Two candidates carry complicated political pasts into SGA presidential race

Karine Kanj, Class of 2021, is the current Student Affairs Committee Chair for Suffolk's Student Government Association (SGA), and serves on the Constitutional Review Board as well as the Student Judiciary Review Board (SJRB). Now, Kanj looks to take on the role of SGA president as an upperclassmen.

Yasir Batalvi, Class of 2020, is a two-term Student Government Association (SGA) senator for the Class of 2020. He also served as SGA vice president before resigning in February 2018, and hopes to finish his tenure at Suffolk as SGA president.
Yasir Batalvi: A campaign of positivity amidst a history of controversy

Yasir Batalvi addresses members of Suffolk faculty, staff and alumni at Suffolk University

Caroline Enos
Aast. News Editor

“I believe I have the experience, the vision, and the capability to make real change at Suffolk,” said Batalvi at a SGA candidates forum Thursday at the Student Union.

Batalvi, who is from Toronto, majors in government with a concentration in law and public policy. If elected SGA president, Batalvi hopes to foster a stronger sense of transparency at Suffolk through his written proposal to create an ombuds office at Suffolk.

An ombuds office offers independent and impartial mediation for conflicts between students, organizations, faculty and administration on campus. It could also address grievances, explain policies and report on systemic issues in the university that may not be officially identified otherwise.

“It is a way for the university to make sure that we’re keeping ourselves honest,” said Batalvi in a stump speech at last week’s Suffolk Democrats meeting. “They have the independence to hold people accountable from the top down at the university.”

Batalvi also looks to create a designated student center on campus. He said the Ridgeway building, which houses SUPD, Campus Card Services and Suffolk’s gym and basketball court, could turn into this.

 “[A student center] would create one centralized location where students would know there are no classes there, there’s a place they can hang out and it helps students know who’s who,” said Batalvi in an interview with The Journal.

“If there’s a basketball game going on, students are already at the student center and they are so much more likely to go to that basketball game,” Batalvi wants to make it mandatory for all professors to record their lectures for students to start using free or open-source textbooks. In order to promote environmental sustainability, Batalvi wants the dining halls to use real utensils and plates, Suffolk to grow its own produce and the campus to recycle more.

He also hopes to enhance the quality of food, meal options and the service of Sodexo, Suffolk’s food services provider.

In his time in SGA, Batalvi said he helped greek life gain more office space and played a major role in developing Navigile, a mobile app for Suffolk students that shows students their courses and different ways to connect with various areas of the university.

Batalvi has also seen controversy while in SGA.

Over the course of the 2019-2020 SGA election season, Batalvi has said he resigned from the vice presidency due to disagreements with decisions made by Daniel Gazzani, last year’s SGA president who has since graduated.

“Without having to focus on what I saw was poor, unconstitutional decisions made by an administration that I just couldn’t support serving under, I think that what’s important is to do what’s right and the choice I was faced with was a difficult one,” said Batalvi in response to an audience question, who asked him why he resigned, at the Suffolk Democrats’ stump speech event last Tuesday.

Batalvi did not say what these “poor, unconstitutional decisions” were when asked to clarify this statement in an interview with The Journal.

“The personal choice that I made was to do it quietly, and obviously not in the sense that people didn’t know about it, people did, but not try to cause controversy around it,” said Batalvi in response to the question. “You can [resign] in a way where you burn bridges and you create a lot of noise, but at the end of the day, that undermines the organization and it undermines, I think, the institution.”

In a comment on a Student Judicial Review Board’s (SJRB) ruling on Team GRIT’s violation of SGA election rules during last year’s election, multiple members of SJRB said Batalvi had contacted them and asked for confidential information pertaining to Gazzani’s impeachment. Batalvi’s involvement in the situation was never appealed and he was never on the table.

According to the Student Judicial Review Board’s ruling on Team GRIT’s violation of SGA election rules during last year’s election, multiple members of SJRB said Batalvi had contacted them and asked for confidential information pertaining to Gazzani’s impeachment.

“After that election, I was close friends with GRIT member Logan Trupiano, he was never GRIT’s campaign manager, nor did he fill an unofficial role that was similar to one. He also said that he did not interfere when SGA was trying to have a closed door hearing. For example, asking for information as to questions that will be asked in a hearing is not appropriate. Not only is this inappropriate behavior from a previous Vice President of SGA, it is also an attempt to violate the confidentiality clause.”

Batalvi said that although he is close friends with Gazzani, he did not interfere when SGA was trying to have a closed door hearing and investigation to figure out what happened during the election.

“Let me put it this way, to ask someone ‘how is the hearing going?’ is not to ask anyone for confidential information,” said Batalvi to The Journal. “That’s the extent of what I would have asked anyone on SJRB. You have to understand, I was speaking about, very vociferously, about how they were mishandling the process.”

Last year, Batalvi condemned how the election had been handled by SGA’s e-board and then-vice president Levi Smith, who had assumed office in a special election after Batalvi’s resignation. The SGA 2018-2019 election rules were announced weeks before the election took place due to a technical error in the voting system which Batalvi said violated SGA election rules.

Batalvi said he asked Gazzani to remove the section from him from the SJRB ruling.

To take a regular student, [Batalvi] and to name them, that to say that somehow that, you know, I was doing something that was against the rules, I think was their attempt to get back at me somehow for basically what I was doing, which was making sure that the process was followed fairly because that’s something that I can assure is what I was doing,” said Batalvi to The Journal.

Batalvi said he had nominated every member who was on SJRB during last year’s election while he was vice president, as SGA vice president he is the chair of SJRB. He also said he attended every SGA meeting after he resigned.

“After that election, I think that there is some type of picture that’s being painted as if I gave up or didn’t show up,” said Batalvi at the SGA candidates forum.

“But I was there every week, I was just sitting on the other side of the table, with the senators of SGA.”

Batalvi said that whatever controversy that came out on several issues at the SGA meetings following his resignation. This includes his call on SGA to move to a vote of no confidence in Vice President Smith after Batalvi said he had not been adequately involved in the SJRB hearings about the election, as Smith had recused himself as chief justice of SJRB during these hearings.

Smith lost to Batalvi for SGA vice president in 2017. During that election, e-board candidates wrote campaign messages on the whiteboards in the Sawyer building’s lobby, including Smith.

Smith’s message showed a bulleted list of his qualifications that election had a checked off box next to it. During the election, Batalvi posted a clip of

See BATALVI - 3
The importance of feedback: Karine Kanj’s quest for SGA presidency

Kairein Hahn

News Editor

From KANJ - 3

Previously, Kanj worked as a finance committee chair, an SGA elections coordinator, and was on the housing and facilities committee. She said this could change the image that Suffolk students may have of SGA, as well as generate more perspectives from international students on Suffolk’s current state of affairs.

The scholarship was inspired by the personal experiences of Kanj herself.

“I got the chance to visit the resettlement in Lebanon; I met like 60 people from 20 different families, it was wild,” said Kanj about her experience. “When you are there physically, it’s a whole different type of feel. I was in shock, I felt really ungrateful for the things I have which I would be a reality check for me.”

Kanj has made this experience a main pillar of her campaign in order to bring awareness to these issues not only through the scholarship, but also by celebrating the diversity that international students bring to Suffolk.

“We flaut and advertise our diversity and our culture and all the unique things they bring to our campus, so I thought maybe we could step out of our shells and comfort zone a little bit and give back to their communities,” said Kanj in an interview with The Journal.

Kanj said her campaign revolves largely around increasing communication between student government and students.

“How can I make your experience better? I would be very hurt if someone came up to me and said ‘I absolutely despise Suffolk and I would do anything to get out of here now’,” said Kanj in an interview with The Journal.

