Body of Missing Man Found in Charles River

Suffolk community questions string of disappearances

Nick Vives
Journal Staff

The parents of Michael Kelleher, a 23-year-old resident of Southborough, Mass., who went missing from a Boston Celtics game last month, confirmed that a body recovered by state police Sunday morning was that of their son.

"Sadly, Michael was claimed by the Charles River the night of his disappearance," Mike Kelleher, Sr., Kelleher's father, wrote in a Facebook post on behalf of both he and his wife, Lori Tavella Kelleher. "This morning, the river gave him back to us."

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Former Suffolk Law student earns jail time in lieu of degree

Alexa Gagosz
Editor-in-Chief

Former Suffolk Law student David Scher pleaded guilty on Tuesday afternoon in an attempt to alter court documents in order to adjust his guilty finding for stealing a laptop from a university locker to not guilty, according to the Suffolk County District Attorney's office.

The former student and Boston real estate broker was sentenced to more than two years in jail, according to the District Attorney's office. Scher had received a suspended sentence for the laptop theft in 2014, according to an article in the Boston Globe, and was indicted just last year of charges of tampering with a court document, forgery, perjury and uttering a false document.

According to reports last year, Scher "knew his way around a courtroom" as he had sued the City of Boston, the City of Newton, a Brighton condo board over election improprieties where he failed to win a seat, the people who rented his condominium as well as the bank that held the mortgage for it, and even his own parents after they backed out of a promise to sell him the family boat.

Scher had been once honored by the National Association of Realtors as one of the top 30 Realtors under 30.

Scher's attorney Richard M. Doyle Jr. did not respond to Journal reporters for comment as of early Wednesday morning.

Scher was expected to receive a 20-year sentence, according to multiple news reporters last year.

According to sources, Scher was in his last year at Suffolk Law when he stole the laptop computer.

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New perspectives from diverse women fill Suffolk Law School

Students’ start-up app promotes handy solution

Students’ start-up app promotes handy solution

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Students’ start-up app promotes handy solution

Supreme Judicial Court Justice Kimberly Budd

"The sharing economy is available to a lot of different people through the use of their phones, the idea that there would be people that have space, time, and willingness to help, so we set about trying to prove that and develop the concept."

- Co-founder Alexander Bennett

"I want to be known for proving that and developing the concept."
College-aged deaths spike in recent years near Charles

9 p.m. on March 29. A female coworker who was with him at the game that night told multiple news outlets that Kelleher left during the third quarter after having "a few drinks." Both Lori Kelleher and police have said that phone records show Michael tried three times unsuccessfully to call an Uber from Paul Revere Park, a short walk from the Garden. His cell phone's signal was last picked up near 138 Tremont St. by the eastern edge of the Boston Common around 11:00 p.m. Divers previously searched the Charles near the Garden on April 3 without success, according to CBS Boston.

"We get notified about (disappearances)," said Suffolk University Police Department (SUPD) Sergeant Jameson Yee. "Yee, a Suffolk alum who began his tenure as a security officer in 2008, said that phone records confirmed that they had obtained footage of Marr "entering the water" near the North Station railroad bridge - about 500 feet from the locks, according to multiple news sources. His body was found on Mar. 15, 2016, by the area where Kelleher was last seen.

Marr's death was later ruled accidental. Before Kelleher, Marr's disappearance was the most recent in what some see as a troubling pattern. Since 2001, 17 men have gone missing in Boston and its suburbs. The victims, ranging in age from 18 to 65, were all found deceased in a local waterway, usually the Charles River or Boston Harbor, according to news sources.

"There are plenty of other ways to stay safe on campus as well," Yee explained. Suffolk's Livewire app, which allows students to request police escorts and report tips to SUPD, is available for free on both iOS and Android devices. Even with Yee's reassurance, students differ in their feelings about the disappearances.

"I'm inclined to believe it's coincidental, but I'm also thinking that they were all ruled accidental," said August Tucker, a sophomore from Portsmouth, N.H., majoring in government.

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**NEWS BRIEFS**

**Design stars recognized for innovative work**

From FORCE page 1 the universities that do have such an office, the average amount of staff members sits at two. Whether there would be a significant financial difference in creating this office, or a singular VPDE position, with a six figure salary, has yet to be researched by the Task Force.

Boston University, Northeastern University and the University of Massachusetts Amherst each have Offices of Ombuds, according to the research conducted by Bonardi on Greater Boston schools.

Junior Business major and student member of the Task Force Levi Smith spoke of the responsibilities that would be entrusted to a possible VPDE.

"It will be someone who instead works in Human Resources, Student Affairs or Diversity Services," said Smith in an interview with The Suffolk Journal Tuesday afternoon. "It'll be under the president and will have more of a universal role strategizing diversity and promote and develop a culture committed to achieving inclusive excellence and cultural proficiency."

