Phelan cleared of arson charges
by Dolores Ponte

"It was two and a half months of frustrations 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 [Fenway] 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. They said he saw 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 research and student working fire? Inside or outside?
PHELAN: Get the fire department immediately!

Capt. James Evans of the Boston Fire Dept. testified that the department received a call at 2:49 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.

Phelan received a telephone call telling him to report to duty the following Monday.

Suffolk Police Chief Edward Farren took the stand and was asked about the D-Tex tapes that were used to prove 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.

Edward Farren

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(edited version)

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 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 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 is below the majority level in every category.

For the first time in three years, serious slippage is shown in continued 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. By 1985, only 9 percent said they were opposed. In 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.

### National Results

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When it comes to how important our colleges and universities are to building a strong, competitive economy, the national sample is significantly in line with the findings for New England. In both cases, 9 out of 10 people surveyed believe higher education is "very important" or "fairly important" to the national effort to build a stronger economy. Since the move 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)
Equivalent 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 employees pay male jobs less also? What employer in the private sector pays male jobs less also? What employer in the private sector pays male jobs less also? Is an employees value determined by the supply and 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 threat to the economic system.

Daniel Kelleher
Class of '89

Phelan (continued from page 1)

"(Harassment) may be occurring, but I have not been informed about it as 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: Did you give him a letter suspending him without pay?

FARREN: That's personal. Not for publication. You should talk to him.

Farren said he wants to forget the protest and he or she will publish no

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 percent points.

Strongly Favor Somewhat Favor Somewhat Oppose Strongly Oppose No Opinion


Grants to low income students 58% 56% 32% 38% 3% 8% 6% 6% 1% 2%

Low interest loans to middle income students 52% 49% 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%
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 capped 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 “Creatures Of Love,” to the spacy “Road To Nowhere” Byrne has created his own tour. Can't wait for the band's next album.

4. Madonna - Like A Virgin

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

5. Motley Crue - Theater Of Pain

With Van Halen and Def Leppard not putting out albums in 1985, heavy metal groups like Ratt, Twisted Sister, and Motley Crue took over the heavy metal scene. The Crue led the pack with their cover of the Brownsville Station song “Smokin In The Boy’s Room.” Motley 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. "Uncle 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 "Uncle Tuesday" hit the road backing up Hall and Oates, Rick Springfield, and Tom Petty, then headlining their own tour.

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 '60s, '70s, and '80s.

10. Wham - Make It Big

How could Elton John embarrass himself singing with that wimp George Michael? 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 renders two top ten hits “What About Love” and “Never.”

12. George Thorogood - Maverick

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

13. Lone Justice - Lone Justice

If cow-punk ever catches on, owe it to Maria McKee and Lone Justice. Tom Petty had a big year after “Shout” and “Everyday.” Jailbreak was worth the wait.

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. Melissa Etheridge - The Medicine Show

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 “Souveliko,” 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. The Firm - The Firm

Rick Springfield, the band's next 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 '60s, '70s, and '80s.

18. The Firm - The Firm

“Save The World” exemplify his trial shift in musical taste.

19. Heart - Heart

The Cure, the band of the '80s captured the title. He may drink alone but he sure can play the gear jammer.

20. The Cure - Head On The Door

John Cougar Mellencamp - Scarecrow

The Cure's Robert Smith leads the way for the band’s “In Between Days.” Anthea 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!

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**MANDATORY MEETING**

The Suffolk Journal

Tuesday, January 14, 1 pm

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!