In order to begin the process of making Suffolk a better place for students, Kanj has created an anonymous google document where students can go online and speak about issues they feel are important to the community.

She also looks to add office hours as president and work hard, and when you do things not right, learn both sides of a story and keep going, because too often we get caught up in the negativity that I think SGA can some times foster on campus.”

Connect with Kaitlin by emailing suffolknews@gmail.com

The Journal

Karine Kanj announcing the winners of the SGA awards at the SGA Awards Dinner last year.

However, during her time in SGA, Kanj has faced many challenges. Last year, Kanj ran for SGA e-board with three other members as a united team known as “GRIT.”

“I could stand here all day and talk about changes that need to happen on campus, but I can own it all. Student feedback is one of my biggest things right now. I want to keep this consistent throughout the year,” said Kanj in her stump speech at last week’s Suffolk Democrats meeting.

Kanj also added that her experience on the Student Affairs committee has connected various departments with the rest of the Suffolk community. “I love being able to fit into the different committees and discover more about the association and more about campus,” said Kanj in an interview with The Journal.

This year, we worked on athletics and sporting events to build that bridge of connection between SGA and athletics.”

When asked about this experience, Kanj said running with GRIT not only affected the team, but also everyone involved with SGA.

“I think what happened last year really put things into perspective for everyone. Honestly, it was kind of interesting to take a few steps back and watch what was happening said Kanj in an interview with The Journal. “It just shows that in the real world, people are going to interpret things a different way, so you have to be clear and concise with what you mean and what you are intending to put out there.”

Although most of the members who part of GRIT have since dropped out of SGA, Kanj emphasized that she was not going to let the negativity affect her involvement in the organization.

“There was a lot of negativity to come out of that. A lot of people dropped their positions and walked away from SGA. But I didn’t,” said Kanj in an interview with The Journal. “I love doing what I do and being a senator and I always wanted to do it and be a part of student government. I choose to let that affect me. I just wanted to move on from it.”

Kanj told The Journal that she does not feel she did anything wrong, despite all four members of GRIT being disqualified.

“I learned how to put things in perspective and learn both sides of a story rather than just one side,” said Kanj. “[GRIT’s disqualification] is not going to hurt me because I don’t think I’ve done anything wrong.”

Kanj is running against Yairi Batalvi, a current senator for the Class of 2020 who served as SGA vice president last year before resigning in February, 2018. In their ruling about Batalvi, SJRB said Batalvi “served a role similar to GRIT’s campaign manager.” Batalvi, however, denied being involved with GRIT in an interview with The Journal.

“I have no comment on his involvement as I wasn’t really involved with his campaign,” said Kanj when asked about Batalvi’s participation in GRIT’s campaign.

Kanj hopes to focus on the future of Suffolk by creating an enhanced dialogue between student government and Suffolk students.

“I could list a million things we need to change at Suffolk. I don’t want to be a person to state all these things and write all these things and have them fall through in the end, whatever that may be,” said Kanj.

Connect with Kaitlin by emailing suffolknews@gmail.com

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SUFFOLKNEWS@GMAIL.COM

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Kanje's quest for SGA presidency

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Suffolk survey research class poll Kentucky voters

Eddie Reinhardt
Asst. World News Editor

Director and founder of the Suffolk University Political Research Center (SUPRC) David Paleologos led his students in a unique opportunity to shape political opinion and receive national attention. This project was meant to give students in Paleologos’ survey research class real-world experience in every part of the polling process, from choosing the region, selecting which questions, and deciding what demographic to poll.

The process mirrored techniques Paleologos has used to garner respect and attention with newspapers across the country, including USA Today and The Boston Globe. “I say to them, this question you’ve added, might be a question that piques my curiosity, might be a question I put on a national poll,” said Paleologos in an interview with The Suffolk Journal. “At what other college in this area does a student like you have an opportunity to put a question on a national poll or a class poll that could get picked up by another pollster?”

Over this past weekend, students began calling for the poll they created in Paleologos’ class. With general elections in Kentucky looming, students prepared 30 questions for residents who plan to vote that they narrowed down from a list of over 150.

“We caught lightning in a bottle in 2008, Suffolk had two bellwether polls showing Hillary Clinton beating Barack Obama,” said Paleologos. “We were the laughing stock of the political world.” In 2017, Suffolk made headlines again for their polls. “Two years ago, we did a poll of French voters, no other college or university in the country polled that others have ignored.”

In 2019, they will poll the Latinx community on upcoming elections. “This year we are doing a Latinx poll, only Latinos and Latinas in the country, whether they are registered or not registered, citizens or not citizens,” said Paleologos. “No other college or university has done that and Suffolk is going to separate itself again on an international level.”

Suffolk graduate student Marissa Dakin calls one of hundreds of phone numbers to complete the class survey.

“We caught lightning in a bottle in 2008, Suffolk had two bellwether polls showing Hillary Clinton beating Barack Obama,” said Paleologos. “We were the laughing stock of the political world.” In 2017, Suffolk made headlines again for their polls.

“When Clinton’s victory was announced, Paleologos was immediately swarmed by media members that had gone from asking him questions out of pity, to demanding to know when the next poll would be released from Suffolk. Paleologos returned to campus, cancelled his vacation and met with then-President David Sargent and secured funding for further polling. "Since stepping into the spotlight, SUPRC has continued to stray from the mundane and has explored different polling universes that others have ignored. In 2017, Suffolk made headlines again for one of their polls."" Two years ago, we did a poll of French voters, no other college or university in the country polled that others have ignored. In 2017, Suffolk made headlines again for one of their polls. "This is something that is very practical, and it seems to be lucrative."

With the idea of keeping this tradition of unique and diverse polling synonymous with the university, this year the SUPRC has its eyes on a new set of data.

This week in SGA...

Financial Committee initiative requests 2/12/19

**Best Buddies:** $1,457.84 for t-shirts and a conference in Indiana.
The Fundamental Brotherhood Society- $200 for “You are Loved” event on 2/14

**Diabetes Network:** $0 of a $2,045.92 request for attending an event. The finance committee said it was too close to the event and the flights were too expensive.

**Veterans Organization:** $1,300 for new operation hat trick hats and a military reception night at one of the baseball games.

**TEDx:** $639.80 for laptop stickers and security for their April event.

Financial Committee initiative requests 1/29/19

**SULA:** $2,853.63 for sweatshirts for their members, food for LSAT prep lawyer panel, prep books, pocket constitutions, a conference in Boston and senior gifts

**The Suffolk Journal:** $2,494.73 of a $5,100 request for the National College Media Convention in New York City.

**Photography Club:** $486.07 for an end of semester showcase.

**Mock Trial:** $1,810 for regional tournament at Yale.

**SUMUN:** $5,250 for Model UN conference in New York City.

Connect with Caroline by emailing suffolknews@gmail.com

Connect with Eddie by emailing suffolkworldnews@gmail.com

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Spreading the wealth: Business professionals share how to capitalize on early career years

Four panelists visited the Somersets building Thursday to discuss how to advance and maximize the early stages of a career when it comes to networking, advocating for yourself in the workplace and, of course, dealing with difficult bosses.

The panel, titled “Hit The Ground Running: How to Maximize Your Young Professional Years,” featured panelists Casey Baines, Suffolk alum Ryan Pantaleo, Jaclyn Youngblood and Amy Mahler.

Pantaleo, a 2015 Suffolk graduate who earned his degree in finance, said during the panel that advocating for oneself is crucial at the early stages of a career. Although many expect that their career services through their university or a current manager or boss will advocate for them in the workplace, one of the best ways to get ahead is to not rely on others. He also said that in the early stages of a career, making sure that any given job is a stepping-stone towards something else is important.

