Civil Rights activist Martin Luther King Jr. has always held an important place in Suffolk University’s history. In 1956 King spoke at the Ford Hall Forum, and his wife Coretta Scott King received an honorary degree from Suffolk in 1997. Years later, their legacy continues on through annual celebrations on campus. The Suffolk community came together in the African Meeting House on Jan. 21 to celebrate the life of the activist Martin Luther King Jr., and the legacy King left behind. The celebration featured the presentation of the Creating the Dream Award and a keynote speech by the Rev. Brandon Thomas Crowley.

“"We must wake up and recognize that being woken is not enough. Being woken and including a sentence on Instagram or Facebook and singing about it is not enough, you can not be a follower of King and not be willing to speak up against unjust structures that exist,” said Crowley.

“"For many, the yearly celebration is a time to reflect on the past, present and future and gather as a community. I wanted to see the legacy that MLK left behind, and see how it’s active today. If someone like that is leaving a legacy and impacting so many lives, (that legacy) deserves to be celebrated,” said Lindsay Dieudonne, a freshman government major.

Suffolk a cappella group Soulfully Versed led the crowd in a rendition of the first verse of “Lift Every Voice and Sing,” often referred to as the Black National Anthem. The poem-turned-song was first performed in 1900 to commemorate Lincoln’s birthday and became the official song of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Introductions were made by Director of the Center for Diversity and Inclusion (CDSI) Beatriz Patino and Assistant Director Cameron Breiter.

The number of reported cases of the Wuhan coronavirus rose by 60% overnight. This respiratory virus has already killed 106 people with 4,600 cases reported in mainland China alone, according to the BBC. Rapidly spreading throughout China with five reported cases in the United States, the virus is alarming people all over the world. Now, China is under the microscope. The city of Wuhan, with a population of over 11 million, became the incubator of the new deadly virus threatening to expand into a new major pandemic. Chinese military has sealed the city with road blocks, public transportation stopped. Most of the major roads in Hubei province, where Wuhan is located, have been locked down, forcing more than 58 million people to stay in their homes. Many anticipate this will be a very difficult task as China has one of the highest populations in the world.

“You can’t really block every road and every connection. It may be possible to an extent... but it’s not a foolproof measure,” said Gauden Galea, the World Health Organization’s (WHO) representative in China, to the BBC.

With a rapidly growing number of people infected with the coronavirus and even more predicted to come, China’s government has already faced a lack of medical facilities and personnel in the infected area.
The Finance Club is a student-led organization on campus which aims to act as the central nexus between students and financial institutions,” said Watson, executive director and co-founder of the club. Watson said that even though this organization is brand new, she is confident it will stand out among the hundreds of other clubs on campus who were bringing connections onto other institutions by other clubs on campus who were bringing speakers from the industries they wanted to pursue.

Kostandin and the team have done a lot of networking in the past looking forward to passing these connections onto other Suffolk students. Firms, including State Street, Merrill Lynch, JP Morgan Chase & Co. and more, are set to speak at the club’s meetings.

“We want to help the members of the club find their passion in finance or in any sector of the business world,” said O’Toole, vice president and co-founder of the club.

But Kostandin says that the dedicated individuals on the e-board were responsible for bringing this club to life. Though the board has been working in the past looking forward to passing these connections onto other Suffolk students, firms, including State Street, Merrill Lynch, JP Morgan Chase & Co. and more, are set to speak at the club’s meetings.

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Suffolk remembers Martin Luther King Jr. with Creating the Dream award

From MLK JR. - 1

CSIU has been a long-time partner of the event and is the sponsor for the Creating the Dream Award.

“We do this event every single year, it’s something we kind of try to keep as a tradition. And we work really closely with Black Student Union when we do this event, especially because its so important to the black community to keep Dr. King’s memory in mind,” said Jess Lorenzana, a Diversity Peer Educator.

Suffolk’s Creating the Dream Award was first awarded in 2005 to recognize the sustained and tangible impact on Suffolk’s communities of color by an individual, organization, or department. This year’s recipient was senior Leah Grannum, president of the Black Student Union (BSU).

As well as being the past treasurer and current president of BSU, Grannum has supported Suffolk’s communities of color through her involvement as a planning committee member for the Celebration of Black Excellence, a member of the Journey Leadership Program and attended the racial justice alternative spring break trip last year. “She leads with integrity. Her efforts in addressing and raising awareness about issues of equity, diversity and inclusion on our campus are done tirelessly through her robust leadership involvement. She is constantly challenging the status quo in an effort to make Suffolk University a place for everyone,” said one nominator.

Grannum was congratulated by Kelly on her accomplishment and was overjoyed to receive the award. “This is one of the biggest accomplishments that I will cherish forever,” said Grannum.

Keynote speaker Crowley demonstrated in his speech, entitled, “A Tale of Two Kings,” that there seems to be two different versions of MLK Jr. that are remembered in today’s society. “There is the true historical King who threatened the racist tapestry of America who was a threat, but then there is also this fake, newly created liberal Dr. King that exists in the collective memories of white minds that only casts King as a docile doe,” said Crowley.

“Now that we jump to 2020, and everybody loves Dr. King,” said Crowley. The speaker questioned how in a country that still has deeply rooted racism and division can call on the name of King and carve his principles in stone in the National Mall. To him, America has rewritten history to produce a palatable portrait of a man that starkly compares to him to Malcolm X, and Crowley didn’t want the ‘saitized’ King.

“Their King was a lover not a fighter. A near respectable ‘Uncle Tom’ reconciler instead of an anti-establishment revolutionary,” said Crowley. “We must, like King, take the risk of losing it all.”


Suffolk Black Student Union President Leah Grannum accepts the “Creating the Dream” award from President Marisa Kelly.

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Sydney Fonseca
BSBA Marketing ’17, MBA ’19
Digital Analyst, Liberty Mutual Insurance
Back to our roots: Suffolk’s first graduates

Emily Devlin
Journal Staff
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These graduates are only a handful of Suffolk firsts. The Journal will profile a new graduate each month in honor of Black History Month.

