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Back on the force

## Phelan cleared of arson charges

by Dolores Ponte

"It was two and a half months of frustration and sheer hell," said John Phelan, Suffolk police officer.

Phelan was accused of setting fire to the building located at 28 Derne Street on September 22. No probable cause was found in the December 19 and 20 hearings at Boston Municipal Court.

The building is owned by Bennett Investment Properties, but during the hearing Sergeant Pasquale Piscitelli was asked about the ownership of the building.

Piscitelli testified, "That's a question the University doesn't want to answer. That's something the University doesn't like to talk about." When pressed for an answer, Piscitelli said, "Mr. Bennett, the real estate man."

Francis X. Flannery, Suffolk Vice President and Treasurer said that Suffolk police officers have been patrolling the building at 28 Derne Street since its vacancy two years ago. "We keep an eye on it [28 Derne]. It abuts our [Fenton] building. We would like to obtain it [28 Derne] in the future."

Mary Oakes and Susan Jussene, two women in the vicinity of 28 Derne at the time of the fire, testified that they saw Phelan coming out of the building at 2 a.m. The women said there was no conversation and that they walked to Hancock Street to visit a friend. Phelan said he saw the two women and said

"hi" to them, noting that they were drunk.

"Fifteen minutes later," said Jussene, "we smelled smoke and saw fire."

Officer David Finucane was working the security desk in the Sawyer Building that night and testified that he received a call from Phelan over the police radio.

PHELAN: Call the fire department!

FINUCANE: Slow down, sir. What is your location?

PHELAN: Location #10

FINUCANE: Do you have a working fire? Inside or outside?

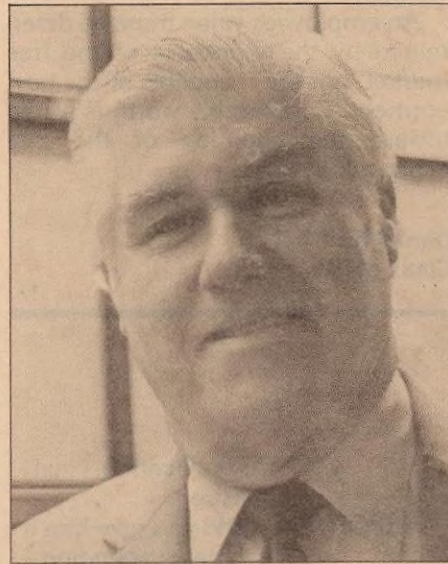
PHELAN: Get the fire department! Quick!

Capt. James Evans of the Boston Fire Dept. testified that the department received a call at 2:19 a.m. Evans was the first one in the building and said he saw "a small area of papers by itself burning on the first half of the stairwell. There was a working fire on the second floor landing. The second to third floors were completely burned."

Evans said there was no continuity to the fire.

Finucane said at the hearing that at approximately 4:30 a.m. Phelan asked if he could go home early because he felt sick. Finucane said that Farren and he entered the building Thursday, September 19, prior to the Sunday

morning fire and observed "a lot of plaster, debris and small scraps of paper." Finucane testified that on September 22, Phelan had the only key to the building at 28 Derne Street. The next shift starts at 8 a.m.



Edward Farren

Suffolk Police Chief Edward Farren took the stand and was asked about the D-Tex clocks that are used to insure that the officers check the 31 punch locations on campus. The judge dismissed the D-Tex tapes as inaccurate evidence because of the known margin of error on the clocks of fifteen minutes.

Christopher Skinner, Phelan's attorney, argued that "from the evidence, Phelan was (just) doing his job."

Judge John Pino ruled there was no probable cause, citing the lack of concrete evidence against Phelan.

"I realize that it is not essential to have a motive in a probable cause hearing, but where is the motive? I have to be satisfied that a jury seeking the truth can be convinced beyond a reasonable doubt on credible evidence. I have some serious doubts."

After the hearing, Phelan, realizing that Suffolk offices would be closed during the Christmas week, went to the Personnel Office and demanded his badge, ID, and back pay. An hour later, Phelan received a telephone call telling him to report to duty the following Monday.

Phelan was reinstated on December 23 and was given back pay at the day rate.

Since Phelan's return, he has reportedly been harassed by other officers and students. "They see your name tag with 'Phelan' on it and they say 'oh, there goes Phelan.' I'm paranoid now, maybe too paranoid. My eyes are opened wider listening for comments."

