Curtain rises on new theater space
From men’s club to ballroom, Sawyer space shifts its purpose

During an exclusive behind-the-scenes tour of the top floors of Sawyer, the construction of the new theater was revealed.

The transition has commenced with the construction of a new black box theater. "Moving is sad anywhere, you know, but I think we need to be forward thinking," said Marilyn Plotkins, professor and chair of the theater department, in an interview with the Journal.

"It'll be different, but there will be so many things that will be better because we have been able to design so much of it from scratch," she said.

Over her three-decade-long career at Suffolk, Plotkins has witnessed the evolution of the department that began in the basement of the Archer building and eventually relocated to the studio theater on the fourth floor. She believes she effectively maintained the nomadic department for the unstable university prepares for its imminent departure off Beacon Hill, the hotly-contested issue of plans to replace its theater spaces has been at the forefront of university affairs since administration sold its Archer and Donahue buildings in July. While the Performing Arts Office is still awaiting its bid on the replacement of the C. Walsh Theatre, the theater department remains optimistic about its bittersweet upcoming move to the 11th and 12th floors of the Frank Sawyer building.

Meyer serves latest media racket. McKenna challenges

As public spats vehemently volley either side of Suffolk University’s top floor decision makers, Chairman of the Board of Trustees Andrew Meyer issued a memo to trustees last week defending the Board’s stewardship of the university, insisting it has a long list of positive contributions to a university lost in the throes of a city-wide controversy.

In multiple appearances last week, McKenna remained unyielding, pushing for needed improvements and insisting she has clearly repeated to the Board she will remain a reform agent of necessary change on campus and will be a strong, independent hand in the university’s future dealings.

Citing a revised to-do list in an interview with the Boston Globe on Wednesday, which includes consolidating and strengthening the institution’s public policy programs, forming new relationships with community colleges and increasing employee diversity, McKenna shared she sensed uneasiness early on in her contract, noting members of the Board told her bluntly they did not trust her.

“I felt like the third wife,” she said.

The continued duel between Meyer and McKenna raises questions on the endurance of the agreement reached between the Board and president earlier this month, which calls for Meyer to not seek reelection in May and McKenna to serve out her shortened 18-month-maximum contract.

In an interview with the Boston Globe on Wednesday, which includes consolidating and strengthening the institution’s public policy programs, forming new relationships with community colleges and increasing employee diversity, McKenna shared she sensed uneasiness early on in her contract, noting members of the Board told her bluntly they did not trust her.

“I felt like the third wife,” she said.

The continued duel between Meyer and McKenna raises questions on the endurance of the agreement reached between the Board and president earlier this month, which calls for Meyer to not seek reelection in May and McKenna to serve out her shortened 18-month-maximum contract.

In an interview with the
While some real estate closes its doors, Sawyer prepares for new tenants once more

From SAWYER page 1

In 1913, the Sawyer building's top two floors were used as a banquet hall and dining room. More than a century later, it has gone through multiple remodels.

In addition to the black box theater, remodel classrooms and a mezzanine overlooking the stage will transform the top floors

"The architects were so collaborative with our design team, and the technical team was involved in every aspect of the infrastructure of the studio theater so that it will function for students. It's a definite upgrade."

- Marilyn Plotkins

While some real estate closes its doors, Sawyer can accommodate. "It was because of former Dean Kenneth Greenberg, [who] remembered that the Sawyer building was built in 1913 as a men's club and the top two floors, 11 and 12, were a ballroom and grand dining room," recalled Plotkins. "When we learned that we could move into Sawyer, it was a joyous day, a cause for celebration."

Previously serving as a two-story entertainment venue for the Boston City Club, whose focus was on growing the city of Boston, the introduction of the new black box studio theater will contribute to the history of the building that has been standing for over 100 years. With a dynamic design, this modern undertaking will bring the top of the building into the 21st century.

David Kudish, an architect working on the new space, commented on the building's design in an interview with the Journal, highlighting how the existing layout of the space was critical in the upcoming relocation.

"The history was key. Without the two-story structure, it wouldn't have been possible," he said. "It was hidden, there was just a ceiling with 10-to-12 feet above it."

The soon-to-be theater is currently in the process of being outfitted with newly finished, black wood flooring and paint to "black out" the space, reminiscent of the black box studio they will soon be vacating.

Architects are currently in the process of completely blocking out the space for the new studio theater, coating the walls with black paint and installing black flooring.
Meyer defends Board’s practices, appointments

From MEYER page 1

Journal late Tuesday, student Government Association President Colin Loselle commented on the stability of the agreement, exclusively sharing SGA’s upcoming plans to issue a follow-up letter of demands to the Board.

"I think the back-and-forth shows that this really isn’t as solid of a deal as we were told. It shows that Andrew Meyer will do everything in his power until he leaves in May to continue to operate in a shady and unethical manner," he said.

The upcoming letter from SGA on behalf of students is highly interested in establishing a working relationship with the Board, said Loselle, stressing the need for drastic change within its governance.

"Before any change or improvements can be made, we firmly believe that Andrew Meyer, Bill Hogan and Julie Kahn must resign from the Board immediately," he said.

