with globe-trotting. I remember always running to the bottom of the stairs when I knew he was coming back from a trip, excited to see if he brought back cool souvenirs. There’s also the fact that I can’t remember the last time I spent a summer in my town because we were always away.

Rewinding to the moment from that weekend, I am speechless. My first thought was that I have only had those private moments with myself where I said, “Why the hell not?”

Rewinding to the moments from that weekend, I am stumped. I feel as if I can’t accurately put my experience down on paper because the moment I set foot in Reykjavík, the capital of Iceland, I was speechless. My first thought was that I have only had those private moments like this in my life, where words have failed me and I cried on the spot. The place was so beautiful it took my breath away.

You could say I was lucky to have witnessed the string of otherworldly events that occurred that weekend: the solar eclipse and the famous aurora borealis.

You may want to know if the northern lights were as beautiful as they look on paper, and my answer is no. They were better.

While observing the spectacle was truly an awe-inspiring experience, the photos that came out of my DSLR still cannot compare to what I witnessed with the naked eye. The intensity of the lights was something that mystified me in the most beautiful way. My father would tell you that the northern lights are just charged particles that stem from the solar wind and earth’s magnetic fields. And while that may be true, I still choose to look at it as a phenomenon.

Eight countries so far. All beautifully different. My experience of being abroad is not something I am able to sum up in a few words. All I can tell you is that sometimes it is good to get lost for a while, whether it be in Boston or the Arctic Circle. I have fallen in love with 100 more people and places this year, and the truth is, I have no idea where I am going to end up anymore. Sometimes, not having a plan is the best plan. So far, it has worked out for me.

SGA awards recognizes international students’ excellence

Hosted at the Ritz-Carlton Tuesday evening, the Student Government Association Awards glowed with energy from student leaders and administrators ready to celebrate notable events and achievements of the school year.

The annual event recognizes outstanding students and faculty on the work they take part in on campus, one category awarding international students who showed exemplary leadership throughout the year.

This year’s selected international student was An Wang, a junior and double major in entrepreneurship and finance.

Born in Hangzhou, China, Wang’s involvement at Suffolk is marked by her efforts to help the Chinese student population on campus adjust to American culture. She is the undergraduate co-president of the Chinese Students and Scholars Association, and serves as the vice president of co-events coordinators of the International Students Association.

“We wanted to share our culture but it’s not just having fun,” said Wang on founding CSSA in a previous interview with The Suffolk Journal. “We also want to give some suggestions and we have people come speak and share their ideas and advice to not get into trouble.”

In her nomination by SGA, Wang is described as an “amazing student” with leadership and dedication.

Wang was not present at the ceremony to receive her award, although the audience proudly cheered as they announced her name.

In the previous interview with the Journal, Wang expressed her passion for the Suffolk community and standing up for minority groups on campus, specifically on topics such as gender and race. She also participated in the Journey Leadership Program.

Other recognitions Wang received were during her time abroad in Rome, where she participated as secretary for the Italian campus’ SGA and was named the most inspiring person in the university.

Tavares, a junior and Sawyer Business School ambassador, was another international student nominated for the award.

Tavares has served as an orientation leader in the summer. She also organized a photography exhibition that is currently displayed at the Sawyer lounge that brings attention to microaggressions on campus.

Jonathan Acosta Abi Hassan, sophomore and assistant photo editor at the Journal, was nominated for his work as president of the Spanish Club and bringing the club to life.

Other students that were finalists in the nomination were Andrea Gonzalez Corleto, a finance and entrepreneurship major and president and international Affairs Association, and Habb Julien Dean, a student from Liberia and tutor at the Center for Academic Learning and Success. Julien Dean is described as “a wonderful tutor” and “one of the finest students” in his nomination provided by SGA.

During the final moments of the ceremony, President Ty­ out LeBlanc “passed the torch” to President-elect Colin Lo­selle.
President Barack Obama has reassured Israel that the U.S. will stand by them. "The new challenge for this administration lies now in disarticulating the danger coming from those who have profited from the escalation of tensions here in the United States, Iran and elsewhere," said Dominguez.

Some critics believe Obama is endangering Israel's security, while supporters think it is a smart move to show strength in the alliance. The deal leaves Iran with the ability to build a bomb, which has alarmed Israel and Iran's neighbors in the Gulf.

Professor Susan Sereed of the sociology department believes this statement by Obama was not controversial, but valid for the U.S. and its connections in the Middle East. "I think this was the right thing for the president to say," said Sereed. "It's not a matter of digging into a link with Israel."

Sereed has a master's and Ph.D. from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, and moved from the U.S. to Israel to become a professor at Bar-Ilan University. She was one of the editorial board members for Social Issues in Israel and started teaching at Suffolk in 2005.

"That link between the U.S. and Israel is historical, deep and, in my opinion, honorable and valuable for both countries," she said. "For all of its flaws and problems, Israel is a democracy and as such the appropriate ally for the U.S. in the Middle East."

Likewise, Cosgrove believes the two countries' connection is just "smart politics." "The President is trying to solidify his standing with the pro-Israel and Jewish communities," said Cosgrove. "We've been linked to the troubles of Israel since President Truman pledged U.S. recognition and support for Israel against the advice of his own Department of State."

