Displaced students find new home at Suffolk

Rose Francois
Journal Staff

For most students the first week of school usually entails homework, new teachers, and new classmates. For students in the Gulf Coast, the first week of school meant that they were witness to the worst natural disaster in American history, Hurricane Katrina.

For approximately 12 students from the hurricane-affected areas, the destruction they left behind seems worlds away. These students are already taking classes at Suffolk University and are well into their second week. Only a week ago these same students were homeless and uncertain of what the immediate future held.

"I was so sure that I was coming back," said Mariam Konseiga, once a junior at the University of New Orleans. The 23-year-old West African native had been attending the University of New Orleans for a year and a half before everything changed.

On August 28, Katrina, a category five hurricane navigated its way across Florida and much of the Gulf Coast. The magnitude of the destruction left in Katrina’s wake and the subsequent damage from the floods after the levees broke remains to be enormous.

Media attention has focused on New Orleans; a once vibrant, metropolitan city that has now been reduced to little more than a disaster area that is being referred to by many as ground zero.

By now the disasters of the Superdome and the Convention Center are well known. How and why so many residents were allowed to remain for days on end in the sweltering heat, flood and violence without food or water will be debated in the months and years to come. Already there are cries for an Independent Investigation panel similar to the 9/11 panels.

But for most Americans the real story of Hurricane Katrina is the human element—the countless stories of survival, loss, and overwhelming drama.

Like hundreds of New Orleans residents who found themselves in dire straits after Katrina, college students in the area found themselves homeless and without a school to attend. Much like the states that took in displaced hurricane victims, colleges and universities across the country opened their doors to students.

Suffolk University, along with Boston University and several other colleges have extended admission to students from the Gulf Coast. Students have been accepted in both the law school and undergraduate schools of Suffolk.

Konseiga is one such student. Konseiga, like many of the students taken in by Suffolk, is no strangers to the university. These students had attended Suffolk University’s Dakar campus in Senegal a year prior to transferring to Louisiana schools.

"We didn’t really take it seriously," said Maureen Wark, from Suffolk University’s Office of Residential Life and Summer Programs.

While at the hotel, students are subject to the same regulations and penalties as traditional residential students.

Drinking alcohol, indoor smoking, having pets in the hotel and loud behavior after 10 p.m. are not permitted.

Suffolk students living in the Holiday Inn are also still required to have a meal plan, valid only in Suffolk dining halls and not including room service.

Since the Holiday Inn is an active hotel there is always some hotel staff present to provide security. At night there is a security guard from 10 p.m. till 9 a.m.

The third floor of the hotel is completely closed off to other guests in the hotel. Each student has a card that is swiped in the room doors as well.

Maureen Wark, Director of Resident Life and Summer Programs, said in an e-mail response, the students that live in the Holiday Inn were not chosen at random. "The group of students (living in the Holiday Inn) deposited later in the spring and therefore, were the last group to receive a room." Since overbooking, the university has planned to have the students living in the hotel until the end of the semester. Some students have already been moved to Suffolk residence halls.

"We expect that all students will be in residence halls for the spring semester," said Wark.

Suffolk University overbooks its residence halls yearly to account for those people that defer their admission, withdraw over the summer, and those that simply don’t show up on move-in day.

"Overbooking" residence halls is common for most universities.

"Chantha reads announcements of events at school in the hall, and doors left open just like a dorm hall," Sheehan said. "But there is still room service available and our rooms are cleaned everyday like a hotel."
Suffolk's possible purchase

Chris DeFilippi
Journal Staff

Although purchasing property in the heart of downtown Boston is rife with legal and financial complications, Suffolk University seems to be making headway in its plans to purchase the 20 Somerset St. property, to be used for a new dormitory and student center.

"I think it will be a huge benefit to the university to have a building in it, particularly with a student center," said Dean of Students Nancy Soll. "It will give us a center for the campus, which will hopefully be a magnet for all students. It will be particularly attractive for our commuter students: to give them a place on campus."

The sale has not been finalized, and according to Provost and Academic Vice-President Patricia Meservey, it might be 18 months to two years before construction begins. However, many plans have still been drawn for what the dormitory will be like. In addition to a student center, it is expected to include 792 beds, dining facilities and a redesign of the public plaza at the corner of Somerset Street and Ashburton Place.

It is likely that the building currently on 20 Somerset Street, formerly housing the Boston Metropolitan District Commission, will have to be demolished, and a new building constructed in its place. "We would need a much larger building than the existing structure to meet our programing needs and to make the building financially feasible," said Meservey. "So the existing structure is very small. It's also very old. It was built in the 1930's, we would have to renovate it, and I don't believe it would be cost effective.

The price of purchasing the land and developing it is expected to run about $120 million, according to Meservey, and finding the funds may prove difficult."

"We have to see what we need to do to construct the new building, and certainly tied to all of this is the cost of all this," Meservey said. "We have to see if we can afford all this."

Any financial effects of the purchase, demolition and construction are unlikely to be passed along to the average non-residential student. "It shouldn't have any direct effect on tuition; since it's a residential hall," said Meservey about the property's expense. "So [room and board] fees would take care of it."

Suffolk's possibly made it into the due-diligence stage of the purchasing process, which Provost and Academic Vice-President Patricia Meservey compared to the purchase-and-sale agreement signed by a prospective homeowner. "We'll have to explore the property," said Meservey. "We just want to see if there isn't anything that would make it impossible to go forward with the sale."