Spiking McKenna’s comments to the media on the Board’s donations to the university as “not significant,” Meyer’s memo heavily expressed the Board’s generosity, stressing that all 28 Suffolk trustees have had a hand in a series of donations, providing the university personal financial gifts of "tens of thousands, and some hundreds of thousands of dollars to the university."

As students and faculty continue to faithfully rally behind McKenna despite her imminent departure, Meyer backhanded the media’s coverage of the Board’s affairs. He offered a scathing portrayal of the press’s involvement of McKenna’s dirty laundry and the Board’s closed-door attempts to oust McKenna broked.

"Reports in the attack on this Board suggest this Board has not achieved significant accomplishments for the betterment of the University’s students, faculty, alumni and the entire Suffolk community," Meyer wrote. "As most all of you are aware, that is anything but true."

In response to McKenna’s additional claims that the Board has not devoted enough attention to diversity, the chairman of the Board of 21 men and seven women, only two of which are not people of color, recounted the recent hiring of several diverse heads of which the Board oversaw.

"Pointing out the appointments of a female provost, female chief financial officer, an Asian-American female dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and the law school’s first female dean, who is of Jamaican descent, Meyer challenged, vowing the Board is actively recruiting talented women and minorities to the faculty directory."

As the Board works to comply with the agreement’s demands for a rewriting of its bylaws and reformulating of its internal governance, McKenna has openly expressed the need for the Board to hold up its end of the bargain before she departs.

"On potentially extending her presidency after the Board meets the university’s credit rating agency’s 2014 appeal letter and the joint statement’s requirement to update its bylaws, McKenna said to the Globe on Thursday, “Anything is possible, but I don’t want to muddy the waters.”"
Nominations are in:
The Student Government Association prepares for the next academic year.

President

Sean Walsh
SGA Vice President
Law and Public Policy Major
Class of 2018
"I'm running for president of the Student Government Association because Suffolk students deserve a President that knows how to get things done. Nobody will fight harder on the students' behalf than I have and will."

Jonathan McTague
Academics Committee Chair & Finance Committee Chair
Law and Public Policy & Economics Major
Class of 2017
"When Suffolk opened in 1906, we were opened on a mission to provide an equal opportunity for all people no matter your background, gender or race. As president of the Student Government Association, my main goal will be to represent Suffolk's mission statement."

Vice President

Kim Ginsberg
Student Affairs Committee Chair
Law and Public Policy & Business Management Major
Class of 2018
"I have a passion for SGA and for the best interest of the Suffolk community and would like to be able to continue that work on a higher level as vice president."

Caitlin Hankard
Public Relations Committee Chair
Law and Public Policy Major
Class of 2018
"I intend to introduce resolutions and legislation that promotes, educates and encourages diversity on campus. I hope to work alongside faculty, students and alumni groups to ensure Board of Trustee cooperation."

Daniel Gazzani
Class of 2018 Senator
Law and Public Policy & Applied Legal Studies Major
Class of 2018
"My goal is to get students more involved with our community and on campus, and I want to ensure that SGA is accurately representing the student population of our university."

Treasurer

Cameron Viola
SGA Treasurer, re-election
Finance Major
Class of 2017
"I fell in love with being treasurer, and I want to continue to make a solid impact on campus by helping clubs promote their mission."

Secretary

Brianna Silva
SGA Secretary, re-election
Broadcast Journalism Major
Class of 2017
"Assisting the SGA executive board has furthered my relationships with members of the Suffolk community and provided experiences that have prepared me for the professional world. Continuing in my position would be an honor."

Campaign Commentary

South Carolina: Home of family support and voting restrictions

Maggie Randall
Journal Staff

With the third presidential primary weeks away, the next stop for presidential hopefuls is South Carolina, where most have already started campaigning.

For Republicans, winning South Carolina may be crucial to achieving the position as party nominee. In fact, from 1980 to 2008, the Republican candidate that won South Carolina has gone on to become the party nominee for general convention.

There is likely to be a change in strategies from what has played out in Iowa and New Hampshire. In the South, candidates have begun to rely on familial support, which is a benefit for institutionalized candidates such as Jeb Bush and Hillary Clinton.

Bush, who recently temporarily suspended his campaign, had already started gathering support in South Carolina mainly with the help of his older brother, former President George W. Bush. Familial endorsement was a significant asset for Bush, who was polling at just 10 percent in South Carolina, compared with Donald Trump, who is leading at 38 percent.

It is likely that Clinton will call upon the help of her husband, former President Bill Clinton. Mr. Clinton not only held the position as governor of Arkansas before his term as president, but he also won South Carolina by a landslide in 1992 against other Democratic candidates.

While Mr. Clinton is certainly not the one running for president in 2016, his strong ties and popularity in the South may be an asset to his wife.

The latest polls from CNN show Clinton leading Bernie Sanders in South Carolina by over 10 percent. Even so, for the Democrats, South Carolina will be about winning the "black vote," as there is a substantial African American voting population.

South Carolina is also one of the Southern states that has strict voter identification laws. Voter IDs are usually harder to obtain for minority voters and may obstruct their voting power in South Carolina. Therefore, gaining minority votes there will be important to both Democrats and Republicans.

Voter ID laws have been stricter in South Carolina had the Department of Justice not blocked them in 2011, claiming the law disproportionately affected people of color. The Department was under the suspicion that it was done for a discriminatory purpose given South Carolina's history of voting and racial oppression.