Cosgrove said the relationship between the U.S. and Israel is nothing new and is not likely to change.

Obama answered questions from Israeli officials on the U.S. defence budget. "The truth of the matter is Iran's defence budget is $30 billion. Our defence budget is closer to $600 billion," Obama said to The Guardian.

"A better deal would roll back Iran's vast nuclear infrastructure, and require Iran to stop its aggression in the region, its terror worldwide and its calls and actions to annihilate the state of Israel," Netanyahu said during an interview with CNN Monday.

The U.S. reassured Netanyahu that Israelis have nothing to worry about, according to several news reports.

"The truth of the matter is Iran's defence budget is $30 billion. Our defence budget is closer to $600 billion," Obama said to The Guardian. Cosgrove doesn't look at which country has more financial ability than the other.

"I would argue Iran is very efficient in its use of defense assets both symmetrically and asymmetrically," he said.

With the foreign policy concerns regarding the growth and advancement of the Islamic State, the Obama administration reassured that the U.S. will remain committed to defending Israel against any circumstances.

Roberto Dominguez, a professor in the government department, looks at the challenges ahead for the Obama administration in the U.S.

"The new challenge for this administration lies now in disarticulating the danger coming from those who have profited from the escalation of tensions here in the United States, Iran and elsewhere," said Dominguez.
Opinion: US should stop militarizing southern border, divest from Israeli technology

Dani Marrero
Journal Staff

The U.S.-Mexico border is a militarized zone. Millions of dollars are invested yearly to have a surveillance system that monitors activity that crosses the Rio Grande. With politicians in Washington working to pass a "comprehensive" immigration reform, securing the border has been the center of negotiations.

A recent investment to "protect" the border was made last year to Elbit Systems, an Israeli-based company that provides arms to the Israeli military, as reported by multiple media outlets. The contract was for a total of $145 million, which included drones, radar, and unmanned towers, according to The Guardian.

There is no question that we should have protection along our border to monitor dangerous activities. However, the conversation on "securing" our border has focused on the high number of immigrants that migrate north from Latin America, a specific example during the summer when a wave of immigrants from Honduras, El Salvador, and Guatemala were fleeing their home countries because of the high violence rates.

During the summer, former Governor Rick Perry deployed 1,000 National Guard troops to south Texas in direct response to the thousands of immigrants, including unaccompanied minors, who were trying to cross into the U.S. by taking the perilous journey through harsh terrain along the Rio Grande. While the troops joined the border patrol agents already surveilling the area and took hundreds of immigrants to detention centers, the residents of the Rio Grande Valley drove to work seeing tanks and trucks with troops along the highways.

The real threat is the militarization itself. It affects communities that live along the borderlands and immigrants in communities' safety. The government did not appear to consider the conditions the immigrants were running from in Central America.

A company supplying these technologies is Elbit. They are described as "the backbone of Israel's defense forces" by International Business Times because they are the largest supplier to the Israeli military.

Not only does the U.S. border militarization affect residents at home, but with the U.S. federal government completing a contract with Elbit, we are arming the Israeli military on their continuous humanitarian crimes against the Palestinians. We are funding their unwillingness to create a peaceful negotiation and we are funding their stubbornness to recognize a group of people.

In their Code of Ethics, Elbit Systems claims to fight against discrimination, yet their multimillion dollar products perpetuate discrimination across borders around the world. Elbit claims to stand against harassment, yet their products are used by governments to harass communities daily and marginalize them. In 2014, Elbit was named the "world's most ethical company" by The Ethisphere Institute. I wonder if being ethical means to harm, displace, discriminate, and disorganize. If so, then Elbit's recognition was well deserved.

The U.S. government should consider how the companies they invest in use their funds and how their products are used. In the case of Elbit, the problems the company creates are not just half a world away, they are at home too.

WORLD BRIEFS

Yemen – Conflict

Yemen, the Arab world's poorest country, has been facing shortages of oil and water, a growing population, dictatorship, hunger, and an international terrorist presence with political differences that run deep internally. The next crisis, an escalating rivalry between neighboring countries Saudi Arabia and Iran, has sparked war and chaos. Military intervention has been led by Saudi Arabia, backed by the U.S. and Britain, according to The Guardian. Rebel fighter group Houthis took over the capital Sana'a and has successfully expanded across the country. More than 250 have allegedly been killed in the past two weeks due to the fighting, according to BBC. The International Committee of the Red Cross was just approved to send aid flights filled with medical supplies to Yemen, but were delayed on Monday, according to BBC.

Kenya – #147NoJustANumber

A Kenyan social media campaign set a goal to tell the story of each victim in the Garissa terror attacks, saying that the students killed should not be reduced by a number, according to The Guardian. Using #147NoJustANumber and #theyhavenames, victims' friends and families, journalists, and others began sharing photographs, character portraits, ages, and names on Twitter. Al-Shabaab gunmen stormed a university in eastern Kenya, killing 147 students that were between 19 and 23 years old, according to The Guardian.

