Students living in the 10 West and Modern Theatre residence halls say they are frustrated with the lack of frequently inoperable elevators, as well as issues with water pressure and temperature, and room temperature. There are weeks when as few as two of the complex’s five elevators are working, several residents have gotten stuck in an elevator and one of the elevators has not worked for most of the spring semester, students told The Suffolk Journal.

When the one elevator that goes up to the 11th floor breaks, about 100 students have to take an elevator to the sixth floor and then walk up the stairs the rest of the way to their floor, according to residents.

A Suffolk University Police Department (SUPD) dispatcher is no longer employed by the university after he was arrested April 17 by state police on charges he brandished a firearm in an alleged road-rage incident that began on Interstate 93 South. The other driver is alleged to have then pulled a knife on the dispatcher during the altercation, according to reports. Daniel Bates, 33, of Avon, was arrested on charges including assault with a dangerous weapon, disorderly conduct and disturbing the peace, the Massachusetts State Police said in a press release. Bates allegedly brandished a privately owned registered firearm during the incident.

Suffolk University’s newest residence hall at 1047 Commonwealth Ave has received mixed reviews from residents and staff alike as the building approaches the halfway point in its two year contract. Residents at 1047 receive a subsidized Charlie Card from the university to cover the cost of their commute to and from the Allston building. (The university is building from Boston University in the last year and is leasing it from The Michaels Companies, with an option to renew the lease through the 2022 academic year. Currently, an apartment at 1047 is 1 to 2% less expensive than a 10 West apartment.

Suffolk acquired the building from Boston University in the last year and is leasing it from The Michaels Companies, with an option to renew the lease through the 2022 academic year. Currently, an apartment at 1047 is 1 to 2% less expensive than a 10 West apartment. Residents at 1047 receive a subsidized Charlie Card from the university to cover the cost of their commute to and from the Allston building.
Sunrise movement fights for Green New Deal

On Thursday, hundreds of people of all ages gathered at the Strand Theater in Dorchester to rally in support of the Green New Deal. Organized by a group of youth activists from all over Boston known as the Sunrise Movement, the rally urged the Congress to pass the organization’s Road to a Green New Deal Tour.

“We launched Sunrise with a really simple vision,” said co-founder of the Sunrise Movement and the evening’s host Varshini Prakash. “To make climate action rooted in racial and economic justice and equity.”

Established in 2017, the Sunrise Movement was formed as a national coalition of activists and allies to combat climate change in order to seek a sustainable and just environment for all.

The organization quickly gained attention and soon, a variety of Sunrise hubs were established in cities across the country.

The Sunrise Movement has decided to stand behind Representative Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez and Senator Ed Markey’s Green New Deal because they believe it is the best way to establish equity through job creation, while addressing the climate crisis. Speakers like Representative Ayanna Pressley and Senator Marky joined the rally to encourage individuals to stay hopeful and motivated in combating climate change.

The impacts of climate change are intersectional on our public health, on our human migration, on national security. So we come here tonight to usher in a progressive movement,” said Pressley during the rally. “We are here to offer a vision for our world, and to double down and offer a commitment to work towards that world and to actualize that vision because we know climate change is the most persistent threat to our nation.”

Throughout the event, the Sunrise Movement showed videos from youth members within the organization telling stories about how climate change has impacted them. “We are made up of people from Hawaii and coastal Virginia who every year saw their lands being lost to the seas,” said Prakash during the rally. “We’re made up of people from states like Pennsylvania where in some places you can set the water on fire because of the methane pollution.”

Speakers at the rally explained that the issue of climate change is wide spread and far reaching, affecting people from every corner in all areas of the world. The Sunrise Movement has been persistent in their fight for climate action and emphasized the importance of maintaining hope when it can be difficult.

Prakash said that the Green New Deal sets aside 12 years to reform how society functions in order to maintain a safe global environment. She expressed that the Sunrise Movement must be adamant in their fight for making the Green New Deal a national priority despite backlash.

“What we must be motivated by is hope, not fear,” said Pressley in the rally. “We have an opportunity to hope, to demand and to work for work towards and to usher in the necessary shifts in policy and practice that will ready us to address our time - climate change.”

said Marky during the rally. “And in the face of opposition, in the face of Donald Trump, you are not agnostics, you are organizing to install fear into the face of the fossil fuel industry.”

For event attendees and Sunrise Boston members, hope is key to achieving equity, both politically and environmentally. For high school teacher and Sunrise Boston volunteer Sam Dreyfus, educating students about hope is key to continuing the fight for climate justice in the future.

“I feel like my students are really thinking about the climate and they’re thinking about the future and they’re thinking about their futures,” said Dreyfus in an interview with The Suffolk Journal.

“But there’s not a ton of teaching about hope. I want to teach students about how we cannot be falsely optimistic, but how we can actually build hope through action for a better future.”

Local environmental organizations also collaborated throughout the evening to spread greater awareness for climate action. Several tables were set up to display some of the sustainable work being done in the Boston area.

Phoebe Adams / Managing & Copy Editor
Amy Koczera / World News Editor
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Sunrise Boston.

Sunrise Movement fights against climate change.

Cheers and applause reverberated throughout the theater as each speaker offered words of encouragement and hope to audience members.

“How this generation, this generation, is rising up and demanding that we protect the planet against the greatest challenge of
Suffolk hosts first ever Farmers’ Market

during the SUsC Green Week

Students and faculty alike had the chance to buy fresh, local produce on Tuesday at Suffolk University’s first-ever farmers’ market. As part of Suffolk’s Earth Week event series, the Suffolk University Sustainability Committee (SUSC) partnered with Sodexo to set up a stand where passersby could choose from a variety of locally sourced organic fruits and vegetables. These included pea greens, fava beans, rhubarb, wild leeks and Yankee Macintosh apples, many of which nearly sold out over the course of just a couple of hours.

“[This] was very successful,” said Sodexo General Manager and farmers’ market Manager Bob Cirame in an interview with The Suffolk Journal. “We easily sold 100 apples, almost 25 pounds of rhubarb, two pounds of pea greens and a lot more of everything else.”

Cirame estimated that more than 30 faculty purchased produce during the few hours the market was active, and several dozen students.

The second event in the Earth Week series is part of a larger effort of the SUSC to empower, educate and enable students to be more sustainable citizens. Other events still to come this week include a sustainability fair hosted by the Suffolk Environmental Club, and a sustainability movie screening.