With less severe voter ID laws passed later on, 82,000 registered voters in South Carolina do not have the proper form of ID required of the proposed laws. This is quite a substantial voter pool that could certainly have an effect on the primaries.

The South Carolina Republican presidential primary was Feb. 20, and the Democratic primary is Feb. 27.

Follow the campaign with correspondent Maggie Randall.
Throughout my time here, I could witness miles upon miles of green farmland. When I stepped off the plane from the United States, there was no question in my mind that I was in Ireland as it looked exactly like how all of the photographs depicted it.

This semester, I started classes at University College Cork, a large school that could be comparable to a state school in the U.S. At first, it was a big change going from Suffolk to UCC. It was clear that campus life was an important part of the college experience to the students here and they all seemed to know each other — something that initially made me feel like an outcast. Getting used to the traditional campus at UCC was awkward since I live off-campus in an apartment with some roommates, only one of which I knew from Suffolk, Denise Fortin.

As I got used to the close-knit community at UCC, I have grown to enjoy the school spirit that seemed to lack at Suffolk's Boston campus, making this a more welcoming environment.

Outside the campus walls, the small city of Cork is full of friendly people, mostly college students and elderly residents, who are happy to give anyone directions or a recommendation to a local pub. In Ireland, it seems people drink to relax and socialize with others, not to go overboard or binge. Instead, the pubs are a calm atmosphere to have a good social hour with friends and classmates.

Different to Boston's urban life, there isn't an MBTA transit system in Cork to take me five miles away from campus to another town. Instead, there are only small bus routes to get around. In the morning before class, a bus picks me up across the street at the train station and brings me directly to campus, making my life extremely convenient. When I get to school, my classes consist of large lecture halls instead of the small, cramped rooms of Donahue and Archer. Depending on the course, about 70 to 150 people could be in the hall with me at a time. For each class, homework and tests are rare. Instead, I either have a large paper due or an exam the last week of classes that will test my knowledge from the entire semester. All of my professors begin each class by talking about what the exam or paper will focus on, so there wouldn't be any surprises. Each of them are understanding and reasonable —making my adjustment to this type of campus and way of learning easier.

Living here has been a nice change of pace as my apartment in Cork is cozier than my small dorm room in Miller Hall. Besides Denise, my other roommates include two boys, one from Germany and the other from Iowa. Each week, we make a family-style dinner that typically consists of American cuisine. We also invite our friends we have made from UCC who are from all different countries. Like many study abroad students, we are able to take a multitude of trips across Europe because flights and hotels are so cheap. Denise and I went on a weekend-long trip with our school to see the Ring of Kerry and the Dingle Peninsula. When we got there, the view was extraordinary. On one side, there were beautiful hills and sheep scattered about them — exactly how I pictured Ireland would look before I came to study. On the other side were cliffs that looked over the Atlantic Ocean, which displayed the most beautiful color of blue in the water.

At the Ring of Kerry, we had a tour bus throughout the mountains. We were able to see the lakes that were at different levels and a stunning waterfall. While heading back to Cork, we stopped at the infamous Muckross House and Park. At the Muckross House, I felt like I had gone back in time with the elegance of the architecture and the horse-drawn carriage in the driveway.

Days later, I visited the Blarney Castle and eagerly watched people climb up the steps to kiss the stone at the top. When you finally reach the top, you can't help but pause to take in the view that the grounds of the castle sit on.

So far, my experience in Ireland has been one of the best for me. I am completely surrounded by new friends and there is always something new to explore. Never will I be bored here, as I will always find somewhere to go.
**A WORD FROM THE INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ASSOCIATION**

**Patrick Holmes**

**Opinion Editor**

The American culture is immune to the challenges of modern age, with new advances being made each day. Smartphones are now an aspect of people's lives and the Internet is an all-consuming entity.

However, other countries are advancing at a fast pace that could surpass the United States. Vietnam is a country on the verge of creating a mimicked "Silicon Valley" according to BBC. The original Silicon Valley in the San Francisco Bay Area in California has been the main home to many tech-based companies, such as Google and other small companies that are startups.

Vietnam is now trying to compete with the U.S.

Two American entrepreneurs are interested in creating a "Saigon Silicon Valley" since, according to BBC, Vietnam in the past 20 years has been one of the fastest growing markets in the world.

**Eddie Thai and Binh Tran**

are the sources of the idea for a similar Silicon Valley in Vietnam. It will be located as far as a 15-minute drive outside the city of Ho Chi Minh.

Due to this new Silicon Valley and the potentiality of its success, the Silicon Valley in the U.S. has the potential to be overshadowed, in an interview with the Journal, Dr. Anurag Sharma gave some insight on what could happen. He taught Sustainable Media course this past fall semester at Suffolk and has a Ph.D. in Physics from Binghamton University and has assisted at other universities such as Dartmouth College.

"I don't think that the whole Silicon Valley will move there," he said. "What I think they are talking about is developing a sort of similar infrastructure that got Silicon Valley in the United States."

Sharma went on to talk about the education system in Vietnam and how it differs from that of the U.S. In a culture that is ridden with technology, the U.S. does not directly focus on teaching students tech-based skills at a young age.