Some of the victims that had pictures shared on Twitter were honored in the Daily Nation, Kenya's national newspaper, on Monday. Ory Okolloh Mwangi started the campaign Sunday in efforts to "humanize victims of terror," she said to the Wall Street Journal.
Self-taught artist discovers passion for portraiture

Suffolk sophomore Shavanae Anderson remembers drawing an apple for the first time in 1998. That introduction to art was bolstered by the inspiration she found in the graphics of a biology textbook her mother used in high school. Later inspired by diagrams of skeletons her mother drew in the text, Anderson, now a film studies major, decided to try her hand at creating art.

"She's not an artist anymore but I came across the book with bright red and blue pen drawings of skeletons and I think that's when I said I want to aspire to be my mom and to be an artist," said Anderson, 19.

In addition to introducing her to art, Anderson’s mother has always supported her, equipping her with the supplies she needed to create her paintings. However, it wasn't until January of last year, after receiving professional art pencils and markers, that Anderson drew a picture of herself and I think that's when I really started to take on big projects and when she starts them, she focuses only on her art.

"Usually when I start, I say 'oh I don't like it' but something is going to come out of it and I like that there's a meaning behind my work. I just never give up," she said.

Art is also a way to relieve stress for Anderson, and is her method of procrastination. Whenever she doesn't want to do schoolwork or if her mind is off focus, she likes to paint to center her thoughts, or as she calls it, "tunnel vision."

When she paints, she doesn't worry about anything else and her mind is put at ease. After painting, she says she can take on a three-page paper easily.

Anderson has been displaying her art through social media, including her Instagram page Shava’s love of art. She hopes to have an art show at home in Jamaica over the summer and start a business of painting portraits for tourists who visit the island.

She also sells her original paintings and prints on her website artmelodies.bigcartel.com. Prices vary according to sizes, which start from 8.5 x 11.

As for her future goals, Anderson has always wanted to use her art, along with film, to help raise funds for children in foster care, especially since she has gone through foster care herself. She hopes to bring awareness for those children and raise money to help them pursue an education.

María Baluch
Journal Staff

"Usually when I start, I say 'oh I don't like it' but something is going to come out of it and I like that there's a meaning behind my work. I just never give up."

- Shavanae Anderson

Find Anderson’s photos on her website: artmelodies.bigcartel.com
**British reign E! in smashing new scripted reality drama**

Colleen Day
Journal Staff

Basking in the splendors of attending the regal affairs without footing the bill for a maddening hat, E!'s new scripted drama reality series, "The Royals," put the nasty in dynasty during its premiere. And, it's bloody good. Americans gawking at the British royal family is not new. The over-the-top weddings, fascinating foibles and our perception of archaic traditions and overhyped baby names are undoubtedly what makes enjoying the decadent lifestyles of the tabloid friends and foes so intriguing. Peering into a life of what could have been if we second-guessed our independence, the non-subtle hints of how the royals' lavish lives makes for a smoldering series.

The pulsating music, impeccably dressed cast and the acute attention to detail all work to breathe life to the non-existent that has made Kris Jenner and her band of babbling buffoons a household name. However, the reigning royal, unlike their E! predecessors, touch on social, political and economical affairs that not only offer good entertainment but also a real sense of relatability for viewers.

E! has made their name through their racy exploitation of any opportunity to press, publish and snatch scandal of the real royal family. Again, however, the show and cast have received the monarchy, bfeed her family together after her eldest son's tragic death, groom her jaded daughter and doe-eyed son as royal role models and ultimately ensure that viewers are given an extreme and utterly sexy peek show of British royal life. "Americans, traditionally, are quite enamored with our real royal family, they think they're the bees knees. I do too as it happens ... So I knew there'd be a lot of interest in the show and in fact they have responded very well to our scurrilous, false royal family," she said to BBC.

The show and cast have recently been under scrutiny that their characters are based on the real royal family. Again and again, however, the show has said that while their storylines are comprised of rather risky subplots that may happen in real life, it is not an active portrayal or an attempt at snarling Buckingham Palace's actual rulers. "Elizabeth has been very brave in approaching the more villainous aspects of the character ... I was working with Elizabeth on wardrobe and she asked, 'Why not add in bits of v. M, I snarling Buckingham's fur? I think the queen should wear bits of cruelty once in a while," said Schwahn to E! News.

According to E! News, the series has just been signed on for a second season and it would be incredibly surprising if their foray on television fell flat before the series' next coronation.

"'Americans, traditionally, are quite enamored with our real royal family, they think they're the bees knees.'

- Elizabeth Hurley
After years of remaining quietly on the sidelines, popular indie-rock band Death Cab for Cutie has released their first album in nearly four years. Entitled "Kintsugi," this latest album showcases the scope of the band's talent, highlighting their best work to date.

"Kintsugi," also known as the Japanese art of fixing broken pottery by use of gold dusted lacquer, speaks boldly about failed relationships and piecing life back together after loss.

"It's making the repair of an object a visual part of its history. That resonated with us as a philosophy, and it connected to a lot of what we were going through, both professionally and personally," said bassist Nick Harmer in an interview with Rolling Stone.