The farm that the market’s fruits and vegetables were sourced from was Eva’s Garden, a local three-acre organic farm located in Dartmouth, Massachusetts. According to their website, the farm specializes in culinary herbs, greens, flowers and wild foraged goods, all of which are most often sold to local grocery stores or chefs.

“We are trying to show the community what’s local, where you can get these things locally,” said Cirame. “It’s always better when you have an option to buy something fresh and straight from the farm. It also works well for Earth Week, because it’s local. The food doesn’t have to travel as far, and then doesn’t have to go through the same transportation process as most foods do.”

Helping plan several of these events has been Director of Facilities and Administrator of the SUSC, Ashley Lindsey.

“We want people to feel like they are taking something away from these events, something they can use in their own lives,” said Lindsey in an interview with The Journal.

A primary goal for Lindsey with the commit-
Commute, lack of communication cause issues for 1047

From 1047 – 1

extremely happy with the facility itself,” said Shigeo Iwamiya, direc-

tor of Residence Life and Housing at Suffolk. “It’s offering things we can’t usually

offer, like an in-unit washer and dryer, stainless steel appliances, sustainable electric-

ity and appliance building structures that our apartments in 10 West don’t currently

offer. But it’s 25 minutes away.”

Iwamiya said they are still exploring the option of extending the two year agreement for 1047, but that the commute is a large issue for residents there.

“I really felt like I was living by myself and like I wasn’t a part of Suffolk,” said Angela Quiterio, a sophomore who said it often took her an hour on the Green line to get to her morning classes during rush hour.

The commute hasn’t been the only deterrent for students living at 1047. Quiterio moved to a suite in 10 West at the beginning of the spring semester after becoming fed up with facilities fail-

ing to respond efficiently to maintenance issues in her 1047 apartment when she lived there in the fall.

On her first day living there, she said she put work orders in to fix issues with flooring, a broken light and the fact above her stove, yet never heard back from facilities and said the issues were not fixed by the time she

moved out in December.

Although she never saw rodents, Quiterio said she found rodent droppings in her apartment.

“We were concerned because if it’s rats, that’s dangerous and, they basically

couldn’t do anything about the problem,” said Quiterio. “We asked if

there was anything other than fumigation that could be done and they were

like, ‘you can go out and [buy] traps,’ and that’s just not the answer we were

looking for. There were a lot of maintenance problems that were never

addressed.”

Carina Fresa, a sopho-

more, still lives in 1047 and said she’s had her own issues with facilities. The
door to the closet in which her washer and dryer were located remained broken for months and would occasionally fall off. Her

washing machine is still broken after it wouldn’t drain water last weekend and ruined multiple articles of

her clothing.

“My roommate and I spoke to our Resident Assistant (RA) who told us to

go talk to security and they would call the on-call facilities,” said Fresa. “The

SUPD (Suffolk University Police Department) officer was extremely frustrated and wrote down our issue, names and room number. He then informed us that

maybe someone would help us during the week because it was a Saturday.”

A person from facili-

ties vacuumed the water out of the machine on the following Wednesday and said they would come back again to see if the machine was still broken.

When Fresa and her room-

mate returned from class that day, facilities had left a sticky note on the machine that said “washer is broken. will need to order a new one to replace.”

“Now me and my room-

mate are out of a washer until it gets replaced entirely,” said Fresa. “We have no idea what the pro-

cess of facilities replacing a washer is, how long it will take, how invasive it is and when they will do it.

With three weeks left and the track record of Suffolk facilities, I assume it will not be fixed by the end of the semester.”

Despite putting in mul-

tiple work orders, transfer student Cassie Cavender has had similar issues with her apartment.

“Maintenance is awful,” said Cavender. “I know the dishwasher has been broken since last semes-
ter. A guy came to look at it, figured out what was wrong, and never came back again. The dishwaher still runs, but [the door] doesn’t actu-

ally close. The heat and AC have been breaking on and off. When it was really cold, the heat was broken. Then you have the main laundry room, which is just awfully put together.”

Both Cavender and her roommate Melanie Boivinset said being in Allston meant they had to leave by 5:30 a.m. to make a 7 a.m. soccer practice in East Boston and after classes, they would not get home until 7 p.m.

Iwamiya said this is also a concern of res-life and that the university tries to not put first year students in 1047 and that more Suffolk signage was added to the building to make it feel more like a part of the Suffolk community.

While students said they were happy with the appliances and appearance of the apartments, Fresa said the lack of response to work orders, especially on the weekends, has been a major downfall of 1047.

“It felt tedious that I kept having to put in the same repetitive work orders,” said Fresa. “One should be enough. It would be helpful if they acknowledged the work orders to some extent or gave us a day where they would come in so at least we knew something was happening and not just sitting in this phase of when are they going to show up.”

Director of Facilities Ashley Lindsey explained the relationship between facilities, res-life and ALim — the company recently hired by Suffolk to main-
tain its buildings— as an interaction that manages student needs and student expectations.

“Res-life is responsible for handling the student interaction side, the stu-
dents would go to Resident Assistants or Resident Directors (RD) who have access to our work order system and they submit them like the rest of the community can,” said Lindsey.

According to Lindsey, facilities and res-life should seek to under-

stand student difficulties in their relationship with maintenance by identifying where work requests are “dying.”

“I’m very interested in fixing whatever prob-

lems students have, and I want to work my way through the chain and figure out how we can better understand the stu-
dent experience to make it better going forward,” said Lindsey. “I wouldn’t call them complaints because they’re experi-

cences, they’re good and bad and I want to know about both.”

Residents have said that they do not know where to bring their com-

plaints, or what different departments can do to solve the problems they are having in the dorms.

The university depart-

ment has been “very siloed,” said Lindsey.

Both the res-life and facilities departments highlighted a need for more communication in order to ensure they are addressing student needs, which Lindsey said has begun with bi-weekly res-

life liaison between the departments and SUPD.

These changes come at a time of transition for the facilities department, as Lindsey only entered her position in the last 12 months, and the partner-

ship with ABM occurred within the same time frame.

“I think facilities has been on this learning curve with us as well with getting to know the build-

ing,” said the Resident Director of the 1047 Commonwealth Residence Hall. “There have certainly been some structural things that have brought on a few facilities concerns that we weren’t prepared for at the begin-

ning of the year, so they’ve also had to learn and become creative with us when it comes to address-

ing these things.”
Students stuck in 10 West elevators several times

From WEST - 1

“I feel out of breath,” said Mia Dalesio, a freshman psychology major, who added she has to walk up five flights of stairs when the elevator breaks. Domenico Odoguardi and Caden Smith, both freshman business majors, said they were recently trapped in one of the elevators. The two reportedly pressed the call button and were greeted by the operator who said she was going to call facilities.

