

Student body looks for next leader

Two executive board members go head-to-head for the presidential ballot. Each accomplished, but who will represent Suffolk?

By Chris DeGusto
News Editor

Robb seeks to become first female president in years

If the upcoming elections result in her favor, Secretary Morgan Robb would become the first female president of Suffolk's Student Government Association (SGA) in six years.

"To be a female president, and what that would mean for our female students, and for even for students of other marginalized identities is a huge thing," said Robb

See **ROBB** - 4

Trupiano seeks to bring campus together

"GRIT." If Logan Trupiano is elected President of Student Government Association (SGA), this is what Suffolk University students can expect.

Running as a team and headed by Trupiano, GRIT will be fighting to mobilize students, to overcome adversity and to make SGA the most involved it has ever been by pushing for students to be more involved in the day-to-day operations of the university.

"We are the consumers here, so we should have the control," said Trupiano in a recent interview with The Suffolk Journal. "Suffolk

See **TRUPIANO** - 4

TRASHED

Suffolk drops ball on sustainability efforts, looks to recover initiatives

*Hannah Arroyo, Assistant Sports Editor
Kyle Crozier, Senior Staff Writer*



Five years and four presidents later, the programs put in place by Suffolk University's former Sustainability Coordinator Erica Mattison have all but disappeared.

Among Mattison's projects that are no longer active at Suffolk is the Eco Ambassador program that allowed students to work in their own residence halls and serve as environmental peer educators.

"One of the things that saddens me [about not having the programs] is that this is a teachable thing. It's not just that you're doing this for the greater good, but you're actually training people to think in a particular way," reflected Emeritus Professor Martha Richmond in an interview with The Suffolk Journal on Tuesday.

In a statement to The Journal, Mattison discussed the positive impact of the engagement her programs fostered between students, faculty and campus groups. The Suffolk Bikes program and the Suffolk Environmental Clubs were two examples of these positive impacts.

See **RECYCLE** - 6

Congress comes to campus

Maggie Randall
Political Commentator

The year is 1972. A Boston University student, Joe Hoeffel, is headed up to New Hampshire to campaign for then-U.S. Senator George McGovern's presidential campaign. A country apart and a world away, Stephen Kuykendall is preparing for his second tour in Vietnam in the midst of the country's most controversial war. Both of these men would go on to become members of Congress.

At a lunch with government majors on Tuesday, Kuykendall said "Sometimes [in Congress] the only thing we had in common is that we're both elected."

Hoeffel quickly chimed in "And you have to respect that!"

This week Suffolk University hosted former Congressmen Joe Hoeffel (D-PA) and Stephen Kuykendall (R-CA) for the annual "Congress to Campus" event hosted by the Government department.

From Monday, Feb. 26 to Wednesday, Feb. 28 the Congressmen had a packed schedule that ranged from breakfasts with social science majors and dinners with graduate students to visiting government courses and fielding questions on a range of policy issues related to gerrymandering, veterans and President Trump's Administration.

"Everyone knows what you do, and everyone thinks they can do it better than you," Hoeffel said about working in congress.

The Suffolk Journal sat down for an interview with Hoeffel and Kuykendall to learn more about their experiences in public office, the secrets of being in Congress and the future of their political parties.

In 1999, Hoeffel and Kuykendall were sworn-in as members of Congress, but had different motivations for first running.

See **CONGRESS** - 6

FROM SUFFOLK TO MARS

Student's class research project results in cutting-edge exploration, including hands-on experience at Mass General Hospital



By Paul Batista, Senior Medical Photographer

Jack Thomas, a junior and president of the physics club and co-director of the project, sets up equipment for bubble detector experiment along with Mario Rojas, Paul Johnson and Allen Alfadhel.

By Taylor White
Journal Staff

“

If you want people to want to go to space and explore and colonize, you have to make it safer.

-Paul Johnson, a McNair Scholar and aspiring radiation engineer

Students of Suffolk's Physics Department are forefronting an ongoing mission just like Armstrong through the group's astronomical research at Mass General Hospital (MGH) in the Clark Center for Radiation Oncology. With the aspiration to safeguard astronaut space travel, the students have challenged one of the most significant issues for astronauts in outer space: radiation. Using methods that could eventually be adapted for the shielding of space radiation, students have been performing measurements to determine the radiation dose from neutrons using equipment also used for

the treatment of cancer patients.

Originally proposed as the "Mars Mission Radiation" project, the name switched to the "Suffolk Neutron Scattering Project" once it was determined that Mass General's equipment could be used as a radiation source, an essential component for the group's research on neutrons. The project started from scratch when four senior physics majors set out to search for specifics on radiation. The group's inquiries about Mars focused on the Mars project, NASA's goal of establishing human settlement on Mars in the 2030s. One of the major concerns through this ongoing endeavor has been radiation exposure and planetary rovers have

been sent out for decades to gather radiation data to help protect future astronauts

The physics project at MGH was influenced by Paul Johnson, a McNair Scholar and aspiring radiation engineer. Johnson's pinnacle level of inspiration behind this major complication of space radiation not only established his senior project, but also lead the physics group to be one of the first Suffolk physics students (outside of the clinical dosimetry students) to research at MGH.

Johnson, a nearly six-year veteran of the U.S. Army as an Army Airborne Infantryman for Long Range Surveillance, said that his passion for space radiation developed during his time at Suffolk

when Dr. Johnson told his freshman-level class about the book "The Martian."

"It's [radiation] the most dangerous part of it and if you want people to want to go to space and explore and colonize and

to focus on space. His personal investigation for space radiation began a year and a half ago when he proposed the project and started researching more about the Mars project, radiation and making space safer.

"We're down the street from arguably one of the best hospitals on the planet."

what not, you have to make it safer," said Paul Johnson.

Having an interest in renewable energy toward the end of his time in the army, he also realized the lack of political and economic involvement towards technology and decided that he wanted

"I realized that space exploration and putting a colony of humans on Mars is kind of a way to show everybody that we're all the same species...and it's a sort of project where everybody is going to be able to come together," said Paul Johnson.

In what began during

the fall 2016 semester, the Suffolk physics group's research at MGH officially began last summer in June. Dr. Walter Johnson, head of the physics group at Suffolk, made the team's research possible by connecting with MGH Medical Physicist and adjunct faculty within the Suffolk Radiation Science, Dr. David Gierga, and Jacky Nyamwanda, Medical Dosimetry Education Coordinator for Suffolk University.

