Thriving alumnus switches gears

Brigitte Carreiro
News Editor

From leading man to humble volunteer, Jacob Athyal is preparing to take a break from his hectic acting schedule to dedicate himself into service work with the Peace Corps. Athyal '14 has been professionally performing around Boston since his sophomore year. After landing a role in Company One’s, “The Elaborate Entrance of Chad Deity,” Athyal has booked show after show.

"Company One really needed an athletic Indian for a role, and I love my people to death, but we’re not exactly famous when it comes to athletics," Athyal said. "I didn’t deserve it; I was spoon-fed."

As he essentially was handed a role in what he said was an extremely successful show, Athyal said it put him in a position to continue working hard and fast.

“We’re just in a weird place right now in Boston theater in which we’re getting really liberal where people want to hire people of color, but simultaneously not liberal enough to give women roles,” he said. As a result, Athyal has been steamrolling the city’s theater scene.

“As of right now, I happen to fill this niche that I’m lucky enough to be around for,” he said.

Athyal’s love for theater, however, will soon be put on hold for a two-and-a-half year service in the Peace Corps. Though decisions are still up in the air, Athyal said the organization is nodding toward work in Sudan.

“There’s something beautiful about Africa,” he said, mentioning that his mother’s Ugandan roots have always sparked a yearning in him to visit.

The idea to join the Peace Corps came to Athyal from a need to branch out of his comfort zone.

“Any time you think you’re comfortable in a time and space, do something that completely pulls the rug from under you,” he urged.

Acting, Athyal said, triggered a continuous drive in

See ACTOR page 2

Sanders rallies devoted Democrats

Maggie Randall
Journal Contributor

The room was electrified. White and blue signs were waving around in the air. 20,000 people were yearning for a political revolution and 20,000 voices were all shouting one name: Bernie Sanders.

Sanders began in a raspy voice, “My request of you tonight is not to just help me win the Massachusetts primary, but the day after, we win the White House,” he said. The room in the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center erupted.

The 74-year-old senator from Vermont doesn’t look the part of a rockstar, but his popularity has soared since the summer. The packed house was the latest example of that.

In the third quarter, Sanders raised $26 million, closely following democratic frontrunner Hillary Clinton, who raised $28 million. The average donation Sanders receives is $30, and 99 percent of his donations are under $100.

Sanders greeted many volunteers and advocates at the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center.
Graduate takes jump from acting to serving

From ACTOR page 1

his life that he quickly realized he needed to slow.

"There's something that's really scary when you stop and realize you're in this whirlpool that can't actually stop," he said.

"I'm at an age right now that I know theater's what I want to do for the rest of my life, but I'm aware that I have the rest of my life to do it."

This pause, Athyal said, will not only be beneficial to his life, but also to his career.

"A lot of times, you can't really be an honest person on stage if you don't know your own self completely and truly. You can either sit and ask questions, or you can go out and try to put yourself in a scenario where you're forced to answer questions," he said.

In tune with this philosophy, Athyal said he is not sure if going back to acting is what he wants to do after his term with the Peace Corps. He said the idea of "throwing the cards in the air and letting them land where they will" is front and foremost in his mind right now.

As he prepares to make some changes, Athyal said he thinks his willingness to communicate is something he can bring from theater to his service.

"If I have anything, it's an enthusiasm to communicate; that's pretty much what acting is, and I don't know what profession that's not useful for," he said.

Athyal emphasized that although he knows he loves theater, he wants to use this opportunity to step back and analyze where he wants to go with his life.

"You can kind of think about where you want to go in life, but one day you're sitting down in your 40s and you have your "aha" moment of, "This wasn't where I was supposed to go," he said.

Athyal, full of humility, said he is in no place to give advice, but stressed that kindness and hard work are the most important things he learned from Suffolk.

"Theater is inherently a social aspect; it's supposed to be collaboration. You don't want to collaborate with someone who's a pain in the buttocks," he said.

The biggest issue he's seen has been those who are more concerned with fame than work.

"They don't want to be really good at their craft, they want to be on Ellen," said Athyal.

Since graduating, Athyal has been involved in many productions around the city, including "Shockheaded Peter."

Thousands gather in support for Sanders

From RALLY page 1

a fact Sanders proudly mentions in most of his speeches.

More than 200 volunteers, assembled by Andrew Virden, a Bernie Sanders regional campaign manager, were on hand to help control the crowd and enlist support.

Virden had four rules: Don't run, don't yell, don't talk to the press, and don't talk about any other candidates besides Sanders.

"I don't even know if there are other candidates besides Sanders," Virden joked.

Volunteers were divided into teams prior to the rally, including the donation team, which consisted of handing out donation envelopes at the event and enlisting supporters to contribute. Volunteers ran the phrase, "Would you like to donate to the campaign?" duty.

Other teams involved crowd control, a sign-in group that recorded attendees' names and contact information, a media team, merchandise team, Americans with Disabilities Act, and a pep team, which kept the crowd going with chants for the entire three-hour rally.

Virden explained that seemingly every race came out to advocate. A sophomore at Emerson College who identified herself as Liz said, "I can't even vote!" and explained that she is an international student from Singapore. Still, she was drawn to support Sanders' progressive agenda.

Another volunteer, Paul, who works for a law firm in Boston, explained that he decided to get involved when he realized he was "frustrated with politics and wanted to do something about it."

Sanders expounded on several topics in a speech lasting over an hour. He discussed the need for healthcare reform, voicing his support of Obama's Affordable Care Act. Sanders mentioned the need for education reform in accordance with prison reform, saying America needs to "invest in jobs and education, not in jails and incarceration."