The two said they were stuck in the elevator for half an hour after they pressed the call button for help.

“No one came, and so I got up and pushed the elevator doors open myself,” Odoguardi said.

Very recently after this incident, sophomore business major, Giovanni B. Stabon, said he was stuck in the same elevator for half an hour. He got onto the elevator, which took him to his floor, but once he got there the door did not open. Sabon did not have to press the call button because he called his friend who then went to the security guard.

“There were 10 firemen outside the elevator and they asked me to push, to try and open the door from the inside and then they opened it after 10 minutes of trying,” said Stabon.

For many students, the thought of the elevators breaking is a serious concern. According to pre-law freshman Hannah Beliveau, the inspections on the elevators are long overdue.

“They rumble, they’re scary. They don’t put up the expired dates [for inspections],” Beliveau told the Journal. Nancy Kelleher, associate director/managing editor for news in the university’s Public Affairs Office, said in an email to the Journal that the university is aware of these conditions and is working with contractors toward fixing the problems to restore the elevators to full service.

Ashley Lindsey, director of facilities operations at Suffolk, said the elevator at 10 West that has been down all semester is awaiting duct work for a vent that had never been needed before, and that the elevator was otherwise safe to use before it was shut down. She also said the elevator issues at 10 West are often rooted in the age of building’s resources.

“We’re constantly trying to upgrade things, so that’s why one of the elevators is down for like ever [at 10 west], and one thing I’m trying to get a grasp on is trying to communicate elevator outages to people because it’s pretty typical for the occasional elevator to go down in the 10 West/Modern area,” said Lindsey, who also said it is usually a “very easy flip of switch” to bring the elevators back up and running.

“But every once in awhile there’s something either the inspector sees, or something goes down, or there is something wrong where a special kind of tech has to come out or they have to order a special part,” said Lindsey.

Lindsey also said ABM, the company responsible for maintaining Suffolk’s elevators, does not always respond to issues right away because “the elevator industry is very proprietary” and “has very specific unions.”

Shigeo J. Iwamiya, the director of residence life and housing said he is “extremely unhappy” hearing that students have been stuck in elevators.

“I know for a fact that the city does inspect our elevators and they passed, so there must be something going on,” said Iwamiya. “It very well sometimes comes down to human error. Sometimes if an elevator is held too long, and this happens at 73 all the time, the elevator [doors] don’t close, so there’s that component.”

Although Residence Life is not responsible for fixing the elevators themselves, Iwamiya wants to make sure students know how to report issues with the elevators and that they always feel safe when using them.

“If a student ever is concerned about things or doesn’t feel safe in a residence hall, please let me know,” said Iwamiya. “I can certainly work with facilities and whoever needs to know [to fix an issue].”

Iwamiya said students can report issues with elevators or with the residence halls to the Student Government Association, Residence Life, Suffolk security and police officers and facilities.

Frequently, students living in the halls have reportedly received emails detailing the water and elevator conditions. Students have said the emails do not include enough detailed information.

“They sent an email out that the elevators were broken, or the one that I use was broken, and I wasn’t sure if I was going to get to my 8 a.m. in the morning because they didn’t make it clear if it would be ready by that time,” Dalesio said.

Over winter break, a new boiler was installed, which led to the residents receiving another email explaining the lack of hot water for a period of time. According to residents like Kelleher, there was a time of adjustment until they went back to full working order.

Maintenance orders are constantly being put in for these problems. Students said it is not uncommon to find maintenance providing students with space heaters for the dorm rooms, despite the heaters not being allowed in residence halls because of the fire hazard. Beliveau explained how her suite-mates’ room temperature was so cold they had two space heaters in their dorm.

Students say they believe there are design flaws in the building that affect the room temperatures. Along with drafty windows, Smith blames the singular heating vent for the low temperatures in his room. Students said there are temperature inconsistencies within the rooms, as well.

“My room was 59 degrees all day and 80 degrees when we woke up,” said Julia Hunt, a freshman biology major, in an interview with The Journal, “and there was never an in-between.”

Regarding the need for space heaters, Kelleher said the university is planning to replace parts of the heating system in the two residence halls. Due to the need to have access to individual rooms, the work will be addressed this coming summer according to Kelleher.

Hunt and Beliveau said they have also both experienced inadequate water systems in their dorms.

“Yeah, we don’t have water pressure at all, and our drain doesn’t drain,” said Hunt and Beliveau in an interview with The Journal. “Our water pressure for the first semester was dripping.”

The water dilemmas do not seem to be a one room issue. Multiple students have spoken about their drains. Both Hunt and Beliveau said it did not get fixed until February.

Kelleher told The Journal that if students have problems that they would like Facilities to address they can go to the Residence Life Office in the building to fill out an online work order. University staff are monitoring the situation to address all concerns as quickly as possible according to Kelleher.

At the end of the semester quickly approaches, students have voiced that their living conditions in these residence halls are not what they paid for.

“I feel like this happens too often for the amount of money the ends up getting paid to the school to live in these buildings,” said Smith.

Emily Devlin / Journal Contributor

Colin Cavanaugh / Graphics Editor

The 10 West Residence Hall from the entrance on 10 West Street

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5 APRIL 24, 2019
The United States government does not officially recognize the Armenian genocide. In fact, for the entire Armenian community, specifically Suffolk University first-year student and international relations major George Yeghyayan, the Armenian genocide is a reality that has had a direct impact on his family, his heritage and his place within the American community.

On Thursday at the Student Government Association (SGA) weekly meeting, Yeghyayan presented on the Armenian genocide to help spread more awareness of this significant, yet often overlooked, world event.

“I’m Armenian. I felt our voice wasn’t loud enough here [at the university!],” said Yeghyayan in an interview with The Suffolk Journal. “I thought, ‘What better way to make it louder than to give a presentation on our history to the embodiment of student representation.’

Between 1915 and 1923, according to the Armenian National Committee of America, the Ottoman Empire embarked on a systematic campaign to exterminate the Armenian population in what is known today as the Armenian genocide. This not only resulted in the deaths of at least 1.5 million Armenians at the hands of the Turks, but it also displaced practically the entire Armenian population.

“We are trying to educate the diverse Suffolk community on this really serious event,” said Yeghyayan in his presentation. “This is something that has affected other events, something that affects my community and the American community.”