"Vietnam has programming. Their kids learn Pascal (programming) and other programming in schools," said Sharma. "What this means is that they’re tech ready."

Unlike the U.S., Vietnam puts a higher value on subjects of math and science. By doing this, Vietnam has advanced technologically in a very short time.

"Whatever expertise the population develops is based on how you educate them," said Sharma, closing in on why the Vietnamese are more tech based. Behind them, they have to do with education. The population in Vietnam is fairly young and so they are learning more of what they need skills needed to sustain these companies, unlike China who has an older population due to the former one-child policy which contributed to the slight decrease in China’s economy, according to Sharma.

"All [Vietnam] had to do was change the policies so that it makes it very lucrative for the business to come in," said Sharma, referring to how Vietnam is luring in companies like Google and Facebook.

However, Sharma doesn’t believe large tech companies will completely move their bases to Vietnam. He said it’s more likely that they will branch out and heighten their presence to make them more money.

Furthermore, Sharma may think about looking into this new Silicon Valley to stretch their market since "the initial acceleration has slowed down," according to Sharma. Expanding their operations to Vietnam opens many doors for U.S. firms to boost their revenue.

"If you compare the size of Vietnam to the U.S., Vietnam is a lot that large," said Sharma. "In fact, it is quite small and eventually the demand could saturate and plans could be made for another Silicon Valley in a different country."

They said there already are mainstream companies in the city of Ho Chi Minh, such as Samsung and Intel. Companies have shown that they can thrive in Vietnam. The idea is to be able to find a place of time before more businesses begin to branch out as well.

## Boko Haram stamps on bad rep for women

*Jacob Geanous*  
**Journal Staff**

Hundreds of Nigerian women who were abducted by the terrorist group Boko Haram, are now coming forward to face intense scrutiny.

A recent report, published by International Alert with UNICEF, states these women have been treated with mistrust and persecution upon their return home. Burnt women are labeled "Boko Haram wives" or "epidemics" by their communities who fear the women have been radicalized by their captors.

"It's horrifying that the girls who've been so profoundly victimized are not getting the support they need," said Amy Agigian, director of Suffolk University’s Center for Women’s Health and Human Rights. "The most important thing they need is security. They need a place to stay where they're not going to be assaulted, as well as food, clothing, and shelter. They need compassioning.

The human rights group Amnesty International reports more than 2,000 women and young girls have been kidnapped by Boko Haram in Northern Africa since 2014.

"The last is more reason why we need to support feminist organizations across the globe," said Agigian. "They are the ones fighting, not only for women, they are fighting for men."

Jacob Geanous  
**Journal Staff**

"Allah says I should sell.  
He commands me to sell.  
I will sell women."

-Abubakar Shekau,  
self-proclaimed leader of Boko Haram

The largest kidnapping took place on April 14, 2015 when more than 270 girls were taken from their secondary school in the Chibok. It prompted the social media campaign #BringBackOurGirls, galvanizing international outrage. The hashtag was used on social media over one million times a three-week period. As of now, the majority of the girls still remain missing, according to multiple sources.

The insurgency has set their sights on schoolgirls, especially female education is considered the beginning of "corrupt modernity." While captive, women and girls will either be sexually abused, killed, or married off. Some of the girls have been radicalized by the group and are encouraged to recruit or carry out suicide bombings. The Nigerian military has declared recent raids on multiple Boko Haram camps, freeing hundreds of women and girls. While the military has moved in on the camps, militants pelted their hostages to death with stones to avoid their rescue before being taken. The group is looking to multiply their sources. The Nigerian government has reported the release of 700 girls were released in 2015.

Once liberated, the women and girls are sent to rehabilitation centers to care for and receive a warm welcome. The reintegration of these women has proven to be very difficult because their communities fear they have been radicalized and will try to recruit others. Experience has shown that this will be essential before returning to the camps, according to USA Today.

"Many of these girls already face lasting trauma of sexual violence and being separated from their families," said Sharma. "They face extreme poverty and some are forced to prostitute themselves to feed their children.

## Education standards may be driving Silicon Valley out of the US

**February 24, 2016**

**The Suffolk Journal**

**Opinion Editor**

The differences between someone who is international and who is not is not as clear-cut as it seems.

Apart from the technical definition a student who is not a US citizen, what does it mean to be truly international in this age of globalization? Many international students have lived in the U.S. before or have gone to international schools that use the US syllabus.

I myself have done both and as a result, I never really had to go through any culture shocks or adjustment shares. On the other hand, some students who are U.S. citizens may have lived significant portions of their lives abroad or have been raised in a family with roots in other countries.

Without looking at everyone’s documents, would you be able to accurately determine who is an international student and who is a domestic student?
The Performing Arts Office enlightened audiences this past weekend with its newest entry of its annual Pioneer Performance Series. "Identity Crisis" followed a diverse group of patrons and employees at "Super Mega Shop Mart" on Black Friday as they face issues of race, gender, and sexuality.

At the opening of the performance, shoppers anxiously awaited the opening of Super Mega Shop Mart so they could get the best deals on their products. The production took an interesting turn, however, when customers were forced to stand on a scale and give up their privileges in order to enter the store. Characters had to decide which of their qualities, (ranging from class, education, and heterosexual privileges) to relinquish.

