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In the news

**In the news**

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University’s reputation on the rocks

Brigitte Carreiro
News Editor

Jacob Geanous
Journal Staff

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**Colleen Day**

Editor-in-Chief

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With the veil dropped baring the bitter divide between Suffolk University’s Board of Trustees and President Margaret McKenna, news broke late Tuesday evening reporting the university has cut ties with Regan Communications after several calls for an in-depth look into its highly controversial institutional involvement.

In an interview on Tuesday with the Journal, the Student Government Association celebrated what they saw as a victory and a culmination of student, faculty and alumni efforts to rid the university of the public relations firm’s hand in its affairs.

“One of our primary concerns was the conflict of interest, and to see that President McKenna has come in and eliminated that conflict of interest is great,” said SGA President Colin Loiselle.

*"Getting rid of Regan Communications was the first step to reforming the Board of Trustees, and I’m extremely excited to see that step has been taken, and it shows a clear interest in bringing accountability back to the Board," he said.*

Coming off a historic display of unrest, the Suffolk community’s active participation in the university turnover and administrative changes have been ongoing since the Boston Herald and the Boston Globe exposed tension in Suffolk’s high offices earlier this month.

Student-activists took to the freezing streets in a blinding snowstorm on Friday in what became a final play of a week-long flagrant protest to offset the threatening termination of the university’s first female president.

In the standing-room only lobby of 73 Tremont with McKenna’s office 13 floors above, students and faculty funneled in, seeking any sign of the results of a 2 p.m. showdown meeting slated...
McKenna, board not only ones affected by turmoil

From TURMOIL page 1

and the rest of the university became frayed, shockwaves affected the Suffolk community and beyond.

By the end of the week, current students were feeling the effects of some of the recent events, which may potentially shape their future careers.

"I think that this is a signal that things are not as they were," said Kasey Mckenna, board member of the Student Senate. 

A similar sentiment was echoed by Suffolk freshman and marketing major, キム・リー. "The current events have shown the community what we are capable of as students," she said. 

The Students for Suffolk, an organization that represents the student body, announced that they were concerned about the recent changes to Suffolk University. "The decrease in enrollment and the negative publicity have had a direct impact on the students," said Vice President of Enrollment Management, 私が紹介した。

Ultimately, to Johnson, the recent changes to Suffolk are potentially adding more tension to what is seen by him as an unsettled university at a pivotal point in time.

According to Interim Vice President of Enrollment Planning and Management, Michael Crowley, potential new students are now receiving their acceptance letters, and whether recent disputes have had an effect on potential students' decisions is in limbo. The public, some may believe the choice to attend Suffolk in the fall could be impacted by the Board and McKenna's recently public display of disarray and vulnerability.

"I think that we have something going on at this point where there is a lot of disappointment in the press. Does it influence it on the edges? Somewhat, probably, but is it the driver? It's not," he said in an interview with the Journal. "I think we're seeing a really strong-knit community right now, and that's the excitement that we want to show. There's an awful lot of pride in Suffolk being demonstrated," he said.

Micky Lee, associate professor in the communications and journalism department, agreed that despite the barrage of media attention, the impassioned determination exemplified by the student body's ability to band together and make collective voice heard is impressive.

"Both good things and bad things happened, but it was the students that stood out," said Lee. "All of the problems have been hidden under the cover for so long. But this time it played out in the public, so the students were more aware."

With fingers pointing toward the Board of Trustees, members of Suffolk are also looking to local media for accountability for the public desecration of Suffolk University. The university's campus was crawling with Boston Journalists following the ongoing saga, hungry for any information with regard for the university's well-being.

"The Boston Herald just ran a story according to unconfirmed sources. This calls into question the legitimacy of the Boston Herald more than Suffolk University," said Lee. "People were not complaining about Suffolk not teaching students. What people were talking about is the governance of the school."

Madeline Garcia, a junior public relations major, saw the effect of the press on third parties firsthand when she received a distraught email from her father after the news became clogged with Boston Globe stories about the situation, proving that these university issues are not exclusive to those directly on campus.

"I could care less about the fighting other than if, at some point in the future, it could potentially have a negative effect on the university's accreditation," her father wrote. "We won't have any immediate consequences other than it could lessen the value of a degree from the university if it loses its accreditation."

Garcia agreed and said she recognized the impact the frenzy may have on her future. "We pay a lot of money for this school, and he doesn't want any degree to have less credit because of this whole thing," she said.
Power shift outs McKenna, Meyer and Regan Communications

From CHANGES page 1

McKenna's contributions to student life, the controversial aspects of McKenna's financial maneuverings, program slashes and review of the university's reputation and the public relations firm are still playing out aggressively in the public eye. In an interview with the Boston Globe on Tuesday evening, the public relations firm's head, George Regan, bashed McKenna as students and staff have rejoiced the discontinuing of the firm's involvement with the Board bleeding from within.