Sophomore Computer Science major Sheldon Nasser spoke of the cautious excitement he has for such a position opening up in the universities.

"I'm eager to see this come to reality, but if this doesn't work then [our work] isn't worth it."

"Some of the changes can be implemented by [Acting] President [Marcia] Kelly, and some of the changes are bigger like the Office of Ombuds or the VPDE, those are things that wouldn't necessarily be fair to force it upon her, it would be the next president's decision," said Smith.

Presidential Search Committee Chair and university Trustee member John Brooks III was unable to comment on the status of the ongoing search.

"We have not talked about that. I did ask the subcommittee to think about after the Task Force ends, 'What would happen if we reenact that?' It just seems to make sense, we already have bylaws, but we have not talked about that," said Lee.

It has been suggested by Lee and Smith that having a sitting president that could make lasting changes would make these policies be implemented efficiently.

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"I'm eager to see this come to reality, but if this doesn't work then [our work] isn't worth it."
Suffolk honored with Distinguished Delegation award at U.N. conference

SUMUN members earn the Distinguished Delegation award last week in New York City.

"I realized that everything we work for, all the hard work, the long nights, all of the extra studying that goes unseen because we don't get a grade, it wasn't for nothing. It was completely worth it."

- SUMUN President

Omar Hernandez

"It always is a grueling schedule, with little time for eating and sleeping, but everyone loved it, they always do. They always learn an enormous amount. It was quite an expansive opportunity," said Hernandez in an interview with The Suffolk Journal on Tuesday. Their hard work and dedication paid off at the end of the week when the team was named the distinguished delegation.

"I realized that everything we work for, all the hard work, the long nights, all of the extra studying that goes unseen because we don't get a grade, it wasn't for nothing. It was completely worth it," said Hernandez in an interview with The Suffolk Journal on Tuesday.

By Facebook user @SUMUNteam

"It was very cool to meet such a diverse group of students, these were some of the hardest students to compete against, that I've ever met. It was quite a challenge to compete with them," said Abu-Ghazaleh.

"It was a very cool experience. It was completely worth it," said Abu-Ghazaleh.

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**Commentary:**

**Spicer's speeches scream incompetence**

Just last week during Tuesday's White House press briefing, Press Secretary Sean Spicer compared Syrian President Bashar al-Assad to Adolf Hitler. Ultimately, Spicer's remark branded him an incompetent, undeserving excuse for a press secretary and an embarrassment to the American people.

According to The Washington Post, Spicer stated, "We didn't use chemical weapons in World War II. You know, you had a — someone as despicable as Hitler who didn't even sink to using chemical weapons." Regardless of Spicer's feelings toward al-Assad's actions, it is rarely a wise choice to bring Hitler into a briefing meeting — especially as the press secretary. When questioned about his statement, Spicer ignorantly defended himself by clarifying that he was referring to battlefield uses of chemical weapons. However, to say Hitler did not use chemical weapons is far too serious of a statement to be considered a slip of the tongue on Spicer's part.

Bring Hitler into any public speech enters a dangerous area of discussion. Chemical weapons are chemical weapons, and they cause mass destruction. In this case, it seemed Spicer was trying to identify the lesser of two evils, but instead invented an inappropriate environment and ended up making a false statement that spun him into a position of harm to the international community.

The Holocaust was an horrific crisis that shaped our world into what it is today. Those who hold position in the White House must have a thorough understanding of World history — specifically history related to mass genocide.

When Spicer gets in front of the camera, he always seems to make a fool of himself in one way or another. Whether it's his word choice or historical references, his speeches almost always leave his audience members feeling uncomfortable.

Spicer's word choice in particular is often his downfall. According to The Washington Post, while responding to the press during Tuesday's briefing, Spicer said, "I'm not looking to quantify this in any way." Presumably, Spicer was searching for the word quality and said quantity instead.

Spicer drastically improves his public speaking skills, he will only be talking as a spokesperson to the executive branch of the U.S. government. Spicer should not say anything the U.S. government administration would not say themselves. He is merely a vessel of communication.

In just a few months as press secretary, Spicer has already acquired a humiliating reputation that will stick with him for the next several years. He made an unforgivable mistake by dragging Hitler into a briefing, and he continuously makes himself look foolish by attempting to speak the English language on a daily basis.

Asking Spicer to communicate clearly and effectively is merely asking him to do his job properly. For U.S. citizens to get the right messages from the administration, Spicer needs to be hyper-aware of everything he says and does, and how it can be interpreted. If there is any kind of glitch in the system, it fosters distraction from his main point and can deliver the wrong message.