After sacrificing parts of their identities, the customers entered the store where they interacted with employees to find great savings — and find themselves.

Each scene served as a skit regarding a particular social or cultural issue. A cast member from a scene would break the fourth wall and talk to the audience about the issue when an alarm sounded and an orange spotlight shone on them.

The issues of race and gun brutality and race. "Identity Crisis" took an interesting turn, however, when customers were forced to stand on a scale and give up their privileges in order to enter the store. Characters had to decide which of their qualities, (ranging from class, education, and heterosexual privileges) to relinquish.

After sacrificing parts of their identities, the customers entered the store where they interacted with employees to find great savings — and find themselves.

Each scene served as a skit regarding a particular social or cultural issue. A cast member from a scene would break the fourth wall and talk to the audience about the issue when an alarm sounded and an orange spotlight shone on them.

The issues of race and gun violence featured prominently in a scene where the Super Mega Shop Mart Tolerance Officer (played by Suffolk student Ben Pompilus, who performed an original rap in the production) was casually looking through the aisles when he comes across a toy gun. He plays with it for a moment before moving onto other items of interest. But he is drawn back to it. He begins playing with it, even pretending to shoot it.

The Voice of the Super Mega Shop Mart comes over the store's intercom to announce that the Tolerance Officer, a black male, with the toy gun, should frighten no one and that no one should try to shoot him, a striking metaphor for police brutality and race.

Broadcast Journalism major Sheenamu Kaline saw the performance twice because she felt it "captured issues that we're dealing with in this society in a serious and comedic way. It made me feel more open, and led me to ask questions and start up conversations with my friends."

One of the more memorable scenes of the show was a sequence in which customers and employees took turns sitting at a table in pairs while an onlooker told them, "You two would look good together," which was a hilarious depiction of sexuality. The pairs included, men, women, and two siblings from a set of triplets. The audience responded well to the performers, who reacted to the statement with facial expressions, eating, or leaving the table. "Identity Crisis" lives up to its name. It discussed some of the serious issues in today's society, but at the same time, managed to keep the audience entertained," said freshman biochemistry major Betelhem Gemechu. "Every single member of the company brought life to the characters they portrayed."

The performance was received extremely well by audiences who enjoyed laughs at the eye-opening depictions of the world we live in today. While it is important to be able to make light of what is wrong with our society, it is also important to be aware of it and know how to handle and fix it. "Identity Crisis" summed that up best when a customer (played by Suffolk freshman Kane Harper) said to a store employee, "So, same time next year?" "I hope not," the employee responded.

Calling All Creators!

Do you ever find yourself spending a serious amount of time and energy on creative endeavors to further appreciate and contemplate the myriad wonders of life through the lens of art? If this is the case, do not fret -- you are not alone! Collaboration between artists is an excellent way to achieve similar goals on a large scale. Venture Literary Arts Magazine seeks to do that in the Suffolk University community by publishing our own student body's visual and written works of art. We are a student-run organization that gets the unique opportunity to review, edit, and publish poems, short stories, photography, song lyrics, paintings, and memoirs, that have been submitted throughout the magazine's decade-long span. Submissions run from the beginning of each year up until the deadline, which is Feb. 28 this year. Our most exciting event of the year is our launch party at the end of the spring semester, where hard copies of the magazine debut. The launch features a keynote speaker, student readings, music, and refreshments, creating an environment for the issue to come together in the most timely way possible -- the tradition of art. With our submission deadline fast approaching, we hope you will consider our magazine as the place to send your work. This is a major opportunity to become published while still a student! If you are proud of your work, you should publish it and share it with the world. For more information, please visit our website, smmteammag.com. If you have interest in submitting your work or would like to join our staff, and review and edit submissions, send an email to submittoventure@gmail.com.
Deadpool is one of the most popular characters Marvel Comics has ever produced, debuting as a generic bad guy who later developed into a sarcastic jerk in the 90s. Nowadays, Deadpool is best known as a fourth wall breaking, over-the-top violent anti-hero. Deadpool has had more than a few comic series, having been featured in cartoons and his own video game. Now, the Merc With A Mouth has gotten the Hollywood treatment.

In addition to being a near-perfect adaptation of the character, the film is an unadulterated blast. Its exhilarating action scenes and instantly quotable dialogue combine the best of "serious Deadpool" from the 90s and the "goofy Deadpool" comic fans know and love today.

Ryan Reynolds' performance as the title character is absolutely flawless, as he perfectly captures the character's wacky side while retaining some of his seriousness that makes him more three-dimensional on-screen.

Accepting a proposal from a mysterious organization that promises to make him a "superhero," Deadpool, as his alter ego Wade Wilson, is subjected to torture by the sadistic Ajax (Ed Skrein). After being mutated and driven insane by the same healing superpowers that cured his cancer, Deadpool embarks on a violent journey to get revenge on Ajax.

Deadpool's quick witted and immature jokes rarely fail to make the viewers laugh. He makes jabs at the "X-Men" film series, such as poking fun at who will play Professor X in this movie or how the film can't afford to put other X-Men in it. "X-Men" star Hugh Jackman, even receives a few quick shots.