To ring in the new decade—and The Suffolk Journal’s first edition of the semester—we're throwing it back to some of Suffolk's first students.

Suffolk's first president, Archer Gleason, founded Archer’s Evening School in 1906, the same year the first radio broadcast was sent over the airwaves in the United States from Brant Rock, Massachusetts, and the same year Kellogg's Cornflakes were first distributed. The school was re-named to Suffolk School of Law in 1907.

Over the years, the school would get renamed many times until Suffolk University was finally set tled on in 1909 (for those interested in the Red Sox, the team finished third in the American League that year). A class of five mostly first-generation Americans became Suffolk’s first graduates. Many of them went on to practice law.

Carl Collar, who was also Gleason's second cousin, became an accountant for the White Star Line, a shipping company that would go onto launch the infamous doomed RMS Titanic in 1912 (and James Cameron's career in 1997).

Bonus fact: another White Star Line ship, the RMS Republic, sank off the coast of Nantucket the same year Collar graduated from Suffolk.

Archer had tried to convince Collar to attend Boston University College of Liberal Arts, but he opted for working at the steamship company instead.

But was he working for the company when the Titanic sank? The jury is still out.

On May 17, 1909, Suffolk held its first commencement. The first graduating class of Suffolk, at the time of commencement named Suffolk School of Law, had only five graduates (compared to the 2,137 students in the class of 2019).

George Luis Bush, one of Collar’s classmates, would go on to own his own firm and practice law in Wisconsin, while classmate Roland E. Brown became the first Suffolk Law student to pass the bar.

Brown enrolled in Archer’s Evening Law School in December 1906. Archer gave Brown a “certificate of two years’ study” that allowed Brown to take the bar exam—and pass it—while he was only in his second year.

After graduating, George Arthur Douglas had his own law practice in Boston. He also taught at Suffolk School of Law from 1910 until 1934. Before enrolling in Archer’s Evening Law School in 1906, James Francis O’Brien had tried to apply to several different law schools but was denied. Archer decided to give O’Brien a chance and accepted him into the school.

O’Brien, despite almost being forced to drop out, still graduated with the first class in 1909. He worked as a janitor at Suffolk, in Archer’s office, and a restaurant in order to pay for his education. He would go on to open his own law practice, serve in WWI, run for Democratic nominee for the Bristol County DA and was an advocate for veterans.

Suffolk students continued to become firsts in the school’s history even after graduation. Graduate Bernard Kil lion, for example, was the first Suffolk student to argue before the U.S. Supreme Court in 1916 (a year the Red Sox won the World Series).

Killon enrolled at Suffolk in 1907. He graduated in 1910 as one of the ten students in Suffolk’s second graduating class.

Along with others, Kil lion represented Henry C. Callaghan, who petitioned for the U.S. Supreme Court to review his case against the Superior Court of the State of Massachusetts. The Massachusetts court said Callaghan had failed to pay child support for an illegitimate child.

Ultimately, the petition failed. “The people in Suffolk’s first class are emblematic of Suffolk’s core values—access to education and a commitment to diversity,” said Julia Howington, university archivist and director of the Moakley Archive & Institute. “Looking at their stories reminds us of the power of education and the continuing importance of our mission.”

These students were the first of a long line of white men to graduate from Suffolk. But that started to change as time went on.

Archer wanted to “open the doors to higher education to all capable students,” according to Suffolk University’s online history page. As a result, some students with historically marginalized identities were able to attend and graduate from Suffolk early on in the school’s history.

Born in Japan, Shichiro Hayashi enrolled in Suffolk Law School in September of 1918 (the last time the Red Sox would win the World Series until 2004). He became the first Asian student to graduate from Suffolk in 1922.

Remember the Carlisle Indian Industrial School, the most American public school history classes covered? The school was meant to “westernize” indigenous people.

According to a Boston Post article, following his schooling at the Carlisle School, Nelson D. Simons started applying to colleges and universities in Boston. He attended the Suffolk Law School and graduated in 1925.

Simons would later become the chief of the Massapee Wampanoag/Pequot tribe.

At the start of this decade, Archer Gleason’s legacy of influencing people through education is exhibited through Suffolk’s commitment to championing diversity in its student body.

(TOP): Class of 1925 graduate Nelson D. Simons was the first indigenous person to graduate from Suffolk law.

(BOTTOM) Archer Gleason, founder of Suffolk University, held his first law classes in his home at 6 Alpine St. in Roxbury.

Photos courtesy of Moakley Archive & Institute
Suffolk unveils first mobile app for students

Julia Ahaesy  
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SU on the Go, Suffolk University’s very first official mobile app, is here. To help students with their fast-moving and often hectic lifestyle, Suffolk’s Information Technology Services staff created this free app that rolled out in mid-November. The Suffolk-focused app provides access to resources to help students keep track of their courses, grades and academic information. They can also view a campus map, staff directory, important numbers and other resources.

Suffolk University’s Associate Chief Information Officer, Fouad Yatim, said the app is centered around the day-to-day business of the school. “Students today have access to the information that they need to have access to but it’s truly on the computer,” Yatim said. “So we wanted to give access to students through an app that is going to allow them to get access information from where they are, whenever they need to, with whatever device they have access to.”

Students are able to see their current schedule in a mobile-friendly format on their screen. With each course, users can see a description along with its location, date, time and faculty information. Daniel Smith, a sophomore environmental science major at Suffolk, commented on how useful this app is to him in his everyday life as a student. "It allows you to access almost all the information you would need about Suffolk," Smith told The Journal. "It essentially houses all the information I’ve struggled to find on the Suffolk website in a well-organized set of tabs that makes keeping up with grades, events and important info far less of a headache."

The app will send the user directions to their classes from their current location. Along with their current courses, students can also see grades and information from their past courses.

Information is available for undergraduate and graduate programs, pathway programs, and law programs. Suffolk’s academic calendar is also in the app.

Lindsey Card, a biology major in the class of 2021, said she prefers the app to the website in mobile situations. “It’s much quicker than it would be to go through the website,” said Card. “I know for me personally, that when I pull up the Suffolk website on my phone, I get annoyed with zooming in and out and sometimes certain pages won’t open, and the app gets rid of these issues.”