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**April 19, 2017**

Clare Schneider / Journal Staff
Kink about it; working against oppression

To Ignacio Rivera, a prominent LGBTQ+ artist and activist, the dictionary describes a kink as, "a colloquial term used to describe unconventional sexual concepts and practices." To Rivera, this definition focuses on a kink as something that is inherently different or strange. This is a common feature of criticism people face with kink, Rivera explained they believe that instead, "kink is everywhere, it connects to a wider sexuality."

Suffolk University's Rainbow Alliance invited Rivera to discuss what their experiences have been with oppression in kink. The workshop had explained how navigating some primary obstacles of acceptance that members of this community face. Rivera explained that providing people with information was the best thing they could do, that, "if you have proper information you can therefore choose to or choose not to participate."

These are issues close to Rivera, who identifies as two-spirit, Black-Boricua Taino, queer, activist who prefers the gender pronoun 'they.' Rivera has traveled to Suffolk University's Rainbow Alliance discussion on kink oppression.
LGBTQ+ activist, artist attempts to dispell kink stigma

Rainbow Alliance encourages safe expression with "Drageoke"

Suffolk University's Rainbow Alliance has made strides in the LGBTQ+ community by opening up conversations to help educate those who may have misconceptions about drag culture. Last week, the group held a drag workshop to perform tutorials for people interested in learning more about drag makeup and culture. The workshop highlighted the many facets of oppression in kink by working in groups to define them. The factors discussed were heterosexism, the gender binary, white supremacy, the patriarchy, adult privilege, body normativity and capitalism. Together, these issues were explained as creating discrimination in some kink groups.

Rivera has been involved with the community for a long time, both as an organizer of events to create the spaces people need to explore and practice their kink, and as a member who connects with others. As Rivera explained in a post-workshop interview with The Suffolk Journal, their initial passion for the subject came from their past.

"All of this is very much connected to my survivorship. I am a survivor of child sexual abuse and rape, and I really took a long time to get comfortable with my body," they said. Rivera went on to discuss the journey they took to become comfortable with their body and their sexuality after the abuse in their childhood, and that the journey, "opened up a new world to me, it fascinated me, so I wanted to delve into that world." Part of it in order to better understand how they should move forward from their experiences in the past, they entered into the world of kink, as Rivera described, a world that, "demands negotiation, consent and boundary setting" and that, "especially as a survivor that really makes a lot of sense to me. I know who I am in that configuration."

Rivera said they have worries that without proper sexual education, many people will never begin to learn more about sexuality as a whole. Regarding the lack of education, Rivera said that "it is a disservice" not to hear a broad spectrum of ideas. According to Rivera, "information is a tool of knowledge, knowledge is power."

For the public, Rivera said being able to have unfiltered conversations in the public is a goal of theirs. They said that "the media always boils it down to whips, chains, and dungeons. That something is really wrong with someone if they're engaging in this, that something must have happened to them."

"We don't want to take over the world, we just want to show that we want to break out of the very strict framework that has been given to us," Rivera said.

Halalina Carol
Journal Staff

Rainbow Alliance encourages safe expression with "Drageoke"

Kyle Crozier / Journal Staff

The stand out performance of the night was by the glamorous Tequila Mockingbird. In a faux fur sweater and near floor length skirt, Tequila Mockingbird strutted on the stage in five inch heels, ready to woo the crowd with a rendition of "Your Makeup is Terrible" by RuPaul's Drag Race contestant, "Alaska Thunderfuck."

"I like to walk the line of the glamorous and the uncomfortable," said Rainbow Alliance Vice President Ben Shopper. "Anyone can do pretty."

See photos online at thesuffolkjournal.com
OPINION

San Bernardino: An act of violence sheds light on greater idea

Gun violence has voraciously spread across the country and in the past few years, has been the center of media attention yet, it seems that very little has been done to prevent it. Although school shootings are not new, they have grown in frequency, with the latest occurrence in a San Bernardino, CA elementary school.

The “domestic” attack littered media sources for multiple hours. Earlier this month, two adults and two children were shot in a special education classroom where only one child survived the domestic attack, according to multiple media sources.

At first, the coverage of the incident was immediate and omnipresent until the intrusion was categorized as an act of domestic violence. Then, the broadcast coverage of the tragedy largely disappeared. Behind closed doors, this type of violence can happen frequently. However, once brought into the spotlight, broadcast media frequently reported the fact that the incident was domestic violence. If it were a “terror attack,” it would have gained more attention, possibly given a remembrance day and other countries may have shown their respects.

The ex-husband of the teacher entered the classroom with the intent of murdering her, a motive that was unknown at the beginning of the incident. Once the situation was confirmed, the act of misconduct was swept out of the spotlight and into the subconscious of citizens who have been conditioned to normalize domestic violence.