Rumors have circulated that Phelan has received toast in the mail and matches stuffed in his locker. Phelan had no comment on the incidents.

(continued on page 2)

## \$\$\$ a priority for New England, study says

New Englanders more than most say the federal government should channel more of its spending into aid for higher education.

An independent, nationwide public opinion poll co-sponsored by the New England Board of Higher Education (NEBHE) and the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) shows that when ranking the top three of 14 federally funded programs, New Englanders, by wide margins over the national sample, support increased aid for higher education, medical research and needy college students.

"The poll results demonstrate once again public conviction in New England that higher education and medical research are critical priorities to the strength of our nation and region," says John C. Hoy, president of the New England Board of Higher Education.

The poll found the following significant differences when comparing New England and national attitudes on whether federal support for higher education and medical research should be increased, stay at its present level, or be

national sample. A majority of people surveyed in the six-state region continue to "strongly favor" medical research and student financial assistance programs while the highest intensity of support from national respondents falls below the majority level in every category.

For the first time in three years, serious slippage is shown in national public support for federal aid to middle income students. In 1983, when Americans were asked how strongly they favored or opposed government-financed low-interest loans to middle income students, 51 percent of the respondents said they strongly favored such federal loans, and only 9 percent said they were opposed. By 1985, those who strongly favored such loans had dropped to 40 percent; those who opposed them had nearly doubled to 17 percent.

But the strength from New Englanders for low-interest loans to middle income students remains steady and at a majority level. In 1983, 54 percent strongly favored such loans; by 1985, 52 percent still strongly favored them.

tion is "very important" or "fairly important" to the national effort to build a stronger economy. Since the movement to engage higher education more directly in economic development began in 1981, political and business leaders have brought public opinion on

the subject. to the point where it now solidly supports the effort.

The public opinion poll was conducted by the Opinion Research Corporation (ORC) of Princeton, N.J. The field work for the survey was carried (continued on page 2)

	Increase		Stay as is		Decrease		No opinion	
	N.E.	U.S.	N.E.	U.S.	N.E.	U.S.	N.E.	U.S.
Gov't aid for higher education	73%	61%	20%	28%	6%	10%	2%	1%
Government funding for medical research	82%	73%	17%	21%	1%	5%	0%	1%
Government financial aid for college students	71%	53%	21%	35%	6%	11%	2%	2%

decreased:

When asked how strongly they felt about continuing federal funding for the following higher education and medical research programs, New Englanders again scored well ahead of the

When it comes to how important our colleges and universities are to building a strong, competitive economy, the national sample is squarely in line with the findings for New England. In both cases, 9 out of 10 people surveyed believe higher educa-

Is

# Suffolk

for hire?

See next week's

## Suffolk Journal

for details.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Comparable worth is a threat to the free market system. It would mandate equal pay for different jobs provided those jobs could be shown in some way to require the same effort, skill and responsibility. This is designed to give more money to traditionally female jobs. Under comparable worth, an employer would be forced to pay a female secretary the same amount of money as a male janitor provided that the effort, skill and responsibility required to do the job could be proven equal. Comparable worth advocates the fallacy that wages are set at the whim of an employer who decides that traditionally female jobs should be paid less than traditionally male jobs. If wages were based on whim, would not employers pay male jobs less also? What employer in the private sector pays more in salaries than he has to? An employer will have no more and no fewer employees than the demand dictates and he or she will pay them no

more and no less than their market value. In a free market economic system there is no intrinsic worth to a job. The worth is determined by the supply and the demand, not some government bureaucrat who decides, by some unknown standard, that typing a letter requires the same skill as driving a truck and thus the jobs must be equal in pay. Comparable worth has ominous implications. Are professional athletes worth more than construction workers? Who is more worthy, a punk-rock singer or an elementary school teacher? An employees value must be determined by the mandates of the free market, not the mandates of the government. Comparable worth is a step toward the abolition of the free economic system. Daniel Kelleher Class of '89

Phelan

(continued from page 1)

"It (harassment) may be occurring, but I have not been informed about it so I tend to think it's not happening," said Farren. Phelan was suspended with pay after his October 10 arrest, for the entirety of his suspension, Farren said. Phelan, however, said Farren handed him a letter October 31 after the hearing continuation, stating that as of November 1 he was suspended without pay pending the outcome of the hearing. Farren was questioned in a telephone interview: REPORTER: Was Phelan ever suspended without pay? FARREN: What are you writing? A dissertation down there? That's personal. Not

for publication. Next question. REPORTER: Did you give him a letter suspending him without pay? FARREN: That's personal. Not for publication. You should talk to him. REPORTER: He told us that he was suspended without pay as of November 1. FARREN: I will not confirm or reject that. He had no reason to lie. I have no comment on the case. It's over with. Phelan said he wants to forget the whole thing, "there was no probable cause. I love my job."