Users have access to information to find campus offices and services, including Academic Advising, the Financial Aid Office and Residence Life. Faculty members and their contact information are easily obtainable via the app’s employee directory. Phone numbers and addresses of the university’s Counseling, Health and Wellness Center and the Suffolk University Police Department, for both non-emergencies and emergencies, are also easy to access through the app.

“Logging online to check grades, for example, requires multiple portals and logins. This [app] just has one. As a commuter, it’s a handy way to stay connected to campus.”

Its MBTA schedule is offered with real-time alerts, particularly for the large number of commuters that attend the university.

Lucas Phipps, commuter senator at-large for Suffolk’s Student Government Association, said he likes how the app assists most campus resources in one place.

SU on the Go was rolled out in November. According to research done by Columbia University, although the containers used within the Suffolk dining halls are PLA, or polylactic acid, biodegradable plastic, these plastics are only truly biodegradable in industrial sized composting facilities that heat the plastic to a specific temperature so that it has the ability to be biodegradable. There are only 13 of these facilities in the U.S. and the majority of these plastics end up in landfills. Even if the compostable plastics are correctly composted most of the soil created from these plastics can harm crops grown in them.

Advertisements across campus have started to show the student body that Sodexo is “aware that our disposable plastics aren’t the best for the environment” according to their advertising, to show that they understand recent complaints across campus regarding Suffolk’s Sustainability.

Sodexo’s Sustainability Director, Peter Phipps, commented on the next steps regarding the Greener Sodexo plan. This program is just the beginning of a multi-step plan in improving Suffolk’s sustainability. Replacing the single use containers in the future will be reusable plastic retainers that each student across campus will be able to use to hold their food filled at dining halls.

Students said the app is still missing a few desired aspects. “It does not have an option to stay signed in, which is very frustrating,” Smith said. “You have to log every time you open the app or else its key features are lost. You also have to log in separately when following some links once already logged into the app.”

Yatim said the app’s developers are looking for feedback on the app, and wish to cater this app to the student’s wants and needs. “We want people to give us feedback on the app. [It is] everybody’s right to [tell] us, ‘We like to see this. We like to see that.’ But some things we can do, some things cannot be done,” Yatim said. “So we’re trying to incorporate a lot of things that people have given us feedback on. If the app can do it, then we’ll do it.”

SU on the Go is available for download both from the Google Play and Apple App Store. Suffolk University students, faculty and staff can sign into the app with their Suffolk University credentials.
Suffolk students serve communities in Myanmar and Cambodia

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People all over the world face the everyday hardships of poverty, lack of food, water and shelter. There are organizations all over the world that dedicate their time to aid those less fortunate; Suffolk University is among them. The Center for Community Engagement (CCE) provides an annual trip known as Alternative Winter Break (AWB) to students who wish to fly across the world and change the lives of others.

“These students were more than inspirational, they had so much passion in the classroom to not only study English but to support and help one another in the classroom,” said sophomore Kristina Lee, who changed her major to international development, where they hold one of the larger volunteer service and travel programs, according to CCE assistant director Dennis Harkins.

The trip brings ten students to two locations every year. Students this year were offered to visit Southeast Asia’s Cambodia and Myanmar. The volunteer project has allowed Suffolk students to help assist communities for over fifteen years. Enhancing the livelihood of the community is what alternative winter break is devoted to. Originally, it began as a trip for 10 students and two staff members to El Salvador, but has since evolved with changed service activities and diverse locations such as Vietnam and India.

What students may expect from the experience with Habitat for Humanity is not always what they come away with. For sophomore CJ Koch, there was a bit of hesitance coming into the break. He was at a crossroads while deciding to stay with family or throw himself into a brand new 2020 adventure.

“As much as I wanted to travel I didn’t want to miss out on the scarce amount of time I had to spend with my friends and family. However, it was well worth it,” said Koch. “I was given the opportunity to do my two life goals: traveling, and helping people, and yet I got so much more than that. I tried new foods, learned new customs, saw incredible sights, and met some really great people.”

CCE staff members also take part in the yearly call to service. Director Adam Westbrook and assistant director Dennis Harkins are two of the most important pieces to this puzzle. Harkins has been with the program since 2017 when he began working at the university and has since played an active role in the journey.

Students are required to attend four pre-travel classes to gain some background knowledge about their destination before their departure. When the ten days are up, students return and enroll in GOV 387: Conflict and Development, where they learn about the political, economic and social events of the region. These classes allow students to reflect on their time abroad and analyze their previous memories.

To go abroad and see the world is one thing, but spending a couple weeks building a house and ensuring a better tomorrow for those who need it is a worldliness like no other. According to junior, Lindsay Gavin, the house-building process was unique because everything was made of bamboo with a mixed foundation of concrete and brick. Monday, Jan. 6, was dedicated to digging holes which would later be filled with concrete which would hold the frame of the house.

Working alongside Habitat for Humanity and local workers, the crew was able to build an entire house in five days.

“We went from standing on an empty dirt patch on Monday to a completely built house on Friday. I personally spent most of my time on the worksite hand making wooden bamboo nails by taking a machete and filing down pieces of wood,” said Gavin. CCE assistant director Dennis Harkins explained that a large portion of his job is managing the volunteer service and travel programs at Suffolk. He holds one of the larger responsibilities coordinating with Habitat for Humanity, which consists of lots of scheduling and planning. There is also the annual change in location which brings upon a different culture, language and takeaway.

“I have continued to build a deep partnership with the Cambodian community through working with Habitat for Humanity’s Global Village Program and the Cammbridge Cambodian School Project,” said Harkins.

For two days, Suffolk students went to a secondary school and worked with children to help them to practice their English and deliver aid to the village Culture was a large aspect of the trip.

Gavin recalls the population being mostly Buddhist which allowed the group to visit pagodas, also known as temples or sacred buildings. They were asked to respect the sacred sites by wearing modest clothing and by taking off any socks and shoes. Those who lived there were very accepting and welcoming of the volunteers, even asking to take pictures with them.

