STUDENT GOVERNMENT EXECUTIVE BOARD ELECTIONS

THE BID FOR THE PRESIDENCY

Vice looks to put up a fight

By Chris DeGusto,
News Editor

As Vice President of Suffolk's Student Government Association (SGA), Venezuelan international student Daniel Gazzani has experienced first-hand the responsibilities an executive board member of SGA faces on a day-to-day basis. In his campaign for SGA President, Gazzani has planned to tackle objectives of class registration, campus safety and See DANIEL page 3

Chair wants high seat

By Chris DeGusto,
News Editor

The public debacle that was recently plastered across local news headlines regarding Suffolk University has brought some students to question the leadership at their own college. Student Government Association (SGA) presidential candidate and Chair of the Diversity Committee Devarth Dixit said he believes he will be able to impact See DEVARTH page 3

International students looking to win presidential ticket for the 2017-18 academic year.

“**He doesn’t take pride in being right. He doesn’t really have a sense of pride. He has a sense of passion, and a sense of will and a sense of caring.**”

-Ian Kea, special advisor to Gazzani’s campaign.

“**Whenever Devarth talks about his campaign, the one word I hear most is inclusion.**”

-David Apostolides
NEWS BRIEFS

STUDENT'S COMPETE IN NESN SHOWCASE

Suffolk University junior David Apostolides and senior JJ Moran made the finals in NESN's "Next Producer" contest. The students' film "Giving Up the Game" focused on Suffolk student Jake Damphousse and his career-ending injuries that prevented him from pursuing a prospective pitching position on the men's baseball team. Apostolides and Damphousse were roommates when Apostolides discovered the Damphousse's story, which led to the inspiration of the film. Apostolides and Moran worked together in RamCin Productions, but "Giving Up the Game" was the students' first serious non-classroom film. The film airs on NESN on March 4 at 12:30 p.m. While Apostolides and Moran plan a viewing party for the airing, they encourage their friends and peers to vote for "Giving Up the Game" on NESN.

SOUTH CAROLINA LEADERSHIP EXCHANGE PROGRAM

A group of 12 Suffolk University students recently spent a weekend in Aiken, South Carolina as part of a leadership exchange program with students at University of South Carolina Aiken, according to the Aiken Standard. Dave DeAngelis, director of Suffolk University's Student Leadership and Involvement, said that each year the program leaders chose a different theme for the students to examine. Through leadership training and exercises, the students not only become better leaders, but also "make a grassroots difference in their communities once they graduate," said DeAngelis to a reporter from the Aiken Standard. This year's theme was Public Education, and the students worked closely with Aiken County Public School District Superintendent Dr. Sean Afford, and learned about education in Aiken County and South Carolina.

MAYOR WALSH ANNOUNCES FUNDS FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Mayor Marty Walsh announced on Feb 14 new funding for ten affordable housing developments in neighborhoods across Boston, according to a press release from the City of Boston. The $221 million in funding will reserve 602 housing units, 77 of which will be reserved the homeless or extremely low-income households in Boston. This supports the administration's "Boston's Way Home," a plan to end homelessness in Boston by 2018. "Preserving Boston's affordability is key to ending homelessness, and we want to live here and afford to do so," said Mayor Walsh in a statement. Dorchester, Jamaica Plain, Mattapan, and The Fenway are the developments that have received funding awards. The funding for these developments are made possible through more than $13 million of federal and local resources awarded by the Department of Neighborhood Development (NDN), and more than $8 million of linkage funds, awarded through Boston's Neighborhood Housing Trust.

NESAD's move off Arlington in works

Alexa Gagossz  Editor-in-Chief

After years of waiting, the New England School of Art & Design (NESAD), a segment of Suffolk University's College of Arts and Sciences, will finally move from 75 Arlington St. to the central campus.

Founded in 1975, NESAD was relocated and then an academic collaboration between the university and NESAD took place just 13 years later. The partnership had allowed NESAD students to enroll in Suffolk's general education courses in order to complete a Bachelor and Master Degree of Fine Arts, according to former articles in The Suffolk Journal.

However, over the years, students at NESAD have expressed their disconnect with the rest of the university since they are located in an almost completely different neighborhood as the rest of the university.

Renovations had begun on the sixth and tenth floors of the Sawyer building in order to move NESAD out of their 75 Arlington lease that gave them 41,470 gross square feet of studio, office and classroom space to transition the art school to 39,000 gross square feet on the central campus. In addition to these renovations, the school will also be moving into spaces on the "00" and "0" levels of Sawyer that use to house the Suffolk University Police Department, who recently moved to the fourth floor of Ridgeway.

The beginning of the move for NESAD is set to begin on May 15, just six days before the 2017 Commencement Ceremony. On May 15, the print studio and fabrication lab will move from 75 Arlington St. to Sawyer while the rest of the materials in NESAD will begin to follow suit the next day, according to a source who will be part of the move.

Assistant Vice President of Campus Services Jim Wallace presented updates of the Sawyer renovations on Thursday at the Student Government Association (SGA) meeting. Wallace explained that the $2 million lease will cease this summer as the and the university will save $8 million by making renovations on the 111,-000 Sawyer building, originally known as the Boston City Club, in a matter of four years instead of continuing the lease.