Pantaleo invests in real estate and is an account manager at a branch of Google located in Michigan. “I got a lot of great advice at Suffolk and some of the best advice I received was as long as you’re intentional in the next step you take, if it’s moving you toward your end goal, then pursue it,” said Pantaleo. “Don’t just listen to what your best friend thinks or what your parents think if it’s not moving you toward your end goal. I’ve tried to be highly strategic in everything I’ve done.”

The panelists also recommended that being embedded in office culture is crucial to building relationships in the workplace, which can help in the long run. By showing up to work parties, events and functions, younger people can become accustomed to the company’s culture, which will make it easier to form professional relationships.

They also said that networking, and keeping a list of people you meet and reaching out to them from time to time, is important and has the potential to lead to future job opportunities. “Just showing up is such a huge part of the game,” Youngblood said.

Youngblood, who currently works as the chief of staff at New Urban Mechanics, also said during the panel that knowing and understanding managers is important to adjusting as a young person in the workforce, especially when the management is bad.

Mahler, the director of the technological outreach group SPARK Boston, said that although younger people sometimes have to deal with managers that ignore younger professionals, bad management should not define a person’s career. Instead, younger people should focus on “building a game plan that you get to play by, not your managers.”

The panelists all agreed that the phenomenon known as “burnout” can be disastrous in the workplace at any age, not just in the early stages of a career. There is a stigma among many young people and any employee that they have to put in long, grueling and hard hours to get noticed or promoted. Youngblood said that younger people are generally more inclined to burn themselves out if they have a coworker who is putting in long hours and constantly getting promoted because they’re likely to put in long hours too, even when they don’t need to.

“What that tends to do to people younger in their career is give them the sense that ‘this is the only way to be successful,’ Youngblood said. “You can always find more work to do and there’s always a reason to stay later.”

Youngblood also recommended for young professionals to break down work to its most essential parts when on a tight deadline, as well as have conversations with employers about how to be rewarded for any excruciatingly tiring and long hours that may have been put in.

Pantaleo also said that “just saying no” is another way to avoid taking on too much work. He said that in the entrepreneurship world, there’s an ideology of “grind, grind, grind, (and) if you’re not grinding, you’re not trying. You’re falling behind,” which can be self-destructive.

“That can be a dangerous space to play in if you don’t make time to make new friends, meet new people,” Pantaleo said. “That is a toxic environment, so I think that there has to be a balance of working hard but also being selfish and doing things you actually enjoy doing, not because other people want you to do it.”

The event was put together by Laurie Levesque and Jonathan Ahern of the Sawyer Business School. Levesque is an associate professor of management and entrepreneurship and Ahern is the associate director of several masters programs.

Philip Butler, a Suffolk student studying computer science graduating this year, said that hearing the advice from working professionals helped ease his mind as he looks to graduate.

They gave some reassuring advice about taking the leap of faith and discussing handling burnout and really how to properly network and advocate for yourself,” Butler said. “A lot of the stuff I’ve definitely heard before, but it was definitely a nice reminder.”
Suffolk community responds to the Green New Deal

Amy Koczena
World News Editor

The Green New Deal (GND) is getting us thinking about [climate change] and talking about it,” said Scott Lussier, Suffolk University practitioner in residence at the Center for Urban Ecology and Sustainability (CUES) in an interview with The Suffolk Journal. “We need to do something about these issues. I love that we are not shying away from talking about them.”

The deal aims to reform the economy while tackling the complex task of eliminating all United States carbon emissions over the next decade. However, the deal offers little specifics on exactly how to accomplish these goals.

“I would like to have seen something more targeted,” said Lussier. “It’s so broad and it reaches into so many different sectors, it’s almost too big for people to get their heads around. Scaling it back may help people to understand it better. I’d almost like to see it divided into sectors.”

Lussier noted that climate change is not just a national issue, but is also one threatening the global population.

“Even the solutions that we have considered big and bold are nowhere near the scale of the actual problem that climate change presents to us, to our country and to our world.”

Ocasio-Cortez said in an interview with NPR that the deal has sparked a serious discussion on the issue of climate change. “The Green New Deal is essentially us asking how we can continue to live a destructive lifestyle and consume as we’ve been consuming without any disastrous consequences,” said Widger.

Individual change is not comfortable, however, many feel it is going to be required to achieve a cleaner and ultimately habitable planet in the long run.

“The text itself is just saying what the end goal is, but it doesn’t really have any concrete steps to take,” said junior psychology major Chaim Widger in an interview with The Suffolk Journal. “This is just a call to make a plan, a plan to make a plan. It’s also really U.S. focused and climate change is a global issue that needs global cooperation to solve it.

This is also not the first time a plan like the GND has been discussed among lawmakers. Albeit the deal is essentially a plan composed of several goals, it has generated more talk amongst the public than previous climate change related legislation.

“The idea of what the GND suggests massive increases in renewable energy sources, solar and wind, for example, in order to make the U.S. carbon neutral by 2030 with net-zero emissions by 2050, according to page 2 of the resolution. While this is a well-intentioned goal, many feel it is almost too challenging to comprehend. Seeing as the GND fails to outline the concrete means of achieving net-zero emissions, some are concerned the public may not take the plan seriously.

“People that help sustain and build our country should have more say in what goes on,” said Ennis. “If we’re taking all of the old jobs from the coal industry, we need to focus on building new jobs that would probably last longer and benefit the Earth.”

Ambitious as the GND may be, it has undeniably sparked a conversation that many feel cannot be left to burn out.

“If the United States as a country was able to do this, it could set the precedent for a lot of other countries,” said Ennis.

Mainstream media has played a profound role in raising awareness for the climate change issue. Numerous cities have banned single-use plastics and have implemented stricter laws on carbon emissions. Ennis emphasized that the green movement cannot stop there.

“I think it’s all becoming kind of trendy to be more eco-friendly and to reuse stuff, which is great, but it needs to be more than just a trend,” said Ennis.

The environment is already experiencing drastic changes in weather patterns: coral bleachings, ice caps melting and erratic storms across the globe. Although widely criticized, the GND has integrity in it which is looking to accomplish. Ultimately, individual change must be socially accepted in order to achieve the goals outlined by the GND.
Asia Night: Bringing together culture and creativity

Eddie Reinhardt
Asst. World News Editor

With a campus built around the idea of inclusion, it is vital that students feel at home even if they are thousands of miles away from it. At Suffolk University, students have access to a plethora of clubs and organizations that work together to create a diverse student body. Hosted by the Asian American Association (AAA), a total of eight different clubs collaborated to put together Asia Night last Friday – a celebration of Suffolk’s Asian cultural groups.

AAA, Korean Culture Club (KCC), AIESEC, Ascend, Fusion Dhamaka, Japanese Student Association (JSA), Video Gamer’s Army (VGA) and Suffolk Free Radio (WSFR) came together to sponsor the night. Throughout the evening, attendees enjoyed authentic Asian cuisine, game tournaments and several dance performances.

“We tried to get away from tables, the whole idea of Asia Night is togetherness, celebrating Asian culture together,” said Brandon Wong, AAA president in an interview with The Suffolk Journal. “Last year people were separated, there was no music, so I took all my notes and did the complete opposite.”

With music DJ’d by Suffolk’s own WSFR, Fusion Dhamaka took the floor first. The Bollywood and Korean pop (K-pop) group put on a dazzling performance under purple and blue lights while a crowd of flashing phones accompanied their energetic dance moves. The all-girl dance crew had routines to a mix of modern and throwback American songs as well as Asian pop music.