"If we were out in the middle of nowhere, this wouldn't be happening, but we're down the street from arguably one of the best hospitals on the planet," said Dr. Johnson.

Senior Mario Rojas, a project leader along with Paul Johnson, said that his affinity for carrying out his type research is the teamwork and team building involved.

"I think one of the aspects that really got to me was the team effort and one of the human aspects of bringing us together as a department, working on a common goal," said Rojas.

To prepare for how they would conduct the project at MGH, various scientific papers were read about the medical machinery they would be working with. Students were also trained in radiation safety by Jacqueline A. Nyamwanda, Educational Coordinator for the Suffolk Medical Dosimetry program.

"It was almost like starting from scratch because we didn't know much about it," said Paul Johnson.

Before even considering MGH as a means to conduct the proposed research topic, Johnson said that the major challenge was figuring out how the project would be carried out.

"The worry was, okay, if we want to measure something, how are we going to do it? You need a neutron beam if you're studying neutrons. Where are you going to get neutrons?" said Dr. Johnson. "That's when I went over to MGH and asked them if we could use their machines when they're not being used for treatment."

The physics group was granted access to use a linear accelerator (LINAC) as the radiation source. The LINAC is used in a way that generates neutrons, and measurements have been performed to map the neutron dose within

the LINAC room.

Senior Allen Alfadhel, believes that this radiation experiment is by far the best, due to his past experience in several research projects during his sophomore year.

"It's the most involved in physics and the most complicated. It has the computer part which I like and it has the physics part which I also like and then art as well. It's like the things I've been studying and have been practicing all my life really," said Alfadhel.

Alfadhel's primary role within the project is design of apparatus for the detectors and helping to determine the actual spectrum of the high energy particles.

Along with the facilitation of Gierga and Nyamwanda, the physics group has the privilege of using, one of two LINACS at MGH that produce the highest energy (15 million electron volts (MeV)) necessary for creating the largest possible number of neutrons. The MGH partnership with Suffolk's Radiation Therapy and Medical Dosimetry program for 23 years was a vital resource in making the physics neutron radiation project attainable.

Dr. Johnson suggests that limited neutron data have been published for newer linear accelerators and these measurements may be useful for the broader radiation therapy

community. Jack Thomas, a junior and president of the physics club and co-director of the project, has been involved with Dr. Johnson's research since the second semester of his sophomore year and was responsible for placement and setup of the equipment during the group's last trip to MGH on Oct. 23.

"The thing that I like the most is that it's completely different as compared to generic undergrad research," said Thomas. "A lot of this research is usually done by graduate students and undergrads have very small roles in something like this."

Torn between material sciences and medical physics in his future schooling, Thomas



By Paul Batista, Senior Medical Photographer

Three core seniors who began the project: (left to right) Paul Johnson, Allen Alfadhel and Mario Rojas

believes that the current research at MGH has been a major influence in developing his career path.

"It's an experience you're never going to get anywhere else," said Thomas.

The group is essentially using the equipment at MGH to attain a better awareness of what goes

Jack Thomas, Erick Bergstrom, and Molly McDonough in Fall 2017. On Oct. 23, seven of all eight members made their first trip to MGH to conduct a trial run of their experiments for their neutron radiation research project.

Once the neutron distribution within the LINAC room has been

to make sure the MGH research continues to run smoothly by bringing everyone together to collaborate, making sure everyone has a contributable task, as well as training new students on techniques.

With dreams of pursuing a Ph.D. in quantum mechanics or particle physics, Molly

all really awesome to be completely honest. Everyone is super cool and super welcoming. Yeah it is kind of weird being the only girl, but that's just kind of what it's going to be like probably for the rest of my life," McDonough said laughing.

Dr. Johnson, Gierga, and Nyamwanda were

"A lot of people just do simulations of things that were proven hundreds of years ago, but we actually get to use real equipment and a real linear accelerator which is totally beyond the scope of what I thought I would be doing in undergrad."

on in the natural world, but ultimately learning about medical physics through the process.

The different methods of detection such as bubble detectors and foils, have been used to acquire a more complete idea of the neutron energy coming out of the LINAC. This strategy will give a more accurate distribution of where the neutrons are and how many are being absorbed by the material, similar to radiation experienced in space. So far, the group has used the techniques of bubbles detectors and copper foils and the group is still processing and building upon their results.

Four more students were added to the project: Jackson Nolan,

mapped, a long term project, Dr. Johnson prospects to build upon these results by designing experiments that measure the effects of different types of shielding.

The team recently received a research award of \$2,000 from the National Society of Physics Students organization after Jack Thomas, Allen Alfadhel, Paul Johnson, and Mario Rojas wrote a proposal to purchase thin metal foils and other materials to continue their neutron radiation experiment.

Project managers, Paul Johnson and Rojas, who will be graduates after this semester, are now training Jack, Jackson and Eric to be the future leaders of the group. Rojas said that they want

McDonough is the first freshman and female to step into this project. McDonough said she likes to learn about the medical physics aspect of this current research and sees it as her future career field.

"It's a lot of design and it's absolute, pure physics. A lot of people just do simulations of things that were proven like hundreds of years ago, but we actually get to use real equipment and a real linear accelerator which is totally beyond the scope of what I thought I would be doing in undergrad," said McDonough.

She sees no problem with being the only woman of the group and described the group as genuinely inclusive and supportive. "They're

extremely impressed with the teams' last visit to MGH and continue to be amazed by their endeavors and unending motivation for their research.

"Watching the students take part in this stuff and get excited about what they're doing and doing these calculations and coming in on the weekends, that's as good as it gets," said Dr. Johnson.

Editor's Note:
Massachusetts General Hospital reviewed this article prior to publication.

Connect with Taylor by emailing twhite3@su.suffolk.edu

PRESIDENTIAL TICKET

Robb on the job



By Josh Cronin

From **ROBB - 1**

in a recent interview with The Suffolk Journal.

Robb acknowledged the long-standing issues that impact a great deal of Suffolk students and said she plans to work on resolutions before aiming to tackle even more. Securing space for students to have club meetings, classrooms and a more suitable theatre for university performances are at the top of Robb's list.

She explained that she seeks to "inspire the way I [she] was inspired" when she first joined SGA. Having held positions in the organization as a senator, committee chair and her current role on the executive board, Robb's experience has allowed her insight on a vast array of jobs that SGA conducts.

As someone that has stressed the importance of connecting personally with each member of SGA if elected president, Robb said she wants to make sure each student is able to express themselves uniquely.