In regards to that future in light of Tuesday's breaking news, Loiselle vows to remain optimistic that McKenna will remain in office, at least another year and a half. "Before we got involved, the Board of Trustees had never agreed to meet with SGA," he said. "Now that we got involved, now that we stood our ground, they've agreed to make critical changes to their governance structure," he said.

In terms of McKenna, the outgoing president expressed during Friday's rally that the agreement she proposed to the Board will ultimately be a step forward for the university. "I think that it will, as an arrangement, totally, do a lot things that have not been done before. It will buy us time in terms of things that are important to all of us," she said.

Despite a dominantly contentious relationship with the board, rather than acknowledging her own mistakes, President McKenna has been criticized for being reactive and not proactive, suggesting the Board's claims are based on "unilateral and retaliating emotional statements that are not isolated to heated discussions," he said.

Students are not isolated to heated discussions, suggesting the Board's claims are based on "unilateral and retaliating emotional statements that are not isolated to heated discussions," he said.

"I am not sure I can take it anymore," McKenna writes about her current leadership style and decisions from the Board of Trustees. "I can no longer be a part of this untenable environment," she said.

Despite McKenna's announced departure, President McKenna at least will not accept the resolution's answer not just of me, but of this university. It is such an important place and you have showed that every day this past week," said McKenna.

"First, let me say thank you. I am so moved by your support not just of me, but of this university. It is such an important place and you have showed that every day this past week," said McKenna.

"I am so warmed by the fact that you guys still exist. And you can gather and you can organize, and I am amazed that this has happened in such a short period of time, and folks from students to alumni and faculty and staff. It has just been heartwarming to watch you and take all it in," she said.

The agreement settled with students as a win-win-win outcome in light of SGA's vote of no confidence in Meyer with 30 in favor on Thursday, likely a factor in his imminent departure, according to Loiselle.

"I think that it shows that there are meaningful reforms taking place in the Board of Trustees. I'm optimistic that we'll see more positive changes," he said.

"I think that it will, as an arrangement, totally, do a lot things that have not been done before. It will buy us time in terms of things that are important to all of us," she said.

In an interview with the Journal, Loiselle triumphed. "We held rallies, we kept in touch, and we made differences. It's clear that we are one campus, one community, one voice. We are Suffolk."

In regards to that future in light of Tuesday's breaking news, Loiselle vows to remain optimistic that McKenna will remain in office past 2017. "I think honestly anything is possible. It's not something I would rule out," he said.
Dear Editor,

Next month, the Student Government Association will hold its annual elections, and they could not come at a more pivotal time for the Suffolk University community.

We as a student body, facing significant adversity during these past few weeks, have made our voices heard to ultimately create real change within the Board of Trustees, a seemingly impossible feat to achieve just weeks ago. It is now up to you to continue this unprecedented momentum and participate in the upcoming SGA elections, held from March 7 to March 9.

This Thursday, nomination packets will be available to this university’s aspiring student leaders for 40 open positions within SGA for the 2016-2017 academic year, including: nine Senator positions for each class and nine senator-at-large positions eligible to all students who wish to run different sectors of our very diverse campus.

I encourage any interested student to find out more information on running for a position within our office. There will be an elections information session on Tuesday, Feb. 16 at 1 p.m. in Donahue 403, where we will field all your questions to ensure you feel comfortable running for your position of choice.

Our current president, Colin Loiselle, will be no easy task, and it is up to the student body, to make sure our current leader will be the best choice to move the school forward. We must build off of the momentum we have all created in the past few weeks. There are many student issues that need to be addressed, and we must start by electing the student leaders who will lead this charge head on.

As students, you demonstrated how activism on campus can foster real change and make a difference in how this school operates. The importance of recent events cannot be overstated, nor can the impact of preparing for the events that have yet to occur that will impact the future of this university.

If you are somebody who cares strongly about the well-being of Suffolk University, or has a vested interest in the students being well represented, I urge you to consider running for SGA and ask that you vote in elections in just a few weeks. Keep up the good work, #RamNation!

Sincerely,
Sean M. Walsh
Vice President
Student Government Association

"The importance of recent events cannot be overstated, nor can the importance of preparing for the events that have yet to occur that will impact the future of this university."
International students disappointed with lack of stability

The hashtag #SUStandsWithMcKenna surfaced significantly across the world in the United States, Great Britain, Spain, Canada, and Brazil with 775,667 impressions on Twitter alone.