Wallace explained that they will be losing some space, but some of the "extra" space that they had on Arlington St. was because they had their own security unit and Information Technology Systems (ITS) office in the building. Some sources who have direct administrative ties to the art school, however, said in an interview with The Suffolk Journal on late Tuesday night that it would be an "overstatement" to attribute the space loss to these two entities.

McCarthy broke the news to the Suffolk community that the building would be used for academic classrooms.

Director of Construction Services Andre Vega announced at the SGA meeting that security cameras will be installed on the soon-to-be renovated NESAD floors in Sawyer so that expensive equipment and displayed students' artwork is watched at all times.

However, Wallace said he recognized that NESAD may have a space issue if they attempt to grow their program like they would like to.

Some members of SGA have praised the move for the art school to become more involved with the rest of campus.

"I think this will bring the university together," said Class of 2017 Senator John Medlinskas on Thursday who explained that he has spoken to some students at NESAD who have felt disconnected from the College, despite the fact that they are apart of it. "I am proud of hearing this."
A WORD FROM SGA

Chris DeGusto
News Editor

Dear Suffolk University,

We hope you all enjoyed the long weekend and beautiful weather! Because of the recent snow days, the deadline for election packets have been extended to Thursday, Feb. 23, at 4:59pm.

Packets are still available in the SGA office in Sawyer 324C, at the SLI front desk, and at the HUB in 20 S. street. Packets can be handed in at the Student Leadership and Involvement office, and we encourage everyone to run for any senator position. Stop by our meetings on Thursday to get a taste of SGA!

The annual SGA Leadership Awards are coming up and nominations are now open! Please nominate any student, club, administrator, or faculty member that you think has gone above and beyond for the Suffolk community. You can find the link on our social media, @thesuffjournal, or on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. And check your email for the link! We will be tabling for nominations at 1pm on Wednesday, Feb. 22. Stop by for some refreshments and help recognize the leaders at Suffolk.

SGA holds its weekly general meeting on Thursday at 12:15 in Somerston B18. All members of the Suffolk community are welcome to stop by and hear what is going on. We also have an open forum where anyone can speak. Let us know of any questions or concerns directly to the editor, or email sga@suffolk.edu at any time. We want to hear from you.

And we hope you have a great week!

-The Student Government Association

Suffolk makes a difference for local pediatric cancer patients

Nick Viveiros
Journal Staff

The communal kitchen at Christopher's Haven was packed with Suffolk University students Tuesday, right for the Center for Community Engagement's weekly service program. Organizers for Community Engagement (CCE) have been making trips to Christopher's Haven, a nonprofit that provides affordable, temporary housing for pediatric cancer patients and their families, every Tuesday since the beginning of the school year. Each week, Suffolk seniors Stephanie Randazzo and Sophie Botting have worked with a group of student volunteers to make homemade meals for the patients and their families. Randazzo, the CCE's Community Partnership Scholar, spoke to The Journal on Tuesday.

"We try to cater to the families as much as possible," said Randazzo. "We always ask for requests." The Randazzo's willingness to go above and beyond for the families has worked to provide a consistent presence in families' lives. "Christopher's Haven serves nine families at a time, with a tenth apartment, known as "LOF", that serves as a community space.

Several members of the Board of Directors and CCE staff have been directly impacted by cancer, including Family Engagement Director Marissa Momma. Momma, along with Botting, has two children of her own, said she knows firsthand how hard having Christopher's Haven is for cancer patients. "My son has a brain tumor - a craniopharyngioma. He needed proton radiation, which is less harmful than regular radiation. Because such treatments are not readily available in all parts of the nation, Botting said only 23 facilities in the United States are equipped with proton therapy equipment, all of which are under construction in the United States.

"We were immediately inspired" Botting said she described as "the Loft," used as a temporary housing for law enforcement and family members, Botting, who has worked at the CCE's Community Engagement Program, said that the organization "is heartened by the spirit, compassion, generosity and passion of the people that incorporate local practice or legislation with a highly interactive platform to either support or denote Trump, and impart methods of practice or legislation that incorporate local dealings."

Light of the situations that Trump has placed the U.S. into, Botting said it is clear that although talk has been swirling about a potential campaign for Governor, she is planning to stay put as attorney general. Miller bluntly asked Healey if her message to Democrats is to find a new candidate to appeal to the people, the problems of the people and what people want in their day to day lives in Massachusetts. Healey said people want to be involved now, that they want to run for political office even if at lower levels in hopes of making change and to act on policies they support or have disdain for.

"The attorney general said there is a sense of urgency to act now, and that people will soon find themselves in the shoes of the people. Explaining that she is heartened by the spirit, compassion, generosity and passion of the people that incorporate local practice or legislation with a highly interactive platform to either support or denote Trump, and impart methods of practice or legislation that incorporate local dealings.

The Loft was filled with laughter and light conversation, hallmarks of normalcy in what can sometimes seem to be anything but normal way of life.

