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SOUTHERN NEWS

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APRIL 5, 2017

VOL. 54—ISSUE 22

Southern hosts Career and Internship Fair



PHOTO | PALMER PIANA

Stephanie Hadden, representing Lindamood-Bell at the Career and Internship Fair in the Adanti Student Center Ballroom.

By Josh LaBella

Southern Connecticut State University hosted a Career and Internship fair on Wednesday March 29. It was organized by the academic and career advising center.

In the Adanti Student Center, Francois Dominique, a recent graduate and business management major, said he already has a job but he wants to find better job opportunities.

"I came to look for more professional opportunities," said Dominique. "I've seen a couple companies that I'm interested in so far."

Tabish Syea, a junior management and information systems major, said he was looking for an internship.

"I've already found several companies that have good paying positions," said Syea.

Aaron Tejada, a commu-

nications and marketing major, said he was looking for opportunities to better himself. He said Target was one of the businesses with a table at the fair and he thought that was cool.

"I used to work for Target, it's good to see them here," said Tejada. "I came here to better myself and Southern is providing great opportunities for its students. I even got an offer from Bridgestone Tires."

Eva Christensen, an interdisciplinary studies major with focuses in nutrition, exercise science and psychology, said she is graduating in May and was looking for a job so she could hit the ground running.

"I thought this would be a good place to start," said Christensen. "I just talked to a representative from Oak Hill. They run a summer camp for individuals with disabilities and they are actually right next to my house. That type of job is

right in my comfort zone."

The ballroom was filled with tables of manned by different companies looking for students to hire. One such table was run by Stephanie Hadden. She said she works for Lindamood-Bell, an educational company that works with students at a cognitive level.

"We have learning centers across the world," said Hadden. "We come to places like Southern because they are educationally minded. We find many students who like working with people and that's exactly what we're looking for."

Jodeci Oquendo, a senior psychology and mental health major, said she came to look for case management positions. She said she wants a social work job before she applies for graduate school. According to Oquendo, she was happy that Southern organized the event but wished it was easier to navigate.

"I think this is a great opportunity for students like myself who are graduating soon," said Oquendo. "Honestly I wish it was organized a little better, maybe by major or field."

Megan McDevitt, a recent graduate and interdisciplinary studies major with concentration in marketing and psychology, said she had good luck at the fair.

"I hit it off great with a person from SECS," said McDevitt. "She told me that she had been looking for someone like me for a long time. I was excited because I had been looking for a company like them for a long time."

McDevitt said she needed an event like this.

"I need a job," said McDevitt. "I'm happy Southern had a career fair. I wanted to meet people face to face. It's hard to just send out resumes because they don't really get to know you."

SEE CAREER FAIR PHOTOS ON PAGE 3

Tuition to increase for the next academic school year

By Alex Palmieri

Plans call for a 4 percent tuition increase to take place for the 2017-18 school year for Connecticut schools.

Lewis DeLuca, coordinator of Student Financial Literacy and Advising, said this can have a big impact on students because there is an increase in tuition, he said students can be looking at hundreds of more dollars in tuition fees for the fall.

"Right now," said DeLuca, "we are looking at \$10,054 a year. If we go up four percent, it will be \$10,456. This is over a \$400 increase."

DeLuca talked about students who are living on campus as well. As of now, a student who lives on campus for the 2016-17 year is paying \$12,025.

Once the increase of the tuition goes up, DeLuca said he is not sure if it will affect room and board as well but if it does, the cost would jump just over \$600, costing a total of \$12,626 a year.

A 4 percent increase might not seem like much to people but DeLuca said any sort of increase will impact students.

"If the increase comes out four percent," said DeLuca, "it will go up about \$400."

Lorenzo Burgos, a freshman psychology major, said he does not think this increase will have that much of an affect on students. But for those who need financial aid, Burgos said it might pose a problem to them. If this were the case, Burgos said that may be a big deal to students in need of support.

"Maybe a community college would be the best option first," said Burgos.

For students who have to pay for tuition out of pocket, Burgos said the best alternative would be for them to apply for scholarships and get money that way. He said it can be challenging for students to work, go to school and pay for tuition on their own.

SEE TUITION PAGE 2

Faculty Senate seeks to renovate academic advising center

By Alex Palmieri

The Advising Model Team wants to renovate the Academic Advising Center at Southern to make it more convenient for all its students.

"We want students to be better informed on requirements," said Elizabeth Keenan, co-chair of the campus wide advising team. "Academic advising should be a focal point with students."

During the Faculty Senate meeting, there was a discussion about the proposed advising model. On the executive summary advising revitalization and renewal initiative advising model proposal, it says there are three main principles that the committee will follow.

The proposed advising model is built upon three principles: Advising should not be limited to registration advising

appointments. The primary place for advising is within students' majors with faculty serving essential advising roles.

Teams of the faculty and professional advisors are needed to provide intensive advising to subgroups of students to support them toward academic success since some students are unsure about their major.

"This is not just about registration," said Sean Grace, member of the campus-wide advising team. "We must address the issues. Advising should be at a department level. Put the students on a path to graduate on time."

Keenan said the committee wants to transform the building to make it more convenient for all students on the campus. She said she wants to make all students better informed about requirements. She added that academic advising should be a focal point with students.

"The remodel would better address students," said Keenan.

There is an online survey that people

can take about the topic. Tracy Tyree, vice president of student affairs, said that the students' input has helped the process along the way.

"What I would like to add is we took a lot of student voice and input on advising before we started," said Tyree. "So all the data that we collected and all the surveys that we've done provide the voices that we've heard. They've informed the process along the way."

Also in the meeting, Joe Bertolino, president of Southern, said Southern's tuition increase would increase four percent for the next two years. He talked about students and faculty sending their thoughts about subjects to "Joe wants to know" on Southern's webpage. Bertolino is always welcoming of any voices or concerns that people have about the university as a whole.

"One of the conversations we will be looking at are the current vacancies," said Bertolino. "There are 40 or so of them across the university, both faculty and

staff."

Bertolino said all faculty members have been consistent. He said he is happy with the path that Southern is going on, but he wants the enrollment program and the graduate program to be better.

"My own role as an administrator for the past 30 years," said Bertolino, "I would say the governmental bureaucracy has shifted significantly. So the question for me is: What is the work we need to get done? And how is that work distributed right now?"

Bertolino said he is deeply concerned about Southern's graduate program. He said the highlight of Southern should be the strength of the graduate programs.

"What separates us from the other three institutions in the CSU system are our graduate programs," said Bertolino. "Our graduate programs here at Southern, are now, for the first time in a long time, under 2,000 students."

Interfaith dialogue addresses religious connections

By Lynandro Simmons

As part of their effort to promote 64 Days of Nonviolence, Southern hosted an Interfaith dialogue on Wednesday March, 29.

Rosayln Amenta, assistant to the dean of Student Affairs and moderator of the event, said the theme of the panel was to show unity.

"We are all one, interlocked in faith," said Amenta.

The Interfaith dialogue – which had speakers for Islam, Buddhism, Hinduism, Judaism, and Christianity – was created to find similarities in the religions instead of focusing on differences, she said. Clearly all of the religions show a connection, said Amenta.

Winnie Shyam, from Library Services, said one of the principles of Hinduism is the oneness of humanity.