“The appreciation that the people of Myanmar have for our presence is so heartwarming and inspires me to do more work like this. I hope to be able to enjoy an experience like this again because it is truly a privilege to be welcomed by the people of Myanmar and to make even the slightest difference in their lives,” said freshman sociology major Jordan Smith.

HELP WANTED:
Interested in foreign policy, global climate, or have an international perspective to share? Contact the world news team!
suffolkworldnews@gmail.com

Over one billion animals and 24 humans have died, dozens are missing, 1,400 homes have been lost and 15.6 million acres have burned in Australia. Climate Signals, a website dedicated to climate change news, announced the rapidly increasing numbers that have been burning in Australia since October.

Bushfire season in Australia is common, especially in the southeast. According to Metro, the continent goes through fire season during the summer months because of the warm, dry weather and wind.

With temperatures reaching 104 degrees Fahrenheit and strong winds, the fires spread rapidly. However, based on the catastrophic fires this year, Climate Signals and scientists all over the world are pointing at climate change for causing these fires to be so deadly.

“Climate change is happening now, and we are seeing the effects of it,” said forest restoration expert of Western Sydney University, Sebastian Pfautsch.

Every day the fires grow, more people are becoming affected by the conditions. Scientists fear that Australia’s current landscape is devastated to an irreversible extent.

More than 200 fires have released clouds of ash reaching New Zealand, according to Metro.

Decline in rain has also been reported. The lack of hydration in the southeast provides ideal conditions for bushfires. The Australian Bureau of Meteorology reports that global warming increases bushfire risk by lengthening the fire season, decreasing precipitation and increasing temperatures.

If these conditions worsen and continue to arise, cause for difficulty breathing, mass evacuations and loss of life are just a few of the major consequences humans may experience as a result of global warming. According to Aljazeera, over 100,000 residents in the affected areas of Victoria, South Australia and New South Wales left their evacuation zones.

International Business Times (IBT) states the fires have burned land almost the size of Ireland. Despite the great losses, Australia has received national attention and support.

Organizations and charities have shown a broad range of support from organizations such as World Wildlife Fund (WWF), RSPCA, Salvation Army, Australian Red Cross, GoFundMe, Australia Zoo Wildlife Hospital, Kangaroo Island Wildlife Park and many more, according to USA Today.
#### US-Iran tensions escalate through 2020

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@realDonaldTrump

#### Ukrainian Plane Shot Down by Accident

While Iranian military launched an airstrike at U.S. bases, a Ukrainian plane flying from Tehran to Kyiv crashed shortly after departure on Jan. 8. Initially, officials announced that the possible reason for the crash could have been an engine malfunction.

However, on Jan. 11, Iranian officials admitted that the Ukrainian International Airlines flight 752 was shot down by two Iranian missiles from a nearby military facility, resulting in the death of 176 people.

Iranian military blames human error and claimed the plane had been misidentified as a cruise missile, according to the New York Times.

"This incident is a huge tragedy, not only for Ukraine but for the rest of the world as well. It is truly sad that innocent people died due to this ongoing conflict between the U.S. and Iran," said Suffolk graduate student Volodymyr Medin, from Ukraine.

In a Twitter post, Iran’s foreign minister Jawad Zarif apologized, but also blamed the U.S. for the crash.

"Human error at time of crisis caused by U.S. adventurism led to disaster," tweeted Zarif.

"It is also hard to believe that in today’s technologically advanced world this kind of human errors could even occur," said Medin. "I condole with the families of the victims and hope they get the justice they deserve."

#### Coronavirus spreads, students abroad fear travel difficulties and danger

From VIRUS - 1

Seven hospitals in Wuhan are already over-full. Citizens have posted triple videos on Youtube featuring people lying in hospital corridors and on the floors.

In order to tackle this problem, China’s government has started building two brand new hospitals in the outskirts of Wuhan with a total capacity of 2,500 beds on Jan. 23. The government promised to finish the construction in less than two weeks, according to the BBC. In response to the growing threat of the Coronavirus, many countries have started to take actions to prevent the spread themselves. Passengers flying from Southeast Asia are checked for fever before leaving planes. Hong Kong and Vietnam have closed borders with China yesterday, according to the BBC.

Suffolk University is also aware of the dangers of the virus. All students received an email telling students to stay vigilant and to get checked if they are feeling symptoms.

During the virus grows over, many students preparing to study abroad this semester are concerned about the dangers and difficulties of air travel. For students preparing to study in China, like junior global and cultural communications major Nicole Chong, the Wuhan Coronavirus is an even bigger concern.

"Hopes this is all cleared up soon," said Chong. She is set to leave for her program in the next coming weeks.

Chong is taking precautions and monitoring the news, hoping a vaccine is created before she leaves.

The WHO has declined to announce Wuhan Coronavirus as a global health emergency. Scientists have identified that the virus "mutates easily and can jump from one human to another, making it very easy to spread from human to human with minimal to no contact" according to the Wall Street Journal. "I was looking to buy a surgical mask and Walgreens, and CVS were sold out of it," Chong said. "Amazon is even selling it at double the original price."

"Most people don’t panic they just take protective measures. People just want the city of Wuhan to stay strong," said a Suffolk student who wishes to remain anonymous.
Olivia Lapolla had spent last semester in Italy, but it wasn’t enough to satisfy her travel bug so she took off yet again this semester to explore a new country - Ireland. After the chaotic rhythm of life in Italy, she loved the peaceful town of Cork on the South shore of Ireland. Even though she adores both cultures, the lack of language barrier in Ireland made Olivia’s life easier. She looks forward to exploring more places, but for now - Cork is the right place for Olivia to call her temporary home.
Theatre professor speaks on his experience working at Suffolk and beyond

Sarah Łukowski
Journal Staff
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The first thing you notice when stepping into Wesley Savick's office are the eccentric objects adorning the room including several puppets, theatre posters, stacks of books and many unique trinkets.

The Suffolk University theatre professor enthusiastically discussed his love of puppets and recalled how rewarding it has been working in theatre at Suffolk and around the world for the last 20 years.