Two innocent people were murdered and another harmed, yet very few will recognize the severity of the loss of life, including the politicians backing extreme pro-gun rights. But the shooting itself holds more power lost in the subconscious: it was an act of domestic violence.

In the subconscious, it was an act of domestic violence against a woman. Politicians and citizens who are pro-gun rights will argue that if everyone carried a gun, they would be able to defend themselves. But guns should never be involved with violence because it will just exacerbate the situation, including domestic violence.

Now, arguably, an intrinsic part of the United States culture, gun violence has reared its ugly head into the lives of many but is rarely correlated with domestic violence even though gun violence and domestic violence often intersect.

There could be similar incidents that did not happen in an elementary school, which have succumbed to the gatekeeping decisions by major media organizations. This allows us to sweep these circumstances under the rug and pretend they don’t exist.

Domestic violence, behind black and blue arms, “I fell,” and a subtle cry for help in the hollowness of eyes filled with sorrow. But often as a society, we hold a gun to the victim’s head and say “shush,” because we’re too afraid to encounter the issues that are difficult to control.

Lest we forget, the aftermath of a major attack is hidden because we don’t want to talk about the reality. Karen Smith was murdered in an act of domestic violence that disappeared once it was labeled as such. A shooting is allowed coverage while a women’s suffering is hidden.

So, where do we go from here? We must talk about the issues that make our skin crawl, that make us want to shut out the rest of the world and hide.

Discussions are inherent to stop the acts of domestic violence and other internal incidents that affect many people across this country and others.

It is necessary to hold the media accountable for its decisions on the amount of coverage it receives. Although, the media is not solely responsible. As citizens of this country, it is imperative that we continue the conversation against violence, including domestic violence. We cannot let it be hidden among the everyday acts of misconduct by others. Domestic violence cannot hide if you do not let it.

Connect with Patrick by emailing pholmes2@suffolk.edu

Misguided messages leave some wanting more

Mainstream media portrays mental illness inaccurately

Mental illness is not often taken seriously, even by those who have the power to influence change. Filmmakers, celebrities and power figures alike could do a better job at advocating for those suffering.

Last month, Netflix released its much-anticipated series, an adaptation of Jay Asher’s young adult novel, “Thirteen Reasons Why.” The overarching message of the show, how words and actions can deeply impact someone’s mental health, is portrayed through a teenage boy. Clay Jensen, who finds a box of mysterious cassette tapes left at his doorstep. The tapes were left behind by his classmate and crush, Hannah Baker, who committed suicide a few weeks earlier. On the tapes, Hannah recorded the thirteen reasons why she decided to end her life.

Although the creators tried to stay true to the original novel and message, the show lacks any realistic depiction of the young woman’s downward spiral resulting in suicide.

The way the show addressed mental illness reflects the stigmas toward the subject. Not once is depression or anxiety mentioned throughout the Netflix series, while in a few scenes hinted at it, the show never delved into the topic of mental health, but danced around it.

Within the series, Baker hardly conveyed her symptoms of depression. People with suicidal ideation and severe depressive disorder often cannot get out of bed and experience drastic changes in their sleeping patterns, appetite and hygiene habits; Baker showed none of these symptoms.

A few episodes hint at a possible mental illness for Jensen, but again, it is easily forgotten and not addressed again in the series. The only sign of mental illness in Baker was one episode in which her grades were beginning to slip.

See REASONS page 10

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Trump’s retaliation against Syrian chemical attacks could be justified

Patrick Holmes
Opinion Editor

On Apr. 6, President Donald Trump launched a seemingly justified military attack on the Shayrat aircraft base in Syria. This airstrike was a response to the chemical weapons used by the Syrian government that killed 80 innocent civilians, including women and children, but was meant to deter the self-proclaimed Islamic State (ISIS). The response from Trump attacked the same airbase where the alleged chemical weapons were launched. This would not be the first time chemical weapons were allegedly used on Syrian civilians by their President Bashar al-Assad. Al-Assad used these attacks as a fear tactic to keep the population from supporting opposing parties, according to the New York Times. By being able to strike fear in the eyes of Syrians, al-Assad portrayed how the other nations can keep them safe from him.

Trump has criticized former President Barack Obama for intervening in foreign combat and had warned him via Twitter to not be involved in Syria. But it now seems that Trump has had a change of heart and better understood his duties as president. Hopefully Trump had made the order for the airstrike to keep the population from supporting the other parties, as well as sit back idly while this country’s leaders condone irresponsible actions.

Instead of a model, we are a target, an example of a regime in decline. Can America truly become great again? Of course she can-- but it starts on the forefront of our core values systems, and in the offices of the figures that govern this land. We are supposed to be one nation indivisible, but in our quest for justice, we have lost sight of what it means to epitomize liberty, let alone for all.