_The Suffolk Journal_ February 10, 2016

**Alexa Gagosz**

International Editor

In recent events that have unfolded into a mess within Suffolk’s administration, the hashtag #SUStandsWithMcKenna formed a sense of community on campus through students and faculty with rallies and the vast social media presence with the Twitter hashtag #SUStandsWithMcKenna.

The trend has founded across Twitter, the trend has surfaced five countries thus far, including the United States, Great Britain, Spain, Canada, and Brazil according the real-time tracker of Twitter, Keyhole.

Senior government major and board member of the International Student Association, Saewon Park, came together in the past few weeks. Many other students expressed their concern with the university's change in leadership in the past.

Senior government major and board member of the International Student Association, Saewon Park, came to Suffolk from South Korea. When she first heard of the situation between President Margaret McKenna and the Board of Trustees in her government class by Professor John Berg, she followed up by reading the in-depth editorial he published in the Commonwealth Magazine.

The article received a total of 1,059 total social media shares. Instantly, Park took to defending the side of her president of just seven months.

"From the information I could gather, it seems to me that there is a serious lack of transparency and accountability in the Board of Trustees," said Park.

Park participated in both last Tuesday's and last Friday's rallies with the self-proclaimed activism group #WeAreSuffolk. As an international student, she stands by the side of McKenna and she claims that the President has a student-oriented point of view.

"For international students, she visited the several tables representing different countries. Suffolk students came from on International Night," said Park, in reference to the multicultural event.

Park noted that McKenna, even in her seven months in the top office, has already made decisions that have positively impacted the students.

"I was really glad when she leased Donahue and Archer until the next academic year and we avoided potentially very chaotic and cramped classroom schedules," said Park.

However, the decision on Friday did not leave Park at ease with the university even after the students and faculty came together in the past few weeks.

"Hearing that McKenna would leave was not what I had hoped for," said Park. "I had hoped that Suffolk would finally have a long-term president as a result of the student body, faculty and alumni efforts."

Yet, she was also hoping that Suffolk's board of Trustees Chairman, Andrew Meyer was the only member to leave the school.

Yazeed Abu-Ghazaleh, the public relations manager of the Students for Justice in Palestine branch at Suffolk, spoke on behalf of the organization.

"Unstable leadership is by no means an attribute of an effective organization, so for that reason we are extremely relieved that President McKenna is maintaining her position for now," said Abu-Ghazaleh.

"It is my fourth year at Suffolk, and it is the fourth president on campus," said Wang after she explained that her parents are reading comments and articles in Mandarin back in China.

"It is so upsetting that the only thing they hear is so negative," she said.

See OVERSEAS page 6
negative and I end up feeling so ashamed," said Wang. Wang said she has observed several police international students have met her and generally like her, and continue to show their support for her academic freedom. Park said the problem may affect applications to Suffolk's undergraduate program as well.

"It may deter others," said Park. "In Massachusetts, I think people would view Suffolk as a mess." However, it's not just the U.S. that has to be concerned with application numbers going down.

"If you look up Suffolk's news in China, the first few searches are negative," Wang said as she feared the international student population could potentially drop in the future.

"At the end of the day, it is the students that are hurt from such scandals," said Wang. With the decision for both Meyer to leave the school in May and McKenna lose when there is a new president, international students look toward the future with both disappointment and hope.

"We hope that the Board of Trustees will carry the interests of all stakeholders when making their decisions in the future, and humbly request that they remain objective in trying junctures such as this," said Abu-Ghazaleh on behalf of SIP.

With a sense of community that the university has formed for the first time, according to some, Park says the school has even changed in recent weeks. "I'm very proud of the community that arose from this crisis," said Park. "For the past three years I have been at Suffolk, I was always told, and have said so myself, that Suffolk lacked a community because of its downtown location and high number of commuters. What I have seen and have been part of in the last week changed all that, for the better."

"Students are proud of what they have done to show their care for the school, it doesn't look like the sense of involvement is going anywhere," Park explained in an interview with The Journal that she looks forward to seeing the new batch of potential presidents, as well as the future of the Board.

"I would be looking for someone with commitment toward Suffolk University," said Park. "Someone who tries to connect with the student body, and who isn't afraid to take on the board or anyone else to correct any wrongs."

## US election to resolve or heighten global tension

### Colin Barry

**Journal Staff**

With the daunting presidential election coming up just months away, the rest of the world is watching as they outline their tensions with the United States. The world will face the impact of the new president when voters decide who will be the next commander-in-chief.