They were followed by the K-pop dance crew East Side Elements. The group’s set featured choreography to hip-hop music by artist Kendrick Lamar infused with K-pop music hits such as Exid’s “I Love You.”

“The dance crews were an impromptu last-minute idea and we thought it would be great to partner with Fusion Dhamaka,” said Wong. “Korean culture happily paid for the performance by East Side Elements, a K-pop dance crew who we’ve worked with in the past and they’ve never failed to amaze us.”

Part of the night was spent introducing students to a variety of authentic dishes from each of the countries represented at the event. AAA provided Chinese sausage fried rice from New Golden Gate in Chinatown. Tukbuki, japche, and kanpoongki were brought by KCC from Seoul a Korean restaurant downtown. JSA brought a fried octopus dish known as takoyaki that came in small bite size battered flower balls. Students also sampled Taiwanese bubble tea, a milk tea with tapioca balls, also known as boba.

Many students spent the night dancing but those that wanted to take a break could head over to where the VGA had set up head to head gaming for attendees to enjoy.

“All the games that VGA brought were created by Asian game developers, but the one that had everyone’s attention was Tetris. Equipped with four controllers, friends could race against the blocks for the title of game champion.”

“It feels amazing. I didn’t realize how fun it would turn out to be, the decorations look great, AAA and the other clubs really pulled it all together so well,” said AAA secre- tary Leah Magno in an interview with The Jour- nal.

Connect with Eddie by emailing suffolkworldnews@gmail.com

East Side Elements K-pop dance group performs at Asia Night

Hanoi summit sparks hope for a united Korea

Chris Sadrnoor
Journal Staff

Last week, President Donald Trump went to Hanoi, Vietnam, to speak with North Korean leader, Kim Jong-un. This was the second round of talks that aimed to denuclearize the peninsula in Southeast Asia. Although this summit ended abruptly and with little progress made, there is still hope of a bright future for both Korea.

The first summit with North Korea took place in Singapore in June 2018, with Trump at the helm. Despite his exorbitant victory tweets, not much was gained from the first meeting. Trump did agree, however, to meet a second time in Hanoi to try again.

The White House released a document containing a joint statement made by Trump and Kim from the summit. It states that North Korea, “commits to work toward complete denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula. If that sounds uninspiring, it’s because it is.”

This is not the first time they’ve “agreed” in their nuclear weapons technology. According to the Arms Control Association, North Korea has this multiple times to multiple presidents and yet, nothing has changed.

Although there was no real progress at the first meeting, no sitting U.S. president has ever negotiated with North Korea’s leader in person, which makes the meeting itself truly unprecedented.

Thanks to Trump’s summit meetings, Korean leaders have met face to face once again. South Korean President Moon Jae-in met with Kim in April 2018 - the first time the two sat down to talk in 11 years.

According to CNN, they have made progress of their own, including the proposition to formally end the Korean War. Furthermore, the two nations plan to submit a bid to host the 2032 Summer Olympics, create roads and railroads to link one another, as well as reduce the forces at the Demilita- rized Zone.

The demands Trump made at the Hanoi Summit were for North Korea to surrender all nuclear weapon capabilities in exchange for the U.S. to lift the sanctions that have crippled North Korea’s economy.

The New York Times reported that North Korea rejected this offer, once again. In true Trump fashion, he ignored his top officials John Bolton and Mike Pompeo’s belief that the deal would not be accepted by Kim, and asked anyway.

From insults and threats to love letters, their relationship is bizarre to say the least. While he remains steadfast on taking away Kim’s nuclear weapons, Trump does not seem to acknowledge the lengthy and atrocity list of crimes the kim regime is responsible for.

Perhaps Trump believes that crossing that bridge at this point will unravel the possibility of future summits, and he is ad- mant that the most recent talks in Vietnam will not be the last. Opening dialogue with North Korea was taboo years ago, but today they’re happening again and nothing. It is certain at this point, as North Korea has not actu- ally given up anything, but there is hope that these passing, strange, may be the last of a divided Korea.

Connect with Chris by emailing csadrnoor@su.suffolk.edu

Thanks to Trump’s summit meetings, Korean leaders have met once again.
SUFFOLK OVERSEAS

Junior theatre major Courtney Bouchard is studying abroad in London. Connect with Courtney by emailing cbouchard2@su.suffolk.edu.

“Going out of my comfort zone to experience a new place has made me grow so much as a person and has allowed me to experience new cultures. I am forever grateful for this opportunity.”

- Courtney Bouchard

Do you love traveling? Know someone studying abroad? Get the chance to be featured in The Journal’s new travel column, Suffolk Overseas! Email suffolkworldnews@gmail.com for more information.
Celine Song’s play ‘Endlings’ dives into Harvard Square

Sarah Turley
Journal Contributor

“Endlings” is the play every Bostonian is talking about right now, and rightfully so. The play, which is running at the Loeb Drama Center at the American Repertory Theater, follows the story of three Korean female divers, known as hanyeos, and Ha Young, a Korean New Yorker trying to write a play. The author of “Endlings,” Celine Song, combines the differing storylines through themes of identity, immigration and real estate. Despite sounding a bit strange, the play successfully combines the two stories to create a great message. When asked about the play, Song summarized it by saying; “It’s about three old women waiting to die, and one young woman trying to live.”

An ending is the last known individual of a species. The three hanyeos, Han Sol, Go Min and Sook Ja, are the only remaining hanyeos. As endlings, these women are the last of their kind, therefore their way of life will die with them, and that’s what they want. They all pushed their children aside, making them go as far away as possible and lying about missing them so they would never want to live on their island. They only have each other as they slowly work themselves to death. The elderly women spend their final days diving, complaining about life and craving death so they can meet their husbands in the mythical island of paradise.

Trying to find your identity is already hard, but struggling to find yourself in a world full of identities that are dying can make it even harder. The second act exceptionally blended the storyline of the hanyeos and Ha Young through the captivating set design. The hanyeos live on an island and the set is a rock that the hanyeos never leave. The set may change from their house to the ocean, but that is all that is on this island. The background of Manhattan, that is nothing like their own island. On Manhattan island, people don’t swim their lives away to make ends meet. On Manhattan, people live in tiny expensive apartments complaining about the subway. Ha Young lives in Manhattan, her scenes is in. Ha Young is defined by Manhattan, just as the hanyeos as defined by the tiny rock they live on. The importance of real estate determines the characters’ lives. Young’s mother left South Korea so her children could have better opportunities in life. Due to this, Young is allowed to work themselves to death.

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The play also showed the contrast between the hanyeos and Ha Young through the captivating set design. The hanyeos live on an island and the set is a rock that the hanyeos never leave. The set may change from their house to the ocean, but that is all that is on this island. The background of Manhattan, that is nothing like their own island. On Manhattan island, people don’t swim their lives away to make ends meet. On Manhattan, people live in tiny expensive apartments complaining about the subway. Ha Young lives in Manhattan, her scenes is in. Ha Young is defined by Manhattan, just as the hanyeos as defined by the tiny rock they live on. The importance of real estate determines the characters’ lives. Young’s mother left South Korea so her children could have better opportunities in life. Due to this, Young is allowed to work themselves to death.

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The stage is a line recited several times within a scene featuring clams at the bottom of the sea. There is no real estate under the sea, there is no immigration, no identities you have to find. The sea just exists; it is a backdrop but also a character in itself. The sea is cruel and kills, but also provides the hanyeos with their way of life.

Some moments in the play were a bit odd, such as the part where Young talks about her body covering the island of Manhattan or the previously mentioned clam scene. However, by the end of the show all the scenes flowed seamlessly together and reinforced the main idea of the play: authentic stories matter.