There is still much work to be done. The owners of the surrounding buildings must be contacted, such as those of the Suffolk County Courthouse and the McCormick building, and agreements must be reached with them. Also, there will be the hiring of qualified construction workers and a construction crew, most of which will be overseen by the private contracting group that we've hired.

In terms of how this new property will effect the perception of Suffolk University, Meservey said that it will be a positive addition.

"I think any time you add significant new facilities it gives a sense to the outside world that it's a vibrant, healthy institution," said Soll. I think it will enhance what we already know as a strong academic institution."

Suffolk Improv

Best in Boston

Chris DeFilippi
Journal Staff

On September 14, Seriously Bent defeated Emerson College’s Improv group, Swollen Monkey, to win the First College Improv Championships, a contest between Boston-area college improv groups.

Held at the Improv Asylum, the largest improvisational comedy theater in New England, Seriously Bent's victory means they will have opportunities to perform in the theater in the future and will receive free classes from professional comedians teaching there.

"I'm surprised Emerson didn't win, because I personally thought they were hilarious," said Gustafson of the Suffolk version. "They're very witty, not that we're not intelligent, ours is just more goofy."

Suffolk's possible purchase

SU offers assist to victims

Konseiga from page 1

admitted Konseiga about the storm, "Every year [New Orleans officials] asked us to evacuate, but nothing happened." Living off-campus in the Tennyson area of New Orleans with three roommates, Konseiga had evacuated when hurricane Ivan hit previously, but days later returned home, she expected the same of Katrina.

On August 28 the hurricane unleashed a category four storm, prompting New Orleans officials to issue a voluntary evacuation for residents. Certain that they would return home soon Konseiga and her roommates decided to leave. "We just started packing our stuff," said Konseiga. "For us it wasn't anything serious."

The young women packed passports, clothing, food and water and drove to Houston, Texas to stay with friends.

A day after evacuating the city Konseiga realized that returning to New Orleans would not be an option. "We were listening to the news and were horrified," she said. The day after the storm news stations had showed what Katrina's wrath had done. "When I heard the news it was like a dream," recalled Konseiga, "I couldn't imagine that everything was gone." Later

Admitted Konseiga when Suffolk went online to look at satellite images of New Orleans she saw that her home was under water. On the University of New Orleans website a message had been posted announcing that students could go to other schools in the Louisiana area or take online courses.

After the initial shock wore off Konseiga and her friends decided to move on to Baton Rouge to seek shelter with friends. "Can you imagine that there were 13 college students in a 2 bedroom apartment?" said Konseiga, describing the conditions in Baton Rouge.

Finally, a ray of hope appeared when Konseiga received a call from the Dean of Suffolk's Dakar campus inviting her to attend classes at Suffolk for the remainder of the fall semester.

Though she misses her friends in New Orleans Konseiga has found solace in helping others."I didn't think I'd ever go back to Louisiana," she admitted. About Suffolk she said, "The faculty and staff are very friendly." She is beginning to focus on her second Suffolk campus.

For it's part, the Suffolk campus has extended its generosity to all the students that it has taken in.

Some faculty members have images of New Orleans in their very own home and the Student Government Association is doing its part in welcoming the returning students by alleviating some of their burdens.

"Everyone in SGA has been touched by what's going on and is looking forward to helping the student from the Gulf Coast get back on their feet," said SGA president Allan Koskoff. "We're looking into ways to use SGA funds to defray costs for students that Suffolk University is accepting from the Gulf Coast."

The original idea was proposed by SGA representative Max Koskoff, and idea the members of SGA took to and attempting to put into action. If approved the plan would allow for the students to receive gift certificates and gift basket stated Koskoff.

These supplies would aid in helping students in the midst of attempting to regain some semblances of what once was home.

Konseiga is optimistic, though, a quality she believes helped her deal with the situation. "I feel very at home here now," she said about herself and her friends, "We're all fine and we're going to school and that's the most important thing."
Hurricane relief proposal comes under fire

Rose Francois
Journal Staff

Only three weeks into the school year, Suffolk's Student Government Association is already embroiled in controversy. During the September 15 SGA meeting the use of student funds for a Hurricane Katrina Relief Fund was discussed.

"My goal in all this won't create controversy. My goal was to help these twelve students, in this instance, to have a better life at Suffolk University, to be better acquainted with the university..." said class of 2007 SGA president Max Koskoff.

Koskoff initially thought of the initiative, which gained quick support among SGA. When originally proposed the legislation would allow for displaced students from the University of New Orleans to receive care packages.

The packages would include gift certificates to the bookstore and financial assistance for the purchase of books and school supplies. Though it was later removed from the initiative a second part of the proposal included a line that would allow for collaboration with Residence Life to produce and sell relief bracelets, with proceeds going to displaced students.

Koskoff requested from SGA a total of $14,000, allowing for each student to receive $1,200. Director of Service Learning, Carolina Garcia explained that though the students received $900 from The Red Cross, they are unable to receive aid from FEMA because none of the students are American citizens.

The controversy began when Student Government Association Treasurer and Senior Class Speaker Karlene Malloino caught wind of what was being planned for the displaced students.

"I don't think it was well planned out," said Malloino of the initiative. As treasurer, Malloino's job is to make sure that SGA follows financial bylaws and that the financial decisions made by SGA "...benefit the Suffolk community."