"Just being able to see them come together over a meal and how much comfort they get to help be able to get their children the care they need, said Randazzo. "That is exactly what I'm about." Botting said she described as "the Loft," used as a temporary housing for law enforcement and family members, Botting, who has two children of her own, said she knows firsthand how hard having Christopher's Haven is for cancer patients.
From DANIEL page 1

Gazzani champions diversity, ideological balance

From DEVARTH page 1 and unit fractions of the university, the recently elected SGA president for the 2017-18 academic year. Dixit, an international student who came to Suffolk from his home country of Nepal, discussed his vision for Suffolk and how his contribution as the potentially newly elected SGA President would promote additional transparency and involvement throughout the university in a recent interview with The Suffolk Journal. Said Dixit of his campaign initiatives, “I would like to be an advocate for all students as well as a representative. Not all representatives are advocates and I want SGA to be a louder voice, I want to be bold.”

Dixit focuses on transparency, building off current administration

The Suffolk Journal is the student newspaper of Suffolk University. It is the mission of the Suffolk Journal to provide the Suffolk community with the best possible reporting of news, events, entertainment, sports and opinions. The reporters, views, and opinions in the Suffolk Journal are solely those of the editors and staff of The Suffolk Journal and do not reflect those of Suffolk University, unless otherwise stated.

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Students converse for comfort amid an era of uncertainty

At 2:15 p.m. every Thursday, a group of individuals meet in the Interfaith Center at Suffolk to hold their weekly "Muslim Conversations" event. The conversation last week focused mostly on thoughts surrounding the first immigration executive order by President Donald Trump. "It's an attack on others who are different to assimilate to the United States culture," said senior Sociology major Suad Diriyeh, regarding Trump's recent Muslim ban. Although temporarily the executive order still has an affect on those identifying as Muslims and others alike. Unfortunately, Muslim men and women in the U.S. are afraid, especially if they originate from one of the seven countries whose residents Trump banned from entering due to "terrorism," many in the group noted.

"Trump has lost a sense of humanity and has no awareness for human rights," said junior International Relations major Ambria Kociu. "He could be breaking international law." Most of the conversations these men and women have surrounded Trump and his administration due to their seemingly racist remarks toward people of color. Diriyeh went on to point out the reasoning behind how Trump "picks and chooses his battles" by not banning countries he has business relations with. "He chooses to do just what he can control," said Diriyeh.

Suffolk University sent an email regarding the Muslim ban last month. In the email, Interim President Martin Kolly stated, "I want to assure members of our community that the leadership of Suffolk University supports you all." They followed up with a list of supportive resources for students affected by the Muslim ban.

"Suffolk is aware and it helped," said Diriyeh. Many parts of Suffolk are a "no judgment zone" where intolerance is not allowed. This is similar to one Muslim woman to another. "I've rarely seen judgment from one Muslim woman to another. Especially on the choice to wear a Hijab," said Rev. Amy Fisher, Suffolk University's Chaplain.

Kociu agreed and related it to modesty and the connection to one's religion. "At the end of the day, it's between you and God/Allah," said Kociu.

Another student within the group who preferred to not be named said, "Other minorities are being affected by this ban. So many people in the countries banned are not Muslim." He went on and said, "The ban is broad."

Many in the group related the executive order to the controversy in France regarding "Burkini Ban." The Burkini Ban revolved around different opinions on the use of a woman's swim suit that was modest and covered their hair. The group agreed it was only an issue due to the different. Muslim-associated name with it and that the burkini was different from the French culture.

The people at Muslim Conversations are aware the list could grow as Trump decides on what is "best" for the country.

"He's assuming all these people are bad, when in reality they can just be running governments," said one student in the group.

Not all these conversations surround the Muslim ban, but it is pertinent to the lives of Muslims and other minorities. The group agreed the ban is important to continue discussing due to how many people it affects, but Muslim Conversations and the Interfaith Center have been around even before the ban.

"The ban was never said it's important to protect your friends and neighbors and stand in solidarity with other minorities. It's not a time to adhere to stereotypes."

Global Commentary: When will we break the cycle

From B.A.M page 5

The AKU's "Laws inspired by Arizona's SB 1070 in- vite rampant social pro­ filing against Latinos, Asian-Americans and oth­ ers presumed to be for­ eign" based on how they look or sound.

Ironically enough, the U.S. was built by im­ migrants after they carried off the genocide of Native Americans and planned this land as their own. Aside from Native Amer­ icans and descendants of those enslaved during America's abhorrent past, everyone in this country is either an immigrant or has come from one. Regard­ less, people are still call­ ing for the halt of im­ migation to this country.

When groups of people be­ come divided and compartmentalized, a hi­ striony emerges and cer­ tain groups within that society will inevitably be­ come marginalized. The roots of racism run deep in the history of the U.S.

Although Donald Trump's executive order to ban immigrants was upheld, immigrants have approved of his immigration ban, exhibiting the fear and hatred many hold toward Mus­ lims and in a similar way that many held towards the Chinese, African
It takes a ‘Global Village’ to raise a cultured campus

Elvia Mora

AIESEC, a global student-run volunteer organization, hosted a "Global Village" at Suffolk University on Thursday to unify the many cultures across campus for a common cause.

At the event, Students gathered to learn of leadership opportunities and "network" through food and conversation.

Pop music echoed from speakers and booths lined up against the walls of Sawyer 410A/B. The first booth next to the sign-in desk was a makeshift photo booth that featured brightly colored decorations on a whiteboard. Each booth offered a cuisine from a different country, such as the popular green tea bars given out at the Korean culture club table. Colorful pieces of origami were created at the Japanese booth; paintings and miniature sculptures were displayed at the El Salvador booth.