"The concept of stranger does not exist," said Shyam. "Hinduism believes everyone is the same."

The water, the elements, everything is considered one in Hinduism. Another teaching of Hinduism is treating people respectfully and with hospitality.

"Even in ancient times Hindus welcomed people from different institutions," she said.

Martin Laskin, from the department of sociology and speaker for Judaism, said in the Bible there is a lot that shows how people should deal with current issues in society and the importance of equality.

"We complicate this thing of religion," said Laskin.

In the Bible, Laskin said it is repeated many times to treat people kindly. He also said it is repeated in the Bible that there should be one law, for both the citizen and strangers that reside. This means that no matter what, everybody should be treated the same, he said.

Deacon Patrick Moran from the Interfaith office said that if a person follows Christianity's teachings there is no such thing as a stranger.

"We are all descended from the first man and woman," he said. "We are all brothers and sisters."

What happens to one person, happens to everyone, he said. There should be no fear of a stranger because everybody is a part of one connected family.

Changshen Shih, a professor for women's studies in religion, said in Buddhism the idea of someone being a



PHOTO | LYNANDRO SIMMONS

Patrick Moran, Winnie Shyam, Changshen Shih, Amal Abdel Raouf, Richard P. Zipoli and Martin Laskin.

stranger has a deeper meaning.

"In this way it sounds opposed to something," she said. "For Buddhist teachings we become the stranger."

Shih said that in Buddhism people try to let go of social identities and other concepts given by society. She also said that Buddhism teaches her to reflect on why fear is associated with people that are considered strangers. She said this fear is what leads to xenophobia, or as she put it "fear of the difference."

"The fear itself is problematic," she said. "That's why we have to reflect on that."

Shih said there are people that fear Muslims currently and have never even seen one.

Amal Abdel Raouf, a computer science professor, said in the Quran there are messages that promote people to get to know other people, even if they're different. Having diverse people in the same place is an advantage not a disadvantage, she said.

Raouf said that one of the things Muslims are required to do is give to strangers who are in need of help. This creates a better sense of unity with people, she said.

"We have to learn from each other," said Raouf. "We all have to help each other."

Deputy Chief Pessina to retire after 10 years at SCSU

By Alex Palmieri

Deputy Chief Philip Pessina has decided to retire after 10 years at Southern Connecticut State University.

Pessina has been in law enforcement for 27 years and he said it has been an unbelievable journey. He talked about his experiences not only at SCSU, but in Middletown as well. As enjoyable as everything has been for him, Pessina said it is not time for him to call it quits.

"What was important here at Southern was the family here," said Pessina. "I was so happy to join side by side with Chief Dooley as we literally transformed this police department."

Pessina said when he got to Southern, both he and Dooley wanted to make the community feel protected. He said it was not just him who made the police department what it is; Pessina said everyone that is a part of the police department at Southern did a wonderful job.

"The men and women in whatever shift they're working," said Pessina, "gives their heart and soul to this university for the time they're here. They are now truly appreciated by the students, faculty and staff."

Every president Pessina said he worked for has bought a different perspective for the students. One of the things he will miss most is working for the presidents of the university. He said President Joe has shown nothing but love and respect for each member at Southern and he does his job accordingly.

"I wish that I could have worked for Joe longer," said Pessina. "I know he has the students in his heart and that's the way I have always been."

President Joe Bertolino said Pessina has been at Southern for a long time and has served the state even longer. Though he is saddened that Pessina is leaving, Bertolino said he is happy for him.

"I think it was great to have such a professional," said Bertolino. "It's nice to have a police force here on campus. I certainly feel safer because of it. I think



PHOTO | ALEX PALMIERI

Deputy Chief Phillip Pessina in his office.

we have been very fortunate that there have been no serious crimes here."

What Bertolino liked most about Pessina was his enthusiastic personality. He said Pessina has always been very focused on taking care of all of the students, making sure all of them are protected and educated.

"His whole attitude has been very positive," said Bertolino. "He probably looks at some of these students and sees some of his own grandchildren in some respects. I've really appreciated his hard work and his professionalism. Now it's time for him to spend time

with his family and grandchildren."

Pessina said his journey not only at Southern, but in the police academy in general has been memorable. Though he is walking away from his dream job, Pessina said the Southern community will always have a spot in his heart.

Pessina said there is a quote from John Wooden, legendary UCLA basketball coach, who he has tried to emulate during his career.

"Wooden said [the]most powerful leadership tool you have," said Pessina, "Is your own personal example."

Tuition

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"Apply for scholarships as much as you can," said Burgos. "Try to get as many grants and loans as you can."

Though it would not affect Burgos, he said if the tuition increase would affect him, he would attempt to apply for more scholarships and financial aid to keep him stable. He said this would be the best alternative to

keep people financially situated.

Monae Hines, a junior English major, said the tuition increase is not what she anticipated. She said because of this, she is going to have to take out more loans to pay off her tuition for the coming year.

"It's either I take out more loans or pull off extra shifts at work," said Hines.

Hines does get financial aid from the school. She said for those who do not get financial aid, to maybe transfer to a community college for a couple years to save money in the long hall. Hines transferred from Gateway Community College and said Southern takes a lot of the credits. She said this would be the cheapest alternative.

Hines said, "It sucks that the tuition is going up."

Breese to leave Southern after four years at SCSU

By Alex Palmieri

Dean of Arts and Science Steven Breese is leaving the Southern community for what he said is a new opportunity to be the Dean of College of Arts, Communications and Design at Long Island University/Post Campus.

"As a theater artist, this new position will offer me opportunities to work more closely with faculty and students more closely connected to my fields of expertise," said Breese.

Breese has been the Dean of Arts and Science at Southern for four years. Though he has enjoyed his time at Southern, Breese said he has found another opportunity.

Breese said one of the most exciting moments at Southern was watching the student research presentations two years ago during the First Annual Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity Conference.

"It was a big step forward for our university and I was very proud of the quality of the work that the

students created and presented," said Breese. "It was a thrill."

Though Breese is leaving, he will not forget the opportunity he received at Southern. He said he will miss the opportunity to work with outstanding students and faculty at the institution. He said Southern is a great place – a place where authentic dreams are pursued and students' lives are transformed.

"I will miss the great faculty, staff and of course the students," said Breese.

Jonathan Wharton, a political science professor, said the job that Breese has done has been good. He said Breese was the longest serving Dean at Southern in quite sometime.

"This speaks a lot," said Wharton. "We've gone through a number of deans here at Southern but he left an imprint here, no question."

Wharton said Breese's time at Southern is one to be remembered. He said Breese had a vision to make it known how prominent Southern can be. He said Breese established a footprint for arts and science at the university. Of all the things, Wharton said the faculty meetings is what he will remember most.

"His faculty meetings were legendary," said Wharton.

"He had all those pictures of sailboats stressing the need for teamwork here. You can't ride a ship by itself, it requires a team. He certainly emphasized that."

President Joe Bertolino also spoke on the topic. He said what Dean Breese has done at Southern has been remarkable. He said a great opportunity arose for Breese.

Bertolino said Breese has done a terrific job at Southern. He said being a Dean of Arts and Science is a difficult task. Fifty percent of faculty reported to him, which is the largest of the five schools at the university. Bertolino said that the demand of that particular position is significant because there are 250 faculty members that look to him for guidance, help and support. He added that Breese is a very passionate person and one that will go far in any path that he chooses to go to in his career.