Suffolk organizations such as the Students for Justice in Palestine are concerned how the President-elect will be handling the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

"What the American people and Palestinians alike need is neither a candidate who makes statements in their own interests, nor one with a magical solution," said the public relations manager for the organization, Yazeed Abu-Ghazaleh. The need is for a realistic, impartial decision-maker who will do what's best for the American people, while addressing their international responsibilities.

"Let us choose wisely and speak honestly when it comes to these controversial issues," added Palestinian activist. "When we choose to admit it or not, we are all directly affected."

Suffolk Hillel, who are associated with the Boston-Campus Interfaith Center, also have concerns with a new president that will help ease tensions.

"The Hillel Group does not endorse any candidate," said Hillel Group director Miriam Blue. "However, everyone regardless of the political spectrum is looking for a peaceful end to this conflict. It is one component that is important to Jewish culture."

Blue added, "There is no particular point of view, as every candidate is different."

Suffolk government professor John Berg said the election will influence how other countries will see America.

"It makes other countries trust us. They see these wild speeches from the candidates and it may cause them to think twice," said Berg, reiterating that despite the result of the election it will affect the whole world.

The new president will also be facing ISIS, the Iranian nuclear deal, and North Korea's proposed hydrogen bomb. "In regards to President Obama supporting the nuclear deal in Iran, a lot of Republicans are saying they are going to reverse it," said Berg. "But I don't think we are going to get any huge changes. Most things will stick."

Suffolk College Democrats President Kalene Hess said both candidates in the Democratic party have different views on the major threats to the U.S. "Clinton and Sanders disagree on who is the 'greatest threat' to America," said Hess. "Sanders classifies North Korea as the greatest threat because they live in an isolated country that is infamous for threats against the United States using nuclear weapons."

Professor Berg acknowledged the other international issues that the President-elect will face.

"No one has talked about the Zika virus," he said. "There has also been a lot of debate about trade and a lot of debate about immigration."

The two Democratic nominees, former U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and Vermont Senator Bernie Sanders, agree on peaceful solutions across the globe. In regards to Iran's nuclear deal, Clinton supports improving relations with Iran. "I would not support this agreement for one second if I thought it put Israel in greater danger," said Clinton, as reported by ABC News.

Senator Sanders was to be in favor of the deal, seeing it as a way to improve relations with a former country that the U.S. has conflicts with, according to CNN. "It is my firm belief that the test of a great nation with the most powerful military on earth is not how many wars it can engage in," Sanders told CNN. "But how it can use our strength and our capabilities to resolve international conflicts in a peaceful way."

As reported by the Boston Globe, Senator Sanders has a long-standing history with protesting war, starting back in the 1960s. "One great quote from Sanders in regards to foreign policy is 'We cannot be the policeman of the world,'" Hess said, who supports Senator Sanders' position.

Both Sanders and Clinton were reported by The New York Times as being in favor of letting Syrian refugees into the U.S.

The Democratic Party nomination is still neck-in-neck between Clinton and Senator Sanders.

"It does not matter who is pulling ahead, Clinton or Sanders," said Hess. "It is impressive that both candidates are surging in the primaries."

On the right side of the political spectrum, the Republican candidates are looking to strengthen the American military across the globe, but also focus on domestic issues.

"Senator Trump is looking to have more restrictive immigration rules. Senator Cruz was quoted by the Atlantic, in regards to any Middle Eastern immigrants that 'Fighting for or supporting ISIS is an affirmative renunciation of American citizenship.'"

Donald Trump looks to enhance what possible relations the U.S. can have with Russia. "Wouldn't it be nice if like Russia and us could knock out an enemy together," Trump asked CNN. "Russia has plenty of problems, but I'll tell you what, if Putin likes me, and he thinks I'm a good, smart person, which, I mean, I hope he believes it."

This followed Russian President Vladimir Putin's interview with CNN, where he called Trump, 'brilliant.'

The Suffolk Republican group on campus did not respond for an interview.
The Performing Arts Office will hold its 15th annual spring Pioneer Series production with “Identity Crisis” hitting stages Feb. 18-20 at 7:30 p.m. in the C. Walsh Theatre. The Series—which began back in 2002 with the “Vagina Monologues”—has alternated each year between a musical and non-musical production to satisfy the varied interests of their audiences. Productions include “Songs for a New World,” “The Book of Mormon,” “Spring Awakening.”

With the Pioneer Series, Associate Director Kathy Maloney indicates of PAO that the organization, “Aims] to produce shows that offer the office and the students and opportunity to work on a new, challenging and provocative piece of theatre.” She continued, “Sometimes that means learning about physical comedy, puppetry or history, and sometimes it means working on issues such as the death penalty or hate crimes. The goal is for the production to allow all involved to have a powerful, meaningful experience throughout their rehearsal process and through the show.”