Yeghyayan noted in his presentation that more people know about the Holocaust than the Armenian genocide, despite their parallels. He explained how both genocides had subjugated a group of people that were ethnically, politically, religiously and culturally separate from that of the government in power.

Both the Jewish and Armenian people were denied the right to self-determination and were targeted specifically for their culture and ethnicity — the textbook definition for genocide, according to Article II of the United Nations Genocide Convention. Yeghyayan noted how the methods of mass extermination in both events were also alike.

“Now I’m going to talk about the killing,” said Yeghyayan during his presentation. “I think since you all learned about the Holocaust, you’ll see some striking similarities.”

Yeghyayan said many Armenians fled the country as a result of forced deportation throughout and after the genocide. Hundreds were displaced in countries like Turkey where they were not accepted. As a result, many had to change their names, convert to Islam and hide their faces wherever they went, Yeghyayan said.

Once the Ottoman Empire had started killing off the Armenian leaders and stronger men, they would lead the rest of the population into the desert to their death, according to Yeghyayan.

“There were a series of forced deportations in a specific order,” Yeghyayan told The Journal. “They’d start publicizing to the community and to the world that they are relocating (the Armenians) for safety. But in reality, they are stealing from their homes, raping them, forcing them into the desert. The ones that ended up surviving ended up being homeless wanderers.”

Yeghyayan explained how his family was able to flee the country amid the crisis, along with other Armenians. My family for instance, we got on ships and made it to Lebanon. I was born in Lebanon so that’s why I was there,” said Yeghyayan in an interview with The Journal.” Unfortunately some people weren’t so lucky. I think if we start explaining to people that this is really what happened, if you know an Armenian and they’re saying they’ve been in a country other than Armenia for generations then this is probably why.”

The ripple of displacement and subjugation still resonate within the Armenian community today. While the Armenian genocide took place before the Holocaust, it is not discussed as often because the U.S. does not recognize Armenian genocide on the federal level. There are 49 states in the U.S. that recognize the Armenian genocide, with Mississippi being the only state that has not yet acknowledged it.

“In a way, it’s like erasing an identity that has been around for thousands of years,” said Yeghyayan in his presentation.

Yeghyayan provided examples of churches and Armenian memorials that had been vandalized. Various Armenians have been assaulted — he explained how Armenian journalists had been shot outside of their work building in the early 2000s and discussed how various Armenians had been assaulted by Turkish officials in Washington D.C. last year.

“At Suffolk, a professor wrote an article on the Armenian genocide a few years ago and it got taken down after someone complained about the content,” said Yeghyayan in his presentation. He noted that all the information in the article was factual and was only taken down for “alleged falsity.”

Yeghyayan continued to explain the disadvantages still resonate within the Armenian community today that were caused by the genocide. The primary reason for this lack of recognition is because of the political realities that the U.S. and many other countries have with Turkey.

In last year’s U.S. presidential statement on Armenian Remembrance Day, President Trump referred to the 1915 events under the Ottoman Empire as “Meds Yegheyn,” meaning “The Great Crime” in Armenian. Former President Obama also used this euphemism in reference to the genocide.

The U.S. government has acknowledged the events of the Armenian genocide, but is careful to avoid using the term “genocide.” According to the Armenian National Institute, 28 countries have recognized the events. However, Turkey and its close ally Azerbaijan actively deny the genocide, based on an article in the Turkish Law Journal.

Yeghyayan explained how political relations with Turkey, a NATO ally, are the primary reason many countries like the U.S. and the United Kingdom do not recognize the genocide.

One article in the Los Angeles Times cited the U.S. Department of Justice in noting that Turkey has spent millions of dollars lobbying U.S. officials in recent years in order to “convoy the seriousness of the genocide issue and the potential threat it poses” to U.S.-Turkish relations. “Unfortunately you take something that is historical fact like the Armenian genocide, and you start to politicize it,” said Yeghyayan in an interview with The Journal. “The problem with the U.S., the U.K. and Israel, they have interests, political interests with Turkey. Every time someone tries to bring this up, every time someone tries to legalizing the lobbyists come in.”

Yeghyayan is aggrivated with this injustice within the Suffolk community as well.

“As an Armenian I feel quite insulted by the genocide. As an American I think it’s disgraceful,” Yeghyayan told The Journal. “I would say as an American and as a Suffolk student, if we’re trying to say that we’re the best at what we do, and we’re picking and choosing, then there is a significant problem with how we run things.”

Yeghyayan has been encouraging students to educate themselves on the political context of the issue and to raise awareness for the genocide overall.

Wednesday, April 24 is the 104th anniversary of the Armenian genocide. I think a small, but crucial thing (Suffolk) can do is begin perhaps putting that on the calendar,” said Yeghyayan in an interview with The Journal.

Seeing as Suffolk often promotes diversity and inclusion on campus, Yeghyayan is hopeful that promoting remembrance this way would be a great way to spread awareness for what the Armenian community has endured.

“If we can get the school to be more open about it, slowly other schools will start to do that and then if it ever becomes a norm that could be another factor in national recognition,” said Yeghyayan in an interview with The Journal.

As the rising SGA treasurer for the 2019-2020 school year, Yeghyayan hopes to use his position to be the voice of those who, like the Armenian community, have faced oppression and deserve justice.
Students create new Southeast Asian Association on campus

Eddie Reinhardt
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As often the case for international students here at Suffolk University, it is important to find a niche community within the larger melting pot that is our school. Through cultural clubs and organizations, students can find a piece of home within each other.

Joseph Effendy has become an integral part of several of these organizations in just his two years here at Suffolk. Serving as the president of the university’s branch of AIESEC, a club that looks to send volunteers abroad on service trips since 2018, Effendy is now stepping down to become president and founder the newest cultural club on campus, the Southeast Asian Association (SEAA). Effendy himself came to study at Suffolk from Singapore, where he grew up, but he was born in Indonesia and his grandparents are from China.

“Because of AIESEC, we hosted a lot of cultural events on campus, we did some marketing research on people’s awareness of other countries and understanding of what’s going on around the world,” said Effendy, an information systems and operation management major. “I felt that there was a lack of understanding of Southeast Asian culture specifically.

With the idea of educating his peers as well as bringing them together, he set out to create a club that could specifically cater to these goals. While there are other clubs such as Asian American Association (AAA) and Vietnamese Student Association that have similar missions, for SEAA they wanted to create something more focused on their area in this world.

“For me personally it’s my own culture, but at the same time it’s the second fast growing economy in the world,” said Effendy. “With Suffolk being such an international campus I feel like it is something for Suffolk students and students in general to know about it.”