According to Malloino, this initiative would benefit only a select number of students.

A major question is the use of the student activities fee all students pay as part of their tuition. This fee funds the clubs and activities on campus that SGA allocates money to. During the hearing SGA meeting on September 15, Malloino said that she could not use SGA funds for Koskoff's initiative.

"At this point with the rules that I have to follow I can't approve this," said Malloino cited financial bylaws that stated that SGA could not give donations to any organization.

"Urging her fellow senators to 'keep in mind the amount' Malloino explained, "Everything will suffer." Malloino went on to say that, if approved, the initiative would take up essentially one third of SGA funds. This would leave SGA with 20% of the rest of its $9,000 budget for the year possibly cutting into funds for clubs and events such as Senior week.

Junior Class 2007 senator Ryan Fattman lent his support to Koskoff. "The question of whether this is rushed is actually so ridiculous," said Fattman. Challenging his fellow SGA members to look beyond the finances he stated, "What you need to do here is question your morals.

During the meeting, Class of 2008 senator, Cordelia Piscione raised examined the possibility that this initiative could go beyond more financial issues.

"What flood gates are being opened?" said Malloino. Asked, "How are we going to decide who [we are] going to give aid to?" Offering examples such as students who become homeless due to fire or lose a parent, Piscione asked if these students too could approach SGA for assistance.

Koskoff also fears this possibility. "I don't think it's a financial issue," admits Koskoff "Finances isn't what worries me. What worries me is the precedent we're setting." He believes that these students can, and should be aided by SGA but worries, like Malloino, that doing so could open a can of worms.

When offered the suggestion of changing the language of the legislation so that only Katrina victims should receive funding Koskoff said that he did not believe he would. "It's a risk, it's a gamble," said Koskoff. "It's just that there are some gamblers you have to take." On September 23, SGA will meet and discuss Koskoff's Katrina Relief Fund. Both Koskoff and Malloino say that they are uncertain as to how this issue will be resolved.

"We are one university," said Koskoff. "We should have one word and that word should be relief."

Charlie changes the T

Taylor Beckett
Journal Contributor

Who is this Charlie, who seems to be constantly riding our Boston's transit line? Those who frequent the blue line, including fellow commuter students from Revere, East Boston, Lynn, and Medford may have noticed a change in purchasing entry onto the train. New electronic turnstiles caused confusion among commuters, but as they got used to the new devices they embraced them.

There are new machines that you insert money into, choose your number of desired passes, method of payment, either cash, debit, or credit. The machine then spits out the order of tickets.

After retrieving the purchased tickets, one proceeds to a cosmic looking contraption, in which the ticket is slipped into the electronic slot, and is then released through another slot. After removing the ticket from the second slot, the Charlie turnstile doors open, and one has officially mastered the Charlie system.

The name "Charlie" was suggested by Bostonians who were familiar with the story of a man named Charlie, who "failed his family good-bye to go ride the T."

Unfortunately, Charlie did not have the five cents he needed to get off the train, so he merely rode the train all day.

An associate of the MBTA stated, "Boston was the first city in the nation to have a transit system in place, and has always been an up to the minute, high-tech city, and those who headed the project felt as though Boston should have a transit system that reflected it as such."

The associate went on to explain, "Charlie was first implemented on the blue line due to a smaller volume of riders."

Over the next few years, the rest of the transit lines will be converted to the Charlie system. The whole idea of the new system is customer service.

Passengers no longer have to deal with jumbling tokens. Now it's just a card, much like a monthly T pass.

Fellow Suffolk students who ride the blue line agree that the system is a bit intimidating at first, who said she felt a bit overwhelmed by the system. However, there has always been an MBTA official ready to help a first time Charlie user.

There are several machines, reducing wait time to is less than a minute and one can purchase several passes, and not have to worry about carrying a token for a nickel.

In addition to the new Charlie system, the MBTA is also implementing new security measures as well. The MBTA has established the Customer Service Agents, who will continually monitor all stations. Their tasks include assisting T riders with equipment, maintaining passenger safety, and basic customer service.

The new security measures also include six Hub stations that will monitor alarms throughout the entire transit line. This will allow officials to respond more promptly to any disturbances or issues of service.

These new enhancements promise more safety and greater customer service for our fellow North Shore Suffolk commuters.

Are You Literate? Write for the Suffolk Journal!
suffolkjournal.net
Opinion

Staff Editorial

As another school year begins, we at the Suffolk Journal would like to offer you a belated welcome back. We've got a lot of new people here, and we'll do our best to try and help you figure out what's going on here.

Since we're coming out about a week into your classes, you've probably been bombarded with advice already. So, we've tried to limit the advice to the handy tidbits that have been overlooked by our local luminaries.

First, while some of you will be the leaders of tomorrow, this will likely be preceded by numerous, under-appreciated years of serving the coffee of tomorrow. This will only be temporary, however. Odds are that such employment will either be outsourced or made obsolete by the time you graduate.

Tolerance is overrated. For example, someone who engages in a looked-down-upon practice, such as cod molesting, gets wind of your tolerance. Pretty soon this cod molester, and all his creepy friends, are hanging around your apartment. They're swiping all your saltine crackers and lemon wedges for their bizarre practices and then start whining, expecting you to sympathize with all the trials and tribulations they go through, due to society's disappearance of cod molesting. It's a slippery slope.