“Endlings” is receiving praise for its genuine voice. The play itself also addresses the importance of this story coming from a Korean author. In a comedic spat between Young and her “White Husband,” they both come to the conclusion that he would not be able to tell this story. Representation matters, but having representation come from an author that does not overdramatize or distort the representation matters more.

Although this play is definitely a Korean story, it is not only for a Korean audience. This story should be seen by everyone. The play, although ironically hard to explain, is incredibly easy to relate to. Anyone who has ever worked hard or wants to find their voice would enjoy this show.

“Endlings” will run at the Loeb Drama Center, in Cambridge until Sunday, March 17. Tickets are available online at americarepertorytheater.org, by calling 617-547-8300 or at the center’s ticket desk.

Connect with Sarah by emailing sturley@su.suffolk.edu
Acclaimed graphic designer gives guest lecture at Suffolk

Gabriela Lopez / Journal Contributor

Graphic designer Stefan Sagmeister visited Suffolk University on Feb. 27 to deliver a guest lecture and sign copies of his new book “Sagmeister & Walsh: Beauty,” co-written with Jessica Walsh.

Sagmeister’s lecture drew an audience of over 300 students and faculty to the Sargent Hall Function Room. Most of the crowd was comprised of art and design students who follow the Austria-native’s work, who has won two Grammy awards and has designed album covers for the Rolling Stones and Jay-Z.

In Sagmeister’s presentation, he highlighted how an influential factor in defining beauty, besides a person’s individual perception, is the effort and thought put into the artwork. He said that half of categorizing something as beautiful comes from one’s own personal experiences and tastes, and the other half comes from judging art based on emotion.

“It’s not a question about minimalism or maximalism, it’s a question about love and care, and not giving a s**t,” said Sagmeister during his lecture.

Suffolk Art and Design Professor Keith Kitz was an organizer of the event that brought the celebrated artist to campus.

“I tell my students all the time about this adage that I have in class: ‘Design loses and ties in details,’ I believe that intention in design is the most important thing a designer can bring to the table,” said Kitz.

During his lecture, Sagmeister explained how the definition of beauty has transformed over time as society often puts a stronger emphasis on functionality over aesthetics. He demonstrated this idea by showing the audience a picture of the Brooklyn-Queens Expressway underpass while explaining how although it helped with transit, it had a dirty brown color and people would often urinate on its exterior. His company, Sagmeister & Walsh, was hired to paint the walls to enhance the area.

“We were able to transform this from a toilet to a place where couples can take pictures,” said the designer.

Sagmeister emphasized how closely visual aesthetics are related to people’s emotions, which he demonstrated by showing the most beautiful cities around the world, which are popular tourist destinations. Rome, Paris and Capetown were just a few of the places that he referenced.

At one point, the audience was asked everyone in the audience what their favorite color was. Students voted with blue, receiving the most votes and brown receiving the least. Sagmeister said he conducted this quick survey in each of his presentations to demonstrate which functional colors people find most aesthetically pleasing. He said brown is always almost the most unpopular color, while blue is usually the crowd favorite.

Sagmeister advised students to create designs that are not only useful, but are made with beauty in mind. He admitted that although this is difficult, it helps to produce better designs overall.

His presentation was followed by a Q&A session that allowed attendees to interact with him on a more personal level. Afterwards, Sagmeister sat outside of the venue and autographed copies of his book to a large line of students that were eager to meet him.

“He is like the rockstar of all designers, and I think it’s hard to define beauty. I don’t think there’s an actual definition for it and that’s why I wanted to hear what he had to say, but he is right by saying that everything [made] with care is going to be considered beautiful,” said Suffolk freshman graphic design major Emily Knoebel.

In an interview with The Suffolk Journal, the designer admitted to making “many mediocre things,” throughout his career.

“There are definitely situations in my life where I tried hard, but the outcome was less. Some of my projects would have been better if I put more into a time when I didn’t take form seriously yet,” said Sagmeister.

Regardless, he acknowledged how with each project, he has learned from his mistakes and has ultimately grown as an artist.

“At the beginning, I was a very functional designer, the idea that everything was on the execution and the form was secondary,” said Sagmeister. “Not everything that I do [turns] out great, even an exhibition or even the book. I don’t think that every page is as good as the previous page. I think I came out well because we did a good job as well as the previous ones. Sagmeister’s book

Sarah Lukowski / Journal Staff

The disturbing horror-thriller film “Greta” has kept viewers on the edge of their seats since its release in theaters on Friday, as it shows what can go wrong when you befriend someone who is not what they appear to be.

The film follows good-natured New York City newcomer Frances McCullen, played by Chloë Grace Moretz, who meets the lonely widow Greta Hidig, played by Isabelle Huppert, after returning Greta’s lost purse that she found on the subway. Frances quickly befriends Greta and starts helping her around the house until Frances discovers that Greta is not who she pretends to be and tries to end their friendship.

The suspenseful film was Oscar-award winning director Neil Jordan’s first film in seven years. Jordan is known for his sinister and surrealistic films such as “Interview with the Vampire,” and “Greta” definitely falls into that category, although her malevolence is subdued at first when she masks herself as a maternal figure.

In many ways, “Greta” mirrors the recent Netflix hit series “You” with its stalkish and unsettling nature as both the main characters, Greta and Joe, respectively, hold their world at their feet. Jordan spits gum into the edge of their seats since its release in theaters on Friday, as it shows what can go wrong when you befriend someone who is not what they appear to be.

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Dean Lewis satisfies fans during sold-out concert at Royale

Morgan Hume | Arts Editor

Up-and-coming musician Dean Lewis did not disappoint on Sunday night when he gave an exceedingly energetic performance to a sold-out crowd at Royale, putting on a memorable show for his biggest stop on tour.

Lewis is a rising Australian singer-songwriter, one of the bookers’ favorite artists for his hit song “Be Alright,” which he described on stage as the song that changed his life six months ago and peaked on the Billboard Music Charts at No. 30.

The singer kicked off the show with the upbeat track “My Mind,” sending the excited crowd into a dancing frenzy. The venue elevated in heat as the beat dropped and the chorus began, igniting the lively mood that would only grow stronger throughout the night.

“Stay Awake” was the second song in Lewis’s set, which will be included on his upcoming album “A Place We Knew.” Before diving into the track, the musician explained that despite its cheerful sound, it is not a happy song due to its depiction about losing someone you love.

In between tracks, Lewis explained that he is in an awkward spot in his musical career because he only has a handful of songs, but is asked to perform for upwards of an hour. Although his discography is limited, he had a great set list. Lewis said well-known songs fans were anticipating as well as unreleased tracks that will be coming out in the near future.

Lewis’s charming smile and passionate stage presence radiated through Royale, along with his strong and clear vocals. Regardless of whether or not the crowd knew the words, they were enthused by every track and were always eager to hear more.

The dedicated fans only needed to hear the first few chords of every song to know which one Lewis was playing next. As he dove into popular tracks like “Chemicals,” “Let Go” and “7 Minutes,” the crowd immediately realized he was playing their favorite tunes and they jumped in exhilaration.

Like many artists, Lewis has had to persevere during the pandemic, which has stretched out his tour. “I’ve been really good about learning how to love myself before loving someone else. His thoughtful and heart-breaking message is relatable to those who have struggled in romantic relationships due to their own low self-esteem, personal conflicts or as Lewis describes it, feeling like “a sinking ship that’s burning.” Lewis takes the intense feelings of heartache we all experience and conveys them through words that most people are unable to express.