Representation matters and Netflix fell short

From Reasons page 9

Instead of characterizing Baker’s mental decline, she was constantly berated by her classmates as being too emotional, dramatic, and asking for attention. While that is certainly a stereotype for people with depression, the show focused solely on and could have spent more time focusing on Baker when she was alone.

In the very last episode, the guidance counselor, Mr. Porter, said, “We don’t know what was in her mind or in her heart.” Perhaps this was the writer’s way of showing the audience that a mental disability is something you can physically see, and there is shame associated with it.

We mostly saw Baker when she was interacting with her classmates and family, however, throughout the series, she was incredibly secretive about her emotions. So what about when she was alone? Was she taking care of herself? Was she sleeping? Was she sleeping at night? Many of the side effects of depression worsen when no one is around.

Baker’s suicide became a blame game of whose fault it was. Was it the show itself that was to blame? Let Baker’s story serve as a wake up call to stop putting the fault on the audience.

Connect with Timi by emailing ogunabajo@suffolk.edu

Degrange the North Korean economy

Letter to the Editor

President Trump has pointed out the strong linkage between China and North Korea, and he correctly assumes China can influence North Korea’s weapons development program. We must work with China on resolving this situation, and also on the Chinese encroachment in the South China Sea and the trade deficit imbalance.

At this juncture, the North Korean nuclear missile program is of its primary concern. China can bring pressure on North Korea to stop its development of these weapons systems by reducing its trade with North Korea.

One area of trade that is the large quantity of coal from North Korea. It is estimated that 22 million tons per year, which is 40 percent of North Korea’s coal exports. A reduction in the importation of North Korean coal would significantly impact the North Korean economy, and could force change on arms development.

The United States has large quantities of coal available for mining, which could be sold to China, if cost effective, to fill its coal importation deficit. This would help our trade imbalance with China, boost our coal mining industries, and keep our coal miners back to work.

Donald Moskwitz
Londonderry, NH

Connect with Donald by emailing moskowitzd@comcast.net

Reasons why Denmark is the happiest country in the world

We often hear the “Danish secret” phenomenon that is thought to be the reason behind Denmark’s unending happiness. This is often linked to the country’s cultural norms and lifestyle, which is said to contribute to the overall happiness of its citizens. However, the “Danish secret” is not just a secret, but a way of life that has been embraced by the Danish people for generations.

Firstly, Denmark is known for its high standard of living and social welfare. The country provides its citizens with generous benefits ranging from health care and education to retirement and unemployment. This ensures that the citizens have a stable and secure lifestyle, which is a crucial factor in determining happiness.

Secondly, Denmark is a country that values family and community. The Danes are known for their strong sense of community and their close relationships with family and friends. This is reflected in the country’s low crime rate and high level of trust among its citizens.

Thirdly, Denmark is a country that values work-life balance. The Danes are known for their flexible working hours and the option to work from home, which allows them to have more time for their family and hobbies.

Lastly, Denmark is a country that values nature and the environment. The Danes are known for their love of nature and their commitment to protecting the environment. This is reflected in the country’s extensive network of parks and forests, as well as its strict environmental policies.

In conclusion, the “Danish secret” is not a secret at all, but a way of life that has been embraced by the Danish people for generations. It is a way of life that values family and community, and work-life balance, as well as a commitment to protecting the environment. This is what makes Denmark the happiest country in the world.
The Rams are more than halfway into their season and they have been taking care of business so far. Suffolk University's baseball team fell short in just two of their last 13 games to Eastern Connecticut State University and Western New England University.

On March 29, the team had a 7-5 win against Salem State University, which was the start of a seven-game win streak. McGrath said, "It was broken on April 12 after an 11-5 defeat to Eastern Connecticut State University.

Head Coach Anthony Del Prete said in an interview with The Suffolk Journal on Tuesday that in order to keep winning games, he expects his team to give quality starts on the mound and offensively earn at least seven runs.

Suffolk currently has a record of 16-8 and a perfect Great Northeast Athletic Conference (GNAC) record of 8-0. This conference record is the second best that Head Coach Anthony Del Prete has accomplished since his first season with the Rams when his team achieved a 9-0 GNAC record.

"I think it's really just we've done a better job of focusing and our attention to detail has been better the last thirteen games compared to the first ten," said Del Prete. "Each day it's a different challenge and guys have to be ready to answer those challenges and compete at a high level."

So far in the month of April, the Rams have scored a total of 163 runs and have won three games in which they have notched more than 20 runs.

In a double header versus Anna Maria College on April 15, the Rams finished the first of their two-game series with a score of 30-8. Suffolk had a total of 27 hits and junior outfielder Seth Colley went 3-for-3 with a triple and a home run.