Diversity is nice, but varying degrees of pigment don't make for diversity. It's just that the real fun types of diversity don't translate well into brochure form. Like that guy who swiped some hydrochloric acid from chemistry lab to get back at some drunks from Charlestown. Then there's that guy who has all the stories people will advise you to do. We all write for a student newspaper, so it'd be hypocritical for us to say that getting involved isn't an okay idea. Even, if we tried to play it like the remorseful crack addict ("don't do what I did, kids"), who visits middle schools as stipulated by his parole, we wouldn't. It seems that's one of the lessons you hear about right, more or less, the first time.

There's a good chance you'll be here for the next four years or so. These people might not have the greatest personalities. You might disagree with them on a lot, but this isn't high school; this is Suffolk, a unique college in a lot of ways, and for whatever reason, we all write for a student newspaper. So, find out what we have in common here and make the most of it together.

When the drug-riddled, cod-molesting coffee-bots of the future are all our sadistic taskmasters, we will cherish these memories.

Climate Change & New Orleans

New Orleans used to be a thriving city known for its lively cultural scene. Last month it became America's canary in the coal mine of climate change. hurricane Katrina was not so much a display of Mother Nature's raw power as the awesome destructive potential of mankind's blind ignorance. The soggy horror in the Big Easy is not really a result of a natural disaster: it's a predictable manifestation of man-made climate change, a phenomenon that America has contributed more to than any other nation on earth.

Yet, weeks after the catastrophe, America is having a hard time understanding this. The nation's political critics are so busy exposing Washington's inept preparation for Katrina that they've almost completely obscured its real source. For years, the world's most authoritative scientific bodies, not to mention environmental non-governmental organizations, have said that global warming will create more destructive weather patterns. America's media, including the critical left, largely ignored their cries. American citizens also turned the other cheek, choosing instead to carry on with our disgustingly wasteful, fossil-fuel driven lifestyles. Now the people of the Gulf Coast are paying the price.

That the environmentalists have been vindicated in their predictions is almost beyond dispute. Man-made global warming has elevated average ocean temperatures by one degree over the last half century. Meanwhile, the overall intensity of tropical storms has doubled since the 1970s, according to a recent study by MIT scientist Kerry Emanuel. In the Northwest Pacific Ocean, they are 75% more powerful. Warmer oceans have injected tropical storms with extra energy, thus increasing their power. It's that simple.

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Eerie Accurate Suffolk Predictions

Having been at this University for two years already, I believe I'm in the position to make some bold predictions for the upcoming year.

It will snow a record 56 inches in one night, and Suffolk will still not cancel classes. Every other college and university in the tri state area will close down, except Suffolk.

They must think it builds character.

Fall Fest will be awesome, yet under attended.

Michael Conte will write a column about how more people should attend events such as Fall Fest and become more active in the Suffolk community.

A DJ at WSFR will get the geese to play at the 4th floor in Donahue. 80's New wave becomes popular again.

Some one will sue Suffolk because of the second hand smoke in front of the Sawyer building.

Some poor student will be swept away by the wind tunnel through Sawyer. They will never be seen again.

Emerson will challenge Suffolk to a dodge ball game to determine "Master of the Commons". Suffolk soundly defeats Emerson.

Patriots will win the Super Bowl. The general public will make out for parades to make the class of 2010 think they are going to miss a test.

Hell Freezes over.

I'll miss a test during midterms due to a Red Sox playoff game.

Thousands of students will do the same.

There will be lots of free forms throughout the year, just not where you want it.

By: Mike Conte

Erie Corridors of Inconvenience

HURRICANE from page 4 reached the warmer Gulf of Mexico, the storm shot up to Category Five. It was a Category Four when it reached New Orleans.

Still not convinced? Here's a final piece of evidence. The UN's World Meteorological Organization (WMO) sounded a famously loud alarm in a press release two years ago:

"A DJ at WSFR will get the geese to play at the 4th floor in Donahue. 80's New wave becomes popular again."

The Sawyer building could continue to put on great events at the Holiday Ball.

The Prudential Center might look pretty, but it is a school of humble means. I can't believe I'm still here at Suffolk after two years.

I have to do some physical exercise, so I've taken up running. I will simply have a coronary and again, and again, and so forth.

Thankfully, you do not need to return to the table of contents. Your ability to get around the above obstacle is more or less tied to your ability to read, process information and to take a joke.

Those of us here at Suffolk need to be able to laugh. For whatever reason, the Internet here at Suffolk was dodgy during the first week.

From what some students have said to me, this is a normal event at Suffolk at the beginning and end of every semester. In other words, this will happen again, and again, and so forth.

Even basic operations such as sending e-mails become exercises in futility. I found out the hard way that an error message appearing after hitting "send" often means the message was not sent.

Even a basic trick, such as hitting the "back-scene" icon, is not dependable. If the connection is broken, the message is likely lost.

The fact that some computers (such as those in the Sawyer Library's sub-base-ment) on this campus lack a "click right" option makes it difficult to copy and paste a document into a more reliable format, such as Word. (Assuming Word is available.)

True, having a message intended for e-mail saved in Word does not do much good, but it is a good form of tactical back up.

Personally, I cannot wait to try Blackboard. I shudder to think what an instructor might say if I said, "Err, I did not do the readings because I was unable to reach the document online."