This bitterly honest theme of loss and repair is audible immediately on the opening track, "No Room in Frame." Although relatively upbeat, featuring electric solos from Harmer, there is no disguising the somber lyrics, "And I guess it's not a failure we could help/And we'll both go on to get lonely with someone else."

"Kintsugi" maintains Death Cab for Cutie's characteristic, slow rhythm and many of the tracks are lethargic, echoing a similar style to their 2003 album "Transatlanticism." Despite staying true to their original sound, the album is not without its experimental moments, with several of the songs trying on slightly electronic undertones.

"Good Help (Is So Hard To Find)" has a lively, catchy beat that vibrantly contrasts with the band's traditional acoustic tunes. The song "El Dorado," which is perhaps the most unique and upbeat on the album, eludes to the mythical golden city in South America and likens this imagery to fame and success in the real world. The melody adds a powerful contrast to downbeats tracks like "Hold No Guns," and "You've Haunted Me, All My Life."

"Binary Sea," is the most reminiscent of the band's early 2000s sound on the album. Both the drowsy piano melody and quirky lyrics are similar to many of the tracks featured on their 2005 album, "Plans."

The first single off the album, "Black Sun," which was released in January, is perhaps the most underwhelming. While the several other mellow tracks have something to offer in melody and lyrics, "Black Sun," is merely repetitive.

Aside from the one disappointing track, the album brings a fresh perspective to Death Cab's instantly recognizable sound, and contains some of frontman Ben Gibbard's best writing. The band has always found ways to make their lyrics intriguing, describing real life scenarios in unconventional metaphors.

The track, "Little Wanderer" is just one of several examples of this where Gibbard sings, "You sent a photo out your window of Paris/Of what you wish that I could see/But someone's gotta be the lighthouse/And that someone's gotta be me."

Overall, "Kintsugi" is a collection of the best fragments from both the band's personal life and talent, once again pushing themselves to be top contenders in their genre.

Death Cab for Cutie will begin their world tour this week, and are expected to perform in Boston on Sept. 11.
Rolling Stone this week apologized for and redacted a November story titled, "A Rape on Campus," which told the horrific story of a University of Virginia student who was raped at a fraternity party.

A review from the Columbia School of Journalism found that the magazine did not use basic fact-checking skills when reporting, writing, and editing the story. The article quotes friends of the alleged victim, Jackie; however, an article from the New York Times reports that Jackie's friends never made the statements attributed to them. The Times also said that there was a lack of skepticism by the magazine in investigating Jackie's claims.

Performing these vital fact-checking tasks, which journalists are taught during school, could have saved Rolling Stone from printing a story with huge inaccuracies and errors.

This incident is troubling for a few reasons. It is disheartening to learn that a renowned source was not careful in reporting on a serious topic. Colleges and universities have been working in recent years to raise awareness of sexual assault and prevent it from occurring. But, this is an issue that extends beyond campus boundaries. Assault can affect anyone, regardless of their age, race, gender, or sexual orientation. Not taking the utmost care in reporting a story on a woman's assault is wrong.

It is also shocking to hear that journalists employed at such an esteemed magazine would not carefully fact check a story of such weight and power. Have other serious mistakes gone to print in Rolling Stone?

One of the first fundamentals we learn in journalism school is to be 100 percent certain of every fact and statement we make in an article.

What does this incident say to journalism students? This kind of blatant error sets the wrong practice offensive. If, as veterinarians, our patients' stomachs don't turn inside out every time they see a stray dog or cat, then they're clearly not working in the right workforce.

A 2010 documentary called "100,000," named for the number of stray dogs explored the problem. Sadly, many volunteers currently estimate the number closer to 250,000.

Neva Kaya, a 27-year-old Puerto Rican who lives in California and works with Cats and Dogs International, created a petition on change.org to the Veterinary Board to bring attention to the situation. In hopes the conversation will get started and pressure the Veterinary Board to allow the organization to help.

"We organize high-volume spay and neuter clinics in Mexico, and the Caribbean," Kaya told me. "We have been going to Mexico since 2008, and since we started our veterinary services, we have sterilized more than 10,000 animals."

The board controls who can practice veterinary medicine on the island, and currently bans veterinarians who aren't licensed from practicing. They have the power to make an exception, according to Law 194 for the Practice of Veterinary Medicine of Puerto Rico, which regulates veterinary practices on the island. But Kaya said the board has ignored all of Cats and Dogs International's attempts at communication.

There are other organizations on the island, including four no-kill sanctuaries which operate through time, money, food, and medicine donations, and usually offer spaying and neutering services for low or no costs. However, the island's shelters cannot afford to have no-kills. They have limited space, they are constantly receiving stray, and have too few people adopting.

The situation is definitely hard to control. According to People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, a stray female dog and her offspring can multiply to become 67,000 dogs in six years, making a strong case for spaying and neutering animals. The attitude on the island against castrating male dogs definitely contributes to the problem. People see it as the unnecessary removal of the dog's manhood and prefer to feed them.

A lot of stray dogs are actually pure-bred, abandoned by their families. Puerto Rico has one of the best animal protection laws in the world. Law 154, the Animal Protection and Welfare Act. However, there is no money to enforce it, and many times animal abusers are not caught unless the crimes are reported.