After being introduced by Bill McKibben, a leading expert on environmental issues and, particularly, global warming, Sanders later addressed the environment.

"The debate is over; Climate change is real, it is caused by human activity, and it is already causing devastating problems in our country and all over the world," Sanders said.

Sanders advocated for a tax reform which would support middle class, and spoke on how unemployment affects women, young people, and people of color differently. He also spoke on the need for gun control, a topic he largely avoided.

As the speech came to a close, Sanders left the room with the same of a political revolution in how he opposed super political action committees favored by many Republicans, whom he admitted to "disagree with on virtually everything."

It was not just in the way he vocalized support of progressive economic and social reforms, nor by his challenges towards banks that are "too big to fail, but in his actions, like having voter registration forms available and pleading everyone to vote. "When nobody votes, Republicans win. And when large numbers of people come out, we win," he said.
Patricia Negrón
Journal Staff

Dr. Celia Mar Rivera-Velázquez captured students on Tuesday with her discussion, "Adventures of a Puerto Rican Feminist Documenting Caribbean Queer Movements," addressing issues surrounding the often-sketched identities of the Caribbean. This conference, in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, is the first in a series by the Office of Diversity Services called, "Our Intersections: Representation and Identity."

Rivera-Velázquez’s work focuses on queer female performers from the Dominican Republic, Cuba, and Puerto Rico. These islands were chosen as her focus because of the connections between them, as they are the three Caribbean islands that were originally colonized by Spain.

The event began with a discussion about the differences between the terms Spanish, Hispanic and Latino/a. Spanish refers exclusively to people from Spain, Hispanic refers to people from Spanish-speaking countries, which includes Spain but doesn’t include Brazil, and Latino/a, which is more of a geographical term, refers to everyone but Spain.

"If we talk about Hispanic Heritage Month, it is a month to celebrate the contributions, art, culture in Spanish language, but especially in connection to Spain, so it includes Spain," Rivera-Velázquez said.

"In the Americas, there’s been this idea of idealization of what Spain brings, and a lot of people are into conserving Spanish culture, and some other people might be like, ‘That’s racist, why do we have to celebrate the colonizer?’" she continued.

Rivera-Velázquez discussed her relationship with her identity as a Latina as well as her experiences after migrating from Puerto Rico when she was 22 years old.

"In the year 2006, more than half of all Puerto Ricans from the island frequently is very common, something that is facilitated with United States citizenship. In turn, people from other countries need to go through the visa to citizenship process, and this makes it more complicated to travel back, especially for Cubans."

"Miami has this kind of conflicted relationship with the island, because there’s a love for the island but a dislike of the government," she said, referring to the Cubans who migrated to Miami in the 1950s and 1960s during the transition from Batista’s capitalist government to Fidel’s socialist government.

Rivera-Velázquez also talked about the term "caribglocal," coined by author Rosamond King last year in her book "Island Bodies." It is used to describe people from the Caribbean that do not live in their countries, but speak the language and know enough about the culture to qualify as local. She used herself as an example.

"I haven’t lived in Puerto Rico since 2001, so 14 years, but when I go there I can quickly see how my brother and my mother and my father have a completely different reality, completely different fashion trends, completely different ideas than I do," she said.

"But when I go there, I can still speak the language. I still sound Puerto Rican, I can still go and order café con leche y bicaletato frito," she continued, switching to Spanish to further elaborate her point by saying, "coffee with milk, and a fried bacalaito," a typical Puerto Rican dish.

She also elaborated on the LGTQ activist on the three islands to help the attendees understand the context of the work done by the queer performers she observed during her research.

Her research began in Cuba following hip-hop group Krudas Cubanas. Krudas Cubanas appeared on the Cuban hip-hop scene in 1999, talking about female issues like menstruation in a male-dominated field.

Rivera-Velázquez played one of the group’s music videos, "Mi Cuerpo es Mío." Rivera-Velázquez, who spent time with queer feminist performers in each country, presented work from other performers she followed, including "El Juedero" by Dominican performer Rita Indiana, and "Joya" by Puerto Rican punk rock band Macho Colón y los OKAPI.

One of the most important moments of the event centered around a discussion about Spanish as a "gendered" language, meaning that every word in the language has a gendered article because almost all nouns have a specific gender.

In Spanish, the feminine plural pronoun is "ellas," but the masculine plural pronoun "éllos" is also the plural pronoun that includes females and males. Some people have resorted to writing it as "ellos" or "ellas" to reduce the gendered quality of the language, but this has no correct pronunciation.

Students were pleased with the discussions generated in the conference and so was Rivera-Velázquez.

"It was a really receptive audience," she said after the conference. "Everyone was nodding and pumped."
Greek Life rushes toward growth

Promising recruitments across the board

Brigitte Carreiro
News Editor

Recruitment is underway for Theta Phi Alpha and Sigma Alpha Epsilon, events spanning a two-week period aimed at enticing Suffolk students to join the organizations.

Junior Jennifer Philemond is TPA's recruitment chair this year and is already making headway gaining members. One event, she said, had 75 students in attendance hoping to become a sister.

Gauging the first week of recruitment, every new member seems excited. "We always have girls every semester who are super interested. They'll come to almost every night," she said.

A big part of recruitment, according to Philemond, is the core values of TPA that they look for in new members: justice, honor, wisdom, truth, loyalty, and philanthropy. "We want leadership on top of that, leadership is an important aspect of becoming a part of the sorority," she said. "We want leaders because we do need to be looking for people who will be the future leaders of the chapter," she said.