"One of the things you find working in this career," said Bertolino, "particularly if you're an administrator, is that administrators don't necessarily stay for the long hall at an institution. Opportunities are constantly presenting themselves. I think in this case it was an opportunity and I think he'll thrive here. He was great for us."

Southern hosts Career and Internship Fair



PHOTO | DYLAN HAVILAND

Marlon Thornton of Bloomfield CT, a SCSU alumni, speaks with Rebecca Schatzlein and Marissa Hewitt of Wheeler Clinic.



PHOTO | DYLAN HAVILAND

Teneka Mills a senior and communications major talking to Mike Meyer of Stamford Public Schools.



PHOTO | DYLAN HAVILAND

Students visited various tables at the Career and Internship Fair.



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The line at Dunkin Donuts in the Adanti Student Center.

PHOTO | DYLAN HAVILAND

Sweets and eats are burning a hole in students' wallets

Joe DeFilippo, a senior Spanish education major, said by cutting out food spending by bringing his own meals to campus, he has saved about \$40 a week.

By Josh LaBella

Buying food on campus adds up, said biology and physics major Rich Szeligowski.

"I am only buying a couple salads a week," said Szeligowski, "and it turns into about 30 bucks."

Some students, like sophomore exercise science major Marisa Tomaso, said they spend at least \$60 during the week.

"Honestly it's because of food," said Tomaso. "I go to the food court for a salad or Starbucks and Dunkin for coffee."

Karlie Borges, a senior journalism major, said as a commuter she spends her money buying snacks and drinks in between classes.

"I spend money at the Bagel Wagon or the vending machines," said Borges.

Tia Bonessi, a junior psychology major,



PHOTO | JOSH LABELLA

Marisa Tomaso, a sophomore exercise science major.



PHOTO | JOSH LABELLA

Karlie Borges, a senior journalism major.

said she spends \$10 a week just to keep herself fed.

"All food," said Bonessi. "That's my only expense."

According to Devonte Morris, a junior business management major, said he does not spend money on campus for anything except food and drinks but they are overpriced.

"The Bagel Wagon has drinks that are \$3 or \$4 each," said Morris. "That's ridiculous. I end up spending like \$30 strictly on food."

Kevin Bermudez, a sophomore Spanish major, said as a commuter he only spends money buying lunch during the week.

"During the week I spend about 40 bucks on food," said Bermudez. "It is almost entirely at Dunkin Donuts or the student center food court."

Abby Wells, a freshman music major,

said the only thing she finds herself spending money on campus for is food.

"I spend maybe \$10 a week here," said Wells. "I really just buy snacks or coffee at the student center or the Bagel Wagon. Occasionally, I go to the Starbucks in Buley library but the prices there are way too high."



PHOTO | JOSH LABELLA

Austin Rose, a sophomore special education major.

As a commuter, Austin Rose, a sophomore special education major, said he spends \$35 or \$40 a week on food between his classes.

"I spend it here, in the student center," said Rose, "and also I sometimes go to Conn Hall if I can find the time."

Amanda Smith, a senior marketing and communications major, said she spends more than \$50 a week on campus, but only on food.

"Buying chips, drinks and snacks really adds up after a while," said Smith. "But I have to eat, you know? The only places on campus worth spending money is Adanti or the Bagel Wagon."

Amber Williams, a freshman biology major, said she only spends \$5 during the week on campus.

"It's all at the vending machines," said Williams. "I just buy drinks and snacks."

Joe DeFilippo, a senior Spanish education major, said he now spends about \$10 each week on campus because he started bringing lunch to school.

"I cut back a lot," said DeFilippo. "It used to be around 40 every week when I was buying lunch at the student center. It just wasn't worth it. Now I spend it a lot less and it is only on coffee or snacks from the Bagel Wagon and Dunkin Donuts."



PHOTO | JOSH LABELLA

Joe DeFilippo, a senior Spanish education major.

Students reflect on GPAs and their impact

By Josh LaBella

Caty Mehan said she thinks about her GPA almost constantly.

"I can never stop thinking about it," said Mehan, a sophomore elementary education major. "It's why I'm here."

Mehan said she values work experience just as much as she values her GPA but that internships do not mean as much to her.

"I need to keep making the dean's list," said Mehan. "Then, hopefully, I'll get hired by a school when I graduate."

Emily Velidow, a sophomore psychology major, said she thinks about her GPA a couple times a month.

"I think about my grades all the time," said Velidow. "But I don't actively think about my GPA until the end of a semester."

According to Velidow, GPA, internships and work experience are all important factors when it comes to getting a job but in the end students

need to know their field.

"It's all about the background information," said Velidow, "that's what employers want you to understand."

Christine Barrett, associate director of academic and career advising, said students should put equal weight on all three.

"I don't think students should value any one over the others," said Barrett. "GPAs are looked at by companies offering internships or jobs. That said, some companies put more value on work experience."

Barrett said there is a lot of research showing students who are more involved with clubs and organizations get more jobs and internships.

The National Association of Colleges and Employers reports 70 percent of employers will screen 2017 graduates by their GPA, up from 69 percent last year.

Gino Fiore, a freshman elementary education major, said he thinks about his GPA frequently.

"It's mostly because I'm trying to make sure I get into the programs that I want," said Fiore. "I never want to get put on academic probation."

Fiore said he values work experience more than he does his GPA or internships. He said many employers he has talked to said they want their prospective hires to have prior experience before applying.

Elle Phissheciti, a junior biology major, said she thinks about her GPA fairly often. She said she wants to get into graduate school and she knows they look for good GPAs in their applicants.

"I put a lot of pressure on myself," said Phissheciti.

Learning in the field is much more important than your grades, according to Phissheciti.

"If you do the work," said Phissheciti, "the rest will take care of its self."

Robert Busque, a junior biochemistry major, said he thinks about his GPA a couple times a semester, but he

never worries too much.

"I'm 25," said Busque, "I've been doing the school thing for a while now and I know how to control it."

Busque said he is too old for an internship, so he does not value them but he has extensive work experience and he thinks that is critical to getting a job when he graduates.

According to Rob Moore, a senior English major, a student's GPA is pretty much the entire reason they are in college.

"At my age, if you don't think about your GPA anymore you've already graduated," said Moore.

With his GPA and with his work experience, Moore said he will get a job. He said internships are not as important as showing that he knows his field front and back.

"My GPA isn't always too impressive," said Moore. "But if you can remember what you've learned, that shows something."

Retraction

A story submitted by a student and then published in the March 29, 2017 Features section of the Southern News "Southern reflects on transgender inclusivity," is being retracted. Jenna Retort, assistant director of the Office of Student Conduct and Civic Responsibility, was cited as a source of quotes in the story, however, she was never interviewed. Additionally, another source cited in the story could not be independently verified. The Southern News strives to provide accurate information and regrets this story's publication.

The “Fearless Girl” Statue to stay another year

By Courtney Luciana

The “Fearless Girl” statue facing up to the “Charging Bull” on Wall Street is a sign that more people need to recognize, especially now that she is here to stay for another year, said Sara Helfand, a junior majoring in English education.