AIESEC is a global association that allows young adults to explore cultural understanding and learning in order to flourish through different leadership platforms such as internships and volunteering. The fields AIESEC mainly focuses on include marketing, business, technology, labor and management.

Rina Hirata, a junior Information Systems and Operation Management major, is the vice president of outgoing global volunteering at AIESEC's Boston branch.

"We believe that, by offering internships through a global program, students can learn and develop leadership skills. So that's why we offer options like six weeks in a summer program and also entrepreneurship," said Hirata. "For the volunteer program we partner with the United Nations. By 2020 they want to solve over 20 problems such as social poverty, education inequality, issues like that."

AIESEC's mission statement is to generate peace and potential in humankind. Through the empowerment of young people. There are six core values that AIESEC operates by: striving for excellence, demonstrating integrity, activating leadership, diversifying, acting sustainably, and enjoying participation.

Hirata personally hopes to influence young individuals to let go of any preexisting biases and stigmas they may have.

"I want students to know more about the world, outside of this country," she said. "Sometimes students think that staying in the same country is safe but I want students to know that by going abroad they can learn more and they can have a life changing experience."

With more than 3,400 universities represented worldwide, Boston is a small chapter within the entire organization. "AIESEC Boston is a city chapter because of the close proximities of universities," said Hirata. "This organization partners with mainly Suffolk, Emerson, Boston College, Northeastern, and Babson. They are also available worldwide to places in Brazil, Colombia and Italy."

UNICEF partnered with AIESEC as they held a booth at Global Village. Claudia Buruca, a senior who majors in sociology, is the treasurer.

"We provide opportunities for our members such as volunteering through the center for community service and engagement," said Buruca. "We invite speakers such as the Boston Global Citizenship Fellow who works for the UNICEF Boston Regional office as well as hold meetings that are educational and focus on open discussions that will hopefully bring a new perspective to our members."

"We are trying to raise awareness through ads. In the month of March, you will see flyers around the school that will be located where students use water, such as bathrooms and bubblers," said Rodriguez. "The flyers will have facts about water use throughout the world."

Students pose with Lizette Rivera, Suffolk's Director of Diversity Services, at the Global Village as they enjoyed music, a photo booth, cuisine and artwork from countries around the world.

Global Commentary: Muslim ban follows shameful history

Katherine Yearwood

Last month, President Donald Trump signed an executive order barring certain Muslims from entering the United States. Although the ban was recently suspended, immigrants took to the streets to respond to the anti-immigration sentiment and show the U.S. what a "Muslim migrant" would look like.

Discrimination against newcomers has been a running theme for the entirety of America's history.

The Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882 is strikingly similar to Trump’s stated executive order.

People who identified as Chinese nationals were required to register with the U.S. government, and had to carry identification on them at all times, according to Sang Hea, a professor at San Jose State University and the author of "Feeling Yellow: Imagining White." Media Analysis of the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882." His paper goes into detail on the Chinese Exclusion Act and its impact.

During the time of the Chinese Exclusion Act's implementation, newspapers such as the San Francisco Chronicle published images that depicted Chinese immigrants as a threat to American culture. They were often portrayed as "evil heathens," according to Hea.

Numerous images circulate depicting the Chinese with grotesquely exaggerated features, making them appear similar to rats. Their eyes and eyebrows were drawn abnormally small and slanted, thus presenting them as wicked. Their teeth were made disproportionately huge and their hair was drawn in a long single braid. This outrageous and wildly racist portrayal of Chinese people aided in fostering a hateful environment towards them.

This negative portrayal exacerbated conditions that led to the Chinese people to be ostracized by the American public.

Likewise, after 9/11 Islamophobia became ever more present in the United States as hate crimes against Muslims rose dramatically. According to Public Radio International, violent crimes targeting Muslim Americans spiked from 28 incidents in 2000 to nearly 500 in 2011. People began behaving as though the term terrorist was synonymous with Muslim, but it isn’t.

A 2011 study by the CBS News Polling Unit found one out of three Americans believe that Muslim Americans are more sympathetic to terrorists than their non-Muslim American counterparts. Furthermore, in the same 2011 poll 55 percent of Americans said they knew someone with negative attitudes toward Muslims due to 9/11.

Trump’s first immigration ban was directed towards Muslims from seven predominately Muslim countries from entering the United States. Although this ban has since been suspended, Trump has attempted to ban numerous nationalities from entering the country, specifically those from seven
Playwright addresses ongoing American theme of hate, discrimination

Katherine Yearwood
Journal Staff

“Wrestling With Freedom” carried their audience through the turbulent times of the 18th, 19th, and 21st centuries in the United States Saturday. Hosted by Madison Park Development Corporation, the intimate audience sat in silence throughout the entire production at Hibernian Hall in Roxbury on Saturday night as the actors embodied some of the most beloved people in history.

Director and Playwright Jacki Parker told The Suffolk Journal she set up her production by having images of women as a main focus, specifically women who had lost men in their lives whether it be a romantic partner or a father. The theme that appears discriminatory attacks have been happening for centuries. “I think in this political climate for me,” said Parker in an interview with The Journal. “So, I had to express myself artifically in this political climate.”