"We all know you have strength in numbers, but each individual student should have as much attention as 10 students or five students," said Robb. "If one specific student has a concern or a need that needs to be fulfilled, that should be done."

SGA is an organization that regularly conducts meetings with members of Suffolk administration. Being a voice for the students isn't enough for Robb, who said she wants to help SGA become a voice of introduction- to bring the students to the administration if they have grievances that need addressing.

I just want to make sure I'm hearing other people and I'm working on their behalf," said Robb. "Nothing fulfills me more than working hard and making sure that someone else feel good and that their life is a bit easier."

Get lit with GRIT



By Tara Murphy

From **TRUPIANO - 1**

should bend our way as opposed to us bending for them."

As treasurer and having held positions on both the finance and academics committee as well as the SGA Review Board (SGARB), Logan said he has seen "just about everything" one can see as a member of SGA.

As president, mobilization of the student body is just one vision for Trupiano. By implementing new groups in SGA such as what he calls the "president's council" those students who are star pupils would have a chance to showcase their abilities in areas not confined to the classroom. Additionally, a diversity council that focuses on inclusion, involving members of the Suffolk community that may not already be involved in SGA would allow "outsiders" to the process of student government a greater voice on campus.

"I always do my best to incorporate everyone involved," said Trupiano. "I really value the people that are around me and I've always tried to create a culture of positivity and excitement whenever I'm in any type of leadership role."

Trupiano said having students involved in the disciplinary process is important and that tacking on fines to the money Suffolk students already pay is something he would alter. Additionally, some colleges and universities host student events that permit alcohol to be consumed while in attendance-- one key platform for Trupiano.

With elections on the horizon, Trupiano said that this campaign is about speaking out for the students who aren't usually spoken about.

Trupiano said he wants to "get more engagement by students and change the negative attitude that a lot of Suffolk students have on campus."

Connect with Chris by emailing cdegusto@su.suffolk.edu

THE SUFFOLK JOURNAL

The independent student newspaper of Suffolk University since 1936.

8 Ashburton Place, Office 930B, Boston, MA

TheSuffolkJournal.com

Editor-in-Chief	Alexa Gagosz
News Editor	Chris DeGusto
World News Editor	Jacob Geanous
Asst. World News Editor	Amy Koczera
Arts Editor	Felicity Otterbein
Asst. Arts Editor	Ryan Arel
Opinion Editor	Patrick Holmes
Sports Editor	Brooke Patterson
Asst. Sports Editor	Hannah Arroyo
Asst. Sports Editor	Joe Rice
Photo Editor	Haley Clegg
Copy Editor	Kaitlin Hahn

Senior Staff Writer	Nathan Espinal
Senior Staff Writer	Kyle Crozier
Political Commentator	Maggie Randall

Faculty Advisor	Bruce Butterfield
-----------------	--------------------------

The Suffolk Journal is the student newspaper of Suffolk University. It is the mission of the Suffolk Journal to provide the Suffolk community with the best possible reporting of news, events, entertainment, sports and opinions. The reporting, views, and opinions in the Suffolk Journal are solely those of the editors and staff of The Suffolk Journal and do not reflect those of Suffolk University, unless otherwise stated.

The Suffolk Journal does not discriminate against any persons for any reason and complies with all university policies concerning equal opportunity. Copyright 2018.

Censorship issue fuels separatist battle in Spain

Suffolk Madrid campus administrator speaks out on removal of art



Facebook user Luis Frailes Álvaro

The installment by Santiago Sierra in Madrid, titled Political Prisoners of Contemporary Spain, which was taken down by Ifema, the convention center that hosts ARCOmadrid

Haley Clegg
Photo Editor &
Madrid Correspondent

The ARCOmadrid art fair removed photographs of jailed Catalan politicians from a gallery on Wednesday. The artwork showcased pixelated photos of 24 politicians, activists, journalists and artists who have been imprisoned as Catalan separatists. The exhibit was designed by artist Santiago Sierra who currently lives in Madrid. He is well known for creating controversial pieces. The faces of the art installation subjects are not discernable, but each blurred face is accompanied descriptions of the subject's title, organization and criminal charges.

"Acts of this type give sense and reason to a piece like this, which precisely denounced the climate of persecution that cultural

workers are suffering in recent times," Sierra responded on Facebook.

Amy McAllister is the student activities coordinator for the Suffolk Madrid campus. She studied abroad in Spain in 1982, moved to Madrid in 1986 and has been living here ever since.

"It seems to me that the author of the artwork is a fairly incendiary-type artist who seeks out controversy," McAllister said in an interview with The Suffolk Journal. "Having said that, I do not agree with much of the way the Spanish government has handled the Catalan crisis."

Sierra's work is currently being held by Ifema, but has already been sold to an unnamed collector for \$98,000. There are also booklets featuring Sierra's piece that were sold during the show.

The region has a separate flag and language; Catalan. Last Fall a referendum was held in which Catalan

voted for independence.

"Since the so-called election of Oct. 1, the Catalan question has digressed to the point of being more surreal each day," said McAllister. "It's such an absurd hypothesis to imagine Catalonia leaving Spain to go it alone. Expulsion from the European Union would be immediate; so, who

President of Catalonia, despite being 1,338 kms. away from Barcelona, 12 hours by car. His solution? Governance via Skype," said McAllister.

McAllister criticized the Spanish government's reaction to the Catalan separatist movement, characterizing them as "slow to react, complacent and patronizing."

separatism have not done a effective job of doing their cause justice.

"There has been a strong influx of nationalistic propaganda among the people, in some instances truly racist," McAllister said. "I have the impression that better leadership on both sides could have avoided the situation from reaching

The nation has remained divided over this issue.

Former Barcelona coach and Manchester City manager Pep Guardiola wears a yellow ribbon in support of imprisoned Catalan politicians. He has been charged by the Football Association for doing so.

McAllister noticed an unusual trend following the Oct. 1 vote in Catalonia.

"I was surprised by the sudden upsurge, here in Madrid, of apparent patriotism among Spaniards. Flag waving isn't really done here in Spain, since it still holds a historical connection to the dictatorship under Francisco Franco," she said. "I'm just not sure whether people are demonstrating their love of Spanish unity or rather their animosity towards Catalonia."

"There has been a strong influx of nationalistic propaganda among the people, in some instances truly racist."

- Suffolk student activities coordinator in Madrid, Spain

would the Catalans do business with? How would their economy grow?"