Lewis made use of the stage by switching from standing with his acoustic guitar to seated behind the keyboard. He also engaged with the audience, trying to connect to the concert goers as much as possible by taking breaks to explain the backstory behind several of his songs. Whether the song was cheerful or emotional, the singer gave every ounce of energy he had into this performance.

Lewis’s tour will end in Phoenix, Arizona on March 17 and his latest album “A Place We Knew” will be released on March 22.

Once’ the musical tells Irish love story through powerful acoustic songs

Morgan Hume | Arts Editor

Boston’s SpeakEasy Stage Company presented the New England audience to Dublin on Sunday afternoon through their production of “Once” the musical at the Calderwood Pavilion at the Boston Center for the Arts.

“Once” is based on the 2007 film of the same title. The show follows an Irish busker, known as Guy, who is played by Nile Scott Hawver, who meets a straightforward Czech woman, known as Girl, and played by Mackenzie Lesser-Roy, who encourages him to keep singing his songs after she sees him leave his guitar on the ground and listens to him woefully explain that his days of playing music are over.

Guy sympathized with Guy’s songs about his broken heart towards his old girlfriend that ended their relationship so she could move to New York and pursue her better career opportunities. Over the next few days, Guy and Girl bond over their shared love of music and exchange personal, sometimes romantic, moments with each other. Girl helps Guy rent a record studio to tape his first demo CD, and in the process Guy and Girl are introduced to each other’s family and they learn more about the other person’s private life.

Guy and Girl only knew each other for a handful of days, but they built a strong connection.

However, by the end of the show, they realize it is better for them to part their romantic feelings for each other aside. Guy decides to join his old girlfriend in New York and Girl stays in Dublin to work out her faculty marriage and raise her young daughter.

Although the show concludes on a positive note, it is not like the typical happily-ever-after most love stories end with, where the man and woman remain giddily in love. Their paths crossed just long enough for them to realize that they are not ready to start a new relationship.

Compared to other Broadway musicals, “Once” is a soft, quiet show. Instead of large dance routines and flashy costumes, this production featured sweet-sounding string instruments and casual flannel shirts.

The soundtrack, which is comprised of Irish folk music, glues the show together. The dulcet strums from the guitars, the feather-like violins and cellos, and gentle piano keys mixed together to form a captivating, powerful sound.

Sㄘ troments. The romantic song steadily gets louder as more voices are added, but the tune never loses its intimate feeling. The same unique sound was recreated later in Act II during the reprise of “Gold.”

Lesser-Roy sailed smoothly through every note while Hawver was unafraid to belt out the climax of each song in his raw voice. When Lesser-Roy and Hawver sang duets like “Falling Slowly,” their voices gorgeously entwined, helping to showcase each performer’s vocals.

Pulling off a foreign accent can be challenging, but each member of the cast convincingly played the part of an Irish or Czech person. The performers’ strong acting skills also succeeded in making the audience laugh and make emotional connections with their characters.

“Once’ the musical will play at the Calderwood Pavilion until March 30.

Connect with Morgan by emailing suffolkarts@gmail.com

Once’ the musical tells Irish love story through powerful acoustic songs

Nile Scott Hawver and Mackenzie Lesser-Roy in “Once”

Morgan Hume | Arts Editor

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Netflix sweeps Academy Awards with films ‘Roma’ and ‘Period. End of Sentence.’

Harper Wayne
Journal Staff

“Roma,” a film written, directed, filmed, produced and co-edited by Alfonso Cuarón, is a foreign semi-autobiographical movie set in Colonia Roma, a neighborhood within Mexico City in the early 1970s. The story is loosely based on Cuarón’s own upbringing and life experiences. Gabriela Rodríguez, a co-producer of the film is a Suffolk alumna.

In this year’s Academy Awards, the film was nominated for 10 Oscars and won 4 awards, including best foreign language film. If not experienced firsthand, the viewer most likely has some parts of the film that left approximately 120 people dead. That was the case all over the world. The movie depicts an unconventional family dynamic, Clevio helps create a sense of family through the tight-knit relationships she builds with the children as she takes care of them when their mother and father are at work. As the movie advances, Clevio also builds a strong bond with Sofia by helping her cope with her failing marriage when her husband runs away with his mistress.

Although the film is projected simply with out much dialogue or large dramatic events, the complexity lies in the things that are intentional ally left unsaid. “Roma” shows how complicated one person’s life can be, even when it may appear normal to the outside world. What separates a film like “Roma” from its competitors is that the plotline is not written to shock or make the crowds gasp; instead it depicts life in such a realistic way that the audience can relate to many of the challenges the character’s face along the way.

Period. End of Sentence.

Hannah Mitchell
Journal Contributor

Tampons, pads and periods. Many people are familiar with the idea of having their period at first, but as they grow older, most girls become comfortable with the idea. By having resources within reach, females learn that having your period is simply a part of you.

However, this is not the case all over the world. Gayka Zehabichi’s documentary, “Period. End of Sentence,” shares the story of a small Indian village that struggles to end the stigma around menstruation that strongly persists in their lives.

The film, which won an Academy Award this year for best documentary short, showcases several women who felt ashamed every day as they handle their menstruation. They dispose of their home-made pads at night when nobody can see, don’t speak about their cycles in front of men and are too embarrassed to go to the store to purchase feminine hygiene products.

When the word “menstruation” is mentioned in front of the men of the village, they are unaware of what the word means and say they believe that menstruation is an “illness.” When women in the village are handed a pad by the production crew, they are incredibly confused as to what the product is and how it works.

Some girls in the community missed too many classes because of their period. They didn’t have the resources to properly deal with their cycle, so they were forced to drop out of school to better deal with their menstrual flow.

It is during moments like these that we realize just how fortunate we are to live in America, where the resources are at our fingertips and the stigma around menstruation is not nearly as strong. Though it may be awkward, we are not ashamed to mention our cycles around men. It is so sad to see how embarrassed these girls were, even though there is absolutely nothing they could do to avoid having their periods. The documentary was not only a look into how different our lifestyles and cultures are. It is clear how differently the men look at the women of the village after learning about menstruation and seeing the sanitary napkins being manufactured.

One woman says that her husband has more respect for her now that she has made an income selling sanitary pads. Another man says, “The strongest creature created by god in the world. Not the lion, not the elephant, not the tiger, but the girl.”

The short documentary film can be streamed on Netflix, and those interested in donating or learning more about the cause can do so on https://www.theperiodproj ect.org/.

Connect with Hannah by emailing hmitche@d su.suffolk.edu

Connect with Harper by emailing hwayne@su.suffolk.edu

Film Review: Artistic cinematography in ‘Roma’ depicts family life

Colin Cavanaugh / Graphics Editor

Film Review: ‘Period. End of Sentence.’ ends taboo around menstruation

Period. End of Sentence.
Editor’s Word

A significant portion of social media surrounding the death of Jassy Correa lays blame on her and her friends, asking why she was left on her own or why they allowed her to leave with a man she had just met. The victim shaming and victim blaming needs to stop.

We, as a society, put the weight of a woman’s safety on her own shoulders: Don’t dress provocatively, don’t travel alone, watch your drink be made and never take your hands or eyes off of it. The only person who is in charge of a woman’s safety in this society is herself.

Our society needs to redirect this responsibility onto the perpetrators, the ones who don’t understand that no means no; the ones who don’t understand basic human decency. It is the responsibility of all to ensure that our fellow human beings are able to safely enjoy nights out with friends, days out on the town or simply walking through the city without fear of attack or assault.

Violence against women is not an issue that should fall solely on the shoulders of women. It is a societal concern that affects us all, every day, and the world needs to share this concern and work towards a brighter and safer world.