“I go to New York City all of the time,” said Helfand. “I would love to visit the statue. I saw a few Facebook posts go viral about how her purpose was to reel in attention to the lack of women on corporate boards. I still don’t think enough people know about her worth.”

Jennifer Hopper, a political science professor, said she personally supports the movement.

“It’s interesting because I feel like history is in a way repeating itself with this ‘Fearless Girl’ statue,” said Hopper. “It almost reminds me of an updated campaign of the Occupy Wall Street movement where protests were made about global economic inequality. I’m really glad

that she is staying in place because I want to learn more about her.”

Vanessa Braucci, a senior ceramics major getting ready to graduate, said she personally recognizes how much dexterity must have gone into creating the fearless girl.

“It must have taken weeks if not months to create a statue like her,” said Braucci.

Braucci, who is currently taking more advanced ceramic classes, said that while she does not know every detail behind how the statue was manufactured, she is certain the methods in detailing the sculpture help to highlight the power of women in working fields.

“When I saw a picture of the ‘Fearless Girl’ I noticed that every detail was down to a tee,” said Braucci. “Her long, bronzed ponytail swoops in the air, her knuckles are tightened against her hips, and just her overall structure makes her purpose all that much more relevant. She’s small but she’s strong. She’s a soldier.”

According to a 2015 Pew Research

Center study, progress has moved slower for women in claiming corporate positions. The study found that roughly 5 percent of women serve as CEOs of Fortune 500 companies compared to 1995 where there were none.

The Pew study previewed what the future holds for American women in the workplace: 53 percent of the U.S. think that men will continue to dominate executive business positions while only 44 percent think women will claim the same top executive positions as men much sooner.

In addition, the Pew study only personifies the meaning behind the “Fearless Girl” with 40 percent of U.S. women who think that by having more opportunities for top leadership positions there would be more unconditional benefits, whereas merely 19 percent of men support this statement.

Donnell Jones, an accounting major, said from a male’s viewpoint he finds the girl to be a global inspiration.

“In these times of division it is not just



PHOTO COURTESY | ANTHONY QUINTANO

The Fearless Girl statue in New York, N.Y.

the statue that needs to be recognized,” said Donnell. “From what I’ve seen through social media, I’ve noticed that it’s become a tourist attraction but I would hope for its message of equality and not just for the popularity.”

Environmental issues are critical overall

By Victoria Bresnahan

A culture and economy can be wiped out overnight if humans do not take care of the environment, said Bren Smith, executive director and CEO of GreenWave, a nonprofit 3-D ocean farming organization, at the Coastal Transitions: Sustainability Transitions in the Coastal Zone presentation in Engleman Hall when describing his experience with an ecological crisis.

“Hurricane Sandy and Hurricane Irene came barreling through and wiped out 90 percent of my crop two years in a row,” said Smith. “Most of my gear washed out to sea. That’s when I figured out climate change is not an environmental issue — one of the biggest mistakes we did was brand it environmental — it’s an economic issue.”

Chair of the department of environment, geography and marine studies, Patrick Heidkamp, said the Coastal Transitions event was a collaboration between SCSU and John Moores University in Liverpool.

Heidkamp said the conference opened a dialogue for worldwide and Connecticut based coastal resilience issues. He said it welcomed researchers interested in

sand transport, biophysical aspects of the environment and how it relates to climate change, social issues of the coastline and economic problems.

“My personal thing is looking at environmental justice issues and rights, and social justice issues around the coast,” said Heidkamp. “So, who has access to the coast? Should the coast just be something that’s just reserved for the wealthy that can afford a piece of property on the coast, or should it be something that is enjoyed by everybody?”

The Environmental Protection Agency reported the coast along the Long Island Sound relatively increased by 8 inches from 1960 to 2014. The report stated rising sea levels, and other factors, could affect the 25 million people living in areas vulnerable to coastal flooding — these areas contribute to 58 percent of the gross domestic product.

Heidkamp said the coastal zone is one of the most pressing issues of humanity’s time. For example, he said there is the issue of islands in the south Pacific and Indian oceans essentially disappearing due to rise in sea levels, the issue of marine research depilation and the issue of overfishing and coral reefs dying.

Heidkamp said: “They are all going to

have a massive impact to a fairly large number of people.”

The idea of this event is to create a strong coastal research network and more opportunities for students to get involved in the research, said Heidkamp.

“Our department feels quite strongly that the path forward [for] coastal sustainability resilience is actually enabling students to develop themselves as a scientist or at least someone who can understand scientific reasoning,” said Heidkamp. “And also, somebody who is versed in the public policy arena and has a sociocultural background to understand what we need to do.”

Heather Wildman, a SCSU alumna, said she attended the event because of her passion in sustainability and as a former undergraduate employee in the sustainability office.

“[In] Connecticut we have a really large coast and we are really lucky to have as much water as we do in comparison to a lot of regions in the United States,” said Wildman. “But being that, we have to make sure they are protecting, seeing, studying and researching these coastal transitions [because it’s] really important to know how pollution and other climate changes are affecting this coast.”

Humans of SCSU: Ty Seymour

By Josh LaBella



PHOTO COURTESY | TY SEYMOUR

Ty Seymour said he has big plans after he graduates.

A junior majoring in political science and history, Seymour said he plans on going to a law school to get a joint law degree and master’s degree. He said he wants to work in government and international law.

“I would like to work on making treaties and building relationships and international organizations,” said Seymour.

Seymour said he has always been passionate about government and politics. He said the political science department has been very good to him.

“They have such a diverse and extensive experience,” said Seymour. “I like that they incorporate their life into their lessons.”

Seymour said the political science department has helped him with his grades and his extra-curricular activities. He said professor Steven Judd really piqued his interest in Middle East and international relations.

Seymour also said he appreciates the history department.

“They always keep the classes entertaining,” said Seymour. “There are some really amazing teachers in that department.”

As a former swimmer Seymour said you can still find him in the pool quite often and added that he also enjoys playing tennis. He said he loves to travel, especially to Washington D.C. and New York City.

Seymour added that he also finds academics to be fun.

“Honestly, I find academics to be rewarding,” said Seymour. “When I get good grades that is a great feeling.”

Seymour said he is the founder and chairman of Southern’s College Republicans. He said he started the school’s chapter and recently became the chairman of Connecticut College Republicans.

“Basically what we do here on campus is try to get students involved in the political process,” said Seymour.

The school’s chapter works with Southern’s College Democrats to register people to vote. They also help out with local campaigns in New Haven, he said.

“At the state level, we work to raise money to try and help campaigns and issues that we believe in,” said Seymour.

With his new position, Seymour said he had a lot of new responsibilities.

“I am actually a member of the board of Republicans that approve candidates to run for different seats around the state,” said Seymour. “I am engaged with the party at all levels.”

According to Seymour, the Connecticut College Republicans is growing quickly under his leadership.

“We started with eight chapters,” said Seymour. “Now we have 11 chapters with 600 members and we are growing more every month. I believe by the end of the year several other colleges will open chapters of their own, and that is really exciting.”

Seymour said he does not care if college students support his views or policies as long as they are getting involved.

“It really is critical that young people take initiative and get involved with local and state government,” said Seymour. “Everything going on directly affects us as residents of Connecticut. Tuition is on the rise and if we work together we can fight that.”