Recruitment is a time to get to know new members, but also for new members to get to know the sorority. "Our first week we discuss sisterhood, leadership opportunities, and philanthropy, and this week we'll discuss finances, and we'll be talking more about what the experience actually is as a sister," said Philemond.

This year, recruitment events are luau-themed, and the young women of TPA have taken the theme and run with it, creating shirts and decorations to add fun to the process.

More than anything, recruitment is a way for sisters, new and old, to connect. "My favorite thing about recruitment is that it's a good time to bond. It's a good time to get closer," said Philemond. Sigma Alpha Epsilon is also well into meeting new members. Sophomore recruitment chair JD Ramon said he is most excited about the growth that the fraternity is experiencing and is glad to be facilitating it.

"It's been really cool to see so many people come out and be interested. Because Greek life is starting to grow and get bigger," he said. "I'm really glad that it's been taken really seriously now. It's becoming a big thing to be a part of." SAE plans seven events that prospective members can attend to get to know the brothers. Ramon emphasized that these events are geared toward creating relationships that can be carried throughout the rest of the year.

Ramon said he is particularly proud of the successful wing night event that attracted a huge crowd.

"There were so many people and so much food, and every brother came up to me after and said that this was the best wing night we've ever had. It's just crazy to see how two years ago there might have been 15 guys, and now there's 50," Recognition, Ramon said, is his favorite part about being recruitment chair.

"I like being known as the guy who is pretty much developing the chapter," he said. "It starts at recruitment; if you don't bring in guys, there's no chapter to have. I like the importance of my role."

Ramon encourages men at Suffolk to get involved and check out recruitment for themselves.

"A lot of people have judgments on what the fraternity is based off of things that they've heard, but the only real way to know what it's like is if you come out and be a part of it," he said.

Theta Phi Alpha will extend bids on Wednesday, while Sigma Alpha Epsilon's voting event will take place on Thursday.

New sorority seeks members with purpose

Mary Sellaro
Journal Contributor

The university's institutional developments include one that is on a much smaller scale than past changes: an organization that will leave an everlasting impression on the university and its female students.

Alpha Sigma Alpha, the newest sorority to join Suffolk University's Greek life. Priding themselves on developing poised young women, ASA strives to continue improving the world around them. We inspire women to lead, to serve and most of all to make a difference.

Jessica Moore, the sorority's leadership consultant, has been working hard at Suffolk recruiting and planning events to help get the recently-added charter properly colonized.

Moore, a college graduate from Boise State University and fellow sister, feels that it is extremely beneficial to join a sorority during your undergraduate career.

"Joining a sorority really provides you with a great opportunity to build yourself as a person, whatever that might look like for you. We pride ourselves on our intellectual aim as well as building leadership and relationships," said Moore.

Other benefits aside from creating friendships and developing into an authentic woman, are the many networking opportunities within a sorority. ASA has an endless amount of resources to help students during and after college. Whether a student is struggling in biology or looking for a job upon graduation, ASA can help students in all aspects of their lives.

ASA accepts young women from all walks of life. To join, one must have a minimum GPA of 2.5, which is set due to Suffolk University's standards, and must show certain leadership qualities.

Currently, Moore is in the second week of the recruitment process. With over 60 potential new members so far, ASA is excited to announce its newest sisters on Thursday.

Moore has planned fun events for members to attend throughout the academic year once becoming a member of ASA. These events will act as bonding experiences for students to create friendships and make new memories.

Moore explained, "We want to create an amazing college experience for young women." Although it may seem like Greek life is all fun and games, ASA stresses the importance of creating a deep connection with their community. Members are required to complete 25 hours of community service a year. Along with community service, members work on fundraising for different charities like the Special Olympics.

Joining a sorority can definitely entail a lot of hard work and time, but the reward to Moore is endless.

"After your first year in a sorority you will learn about yourself, values, and what you really care about, and will develop into a woman of poise and purpose," she said.
International student struggles: Putting roots down far away from home

Adam Pritchard chose to live in the South End.

Saus serves savory Belgian cuisine in the Hub

Kate Mai
Journal Contributor

Saus is a small, but lively food joint conveniently located between the North End and Faneuil Hall to enjoy a taste of Belgian right in the heart of Boston.

Founded by Renee Elias, Tanya Kroppicki and Chin Kuo, three university graduates, this restaurant concentrates on serving their customers delicious Belgian-style street food at cheap prices. Saus is most well known for its Belgian waffles and frites, which come with fifteen unique dipping sauces like the “Vampire Slayer,” “Bacon Parm,” “Green Monster,” and more.

As I ate, I spoke briefly with one of the cooks bustling behind the counter, Dan Eder, a recent graduate from Suffolk.

Eder mentioned that all the food at Saus was fresh and made right from scratch, and I didn’t doubt it. If you want to, you are able to witness your order being made if you sit right at the counter. Nothing is hidden.

“We try to have a good time behind the counter,” Eder said casually with a smile, and described Saus as “laid-back, fun and loud.”

My friend and I grabbed a bite to eat at Saus during our small excursion out. We were lucky enough to arrive pretty early to grab seats in the limited space. After a while, a flood of people from nowhere poured in, hungry and ready to order.

The ambience of Saus was wood-accented with booths and bright blue stools to match. Beside it was another booth at a lower level that stretched into the early 1900s and went to Downtown Crossing. It had a playful and relaxed vibe to it that as Eder commented, a place to have “a good time with friends.”