Spain's constitutional court declared the vote illegal. Catalan President Carles Puigdemont, fearing arrest, fled to Brussels.

"[Puigdemont] has maintained ever since that he, and only he, can be instated as the

"The modus operandi seems to be, and has been, a categorical refusal to hold meaningful talks about areas that are of importance to approximately 50 percent of the residents of Catalonia," said McAllister.

She also said she believes that some proponents of Catalan

the current impasse."

This past weekend, King Felipe of Spain visited Barcelona for the first time since October's failed independence bid. He was met with protests, and senior Catalan officials refused a formal reception with the king. Pro-independence politicians have since been imprisoned for rebelling.

Connect with Haley
by emailing
hclegg@su.suffolk.edu

Campus recycling resources remain subpar

From RECYCLE-1

The former recycling initiative put in place by Mattison also allowed the university to comply with laws like the Massachusetts State Waste Ban and avoid penalties, such as fines, generating hundreds of thousands of dollars of savings, Mattison explained in a statement to The Journal on Monday.

“Since vacating the Sustainability Coordinator position a few years ago, I have been contacted by dozens of [Suffolk] faculty, staff, and students who have been eager to see the sustainability efforts continue and grow,” said Mattison.

After Mattison’s departure from Suffolk, an undergraduate student Brianna Souza took on a similar role, but ended her involvement after less than a year. This past fall semester Suffolk formed the 2018 Sustainability Committee to address areas where the university may be lacking, and where it is succeeding with its sustainability efforts.

This new committee features staff members from departments such as Facilities, Residence Life and Housing, Sodexo and the Center for Urban Ecology and Sustainability.

“The 12-member committee is examining

where we have had success and where we can make important improvements in the areas of campus buildings, water conservation, energy efficiency, sustainable dining, tracking of utilities, waste and recycling, community

by the depositor, and will instead be separated at the waste facility. This consolidates the number of bins that need to be collected, but does not remove the need to keep non-reusable waste out of the recycling stream. With this method all

observed several instances of a failure to follow through with recycling practices in this new building. It was discovered that more than 40 percent of these bins were missing the divider, resulting in a single bag that collected both

“Recycling on our level isn’t going to help out in the end because that stuff is just going to be thrown away with the rest of the trash. Students can do their part but the university also has to do theirs at the same time,” said Judd.

André Vega, director of Construction and Facilities Services, is one of the 12 members of the Sustainability Committee. Vega said to The Journal last Friday that many of Suffolk’s past programs are not currently in use, and that as a result, the committee is “essentially starting from scratch.”

“That definitely sends mixed messages,” said Vega. “When you have two separate holes in one bin, and one bag underneath. That definitely doesn’t give anybody a warm and fuzzy feeling.”

Suffolk University’s Assistant Director of Facilities Services Ashley Alberts was hired recently and quickly became involved in revamping Suffolk’s green initiatives. This coincides with her graduate degree in Sustainability and Environmental Management.

“We are looking to get students involved as a community based effort, instead of having just one single person in charge,” said Alberts in a recent interview

with The Journal. Environmental Science major Aashi Sethi, is a student member and recent addition to the committee. She explained that some of the recycling failures are as a result of a poor understanding or motivation on the part of students.

“I think the [Sustainability Committee] is very serious about recycling moving down the road,” said Sethi in an interview with The Journal.

Mattison highlighted several awards for sustainability that were won during her tenure of the Sustainability Coordinator position, including the 2009 EPA Gold Award for Employee Education on Waste Reduction and Recycling and being named the 2009 Partner of the Year by the MA Department of Environmental Protection Wastewise Program.

Mattison concluded her statement, “I encourage Suffolk to build upon the foundation that was laid over a decade ago by renewing its commitment to environmental excellence and health.”

Connect with Kyle
by emailing

kcrozier@su.suffolk.edu

Connect with Hannah
by emailing

harroyo@su.suffolk.edu

“That definitely sends mixed messages....When you have two separate holes in one bin, and one bag underneath. That definitely doesn’t give anybody a warm and fuzzy feeling.”

- André Vega, director of Construction and Facilities Services, on recycling on campus

engagement and other areas,” said university spokesperson Greg Gatlin in a statement to The Suffolk Journal.

Suffolk currently recycles materials through “single stream” bins, according to the Suffolk University website. “Single stream” recycling is designed so that reusable materials like paper and plastic do not need to be separated

types of reprocessible materials can be placed in the same recycle bin.

In 20 Somerset, Suffolk’s newest academic building, there are 17 waste bins that feature separate slots for both recycling and trash and a divider that allows for the containment of the two different wastes in two different bags.

Multiple Journal reporters recently

trash and recyclables.

“Make sure to separate trash from recycling, as any trash in a recycling bin contaminates the recyclable material making it non-recyclable,” Suffolk University’s website stated as of early Wednesday morning.

Freshman government major Augustus Judd, said he has also witnessed the lack of dividers in these trash cans.

Congressmen on Capitol Hill talk life in the American political machine

From CONGRESS-1

Kuykendall reflected on meeting his state legislator when he was a city councilor over a coastal issue that was not being addressed seriously.

“She didn’t understand the subject, let alone how to change it,” said Kuykendall. “And I said to myself ‘I could do better than this.’”

Hoeffel’s political interests started in Boston on George McGovern’s 1972 presidential campaign.

“That’s where I fell in love with politics and the political process,” said Hoeffel. “And two years later I was running for the Pennsylvania State House.”

The most memorable moments in Congress

for Kuykendall and Hoeffel happened when they stepped outside the House chamber.

Kuykendall remembered a summer night after being in session all day and walking out onto the Capitol steps to see fireflies.

“Who ever thought this kid from Oklahoma would be here? Those little fireflies reminded me of where I had come from,” said Kuykendall.

While some cynics will say that Congress is full of secrets, it is the enormous, historic Capitol Building that is filled with secret places for members to escape.

“You need two phones!” Hoeffel and Kuykendall said in unison, when asked about the intricacies of the job.

More unknown

in Washington, D.C. are the next steps for the Democratic and Republican parties following Trump’s election.

“The Republican party needs to recognize the fact that Trump has been a user of our brand and not a very good user in my opinion,” said Kuykendall. “There’s a whole lot of things that Republicans stand for that Trump hasn’t paid any attention to.”

The California Republican signed on to an October 2016 letter with several other former Republican congressman that disparaged then-Republican nominee Donald Trump.