Savick has had an impressive career at Suffolk and is always thinking about his next production. He has either written, co-written or produced a total of 26 plays at Suffolk including "Pilgrims of the Night," his first show at Suffolk, a musical comedy called "Night," his first show at Suffolk and around the world for the last 20 years.

Savick has an office at Suffolk and is always thinking about his next production. He has either written, co-written or produced a total of 26 plays at Suffolk including "Pilgrims of the Night," his first show at Suffolk, a musical comedy called "Night," his first show at Suffolk and around the world for the last 20 years.

Savick even joked that when he was first hired at Suffolk he went out to buy a foldable chair because he knew he would have to sleep in his office after rehearsals since he used to commute from Cape Cod.

Savick's experience in theatre has even encouraged him to pursue opportunities in other countries. Before teaching at Suffolk, he received the prestigious Bunka-cho grant from the Japanese Ministry of Culture to study traditional Japanese theatre and music in Tokyo, where Savick spent two years. He even wrote and directed a play in Japanese, a language he knows very little of.

"That was very life changing, everything that I thought I understood about theatre was out the window," he said about his time in Tokyo.

Savick is very interested in puppets and grew to love their many possibilities during a production he worked on years ago. He finds puppets bizarre, but also interesting and expressive and decorates his Sawyer twelfth floor office with these movable objects.

The professor is also a big fan of unusual and experimental plays instead of more traditional productions. He said how Suffolk students are always motivated and willing to step up to the challenge of embracing the unknown.

"When Suffolk students are acting in plays, I always feel like they bring a kind of insight and wisdom to their work that I don't always find in other schools," said Savick.

Savick stressed the importance of how fun it is to step outside your comfort zone and to be curious and confident. He said it's difficult to teach curiosity and confidence, but as a teacher it is possible to encourage it so that they can perform well.

"It's the most important thing that you can possibly try to provide for your students," said Savick. "It's a tricky problem for a teacher."

Savick prizes his relationship with students and has kept in touch with many throughout his years at Suffolk—be it composing a tune to his wedding. Many of his students have gone off and achieved success in theatre, design and business.

"Working with Wesley was one of the most insightful theatre experiences I've ever had," said Grayson Collins, a sophomore theatre major who worked with Savick in the 2019 production of "Seven Deadly Sins."

"He's understanding of actors and knows how to get them to think about their characters and perform in ways they never have before."

Savick credits his students for always being involved in his shows. His productions at Suffolk have never dipped below 25 cast members and the largest cast consisted of 52 members.

The director always aims to give his students meaningful experiences and provide many opportunities for them to perform. He admitted he feels bad when he can't take every student who auditioned due to a varying production size, but he tries to keep track of each student so he can give them time to shine.

"Having a huge cast at Suffolk has been something that is very important to me because I feel like it's important for students to get as many opportunities to learn by doing," said Savick.

Savick may have 20 years of teaching under his belt at Suffolk, but he is just getting started. He recently started a new theatre company at Suffolk called "Juvenilia," where he aims to transition recent Suffolk grads into professional Boston theatre.

Under his new theatre company, Savick directed the grotesque and absurd "Ubu Roar!" in fall 2019, which is adapted from a 19th century play called "King Ubu."

He also hopes to do a revival of his 2018 uplifting and heartbreakingly musical comedy, "one state, two state / red state, blue state" to reflect the ongoing political division and chaos of the upcoming 2020 election.

"I base my productions on what it feels like is going on in the world," said Savick. "Suffolk students should feel like there's a connection between the plays that we do and the world that we're living in."

The cast of "one state, two state / red state, blue state" at Modern Theatre in 2018

Wesley Savick, who has taught at Suffolk for over two decades

Theatre professor speaks on his experience working at Suffolk and beyond
**Grammys Commentary**

Grammys honors Kobe Bryant through music, Eilish sweeps major awards

After taking a moment of silence, Keys soothed the crowd and reminded everyone that they could use music to bring people together and to heal. Keys acted as a rock throughout the night as she humored the audience by telling them that her set was dedicated to Bryant, a No. 24 frontwoman of the blues band Alabama Shakes. She also filled the venue with her own music as she delivered a strong performance of her new song “Underdog,” joined by Brittany Howard, the singer-songwriter Ashley Frangipane, known best as Halsey, released her third album “Manic” on Jan. 17. Throughout the 16 tracks, she reveals personal struggles and happiness, she was courageous to challenge and or her fight to find words or phrases, the songs on “Manic” tell a story or convey a distinct emotion. While today’s pop music typically relies on autotuning to create a certain kind of sound, the autotune in this album bounces back and forth between sounding artis- tic and completely unnecessary. For example, the melodic piano and sweet rhythm in “Forever… (is a long time)” helped break up the stream of pop, but the overbearing sound effects and autotune felt like a forced ending. Halsey experimented in this album by incorporating audio from movies like “Jennifer’s Body.” For example, at the end of the opening song “Ashley,” listeners will recognize actress Kate Winslet’s voice as a snippet from the 2004 film “Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind” concludes the track, with Halsey’s backup vocals overlaid. The inclusion of these samples gives listeners an interesting peek inside the art that speaks out to Halsey.

Halsey takes the spotlight on “Manic,” but appearances from Dominic Fike, Alanis Morissette and BTS member SUGA were also featured. The artists’ voices are heard in interludes that reflect their individual vision and are named after them.

**Album Review**

Halsey’s vulnerability saves heavily autotuned new album

You should be happy that Halsey is back with another album. Singer-songwriter Ashley Nicolette Frangipane, known best by her stage name Halsey, released her third album “Manic” on Jan. 17. Throughout the 16 tracks, she reveals personal struggles and love and loneliness. Halsey released six singles before the rest of the album, including hits like “Grayeyard,” “You should be sad” and “Without Me.” The songs blended in well with the album’s lesser-known tracks, although it’s unlikely that the others will climb the charts.

“Manic” has a mix of songs that bring on a variety of feelings. Songs like “I am” are easy to blast at a party all night long. Other songs like “More” and “You should be sad” are bound to make the listener’s eyes well up with tears.