Kate Mai
Journal Contributor

The Sheep and the Lion

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Putting roots down far away from home

Jack Wheeler
Journal Staff

With more than 50 colleges and universities and a total population of more than 600,000, deciding on where to live can be a daunting task in the greater Boston area. As an international student, this decision becomes even harder.

"I didn't know what to expect," Adam Pritchard, junior entrepreneurship major, said. "The only information I had about American dorms was from movies, like American Pie." Pritchard chose to live in the South End, which is a county Hertfordshire, which is a county entrepreneur major, said. "They were just going to miss me." Everyone just runs to the RA and work it out. Pritchard is in the middle of two very different economic classes. Finding the perfect place to live is nearly impossible. Especially in a city as large and diverse as this one. As a student, location is one of the most important factors in our decision. Where you choose to live and the pros and cons of the environment you are in will influence many aspects of your life. In regards to his location, Pritchard says, "This part of town," he paused, "as long as you are going the right direction.

Pritchard's father knew the dynamics of Boston well, his mother was less familiar.

"They were never worried about the danger," Pritchard said. "They were just going to miss me." Unlike some, Pritchard was already familiar with dorm life when he was a freshmen. Before enrolling in Suffolk, he attended a boarding school in the UK learning about dorm lifestyle. However, there are some differences about American counterparts that he does not like.

"I feel like I'm treated like a child," Pritchard said. "There are so many restrictions." To Pritchard, the idea of a Resident Assistant at the university level is ridiculous. Pritchard explains that in the real world, if you are having an issue with a neighbor, you can't just go complain to someone.

They constantly cracked light-hearted jokes in between taking orders and preparing food. The atmosphere of Saus was anything but formal. It had a playful and relaxed vibe to it that as Eder commented, a place to have "a good time with friends."
Opinion: Consent should be mandatory

Patrick Holmes
Assistant Opinion Editor

Consent should be mandatory in all cases and always be a determining factor of what the doctor does to the patient.

We are supposed to be able to trust our doctors, not fear them for what they might do to us.

The terrorist organization, with IS kidnappings, are young boys and men. Eisikovits explained the amount of children being abducted and forced into being child soldiers for IS has increased. In some parts of Africa children are being abducted by the affiliates of IS as well.

"Child soldiers are so traumatized that for a short time at least, they can serve as a disciplined fighting force and obviously in the long term it creates extreme psychological damage so one hope by the kidnapping machine is to create enlistment and create recruits," said Eisikovits.

"IS has strategic idea that it has to create zones of savagery all across the Middle East, in which there would be so much fear and so much violence. Part of which, is it helps create that people would sort of flock to it as the holy agency that could provide order, so that's what's behind how they punish as well," said Eisikovits.

"They consider themselves to be holy warriors," said Eisikovits. "IS represents a perversion of what Jihad means," he continued.

Al-Ziyadi explained these acts, killings, slaughtering, and bloodlust, are based on well-known verses from the Quran that were cut out of the books entirely. These verses are the ones stating that the best way to fight your enemy is to create fear in the heart of your enemy.

He continued, "I can tell you that the verses that denounce violence that denounce the attacking of people who are not attacking you are overwhelming that these cut off verses.

"A lot of non-Muslims do not understand the basic concepts of Islam, but tend to only see certain groups that come to the focus of the media without looking at the whole picture, which can in fact produce what they are now being called Islamophobia," said Reverend Fisher.

Eisikovits will give a talk on the rise of ISIS on Oct. 15 at 1 p.m. in the Poetry Center of the Mildred Sawyer Library.

Consent should be mandatory in all cases and always be a determining factor of what the doctor does to the patient.

We are supposed to be able to trust our doctors, not fear them for what they might do to us.

"Medical officials told us that in most cases consent is sought," expressed by the video article. This is not a very professional response and something needs to change because consent should be mandatory in all cases and always be a determining factor of what the doctor does to the patient.

We are supposed to be able to trust our doctors, not fear them for what they might do to us.

Consent is something that needs to be administered in all cases. Consent is what makes people feel safe. If one does not feel safe, is a doctor doing their job in the correctly?
Vermeer exhibit looks closer at social classes

Brigitte Carreiro
News Editor

For the first time at the Museum of Fine Arts, two pieces by painter Johannes Vermeer were on display in an exhibition aimed at celebrating Dutch painters and exploring societal distinctions.

"It was an era marked by political change and war, and by great disparity in wealth," presented an introduction to the gallery. "This exhibition - the first of its kind - explores masterpieces from this moment in Dutch history through the lens of social class."

"Class Distinctions: Dutch Painting in the Age of Rembrandt and Vermeer" was a product of five and a half years worth of work by Senior Curator of European Paintings at the MFA, Ronni Baer.

"Her husband said, 'Stop calling me Vermeer,'" joked Matthew Teitelbaum, director of the MFA. The exhibit came together to include 75 pieces by Dutch artists, including the famous Rembrandt, all lending themselves to a representation of Dutch 17th-century society.

The two Vermeer paintings, "A Lady Writing" and "The Astronomer," were displayed in the grand first room of the exhibit, a room dedicated to the upper class of Dutch culture. Large, ornate frames and a dark gray hue to the walls cast an intellectual passion that only elite were allowed to do," as Baer said. Vermeer's paintings, Baer said, will most likely create a buzz about the exhibit, drawing in people who may not come in to see an exhibit on Dutch society on their own.

"People are Vermeer-crazy in America," she exclaimed with a laugh.