“Donald Trump isn’t really a Republican in my opinion. Donald Trump is Donald Trump,” said

Kuykendall. “He has taken the pieces of the Republican mechanism that benefitted his election campaign and used them masterfully.”

The members agreed that bipartisanship and compromise is necessary in Congress and could be a way to getting legislation passed while avoiding the pitfalls of appealing to Trump.

“If [Trump] can’t cut deals and he can’t tell the truth and he’s diminishing our democratic institutions, that is not providing leadership,” said Hoeffel, who released his book last year “Fighting for the Progressive Center in the Age of Trump.”

“As Democrats, we can’t get carried away with anti-Trump fervor and fever,” said

Hoeffel. “We’ve got to stick to our knitting; be fiscally responsible and then stand for what Democrats stand for, which is investing in good programs to help people.”

Hoeffel believes that Mueller’s investigation into Russian meddling with the Trump campaign should not override the Democrats’ goals. He added that Trump and his base would likely label Mueller’s investigation as “fake news” if the results do not please the president.

“My sense is that the Democrats should not be working for impeachment,” said Hoeffel, “but should be working to beat Trump at the polls in 2020.”

Both members agreed that having served in elected office at all

levels of government, being a representative at the municipal level felt most rewarding.

“I could change your life in 90 days in city government,” said Kuykendall at a lunch with government majors on Tuesday. “In Congress, I could probably get [a bill] introduced in 90 days.”

The congressmen stressed the importance of voter participation, especially among young people in today’s political races.

“Someone is going to win these elections, so you really, for your own self-protection, ought to have some influence over who’s winning,” said Hoeffel.

Connect with Maggie
by emailing

mradall@su.suffolk.edu



IT'S THE END OF THE WORLD AS THEY KNOW IT



Courtesy of Dan McHugh

Ryan Arel
Asst. Arts Editor

One of the greater flaws of human existence is the general apathy felt by those who are unsatisfied or disappointed with the turns life can present. This can be applied to any and all walks of life; as what humans experience can shape an outlook on life, personality and character. It's easy to see why burying negative thoughts and memories, rather than dealing with them upfront, is a concept shared by millions worldwide. However, what Suffolk University's Performing Arts Office (PAO) sets out to answer in their latest stage performance, is, "if the world was to end, should those thoughts and memories end alongside it, or should they be breached and solved in time for apologies and closure?"

Last Thursday, the PAO

presented "Apocalypso," a play by William Donnelly at Modern Theater, depicting an array of characters attempting to settle scores with one another before New Year's Day. Between Christmas and New Year's Eve, the characters have personal sets of issues to deal with in the event the world does actually end.

To open the show, a woman named Dora, played by sophomore theatre and history major Courtney Langlais, chants "I have a message!" The message being a simple one: the world is going to end.

As this proclamation travels around to the other characters, they all rush to settle their debts with one another before the New Year - but it is not so simple, due to a variety of intertwining relationships between the characters.

Boone and Gin, played by senior public relations major Donovan Skepple and freshman PPE

"A well-developed and sinister plot line of deception, lying and double-crossing, the show creates a true, realistic image of what trying to fix personal relationships really entails."

major Ashley Ceravone, respectively, have to work out their differences after being separated. Dwight and Cal, played by freshman psychology and theatre double major

Logan Ausmus and junior theater major Kiley Soulier, respectively, argue over Dwight's whereabouts when he returns home late at night on a regular basis. Fran,

played by sophomore journalism major Molly Rodenbush, is faced with telling Boone she has been secretly seeing Gin behind his back after their breakup.

In attempts to fix their unresolved issues before the New Year begins,

See END - 8



Courtesy of Dan McHugh

“Apocalypso” poses philosophical questions amidst armageddon

From END - 7

the characters find themselves even more tangled up in problems amongst themselves than when they started. Fran comes clean to Boone about her relationship with Gin, Boone runs off with Fran’s sister Dora and Gin finds herself alone on New Years’ Eve only to spend time with her sister Cal.

To close out the show, the characters sit in their own cliques watching the ball drop. The stage, cleverly circled with alarm clocks reading 12:00 as the New Year begins, goes dark over the sound of a church bell, ringing away like the old year.

The intertwining relationships between the characters produce a dramatic picture of the type of drama that can occur amongst large groups of people. A well-developed and sinister plot line of deception, lying and double-crossing, the show creates a true, realistic image of what trying to fix personal relationships really entails. Facing the distasteful aspects of romantic or platonic relationships that go ignored in regular life come to light in the face



of Armageddon, facing them comes not only as a challenge to the characters, but come to go unresolved. A fictional story, but a possible reality.

Yet, the first half of the play tends to be confusing. The character relationships are not defined explicitly through dialogue until the latter

portion of the show, leaving the audience wondering who the characters are, how they are related and what significance they hold early on in the show. While there are multiple “Ah-Ha!” moments in the second half of the show, the first half is lackluster in structuring the intended plot and the

relationships between the characters.

Then there’s Gus, played by freshman undecided major Patrick Galen Lovelace, a character who is all but obsolete for most of the show, only appearing in mostly booze-ridden rants about miscellaneous topics throughout the set. The character is only a

key component to the plot towards the very end after returning to Fran’s apartment in search of Boone to return a wallet he stole from him in the beginning of the play, forcing Gin to realize she wants to work it out with Boone.

Disregarding the slow start and the lack of character development at

Courtesy of Dan McHugh times, “Apocalypso” shows the very harsh truth in a fictional setting: coming clean and fixing issues between close friends or family will never be a simple task.

Connect with Ryan
by emailing
rarel@su.suffolk.edu

Arts Commentary

Yo Adrian, I’m still breathing! Death hoaxes in the digital age

By Jacquelyn Jarnagin,
Journal Staff

Actor Sylvester Stallone fought rumors of his death last week after an internet hoax surfaced on social media, stating he had passed away from prostate cancer.

While the origins of the rumor are unclear, thousands of fans posted tributes to the “Rocky” star online as the story trended.

Stallone, 71, immediately took to his Instagram, @officialsstallone, to settle the claims. Stallone posted a screenshot of several

photos added by Facebook user Torrealba Daniel. According to BBC News Daniel used fake photos of Stallone and wrote a caption that said the actor tried to keep his illness private.

“Please ignore this stupidity,” Stallone wrote for his Instagram post. “Alive and well and happy and healthy...Still punching!”

While Stallone was comfortable enough to move on from the controversy, his brother Frank Stallone was deeply angered by the hoax and called out the internet trolls for bad behavior.