The description of “Crisis” says it is a “devised piece that explores some elements of humor, some topics of race, ethnicity, gender, religion and sexuality.” The showrunners hope to bring a new, challenging and provocative piece of theatre. Dawn Simmons, the director of the play, feel that students who are part of the production will be given the opportunity “to ask the hard questions of each other that are flowing out there on the internet.” Simmons revealed that during this process, the actors met to explore stereotypes and challenges them. They also embraced their identity in a very public way and allow others to do the same.

During the pre-production of the show, students were asked questions that the band answered for themselves, and if we have—considered them for the audience,” Simmons says. “We hope that what we present can be read as starting a dialogue that leads somewhere. That people who see the show will listen to each other in the same spirit of learning and community that we were able to do the same.” Baker found it to be one of the most powerful things about the process of developing and producing a show, as well as their experiences as actors and students dealing with all the various issues and themes brought up in this play.”

The production is trying to send the audience, Simmons divulged. “They are struggling with the same things as well. And that just about everyone can agree that pizza is a great equalizer.”

Tickets can be picked up in Donahue 409 for free.
A parody film's job is to be at least twice as funny or greater than the film it is imitating. However, if a movie is imitating a romantic film like "Fifty Shades of Grey" that received poor reviews, the parody probably will be less than funny or even worse. And it was.

"Fifty Shades of Black," starring comedian Marlon Wayans and actress Kali Hawk, premiered on Jan. 29. Entertainment Weekly reported the film made $6.2 million during its opening weekend compared to Wayans' previous film — "A Haunted House 2" — which made about $8 million.

Building off the characters Christian Grey and Anastasia Steele from "Grey's" the parody film centers around businessman Christian Black (Wayans) and college student Hannah Steele (Hawk), as they begin a sexual relationship shortly after Hannah interviews him for school. Having not seen the film or read E.L. James' novel, I am not sure how accurate this spoof was in terms of imitating the original film. Fortunately, finding this version, I found myself to be uninterested in both the movie and book.

After a success of the "Scary Movie" and "A Haunted House" franchises, Wayans has proven to be the only comedian to keep parody films alive. However, the humor was lacking as a result of the sex appeal of Wayans' character. He portrayed Christian as an incredibly handsome, aggressive, yet childlike man. Funny flashback scenes included Christian dancing as a "Magic Mike" stripper and losing his virginity to his brother's older friend, who had young boys waiting in line to seduce her in the same room.

While Wayans was able to bring out a few giggles and chuckles, there was no pivotal moment of intense hilarity that highlighted his comedic ability. Most of the ladies in the theater were more mesmerized by his abs than his jokes and goodness. That just screams the death of a comedian.

Wayans and Hawk had great chemistry on screen, portraying the intimate aspects of "Grey" perfectly, with a hint of chuckles. Scenes of the two staring at each other provocatively, slapping each other with kisses in a crowded elevator, and Wayans' character reading "Fifty Shades of Grey" as part of his S&M punishment kept the movie appealing. Both actors were surprisingly dynamic together, but failed horribly in their individual roles.

Hawk's performance as Hannah was a snooze fest up until the end of the movie. Although she was portraying Anastasia in a similar role, Hawk's acting was noticeably weak. She graced the screen in hilarious fashion near the end, which garnered the most laughs from the audience.

Despite the lackluster performances from the two leads, the supporting actors kept the movie from sinking completely. Hannah's best friend Jesse, played by Vine star King Bach under his real name, Andrew Bachelor, put his hilarious stunts to good use as his character constantly appeared to sleep and make out with Hannah, making Hawk's dreadful scenes a bit more bearable.

Along with Bachelor, comedian King Bach is incredibly as Hannah's promiscuous and hysterical roommate. Of course, there was an awkward sex scene with the very funny Affion Crockett, who played Christian's brother, Eli, which was a highlight. It was a great opportunity for new and underrated comedians to receive universal exposure from a wider fan base with Wayans' help.

Scenes with veteran actors Mike Epps and Jane Seymour, who played Hannah's freaky step-father and Christian's racist mother respectively, brought humor and ridiculousness, but the overall movie just couldn't deliver the cleverness and hilarity that Wayans' previous movies successfully achieved.

There is a good chance people around the world were shocked to hear a few weeks ago that white actor Joseph Fiennes was cast as one of Jackson's former assistants told Vanity Fair that Jackson actually stayed in New York, attended church, and met Taylor after the 9/11 terrorist attacks. Not only is the casting choice weird and utterly disrespectful, but to include 9/11 in a comedy has to be the most insensitive and heartless thing Sky Arts could do.