Seymour’s ultimate goal is to make Connecticut a better state to live in for everybody, saying, “I want to live in a state where there aren’t a lot of roadblocks to making a name for myself.”

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Playing music while studying has little effect on performance

By Jonathan Gonzalez

There is no proof that listening to music has any positive or negative effect on a student when studying, said Psychology professor, Jerome Hauselt.

"I don't think it helps maintain information," said junior psychology major, Maddie Dunbar.

According to a study conducted by the University of Wales, the correlation between listening to music while studying and retaining information as opposed to studying within complete silence and retaining information is inconclusive.

The study tested whether or not a student would do better or worse on a test while studying in silence, with simple background noise, music they liked, or music they hated.

Hauselt said the learning environment and the testing environment must be one in the same in order for music to help retain information. "Memory is best when the testing conditions match the learning conditions," he said. "If someone's got music on when they're studying it is not going to help them unless there is music on when they're taking the test."

Throughout the years, studies have been done to test whether or not listening to music can improve performance of the mind and performance of body.

"If you eliminate distractions while studying, it matches how someone's tested," he said, "if they find themselves listening to the music more than their studying then that is where there's a distraction."

Hauselt said the best way that could work is if a student is able to simultaneously listen to music while taking the test.

"Students should study in a variety of different ways so the effect of context isn't so strong," said Hauselt.

According to Hauselt, there is no basis for any type of music making someone more intelligent after they listen to it and that listening to music should serve as a good luck charm rather than a guaranteed aid while studying.

Professor of psychology, Patricia Kahlbaugh, said that it is a very nuanced question as to whether or not listening to music affects your studying positively or negatively.

"For people who are more introverted, their baseline arousal rate is already pretty high. In those cases music might actually interfere with studying or any other background noise because they're already stimulated

themselves," she said.

"For extroverted students it may be the case because their baseline arousal is lower so they might need that extra boost of music to serve as motivation," said Kahlbaugh. "Otherwise they'll look for other things to give them that jolt to make them interested."

"I think most people would see music as a distraction," she said.

"If you research the Mozart effect, that hasn't been proven," said Kahlbaugh.

The Mozart Effect is defined as the theory that listening to Mozart's music will temporarily create the brain's ability to generate and conceptualize solutions to multi-step problems.

Kahlbaugh said the correlation between listening to a song then memorizing studied information while listening to that song is known as state dependent memory.

"There is a literature that says that certain states that you're in can cue you of the memory," she said.

Kahlbaugh wants everyone to remember the two best rules for retaining memory.

"The thing that's going to help remember the material best is learn it then have a good night's sleep," she said.

Freshman hopes to become a traveling music photographer

By Gregory Gagliardi

Jordan Gauthier is a talented multi-instrument freshman at Southern.

Gauthier, a communications major from Griswold, Conn., plays the guitar, ukulele and piano. The guitar is Gauthier's main focus. He was bored one day at home, saw an old guitar in the corner and figured he would give this music thing a try. It has been 5 years since that fateful day, and he has not looked back.

Gauthier's taste in music range from indie rock to alternative to folk music. He uses elements from each to create his own sound.

As recently as a year ago, he began writing his own music. Drawing from acts like Young the Giant and Mumford and Sons, Gauthier's style is a contemporary blend of acoustic sounds. Jokingly, Gauthier said he avoids country and pop music, yet he understands those

styles are popular in demand.

"If a friend asks me to play some country or even pop, it's like, why not? They are all mostly 4 chords anyways. I'm never too picky. I kind of go where the wind takes me," said Gauthier.

He is not just a solo act; Gauthier is in the process of forming a band.

"I'm trying to get some people on campus. I have a couple people that are interested. It's more of the commitment thing because people have busy schedules," said Gauthier. "I'm trying to find people that will make the band not necessarily a priority, but a focus."

Finding people who share a musical interest was not hard for Jordan.

During the first week of school he went onto the quad with his guitar and began playing. Instantly many musicians joined him. He describes the guitar as, "the ultimate social tool, and encourages anyone with a musical bone in

them to play. You're bound to make friend and meet great people through playing an instrument," says Gauthier.

Gauthier writes, sings, and performs his own music and last semester he played at the school talent show.

"Playing the talent show was nerve racking, but a great experience. I want to do more shows like that," he said.

After college, Gauthier wants to continue with music. He will pursue a degree in communications with a focus in videography. He would like to be a music photographer and travel with bands taking photos and interacting with musicians.

In addition to snapping photos, Gauthier would like to share his music with people through live performances.

"I'll keep playing regardless where I'm at. If I can make some money to keep a roof over my head, that would be a nice bonus," he said.

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PHOTO | DYLAN HAVILAND



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'Power Rangers' film relies on nostalgia to draw in audience



Photo of the cast of the new 2017 'Power Rangers' movies at the San Diego Comic-Con in 2016.

PHOTO COURTESY | DOMINICK D

By Lynandro Simmons

The new film "Power Rangers" has followed in the recent trend of old TV series and movies being reanimated into new films. The cinematic reboot of the 90s series was supposed to be a restart of the famed franchise. Sadly, the film falls short when matched up against its superhero contemporaries.

Unfortunately for the reboot, it is being reintroduced during a time where every year there is a new superhero film and now both DC and Marvel have full-fledged cinematic universes. This means that the standards and expectations for superhero films are higher than they have ever been before.

The film displays a diverse cast – ranging from a bilingual character, to one facing her sexual identity – and the

actors do a fine job, but the film fails to make you invested in the characters. Some of the themes in the film—teamwork and overcoming social norms – are almost forcibly pushed.

One of the weakest points in the film is the main villain, former green Ranger Rita. Throughout the film she is never given depth to make her anything other than just an obstacle the Rangers face.

When it comes to superhero films, they tend to only be as strong as the main villain.

"The Dark Knight," would not be revered as one of the greatest films in the superhero genre if it was not for Heath Ledger's portrayal of the Joker.

In "Power Rangers" the lack of a strong villain is felt throughout the film. By the time the film reaches its climax – where the audience knows the heroes have to win – there is no established connection between villain

and hero.

Perhaps the best part of the film is the main cast itself. The ragtag group of teens' development throughout the film is fun to watch. In a time when diversity has been the topic of conversation in movies, the film did a great job of being socially conscious about the characters they portrayed. Though most of the main cast lack any real depth the film offers enough comedy and over the top action scenes to offset some of these flaws.

The primary goal of the release of "Power Rangers" should have been to usher in a new era for the series. However, the film appeared to be created as if nostalgia alone would cover up its shortcomings. Instead of chasing new heights the film stuck to the old formula of the original series, flaws and all. Despite its flaws, if the film's ending is any indication, the "Power Rangers" will be back in the near future.

Netflix series 'Thirteen Reasons Why' sweeps away audience

By Melissa Nunez

In the thematic murder mystery that is "Thirteen Reasons Why," the series plays off clues left behind by the deceased herself, Hannah Baker, played by Katherine Langford, and will have audiences thirsting for more with every coming episode.

In this Netflix original, viewers follow high schooler Clay Jensen in uncovering the mystery behind Baker's death. Within the first few opening sequences, the only thing audiences can tell is this high school is in mourning and the lead seems to be dejected as he wraps his head around the tragedy himself. But Jensen will soon realize that while Baker is dead and gone, she is not nearly finished with him yet and will take him on a journey of rumors, scheming and betrayal that can only personify the ferocity that is high school.