But, that unhappy scenario assumes I can get to class. Going to a class in Sawyer is not just an academic endeavor. It is a test of body and will.

On many mornings, the second floor of Sawyer starts to look like some kind of protest rally against timely arrival to class.

It's mandatory enforcement of their right to assemble. And the cause of this rather extreme right of the right to assembly? Put simply, the elevators are slow. Very slow. Slow enough, in fact, that in time it takes for the elevator to cycle up, and back down, the crowd often grows beyond what the elevators can hold.

At the end of the day, it is clear that carrying on like normal is simply not an option. Humanity's addiction to fossil fuels, which cause the greenhouse effect and global warming, is wreaking havoc across the world.

The defining task of our generation is to resolve the climate crisis, so we may as well get started already.

The Student Activities Organization (SAO) activity fee only goes up by three dollars to cover cost of Red Sox World Series rings. People still complain.

Suffolk will continue buying building around Boston. The Prudential Center becomes Sargent Tower.

Hundreds of students will have graduated Suffolk having not attended one Suffolk event, participated in one club or written any inane rambling Suffolk Journal columns.

A college experience will be wasted.

More importantly though, hundreds more will get involved and a college experience will be fully realized.

By the end of the semester, I will have graduated Suffolk having seen again.

Students tired of being Sargent Tower.

As Fall Fest and become more of their right to assemble.

The Sawyer building could likely hold most, if not all of BHCC's floor space. However, Suffolk's Internet problems are more severe than anything that happened regularly at BHCC. Considering the emphasis Suffolk as a whole places on Internet-based course materials, one would hope the school would be more diligent in proving a consistent means for students (some of whom may not have a working computer at home) a means to do said work.

Now, if you will excuse me, I have to do some physical exercise, so I can get to class on time.

Welcome Reception

Please join us for this annual event to kick off the new school year. All Suffolk students, faculty, and staff are invited and welcome.

Refreshments provided.

Sponsored by the Office of Diversity, Equity and the President's Community Engagement, SUFA, Faculty, Staff, and Students.
Orbiting the mainstream, Phantom Planet land in Boston

Gary Bejshamin
Journal Staff

Phantom Planet took the stage of the Paradise Rock Club on Saturday, September 11 to a crowd of about two hundred, most of which seemed to come solely to sing along to "California" (theme song of 'The OC').

The Los Angeles pop-rockers did not disappoint, fully embracing their soundtrack success. They made their way to the stage just before midnight, oozing energy as they tore through the explosive "Making a Killing," their hardest rocking song to date.

They then led into "Always On My Mind," the kind of poppy, hooky, 60s inspired song that delivers them a following of emo-hungry teens, but was too unthreatening to establish them in the upper echelons of indie rock.

'First Things First," another from their most recent, edgier, and alternative self-titled album, was the last of their crowd warm up before introducing a few new songs.

Their momentum faded a bit and the show jelled slightly, despite the best efforts of front man and sometimes-guitarist Alexander Greenwald, who seems to be the only one in the band with any personality. Greenwald danced like a fiend, led a singing contest, received drinks from fans, and carried the performance of songs mostly from 2004's self-titled album and songs yet to be released. The crowd began to get up again for "Big Breat," the riff-heavy and pedal-effect laden single that graced many an MTV promo.

The calculated building of chaotic back-up vocals and electronic sound translated well in live performance, setting the stage for the anticipated smash "California."

The three-minute song, which is already quite repetitive, was extended into a five-minute anthem, and seemed still not enough for the Seth Cohen fan club.

The familiar piano intro was replaced with guitar, the crowd was brought to elation and nearly drowned out the singer’s vocals during the choruses.

Their final song, "All Over Again," was a perfect close to the vigorous set. Greenwald brought the snare drum out front and center and pounded away at it furiously, taking a break to corral the audience together to a density. He walked on top of the audience from the stage to the back of the club before falling backwards into his masses, screaming out as if helplessly vulnerable:

"I give up, you are crowding me! I just want to get our/his this is the end/all over again."

From Long Island to Revere
Hardcore kings From Autumn to Ashes and local screamers Vanna rock Revere

Alex Kelly
Journal Staff

On Thursday, September 8, From Autumn to Ashes (FATA) made a stop on its Abandon Your Friends Tour to play Club Lido in Revere with up-and-coming Boston hardcore band Vanna.

Club Lido is becoming a popular venue for hardcore shows, due in part to its stellar dance floor and prime location just feet away from the Wonderland T Station. One would think there would be more of an outpouring of people at a FATA show if it were easily accessible by the T, but just the contrary. There were about 20 people in line before the doors opened and afterwards 20 more people walked in.

Theresa sowing turned out to be the best thing for the show. It was more intimate and less dramatic.

Vanna took the stage and completely blew people away with their vicious breakdowns and intensely creative songs. Having influences from established hardcore bands like Every Time I Die and Norma Jean obviously led Vanna in the right direction. Their songs kept the crowd moving and even vocalist Joe Bragel jumped on the floor and danced during their last song. Most of their set was off their five-song EP This Will Be Our Little Secret. Vanna’s set was short and sweet and those five songs got the job done. Vanna is a performance-based band so the EP does not do them justice. Vanna is now gaining support around the Boston area and although not yet confirmed, there has been talk of Vanna and Epitaph Records joining forces.