According to The Washington Post, the alleged road trip was first recounted in 2011 Vanity Fair article detailing three alleged versions of the story. You read that right, three versions and unfortunately all three stars are not alive to tell it. The version that is used for the film is from one of Jackson's former employees. They claimed that before the three stars drove through states and stopped by fast food restaurants, Jackson brought his entourage to a safe haven in New Jersey. I didn't know Jackson personally, but leaving his entourage and his children behind sounds very strange and far from accurate.

One of Taylor's former assistants told Vanity Fair that Taylor actually stayed in New York, attended church, and met with first responders. Stacy Brown, a writer from the New York Post who was also a friend of the Jackson family, claimed he assisted the King of Pop's family by issuing BVA to escort Jackson's brothers and mother out of the state. Brown also revealed that he was checked on Brando and Taylor after the attacks, then left the city two days later on his tour bus with his two children Prince and Paris, security guards and three other companions. The rest of Taylor's story sounds pretty accurate, as Jackson's actions of humanitarianism and caring personality are well-known.

After receiving a slew of backlash, Fiennes told Entertainment Tonight that the movie is not "malicious," but "endearing." He acknowledged Jackson's pigmentation disease, vitiligo, by saying "He was probably closer to my color than his own original color." Although that may be true, that gives no justifiable reason to completely whitewash the image of a black superstar.

There is good chance Jackson is rolling in his grave, especially since he once addressed a similar issue about a young white child portraying his younger self in a Pepsi commercial. In an interview with Oprah in 1993, Jackson professed his utmost pride and dignity of being a black performer and that in no way would he want to be any other race. The legendary pop star has always been a true advocate for issues pertaining to black culture, including his political song, "They Don't Really Care About Us." The idea of a white man playing a proud and socially-conscious black man like Jackson in any film, domestically or internationally, makes me cringe.

Numerous public figures have expressed their anger and discomfort with the casting choice, including Jackson's oldest son, Prince. A woman on Twitter asked Prince if he was going to see the upcoming movie, and he responded, "No it is an appalling idea to my family and I." Actress Angela Bassett reacted to the news by joking that she would play Elizabeth Taylor in the film. If Jackson is going to be portrayed as a white male, why not portray Taylor as a black woman?

The film industry has had a substantial record of casting white actors to play people of color, which outright robs black, Asian and Hispanic actors of opportunities to accurately depict characters. People who grapple with illness and slander from the media toward the end of his life, Jackson deserves to be portrayed by a black man with a light complexion who can rightfully depict his humility, childlike personality and beautiful spirit.

Commentary: White actor cast as Michael Jackson
After watching President Margaret McKenna's supporters rally behind her this month, I realized many of them were invested in her efforts to improve an issue close to their hearts, diversity.

Students from dozens of backgrounds from the United States and abroad will spend some of their most formative years studying, expanding their network, and gaining the confidence to support themselves throughout their careers at Suffolk. The university needs stability to foster an environment for these students so they can achieve these goals.

However, the recent administrative changes have left the university unstable and have monopolized McKenna's focus on diversity initiatives that would ultimately help students engage in their surroundings.

Suffolk isn't the first school where McKenna has implemented a plan to improve diversity in higher education. As president of Lesley University, McKenna helped create their Diversity Council in 1993 to "address diversity issues across six key areas: recruitment and retention, curriculum and instruction, institutional assessment, quality of life, diversity training and development, and student diversity issues," according to Lesley University's website.

With that experience in hand, McKenna announced in a December email to Suffolk community members that she would create a Diversity Task Force to establish among other things, a diversity plan that provides: a strategy to hire a more diverse faculty and staff, professional development opportunities for faculty and staff in the area of diversity, and implement a plan to review our curriculum through a diversity lens. The task force will be comprised of students, faculty, staff, and alumni.

In light of McKenna's removal, worries on her ability to carry them out fully would be understandably present given how little time she has had to work on them. Sheikh "Nash" Nasher, a freshman mathematics and general sociology major, appreciates McKenna's willingness to engage students and make their voices feel heard.

In an interview with the Journal Nasher said, "I feel very proud that I came to Suffolk University. I am the first in my family to make it to college in America," she said. "I'm very involved in the community. So, I saw President Margaret McKenna, in the past seven months she has held her position, being everywhere and talking to students," said Nasher.

"That's what we feel connected to, a leader who is taking care of us and telling us, if you have a problem, come talk to me."

In her email to the Suffolk community, McKenna said, "I look forward to working together to create a more diverse environment that most benefits our students and community." The email shows how dedicated she is to helping Suffolk and its students.

Madelyn Soto, office coordinator of the World Languages and Cultural Studies Department, emphasized that the most important mission of the staff is to serve the students. Soto says McKenna has been the first president in her time to show a commitment to making Suffolk a more diverse campus.