One of the most significant aspects of the series is the remarkable casting.

Jensen, portrayed by Dylan Minnette, is no stranger to suspense as his most recent flicks suggest, with the newly released 2016 horror phenomenon "Don't Breathe," where he starred as Alex, and his role as Zach in the 2015 adaptation of "Goosebumps."

In "Thirteen Reasons Why," Minnette persuasively plays a socially awkward, anxious Jensen as he steers the mysteries behind Baker's death. While Jensen is a regular high schooler navigating the treacherous waters of adolescence, audiences of any age can relate to Minnette's rendition of the teenager's efforts to bring justice to a friend that perished too soon.

Baker's mother, played by Kate Walsh, flawlessly represented the grief stricken, determined mother ceaselessly fighting to ensure her daughter's death will not remain a faceless tragedy.

Walsh's success in envisioning strong, resolute women on screen is evident from her most prominent role as Dr. Addison Montgomery on "Grey's Anatomy," from 2005 through 2012 and from "Private Practice," which aired from 2007 through 2013. Walsh represented a mother's grief in the only way it should be—gritty, unfiltered and tragic. Audiences look to Mrs. Baker and feel the crushing gravity of a mother's loss as she desperately searches for the "why" in an endless sea of questions.

While audiences become swept away in the details that is Baker's demise, they also get a harsh look into the reality of the modern teenager.

In "Thirteen Reasons Why," as a new student, Baker adapts to her new school as any would expect: she makes friends, crushes on classmates and deals with new dramas. But as quickly as Baker seems to find her footing, she is knocked off balance as she becomes the target of ridicule and rumours, even from those closest to her. Those who were her allies, became bystanders.

From the outside of the conflict, school administrators and parents remain oblivious to the ongoing battles Baker faces in her day to day life. It is not until after her death that parents throughout the school become curious about their children's well being.

While the conflict that precedes Baker's death is as intense as it is turbulent, it is in no way unique to the high school experience where relentless taunting and sexual violence can become a reality to some.

The allure in Baker's journey is not an imaginative narrative, rather one that is representative of a larger, regular problem that teenagers are often faced with every morning when they go to school.



PHOTO COURTESY | RITA CRAYON HUANG

Photo of the bestseller, Thirteen Reasons Why by Jay Asher.

Rap fans look to Kendrick Lamar for honest, raw opinions

By Gerald Isaac

Jamel Johnson, a business major at Southern Connecticut State University, is excited that rapper Kendrick Lamar is back releasing new music and is dropping his next full length album April 7.

"Kendrick has been the best since 2012, but I think now he has more pressure to prove something since Drake just came out and J. Cole as well," said Johnson.

In Lamar's new song "The Heart Part 4" he raps that he is the best rapper alive, a claim that some spectators either agree with or dispute. While Johnson agrees, his girlfriend, Whitney Maller, a nursing major at SCSU, disputes.

"Kendrick is good don't get me wrong, but he's not as good as Drake or Cole," said Maller. "I think he has a good message, but he f----- rambles too much and I can't take it."

Joseph Massey, a student at SCSU, said he hopes this album starts a rap war.

"I really hope he disses Drake," said Massey. "I hate Drake."

It has not been announced whether or not Lamar's new album will have a stream exclusive roll out plan like some

other releases have this year.

According to the Recording Industry Association of America's statistics, released on March 30 of this year, streaming already accounts for 51.4 percent of the music industry's revenue, with a growth revenue of \$7.7 billion a number continuing to grow.

Lamar's last album, "To Pimp A Butterfly," began streaming on Spotify a week before its physical release. The album broke the first day streaming record for Spotify with 9.6 million streams according to Spotify.

Lamar calls President Trump a chump recently released song "The Heart Part 4."

Chris Foggie, 43, a manager at music store Sam Ash in New Haven, said this is what he likes to hear from Lamar.

"I think people rely on Kendrick for that honest and raw opinion that can spark intellectual political discussions," said Foggie. "I get it it's fun to talk about who he is dissing and get caught up in all that hype, but I think Kendrick knows there's bigger issues at hand right now."

Foggie's son, Ryan, a bass player who works at Sam Ash, agrees with his father's comments.

"Kendrick is the voice for the oppressed really, so I don't think he needs any distraction, but rather needs to focus on starting another movement like his last album

did," Ryan Foggie said.

Lamar's Grammy award winning song "Alright" from his last album, became a rallying cry for several Black Lives Matter protests across the country.

Fox News' Geraldo Rivera condemned Lamar for the song saying that Lamar had done more to damage young African-Americans than racism in recent years.

"Kendrick is afraid of racism or to speak out and let his side be known," said Ryan Foggie. "He's really one of us, but he has that platform to fight."

The song "Alright" helped Kendrick earn five Grammys in 2016. The album was met with widespread acclaim generating a 96 percent approval rating on Metacritic.

Ryan and his father Chris expect Kendrick to find a way to top this. "Kendrick is no slouch," said Ryan Foggie. "He's a guy who seems to know what people aren't expecting and find a way to make us enjoy it and want more."

Chris says he cannot really explain what he thinks the album will sound like.

"I'm sure this album will be politically charged, but the sonics I'm unsure of," said Foggie. "I'm sure the next level of Kendrick will blow us away come April 7."



Senior painting major Christina Immediato stands in front of one of her paintings featured in the art crawl exhibit.

PHOTO | JOSH LABELLA

Annual art crawl exhibit opens as precursor to main event

By Josh LaBella

Earl Hall started its yearly art crawl on Wednesday, March 29 to showcase the beautiful work that gets made by Southern artists, said art professor Mia Brownell.

"We have such fabulous undergraduate creativity activities in Earl Hall," said Brownell, "and we want the Southern community to come see our art."

Brownell said the main event, which takes place on April 8 at 12:30 p.m., will showcase the many different mediums of art that Southern students work on throughout the semester. She said it will be a big event with food and professors giving demonstrations on different mediums.

"We are working with the undergraduate research conference," said Brownell. "We will have music being performed by Southern students and even a Taekwondo recital."

Brownell said the layout will allow for visitors to see all the work being put out.

"This is a true art crawl," said Brownell, "as people will see student's art all throughout the building as they walk through."

Christina Immediato, a senior painting major, said she has one painting that is in the art crawl.

"The painting I have going up is a preview of what my senior show is going to be," said Immediato.

Her series of paintings are about water and mental illness, said Immediato.

"I want to go into art therapy," said Immediato. "That is what inspired me to do my paintings."

Immediato said she had never been to an art crawl before but her work was most likely featured in one.

Destiny Flores, a senior painting major, said one of three of her paintings is being featured in the crawl.

"My actual senior showing will be on April 20 in the Buley Gallery," said Flores. "My paintings focus on women and turning them into goddesses. I was inspired by my mom because she had me at a young age."

According to Kim Reynolds, a junior nursing major, the art crawl is a cool opportunity for Southern students to have their work viewed by the public.

"I've never been in anything like this before," said Reynolds. "My oil paintings investigate the darker corners of history, myths and our hearts. They are supposed to leave normalcy behind and explore our relationships with these unsettling themes."

Diana Cortavarra, a junior painting



Junior nursing major Kim Reynolds poses for a photo next to her piece that is in the art crawl exhibit.