“What kind of sick

demented cruel mind thinks of things like this to post?” The younger Stallone brother tweeted @Stallone, “People like this are mentally deranged and don’t deserve a place in society.”

Frank also tweeted that their 90-year-old mother was greatly upset by the false claim and could not understand the humor in this sick joke.

Surprisingly, however, this is not the first time Stallone was rumored to be dead.

Stallone was also thought to have passed away in September of 2016 after a CNN report leaked on Twitter.

These kinds of hoaxes have been around long before the internet was invented; but as social media dominates, these claims have become more common and more believable among heavy internet users.

The victims of death hoaxes are typically celebrities or politicians. Other stars who have been falsely killed off by the internet include Mark Hamill of “Star Wars” and pop star Britney Spears.

It is important to remember that people who go on the internet and lie are simply people who want some attention. The people responsible for

death hoaxes are smart enough to understand when a prominent person dies, it’s news. People will become engaged over big information, regardless of where it came from or whether it is true or false.

Ultimately, the power is in our hands when we seek out news online. There are a lot of passive users who instantaneously believe something just because it was on Facebook or Twitter. We need more active users who not only click on the links of stories, but also read more about the subject on other websites for verification.

If you want to be an active user who shares correct information with other people, do your homework. Make sure your research is thorough, and your sources are credible.

Sylvester Stallone himself once said, “You are what you leave behind.” Leave behind internet content for the sake of enlightenment, not for the sake of attention.

Connect with
Jacquelyn
by emailing
jjarnagin@su.suffolk.edu

CONTROLLED

An Idaho State Senator loses temper over contraceptives

By Morgan Hume, Journal Staff

Most people try to avoid conversations about sex, due to feeling uncomfortable or squirmish. It is easier to awkwardly giggle and quickly change the subject. However, for a politician, being able to discuss issues such as birth control and sex education in a professional and respectful manner is part of the job description.

Republican Idaho State Senator Dan Foreman did not get that memo.

Currently in the state of Idaho, women can only receive a three-to-four month supply of birth control per year from their insurance provider. The state is introducing a new bill that would allow women to be prescribed a year's worth of birth control at once, as it is vital that the pills are taken at the same time every day.

A dozen students from Generation Action, a nationwide college group affiliated with Planned Parenthood, traveled nearly 300 miles from Moscow, Idaho to Boise for a scheduled meeting with Foreman. The students were visiting the capital to lobby for the bill, but the day did not go according to plan.

Foreman suddenly canceled the meeting that morning, but he ran into the students in the hallway outside his office later that day as the students were conducting meetings with other state politicians on Feb. 19, according to ABC News.

Video footage posted on Twitter shows the senator shouting at the students, saying "I think what you guys do stinks" after stating he was a conservative Roman Catholic and he believes "abortion is murder." The students remained calm, but Foreman still threatened to call the Idaho State Police and have them arrested. At the very least, those students deserve an apology, but unfortunately Foreman has no intentions on giving them one.

The following day, Foreman told the Associated Press that he believes his "response was dead on and people can take exception to that - they're welcome to their point of view - but I take abortion seriously. It's murder."

Not only did Foreman disrespect the students by yelling at them, but his statements also made little sense in the context of the situation. He yelled

"abortion is murder" but the students were there to discuss birth control and better sex education on college campuses, two entirely different topics from abortion. Instead of being willing to listen, Foreman started shouting his stance on abortion, which was unprofessional and unnecessary.

Politicians are trained to deal with the public, even when faced with difficult situations or if they disagree with someone. Foreman should have handled the situation more professionally and there were many other outcomes he could have shown.

For example, he could have bit his tongue and walked silently into his office, he could have explained that he did not have time to talk or he could have answered a few of the students questions respectfully. Instead, he settled on an angry rant to a group of people who just wanted a calm discussion about the bill.

Despite Foreman's comments, Idaho seems to be making a step in the right direction with this bill. Idaho is the 11th state to introduce a law allowing women a 12-month supply of birth control. However, there should be more than 11 states with laws like this implemented because all women in the United States deserve to have accessible birth control.

In addition to helping prevent unwanted pregnancies, many women take birth control to ease menstrual cramps, get rid of acne and balance their levels of estrogen. Birth control pills can also help women with Primary Ovarian Insufficiency or Polycystic Ovary Syndrome, in which they need the medication to regulate their hormones and reproductive organs.

To put it simply: If women have no hassle in getting prescriptions for other illnesses or medical issues, why is birth control any different? Although one of the uses of birth control is to prevent future unwanted pregnancies, it is not the same idea as abortion.

Student advocacy groups such as Generation Action deserve to have their voice be heard without a screaming match or the door being slammed in their face. It's a shame that they were treated with a level of disrespect that is low for the average person, let alone a state Senator.

Connect with Morgan by emailing mhume@su.suffolk.edu

Compromise: It is time to find a solution from both parties

Stiv Mucollari
Journal Staff

High and other figures who have been impacted by gun violence.

People brought up and debated various proposals, from arming school teachers to establishing programs aimed at identifying troubled youths. Through it all, Trump, despite his history of irrationality and continuous evolving positions on policy, looked as if he was willing to tackle the issue head-on.

In fact, Trump has already displayed a willingness to pursue change following the tragedy. He signed a memorandum directing Attorney General Jeff Sessions to look into banning bump stocks,

devices that let semi-automatic weapons fire hundreds of rounds per minute, according to a report by CNBC. Bump stocks entered the public

"To successfully push for reform, the conservatives that make up the passionate opposition, need to be won over by one of their own, not a political figure from the left."

consciousness after Parkland Massacre, as the perpetrator was 19 years old and would not have been able to purchase an AR-15, the weapon used in the shooting.

The president is also considering supporting legislation that would

raise the age limit to 21 for purchases of AR-15-type rifles, according to Reuters. An increased age limit could have potentially prevented the

and endorsed current legislation in Congress that aims to fix the reporting process of federal agencies when they send criminal records to the Criminal Background Check System. For the Parkland shooting to be different, to not be another one on the list, another tragic reminder that violence affects everyone, regardless of their race, religion, ethnicity, or gender then both sides have to recognize the politics of gun control. Reforms or background checks are favored when polled, but it has not translated into legislative action because it comes down to trust.

Conservatives have equated past calls for gun control as the equal to a gun grab. However, those same conservatives makeup Trump's political base and have shown a tendency to stick with him no matter what he does; be it the Russian scandal or his breakup with former strategist Steve Bannon. To successfully push for reform, the conservatives need to be won over by one of their own, not a political figure from the left.