The second match resulted in Suffolk recording 36 runs, the most the team has ever tallied under Del Prete. Sophomore pitcher Kevin Higgins became the first player to hit a grand slam at the Rams home field in East Boston Memorial Park.

"Anytime you have the opportunity to contribute to the team, whether it be hitting or fielding it is always a good feeling," said Higgins in an interview with The Journal on Tuesday. "I am just happy that I was able to do it for the team."

Suffolk pitchers have also had an impressive season so far and stand at the top of the league with a combined earned run average (ERA) of 4.09.

Junior right hand pitcher Mark Fusco has recorded one of the best conference boosters where everyone has success at the dish," said senior infielder Sean Cameron in an interview with The Journal on Tuesday. "It was just business as usual."

In this game, sophomore infielder Kevin Higgins became the first player to hit a grand slam at the Rams home field in East Boston Memorial Park.

"Anytime you have the opportunity to contribute to the team, whether it be hitting or fielding it is always a good feeling," said Higgins in an interview with The Journal on Tuesday. "I am just happy that I was able to do it for the team."

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Boston paced 121st marathon

From MARATHON Page 12

prepare - this is the hardest part. Do these things, and you'll be successful.

Not only was this year's race a memorable feat for McGrath, but it was also a historic milestone for one of the Marathon's most notable figures, Kathrine Switzer.

Switzer was the first female to enter and complete the Boston Marathon in 1967, before women could officially enter in 1972, who had entered the race under the name "K.V. Switzer."

Switzer ran it again this year, marking a 50-year anniversary of her heralded accomplishment, having ran the marathon at 70-years of age.

Suffolk University baseball

Connect with Skylar by emailing st02@suffolk.edu

Connect with Chris by emailing cddegusto@suffolk.edu

Amanda McGrath

Asst. Sports Editor

The Rams are more than halfway into their season and they have been taking care of business so far. Suffolk University's baseball team fell short in just two of their last 13 games to Eastern Connecticut State University and Western New England University.

On March 29, the team had a 7-5 win against Salem State University, which was the start of a seven-game win streak. McGrath said, "It was broken on April 12 after an 11-5 defeat to Eastern Connecticut State University.

Head Coach Anthony Del Prete said in an interview with The Suffolk Journal on Tuesday that in order to keep winning games, he expects his team to give quality starts on the mound and offensively earn at least seven runs.

Suffolk currently has a record of 16-8 and a perfect Great Northeast Athletic Conference (GNAC) record of 8-0. This conference record is the second best that Head Coach Anthony Del Prete has accomplished since his first season with the Rams when his team achieved a 9-0 GNAC record.

"I think it's really just we've done a better job of focusing and our attention to detail has been better the last thirteen games compared to the first ten," said Del Prete. "Each day it's a different challenge and guys have to be ready to answer those challenges and compete at a high level."

So far in the month of April, the Rams have scored a total of 163 runs and have won three games in which they have notched more than 20 runs.

In a double header versus Anna Maria College on April 15, the Rams finished the first of their two-game series with a score of 30-8. Suffolk had a total of 27 hits and junior outfielder Seth Colley went 3-for-3 with a triple and a home run.

The second match resulted in Suffolk recording 36 runs, the most the team has ever tallied under Del Prete. Sophomore pitcher Kevin Higgins became the first player to hit a grand slam at the Rams home field in East Boston Memorial Park.

"Anytime you have the opportunity to contribute to the team, whether it be hitting or fielding it is always a good feeling," said Higgins in an interview with The Journal on Tuesday. "I am just happy that I was able to do it for the team."

Suffolk pitchers have also had an impressive season so far and stand near the top of the league with a combined earned run average (ERA) of 4.09.

Junior right hand pitcher Mark Fusco has recorded one of the best conference boosters where everyone has success at the dish," said senior infielder Sean Cameron in an interview with The Journal on Tuesday. "It was just business as usual."

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Finished Wicked Strong

Skylar To
Sports Editor

Chris DeGusto
News Editor

Crossing the finish line at the 121st annual Boston Marathon was like no other feeling for Amanda McGrath—it was emotional.

McGrath, an Assistant to the Dean of Students in the Office of Student Affairs at Suffolk University, had just completed her first marathon on Monday and said it was the “best feeling in the world.”

“Marathon Monday has always been one of my favorite days of the year,” said McGrath in an interview with The Suffolk Journal on Tuesday afternoon.

McGrath began the race at her alma mater, Lasell College in Newton, Mass., at mile marker 17 and ran toward the finish line at Copley Square in Boston at 26.2 miles.

She was granted a bib by John Hancock to help raise money for the Lasell College Scholarship Fund and in Memory of her fellow alumnus, Dennis “DJ” Simmonds, making her number 30,364—an honorary runner to the 30,074, who officially participated.