With a set goal in mind, the next step was finding a platform in which they could be accomplished. The most direct route being the creation of a new club through the Student Leadership and Involvement office with whom they worked to draft a constitution and meet university standards, with one of the most important requirement being the appointment of an executive board.

Taking the role of vice president in Dalton Ryan, who was the perfect fit for the job as he has attended LEAF and is involved Program Council and AIESEC. Leah Magno who is from the Philippines handles the job of secretary with a resume that includes membership with AAA and an E-board position handling marketing and finance with AIESEC. Share Camania will serve as the club’s treasurer.

“It’s nice to have a club that’s very social but what we want to do is more to help people understand and see how things in Southeast Asia affect you and we want to differentiate ourselves by being educational and fun,” said freshman global business and finance major and SEAA Secretary Leah Magno in an interview with The Suffolk Journal.

Government professor Roberto Dominguez is going to be the adviser for the club and will help them organize future events and programs in addition to serving as a mentor to the students. Originally, SEAA hoped to find a faculty member of Southeast Asian descent, but they were unable to. The next best thing was someone who had strong interest in the area.

Along with their adviser and current general members, the E-board is already thinking ahead to next year and the possible programs they can put on. With the idea to combine entertainment and education the group has had preliminary talks of doing events that bring guest speakers, traditional games from Southeast Asia and crossover events with other clubs.

“There are some things we have already talked about such as having a panel on what’s going on in Southeast Asian countries and how you can help have an impact,” said Effendy.

The group is also planning to have a series of guest speakers who are educated with Southeast Asian culture to discuss issues and aspects of life in the region similar to TedTalks. What’s most important to the organization is that students who join and participate in their club become more aware of the world and more in touch with a culture that may be foreign or even familiar on a personal level.

“It is really important for people to know more about these countries,” said Magno. “When you grow up with with something your whole life and see the beauty of your own culture and what it represents stands for, you want other people to know too.”
Meghan Olivar has always embraced other cultures around the world and found that studying abroad at Suffolk was an opportunity that could change her life. Choosing to study abroad in Spain because of her background in Spanish, Olivar knew that her third trip to Spain would be an impactful one. Olivar has immersed herself in many different cultures from all around the world, as she has also traveled to Ireland, Greece and France. Her most unique experience was brought to life when she visited the Eiffel Tower in Paris, France. Olivar believes that studying abroad is an important experience for all students to have. She has seized the occasion to step out of her comfort zone while abroad, and it is certainly an experience she will never forget.
Senior thesis showcases quick costume changes and handmade outfits

Kyle Crozier / News Editor

Last Thursday, Suffolk senior Julianna Fielding finished and performed her senior thesis, titled “Stitched in Time,” which saw 18 costume changes take place in only five minutes.

The performance featured Fielding and three additional models singing “My Strongest Suit” from the Broadway musical “Aida,” whilst dancing and changing into a variety of outfits in time with the music.

Fielding’s 18 costumes were designed and constructed herself over the last four years, beginning when she was a freshman living in the Smith residence hall. While the process began in her first months of being a student at the university, Fielding said that she finished the final stitch just before the show started.

“I was sitting in my box of a room, listening to ‘My Strongest Suit’ which I knew from childhood camp, and I started choreographing these quick changes,” said Fielding in an interview with The Suffolk Journal.

Fielding explained that she felt her perfect vision for the song had not been completed yet by anyone, and that most performances did not incorporate multiple costumes in the way that she felt they should.

“When I started looking at Broadway recordings of [My Strongest Suit], they were so disappointing,” said Fielding. “I thought it would be so fun to do myself.”

The performance, which took place in Suffolk’s Sullivan Studio Theatre, located on the 11th floor of the Sawyer building, was so well attended that Fielding needed to host a second performance directly afterward to accommodate everyone.

“It was very exciting when they said, ‘Yep, you have to do it twice,’” she said.

With fabric acquired from a variety of sources on and off-campus, Fielding spent as much time as possible preparing for the performance.

“Mondays I would be there all day long, but every scrap moment I had, I was working on it too. I finished the last stitch of the project two hours before I performed,” she said.

Sophomore communications media and film major Carina Fresa, was surprised and impressed by the complexity of the performance.

“I was only expecting her to have a few costumes, but there were a lot. I was constantly thinking ‘this is cool, there is so much changing happening,’” said Fresa in an interview with The Journal. “I was not expecting it to be what it was, but it was really cool.”

Fresa often was able to see the behind the scenes of the costume creation, as she observed Fielding in her classes several times creating new pieces at any free point in her day.

“I did not realize how one outfit can change into the next,” said Fresa. “There’s a lot of really cool ways to get creative.”

Fielding believes that her experiences in this project have given her hands-on experience in costume design and creation.

“In terms of my seamstress skills and being able to make costumes, I learned basically everything,” said Fielding. “I taught myself how to draft patterns, to do stitches, a lot of things about machines, how to fit things, and more. Basically, I got a lot of seamstress skills but I learned how to juggle people’s expectations.”

Fielding’s experience was an exploration of the relationship between the costume and the performer. As she worked as the designer, creator and performer for the piece, she had an in-depth understanding of each role.

“I have always been interested in sewing. I am really intrigued by costumes because I feel like they are not just an article of clothing,” said Fielding. “In performance and theatre, they add such an element to the character. I have personally felt when I put on a costume it allows me to step away from myself.”

After several years with this project in mind, Fielding hoped that her work will prepare her for a future in costume design, and that she will be able to add a 19th dress to this performance one day.

“I think I could work on this piece for years,” she said. “I hope one day I get to work on a production of Aida and I will be able to bring back the old college thesis.”
Brooklyn-based band Habibi brought their energetic and feminist driven surf rock to Great Scott last Tuesday night for their first time in Boston since 2012. The group of five crept up the dark little stage nestled in the corner of Allston with an effortless attitude about them, yet they manifested a very intentional energy.

Iranian-American lead singer Rahill Jamalifard and guitarist Lenaya “Lenny” Lynch formed the band back in 2011 in Detroit, sharing a love for rock. “Habibi” translates to “my love” in Arabic, in which Jamalifard fuses her vocals and the use of traditional Middle-Eastern instruments.