Soto knows firsthand that a diverse university staff can keep students from other cultures engaged at the university. Students come from a variety of backgrounds and countries, and making them feel welcome is beneficial for all.

"For example, I could have a Latina student who just came from Costa Rica, and she might feel more comfortable talking to me because I'm bilingual rather than speaking to someone who only speaks English. It's a cultural thing," she said.

"If students feel comfortable here, they'll remain and grow." To keep the campus welcoming to all students, McKenna's plans for a Diversity Task Force should be continued in the next few years and long after her imminent departure.

"This is not an issue that will be solved in one or even several semesters," said the email, additionally highlighting the need for a sense of urgency to help the university become more diverse.

Moreover, keeping students engaged and confident will require Suffolk to continually gauge the diversity of our community, and it is essential that our president follows through with that initiative and see "DIVERSITY" page 10.
Dear Suffolk Students,

The past week was a busy whirlwind on campus but be here before we know it. SGA Awards will be open on Tuesday, Feb. 9. All students will receive an email with instructions on how to nominate their favorite clubs, offices, organizations, students, and faculty through SUConnect.

Due to the recent events that have occurred at Suffolk, SGA President Colin Loelie's State of the School address has been postponed to later on in the semester. Once that has been rescheduled SGA will announce the date and the Suffolk community will be invited to come listen to what is happening on campus.

Last week SGA hosted its second Hurd Up event at the Women's basketball game against UMass Boston at the Ridgeway Gymnasium. SGA is looking forward to hosting more events with the Student Athletic Advisory Committee in the future to support our athletic teams here at Suffolk.

The Student Government Association is always open to hearing the comments, questions and concerns that students have about our school. We are here to be your voice.

Our general meetings are open to the public and have allotted time for anyone to speak out and voice your questions and concerns.

We meet from 1 to 2 p.m. on Thursdays in Somerset B18 and members of the community are always welcome! Have a great week!

-The Student Government Association
The Yes movement is over, Daniel Bryan retires

Colin Barry

WWE superstar Daniel Bryan made the shocking announcement on Twitter on Monday that he is ending his near two-decade career.

Making his way out to deafening cheers in his hometown of Seattle, Bryan emotionally addressed the Monday Night RAW audience.

“Within the first five months of my wrestling career, I'd already had three concussions,” the self-proclaimed “Yes Man” tearfully told the crowd in front of 70,000 people in Las Vegas.

“I was talking about his personal life in wrestling, which included meeting his now-wife, Brie Bella, and how close he was to his father,” Bryan said referring to his illustrious career.

Bryan addressed the crowd about his career, how he went from "wrestling in the parking lot of gas stations to wrestling in front of 70,000 people in New Orleans."

Bryan teared up when talking about his personal life in wrestling, which included meeting his now-wife, Brie Bella, and how close he was to his father.

Daniel Bryan wrestled under his real name Bryan Danielson early in his career and as the American Dragon, complete with a mask.

He also wrestled overseas in the well-known promotion New Japan Pro Wrestling. He was a Junior heavyweight wrestler in NJPW, where he fought other wrestlers who were less than 220 pounds in fast-paced, high-flying matches.

His presence in these promotions gave Bryan a massive following on the Internet and a deep connection with live fans.

Bryan was signed by WWE in 2009, where he competed on the first season of NXT. From there, he had stellar moments including winning main event WrestleMania 30, which is considered a high honor in the professional wrestling world.

It did it despite the creative team of WWE wanting nothing to do with him.

Bryan connected with his fans in a way most professional wrestlers could not. WWE superstar Daniel Bryan, said during an interview for WrestleMania Rewind, “His work rate in the ring and what he gives through the match just means so much more to the wrestling fans than anything else.”

“When I woke up this morning, I felt nothing but gratitude,” Bryan humbly said to his hometown on Monday. “You guys got behind me in a way that made me feel like I was more than just me. And for that, I’m grateful.”

Daniel Bryan retired from his 16-year pro wrestling career in front of his family and with his wife and his hometown fans still chanting his one word catchphrase, “YES! YES! YES!” and “Thank you Bryan!”

ECAC honors Chelsea Campellone after near record break

Skyllar To

Asst. Sports Editor

With two minutes left on the scoreboard and a cheering team on the bench, her teammates out on the court take every opportunity to pass senior forward Chelsea Campellone the ball to top a stellar game performance before the buzzer beats.

The forward notched 43 points in a single game, earning the title of NCAA Division III Women’s Basketball Hero of the Week on Monday, Feb. 1.