"The Law 154 for the welfare and protection of animals, requires that food, water, hygiene and veterinary care is provided to the dogs and cats," explained Nurilis Ojeda, a friend of mine from high school who is finishing her master's degrees in animal science and dairy production at Louisiana State University.

Each town in Puerto Rico must take responsibility for addressing the problems of stray animals, providing spay and neuter plans.

The law was enacted after a tragic event in 2007 in which a private company, Animal Control Solutions, was employed by the town of Barceloneta to capture all pets and stray animals in public housing projects, and euthanize them. According to multiple news sources, tenants were threatened with eviction if they didn't comply because the low projects had a no-pet policy.

The dogs and cats were drugged, put in big boxes and thrown off of a bridge in a tragedy I will never forget. According to Primera Hora, a leading newspaper on the island, the town's mayor tried to remove himself from the situation, saying the government wasn't involved in this decision.

Although the company's president and two employees were charged and tried, they were found not guilty, according to multiple news sources. No one was found guilty of killing their pets, and many Puerto Ricans will always remember it.

"Abandoning stray animals is prohibited by this law, it still happens. I always see new pictures posted by a tempo­ rary caretaker on social media showing pets looking for a new home. Most of these animals are house-trained and used to people, proof of their abandonment."

The board can't just ignore the situation, and they shouldn't have all the power if the problem affects the island as a whole. Addressing to Teresa Escandon, a former president of the Puerto Rico Hotel and Tourism Association, "Puerto Rico lost about $35 million in tourism from 1998 to 2000 from tourists who canceled vacations or decided they wouldn't return because of the stray animals. She said the island lost even more tourism revenue after the 2007 tragedy."

This is why the petition is addressed not only to the Veterinary Board, but also to Puerto Rico Governor Alejandro Garcia Padilla, Ingrid Rivera Riosof, the executive director the government-owned Puerto Rico Tourism Company, and Clarisa Jimenez, the current president ofPRHTA.

Some things need to be done. It's clear that the Veterinary Board and the owner need to consider U.S. nonprofits to help us. It's also clear that many Puerto Ricans need to be educated about male dog castration. Without pet-owners understanding the consequences of not spaying and neutering their pets, it might be impossible to control the problem.

Patricia Negron Journal Staff

Negron adopted her rescue, Lilo, in 2010.
Massachusetts should ban state related travel to Indiana

Ian Kea
Journal Staff

When Indiana Governor Mike Pence signed SB 101, also known as the Religious Freedom Restoration Act, he signed a law so vague it could be interpreted for discriminatory purposes. Unlike the religious freedom legislation in other states and at the federal level, the Indiana law does not specify protection for the LGBTQ community. As a Hoosier, not only does this hurt Indiana economically, but says the state does not welcome or accept a diverse community. It rejects our belief in "Hoosier Hospitality."

The law is not even three pages long, and because of its vagueness, it leaves much for interpretation. The language allows businesses to use their religious beliefs to refuse service to anyone, according to Lambda Legal and Indiana Advance, a resource for Indiana civil litigation attorneys.

Since this law was signed, boycotts have been ongoing. Indianapolis-based Angies’ List and the National Collegiate Athletic Association have announced their displeasure with the timing of this law is a huge concern as it comes not only is the timing impeccable for the decision. Not only is the timing impeccable for Governor Pence, but so is his lobbyist gifts record. Ever since his days as a congressman on Capitol Hill, Pence has accepted heavy funding from Christian lobbying groups Advance America and the American Family Association, according to CNN.

On April 3, changes announced by Indiana House Speaker Brian Bosma and Pence guaranteed protections to LGBTQ people, but not in full. The no-discrimination amendment only protects them in concern to employment, housing and public accommodations, but not health care and education, according to Freedom Indiana.

Under the changed law, a private pharmacy citing religious beliefs can still deny an LGBTQ person seeking HIV medication, hormone therapy or fertility drugs. When it comes to education, a parent could sue a teacher for intervening when their child raises another child perceived to be LGBTQ, according to the Human Rights Campaign.

This law is not a representation of the real Indiana. I was grown up preached and bred into what is known as "Hoosier Hospitality." Welcoming everyone from afar and nearby, regardless of race, gender, and sexual orientation, is a Hoosier custom. The new RFRA law shows an Indiana I have never seen. I hope to see Massachusetts follow other states and municipalities. The Commonwealth needs to be firm and show that a no tolerance policy toward states who can refuse service based on discriminatory beliefs, according to the Indianapolis Star.

The timing of this law is a huge concern as it comes not six months since the federal courts forced Indiana to recognize same-sex marriage. The federal courts cited the 14th Amendment's equal protection clause as a major reason for the decisions. Not only is the timing impeccable by Governor Pence, but so is his lobbyist gifts record. Ever since his days as a congressman on Capitol Hill, Pence has accepted heavy funding from Christian lobbying groups Advance America and the American Family Association, according to CNN.