Aside from Reynolds, the underappreciated T.J. Miller gets a few great laughs as Deadpool's gawky best friend Weasel, particularly during their exchange when Wilson reveals what Ajax did to him. Action movie fans will feel right at home with the film's set pieces. First-time director Tim Miller shows great competence behind the camera in showing Wilson's random, but creative and chaotic fighting style. The highway shootout at the beginning of the film and the two fights with Ajax gave the audience a sense of hard-hitting fun that most action films today cannot deliver.

Former MMA superstar Gina Carano is almost wasted as Angel Dust, a mutant with super-human strength. Aside from a relatively lackluster fight scene with X-Men's Colossus, she does not do much.

This may be a bit of a nitpick, but some of the CGI is not great. Not horrible, but it looks like it won't age well and sticks out like a sore thumb. Some of it even looks like it came right out of the Deadpool video game.

Deadpool is a great time for fans of the character, but first-time viewers may be turned off by the crude humor and violence. Still, if moviegoers give it a shot, they will not be disappointed. Reynolds makes the film, but the rest of it is still a great time. Deadpool may be one of the most straight-up fun superhero movies in quite some time.
Black History Month: Beyoncé leads, Suffolk flounders

By Facebook page USA Today Life

February 24, 2016

The importance of Black History Month is made known by the fact that it is internationally celebrated. The United States, Canada and the United Kingdom recognize the relevance of showing support and notability understanding their black communities. Furthermore, prominent figures in our society have made an effort to promote this month, Beyond being one of the major advocates.

Since Barack Obama was elected as president, I think that was the beginning of change. Obama assumed office in January of 2009, the month right before Black History Month, and that made February that much more prominent for the black people in the U.S. since he was and is the first black president.

However, February is not just the month to celebrate black culture, but to accept and understand their past, which has been historically oppressed by white people. It is important to support the black community in a month where they are remembering the pain and suffering their ancestors endured. Beyond’s recent hit, “Formation” outlined the struggles the black community has gone through and are still facing.

Moreover, white people should be allies and recognize the past and learn from it. Speaking as a white person, I think that it’s necessary to celebrate Black History Month just as any person of color would.

But Suffolk’s presence in the celebration of this month was limited. A few activities took place but I never found myself overtly face-to-face with any event. The advertisement stretched as far as various Facebook invites to events and maybe a flyer or two around campus.

An initiative was present but the overall campus-wide knowledge was not present. If the claim that Suffolk is such a diverse campus, I would have liked to see more effort to recognize my peers of color throughout the entire university, not just a fraction of it. They deserve this month in remembrance of their strength.

Allies are important in any situation and community because if you don’t have a support system and people by your side, it’s harder to make a difference. This also counts for Black allies, LGBT allies, pro-abortion allies, and so on. So for next February, Suffolk should go all out to improve the recognition of its black community.

Students can speak up and share their stories of what Black History Month means to them. Not just people of color, but white people as well. Join the movement and attempt to make a difference.

Beyoncé is an example of a progressive figure who wants to make a difference. She dedicated an entire song, performance, and music video to celebrate her culture and what it means to her. If a prominent person in our society can openly recognize Black History Month, why can’t prominent campus figures?

Suffolk was very preoccupied with the administrative battle this past month. Due to this turmoil, February seemed to be overlooked greatly and the celebration of a culture was put on the back burner of the equality stove.

Since this seemed to be the case, maybe we shouldn’t designate one entire month for the realization of the strength and endurance of the black community, but promote the idea of celebrating them periodically throughout the year. Maybe we should always be in touch with the prominent black leaders of the past and present. It is necessary to always be an ally and to always support.

Encouraging and supporting the black community and other causes that deserve allies is just the beginning of a road that leads to equality. A month may not be enough. Make it a daily celebration of your friends, your peers, your acquaintances, even the person you just saw on the street. They deserve it.
A WORD FROM SGA
suffolk university
student government association

Barbie's embody empowering expectations

From BARBIE page 9

The Suffolk Journal
February 24, 2016

Barbie's embody empowering expectations

This image of Barbie is anatomically unobtainable, making Barbie's dream world a living nightmare for those who are not made of plastic. According to The Huffington Post, the real-life Barbie would not be able menstruates, thus not able to have children due to her unusual anorexic shape. In addition, she could also be forced to crawl due to having size 3 feet, making it somewhat of a challenge to walk the runway.

This absurd image is a form of sexualization of women and it adds to teaching young girls that only this type of body may be deemed as beautiful, and there are no other options outside of this image. This message to young girls has the potential to cripple them mentally for a lifetime. This is probably one of the reasons why within the past few years, Mattel has started making dolls that celebrate other achievements and contributions that women make outside of their dream house, such as Barbie as a medical doctor.

This diversity helps wash away cultural ignorance and racial hatred and fills the world with love and acceptance. With that said, Mattel should push to envelope the even further by embracing others such as girls who are Muslim, a part of the LGBTQ community, and those who may have a disability. Mattel has yet to completely embrace everyone; however, they are finally off to a good start.

Trump's honesty serves him well as a candidate

Jared Maher
Journal Contributor

The Presidential race changed forever on June 16, 2015 when Donald Trump announced he was going to run. Since that day, it has come to my attention that most people have voiced their own opinion of Trump. Moreover, it seems that we only hear from the two completely different ends of the spectrum; people either love him or hate him.