The audience was hurried back to the ’60s with Habibi’s overwhelmingly surf-guitar presence on tracks like “Sweetest Talk” and “I Got The Moves.” Through their tight vocal harmonies and quickly paced instrumental work, the quintet defies the limits of every genre they can be categorized in. Their stress on incorporating Middle-Eastern cultural elements sharpens their edge even more. They also played “Nedayeh Bahar,” a track in which Jamalifard fuses English and Farsi lyrics, backed by confident surf-rock guitars. The intimate crowd was engulfed in the cultural identity Habibi possesses within their songs.

“Cardamom Garden,” it’s been a waiting game to see when the band would launch themselves back into creating music. Lynch discussed the release of their upcoming album and the reunion of Habibi in an interview with The Suffolk Journal. “Last year we came out with our EP, then we started working on the new album, so it was just a natural progression of things,” said Lynch. “I think in New York time, everything just takes a lot of time because you don’t have money to complete things.”

Lynch and Jamalifard both had other bands they were working with during their time off from Habibi, but always knew they would return to it. “It’s also hard to have two different projects anyway,” said Lynch in an interview with The Suffolk Journal.

Musician Lenaya Lynch on the bass guitar

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Musician Lenaya Lynch on the bass guitar

Habibi closed out their set with the dark yet still groovy hit “Siiin” off their first album. They are expected to be touring even more after the new album arrives, which has no release date yet.

Shayla Manning / Journal Staff

(From left to right) Singer Rahill Jamalifard, bassists Leah Beth Fishman and Lenaya Lynch, three of the five members of the band
From 1862, when Victor Hugo first published his novel “Les Miserables,” to today, the classic tale has been adapted into TV series, films and a musical. The timeless story of revolutionary Paris continues to captivate audiences, just like it did on April 17 at the Citizens Bank Opera House.

The musical “Les Miserables” is based on Hugo’s book of the same title. The show follows an escaped convict named Jean Valjean who becomes the caretaker for a little girl named Cosette after her mother dies. Ultimately, the plot centers around Valjean’s journey of turning himself into an honest man, while constantly on the run from Javert, the prison guard.

The use of music in the show is vital as the majority of the story is told through lyrics instead of spoken dialogue between characters. The up-tempo songs in the beginning of the show lay the foundation for the rest of the plot and are crucial in understanding the whole storyline. However, some performers did not clearly pronounce the words, and the lyrics either sounded muffled or were lost in the music, making it difficult to follow along with the storyline.

Despite jumbled lyrics, the cast was filled with excellent vocalists, most notably Nick Cartell who played the role of Valjean. He showcased his commanding voice and fast vibrato during each song, doing justice to the famous character.

Cartell saved his best moment for Act II when he flawlessly sang the most iconic song of the show, “Bring Him Home.” As he serenaded Marius, his daughter’s lover played by Joshua Grosso, and desperately prayed the young man would survive the war, his voice gently soared through one note to the next as he delivered an immaculate performance.

The rest of the cast was comprised of talented singers who excelled both as soloists and as an ensemble. Cosette, played by Jillian Butler, had an airy, flute-like voice that showcased her soprano range, especially during the song “In My Life.”

Other popular numbers such as “Do You Hear The People Sing” and “One Day More,” relied largely on the ensemble and brilliantly blended each voice into one well-balanced sound.

Although singing is what carries the show, the instrumental music is just as valuable as the vocals. The masterful orchestra, directed by Brian Fads, filled the theatre with powerful tunes, making it difficult to pronounce the words, and adding more humorous elements to the show.

The costume design impressively reflected the historical period. The richly dressed dresses worn by Cosette flowed out around her legs and the fabric swirled around her whenever she moved. Her elegant outfits strongly contrasted with the tattered, dirt stained clothes the people of France wore, illustrating the extreme difference between the wealthy and the poor during this time.

“Les Miserables” will play at the Citizens Bank Opera House until April 28.
Korean boyband ‘BTS’ drops new pop album filled with poetic lyrics and rhythmic tracks

‘MAP OF THE SOUL: PERSONA’ tops the charts less than two weeks after release

The members of BTS have been steadily on the rise since their formation in 2013.

Korean boyband ‘BTS’ drops new pop album filled with poetic lyrics and rhythmic tracks

Sarah Turley
Journal Staff
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Korean musical group BTS has become the biggest boyband in the world as their international fame has increased steadily over the past few years, leading to multiple world tours.

On April 12, the seven members of BTS released their latest album “MAP OF THE SOUL: PERSONA,” a record that features a combination of pop, hip-hop, R&B and even rock. According to Billboard, the album sold 196 thousand copies in the U.S. and had 37.4 million audio streams, making BTS the first group since The Beatles to earn three number ones in less than a year.

The album draws on ideas from Greek mythology and psychologist Carl Jung’s book “Jung’s Map of the Soul,” specifically Jung’s concepts of the self being divided into the persona, ego, anima and shadow.

The opening track “Intro: Persona” offers an introspective look at one’s ever evolving persona, as conveyed in the album’s opening lyrics “Who am I? The question I had my whole life. The question which I probably won’t find an answer to my whole life.”

“Intro: Persona” discusses the different sides of RM and how he accepts and cherishes them all. RM is portrayed as Kim Namjoon, RM the idol, RM the rapper and “one of the next generation’s leaders,” as claimed by Time Magazine.

The first song features a sample from one of their older hits “Intro: Skool Luv Affair.” RM, the leader of BTS, shows who he is considered one of today’s best rappers as he changed his fast-paced rap flow several times throughout the track.

With this song, BTS seems to be entering a more hip-hop-inspired sound, similar to their beginning albums. However unlike in their first records, which were accused of plagiarism and inauthenticity, BTS is the only Korean group that can be called 100% authentic to themselves.

The bandmates are unafraid to show their true selves, which can be seen through personal lyrics they compose themselves.

The next song is the title track “Boy with Luv” featuring fellow pop sensation Halsey, which captures the feel of a first love through wholesome lyrics that portray the singer’s wish to know everything about their lover’s interest.

As Halsey’s captivating vocals joins the band in both Korean and English, there are parts where the musicians’ voices flawlessly harmonize. Whereas in other parts, the performers break off into individual solos, showcasing the distinct style of every band mate. The warm and catchy tune is easy to sing along with, and is likely to be a huge summer hit.

The third track “Mikrokosmos” derives its name from the Greek word mikrokosmos, which means ‘a small world.’ The lyrics focus on one person becoming more important than the entire universe. In this song, only the singer and the muse exist, creating their own beautiful world.

The song’s easygoing melody allows the artists’ vocals and emotions to shine through. However, the track can be somewhat overwhelming as the vocalist’s powerful feelings engulf the listener. The fact that the band is able to pack so much emotion into only a few moments is impressive as the song evokes a nostalgic atmosphere.