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Disability Services, professors, accommodate unexpected needs

Sam Humphrey
Journal Staff

Crunch. I knew immediately my thumb was— at best– broken. Barely a week before the start of spring semester, the flex tendon on my right hand was crushed between a heavy wooden board and the bottom of the banister around the deck I was working on. As the board tumbled to the ground below, my stomach leapt into my throat. When I took my thin glove off, the wound I was staring down at was even worse. The thumb was chewed almost completely amputated. For what seemed like an eternity, I waited in an urgent care facility, then a hospital waiting room, before finally going under the knife to [sort of] reattach it.

I spent the rest of the week restless watching TV with my parents couch and unapologetically returning to the classroom, plastic bags around the clock, my injured thumb made it hard enough for me to pull a shirt over my head, nevermind unpacking my backpack or taking notes.

On the first day of the semester, I made a beeline to the university’s Office of Disability Services. Their office, tucked in the back of the seventh floor of Tremont, was no strange place to me. Since freshman year, they have helped me work with professors to make accommodations to make it easier to take notes with a computer and take extra time exams if I need it.

This semester, though, they’d be rearranging my accommodation letter on short notice. With my right hand growing stiff from being stuck in a cast, I wouldn’t even get full use of it back until after I got it off. As usual, I sat down with Andrew Clio, the assistant director of the Office of Disability Services. Clio helped me draft a letter to my professors explaining my injury, and several accommodations I would need to be able to participate in my classes. After we came up with a plan and he contacted my professors, most of them got back to me within a few days, and were sympathetic to my situation.

I spent the first month of the semester commuting from home in Cambridge, rather than the apartment in East Boston. While the MBTA and the unforgiving weather did not know what kind of help they might need help would do itself a favor by reaching out to the Office of Disability Services – even if they don’t know what kind of help they need. The university has systems in place to help us, all we have to do is reach out and ask.

Humphrey’s thumb was in a cast for about a month, making basic tasks like handwriting and pulling books from his backpack a challenge.

According to the Citizens Campaign for the Environment, producing 100 billion plastic bags each year:
- Consumes 2.2 billion pounds of fossil fuels,
- Produces one billion pounds of solid waste and 2.7 million tons of carbon dioxide.

Thalia Yuen
Journal Staff

Cambridge city councilors recently passed an initiative that will ban the use of non-reusable plastic bags and charge customers 10 cents for paper bags starting March 30, 2016. The Boston Globe recently reported that businesses could save $300 fines if they continue to give out plastic bags after this date.

Anti-plastic campaigns are a good idea because it’s good for the environment.

Citizens Campaign for the Environment, a non-profit that works toward environmental protection advocacy, listed on their page some of the effects that plastic bags have on the environment.

According to the group, it requires 2.6 times more energy to produce a pound of plastic than a pound of fossil fuel and 3.9 billion gallons of fresh water to produce a pound of plastic. In addition, every year, the U.S. consumes each year. Manufacturing these bags produces a billion pounds of solid waste and 2.7 million tons of carbon dioxide per year. Plastic bags can also negatively impact wildlife and waterways, cause localized flooding, and cost taxpayers money. Citizens Campaign reports that New York City spends $10 million a year disposing of plastic bags.

With all of this in mind, and with the proper replacements ready for consumers, why not use reusable bags? Who could be against it?

Besides having to pay 10 cents for paper bags if I for get to bring a reusable one home, the only inconvenience I foresee by the banning of single-use bags is that I’ll have to start buying small bags for the waste basket in my room.

Right now, there is a Facebook page called “Ban Bags in MA.” The page only has about 676 likes, and it should have many more.

After California passed a law prohibiting stores from handing out single-use plastic bags, they faced opposition from people in the plastics industry, according to CNN. Opponents of this legislation gathered enough signatures to put the ban to a referendum in November 2016, meaning the ban is effectively on hold as of today.

They can stall, but only for so long. As the world becomes more environmentally conscious, especially in small towns, and states will ban plastic bags.

I think the only reason people still use recyclable bags is because they’re convenient. The extra effort it takes to remember to take your reusable bags to the grocery store with you doesn’t actually take that much effort.

It’s also cheaper to use reusable bags, for now. In my case, there is the perfect site for the wastebasket in my room.

Sometimes I remember my reusable bags, and sometimes I don’t. If a law was passed in Boston banning plastic bags, I think it would encourage me to remember my reusable bag. A law like this would encourage me to remember my reusable bag.

There are other single-use products that should also be banned, like K-cups. Why not use reusable K-cups instead of disposable ones?

Same with plastic plates and certain kinds of tupperware. Why not use glass containers instead?

Although there will likely be laws on K-cups and tupperware any time soon, the ban of plastic bags seems like a feasible, doable task.

Progressive Cantabrigians will now bring their own bags

suffolk university

A WORD FROM SGA

Dear Suffolk Students,

Last night we honored the many student leaders, student organizations, and dedicated members of the faculty, staff, and administration for all their contributions to the Suffolk community.

On behalf of the student body, we thank everyone who participated in the nomination process, the voting, and who joined us for a well deserved evening of recognition.

Next week, we will host the annual LEAP Conference, which is a mandatory training conference for incoming executive board members. We look forward to working with these new student leaders to improve campus life at Suffolk University.