The National Rifle Association (NRA) is not going to oppose a

See TRUMP - 10

EDITOR'S WORD

It has come to the attention of our team of student journalists that our University has a serious problem. Throughout the years, few staff members have been rumored to have engaged in inappropriate relationships with students, while others have been caught in the act. These staff members, namely men, have used their positions in power to coax students. This is a culture long developing in Suffolk and that is unacceptable. These power dynamics are often unclear to the student, leading them to believe that what they are engaging in is active consent. That is not the case. For the person in a position of power, the sexual relationship is less about the sexual desires and more about the need to dominate and control.

What is worse than this sexual culture between staff and students, is the fact that students who do recognize that they have been violated, cannot speak of their story. This is due to the stigma that dictates they are not victims of sexual harassment or assault, that they have consented to the relationship where both parties were on equal footing. This stigma develops from interpersonal opinions, and the policies that prevents administration, staff and students from speaking of the matter.

There are those who wish to speak, but have yet to gather the courage to tell their story. So as storytellers ourselves, we implore you to reach out to one another, and encourage one another to brave. Tell your story.

Tell your #metoo moment.

President

★ versus ★

Presidential

Shown through the 2016 presidential election, there is a stark difference between being president and being presidential. Now, what qualifies someone to be fit to run a country?

Alex Gazzani
Journal Contributor

In the past, the image of a person running for president was about authority, experience and respect. But in recent years, it seems people have started viewing the presidential candidate as an image of money and power rather than someone capable to run a country.

Someone with presidential aspirations should have a college degree. This, however, does not mean said degree should be in Political Science or Government. A political career can be built from an English or Business major just the same.

It is a matter of becoming involved in the political networking environment and gaining sufficient experience to become a part of it.

Ideally, a person running for president should have prior experience in several branches of government such as legislature and executive office. It is important to have experience in the area and fully understand how the governmental system works. Just like any other job, one must start from

the bottom to be aware of the problems and tasks that come in the basics of the profession, in order to get to the top.

An example of work experiences could be

Economic power may be a useful resource for the person planning to run for office. Such with many previous presidents, as it brought them more social influences and

political experience, such as Oprah. Before President Donald Trump, it would have been absurd to suggest that someone with no political experience would ever run for president, but since his inauguration, the notion that a president should be qualified for the job has been lost. The social influence that comes hand in hand with economic power, definitely came in handy for Trump.

Inevitably, this has also affected the credibility of the government, because not knowing how to approach several political situations inflicts uncertainty and skepticism to the citizens.

Even though people have started talking about candidacy for others with no experience, it seems that most of the population still believe that a person in such a high position should be experienced and should promote an image of authority and respect. Hopefully, after the Trump administration, people will go back to the conventional candidate style and elect someone fit for the job.

*Connect with Alex
by emailing
agazzani@su.suffolk.edu*

“Just like in any other job, one must start from the bottom to be aware of the problems and tasks that come in the basics of the profession, in order to get to the top.”

servicing as a Congressman and perhaps later on as a Governor. After years of political affairs, one can handle the public and the media as well as internal and foreign policy.

Although there is an existing stereotype for politicians that suggests they are nothing but a facade and do not truly care about the population, the people cannot help having an opinion and a preference over others. This is why even though it may be relative to describing the “ideal” characteristics of a presidential candidate, there are certain aspects that really stand out.

better propaganda. On that note, it is important to mention some of the characteristics a great social influencer should have. First and foremost, charm and excellent public speaking skills are essential factors to move masses.

We want someone to be transparent on how the government is handling internal and external affairs. A person who stands up for the interests of the constituency is also a good qualification to look for in a candidate.

Lately, there has been serious talk about several people that should run for office that have no

Gun control could start with Trump, progress with a Democrat

From **TRUMP** - 9

Trump led reform effort, even after spending thirty million dollars on him during the last presidential election. Trump also acts as a barrier to reform that may be deemed extreme by conservatives, such as another assault rifle ban.

On the left, people

have to recognize that reform needs to occur over time. If the banning of bump stocks, age limit increase, and strengthening of federal background checks

become legislative reality, then Trump would have done more than Obama on the issue. This also positions the next Democratic President to have a foundation upon

which to enact further reform aimed at curbing gun violence.

A grand compromise on gun control is the first step that lawmakers need to take, but it is a monumental step that politically benefits all sides.

Trump gets a bipartisan political victory, one he desperately needs with his stagnant approval

ratings. Democrats gain a head start on reform that they have been seeking since the Clinton administration. Most importantly, the nation gets a government that still function in moments of tragedy.

*Connect with Stiv
by emailing
smucollari@su.suffolk.edu*



Blue & Gold Accolades

As winter sports season comes to a close, the Great Northeast Athletic Conference (GNAC) honored many Rams.

Here we have a list of distinguished student athletes that have been recognized.

Men's Basketball

- Junior **Michael Hagopian** earns conference third team.
- Sophomore **Thomas Duffy** named to conference second team.
- Sophomore **Thomas Duffy** named to "All-Tournament team."
- Sophomore **Cameron Powers** received "All-Sportsmanship Award."
- Freshman **Brendan Mulson** awarded "Rookie of the Year."
- Suffolk **men's basketball** received the Institutional Sportsmanship Award.

Women's Basketball

- Senior **Alex Nagri** named to "All-Sportsmanship team."
- Senior **Georgia Bourikas** earned conference second team.
- **Georgia Bourikas** and **Jenni-Rose DiCecco** awarded "All-Tournament team."
- Sophomore **Alexis Hackett** named conference third team.
- Freshman **Jenni-Rose DiCecco** earned "Rookie of the Year."
- **Jenni-Rose DiCecco** awarded New England Women's Basketball Rookie of the Week.

Women's Indoor Track & Field

- Sophomore **Emily Manfra** placed 13th at the NCAA Division III New England Championship.
- Sophomore **Emma Weisse** placed 15th at the NCAA Division III New England Championship.



Hannah Arroyo / Asst. Sports Editor

Lady Rams fall in championship

Don Porcaro
Journal Staff

After a 21-7 season, the Lady Rams fell to St. Joseph's College on Saturday afternoon in the Great Northeast Athletic Conference (GNAC) Championship game 73-59. The trip marked the fifth time in Lady Rams history the team has played in a GNAC Championship.