~ The Suffolk Journal Staff

Sycophancy is not conservative

Although politicians generally support candidates of their own party, many Republicans have staunchly supported Donald Trump without being critical of any of his actions, which threatens the conservative movement.

Nick Sammarco
Journal Contributor

The conservative movement is on the verge of abandoning principle and falling into sycophancy, or obsequious or excessive flattery, all due to the most vocal Trump supporters in its throngs. Conservatives in 2016 were apprehensive to support GOP nominee Donald Trump for a number of reasons, most crucially the widespread fear that Donald Trump wasn’t actually a conservative dedicated to smaller government and individual freedom. In 2016, a large contingent of conference goers at the Conservative Political Action Conference (CPAC), the largest annual gathering of conservatives in the nation, threatened walkouts if Trump was allowed to speak.

“Never Trump” Republicans attempted to change the bylaws at the Republican National Convention in order to keep Trump from becoming the nominee. Trump didn’t show up to CPAC and he was easily elected as GOP nominee at the convention, but the point was made: Trump had some work to do in order to assuage the fears of conservative Republicans. People say that time heals all wounds and come election day, when conservatives nationwide were faced with either voting for Trump or sitting out the Presidential election, most ended up voting for the GOP nominee, with some notable exceptions. Some conservative political commentators like Ben Shapiro, political conservatives like Senator Rand Paul and activists like those at the Heritage Foundation that were critical of Trump during the election season for the most part took the role as watchdog, criticizing the president for bad policy and praising him for good policy. This position is a perfectly tenable and is quite responsible. Conservatives should believe that no man or woman is above the principles that built the US Constitution.

If conservatives truly care about individual freedom, accountable and small government, free markets, and a vigorous national defense, they should be willing and able to call out President Trump when he violates these principles.

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“Never Trump” Republicans attempted to change the bylaws at the Republican National Convention in order to keep Trump from becoming the nominee. Trump didn’t show up to CPAC and he was easily elected as GOP nominee at the convention, but the point was made: Trump had some work to do in order to assuage the fears of conservative Republicans. People say that time heals all wounds and come election day, when conservatives nationwide were faced with either voting for Trump or sitting out the Presidential election, most ended up voting for the GOP nominee, with some notable exceptions. Some conservative political commentators like Ben Shapiro, political conservatives like Senator Rand Paul and activists like those at the Heritage Foundation that were critical of Trump during the election season for the most part took the role as watchdog, criticizing the president for bad policy and praising him for good policy. This position is a perfectly tenable and is quite responsible. Conservatives should believe that no man or woman is above the principles that built the US Constitution.

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The US withdrawal from Afghanistan is long overdue

As the U.S. nears the second decade of its direct military involvement in Afghanistan, many Americans — including those in Washington — are rightfully considering the idea of getting the U.S. out of the war that has consumed billions of dollars and thousands of lives. It’s time for the U.S. to plan and implement an exit strategy.

Chris Sadrnoori, Journal Staff

I t has been 17 years since the United States invaded Afghanistan following the attacks on Sept. 11, 2001. The war has lasted four complete presidential terms, a staple focus for both Presidents George W. Bush and Barack Obama, yet they were not able to put an end to it. On the fifth term, President Donald Trump suggested something different: slowly pull out all troops and negotiate peace with the Taliban. Like many of his decisions, his top officials advise him otherwise, yet his November 2018 announcement of withdrawing from Afghanistan is one they should consider.

Throughout nearly two decades of war, the U.S. and its allies successfully drove out the majority of the Taliban, installed a democratic government, elected a U.S. approved candidate in Hamid Karzai, and eliminated the Sept. 11 mastermind, Osama bin Laden.

Although NATO and U.S. forces achieved major early victories, their overall goal of eradicating the Taliban and al-Qaeda has gone stale. The two fundamentalist groups are successfully hiding in the deep corners of Afghanistan and Pakistan, allowing them to carry out attacks on both military and civilian targets.

It is important to remember the U.S. and the Taliban’s relationship did not start in 2001, but decades earlier. The Council for Foreign Relations (CFR) says some members of the Taliban were a part of the Mujahideen, the guerilla group that fought the USSR when they invaded Afghanistan in the late 1980s. These militant groups were financed and armed by the CIA in a covert operation dubbed, Operation Cyclone.

Fast forward to 2019, the Taliban are as strong as they have ever been. According to the BBC, they now control more territory than ever before. Their attacks have increased in intensity and frequency. Even when they are defeated, they win, as they receive massive morale and recruitment boosts following a loss. It is becoming clear that a U.S. military presence has become ineffective of neutralizing their presence. The civilians often become collateral. An Uppala Data Conflict Program report that thousands of innocent civilians are killed each year in addition to combatants. The terrorist organizations are not solely responsible for this statistic. The United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) reports that allied airstrikes have hit and killed civilians likely mean any remnants of the U.S. built democratic system would crumble and power would revert back to the Taliban. A CNN article says although there are many Afghans that support the democratic government, one of the only things stopping the Taliban from taking over is the security from the U.S. military. This latter option may be the one Trump chooses. In an unprecedented move, the U.S. has begun talks with the Taliban, reversing the famous U.S. policy of not negotiating with terrorists, made by the George W. Bush administration. The two sides are currently engaging in talks in Qatar. So far, the Taliban want the U.S. and its allies to completely withdraw and the U.S. wants the Taliban not to use Afghanistan as a base of operations to conduct future attacks, according to Al Jazeera.

U.S. officials say the talks with the Taliban are making progress, however, not everything is going the way they want it. The Taliban practice a very different culture. They institute Sharia Law, ban music and television, compromise human rights and put men in jail whose U.S. allies are terrorists, according to the CFR.

Furthermore, the Taliban have signaled they will not cooperate with the U.S. installed democracy, according to the New York Times. There are many Afghans who do not trust the Taliban, believing they will renge on any agreements of securing a democratic future in Afghanistan.

Diplomacy is great, so long as both sides will uphold their agreements. There is no way to predict what will happen in Afghanistan should the U.S. leave soon. According to a CNBC report, Afghanistan’s refugee crisis may significantly worsen and there’s even a possibility of a civil war between pro-democratic forces and the Taliban. Power vacuums have been a problem for the U.S. in the Middle East before. A CNBC report also says that some neighboring countries, Russia, Iran and Pakistan are preparing to deal with the influx of refugees that may soon pour over their borders, as well as the rise of ISIS in Afghanistan.

The War on Terror encompasses a much larger target, not just Afghanistan. For now, the U.S. and its allies cannot do much more with military force. This drawn-out conflict echoes the Vietnam War, sharing similarities in terms of exit strategy. It is time to work out the issue without weapons. Trump must rectify the mess the U.S. created. There is no simple way to fix everything, and simply leaving without a plan, like with Iraq, would make the situation far worse.

Connect with Chris by emailing csadrnoori@suf.suffolk.edu

Chris Sadrnoori, Journal Staff
New England Sports Network (NESN) anchor Adam Pellerin has worked diligently since his graduation from Suffolk University in 2002. The Norton, MA native now covers the Red Sox for NESN and has been doing so since 2012. Growing up as a big Boston sports fan, Pellerin is very enthusiastic when it comes to his work. When he first got the job at NESN, it was quite the opportunity.

"At first, the job at NESN was surreal. I grew up watching players like Tim Wakefield and Dennis Eckersley, and now I get to do pre and post-game shows with those guys," said Pellerin in a recent interview with The Suffolk Journal.

Pellerin’s path to NESN was long and filled with hard work. His inspiration to get into the sports broadcasting field began at a young age. Pellerin grew up playing baseball, basketball and football. At the same time, both of his parents worked in the television industry. Pellerin always had ties to this line of work.