Finally, next Tuesday at 1 p.m. in Archer 365A, the SGA’s Finance Committee, lead by Treasurer Rakan Alzaydi will host the annual financial initiatives meeting of the year. This is an opportunity for clubs and organizations to request funding from the SGA for programming and other club related costs.

The deadline to submit the initiative request form is Thursday at 1 p.m. Forms are available through SU Connect and must be submitted to ralzaydi@suffolk.edu.

Have a great week, Ramal

Student Government Association

Interested in joining The Suffolk Journal?

It’s not too late! We are always looking for writers, photographers, cartoonists, editors, and more.

suffolkjournal@gmail.com
Quinton Jackson will not fight at UFC 186

According to MMAFighting.com's Luke Thomas, on Tuesday, a buy rate information and statistics in writing according to Jackson's camp maintains that he had breached the terms of "Mr. Jackson had represented to UFC on multiple occasions his contract with Bellator by failing to submit Bellator 120's lead to victory.

Last month, the UFC had announced that controversial, returning to the company. His first fight would come at UFC events. At 4:15 p.m., the UFC released on their official website. A spokesman told NFL Media. Blount will be allowed to participate in all practices, and preseason games before the suspension officially begins. Bell, meanwhile, will likely miss the first two games of the regular season with the Steelers, and will spend 15 months on probation. His license will be suspended for 60 days.

Men's Tennis
1. Ramapo 4-0
2. Albertus Magnus 4-0
3. Suffolk 3-0
4. Johnson & Wales 4-1
5. Norwich 4-1
*

Women's Tennis
1. Ramapo 4-0
2. Albertus Magnus 4-0
3. Suffolk 3-0
4. Johnson & Wales 4-1
5. Norwich 4-1
*

*Note all standings are conference records excluding men's tennis.

Baseball
vs. Lasell, April 8, 5 and 7 p.m.

Softball
vs. Johnson & Wales, April 8, 6 and 8 p.m.

Men's Tennis
vs. Bridgewater St., April 9, 7 p.m.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Quinton Jackson will not fight at UFC 186

Last month, the UFC had announced that controversial, international MMA star Quinton "Rampage" Jackson would be returning to the company. His first fight would come at UFC 186 in Montreal, Quebec, against striker Fabio Maldonado. According to MMAFighting.com's Luke Thomas, on Tuesday, a New Jersey judge granted an injunction to Bellator, Jackson's former employer, which would prohibit him from participating in UFC events. At 4:15 p.m., the UFC released on their official website, a statement saying they were "surprised" because "Mr. Jackson had represented to UFC on multiple occasions that he was free to negotiate and contract with UFC." Jackson's camp maintains that he had breached the terms of his contract with Bellator by failing to submit Bellator 120's buy rate information and statistics in writing, according to MMAFighting.com. Although Jackson has been pulled from the UFC 186 card, winning an injunction does not necessarily lead to victory.

LeGarrette Blount suspended

New England Patriots running back LeGarrette Blount has received a one-game suspension for a violation of the NFL's substance abuse policy, a spokesman told NFL Media. Blount was arrested on Aug. 20 with former Pittsburgh Steelers teammate Le'Veon Bell when police discovered three fourths of an ounce of marijuana in Bell's car at a traffic stop. The suspension will ultimately cost Blount a total of $49,994, including his suspension and per game bonus, according to ESPN. Blount will be allowed to participate in all practices and preseason games before the suspension officially begins. Bell, meanwhile, will likely miss the first two games of the regular season with the Steelers, and will spend 15 months on probation. His license will be suspended for 60 days.

Baseball looks to recover from slow start

Nate Fredrick. Tierney pitched the first six frames — striking out as many and walking two — before Pollard put the nail in the coffin, adding one strikeout of his own. On the day, the Rams outscored Anna Maria 14-0, and out hit them 15-3.

Our pitching staff can all go out and perform. I would say our inconstistency so far is a result of our hitting being sluggish up to this point."

-Adam Johnson, infielder

[they] are capable of doing at the plate."

Lucky for Johnson and co., the Rams will have their hands full of games this week, full of opportunities to just how deadly they can be at the plate, with eight games this week. The team will start the week at home against Endicott on Monday, and then hit the road Tuesday for matchup against Bridgewater St. On Wednesday, they'll play a doubleheader against a conference foe in Endicott, followed by a day off on Thursday and another interconference doubleheader at Rivier. The Rams will finish out the week against at Johnson and Wales, in their third and final conference doubleheader of the week.

Johnson believes the team needs to "stay humble and focused. We got to keep focused on the little things, and take it pitch by pitch."

The Rams began their long stretch on Monday against Endicott, and will play Bridgewater State on Tuesday at 3:30 p.m.

"I think we are a lot deeper. Our pitching staff can all go out and perform. I would say our inconsistency so far is a result of our hitting being sluggish up to this point."

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Dodgeball hits Ridgeway

SGA held a "Clash of Classes" dodgeball game in Ridgeway.

Tennis handed first defeat

The men's tennis team lost their first game this season to the Salem State Vikings, 5-4.

The Vikings won four of the six singles matches, which was the unraveling for the Rams. Winning three doubles matches against Matt Morgen, losing the No. 1 singles was one of the many problems for the Rams. They were 2-4 in singles matches.