It was obvious how passionate Baer was about her work, as she circled each room methodically, telling stories about the people and places represented in nearly every painting. The exhibition was born from a grand idea and meticulous work by Baer. After a colleague presented Baer with an idea about class distinction, she said, Baer jumped right on board, adding her own touch to the plan.

"I loved the idea because I was looking to do a masterpieces of Dutch show, but you have to have a gimmick," she said. "We had to be very deliberate in our negotiations."

Baal added that to see her idea come to life after so long was exciting. "It worked in print, but it actually worked as a show," she said.

MFA Director Matthew Teitelbaum and Ronni Baer present "Class Distinctions" to the public. Following the first room in the exhibit centered on high-class, subsequent rooms represented the middle and lower classes of the Netherlands, with the final room portraying the Vermeer pieces added an grandeur.

Along similar lines, "The Astronomer" is a tribute to the workings of 17th-century Dutch scientists, and reflects the ease in which high-class individuals were able to take up extravagant hobbies, astronomy being "an intellectual passion that only elite were allowed to do," as Baer called it. Vermeer's paintings, Baer said, will most likely create a buzz about the exhibit, drawing in people who may not come in to see an exhibit on Dutch society on their own.

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Alcohol, aging, amorous walks of shame

Patrick Holmes
Opinion Editor

Three. Two. One. That's all it took to hope for change in the next year for Jess. The countdown for the new year was the end of her long-standing relationship with ex-boyfriend, Ben. Her life now began to hit rock bottom on the hour where everyone believed their lives could only go up from there.

"The Morning After Memoirs," by Kate Michaels is a novel constructed through alcoholism, hook ups and women in their late 20's trying to be younger again. It just the right dose of entertainment needed to release a laugh after maybe even 25 pages.

The read consists of a failed relationship, an almost 30-year-old woman pining after every guy who gives her the slightest attention, and a hysterically sexual and teenage oriented lifestyle.

"It was determined to get my life back on track," said Jess, twenty pages into book. Almost every ten pages was her, either done on with friends, trying to put some alcohol into her system. While people cope in many different ways, she chose her poison, alcohol.

Throughout the book, Jess works through life issues almost as if she is having a midlife crisis, despite her relatively young age. A reality for Jess is that she is boy crazy, shown through her obsessive crushes on her co-worker turned-boss Mark, "Hot Walter Number Two," Paul, friend of a friend Stuart, and a plethora of other acquaintances.

Jess behaves as if she is back in her teenage years, although she is legally allowed to consume as much alcohol as she wants, wherever she wants. Despite the many sexual encounters, stupid mistakes and bad decisions, the main character's progression through the book allows her to grow.

While she is trying to get her life back together, many people can empathize and care that Jess is at least trying, no matter how many mistakes she makes. With the realization that she needs to make changes in her life, she does, little by little.

She is a winy, conceited, almost thirty years old in the
Mornings after illustrates comical lessons on life

From MEMOIR page 7

beginning, who cheated on her longtime boyfriend on New Year's Eve. With each chapter and life event, it seems that she gets closer and closer to rock bottom, as each decision she makes leads her to being even more single, semi-jobless and living back with her parents.

Damon’s performance, special effects unearthly

Colin Barry
Journal Staff Contributor

From the endless crimson deserts, weather that can go from brutally hot to its thin atmosphere that makes the planet uninhabitable, the idea of colonizing on Mars seems unfounded.

Ridley Scott's newest film. The Martian, stars Matt Damon fighting for his life while desperately trying to get home. What sounds simple, turns into smart, absorbing sci-fi packed with a relatively witty script and intense plot. Based on the book of the same name by Andy Weir, The Martian becomes an emotional roller coaster not only for the characters, but for the audience as well. The stakes are raised to the highest they could possibly go in the film, and the climax will have every audience member's hearts pounding, fearing Watley may not make it and that all of efforts to save him will be useless.

What makes The Martian so engaging is the way it is presented to the audience. The film, being hard sci-fi, does not dumb itself down is presented as a humorous lecture. It never gets boring. The final scenes are some of the most intense set pieces this year, consistently raising the stakes and making the audience never look away.

What makes The Martian unlike a boring step-by-step type of plot, turns into an enjoyable segment that displays Watney's never-say-die attitude, as well as his intelligence. How Watley communicated with NASA using an old Mars rover, a nearly twenty-year old satellite, will create a sense of awe from the audience.

The Martian displays a very serious situation, but it isn’t afraid to make a few jokes about the film. The film's screenwriter, Drew Goddard, injects a good amount of quips that are never too forced. Known for writing the cult horror comedy The Cabin in the Woods, subtle humor with several characters work well within the film. The dialogue and banter between Watley and his crewmembers are the highlight of this well-written screenplay.

Almost always having a punchline to describe his situations with a quick smirk or deadpan delivery, Damon pulls off the starring role of Mark Watley. The physical and mental changes Watley faces on his year and half long stay on Mars shows Damon's dedication to the character. Without giving too much away, Watley has to leave behind his name, along with his identity. The movie sometimes make the audience cringe-worthy but fascinating in an almost morbid way.

Ultimately, Damon gives Watley a very likable presence and someone who the audience will want to see succeed and are upset if he fails. Perhaps Matt Damon can finally grab that elusive best actor award.

Damon does not completely take over the film, as part of the supporting cast keeps the film strong. Jessica Chastain puts on another terrific performance as Commander Lewis, a strong female leader.

Chiwetel Ejiofor and Jeff Daniels also turn in great performances, portraying two characters that will draw viewers in, but the story will keep audiences in lockdown, never making them feel fatigued by science. While it is a shame to see a few talented actors and actresses wasted, the rest of the film is such a marvelous science fiction experience that it will keep audiences entertained.