At first, Pellerin wanted to continue his baseball career following his graduation from Suffolk. He played catcher for the Rams when he was in college, but his plans to play further than that did not pan out. Concurrently, Pellerin found himself working for Fox 25 Boston behind the scenes as a news writer. It was at this job where Pellerin discovered he wanted to work in front of the camera.

“When I was working at Fox 25 Boston, I wanted to see if I could get in front of the camera,” Pellerin said. “At the time, Maria Stephanos and David Wade were working there and they really helped me along the way.”

The help that Pellerin received along with his dedication to learning has since paid off. In August 2004, he landed his first on-air job as a weekend Sports Anchor at WGME.

After three years at WGME, Pellerin returned to Fox 25 Boston as a news and sports anchor for another five years, before going to NESN. Once anchoring Red Sox pre and post-game shows and much more. With so many tasks to keep track of, Pellerin knows it is important to always stay on top of the latest news.

“Covering something that I was unfamiliar with made it a breeze when I came to sports, something I was comfortable with. Covering both news and sports definitely gave me perspective.”

Pellerin arrived at the network, it was a whole new experience.

Pellerin is now in charge of anchoring daily shows NESN Sports Today and NESN Sports Update, the job at NESN, it was quite the opportunity.

“With news, there is something different every day,” said Pellerin. “Covering something that I always had ties to this line of work.”

In the 24 years of the Greater Northeast Athletic Conference’s (GNAC) history, a five-peat in men’s baseball has only been done once.

The Rams have had a successful history, having appeared in 11 straight GNAC championships. Since 2016, Suffolk has played St. Joseph’s in the championship round twice.

“St. Joseph’s is definitely the baseball program’s biggest game of the year, it’s like the Sox-Yankees rivalry,” said captain Kevin Sinatra in an interview with The Suffolk Journal.

This season, head coach Anthony Del Prete has named seniors Sinatra, Charles Batchelder and Travis Lee captains of the Rams. Since Del Prete started coaching in 2015, the Rams have amassed a 104-75 record and have won four championships, three with the newly appointed captains.

“My freshman year we had a big power hitting team, since then, through our coaches’ recruiting, play 11 games over a week down in the sunshine before returning to New England Regional tournament. The Rams had a great deal of success recently, the team has not won a championship and push 30 wins. It would be nice to win it five days in a row, but the number is not something we are focused on. Right now our main focus is playing well in 2019 and working towards making sure we are playing our best baseball come May,” said Del Prete.

Batchelder said that this year, the team is focused on making it further in the NCAA DIII New England Regional tournament. He said that as of recent, the team has not had a great deal of success in this tournament.

The Rams won two games in the Regionals last year before being knocked out.

“Always tell the guys once the new season starts, we aren’t champions anymore. We’re back in the field like everyone else.”

- Senior Kevin Sinatra

Suffolk alumni covers the Red Sox for his job at NESN.
Joe Rice
Journal Staff

Senior transfer from SUNY Canton, Tess Adams, was able to tally a team-high 12 points on 18 goals and 14 helpers for the Lady Rams in their inaugural season, only adding to an already successful first campaign for Suffolk.

Combining the point totals from her original school to Suffolk, Adams finished her career with 111 total in 99 contests, good for over a point-per-game throughout her entire career.

As a result of Adams’ constant success, she was able to garner attention from the National Women’s Hockey League (NWHL), now in its fourth season. The forward from Calgary, Alberta recently inked a deal with the Connecticut Whales of the New England Hockey League, participating in one game as a figure skater prior to ever picking up a stick, but never truly enjoyed it. Adams recalled how she did not like how the ice felt each time she fell on a failed maneuver, and remembered begging her mother to allow her to play hockey.

In the first season of Suffolk women’s hockey, the team managed to build up some hype after a second-place finish within the New England Hockey Conference, boasting a 15-9-2 overall mark. By transitioning from a DI program at SUNY Canton to a DIII program at Suffolk and then propelling all the way to the professional level in a years time, Adams has had to make adjustments to seeing the game at a quicker pace again.

“It’s a lot different,” said Adams in a recent interview with The Suffolk Journal. “Seeing every pass go tape-to-tape from across the ice. The skills and the talent are a lot to adjust to.” Further alluding to the adjustment necessary to have success at the pro level, Adams went on to discuss how she had to compete against three Olympians in her first pro game.

“Being on the ice with them was a pretty cool experience,” said Adams. The First Team All-NEHC forward began her days on the ice as a figure skater prior to ever picking up a stick, but never really enjoyed it. Adams recalled how she did not like how the ice felt each time she fell on a failed maneuver, and remembered begging her mother to allow her to play hockey.

After some convincing, and a little help from dad, she was able to pursue her true dream.

Adams remembers growing up watching Matthew Lombardi, the speedy center who spent five of his 11 National Hockey League seasons playing for her hometown Calgary Flames, and trying to emulate his game. “[Lombardi] was so fast on the ice,” said Adams. “He used his speed to get around defenders, and that’s the way I kind of play.”

Adams spent her high school career playing hockey at Banff Academy, located in Alberta, Canada.

“Hockey is such a great escape. It takes away your mind off what was going on within her.” Further alluding to the positives when it came to her dream she has had since she was young: playing college hockey as it provided her with a place to keep her mind off what was going on within her.

Despite health issues, Adams kept playing hockey as it provided her with a place to keep her mind off what was going on within her.

“Hockey is such a great escape. It takes away your problems when you’re out on the ice,” said Adams. “You don’t think about much.”

After going through remission and fighting through the setback of a disease like linear scleroderma, Adams was finally able to finally pursue a dream she has had since she was young: playing college hockey in the States.

Adams arrived at SUNY Canton, meeting teammates and coaches that have affected her in positive ways ever since. Adams noted that this was where she met head coach Taylor Wasylk, the then-assistant of the Kangaroos.

When Wasylk left for the job at Suffolk, Adams knew she had to follow.

“[Wasylk] was someone I always looked up to,” said Adams. “She was on [Boston College] and played for team USA, so she was always an inspiration to me.”

Adams signed her release forms from Canton and headed to Boston to reunite with her inspiration for one last season.

Adams’ close teammates Sydney Jordan and Kristen Caporusso also made the switch from Canton to Suffolk. Both have been teammates with Adams for three seasons.

Jordan had nothing but positives when it came to Adams’ character on and off the ice.

“[Adams] has always been a notable player on and off the ice. As a teammate and leader, she is very caring and passionate.”

- Sydney Jordan, Junior Defenseman

During her sophomore year, Adams found a mark on her leg, causing concern. After some time passing of it off as a bruise, Adams realized it was not. She then went to a dermatologist and discovered she had linear scleroderma: an autoimmune disease that can affect bones and muscles within the affected area.

“I struggled a lot with treatments and medication,” said Adams. “Trying to play hockey on top of all of that was really difficult.”

After some time passing of it off as a bruise, Adams realized it was not. She then went to a dermatologist and discovered she had linear scleroderma: an autoimmune disease that can affect bones and muscles within the affected area.

“[Adams] has always been a notable player on and off the ice. As a teammate and leader, she is very caring and passionate,” said Jordan in an interview with The Journal. “If you need help with on ice skills, Tess is the first person you’d go to. If you need help with something personal outside of hockey Tess is the easiest most helpful person. She is the kind of teammate everyone should strive to be.”

Connect with Joe by emailing jrice4@sus.suffolk.edu

Suffolk women’s hockey player signs pro contract

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@NESN: David Krejci’s overtime goal lifted the Bruins over the Hurricanes as Boston extended its point streak to 17 games.

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