Thanks to Vanna there were many people in the crowd who were fired up and ready to dance when From Autumn to Ashes took the stage.

FATA have signed to Vagrant Records and just released their third album, Abandon Your Friends on Aug. 30, 2005. As part of a record release promotion, anyone who bought a copy of Abandon Your Friends at any surrounding area Newbury Comics got a free ticket to the show at Club Lido. FATA can be described as a metalcore band complete with screaming/ breakdowns and drumbeats that would make Kelly Clarkson run for cover.

FATA had calmer songs and lyrics that are more audible this time around in touring. It is hard to get away from the screaming and butchered lyrics, but they managed to pull it off.

FATA took the stage looking solemn about the scarce turnout. They still played an awesome set pulling songs from all three full-length albums. With encouragement from the crowd, and an army of hardcore fans on the floor who like to "thrash," FATA had a hard time declining encore requests.

That's when they shocked everyone with a sweet song from the past with closer, "Reflections" off their first album, Too Bad You're Beautiful (2003 Vagrant). Towards the end of the night, it became apparent this show was a rarity—everything except imperusal. As one fan put it, "It was like FATA was playing for us."

Vanna proves itself to the Boston hardcore scene.
A voice is found in **A Wilhelm Scream**

**Kevin Du**
Journal Staff

A Wilhelm Scream has been recording and touring the United States and Canada non-stop for the better part of five years and making music together for even longer. Up until December 2002, they went by the name Smackin Isaiah. After a couple years of traveling and two independent CD releases, these New Bedford, Mass, locals changed their name and hit the studio.

The new name, inspired by an infamous sound effect created for the 1950's film "Distant Drums," was quickly adopted and embraced by the band's fanbase. Along with the new name came a new guitarist, a new outlook on music, a new creative drive, and new material.

Along with lead singer Nuno Pereira, guitarist/vocalist Trevor Reilly, bassist/vocalist Curtiss Lopez, drummer Nick Angelini, and guitarist Chris Levesque complete the unique sound that is A Wilhelm Scream.

With the success of their last album, *Mute Print* (2004 Nitro), the band sought to make the new record better than the last in every way.

"We wouldn't attempt another record if we didn't think it could blow the last one away," Reilly states on the band's website.

*Ruiner* (2005 Nitro), the band's newest release off indie label Nitro Records, is a full assault of melodic and harmonizing guitar riffs, powerful bass lines and thundering drum beats accompanying lead singer Nuno's harsh, yet powerful vocals.

These elements make *Ruiner* a 14-track chaotic riot of punk, hardcore, metal and melody.

Reilly has always written about deep personal issues and matters, but with Ruiner, his lyrics are darker and angrier than they have ever been.

Not to mention, it also has a not-so-subtle dash of sarcasm.

With many bands, a new album means a new sound, but with A Wilhelm Scream, a new album means learning from their mistakes and gaining from their successes. With songs such as "The King is Dead," the band unleashes a fast-paced, one-two punch of vocals by Nuno and Trevor, while mesmerizing guitar riffs and infinite double bass drums will have you bouncing in your car.

"Congratulations," a 90-second lyrical fury leaves listeners with a craving for more and anticipation for the next track.

On the track entitled, "Less Bright Eyes, More Deicide," Reilly expresses universal views on certain topics of the world including love. "Flattery is dead/romance is never you never wanted to touch me when I was worthless/Get it while I'm sick with this."


Even with it's angry exterior, this album contains catchy hooks which the fans can sing along to, both with the band at a show, or in spirit in their rooms.

The vibe this album gives off puts the listener front and center at one of their high-energy shows.

That's one thing that helps this band stand out from other bands in the scene. They place the energy of their live shows into their recording sessions, so the best thing after listening to their record is getting to see them live.

"It's called *Ruiner*. It came out yesterday. Go buy it. Seriously. It is one of the best releases of 2005. I am not lying to you. This is punk rock, the way it was meant to be played," says alternativepress.com.

If bands such as Propagandhi, Atreyu, Hot Water Music, or even the Lawrence Arms interest you, I definitely recommend picking up this record. Support your local musicians and check out something new and refreshing.

You will not regret it.
Old school punk lives with ‘Invasion’

Mike Conte
Journal Staff

With an opening bass line that pays tribute to punk rock legends The Heartbreakers, Red Invasion's debut album, *I’m Not Too Young to Die* runs on all cylinders from the first song to the very end.

Fronted by Suffolk University alumnus Joe Spallone, Red Invasion (RI) has been a huge force within the Boston punk scene. Playing at venues ranging from the Cambridge Elks Club, small bar shows, to CBGB's, RI is not afraid to play anywhere, any time. That devotion to their craft has earned the band a devout fan base and an extremely solid reputation.

Their debut album should not disappoint any of their fans in the least bit. The first song on the album and title track "I’m Not Too Young to Die," showcases Spallone's voice as a perfect mix of brashness and snarl, with a hint of snot reminiscent of Stiv Bators (of the Dead Boys). Behind Spallone is an extremely sound band that delivers thundering riffs, bass, and drum work. The track sets up the CD perfectly, as Red Invasion's view of life is put on display with the resounding chorus of, "Need a reason why, need a reason why, cause I’m not too young to die."

RI's lyrics never turn political, and instead focus on the human experience, allowing for their music to be open to everyone, unlike a lot of punk music that tends to alienate because of religious or political beliefs.