The Rams do not play a conference game until April 11, but the team cannot afford a loss against a conference opponent.

The Rams had a close call with their season-opener against Wentworth, only winning by one point, 5-4. They are now 3-1, but have shown inconsistency so far this season.

This was the Rams first match of April after the postponement of the UMass Boston match.

The Rams play Bridgewater State Thursday at 7 p.m. Their first conference game is against Norwich on Saturday.

WWE popularity rising post-WrestleMania

Now that WrestleMania has ended, it is time for the WWE to start a new chapter.

Feuds have ended and begun, moments were created, and stars were born, but a star has also left the company. Wrestlemania ended with three new champions and the company has shown how and why they have kept professional wrestling relevant.

With Seth Rollins being the new WWE World Heavyweight Champion, the WWE can now have its most prestigious title on Raw and Smackdown. The title can be defended every pay-per-view now. Rollins was the champion where he only defended the title on select dates.

However, the storylines have made it obvious that Rollins will not be available to compete year round. In the Raw after Mania, he was suspended indefinitely by Stephanie McMahon for attacking commentators and a cameraman. This saves Lesnar's image as a "good guy" for the company since he had no choice in the amount of appearances he makes in the next few months.

Fans have turned "The Beast" into a "babyface" (wrestling term for good guy) after the former has shown in every pay-per-view he is well worth the money and the wait.

Another smart move that the company has been seemingly able to make was let Roman Reigns be the guy planned by Seth Rollins. After this year's Royal Rumble, Reigns seemed destined to be the next most hated babyface since John Cena. Letting him lose the title match allows him time to develop for when the company inevitably gives him the title.

An interesting turn is letting Sheamus return as a "heel" (wrestling term for bad guy). His attack on fan favorites Daniel Bryan and Dolph Ziggler brings instant hatred from fans who never like seeing those two guys lose, let alone be beaten up by the man many consider to be John Cena, Jr.

His involvement in the Intercontinental title picture has allowed the WWE to put him in an intriguing storyline. Unfortunately, it cheats the fans from the singles matchup between Ziggler and Bryan, especially since many consider those two the best performers in the company today and the two wrestlers would most likely put on a classic match.

Their match on Raw after Wrestlemania was indicative of how much fans love the two when they gave the two a standing ovation in the middle of the match, something that has never been seen in the past.

John Cena winning the United States Championship was seen as WWE's attempt to bring back legitimacy to the title. However, many believe that it could mean the end of Rusev's success in the company. Oftentimes, monsters with undefeated streaks have very short life spans after they are defeated cleanly. Umaga is a perfect example of this. Like Rusev, he was an explosive figure in the ring but had no voice and had a manager speak for him.

AJ Lee has retired from in-ring competition a few months after launching a social media campaign "#GiveDivasAGhance." This campaign was pushed to ask WWE to give its female competitors more time in the ring to showcase their skills. Lee has been one of the most popular female wrestlers of all time and permanent departure will leave a huge gap in the Divas division.

There seems to be a lot of potential coming out of Wrestlemania. Unfortunately, there are so many times when WWE has dropped the ball when they choose to go back to the predictable route much to the dismay of fans. There's no telling where a dynamic company like WWE will go but hopefully they can build on the momentum. Wrestlemania and the Raw after has shown that Max Landis was right, when wrestling is good, it's great.
College recruiting: Leyden's never-ending off-season

Jeremy Hayes
Journal Staff

College sports fans love this time of the year because most high school student athletes declare where they will attend college.

Things work differently with Suffolk athletics than other collegiate teams since they are a Division III school.

Leyden’s work does not end when the final buzzer sounds, that's the thing. It actually beyond never-ending. It overlaps,” Leyden said about the school’s recruitment process.

Coach Edward Leyden is in his 21st season with the women's basketball team, and he is in charge of recruiting the players.

“Our school is the same as any D-III level and it never ends, that's the thing. It actually beyond never-ending. It overlaps,” said Leyden. about the school’s recruitment process.

Leyden’s work does not end when the final buzzer sounds, he is looking to fill out the roster for next season. It isn’t just phone calls and letters to players, the season never really ends according to Leyden.

Coach Edward Leyden heads into his 22nd offseason with the Lady Rams.

A great example is that just this year I had to go to a showcase called ‘Hoops Mountain’ (a basketball camp) where there were 150 students we looked at,” said Leyden. “Every weekend from now until July, I’ll be in the gym on Saturdays and some Sundays.

Leyden explained the university, in the past decade, has finished twice in the top-20 for academics for a Division III school.

Leyden said that the recruiting process has changed, and he is looking for players with strong academics.

Baseball bouncing back in recent conference games

Sammy Hurwitz
Journal Staff

After an arduous first month of the season, the Rams' local nine started April off on the right foot, winning two of their first three games. The team swept a doubleheader in Northborough against GNAC rival Anna Maria, and dropped a game to Endicott.

In the first game of the doubleheader, a DH, Josh Desai tossed a two-hit shutout en route to an emphatic win for the struggling Rams.

Pitcher Sarah Chasse has thrown 54 innings this season, but her value does not end on the mound. She is batting .359 with 14 hits.