Comic-con actors find niche in online series

Patricia Negron
Journal Staff

Alan Tudyk's new web series "Con Man," which features sci-fi actors who have reached Comic-Con stardom, was released last Wednesday on Vimeo. Though the立项 fans who found out about the series release in time were able to enjoy the first three episodes of the series for free from 10 p.m. to 11 p.m. through Entertainment Weekly's website.

Tudyk got the idea for "Con Man" after acting in "Firefly," a space cowboy series set in the future. Due to its success, the movie "Serenity" was made in 2005 to continue the plot. "Con Man" was released on the tenth anniversary of "Serenity" debut in the United States.

Tudyk portrays an actor named Wray Nerdy, and fellow "Firefly" actor Nathan Fillion portrays character Jack Moore. Though Nerdy is loved by fans, he is clearly frustrated between his friendship with Moore and the inequality within it.

"Con Man" started off with Nerdy being publicly recognized, and was asked for his autograph while he was sitting on the toilet in a public restroom. Soon after, Nerdy finds himself in the bar talking to his agent about an audition when he is surprised by actor Sean Astin, most notably known for his samwise from "Lord of the Rings."

As they talk, two fans approach them for a picture, but the difference between their attitudes is notable. Nerdy thinks it’s weird for fans to refer to them as their characters, while Astin replies that, "There's nothing wrong with being a hobbit," recommending that Nerdy take advantage of the benefits.

The episodes are relatively short, the first one lasting just under 11 minutes. It was not until the end of the third episode that I felt familiar with the series. Because pilot episodes are inevitably setting the stage for the rest of a series, I think it could have worked better if the three episodes were released as one 33 minute episode.

I was hooked from the beginning, and could have binge watched it that same night. However, the rental only includes the fourth episode for now, as the rest of the episodes will be released throughout October.

Fans seemed to be as pleased with the series as I was on Twitter. User @EdgarAlanPickle tweeted "You guys are amazing! Lovely people & utterly hilarious. Can’t wait to see what happens next on @ConManSeries."

@holycant Simulation expressed similar thoughts on the show tweeting "Love Nathan & Alan, but Felicia steals the show! Love it!"

The series can now be rented for $14.99 for the duration of three months, and was funded by 46,992 fans through an Indiegogo campaign. It raised over three million dollars by the time the campaign closed on April 23.

The show's cast is witty and hilarious, including Mindy Sterling, Seth Green and Gina Torres. However, I am looking forward to an appearance from Jess Whedon, writer and director of "Firefly."
The eagerly-awaited 20 Somerset building was promised to include a full cafeteria equipped to better meet the dining needs of students. However, it failed. Where the cafe succeeds in variety, it lacks in coordination and convenience, two features that are vital to a bustling university.

20 Somerset had students with high hopes and few worries about losing the Donahue cafeteria. With the Donahue cafe out of service, its doors closed at the busiest time of the day and now only used for organization events, students default to 20 Somerset. However, this cafe doesn't to replace Donahue's more appropriate dining setup.

The cafeteria in Donahue offered food choices much better suited to the between-class rush that students experience. The activity in Somerset is no different, but instead of maintaining consistency, this cafe veers from the same accessibility that Donahue provided.

In Donahue, two features- students choices included a salad bar, plenty of ready-made sushi, and grab-and-go selections like their rice bowls and chicken tenders, options that suited busy students during their 10-minute breaks between classes, club meetings, or work. Somerset's quick picks like pasta, breadsticks, and pizza, on the other hand, are much less appealing. The real breadwinners of this cafe are the Asian-style and sandwich stations. But the lines for these choices routinely snake through the length of the room. This is no way ideal for students looking to get in and out in a timely fashion before running to the seventh floor for their class.

Additionally, the salad bar option seems to be lost along with Donahue. Vegetarian and gluten-free options run ridiculously slim, a fact nearly devastating on a college campus. Are students expected to journey down to 73 Tremont's cafeteria and wait in the long lines for a salad? The absence of something as basic as a salad bar is evidence of a poorly thoughtout dining hall. Another example of subpar planning is the layout of the cafeteria itself. Cashiers are located on the far end of the room, hidden in a corner. For a building swarming with students trying to move quickly, is this the best place to put the checkout area?

As someone who inadvertently left the cafe in a hurry without paying for her sandwich, I'd say no.

The space itself seems unnecessarily large; where open space dominates the cafeteria side of the ground floor, I'd rather see more seating on the other.

The best thing I can say about the 20 Somerset cafe is the food they are putting out is at a higher standard than Donahue's was; the options are overall more glamorous. I am, after all, a big fan of Somerset's smoothie bar. But for the lack of convenience surrounding the dining hall, I can't say that glamour is worth it. Though seemingly petty issues, these concerns add up to an overall unnatural and inconvenient replacement for the much-loved Donahue cafe. Somerset's dining hall lies somewhere between an awkward residence hall cafeteria and convenient pit stop for busy students.

Limited space in 20 Somerset Cafe inhibits student gatherings.

Craig Mattlin/Journal Staff

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"The space itself seems unnecessarily large; where open space dominates the cafeteria side of the ground floor, I'd rather see more seating on the other."
The United States will celebrate Columbus Day on Monday, October 12. However, Columbus Day should not be celebrated because history should not be forgotten or looked at through forgiving eyes. What the Europeans did to the Native peoples of the Americas is simply barbaric, yet we continue to celebrate those actions.