Although much of the album’s pop songs feature smooth vocals and a vibe that feels similar to Billie Eilish, Halsey also brought acoustic elements into the album. “Finaly // Beautiful Stranger” wedges a gentle guitar nicely in between “Without Me” and “Alanis’ Interlude,” two tunes that use some of the heaviest instruments. No matter what elements went into each track, the songs are always lyrical. Unlike many of today’s pop hits which repeat the same few words or phrases, the songs on “Manic” tell a story or convey a message to the listener. Whether it’s about Halsey’s relationship challenges and or her fight to find happiness, she was courageous to draw attention to such vulnerable emotions.

While today’s pop music typically relies on autotuning to create a certain kind of sound, the autotune in this album bounces back and forth between sounding artis-
The album review focuses on Mac Miller's album titled "Circles." The review applauds Miller's ability to seamlessly blend genres and explore his artistry. The album is praised for its introspective nature, with Miller reflecting on daily thoughts, experiences, and personal growth. The pace of the album is noted to quickly transition from a laid-back track to an upbeat one, showcasing Miller's versatility.

The review highlights the album's unique production, with features that add depth and emotion to the songs. "Swimming in Circles" is described as a track that might 'do a 180,' reflecting on Miller's journey of self-exploration. The album is seen as a captivating concept, offering listeners a new sound while still providing a sense of nostalgia.

The exhibit review discusses the "ICA artist shows a sense of Self in new exhibit," featuring Sarah Turley and her work, "Balala Self: Out of Body." The exhibit explores the concept of the body, presenting a sense of loss and the idea of self-reconstruction. The artist, Sarah Turley, uses various materials to create pieces that challenge the viewer's perception of the body and identity. The exhibit is described as a place where the viewer can experience the transformation of the body and the self, offering a range of perspectives and interpretations.
Jaquira Díaz has not had it easy. She lived in poverty, dropped out of high school and was raised by a parent that suffered from schizophrenia. Yet somehow, not only did Díaz survive it all, but she managed to put it down on paper in a stream of poetic words.

The author came to Suffolk University on Jan. 21 as part of the English Department’s visiting writer’s series. Díaz is a distinguished writer whose essays have been featured in numerous publications, including Rolling Stone and T: The New York Times Style magazine. She read from her new memoir “Ordinary Girls” inside the Blue Sky Lounge in Sargent Hall.

The memoir, published in October 2019, shows Díaz navigating through girlhood. She talks about her life through various phases, like growing up in a housing development in Puerto Rico, experience with sexual assault, her time in the United States Navy and her making a career as an author during adulthood. She said she thought “about how [her] story could say something about the larger world.” Díaz shared a heavy passage from one of the chapters of “Ordinary Girls.” The selection she read from was about her experience running away from home as a teenager in Miami and hitchhiking to Santa’s Enchanted Forest for a day of amusement park rides, fried food and Christmas decorations. Later, she was sexually assaulted by the man that drove her there.

Although the incidents discussed in the book are memories from the past, Díaz had to find ways to step back into the mindset of her teenage self, including looking back on diary entries she wrote in her adolescence. Díaz also returned to some of the places of her youth, like her old high school and neighborhood. She reminisced by riding the bus on the same route she used to when she was a kid. She compared writing to method acting because for both, she needed to see herself as a character and question how that character would think and feel.

“[I had to] think about what it was like to be that 14-year-old very vulnerable girl riding that bus alone,” said Díaz. The author moved back to Miami in 2014. She explained to the audience that it’s difficult to see gentrification change her hometown as small businesses continue to close their doors for good and tourists visit in increasing numbers.

“It’s also heartbreaking for me to walk around my neighborhood where an old mom and pop restaurant is now a Banana Republic,” said Díaz. Díaz explained that music was another important tool that helped her craft “Ordinary Girls.” She compared her writing process to composing because she maintained a certain rhythm and flow. For example, she said the specific passage she read to the crowd feels like it rushes because it’s trying to get through so many things.

“That was one of the most difficult chapters to write for me, but the music is what got me there,” said Díaz.

In addition to listening to music, Díaz said it helps to read her writing out loud. She often records herself reciting her drafts so she can hear the parts of the story that may sound unclear or need improvement. She noted that while she may read the story in a certain way, different readers digest books in different ways.

“I think after you write a book, the reader owns it and however it sounds right to them is how it should be,” said Díaz.

The process of writing “Ordinary Girls” was not easy, but Díaz knows her experience is not isolated. The author understands that other people have had similar things happen to them, which is why she wanted to share her own story.

Suffolk freshmen, Bria Dequattro and Liliana Kotval agreed after the event that while they may not share Díaz’s exact childhood, they see themselves reflected in some of her words.

“I like how she said that she speaks for all women, and all women are a part of that time,” said Kotval. “It’s not just her experience, it is specific to her but it can be broad too and for every woman.”
Learning from tragedy in the new decade

Nick Sammarco
Senior Staff Writer

When Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi announced the House would begin formal impeachment proceedings against President Donald Trump, Democrats rallied behind the mantra “Nobody is above the law.” The subsequent investigation into the alleged quid pro quo revealed to all Americans (or at least to those willing to look) the actions the President took to leverage American foreign policy for his own personal and political gain. Democrats correctly argued that the President had abused his power, violated his oath of office to support, protect, and defend the Constitution and needed to be impeached. The results of the House of Representative’s impeachment vote on Dec. 18, 2019, gave credit to the claim that Democrats cared about the rule of law. It was therefore saddening, but not surprising when the Suffolk University College Democrats endorsed a policy plan that would aid andabet criminal activity on campus.

The plan/petition, originally proposed by the Suffolk University Marxist Student Association on Jan. 13, demands that administration and President Marisa Kelly create “safe zones” where SUPD and other authorities cannot ask to verify a student’s immigration status. The executive board and Democrats also request that federal immigration officials are to be restricted from entering campus zones and that campus security and police be prohibited from collaborating with federal immigration authorities for the purposes of enforcement or information.