\$\$\$

(continued from page 1)

out by telephone between September 27 and October 7, 1985. The survey involved interviewing a statistically reliable and valid random sample of

1,004 adult American 18 years of age or older outside New England and 164 New Englanders. The statistical margin of error is plus or minus three percentage points.

	Strongly Favor		Somewhat Favor		Somewhat Oppose		Strongly Oppose		No Opinion	
	N.E.	U.S.	N.E.	U.S.	N.E.	U.S.	N.E.	U.S.	N.E.	U.S.
Grants to low income students	58%	46%	32%	38%	3%	8%	6%	6%	1%	2%
Low interest loans to middle income students	52%	40%	31%	41%	12%	12%	4%	6%	1%	1%
Support for university research in medical fields	62%	52%	34%	37%	3%	6%	1%	4%	1%	1%

College Bowl Trivia Competition Applications Available in the STUDENT ACTIVITIES OFFICE RL Competition Starts January 30th Tuesdays & Thursdays 1:00 pm Registration Fee \$5.00

Up Temple Street MONDAY, JAN. 13, 1986

Day and Evening Classes Convene Varsity Ice Hockey 7:45 pm @ New Hampshire College

TUESDAY, JAN. 15, 1986 Meetings 1:00-2:30 pm

SGA Meeting	S423
Delta Sigma Pi Meeting	S430
Suffolk Journal Meeting	1-2:15 pm S426

THURSDAY, JAN. 17, 1986 Meetings 1:00-2:30 pm

Math Clinic	A403
WSFR Meeting	S427
C.I.S. Club Meeting	S929
Career Assessment	1:30-3:30 pm S4289
SBSA — Honoring Martin Luther King	6-9:00 pm Caf./Table

FRIDAY, JAN. 17, 1986

Last Day for Non-Degree Student Admission and Last Day for Late Registration Extension Works 8:00 pm Theatre "An Evening of Chamber Music" Co-op. Education — 10-3:00 pm Student Interviews Caf./Table

The Suffolk University Counseling Center Provides Support Group for Gay Men and Lesbians. For further information, contact Paul Korn or Joan MacVicar in Archer 301, ext. 226 or 227.

The Suffolk Journal

8 Ashburton Place Boston, MA 02108 617/723-4700 x.323

The Suffolk Journal is the official newspaper of the student body of Suffolk University; it is published weekly throughout the academic year and monthly during the summer. It is the policy of The Suffolk Journal to be an opinion leader and sounding board for student views by providing a medium for democratic expression. Those who work on the staff gain invaluable practical experience in newspaper writing, re-writing, copy editing, layout and advertising is available to all interested students regardless of major.

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# MUSIC

## Finally, the last Top Twenty list of the year

by Michael Maloney

1985 has been highlighted by Live Aid, Farm Aid, and Rock's AIDS. The lists have already been compiled, but no year end list would be complete without my Top 20 artists of the year.

1. **Dire Straits - Brothers In Arms**

Mark Knopfler and the boys have finally got the respect they deserve. Mostly due to their #1 song "Money For Nothing." Knopfler copped a Number 1 single, album and MTV video of the year.

2. **Bruce Springsteen - Born In The U.S.A.**

Even though the album was released in 1984, it stayed in the Top 3 all year in 1985. With his massive sold-out tour, Bruce has been lifted to legend. Seven Top Ten singles and five videos plus appearances on the *U.S.A. for Africa* and *Sun City* records has widened Bruce's popularity. He is simply the Boss.

3. **Talking Heads - Little Creatures**

David Byrne, a musical genius, comes back with probably the T-Heads' most diverse album to date. From the danceable "And She Was" to the country "Creatures Of Love," to the spacy "Road To Nowhere," Byrne has created the band's best material. Can't wait for the next LP.

4. **Madonna - Like A Virgin**

The material girl got into the groove and cranked out hit after hit. The Virgin tour was a success and she got married. What's next?

5. **Mötley Crüe - Theater Of Pain**

With Van Halen and Def Leppard not

putting out albums in 1985, heavy metal groups like Ratt, Twisted Sister, and Mötley Crüe took over the heavy metal scene. The Crüe led the pack with their cover of the Brownsville Station song "Smoking In The Boy's Room." Mötley even had time to sing a ballad.