In an interview with the Journal, Campellone reflected on her story of success. "I wouldn’t say it’s an easy thing to do at the college level," she said. "I've worked very hard to get to where I'm at.

The sociology major earned the weekly honor for her performance with the Lady Rams on Jan. 23 game versus Lasell. Her 43 points contributed to an 85-63 game win.

Campellone was two points shy in the game of her career from tying with former Lady Ram basketball and softball player Ellen Crotty.

"I wish I knew that the record was 45, because I would have loved to beat it," she said. "I can't complain with 43 points."  

The 21-year-old is the first player to surpass 40 points during Coach Ed Leyden's 22-year coaching for Suffolk's women's basketball team. Campellone has become a better player because of Coach Leyden.

"Coach Leyden is a hard coach and he has really pushed me through my four years here," she said. "I couldn't have done it without him. He had my back when he learned how many points I had and he kept me in the game even though we were killing [Lasell]."

She also highlighted the success of her team overall in earning the game win. "I thought my team played very well. We stuck to our game plan and it worked in our favor," she said. "It was a huge conference win."

The support from her family and friends in voting for her for the Hero of the Week means a great deal to Campellone.

From practice to the ball swarming mid-air at the center for the start of a game, Campellone focuses on going out on the court to do "the little things" and playing defense.

"Sometimes we lose track of [talking to each other] and that's what ties together our whole defense," she said. "This year we don't really have any stars, we have a hard working team that wants to win. I think this is the hardest working team I've been a part of."

"I really can't picture my life without basketball," she said. "I'm probably going to be a mess on senior night and especially at that last game."


All Betts are on for Red Sox turn around

Xander Bogaerts fully endorses Mookie as the team’s everyday centerfield and believes 2015 was only the start of something great for him.

"Mookie is a special player. I really love that guy," Bogaerts said to Ian Browne of MLB.com in an interview on Feb. 7. "Seeing what he did last year after he struggled towards the middle, he just built up and ended really strong. It was nice to see. Every time he hits, you can learn from him. Sometimes he gets a bit hard on himself, but that's what drives him to become what he is.

Bogaerts is also setting the bar high to keep improving; he hopes to steal more bases this season after showing huge progress defensively.

"If I would have goals, I would only say base stealing," Bogaerts said to Smith. "Instead of just seeing him on deck, sometimes I would foul a few pitches off and he would look at me and be like, 'Hey, remember this, you're doing this.' Just a quick chat in between pitches. That definitely did help."

The team anticipates a season much different than last years. Could we see a repeat of 2013?

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Sports Editor

Trevor Morris

2015 turned into yet another dismal season for the Boston Red Sox after they finished with yet another losing record in what had originally seemed like a promising season. Former General Manager Ben Cherington took the blame for the team's back-to-back losing seasons following highlight World Series win in 2013.

"There's no single player that's responsible for the team's failures. No single player can be responsible for a lot of reasons. The only person who perhaps is responsible for a longer list of reasons is me," said Cherington in an interview with George Henry back in June.

In the wake of Cherington's exit, the Red Sox have since hired former Detroit Tigers President Dave Dombrowski. His presence was immediately felt when he acquired all-star closer Craig Kimbrel, ultimately addressing a big hole in relief pitching.

Bogaerts also showed what he could really do during the last year after having poor hitting stats in 2014. Bogaerts posted a stat line of .320 batting average with a .355 on-base percentage, .421 slugging percentage, .776 OPS, seven home runs, 35 doubles, three triples, 11 RBIs and 10 stolen bases. To top it off Bogaerts also won the Silver Slugger award for shortstop position.

Bogaerts accredited a lot of last season's success to batting in front of Red Sox star David Ortiz.

"I got a lot of help from David," Bogaerts said to Smith. "Just seeing him on deck, sometimes I would foul a few pitches off and he would look at me and be like, 'Hey, remember that. You're doing this.' Just a quick chat in between pitches. That definitely did help."

Note: all standings are overall records.

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The Ram Report

Team Standings

Women's Basketball:
1. Saint Joseph's (Maine) | 17-4
2. Johnson & Wales (R.I.) | 20-2
3. Emmanuel | 16-6
4. Albertus Magnus | 14-7
5. Suffolk | 12-9

Men's Basketball:
1. Johnson & Wales (R.I.) | 20-1
2. Lasell | 16-5
3. Albertus Magnus | 14-4
4. Anna Maria | 11-10
5. Mount Ida | 11-11

Men's Hockey:
1. Nichols | 14-7-0
2. Endicott | 12-8-2
3. Suffolk | 12-7-2
4. Salve Regina | 11-9-1
5. Wentworth | 7-13-2

Note: all standings are overall records.