According to the petition, now nearing 400 online signatures, the motivation for the proposed changes stems from the fact that, “Recently MIT has warned international students that federal immigration officials may visit their worksites to verify that their employments are directly related to their studies. Student have been detained and imprisoned for allegedly ‘stealing information from bouncing back to their ‘home countries’ on school break.’” In their appeal to administration, the Marxists then state “We, the Marxist Student Association, hope to work with Suffolk Administration, Student Affairs, and President Marisa Kelly to ensure ALL students at Suffolk remain safe and within welcoming environment on and around the Suffolk campus.”

The logic behind the Suffolk University Democrats’ decision to endorse these demands is ill-founded. In this case, particularly with China—supposedly a major player in alleged thefts emanating from the Chinese government. This analysis simply does not hold up to scrutiny. For starters, the Suffolk Democrats did not present an analysis or evidence confirming that ICE is “racially profiling” students when conducting their immigration investigations. The Economist report from China mirroring their NIH-established “shadow labs” in American universities has been discredited by some researchers and professors with ties to China—many of them internationally renowned Chinese-American, including Chinese-Americans—to determine whether they might be working in the context of the Communist Party.” Additionally, The Economist states that, “The government’s attempt to prove your immigration status. According to the ACLU, an organization that can only be described as vehemently pro-immigrant, “If you are not a U.S. citizen and an immigration agent requests your immigration papers, you must show them if you have them with you.” Simply being a foreign national in America is probable enough cause to be asked to prove your immigration status. Finally, the idea that since more Americans committing intellectual property theft crimes, therefore we should worry about intellectual property theft is laughable. According to CNN, it is estimated that losses of Chinese intellectual property theft alone totaled $225 billion and $600 billion to resolve these issues, strict enforcement of immigration law must be utilized. We should not be creating spaces on campus for immigration law to be broken. Unless they’re simply obfuscating their prefer for open borders, it seems things are looking up for the Suffolk University Democrats got duped. Swept up in the quest to stamp out the wave of xenophobic sentiment sweeping the country in recent years, the SU Democrats endorsed a policy that would empower regimes seeking to undermine our nation and neuter the power of immigration officials to protect Americans from communist governments and criminal activity. The SU Democrats should abide by the words of Nancy Pelosi when she said “Nobody is above the law.” Hopefully, this column will help the SU Dems realize the real threat we face and convince them how foolish an idea it would be to take their immigration policy cues from an organization known best for telling white students to go back to Europe.
WNBA Scores Big On New CBA

Andrew Laird
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After 23 years as a sports league, the Women’s National Basketball Association (WNBA) finally starts to right some fairly egregious wrongs in the latest collective bargaining agreement (CBA). The new CBA, which was negotiated between the WNBA and the Women’s National Basketball Player’s Association (WNBPA), replaces the last CBA that was set to last from 2014-2021, before the WNBA opted out in 2018 and played without an agreement while in negotiations. The new CBA, which is set to last through 2027, accomplishes a lot as a league continues to try and tackle the issues facing the sport. The league finally paid their players!

After a year headlined by Sports Illustrated’s Athlete of the Year Maya Moore, Retinae and the champion U.S. Women’s National Team’s crusade for equal pay for women, the WNBA inexperience (two years or less) salary was raised from $41,965 to $57,000. The experience (three or more years) was raised from $56,375 to $68,000. For “core” players, and players like Breanna Stewart, tore her $117,500 to $215,000. The expe

WNBA finally corrected its maternity leave policy. In the former CBA, teams were only required to pay up to half of a player’s salary while they were on maternity leave. The current deal now mandates that salary be paid in full.

A child-care stipend of $5,000, workplace accommodations for nursing moms, having at least a two-bedroom apartment for players with children and family planning reimbursement up to $60,000. Last year, Dallas Wings guard Skylar Diggins-Smith missed the whole season while she was battling postpartum depression. The year before that, she played almost the entire year while pregnant in order to keep her salary. Diggins-Smith spoke extensively about her experiences on Twitter and the WNBA’s new deal shows that they were listening.

This emphasis on mothers is emblematic of the league’s recognition of the challenges that face women’s sports. From pay inequity, to misogyny and the reality of motherhood, the WNBA and WNBA have taken almost all issues that arose in the previous four years and have given measured response. As the league continues to grow, unforeseen issues will arise, and this new CBA gives fans of the WNBA hope that the league and its players are in good hands. Professional sports leagues are no different than the rest of the world in the sense that money makes it go round. The battle against female pay inequity and large scale discrimination is not one that will be fixed in one collective bargaining agreement, but the WNBA took one giant step for the history of women’s sports.

Oscar Torres
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The long-awaited impeachment trial of the 45th president of the United States has arrived. Yet, facing removal from office, President Donald Trump feels invincible. I believe that if the House didn’t have enough evidence we wouldn’t be here. Trump has consistently abused his power as president. Trump has been testing the American people in seeing how far he can go, and he has been crossing that line before he was even sworn in.

A little before 2 a.m. last Wednesday, the first night of the impeachment trial, a dozen Republicans, including Senator Chuck Grassley, announced that they would not vote to acquit Trump. This was a huge blow to Trump’s chances of being acquitted, and it set the stage for a potential 50% split if there were to be a vote. Yet, facing removal from office, President Donald Trump feels invincible.

Democrats will persuade the Republican Senators to remove Trump from office.

Democrats will persuade the Republican Senators to remove Trump from office. Democrats will fight until the 2020 election. Now that they have removed one potential witness John Bolton, the final vote is yet to be held. The trial is set to end sometime this week. Early on during the trial, Schiff quoted Thomas Jefferson in telling the truth: “You can never rain on the truth, so that is why we are here.”

The truth always finds the light, be that documents, plays or books. I just hope we know the truth sooner rather than later.
Bostonians remember the life of Kobe Bryant

In wake of the news of Bryant’s passing a mural was crafted overnight in Graffiti Alley in Central Square of the NBA star and his daughter Gianna who also died in Sundays helicopter crash. Bryant was an important figure to fans in Boston because of the intense rivalry between the Lakers and the Celtics.