Hopefully there can be an objective look at Trump's policies, so that these two extremes are not the only views of him. However, I will admit that as soon as his presidential bid was announced, I was "Pro-Trump" and ignored any skepticism people had on his ability to run this country. Even so, as time has progressed I have begun to see a different side of him, which was not immediately visible to me. As a conservative, there are certain values and stances I look for in a candidate and he exemplifies a good amount of them, but obviously not all since no one is perfect.

One of the aspects I like about him is that he does not play into the political games. He knows that politicians can be bought, with heavy contributions from donors, and seeing that he has done it himself, he will admit to when he has used government loopholes to his advantage. In one of the recent debates, another candidate attempted to corner saying that Trump had filed for bankruptcy multiple times and that we couldn't trust a person to run the country who can't manage money. His response was that his business filed bankruptcy, not himself personally and he used the loophole to his advantage, just as other business owners use loopholes to their advantage.

Furthermore, Trump confronts many issues Americans are facing as a nation and deals with them head on to talk about these issues. For example, although many people disagree with his immigration policies, he is forcing us to talk about them and think about our alternatives as well.

The positive good things to Trump is that I like but the side of him that bothers me is when he gets "cornered", he seems to always try and push this on the debates specifically when someone is excelling because he comments about irrelevant issues, makes faces, and stirs up controversy with that person. These are personal aspects of Trump that make me hesitant to vote for him and steer me toward one of the other, more "polished" candidates.

Although I am still unsure of who's bubble I will fill in on March 1st, Trump is still a viable candidate. I like Donald Trump and agree with a good portion of what he says, still a part of me would be more comfortable electing someone who has some political background.

Until then, I will continue to watch the debates, media coverage, and listen to what the candidates have to say and watch some of them will get my vote until I'm in the voting booth.
The Fastlane to WrestleMania

Colin Barry
Journal Staff

WWE’S Fastlane set the tone on Sunday night finishing off the final pay-per-view before WrestleMania 32. The self-proclaimed Roman Empire defeated Dean Ambrose and Brock Lesnar in the main event, WWE Superstar Roman Reigns is going for his second consecutive WrestleMania main event after winning the main event of Sunday’s contest. The main “Triple Threat” match determines who will be facing current reigning WWE World Heavyweight Champion, Triple H, at WWE’s version of the Super Bowl. This year’s WrestleMania will be held in the Dallas Cowboy’s AT&T Stadium in Arlington, TX, which is the largest arena in the United States.

Reigns, Ambrose, and Lesnar made their way out to the ring, ready to make their claim of being the number one contender and achieving the high honor of competing in the main event of WrestleMania. The three men wrestled in what can be called an all-out brawl. Lesnar threw several of his destructive German suplexes to both Ambrose and Reigns. However, the two were able to give Lesnar two powerbomb through both commentary tables.

The crowd at Fastlane is firmly behind Ambrose more than Reigns and Lesnar. After taking his friend Reigns down with a clothesline and hitting an elbow drop, the crowd erupted in a “let’s go” chant. Lesnar’s size and skills are fading later in the match, as Ambrose is able to get him out of the ring with a clothesline. Ambrose does not realize that he is about to walk into a massive football tackle, or appear in professional wrestling, from Reigns. Reigns is now the new number one contender, as he and the champion Triple H share piercing stares at each other. This is despite the boos and jeers against Reigns, whom the fans have not been in favor for in quite some time. Ambrose and Lesnar’s

overseas in Japan.

Styles hit his finisher the Styles Clash, but Jericho kicks out at two. Jericho takes the match to the outside and hits his own finisher, the Walls of Jericho on Styles in an attempt to wear him down. After trading off some unique offensive moves between each other, the winner of this “best of three” series is Styles. Jericho taps out to Styles’ Calf Crusher submission maneuver.

The main women’s match on the card is Charlotte, the daughter of wrestling legend Ric Flair successfully defending her WWE Divas Championship against Brie Bella. Bella is the wife of the recently retired Daniel Bryan. Despite Bella wrestling quite well against the champion, Charlotte retains her title after making Bella submit with a modified version of her father’s famous Figure-4 leglock.

Intercontinental Champion Kevin Owens defends his newly won title against Dolph Ziggler, in another title match on the main card. The two squared off and event traded back and forth sharp kicks to the face. The intensity and drive of the two wrestlers made the crowd chant, “this is awesome!” Owens hit his signature pop-up powerbomb, where he throws his opponent in the air, and slams them down in a quick, but devastating fashion, and retains his title.

The real dud on the card was a six-man tag match between the bizarre Wyatt Family and the team of Big Show, Kane and Ryback. Kane and Big Show are not lighting the ring on fire at their age, and Ryback is currently floundering with a generic character. However, that did not stop the random team to actually beat the Wyatt. This is yet another big loss for the fan favorite Wyatt Family.

WWE Fastlane 2016 is in the books, and fans are not happy with the results. Especially with Reigns still being treated as the top guy, despite the WWE fanbase wanting Ambrose as the number one wrestler. The Wyatt Family continues to lose even with promises of looking strong. WWE needs to cut out the filler segments on special events, as the fans attending want wrestling, not lame comedy. Styles-Jericho III, the two title matches and the opening match made Fastlane worth checking out for the undercard. WrestleMania season is approaching, and the wrestling world is ready for the showcase of the Immortals.