The event consisted of three one-act plays that told the stories of a handful of people living during times of slavery and was scheduled to go up and looking at what’s going on in the world I could not, as an artist, be responsible and not deal with this,” said Parker in an interview with The Journal. “So, I had to express myself artifically in this political climate.”

The first play circled around Phillis Wheatley and her life as a slave. In the play, Wheatley was abducted from Africa and brought over to the U.S. with the Evans family. Her experience as someone enslaved was rather unheard of, for she traveled between the U.S. and England with the family that enslaved her and spoke with prominent figures. Gracefully portrayed by Candis Hilton, Wheatley became well known across the U.S. and abroad for her artistic literary talents. The second play circled around the relationship between Harriet Tubman, John Brown, and Frederick Douglass and the enslaved people that Tubman was leading to freedom along the underground railroad. “Just seeing the structure that folks had to go through for their freedom, the fact that they’re willing to risk it all and the fact that once you become complacent or you accept your plight your fate is unalmed,” said Wellness member Larry Higginbottom in a post-second act interview with The Journal. “Being enslaved like Harriet Tubman, I wish I could have freed more, but they have become slaves. That is also troubling today where a lot of folks although they free, they have become slaves.”

This theme was even shown in the third play, which depicted the U.S. in 2020 in a government-induced apocalyptic state. 200,000,000 American citizens of the grid as a result of government actions. “I’m somewhat in awe of the whole idea of going off the grid,” said Parker. “I got frustrated with the way things work, it’s alarming that wealthy men particularly politicians are making decisions for me, my family, and my friends.”

“I think that the whole play in general is very enlightening because it brings you through the whole history of everything especially the Harriet Tubman and Frederick Douglass part,” said audience member Natalia Bronovich in a post show interview with The Journal. “I think a lot of times people forget what we went through and so I really liked the whole way it transitions.”

Arts magazine hosts open mic to find new writers, submissions

Nathan Espinal
Journal Staff

To generate hype for their magazine, the editorial board of Venture Literary/Arts Magazine held an open mic night for those willing to share their work. The night became a literary safe space as students bravely stepped in front of the crowd to share their intimate poems.

“Wrestling With Freedom” has been publishing yearly since 1967, but has taken its new identity only a few years ago. The magazine began as a literary magazine, but according to their website venturesliveing.com. In 2005 the editorial staff decided to add an arts section to showcase the extensive variety of art created by students from the various departments at Suffolk University.

“It’s opened me up to the creativity of other people, because when you’re in one department like English, you don’t think that other people, in say accounting, would write, or create, art,” said Brenna Lopes, the Editor-in-Chief of the magazine.

Both Lopes, a senior majoring in English, and Sofia Ohrynovics, the social media manager and junior English major, have noted the importance of the magazine. In an interview with The Suffolk Journal, Ohrynovics spoke of how important it is to continue the tradition of print publishing. “Starting for a university student-run club, shows that even the small things count,” said Ohrynovics. “It’s everyone that puts their foot forward, it keeps the industry alive.”

Lopes, who is a Senior English Major, has a team of editors from various majors that help her with this,” said Parker in an interview with The Journal. “So, I had to express myself artifically in this political climate.”

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For most Bostonians, The Common is a historic park in the heart of the city. It’s significant for being a place where folks once grazed the grass, and now is used often for picnics, protests and everything in between.

However, the two words take on a new meaning at Suffolk University, where students also know “The Common” as a group of passionate rock-and-roll musicians.

“The Common,” formerly known as “Rhythm,” is trying to revamp their image as a band, starting with the name. After attempting to fit an image of the initial group, they are ready for some change.

“In our opinion, the way the group had been marketed and people’s opinions felt like kind of stale,” junior business administration major Jake Damphousse, musician and president of The Common, said in an interview with The Suffolk Journal before rehearsal Saturday morning.

In the past, the band has been described as “Suffolk’s contemporary music group” but they are now referred to as Suffolk’s house band to more accurately describe their laid-back vibe.

Although many performing arts groups Travel to compete in competitions against other schools, The Common does not. They enjoy playing music together for fun and do not feel the need to go against other colleges.

“We just kind of like to come and jam and have fun,” said Damphousse. “It’s not really like we go out and compete against anyone or anything like that. It’s really just got kind of a clubby atmosphere.”

In lieu of competitions, the band performs multiple times throughout the year for Suffolk University students. In December, they rocked the stage at the FAO Winter Concert and again earlier this month at the “First Friday” event on the third floor of the Sawyer building. They are working hard for their upcoming performance at the next “First Friday” event, where students can enjoy their hour and a half long performance for free.

The Common is comprised of eight students, which is why the small group of musicians has turned into a tight-knit group of friends who share the same passion for performing.

“I want to say it’s like a family,” junior finance major Patrick Hennessey, a drummer in the band, said in an interview with The Journal. “It’s great to meet other people who have similar interests as you.”

The band has an eclectic artist, playing everything from David Bowie, Drake, The Beatles, 90s throwbacks and today’s chart toppers. Their goal is to play songs that everyone will know, as well as perform tracks that the band members enjoy.

“You gotta play stuff that people know because if they don’t know anything you’re playing, why are they gonna come back and see you?” said Damphousse. “So I’d say of our 18 songs, it would be tough to not know at least seven or eight of them.”