PHOTO | JOSH LABELLA

major, said she will be putting up two of her paintings in the art crawl.

"My two paintings in the crawl will be a pastel and an acrylic," said Cortavarra.

She is still trying to find her artistic niche, said Cortavarra.

"My theme for my works this semester are exploration. I also and focusing on my Peruvian ethnicity," said Cortavarra.

According to Cortavarra, every Southern student should come to the art crawl. She said it is an important time for people to learn about what Southern

artists are doing all semester.

Cortavarra said she feels like art majors at Southern and the rest of the majors are two different groups of people and she wants everybody to come together.

"When I go into the student center I sometimes feel like an alien," said Cortavarra. "Nobody understands Earl Hall except for those who work in it. It's like our own little family. More people should come and share this experience with us."



PHOTO | DYLAN HAVILAND



PHOTO | DYLAN HAVILAND

See more photos of art from Earl Hall art crawl exhibit on page 6.



Redshirt Sophomore Nick Lamberti hit a base clearing three RBI double in Southern's 10-0 win over Saint Rose.

PHOTO | SOUTHERNCTOWLS.COM

SCSU and Chick-Fil-A Announce Partnership Agreement



NICOLE HEALEY
F NORTH HAVEN/SOUTHERN CONNE
ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

PHOTO | SOUTHERNCTOWLS.COM

Junior Nicole Healey was named Chick-Fil-A of North Haven Athlete of the Week earlier in the season.

By Matt Gad

On March 27, Southern's best and brightest gathered for the Chick-fil-A student-athlete luncheon. Chick-fil-A, the new title sponsor of the Owls' Weekly Honor Roll, replaced the Connecticut National Guard earlier this year.

"They've been an outstanding addition as a partner for Southern athletics," associate athletic director Michael Kobylanski said. "We discussed our program at-length with Chick-fil-A of North Haven, and it was evident that this was a mutually-beneficial opportunity."

He said the Connecticut National Guard wanted to do more advertising with Southern during the academic year, and last summer they made the decision to pull the plug on their name being associated with the weekly honor roll.

"Everyone I talk to enjoys eating Chick-fil-A so, with that being our new sponsor, I can definitely say that people are excited. That and any free food is awesome," Christian DeSanctis, a member of the track and field team, said.

Earlier this semester, North Haven's Chick-fil-A franchise gave away free chicken sandwiches prior to a Southern men's basketball game. Other past sponsors who have given away free food during the basketball season include Wings Over New Haven, a popular eatery known for having chicken wings made to order.

"Chick-fil-A immediately immersed themselves as a community-oriented partner," Kobylanski said. "They supported

Owls sweep Saint Rose

Southern baseball is now 14-4-1, which puts them two wins away from matching their win total of 16 last season.

By Matt Gad

After being washed out April 2, sunny skies had the Owls play two with Saint Rose that Sunday. Game 1 was a one-sided affair, as freshman Nathan Carney threw a complete game nine-inning outing, en route to a 10-0 win.

The Owls completed their sweep of Saint Rose by winning 4-2 in the later session, and are now 14-4-1, a .763 winning percentage that jumps to 1.000 in-conference. Southern is 3-0 versus Northeast-10 competition so far this year.

"He was lights out," head coach Tim Shea said, speaking of Carney, who

they call "The Kid."

"We came up with seven runs in the fourth and we had some big swings," said Carney. "Connor Redahan got us going with the two-run single and then Nick Lamberti hit a big three-run double."

Carney's line read as follows: 9.0 IP, four hits,

"This year we are playing for each other."

— Tim Shea, head coach

no runs, two walks, seven strikeouts and a hit batter. He improved to 2-1 in his freshman campaign, being recruited out of Bristol

Eastern.

Said Shea: "This year we are playing for each other, and that's really important. We're learning how to win and winning is contagious. It doesn't matter who we play or what situation we're in - the guys really feel like they're gonna come out on top."

When asked if he feels that his team is more prepared than last year, he said the younger guys have just moved up and gotten a year under their belts. He also contributed health to the equation, something that plagued the Owls in a 16-25-1 campaign last year.

"We talked a lot about changing the culture and working harder," Shea said. "Our slogan is get up the

hill. The guys have been doing a great job with that - whether it's in our games, our practices or our weight room, everyone is working extremely hard to get better, and when you're doing that collectively good things are going to happen."

However, it is tough to get into a rhythm when the spring rain can create some havoc. Earlier this season, games against Post University on March 5, Bentley on March 24, Stonehill on March 25 and Bentley University again on March 26 were postponed due to inclement weather. One of this past weekend's games was also pushed, but two of the three scheduled games were played, despite

SEE BASEBALL PAGE 11

SEE CHICK-FIL-A PAGE 10



Redshirt Senior Yesenia Evaristo took the loss against Pace last week, bringing her record to 1-5 on the season.

PHOTO | SOUTHERNCTOWLS.COM

Softball team looking for answers

By Matt Gad

The Southern softball team is going through a bit of a rough patch. At 3-12 and with just one conference win, the Owls are just looking to build momentum.

"There are growing pains because we have a bit of a young team," head coach Jillian Rispoli said. "We just have to learn to play with one another. It's a matter of being comfortable."

It was a mixed bag in Florida over spring break, where Southern won just two games, a 3-0 contest and a 9-1 game that was shortened to

six innings, both to Franklin Pierce, and both in Clermont, Florida. Their entire spring trip took place there, facing off against schools like Truman State, Nova Southeastern, Pace University and Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

March 29 against Pace, in their home opener at Pelz Field, the Owls lost 4-1. They were due to open up at home March 25, but rain postponed two with Saint Michael's and two March 6 with Saint Anselm, as well.

"I just think we need to execute earlier," Jaime Conklin said. "We need to go faster than waiting until the last part of the game."

In the seventh, Southern tried to set something up, but it went for not, and the Owls' last baserunner was called out at first, despite heavy disapproval from the crowd.

Earlier in the contest, the umpires also ran into a bizarre turn of events where a Pace baserunner was forced out at third prior to her teammate crossing the plate. The play resulted in two outs being called, much to the dismay of Pace's head coach.

That ended up being an inning-ending double play, however, the Owls were not able to string that newfound momentum together. Southern finished with five

SEE SOFTBALL PAGE 11

Mets 2017 outlook

By Matt Gad

I want to start my column congratulating Southern alum Mike Petke on being named the head coach of Major League Soccer's Real Salt Lake. OK, now onto baseball. As I am writing this, the MLB regular season has not yet begun, but, by the time you are reading this, my beloved New York Mets will have already played one game - unfortunately you have to deal with that annoying next-day-off-day in week one. Two "Sports Illus-

trated" writers praised my team, but said we would fall short in the World Series to Cleveland or the Houston Astros.

If the Mets want to do anything like that, they will need to stay healthy. A few nicks and bruises are fine, but if any player, specifically a pitcher, spends a prolonged period on the disabled list we might be in trouble.

Steven Matz is already starting the season on the DL (unofficial at the moment of writing), and Jeury's Familia will be suspended for the first

15 games due to a domestic violence incident that occurred after the season ended last fall.