Commentary:

Sox aren’t so cozy with ‘Panda’s weight

Trevor Morris
Sports Editor

Red Sox third baseman Pablo Sandoval lost roughly twenty pounds since the last game he played for Boston in the 2015 season, according to manager John Farrell.

“I just do my work, try to do everything I can out there. I just do my work, feel like I’m doing my job,” Sandoval told reporters at the Red Sox spring training facility in Fort Meyers, Fl. “I don’t weigh at all in the whole offseason. I just try to get better, be in a better position and, like I say, be an athlete.”

However, Sandoval’s weight loss may now become a liability for the team. Although, Sandoval and Red Sox President Dave Dombrowski disagree.

“I’m not concerned, we were watching him very closely all winter. We had people with him at least once a week,” Dombrowski told the Boston Globe on Tuesday. “The goal was for Pablo to get in better overall condition and I feel like he did just that.”

Dombrowski told USA Today reporters that Sandoval has always had the heavier body type and the team only wanted him to be prepared for spring training, which Dombrowski said he was.

“He’s never going to be 250,” said Dombrowski. “We know that.”

Dombrowski told reporters that Sandoval has been this heavy his entire career and it has seemed to work out just fine in the past.

“They call him ‘Panda Bear’ for a reason,” said Dombrowski. Sandoval said the team never told him to shed a few pounds.

“I don’t try to lose weight or nothing. I just do my work, feel better,” Sandoval told reporters Sunday. “I don’t weigh in at all. I just do my work, try to do everything I can. I don’t weigh in all offseason. I just try to get better, be in better position, be an athlete.”

Yet it doesn’t look so great for the three-time World Series champion as his stats sit a bit lower than Lesnar and Reigns.

1. Johnson & Wales (R.I.) | 23-2
2. Saint Joseph’s (Maine) | 20-5
3. Emmanuel | 19-6
4. Suffolk | 16-9
5. Albertus Magnus | 14-11

Men’s Basketball:

1. Johnson & Wales (R.I.) | 23-2
2. Albertus Magnus | 18-5
3. Lasell | 17-8
4. Anna Maria | 14-11
5. Emmanuel | 9-16

Men’s Hockey:

1. Endicott | 15-8-2
2. Nichols | 16-9-0
3. Salve Regina | 14-10-1
4. Suffolk | 13-9-2
5. Wentworth | 9-14-2

Note: all standings are overall records
The preparation toward a new season with the goal of defending their GNAC title and ultimately winning the NCAA tournament starts behind closed doors—training year round is senior Jon Lapolla. 

"I've seen the game literally slip out of our hands," he said. "There have been tears on the field. We have the rage to win."

The 22-year-old, who is entering his fourth season with Suffolk's baseball team, plays first base and will continue serving as co-captain. "It's really just a title. There are no rules to being a captain," he said. "It felt weird, because I looked up to the older guys," he said. "I embraced the role and it helped me prepare for this year, experience wise and how I conduct every day business on and off the field."

Lapolla thinks the roster consists of a good core group of players that are capable of performing well together. He said the team has several players who could also serve as captains. "At the end of the day, it's just a title," he said. "I'd be the same person with or without it."

In a sport that tests mentality, physicality and failure, Lapolla said he is good with balancing the highs and lows of the sport. "In baseball, you're set up to fail, it's just getting past your failure, he said."

The 22-year-old center fielder heading into her fourth season with the team was always taught to lead by example. "I remember my freshmen year in college and the teammates that helped mentor me on and off the field were the ones I wanted leading the team," she said.

The second-year captain said working with her teammates can be challenging, but enforcing positivity will uplift the team's spirit. Prior to the kick-start of the season in Florida on Mar. 13, the offseason allows for the Lady Rams to bond together.

"I think my teammates can trust me with anything and they truly appreciate the support I give them on and off the field."

Despite the challenges of being a captain, the role is rewarding and she would not change it for the world.

"I want to be the best teammate I can be," she said. "I want to pick my teammates up and not let us get down. Not every practice or game is going to be good, these are the times we come together."

When he's out on the pitcher's mound with a ball in hand and soaking up the warm Florida air, senior Cal Carroll will be looking to strike out his opponent with a fastball—his statement of starting the season off with a bang. "We have a target on our backs, especially the conference teams," Carroll said.

"The 22-year-old is heading into his third season as a first-year captain with the baseball team after transferring to Suffolk University his sophomore year. From holding his teammates accountable to cheering and motivating them to get the job done."

"You set the table, lay everything out, and let everyone know what's going on," he said. "It's really just a title. There are going to be other guys who will emerge as leaders."

Carroll also wants to make sure the team culture does not change and break a part. He describes his team culture as a light-hearted team. "We have a laid-back, laughable mentality," he said. "We have a good time in the van up until the door in the facility. Then, it's baseball and we have to go out and compete."

From van rides to their practice to hanging out on the second floor lounge at Ridgeway to starting the day off training with each other at 7 a.m., Carroll said that these bonds create team chemistry and attitude.