However, it wasn’t always a walk in the park for The Common. In the fall of 2015, the rock group almost came to an end when contrasting opinions among members caused a lot of conflict that was difficult to resolve. Damphousse said everyone agreed the best thing to do was to step away from the group.

At that time, Damphousse explained, David Apostolides was asked by the Performing Arts Office if he was interested in becoming president of the band to bring it back to life. He accepted, but then also started the film club, RamCam Productions, and didn’t have time to serve as president for both groups.

Damphousse took the load off his shoulders and became president. Apostolides still plays the piano and keyboard for the group.

The Common has picked itself up since the end of 2015 and is now moving forward. They are busy every Monday on the second floor of Sawyer rehearsing for upcoming gigs. When not rehearsing, they are posting on their Twitter, Facebook and Instagram accounts to spread the word about what they do and build a stronger following. Damphousse said that one of the band’s main focuses is to have a larger presence on social media platforms.

On the group’s old account, “there’d be one post every six months and no one was following it because there wasn’t anything going on,” said Damphousse.

After the changes and improvements, the band is ready to tackle the rest of the year. Their next performance will be the next “First Friday” event on March 3 in Sawyer at 10 p.m. Find The Common on Twitter and Instagram at @SUFthecommon.
War on drugs: A failing battle against suffering

By Chaim Wigder, Journal Staff

For those of us seriously concerned with the ever-failing war on drugs, Donald's Trump's presidency is proving to be as regressive on social and public health reforms as anyone thought, having taken the wrong step on yet another key issue.

Earlier this month, Trump passed three executive orders related to crime and justice, which bring to mind images of the Nixon and Reagan administrations' deeply misguided rhetoric about drugs in this country. The outcomes of those policies were overpopulated prisons, racial discrimination, and -- most ironically -- no decrease in our country's drug problems. Trump seems to be under the impression that by taking a tougher stance on drugs -- which is precisely what led to our mess in the first place -- he can win a war that nobody else could until now.

If there was anything to feel at ease about during Trump's campaign, it was his uncharacteristic sensibility on certain drug-related issues. Unfortunately, his very characteristic dishonesty that is driving his actual actions. His campaign touted leaving marijuana laws up to the states, focusing on treatment for drug users, and increasing access to overdose reversal medicine. Unsurprisingly, the executive orders made no mention of any of these campaign promises. In fact, the slow but visible progress made under the Obama administration in reversing some of the damage done by decades of failing policy is soon to be lost.

It has become increasingly clear that our current criminal justice system needs to be reformed. Our country has the highest incarceration rate in the world, and most people imprisoned for drug crimes are nonviolent offenders, not to mention disproportionately minorities. Instead of reform, these executive orders only double down on issues like police force and harsh minimum sentencing.

Trump wants to see if building a wall or other ways of "getting tough" on the supply-side of the illegal drug trade will improve the drug problems in America. Luckily, history has shown us whether that approach works; the experiment has already been done, and it failed by virtually every metric. It would be a shame if we didn't learn from our mistakes.

Putting all of our resources into hurting the supply will do nothing to mend the problem. People have been using drugs for thousands of years, not to mention currently legal ones such as alcohol, and there is no reason to think this demand will change. As history and basic economics have shown with alcohol, amphetamines, marijuana, and everything else: if there is a demand, someone will emerge to supply it, regardless of government efforts. A study by the British Medical Journal concluded that despite the billions of dollars spent globally on the drug war, drugs have become more widely available, cheaper, and purer.

Although it seems to make sense on the surface, the drug problem cannot be stopped by attempting to cut off the supply. Cutting off supply permanently is simply impossible. The key is to focus on the demand side, helping addicts with treatment and promoting truthful drug education and harm-reduction. Arresting and punishing drug users makes very little sense if our goal is to help them. Trump's rhetoric about drugs "poisoning our youth" is touching, so the question is, why does he want to put them in jail?

These actions go against the belief of public health experts, economists, and most American citizens who believed the war on drugs has failed. For a president that brags about "smart people" and "experts," he sure doesn't seem to be listening to them.
EDITOR’S WORD

In last week’s issue, The Journal published an article that had updated the Suffolk community on the Presidential Search Committee and the proximity that the Committee was taking the next step to finding Suffolk’s top leader once again.

The Journal, and members of the community, were troubled to find that despite an email that was sent on Feb. 1 which stated that the Committee would be selecting a search firm in the coming weeks, members of this Committee said in interviews just two weeks later that they were unsure if a search firm would be involved. This appears to be a direct contradiction to one another.

Suffolk needs a leader now more than ever, particularly a leader that will alter the damaged reputation that Suffolk has received in recent years. This leader, however, does not always have to take shape as a president in the top office. This leader could be the incoming Student Government Association President, it could be the Chairman of the Board of Trustees or it could be the Chair of the Committee. However, someone must step up and start to recreate the image that Suffolk gives off to its global community as it currently stands as a reputation of instability and an utter lack of transparency.

Now is the time.