“Make It Right,” co-written with British singer-songwriter Ed Sheeran, has an infectious rhythm that makes listeners want to sing along. Contradicting their previous song “Am I Wrong” from their 2016 album “WINGS” that points out all the imperfections of society, “Make It Right” has the band promising that even though times can get tough, they will make things better for the listener. This track is powerful despite its relaxed tempo.

In this song, J-Hope’s vocals are what stand out the most as his deep yet soft voice matches the beat perfectly when his verse comes in the middle of the song. “Make It Right” has a special meaning as almost every BTS fan comments on how the band’s music has helped them through hard times.

Speaking of the BTS fans, the next song “HOME” is dedicated to their fanbase, which is nicknamed the “ARMY.” BTS’ home expanded from Korea to the entire world because they have adoring fans across the globe. The song details how their fans have become an escape for the artists, and they desperately crave their fans love as it has been with them since their debut. Even after BTS had a rough start to their career, their fans passionately defended and praised them. Their fans have stayed with BTS as they evolved as both artists and individuals, which the band is thankful for, and shows their gratitude in every opportunity they have.

In one of the final tracks off the album, “Jamais Vu,” the band expresses how they wish they were in a game that could be restarted once they reached the end. Instead, they are in the real world where there are no second chances. The heartbeatong song asks listeners to give them “a remedy that will make my heart beat again.”

The album concludes with the track “Dionysus,” which surprised listeners in the best way possible by combining Korean pop with hip hop and rock. It’s impossible to listen to this song without getting an adrenaline rush. The band emphasizes the influence art can have by comparing art with alcohol, giving caution to those obsessing too hard over their art while also confidently speaking about their own work.

“MAP OF THE SOUL: PERSONA” is available to stream on all music platforms and BTS can be seen in person when the band begins their “Love Yourself: Speak Yourself” world tour on May 4 in California.
As an editor, I must remind you that we are writing for an audience of college students. Many of you may not have had the opportunity to experience gender differences in your own lives. However, this is not a reflection on your abilities as writers — thank you for all the hours you spent in our office, listening to our arguments. Thank you for the work you've put into this paper and for all those nights you spent with us, eyes wide and glued to screens. Thank you for the friendship and all the help you've given us. We wish you the very best.

To those who will be graduating in May, take this time to reflect on your time at Suffolk. Look to those who were there for you at your highest and lowest points, no matter how long ago.

If your freshman roommate said something that stuck with you — and you know you'll take with you throughout life — tell them, even if you haven't talked in years. Thank you for all those who have been of great help along the way.

Joe Rice and Kyle Czerner — two of our graduating writers — thank you. Joe's commitment to writing quality sports journalism never fails to bring a professional perspective to the pages of our sports section. Kyle's dedication to chasing stories that inspire and spark curiosity has propelled our news section to new heights.

The first is the constant confusion between gender and sex, as they are often perceived as the same thing. But they are not.

Gender is defined by Dictionary.com as “either of the two sexes (male and female), especially when considered with reference to social and cultural differences rather than biological ones.” Sex is defined as “either of the two main categories (male and female) into which humans and most other living things are divided on the basis of their reproductive functions.” These definitions, gender is a definite social construction, while biological sex is obviously not. When discussing the gender-inclusive bathroom argument, sex is not argued as a social construct or even argued at all, as gender and gender identity are the main focus.

The second clarification is the various identities that would be, and are affected by, what has been coined as “bathroom bills” by conservatives.

Most identities who the gender-inclusive bathrooms are geared towards (not all, as new ones are created everyday) are covered under the umbrella of being transgender, which is, as defined by The Human Rights Campaign (HRC), “a gender identity that is not dependent upon physical appearance or medical procedures.”

Polydactyly in the US. According to the Williams Institute in 2016, 1.4 million Americans identify as transgender, which is a whole lot more than one. Keeping this in mind, the need to bring up change as a result of discomfort is exemplified in why we have women's voting rights and handicap parking spaces, even if it does not affect everyone, the rights are still needed.

Bathrooms are based on gender. Hence the use of “Women” and “Men” lingo and signage. If bathrooms were to be based on sex, we would have “Male” and “Female” bathrooms. This would force the need for an “Intersex” bathroom as well, if one would like to see bathrooms from a strictly sex-based point of view.

Since trans men and women are men and women, trans men go to the bathroom with other men and trans women go to the bathroom with other women. However, with the addition of a gender-inclusive bathroom, this would provide a space for people outside the binary. Even if you feel “uncomfortable” with transgenders in the bathroom, there is no way you would actually know if someone was transgender or not. And even if you perceive the person as transgender, the uncomfortable feeling you would be feeling is trans- phobic, which is defined as, “an irrational fear of, aversion to, or discrimination against transgender people” according to Merriam-Webster.

A common argument against gender-inclusive bathrooms is the notion that it opens the door for potential pedophiles and sexual abusers. Pedophiles and sexual abusers are pedophiles and sexual abusers, regardless of the situation.

In studies by the Southern Poverty Law Center, “children are not more likely to be molested by LGBT parents or their LGBT friends or acquaintances.” Through this research, it should be noted that the association between pedophilia and LGBTQ+ issues is homophobia, as it perpetuates harmful stereotypes long since fact-checked.

The use of an example of a cisgender man or woman posing as a transgender person is inappropriate in this argument as it does not address gender-inclusive bathrooms for the people who the bathrooms are created outside of the binary. For someone to feel “incomfortable” with transgenders in the bathroom, there are other solutions rather than focusing on the people who live outside of the binary.
There’s nothing green about the Green New Deal

Nick Sammarco, Journal Staff, @nsammm41

FRESHMAN CONGRESSWOMAN Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez made waves last year when she announced her ambitious plan to save the planet Earth, the Green New Deal (GND). Supporters of the GND claim that the underlying purpose of the plan is to prevent the catastrophic effects of and sea levels caused by climate change. The logic is quite simple — we need to get rid of most if not all of our carbon emissions or we’re all going to die. Take it right from the mouth of Ocasio-Cortez herself, who said during a forum with Ta-Nehisi Coates: “We’re, like, the world is going to end in 12 years if we don’t address climate change.”