Despite the loss, Suffolk University finished the season with the most wins since the 2013-14 season. The 2012-13 season was the last time the Lady Rams made the GNAC Championship, where they fell to Emmanuel College 68-45. During that year, the Rams finished 23-8.

"Making it to that final game has been our goal every year. We haven't done it since I've been here so it was really special to do it as a senior. It just showed that our hard work paid off and we can beat anyone

on any given day," said senior captain Alex Nagri in an interview with The Suffolk Journal.

The highlight of Suffolk's Championship run came in the semifinal game against Emmanuel College. The No. 3 Lady Rams upset No. 2 Emmanuel 73-68. This marked the second time in program history the team has beat the Saints.

The win was highlighted in double-doubles by both sophomore forward Alexis Hackett and senior guard Georgia Bourikas. Hackett added 13 points and 13 rebounds while Bourikas led the way with 21 points and 14 rebounds.

"Emmanuel has always been a rival of ours," said Hackett in an interview with The Journal. "When I came in as a freshman, coach and I made it one of our goals to beat them. It was a pretty awesome feeling. It showed that our team can play with and beat anyone."

Before the playoffs began, the Lady Rams were faced with a big

challenge. Starting guard Nagri went down late in the regular season with an ankle injury, leaving an opening in the starting lineup and a depleted bench. Junior guard Marissa Gudauskas filled in nicely for Nagri, which included a 10-point and four-rebound performance in the Lady Rams final regular season game.

"[Nagri's] position isn't an easy one. She is given many of the tough defensive assignments. My teammates and coaches showed me endless support and showed they believed in me," said Gudauskas in an interview with The Journal. "I embraced the opportunity that presented itself, played my game and had fun."

Off the bench, freshman guard Rachel LaSaracina and junior forward Shannon Smith logged a majority of the minutes for the injured Nagri. Both were able to add quality minutes off the bench during the 68-46 quarterfinal win

over Johnson and Wales University.

During the quarterfinal game, starting point guard Jenni-Rose DiCecco scored 23 points and added six rebounds and four assists for the Lady Rams. Hackett was also a game-changer, as the sophomore added 14 points and pulled down a season-high 19 rebounds, 17 of them on the defensive end.

The trip to the quarterfinal game marked the 23rd consecutive season the Lady Ram's have qualified for the tournament. This also marked the third 20-win season in program history.

"We fought so hard the entire season and fought to the end," said senior captain Bourikas. "It wasn't the outcome we wanted but we have nothing to hand our heads about because our overall season was incredible."

Connect with Don
by emailing
dporcaro@su.suffolk.edu

Baseball sets sights on season opener

From GNAC - 12

and trusting the team's offense to tack on runs to win games.

"We'll use small ball if we need it," said Chant. "Generally we like to try and get out to an early lead for our pitchers."

The team, having lost some key players, is optimistic about what the new freshmen will offer

in the team's pursuit of a fourth championship.

"We lost a lot of guys...Last year we had a ton of good players," said Fusco. "I think the guys we brought in this year are going to step right in and pick up where we left off."

With 15 new incoming players, the team hopes to quickly fill the roles of players that were lost due to graduation.

The team has worked on and off the field during the winter and the coming spring in preparation for the season, something freshman journalism major Johnny Maffei holds to a high premium.

"Freshmen are learning the ways, we know all of the times we wake up at 6 a.m. and go run that it'll be worth it," said Maffei in an interview with The Journal. "The coaches

and upperclassmen are helping prepare us for game situations as best we can."

The Rams' home opener will take place on Sunday, March 25 against Rhode Island College at East Boston Memorial Park.

Connect with Ryan
by emailing
rarel@su.suffolk.edu



Swinging for a fourth title

Ryan Arel
Asst. Arts Editor

The Suffolk University baseball team looks to defend yet another championship title after winning a third consecutive Great Northeast Athletic Conference (GNAC) championship last season. The Rams season will be in full swing as the Rams depart for spring training, playing the season opener under the lights against the Albion Britons at Chain of Lakes Stadium in Winter Haven, Florida on March 9.

After an impressive and historic previous season, averaging more than seven runs per game, the Rams were ranked as the No. 1 team in the GNAC Preseason Coaches

Poll for the upcoming season, beating out contenders St. Joseph's College of Maine at No. 2, No. 3 Johnson and Wales University and No. 4 Lasell College, according to Suffolk's Athletic Department's website.

Regardless of the outcome of the coaches poll, fourth-year head coach Anthony Del Prete does not think the polls matter in Suffolk's preparation for the season ahead.

"While the coaches poll is nice recognition, the only thing that really matters is the score at the end of every game," said Del Prete in a recent interview with The Suffolk Journal. "Our focus is going out and competing and playing at a high level each and every time out."

Despite coming into this year off of

a third consecutive championship, winning three in a row isn't enough for senior pitcher and finance major Mark Fusco.

"Obviously our

"While the coaches poll is nice recognition, the only thing that really matters is the score at the end of every game."

- Head Coach Anthony Del Prete

ultimate goal is to win the championship," said Fusco in an interview with The Journal. "But right now we're just trying to show up and be better than we were the day before. Our focus right now is one day at a

time."

Although the team hardly failed to put up runs last season, Del Prete has high hopes for the Rams, but believes the team will achieve

even more with good performances on the mound and base paths. Last year, the team's pitching staff posted a collective 4.67 ERA and offensively collected a .298 team batting average, 12 home runs

and scored 326 runs in just 45 games.

"I think our success in the NCAA Regional Tournament showed we can compete at the national level and have a chance to win each time we take the field," said Del Prete. "Overall, I think from top to bottom our pitching needs to be consistent and we need to do a better job running the bases in order to manufacture more runs and be more dynamic offensively."

The team will be led by redshirt senior Fusco, senior Brady Chant and senior Greg Speliotis, each returning for this season. Fusco will continue his presence on the mound, while Speliotis and Chant will continue to contribute offensively.

Although a fifth-year senior, in Fusco's

sophomore year he underwent Tommy John surgery, which led to taking that season off and retaining his eligibility to play for the 2018 season.

"We're feeling great, we've been able to get outside a few times over the last couple weeks which is huge for us before going down to Florida," said center fielder Chant in an interview with The Journal.

Chant was ranked a 2018 D3Baseball.com Preseason Second Team All-American, was a Gold Glove Recipient and three-time All GNAC first-teamer.

The Rams went 28-17 overall in the most recent championship year, finding any way to put runs on the board