The Journal Staff

Breaking down stereotypes, one man at a time

Katie Dugan
Asst. Opinion Editor

We’ve all heard about self-defense classes for women and maybe you’ve taken one. You might carry around pepper spray, or a rape whistle, or your keys between your fingers when you walk alone at night. There’s a plethora of information available for women and how to protect themselves from sexual assault and other kinds of aggressors. Nevertheless, men deserve the same opportunity to educate themselves about dangerous aggressors they may be confronted by.

The Resisting Aggression with Defense (RAD) program for Men is trying to change stereotypes and how men respond in aggressive situations. RAD began as a self-defense program for women, Rape Aggression Defense (RAD) and provides participants with the skills necessary to avoid, resist and defend themselves against an attack. The idea behind the men’s course is essentially the same, however the education portion of the program is molded to both men and women.

A recent gender stereotype for women is that they are weak and helpless, while men have to give off this “alpha dog” attitude, otherwise they are not seen as masculine.

There is a stigma toward men that they see everything and everyone as either a “game or an object,” said Yee.

The RAD for men program is an effort to create a safer and more equal community. During the program, male Suffolk students learn about these stereotypes that have been instilled in them since they were young, and learn that acting on these stereotypes is not an efficient way to get out of a confrontational situation. For example, a man might feel he has to physically fight someone to prove his masculinity.

“It’s focused more on what the social norms are, unfortunately, even down to commercials, about how the stereotypical masculine man should act,” said Yee.

Yee added that many traditional male stereotypes come from what men see in the media.

“Through the course we confront the males on that and say, hey this might be a funny beer commercial to you, but what message is it subconsciously sending to you?” he said. “That could be your sister, your cousin, a close female friend, something along those lines. You might think one way, but you have to think of everyone in the situation.”

No matter who you are, or who you hang out with, everyone is vulnerable to violence or confrontation, especially college students in an urban environment. It’s important for everyone’s safety and well being to be prepared for these kinds of situations, whether it is making sure your doors and windows are locked at night or knowing how to physically defend yourself.

“Knowing avoidance techniques and knowing what to look for and knowing how to prevent those things before they begin, that’s one of our biggest goals,” said Yee.

However, the lack of participation has been problematic for the RAD for men program. Sergeant Yee said while they see a lot of interest when the program is introduced, few students actually follow through and take the class.

Arguably, the class itself is a big commitment. The first portion of the class is a long, 12-hour day. Nonetheless, the experience a participant gains from the RAD for men program is well worth the time commitment. Students who take the class will leave with a new sense of confidence and will be empowered to make safer choices when confronted with aggressive behavior.
Rams cross the blue-line through the years

Sky lar To Sports Editor

Recognized as one of the nation’s best in his hockey career at Suffolk, 2007 Hall of Famer Brian “Scoring” Horan always seemed to find the back of the net.

As a transfer student from Salem State College, Horan just wanted to be in the city, go to school with his friends and play hockey in Boston.

And, hockey he did play.

Horan, with a nation best of 104 points during the season, led his team to their “super season” with 79 and ranks third in the nation’s best in his collegiate career with 169 goals and 133 assists for a combined total of 302 points. In one season, he scored 11 hat tricks. Horan remains the program’s all-time leader in goals and assists today. Horan attributes his success to the team environment and his two coaches: Peter Saggese and Bill Burns Jr.

“Both those coaches were instrumental,” said Horan. “They taught me a lot about the game.”

“My time as a player was great, it was a fun season” said Horan. “We had three products in the league: Brian Grunning, Sean O’Driscoll and along with me. The three players were named to the Suffolk Athletics Hall of Fame individually as well as with their 1990-91 team. In his senior year during the 1991-92 season, Grunning led the nation with 48 goals and second for 86 total points, Grunning, who was Inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2009, is the program’s second all-time scoring leader with 119 goals and 107 assists, for a combined total of 226 points. O’Driscoll finished his collegiate career with scoring the fourth most goals in program history with 79 and ranks third in total points with 102.

After the team graduated, Horan and Nelson both said that the program had less players. After graduating in 1992, Horan went on to play minor league hockey in Boston, for several years before coming back to Suffolk to coach the team.

Horan said that the program was in a “downward spiral” for some time, winning two games in a season, and he wanted to help the teams he coached from 1999-2004 an opportunity to win. Chris Glionna, who served as an assistant coach, became the program’s head coach after Horan left.

“We worked really hard to turn the team around,” said Horan. “It was a lot of fun as a coach.”

In his second year coaching the team, Horan said they qualified for the playoffs, which he thinks is a big accomplishment. However, they suffered a “heartbreak” by a one goal deficit in the playoffs.

“The type of school Suffolk is, it’s going to be a program that will fluctuate,” said Horan. “It’s a school that demands a lot.” He is proud of the student-athletes that the current coaching staff Glionna and assistant hockey coaches John Burgess, Greg Fowke and Pat Wolch are recruiting for the program.

“These students work ethic and character, we say a lot about the kids (Glionna and his coaching staff) are recruiting,” said Horan. “This will translate and will eventually lead to team success.”

The team did not have a permanent place to practice and play hockey until the athletics department reached an agreement to secure an off-campus home rink, Emmons Horrigan O’Neil Rink in Charlestown, Mass. In an interview with The Journal via email last April, Glionna said that securing took several years to fulfill with the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation.

The hockey team played some home games and held some practices at Boston University’s Walter Brown Arena. Both Horan and Nelson said that the team practiced in a number of different locations throughout Massachusetts for many years. It was requested that “home” games be played at the Sterritt Rink in the North End.