"No More" plays like a biography gone bad and is almost like a punk rock ballad of a life gone wrong. It's open and close has similar guitar riffs and the middle is packed with angst, making it a great song that feels very clearly defined.

Another dynamic track and personal favorite is "A Year Ago Tonight." Lyrically, it could be considered their love ballad, but they continue to play with a consistent level of intensity.

Keeping their themes of raw human emotions alive, Spallone wails at the song's close, "We hated, we loved, and it makes me wanna die."

Their next standout song, "People Like Us," could be an anthem for the modern college student. Spallone sings about being in debt to school and having a degree that takes you nowhere.

The album finishes strong with "Worst Nightmare." All the previous songs either dealt with being kept down, some sort of heartbreak, or emotional despair. Now the tables are turned and the disillusioned are the ones in control, asserting, "I'm your worst nightmare, don't look 'cause no one's out there."

This is what an album should be, eleven solid songs woven together with a common theme to connect each of them. No song is out of place.

Each song can carry its own, and is even improved by the songs around it. It can be bought at any upcoming Red Invasion show and will be hitting retail stores in October.

For more information go to www.myspace.com/redinvasion.

University Dateline

For more information for getting your event listed in Dateline contact the Student Activities Office at (617) 573-8320.

**Wednesday, September 21**

**Health and Wellness Fair**
11:00-2:00pm
Donahue 4th floor lounge
Health Services

**Constitution Day: Panel Discussion (The Supreme Court and The Constitution)**
1:00-2:30p.m.
Sawyer 921
Department of Government and History, and the Moakley Institute

**Cooking 101: An Evening of Pasta**
Presented by the Sodexo Dining Service
4:00-6:00p.m.
Donahue Café
Off Campus Housing/Commuter Student Association

**Common Grounds Coffee House: Karaoke Night**
7:00pm
Donahue Café
Performing Arts Office

**SUHA: First Meeting of the Semester**
1:00pm
Donahue 207

**Program Council: First General Member Meeting**
1:00pm
Donahue 637

**Thursday, September 22**

**SGA Elections for Class of 2009 Representatives**
9:30-4:30
The Hub

**SUHA Movie Night**
6:00pm
Donahue 403

**Friday, September 23**

**GLBT Student and Ally Welcome Reception**

**Graduate Student Association: Welcome Back Event**
6:00pm
Off Campus: The Rack

**Tuesday, September 27**

**SGA Elections for Class of 2009 Representatives**
9:30-4:30
The Hub

**Wednesday, Sept 28th**

**SGA Elections for Class of 2009 Representatives**
9:30-4:30
The Hub

**SUHA Movie Night**
6:00pm
Donahue 403
Not a one-trick pony

Keith Wise
Journal Contributor

Arpeggio riffs clash against the internal rhythms of strong bass and drums. Clean as often as distorted, the guitars echo and dance off each other, dragging the listener's intensity to a crushing point—always on the edge of catharsis but never finding it.

The music never loses its forward momentum, keeping up a tense feel throughout the length of MeWithoutYou's latest record, Catch for Us the Foxes (Solid State).

A lyrically based band, MeWithoutYou make the words the focal point on Foxes', each line delivered in a burning, throaty scream with undertones of loss and suicide: "January, 1979 saw a terrible crash and it couldn't help but laugh. / My ear pressed against the pass like a glass on a wall of a hospital photograph. / My forehead no longer sweet with holy kisses worthy of your fiery lips. / I was floating in a peaceful sea rescued by a sinking ship."

The lyrics employ strong, inventive imagery representative of what thousands of other bands write entire albums about. The band's name sets the stage for the emotional content. This doesn't mean they're a one-trick pony—far from it. The "you" the "me" is "without" change, often ambiguous enough for the listener to apply the lyrics to his or her own life.

The Solid State label may scare off some with the threat of preachy Christian rock trying to convert the masses. Luckily, for those who keep their god and their music separate, MeWithoutYou keep the direct religious references to a minimum.

Instead, the band focuses much more on internal struggles than on crises or re-affirmations of faith. Catch for Us the Foxes creates a theme in the listener that, like a black cloud, never seems to fade. The final lyrics of the track "Leaf" say it all: "Like the carnival game with the bottleneck and rubber ring / Even if you win, even then you don't win."

MeWithoutYou are now on tour with Coheed and Cambria and are set to play the Worcester Palladium on November 11. Tickets are available at www.tick­ets.com.
Say what, say what, say when
Kurt Cobain isn’t dead, and Boston’s found a voice in Say When

Kevin Du
Journal Staff

With one of the biggest crowds seen at the Middle East Upstairs, Say When had everyone in the room in anticipation of their performance. As the band members started to step onto the stage, the crowd began to go wild and rushed to the front of the stage. An insane drumbeat began while dueling guitar riffs set the mood for the lead singer.

As the singer pumped up the crowd, the band kicked into the first song and the entire room became a massive tidal wave of bodies moving to the music. Adrenaline passed through everyone's bodies and the band began to play the song "Back and Forth." It is hard to believe that these amazing, high-energy performers are the same guys I talked to two hours before their show started. These once calm and mellow dudes became rock stars in attack mode with the drop of a hat. But who are these guys?