According to Ocasio-Cortez, to stop our imminent demise, we must retrofit every building in the United States, ban airplanes, and “fully get rid of farting cows.” When the Michigan Daily ran an article with the headline “The reactions of the world to Notre Dame de Paris burning feels like an act of liberation,” The Rolling Stone ran an article saying that Notre Dame’s fire was an “act of liberation” from the building’s meaning. There is something telling about these reactions and the way that they talk about Notre Dame. Certain people have shown contempt towards Notre Dame or a misperception going that to the roots of Notre Dame’s meaning. Notre Dame de Paris was a symbol of this great civilization. A cathedral built in the Gothic style over nearly two centuries started in 1163 and was finished in 1345. A true masterpiece, the cathedral has gargoyles and other features that are barely visible. The reason for the intricate design that cannot be seen by most people is that the building was not built for people; it was built to glorify God. When Omar says that it was “art and architecture” that was lost, she is partially right. Ultimately, she misses the point. Notre Dame was not just “art and architecture.” Notre Dame is a house of worship built on a plot of land where a different cathedral stood before it, and before that, a Roman temple. Rolling Stone magazine is even more ignorant than Omar in its evaluation of the impact of the fire. The magazine published an article the day after the fire, in which a historian from Harvard University was quoted saying that “[Notre Dame’s] burning feels like an act of liberation” from its overburdening meaning. Rolling Stone ran that quote in a tweet and was rightly lambasted by those who understand that Notre Dame’s significance is its meaning. The historians at the University of Notre Dame were hurt by the fire at Notre Dame are an example of white supremacy.” The article is true to the outlandish headline. The author, Chelsea Russel, claims that people who were upset about the fire at Notre Dame are exhibiting “white supremacy” and that we should not be upset about Notre Dame when there is loss of historical sites in Syria and terror attacks globally. She is wrong, as we should be upset by all of those losses. Systematic white supremacy is not the reason that people are upset over Notre Dame. Roman Catholics around the world were hurt because it is a landmark of their faith. People who appreciate history around the world were hurt because some of the rich and deep history that can be learned from Notre Dame was lost. Of course there are things that we should also be upset about, but just because the media does not talk about terrorism, Syrian historic sites or any number of terrible things happening around the world does not mean that they should not talk about Notre Dame. They should talk more about those other things, but two wrongs don’t make a right. Anyone upset about the loss of one of the West’s greatest monuments is not white supremacy — it is a reasonable reaction.

Notre Dame is beautiful because of its Christian roots and the Christian symbolism inside. An “act of liberation” refers to liberating Notre Dame from its Christianity, which would immediately absolve it of all guilt. Some of the people who did understand the true meaning of Notre Dame were those who went to pray the rosary and sing hymns as the 12th century gothic cathedral was burned. They understood how monumental of a loss Notre Dame is to Catholics around the world. The hope that rebuilding efforts will be true to Notre Dame’s role as a Roman Catholic cathedral, because if they are not, the building could lose all meaning.
while their 5-1 win over the Toronto Maple Leafs in game seven, the Bruins will take the ice with the Columbus Blue Jackets in the Eastern Conference Semifinals.

Boston and Toronto met for the third time in a game seven in the past seven years, with the Bruins out skated the Leafs each time. In their most memorable match up in 2013, the Bruins trailed the Leafs 4-1 in the third period, Boston would come back to tie the game and force overtime (OT), Patrice Bergeron sealed the deal six minutes into OT, sending the Bruins to the next round.

Toronto’s playoff stretches have continu- ally been cut short and the team hasn’t won a Stanley Cup since the 1964-67 season. Since the Leafs 2005-06 season they have either not qualified for the playoffs or been knocked out in their first round of play.

The Stanley Cup logo covers the TD Garden ice as the Bruins officially move on to the Eastern Conference Semifinals.

Hannah Arroyo / Sport Editor

While the Bruins managed to secure home ice advantage for the first round, this did not seem to matter to both teams. Through six games both the Bruins and Leafs had a 1-2 record at home.

Challenges still lie ahead for the Bruins as they advance further. DeAngelis. “The bottom lines have to continue to step up and convert their chances like they did in game seven. The next round will be tough, but I think the Bruins will win in six.”

Suffolk junior Jamie Gatlin said that the Bruins have made it this far because of a full team effort. He added that it also helps when players like defensemen Charlie Coyle step up at exactly the right times. Coyle has already tallied three goals and four points through out the playoffs so far.

Brandon Carlo has also been one of the most underrated players on the ice for the Bruins. In game six, the 22-year-old Bruins defenseman logged the second most total time on ice and most time during the penalty kill. While he’s no top scorer, Carlo has been crucial in defending the Bruins zone.

“He be honest, with [the Tampa Bay Lightning] out, the road to the [Stanley Cup] is wide open and I think they have the best shot,” said Gatlin. “They may not have the most talented roster on paper but they have the depth and experience.”

The Bruins currently hold a 17-4 Conference Semifinal record, but on the other side are 6-13 all time in the Stanley Cup Finals.

Game one between Columbus and Boston is expected to be on Thursday at TD Garden. While Columbus was one of the worst regular season finishers to make the play- offs, they just recently shocked the Los Angeles Kings by sweeping the series.

The Suffolk Men’s Tennis team competed in their last regular season conference match against Norwich University at the Woburn Racquet Club this past Saturday. Despite recent struggles and a 3-9 record for the Rams up to this point, the team torched Norwich 8-1 in the matchup. This is Suffolk’s third straight win against Norwich with an overall record of 11-3 against the Cadets.

While a bounce-back win against Norwich softened the blow of the loss suffered to Regis College on April 17, the Rams could not string together a win streak as they failed to defeat Gordon College, dropping to a 3-10 record on Tuesday. The men’s tennis team only has one more match which will come this Thursday against Rhode Island College. Their 1-4 conference record has earned them fifth place in the Great Northeast Athletic Conference for this season.
The Suffolk University Cheer Club scored an impressive 82 out of 100 points and placed first in their division at their competition at Pinkerton Academy in Derry, New Hampshire on April 14.

Although the social aspects of the club have improved, the Cheer Club’s practice situation still has not improved. Since the club is still considered a club under the Student Leadership and Involvement office and not an official athletic team, they rent out classrooms for practices, instead of using the Ridgeway gym, but must rent it out for each hour they use, and there’s only one official athletic team, the Resource the athletic department, which has access to many of the resources the athletic teams at Suffolk have.

“We also don’t get the vans, so that’s another thing we have to deal with now,” said Zwicker. “We have to Uber people back since they won’t give us the vans because we’re not a sport.”

Despite this, the club still looks to continue bringing school spirit to Suffolk. “We are continuing to compete,” said Giacomini. “We are continuing to bring home titles so that way Suffolk knows that we are trying to represent the school.”