How should we even celebrate a day like Columbus Day? Should we just unite, take over a town, kill and enslave everyone who lives there, eat their food and move into their homes? Should we just barge into a company, kill the owners and make the employees work for free?

That plan sounds absurd because it is, plain and simple. We shouldn’t be celebrating the colonizer, especially when we’re not making the slightest efforts to honor all of the victims of colonization.

In Puerto Rico, my home country, the discovery of the island is celebrated on November 19, though we also celebrate Columbus Day because we have all the American holidays as well. As a Puerto Rican, I strongly feel that this holiday should not be celebrated.

It does not make sense that there is a day for Columbus in my country and other Hispanic-American countries, considering that everything that was done was done by our ancestors by Columbus and the leaders that followed him.

If I do celebrate the long weekend, I will try to learn more about the other two-thirds of my heritage as a Puerto Rican, celebrating them in an attempt to decolonize my mind from all I learned. I already started reforming my country’s history, realizing that my hometown’s name, Culey, is a word we inherited from the Taínos.

Also, I will celebrate the aspects of Taíno and African cultures that are part of my culture. Our ancestors survived colonization because they worked hard to ingrain their cultures into what was forming Puerto Rico. To preserve their own religions, they used Catholic saints’ names to refer to their own gods so that the Spaniards wouldn’t notice it. If there’s one thing I won’t do is celebrate Columbus’ discovery because it is tainted with blood and suffering.

I do not plan on celebrating the fact that, more than 500 years ago, Christopher Columbus arrived in the Americas and started calling everyone there “Indians,” a word that is still misused, because he thought he had arrived in India. He did not discover the Americas, because you cannot discover a place that was already inhabited.

I refuse to celebrate the fact that the native peoples of the Americas were enslaved, raped, colonized and killed, according to the Institute for Research on Globalization. Also, I refuse to celebrate the fact that Taínos, the native people in Cuba, Jamaica, Haiti, the Dominican Republic and Puerto Rico, were exploited and died from labor and sicknesses that the Spaniards brought.

Since Taínos had not been exposed to sickness from Europe, their bodies were unable to fight those sicknesses off, and “epidemics” became a common consequence of contact, according to the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Another fact that I refuse to ignore is that Africans were then enslaved and brought to the island, suffering from the same horrible conditions as the Taínos.

However, the ones who weren’t slaughtered, abused, exploited, and were prohibited from practicing their own religions, instead being turned to Catholicism, according to Welcome to Puerto Rico. They were slaves forced to assimilate to the colonizing culture, all in the name of the King and Queen of Spain and the Catholic Pope.

It’s clear Columbus was a pivotal person in history. However, everything that happened after he arrived in the Americas is, inevitably, a direct result of his arrival. His exploitation and killing of so many people can be traced back to his arrival, and celebrating this is an insult to all the people that were affected by his “discovery.”

How boundaries can make roommates closer

Whether it is living in one of Suffolk’s residence halls or an off-campus apartment, living with roommates is something most college students will have to deal with and every roommate situation is different. In my case, I live with three other girls in one room. I had to learn how to be happy and comfortable in my living arrangement, and I had to learn fast.

As a freshman, it can be difficult trying to get used to living with other people.

Depending on whether you can accommodate each other’s needs and habits will determine the outcome of your time together.

Today, I can’t imagine my roommates and I did after moving in was set boundaries. I believe it is a vital step in living with roommates.

Whether they are strangers or not, it is important to set such restrictions and lay them out to your roommates because without them, there is a big question in what is available to you and what isn’t. The easiest way to avoid that confusion is to set the rules straight from the beginning.

Something I learned is that one of my roommates likes it piping hot. Making these observations allowed the four of us to fill out our roommate agreement forms and describe what is okay and not okay, a requirement from Suffolk’s Residence Life and Housing department.

I feel that residence life at any college is essential for a freshman, because without it, I don’t believe you are gaining the full college experience.

Although it can be scary at first living with people you’ve never met before, it can be a beneficial experience.

Fortunately, my roommates and I discussed these questions and reached a consensus on what works best for us, allowing us to agree on overhead lights off after midnight and figuring out a guest policy that works for all of us.

Many of these questions can be discussed, which is what ended up happening in our group. Although the task was tedious and did take up much more time than it had to, I understand the importance of it.

I would think all roommates in Suffolk’s dorms go through these questions about each other’s preferences, and just getting your needs out in the open is the easiest thing to do. It lessens the chance of an argument happening, and if one does come up, you can bring up what all roommates agreed on, and this will help diffuse the dispute.
Navigating the pitfalls of fantasy football

Ryan Dawson  
Journal Staff

This year may be the year you were finally asked to be in a fantasy football league. Maybe you tried a daily fantasy league and thought it would be easy.

Traversing the treacherous waters of a 14-week season is nothing short of a Herculean stress test. Setting your lineup, making trades, and scouting unless you have Tom Brady. It's not shown in New England many games out of market defenses. They aren't always usually act as good indicators. Rivalries, conference on how to effectively predict future outcomes, but there are ways to make educated guesses. Rivalries, conference games, and injury-hidden teams usually act as good indicators.

Another good approach is to use an online fantasy website's analytics to judge offenses and defenses. They aren't always right, but they help.

Finally, stalk your players. Not literally but figuratively. Following your players online through social media can help to predict their performance for the week. You never know when your star running back will be declared unable to play due to an unknown injury. Good rule of thumb is to wake up early on Sunday to check injury updates and adjusted team rosters. Growing a competitive fantasy team takes time. But hopefully with some savvy moves, decent trades, and just a little bit of luck your team could make it to the top.