“Moving over to Sterritt Rink worked out well for us, in terms of being in a location that the team members could easily walk to from class and the number of individuals, we have a huge student population, who did not still live in the North End, coming to the games,” said Horan.

However, Nelson said that the team still faced the same drawback as the program did not have a “dedicated locker room.”

“Glionna has done a great job in building that program,” said Horan. As the 2016-17 men’s ice hockey season ended on Monday with a 6-2 loss to Endicott College, Horan thinks the move from the Commonwealth Coast Conference to the New England Hockey Conference (NEHC) next season will produce “higher quality players.”

Nelson added that the Rams have joined a very competitive conference, the NEHC.

“Current athletics director Gary McConnell is keeping up with time here in terms of what the university needs to do to be competitive,” said Horan. McConnell adjusted to what’s happening around here in terms of athletics and sports, he sees success in all sports.”

“My time as a player was great, it was a fun season.”

-Brian Horan

And even after 26 years later after their “super season,” Horan said that he is so happy and proud to see the program is still going strong, and the 1990-91 team is still having a good time.

“We were really close and good friends and we still are today.”
Despite Suffolk University men’s basketball team’s fair share of struggles this 2016-17 season, they found themselves to be the seventh seed in playoffs for the Great Northeast Athletic Conference (GNAC) Championship. The Rams faced the second seeded Johnson & Wales University in the GNAC Quarterfinals on Tuesday night at 7:30 at the Ryan Center in Providence, Rhode Island. Suffolk lost the quarterfinal game and fell with a final score of 83-68.

In preparation for the match second year Head Coach Jeff Juron said in an interview with The Journal last Thursday that his team has worked on improving their game performance. He explained that they have faced many setbacks this season, whether it be close losses or injuries. He said these setbacks have helped the team learn from their mistakes and had better prepared them for the playoffs.

“Try to go in there and play hard and I know we’re going to go in there and play together, and those are two things that this group has done consistently throughout the year,” said Juron. “I think some teams will have a little bit more experience, but I think that at the end of the day, we’re going to come out there and give them our best shot and were not going to be intimidated by the moment.”

To look at the comparison this season, the Rams averaged 66.6 points, 31.6 rebounds and 11.9 assists per game. Their opponent, Johnson & Wales averaged 74.9 points, 37.4 rebounds and 11.9 assists per game. The last match that Suffolk played against the Wildcats was on Feb. 11, in which Suffolk lost a close game of 69-62.

At the beginning of the first quarter Suffolk struggled to get on the board and were down 17-5 at the 12th minute mark. With the help of players, such as sophomore guard Michael Hagopian, Suffolk was eventually able to break their score into double digits.

By the end of the first half the Rams were unable to catch up to the Wildcats as they trailed 41-22. Suffolk was only able to come within 13 points Johnson & Wales as their season came to a close. Hagopian had a stand out night as he scored 24 points, went 5-6 on three pointers and gained four rebounds. Not only was this the second straight game that Hagopian had scored more than 20 points, but it was the fifth time in 5 games this season in which he scored 20 points, the sophomore had hit the 20-plus mark.

Final stats the Rams had 26 rebounds, 14 assists and 50 three-pointer percent. Johnson & Wales ended with 29 rebounds, 14 assists and 47.8 three-pointer percent. Previously, the Rams finished out their regular season on Feb. 18 versus Saint Joseph’s College with a 80-73 defeat. Suffolk’s final regular season win came against Anna Maria College on Feb. 14 with a 77-73 victory. This gave Suffolk a sweep over Anna Maria, as on Jan. 28 they beat the Arcatacans, 78-64. The other team the Rams had a sweep over this season was Rivier College with a 89-70 win on Jan. 10 and another 86-62 victory on Feb. 1.

Game leader of the night versus Anna Maria was freshman guard Thomas Duffy who dropped 22 points, seven rebounds and five assists. Hagopian also had an impressive night for the Rams and earned 18 points and shot six for six from the foul line. The loss gave the team a final regular season record of 7-18 and a conference record of 6-12. In the 2015-16 and 2014-15 seasons the Rams finished with one additional win and records of 8-17.

“We made it this far by sticking together through rough patches and maturing quickly, since we’re a young group,” said freshman guard Cameron Powers in an interview with The Journal on Friday. This season, the Rams only senior was forward Quinn McCartney. The rest of the team consisted of eight freshmen, five sophomores and one junior. However, the team did not let their youth stop their team performance. In last years’ team, the Rams had eight seniors but only won one more game than this season’s team.

“Yes, we’re young and could use that as an excuse, but we don’t. We want to win [the GNAC], and we believe we can,” said Duffy in an interview with The Journal on Friday. “Crazy things happen at this time of year in college basketball, and we’re a team that plans to make some noise.”

Freshman guard Conor Reynolds said in an interview with The Journal on Friday that his team had faced much adversity this season. He said this came about through many recent injuries and illnesses and explained these did not get in the way of the team’s connection.

“What makes this team special is our chemistry with one another,” said Reynolds in an interview with The Journal. “We have all have very good relationships with one another on and off the court. So it makes it fun to win with these guys because we all want each other to succeed.”