6. **Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers - Southern Accents**

Petty had a big year after recuperating from his broken hand. He toured, played at Live Aid and Farm Aid, and released a live album. Petty should be remembered for his fantasy Alice in Wonderland video, "Don't Come Around Here No More."

7. **Sting - The Dream Of The Blue Turtles**

This album should be called *The Dream of the Blue Crayfish*. It is filled with so many jazz riffs. Songs like "Moon Over Bourbon Street" and "Russians" exemplify his trial shift in musical taste.

8. **'til Tuesday - Voices Carry**

Their debut album deals with Aimee Mann's dark side of stormy relationships. The hit "Voices Carry" climbed to the Top Ten and 'til Tuesday hit the road backing up Hall and Oates, Rick Springfield, and Tom Petty, then headlining their own tour. Can't wait for the band's next album.

9. **John Fogerty - Centerfield**

What a genius. Fogerty wrote, played, and produced everything on his comeback album. The former Creedence Clearwater Revival frontman hit big with "Old Man Down The Road" and "Centerfield." He is the fifth person to have a #1 album in the '60's, '70's,

and '80's.

10. **Wham - Make It Big**

How could Elton John embarrass himself singing with that wimp George Michaels? OK, they're wimps but they had three Number 1 hits and their tour traveled to China.

11. **The Firm - The Firm**

Jimmy Page's return to the limelight was a shot in the arm for his fans.

12. **AC/DC - Fly On The Wall/Jailbreak 74**

Angus and the guys are back amidst rumors of satonic images on their past albums. But AC/DC is best when Angus lets loose on songs like "Sink The Pink" and "Danger." Jailbreak was worth the wait.

13. **Lone Justice - Lone Justice**

If cow-punk ever catches on, owe it to Maria McKee and Lone Justice. Tom Petty and Eurythmics helped out on the album, but it is Lone Justice's songs about salvation and McKee's voice that steals the vinyl.

14. **Tears for Fears - Songs From The Big Chair**

The title is from the movie Sybil. Roland Ozabul and Curt Smith sing about primal theory and their parents. They hit big with "Shout" and "Everybody Wants To Rule The World," both #1s.

15. **Phil Collins - No Jacket Required**

An unbelievable year for Phil as he enters the Guinness Book of World Records for playing in Live Aid on both sides of the Atlantic. Phil had his first #1 hit "One More Night" and followed that with his second #1 hit "Sussudio," produced Eric Clapton's record and acted on Miami Vice. Now if he only

could sing on the Academy Awards.

16. **Heart - Heart**

The Wilson Sisters have pumped new blood into Heart. The comeback album exceeds expectations as it renders two top ten hits "What About Love" and "Never."

17. **George Thorogood - Maverick**

He may drink alone but he sure can play the gear jammer.

18. **Hooters - Nervous Nights**

The Hooters woke up the dormant Philly band scene. The religious "All You Zombies" to the pop "And We Danced" make the Hooters a promising band for the future.

19. **U2 - Wide Awake In America**

The band of the '80's captured the Live Aid audience with a 15-minute version of "Bad," definitely the song of the year. This EP is worth its weight in gold to any U2 fan.

20. **The Cure - Head On The Door**  
**John Cougar Mellencamp - Scarecrow** (TIE)

**Aretha Franklin - Who's Zoomin' Who**  
**R.E.M. - Fables Of The Reconstruction**

The Cure's Robert Smith leads the way for the band's "In Between Days." Aretha Franklin is zoomin' nobody — this is an awesome album. John Cougar Mellencamp sings about the plight of the American farmer and comes through strong in his message. R.E.M. the pride of Athens, Georgia has gotten here from there.

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## WSFR WANTS YOU

You can be a newscaster  
or D.J. at WSFR

meeting: **Thursday**  
**January 16, 1986**  
**1 pm S427**

*no experience necessary*  
*all welcome!*

## MANDATORY MEETING

**The Suffolk Journal**

Tuesday, January 14, 1pm

Sawyer 426

We need writers to fill a few  
remaining staff positions.

*also needed:*  
news and features writers



**Senior Pictures**  
**January**  
**21 and 22, 1986**  
**9:00 am - 5:00 pm**  
**Fenton 134-C**  
**(Lounge)**  
**This is your last**  
**chance to be in**  
**the 1986**  
**Beacon**  
**Yearbook!**