Celtics' young team could keep them out of postseason

Clevis Murray  
Journal Contributor

The Celtics are expected to start the 2015-16 season with only minor adjustments to their roster. This will only change, however, if Executive Director of Basketball Operations, Danny Ainge, makes a huge trade.

The team acquired big-men Amir Johnson and David Lee, who played for the Toronto Raptors and Golden State Warriors, respectively.

With that said, the team will continue to draft rookies in its attempt to build a youthful team with an entire roster younger than 30 with the exception of Lee, who is 32. However, Lee's health and productivity on the court this season is questionable due to his recent health problems.

The roster being what it is without a budding star - unless point guard Marcus Smart has a stellar sophomore season - will give the team a season similar to the one it had in 2014-2015. The only difference is it'll be much harder for them to make the playoffs this year with a younger team, thanks to changes in the NBA's playoff format. In case you haven't heard, division winners aren't guaranteed a top four seeding anymore.

The more competitive format will make it much more difficult for the Celtics to make the playoffs in 2016. If I dare say it, the Los Angeles Lakers, New York Knicks and Miami Heat have a better chance of making the postseason due to adequate roster upgrades.

Their perennial All-Star players Kobe Bryant, Carmelo Anthony and Chris Bosh also returned after missing most of last season due to either season ending injuries or life changing health problems. Just when you thought the Celtics' playoff chances couldn't get any worse, they do.

The Oklahoma City Thunder will feature a healthy trio consisting of MVP candidates Russell Westbrook and Kevin Durant, as well as shot-blocking extraordinaire, Serge Ibaka.

After the Thunder, there's the Indiana Pacers who will welcome back Paul George for a full season. They'll utilize his sidekick in Monta Ellis, who's just a flat-out scorer.

Those are four teams the Celtics will somehow have to beat in the playoff chase. But with the league being dominated by superstars, it will be hard for the youthful team to experience a playoff atmosphere again.

Of all the playoff teams last year, Boston was the only one without a player in its starting lineup to make at least one All-Star game.

All odds are against the Celtics this year, with more doubters than supporters. It'll be up to them and head coach Brad Stevens to shock the NBA fan base and make the playoffs in a more competitive landscape.

The team is accustomed to grinding to gain respect and what they want. It'll be interesting to see how the team plays and if they can actually improve off of last season.

The team is accustomed to grinding to gain respect and what they want. It'll be interesting to see how the team plays and if they can actually improve off of last season.
Pro Sports Column:
Starter predictions for upcoming season

On Tuesday Sept. 29, the Celtics held an open practice for its season ticket holders. The event consisted of a three “quarters,” eight-minute scrimmage between two teams, "Team Green" and "Team White.” Both teams were chosen by head coach Brad Stevens, which gives us an implication of at least two potential starting lineups that we may see during the season.

Looking at both teams, it looks like Coach Stevens was trying out two different styles of play.

Team Green is more of a 'spread the floor,' offensive team with all of these players having some sort of three point shooting ability. Kelly Olynyk knocked down two threes during the scrimmage, and Jonas Jerebko demonstrated his three-point abilities on multiple occasions last season. This opens up the court for point guard Isaiah Thomas to attack the basket.

Starters for Team White:
- Marcus Smart
- Avery Bradley
- Evan Turner
- David Lee
- Tyler Zeller

Starters for Team Green:
- Isaiah Thomas
- Jae Crowder
- Jonas Jerebko
- Amir Johnson
- Kelly Olynyk

and draw fouls that will get him to the free throw line. It also helps that Isaiah Thomas and Kelly Olynyk are known to be an exceptional passers, which creates better looks for the rest of the team.

As for the offensive end, Thomas is a little undersized, so his defense isn't always the most reliable. However, that is made up for with Jae Crowder's lockdown perimeter defense and Amir Johnson's rim protection.

Team White looks a lot like a traditional NBA lineup. A definitive point guard in Marcus Smart, a clear shooting guard in Avery Bradley, an all-around small forward in Evan Turner, a rebounding machine power forward in David Lee, and a center who is adept at altering shots in the lane in Tyler Zeller.

On the offensive side, both Marcus Smart and Evan Turner have the passing abilities to take control of the ball handling responsibilities.

When it comes to scoring, Avery Bradley can shoot from almost anywhere outside of the post and David Lee can score from anywhere within ten feet of the basket.

The defensive end is also covered with both Marcus Smart and Avery Bradley's defensive prowess on the perimeter and David Lee's abilities to stop almost anything in post.

Players that came off the bench included veterans, so to speak, F Jared Sullinger (White), G James Young (Green), and F Perry Jones (White) and rookies G Terry Rozier (Green), F Jordan Mickey (Green), and G RJ Hunter (White).

While the new additions such as Perry Jones and Rozier made an impact on the game for their respective teams, the veterans of the team such as Sullinger and James Young failed to impress. Rozier came off the bench, scored a few threes and showed off his speed in transition. Perry Jones also hit a few threes when he came off the bench looking a little sluggish despite the drop in his weight during the off season. He also had four fouls called against him, which is never a good sign.

The time that James Young has put into his development wasn't really shown either as he missed a few of his 3s but managed to drive to the basket a few times and score at the rim.

Both teams looked like examples of Brad Stevens' ability to analyze players and use them together to produce lineups that mesh together perfectly. This also creates Brad Stevens biggest challenge this season because the Celtics seem to have an abundance of players at each position, and all those players seem to fit into one line up or another that works well together.