“My experience was amazing,” said McGrath. “I didn’t finish as fast as I wanted, but I finished, and that was the best part. I was able to cross the finish line with my best friend and husband.”

Simmonds graduated in 2008 at Lasell, and lost his life in April 2014 due to the injuries he sustained in the April 2013 Watertown shooting with the two marathon bombers. The shooting happened just four days after the two bombing attacks occurred at the 2013 117th Boston Marathon. The marathon bombers placed two handmade bombs near the finish line that killed three people and injured several hundreds of others. He was the Boston bombing’s fifth victim. Simmonds was only 28 years old and had worked for the Boston Police Department for six years.

Besides long runs and various shorter jaunts throughout the weeks during the year, McGrath said that she practiced running the route in her head and read “everything” she could to prepare for her first marathon.
Boston ready for playoffs

Bruins return to playoffs, set to face Ottawa Senators in first round

Bruins forward Dominic Moore and defenseman Kevan Miller fist bump to cap off a celebratory win.

Skylar To
Sports Editor

After a two-year postseason absence, the Boston Bruins are officially back in the Stanley Cup Playoffs this year. The Bruins will open the postseason with the Washington Capitals last Thursday and the Ottawa Senators last Saturday. In both games, the Bruins lost to two possible matchups they had to face in the playoffs last year. During the season, both the Senators and Capitals each defeated the Bruins for a several game series sweep. With help from the Columbus Blue Jackets in their 3-2 win over the Toronto Maple Leafs in Wednesday night’s game, the Bruins were able to clinch a playoff berth after last Tuesday’s 4-0 shut-out win over the Tampa Bay Lightning at TD Garden. For the win, Tuukka Rask, who collected his 28th shutout of the season with last Tuesday’s game win, said in a post-game interview to reporters that: "I think the city deserves it. The organization deserves it and we feel like we deserve it, too." Forward Patrice Bergeron thinks the Bruins have taken the playoffs for granted in years past. "The playoffs seem like it's definitely something that you have to appreciate," said Bergeron in a post-game interview to reporters. "It's been two years. It's been a long time coming for us. There are a lot of guys in this room that haven't had a taste of it yet." To win the series best of seven, the Bruins need to produce. Marchand, who finished a career high of 39 goals this season, acknowledges that the Senators are a "very tough" and "great" team and looks past the team's 0-3-1 series record against Ottawa to start fresh in the playoffs.

Celtics close out season on top, shoots for post-season run

As of April 11, the Boston Celtics own the best record in the Eastern Conference of the National Basketball Association (NBA). As of Tuesday night, the Celtics have a game in lead for the East, however they are only barely in front of the recent NBA Champions, the Cleveland Cavaliers. To take the Eastern Conference title in the regular season, all the Celtics have to do is win their last game against the Milwaukee Bucks. If the Celtics lose and the Cavs win their final game, the Celtics fall to second in the East.

When asked about the current situation, Head Coach Brad Stevens told Celtics media that, "The focus for us has to be the things we can control." Last year, the Celtics rode into the playoffs as a fifth seed, drawing the Atlanta Hawks, who promptly beat them in a seven-game series on the road to face the Ottawa Senators at the Canadian Tire Centre on Wednesday with the puck set to drop at 7:00 p.m.

The Celtics are in a good position to do this, as they will play a bottom seeded team. If they finish second in the East, the most likely scenario for the green, they will draw the seventh seed. In this case, it will most likely be the Indiana Pacers led by small forward and star player Paul George. If the Celtics manage to leap the Cavs, they will host the eighth seed and final playoff position. The eighth seed is up for grabs, as the Miami Heat and Chicago Bulls seem to be battling for that spot up until the final game.

Either scenario for the Celtics would be favorable to win a round. They will host the first two games at the TD Garden as well as games five and seven, if necessary. This bodes well for the Celtics, as they have a 2-1-1 record at home. In addition to this, the Celtics overall talent with rising superstar point guard Isaiah Thomas, as well as pieces around him like power forward Al Horford, small forward Jae Crowder, and shooting guard Avery Bradley vastly outweighs the talent of the East, Indiana Pacers, and the Bulls.

Some people may argue that the Celtics should shoot for the stars this post-season, however the goal for them should be to win a round or two. Stevens may agree with this statement as well. The coach was quoted from the Boston Herald saying that the Celtics are, "Not as good as our record," also noting that the Celtics are, "A long way to be what I think is competitive at a necessary level to be really good when it's all on the line." The Celtics recently showed that statement is indeed true when they had a chance to beat Cleveland to take the top spot in the East and failed miserably, losing by 23 at home.