Manfr and Weisse ranked in US Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association

Senior co-captains of the women’s indoor track team, Emily Manfr and Emma Weisse appeared in the preseason United States Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association (USTFCCCA) rankings on Jan. 15.

Manfr appeared in two separate rankings. She started off running the mile and finished in sixth place. Later on she would be third-best in the 3000. Meanwhile, Weisse was ranked 31st out of 35 in the 3000-meter.

Competing wasn’t easy for Weisse after coming back from a four-month injury. At the end of training in August, Weisse felt pain in her hip and continued to stress it out.

“It was a progressive injury,” said Weisse. “I have bursitis in my hip, a torn labrum and tendinitis in my knee. With lots of rest, cross training and rehab, I’m slowly returning with very low mileage.”

Even so, the dynamic duo teamed up as the only Division III athletes to compete at Harvard’s BeanTown Challenge.

“The biggest challenge of making the rankings is probably maintaining the physical health it requires to run at my full ability,” said Manfr. “Distance running, especially after four years, is an extremely demanding sport and I don’t think people realize just how difficult it is. Everyone thinks it is easy, but when Emma and I are hitting 70 miles in a week, it’s tough.”

Junior year, Manfr made Ram nation headlines as the first-ever track & field athlete to garner All-American status. Manfr completed an indoor mile time of 4:57.04. Weisse, won her section and shaved 30 seconds off her 5000-meter time, finishing the race in 17:54.90.

Manfr, from Stoneham, MA began indoor track her freshman year of high school alongside her sisters.

“I chose Suffolk because I felt comfortable here and I loved being in the city. I started track in Suffolk’s first season which was our sophomore year,” Manfr said.

Weisse, from Hampden, MA began indoor track her senior year of high school.

“Suffolk didn’t have track our freshman year, but we’ve been doing cross-country all four. I definitely didn’t come to Suffolk to run, but I am very thankful this is where we ended up,” Weisse said.

Manfr and Weisse’s sophomore year indoor track had a team of six. Now, as co-captains, they are leading a team of 20.

“We’ve both realized that our hard work speaks for itself. If you’re a younger team member and see your captains putting in full effort for workouts and practice it sends a message that you should be giving 100% as well,” Manfr said. “We like to keep the mood light, running can be very stressful so we try to create a fun environment to alleviate the anxiety.”

The duo has been pushing each other since freshman year and know the mental and physical toll running has. As seniors they will run in some of their final races together this year.

“Emma completely understands all of the emotions tied to distance running,” said Manfr.

The team’s next competition is on Feb. 1 at Tufts and Boston University.
Sports

Larry and Michael Smith Court floods

Men’s and women’s basketball teams continue push for GNAC

At the Larry E. Smith and Michael F. Smith Gymnasium, new materials (shown above) have arrived to replace the floor. The replacement is expected to be finished Feb. 10th.

Having home court advantage in basketball could be a major difference maker in the outcome of a game. With that being said, the Suffolk men’s and women’s basketball teams are facing their toughest “off-the-court” challenge this season.

Sometime in late December, the Larry E. Smith and Michael F. Smith Gymnasium, home court for both the men’s and women’s teams, flooded, causing serious damage to the facility. The damage was not discovered until Dec. 27 and called for a replacement of the entire court floor, according to Suffolk University spokesman Greg Gatlin.

The gymnasium is located 30 feet below ground in the Ridgeway Building. Sometime during winter break a drainage system malfunctioned, causing a pumping mechanism to fail, ultimately causing water to rise up through the floorboards said Gatlin.

“New sump pumps will be installed with a new control panel that now has the ability to sound an audible alarm and send text messages to key personnel if water levels rise too high,” said Gatlin in a statement. “That feature was not available 30 years ago when the control panel was installed.”

Both teams have been forced to play the remainder of their home games at neutral sites. The men’s team has been practicing and playing games at Tufts University, and the women’s team has been both practicing and playing at Emerson College said Gatlin.

“We are really grateful that two Boston schools, one a 10-minute walk another a 10-minute ride, have helped us out,” said women’s basketball coach Ed Leyden.

The women’s team has made the most of its situation post-flood while shooting 42% from the field.

“Eventually at some point we’ll lose a game because of our situation,” said Gatlin. “The court was being used for another floor which was behind us.”

“Things happen,” said Leyden. “We recognize that we’re all in this together and keep a great sense of humor about things. It’s unfortunate but not the end of the world.”

Both the men’s and women’s teams were strongest when playing at home so far this season, with records of 4-1. The major adjustment has not seemed to faze either team much, as their neutral site records each stand at 2-1.

Men’s basketball captain Thomas Duffy said the neutral site games have attracted less of a fan presence than a typical home game.

“We’ve kind of embraced it,” said Duffy. “We’d rather be able to play at our home gym in front of our friends and buddies, but it’s been fun to play at new gyms we’ve never played at before.”

Overall, both the men’s and women’s teams have gotten off to impressive starts this season. The men’s team is currently sitting at 9-7 and the women’s team has a record of 11-5, which puts them fourth in conference seeding.

After an average 6-6 start to the season, the men’s team was able to get the ball rolling with three straight wins against tough opponents such as Tufts University and Anna Maria College.

“Our record doesn’t really show how good of a team we are,” said Duffy. “Eventually at some point it’s going to turn the corner.”

Duffy has acted as the anchor to this young team, currently averaging the second most points per game on the team with 11.2 (behind only junior guard, Nate Hale who is currently averaging 12.9) while shooting 42% from the field.

After starting the season 1-2, the women’s team went on to win four straight games and have been playing their best basketball ever since. Led by senior captain Jenni-Rose DiCecco averaging 15 points per game, the women’s team has made a name for itself in the GNAC this year.

Losing out on five to six home games might be the breaking point for many basketball teams. Luckily for Suffolk, both the teams are not looking to give up as they both prepare to take on Johnson and Wales on Jan. 29.

While the season continues to move forward, Suffolk’s new court is scheduled to be refurbished by Feb. 10 said Gatlin.

“We were close to needing a new court in the next five years,” said Suffolk Athletic Director Cary McConnell. “It was the original court in the building since 1991. It certainly served its life well.”