Say When is a five-piece ensemble based in the Boston area. Originally coming from other parts of the U.S., Karaoke influenced lead singer Maxwell Latif, guitarist Zack Starikiv, guitarist John Zaremba, bassist Mike Rubino, and drummer Chris Teachout all met right here in Bean Town. Latif and Starikiv both were attending Northeastern University when the band was formed. Influenced by his piano-teaching mother, Starikiv posted flyers looking to recruit members for a band. Unfortunately no one responded because Latif ripped off the flyer and tossed it in his room. One day, while cleaning his room, he found the flyer and contacted Starikiv. With a singer and a lead guitarist in place, the rest of the band was found through Craigslist.

The band officially formed in 2002. Inspired from grunge pioneers Nirvana to early 80's pop and metal bands such as Van Halen and Aerosmith, the band went on to work. "Kurt [Cobain] is not dead!" says the band. The band describes their sound as a mix between Nirvana and Letters to Cleo. "Ex-girlfriends are very good writing material," says Latif, when asked about his writing inspirations.

But it’s not his only source for creativity. Having the attitudes of 80’s hair metal bands, Say When's lyrics and vibe are based on letting one's bodies and the band began to do the drop of a hat. But who are these guys?

Say When get adrenaline pumping upstairs at the Middle East.
Don't forget to VOTE!!
Fall 2005 Student Government Elections

Make your voice heard - vote for your SGA representative!

Why? SGA regularly addresses issues of concern and strives to improve the quality of life and educational experience for all Suffolk undergraduate students. SGA members sit on University committees governing academic decisions, meet with top University administrators and oversee the distribution and allocation of the Student Activities Fee - just to name a few reasons why you should care who represents you!

Voting will take place at the HU B Info Center (Donahue Building Lobby) at the following times: Tuesday and Wednesday, September 27-28 9:30am-4:30pm

Candidates for Class of 2009 Senator

Casey Dinneen
Candidate for Class of 2009 Senator

Statement of Purpose: I, Casey Dinneen, want to be the voice of the freshman class and hear any suggestions to make it the very best.

My goals are to:
- Have the cafeteria opened all day.
- Lockers in every building.
- Get the cafeteria to serve more of a variety of hot lunches.

Wenting Hu
Candidate for Class of 2009 Senator

Statement of Purpose: I play snood too, vote for Laurent!

My goals are to:
- Raise funds to help hurricane victims who are going to Suffolk.
- Raise awareness (cancer, etc.).
- Represent student body during SGA meetings because I feel students don’t know what exactly goes on during SGA meetings.

Lauren Bachner
Candidate for Class of 2009 Senator

Statement of Purpose: I play snood too, vote for Laurent!

My goals are to:
- Raise funds to help hurricane victims who are going to Suffolk.
- Raise awareness (cancer, etc.).
- Represent student body during SGA meetings because I feel students don’t know what exactly goes on during SGA meetings.

Candidates for Class of 2008 Senator

Mike Reapin
Candidate for Class of 2008 Senator

Statement of Purpose: My goal is to encourage the students of Suffolk University on a personal level to find out the true wants and needs of our campus.

My goals are to:
- Time management within S.G.A.
- Surveys done with students to determine needs.
- Focus on activities that bring the campus together.

Mike Lanno
Candidate for Class of 2008 Senator

Statement of Purpose: I want to be the voice that Suffolk Students can trust to communicate their wants and needs to ensure us all the best college experience.

My goals are to:
- I would listen to the student body for a better understanding of issues.
- I would push for fast action on time sensitive issues.
- I would make sure no decision got overlooked.
Rosenthal: Big changes to NHL

Tim Rosenthal
Journal Staff

After a year of troubles the National Hockey League is back. With players changing teams and new rules, the NHL is looking in a new direction.

Many fans were disappointed last year when the season was cancelled, some fans even left the game of professional hockey. Well, it's time to start watching the game again. This is a new NHL and it could be a stronger, better, more balanced game than it once was.

New rule changes, including instituting the shootout and allowing the two line pass will open up the game, making it more exciting.

The shootout guarantees there will be a winner and a loser in every game. If the game is still tied after regulation and an overtime period, the shootout will be in effect. Three players from each team will get a chance to score. The team scoring the most goals will be given a one goal victory.

With the red line gone the game will have more offense. The two line pass rule resulted in teams being able to use the trap on defense to shorten the game. This resulted in fewer shots and lower goals. The elimination of the red line at center ice means that hockey teams will be able to have a "fast break" similar to that of basketball.

Rules were not the only changes that made in the league. Free agency also played a big role this year.

With the most unrestricted free agents in history, and the salary cap in effect for the first time in professional hockey, all teams have a chance of getting big name players. For example, the Nashville Predators obtained former star center Joe Thornton from the San Jose Sharks and the Boston Bruins. This free agency period included the Colorado Avalanche who lost star forward Peter Forsberg to Philadelphia and veteran defense-man Adam Foote to Columbus. Some other big losers were the Rangers, who had to dump all of their over-paid stars to free up the cap, and the Washington Capitals, who decided to go young and rebuild.

While the Bruins, Penguins, and Flyers look like the class of the East, the West is wide open. In the West, look out for the Dallas Stars as well as the Nashville Predators and the Calgary Flames. Some sleeper teams to watch out for are the Detroit Red Wings and the Vancouver Canucks.

So if you like hockey, come back to the "coolest game on earth." The new NHL should be better than ever.