With that being said, this post-season will not be a total failure regardless of the outcome. Young players such as rookie and emerging talent Jaylen Brown will learn about what it takes to win high-stake games. In addition to this, Thomas will learn more about how to win in the playoffs, which is something he has yet to do. Although a star like Thomas is, playoff experience is something he lacks. A playoff run where the Celtics could steal a couple rounds may provide him with the experience every player needs to win.

One thing working for the Celtics is that the pressure is off of them and on Cleveland more than ever. Coming off a big win on the road against the Celtics, the Cavs yet again proved that they are still at the top of the league. As far as Thomas is, playoff experience is something he lacks. A playoff run where the Celtics could take the East. The Celtics have no pressure from national media to make an impact in this post season, so they go out and play loose, it could result in a postseason surprise.

The NBA playoffs will begin on April 15 for the best basketball team Boston has seen in terms of overall record since the Celtics of O’Neal wore green.
Suffolk chases talent, seeks program depth

By Brooke Patterson

Asst. Sports Editor

Since last fall, Suffolk University has been the home to 204 student-athletes, which makes up about 2.5 percent of the student population. Out of that small percentage, which will see an increase with the new varsity sport additions of track and field and women’s ice hockey, a majority of the athletes at the university have been recruited by head coaches.

“I chose Suffolk for the location, education and the ability to play competitive Division III baseball,” said outfielder Luke Ronchi in an interview with The Suffolk Journal on Monday. “When making a college decision, location was always a consideration, but weighing in all the opportunities provided by being in the heart of Boston, I couldn’t think of a better place.”

For the 2016-17 season, the Suffolk Athletics Department, a National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division-III school, had 91 “deposits,” adding members to each roster of the 19 varsity team levels that the university currently has. The deposits were a group of individuals that were recruited by the various coaching staffs at Suffolk, because they were interested in having those student-athletes as a member on their roster.

Although the athletes were recruited by coaches, the student-athletes are not entitled to a scholarship. “You try to find as many individuals as you can that will be successful here in terms of a student and an athlete,” said the fifth-year head coach. “When I got [to Suffolk] the roster was really small so it was about recruiting as many players as we could, but we are at a point where we have so much talent that we can be more picky in terms of. I don’t really need X, but I need more of Y.”

For Davis and Head Baseball Coach Anthony Del Prete, a large portion of their recruiting process occurs throughout the summer. The coaches attend tournaments and showcases in order to spot the talent they are interested in adding to their roster.

“DePrete keeps most of the recruiting being conducted over the summer,” Davis said. “I attend recruiting events year round. Del Prete said that he starts contacting players following their junior year of high school. He travels throughout New England, upstate New York and New Jersey in order to find team players.

The recruiting process for the baseball team usually begins with a group of 400 to 450 prospective recruits and eventually those numbers dwindle down to about 180 interested recruits. A pool of players becomes smaller depending on academic interests, location of the university and commitments to other schools, explained Associate Director of Athletics Del Prete in a recent interview with The Journal.

“Coach Del Prete does not want anything but the best for Suffolk and he wears it everyday with him,” said Ronchi. “He does a good job at finding recruits that have the same intensity and work ethic as the rest of the team.”

A majority of athletes are recruited to Suffolk varsity teams. Davis said that from her 19-member roster, 17 of her girls were recruited, the other two walked onto the team. Whereas Del Prete explained that every member on his roster had been recruited or in prior communication with the coaching staff before attending Suffolk.

Although each coach has to follow specific NCAA Division-III recruiting rules, they all have their respective ways of seeking talent and the appropriate academic fit for their team.

“Every coach has their own way of doing things,” said Davis. “Everybody recruits and everybody’s needs are different.”

First-year women’s golf Head Coach Jay Parker used online services such as BeRecruited and Front Rush in order to recruit his girls and currently has 675 girls in his database. With only two girls returning to his team in the fall, Parker currently has four recruits committed from New Hampshire, Chicago, IL and Massachusetts. He also has two potential recruits from Miami, FL and California.

The women’s golf program was established in July 2016 and the team’s first season was in the fall. The first season was intended to carry over into the spring, but the season was canceled due to weather. Parker, a previous Suffolk baseball assistant coach, said the season cancellation as a blessing in disguise for his team because it gave him the opportunity to go out and recruit more girls for his team.

“As I look at it in a maturity level, I’m still at that baby level as far as coaching goes,” said Parker in a recent interview with The Journal. “Luckily, the recruiting process has been good because women want to part of history being the first recruiting class ever.”

Varsity coaches at Suffolk are constantly striving to obtain talent for their teams in order to acquire the strongest roster for their team.

“You’re always striving to find someone that is as good as or better than what you’ve had before,” said Davis.

Connect with Brooke by emailing bpatterson@suffolk.edu

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