I do not want to make a prediction, largely because I do not want to jinx anything, but I will make some bold predictions for my beloved ballclub: firstly, Noah Syndergaard will win the Cy Young - he is the best pitcher in baseball - no debate. Second, Travis d'Arnaud will improve his caught stealing success rate and become a more consistent hitter at the plate, and thirdly, and perhaps the craziest thing of all, the Mets will reach the

postseason for the third straight year, setting a historical milestone.

Backed by a healthy team and an MVP campaign from slugger Yoenis Cespedes, the Amazin's will be sitting pretty - but for how long? Forget it - I do not want to jinx anything that serious!



Cole Bryant leaving nothing on the field in senior year



PHOTO | SOUTHERNCTOWLS.COM

Bryant has been at Southern for six years now and is finally flourishing in his last season.

By Phil Zoppi

Cole Bryant of the Southern baseball team has been dominating opposing lineups early on in the season and has been a key cog in the team's turnaround.

The redshirt senior has pitched his way to a 0.46 ERA in 39 innings pitched. Bryant holds a record of 4-0 and is the ace that the baseball team desperately needed after having a team ERA of 4.40 a year ago. Bryant points to the progression of his curveball to one of the main reasons he is having so much success in 2017.

"I would say my curveball has come quite a ways since last year," said Bryant. "After I had surgery

I kind of lost the touch that I had for the pitch and it took my almost all of last year to get the feel back for the pitch."

Bryant did not see any action in 2014 or 2015 due to an arm injury. Last season was the first time Bryant took the field for Southern since 2013 and he did not have nearly the success he is having now. Bryant pitched 35 innings and finished with a 4.37 ERA as a junior.

Fellow senior and starting third baseman Greg Zullo has seen more value in Bryant than just what he does on the mound. With eight underclassmen pitchers on the team Bryant can help them develop so that there is not as big of a void left when he eventually

graduates.

"Cole leads this team by example," said Zullo. "He takes care of the pitching staff. This is Cole's sixth year here so he's seen the program at its highs and lows and the young staff really listen to and watches his approach in games."

The other pitchers on the staff are following in Bryant's footsteps this season as the team has pitched to a 4.01 ERA and have been a big reason why the Owls have gotten off to a 12-4-1 start. Being a part of the Southern baseball program for six years now Bryant has had his fair share of disappointing seasons. The 2017 team could be the best team that Bryant will ever be a part

of during his Southern career and after playing just 17 games this year, he thinks that there is no limit to what this team can achieve.

"I believe our team is a great ball club and the sky's the limit for us," said Bryant. "So far this season we have played all facets of the game well. We are a hardworking team and are really motivated to have a special season."

Being around the program for six years has also given Bryant the chance to study batters more and gain more knowledge about the sport in general. Obviously any college pitcher has to have some degree of arm talent but there is a lot more that goes into the art

of pitching. Zullo believes that Bryant has mastered his craft in his sixth year with the program to become what he likes to call him the "sheriff" of the staff.

"Cole is such a dominant pitcher because he's a student of the game," said Zullo. "When he watches baseball he's studying the pitchers with sequences they use to certain batters. Cole realizes that sometimes velocity isn't what gets hitters out but being smart and forcing the hitters to make the mistakes is."

Chick-fil-A

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

our Women and Girls In Sport Day, the National Student Athlete Day and have developed a strong presence at our sporting events, as well."

In terms of the Weekly Honor Roll, where two Southern athletes are recognized for their recent athletic accomplishments each week, sponsorships are determined on a yearly basis, according to Kobylanski. The National Guard supported the Athletes of the Week program for "several years" and remains heavily involved in advertising and support for numerous initiatives for Southern athletics.

"We hope to continue working with Chick-fil-A of North Haven for many years to come," Kobylanski said. "From my personal observations, they have been quite a hit with the student-athletes, coaches, staff and fans. I am sure that the visibility that we have been able to provide has successfully promoted the Chick-fil-A of North Haven location, and we hope to help them continue to generate business for their restaurant."

Other Southern athletics sponsors include the Tim Greer Insurance Agency, Xfinity, Tyco Copying and Printing, Little Caesars, Best Western Plus, Cirello and



PHOTO | SOUTHERNCTOWLS.COM

Southern and Chick-fil-A will have a partnership that goes through the 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 academic years.

Vessicchio, Chartwells and Barnes and Noble. In all, Southern has over 25 corporate sponsors to support all the Division II athletic programs.

"A lot of my teammates were recognized," DeSanctis

said. "Track and field was well represented, but that's not to say that other sports teams weren't. Every team has had a lot of athletes at the luncheon over the years."

DeSanctis has now attended the event four times

and said that the event gets larger every year. He attributed that to Southern athletes just being really dedicated in what they do on and off the playing field.

His track and field team recently began their outdoor

season, and are reigning indoor champions. The last time the Southern men won titles in both indoor and outdoor was in 2014, his freshman year.

James Harden is the MVP

By Phil Zoppi

James Harden is the MVP of the NBA and it is not all that close.

A lot of the time in MVP races fans do not fully understand what the award is for. The award is for the most valuable player, not the best player. Russell Westbrook very well might be the best player in the NBA but he is most definitely not the most valuable.

The stats are pretty similar. Harden averages 29 points per

game, 11 assists per game and eight rebounds per game while Westbrook averages 31, 10 and 10. The big difference between the two players? The record of their teams.

The Houston Rockets sit at 51-22 and third in the Western conference while the Oklahoma City Thunder hold a record of 42-31, which puts them sixth in the Western conference. Why should a player who has similar statistics to another player win the MVP over him if his team is not better? It is beyond impressive that Westbrook is

averaging a triple double at this point in the season but at the end of the day the Thunder are not on the Rockets level.

It is not like Harden has that much better of a roster either. Harden has the likes of Ryan Anderson, Eric Gordon and Trevor Ariza around him. Is that a lot better than Victor Oladipo, Steven Adams and Enes Kanter? It is not.

I think a lot of people are picking Westbrook to win the MVP due to his popularity in the league. The drama between Westbrook and Kevin Durant

has caused a lot of publicity this season and put the Thunder under the national microscope. The Rockets have not had as many storylines and have been flying under the radar for most of the season. This award is not for the most popular player, though.

The award is for the most valuable player. Harden is the most valuable player and should win the award.



Baseball

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

a March 31 rainstorm.

"It affects our flow," pitcher Austin Darrow said. "We were 8-1 down in Florida and we came back and had to wait almost two weeks to even get a game in. The snow and rain kept us indoors for nearly 10 days."

Shea said when there is a chance for bad weather he's on the phone with the athletic director trying to figure out alternate plans. He also said communication with the opposing coach is important because the weather "throws a monkey wrench" into both teams' plans, especially in terms of travel plans.

"Division games have to get made up. Crossover games, from the other side of the conference, will not be rescheduled, and losing games off the schedule just happens every year," he said. "But the conference always takes priority."



Third basemen Greg Zullo is having a stellar year as he's hitting .474 with 26 RBIS in 19 games.

PHOTO | SOUTHERNCTOWLS.COM

Softball

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9



PHOTO | SOUTHERNCTOWLS.COM

The softball team is now last in the Northeast-10 Southwest Division.

hits and the lone run, while their opponent scored four times on six hits and no errors.

"We need to be comfortable seeing pitches and putting together quality at-bats," Rispoli said. "It's more of an on-the-field chemistry issue, and the only way to get better is to play games and see live-pitching."

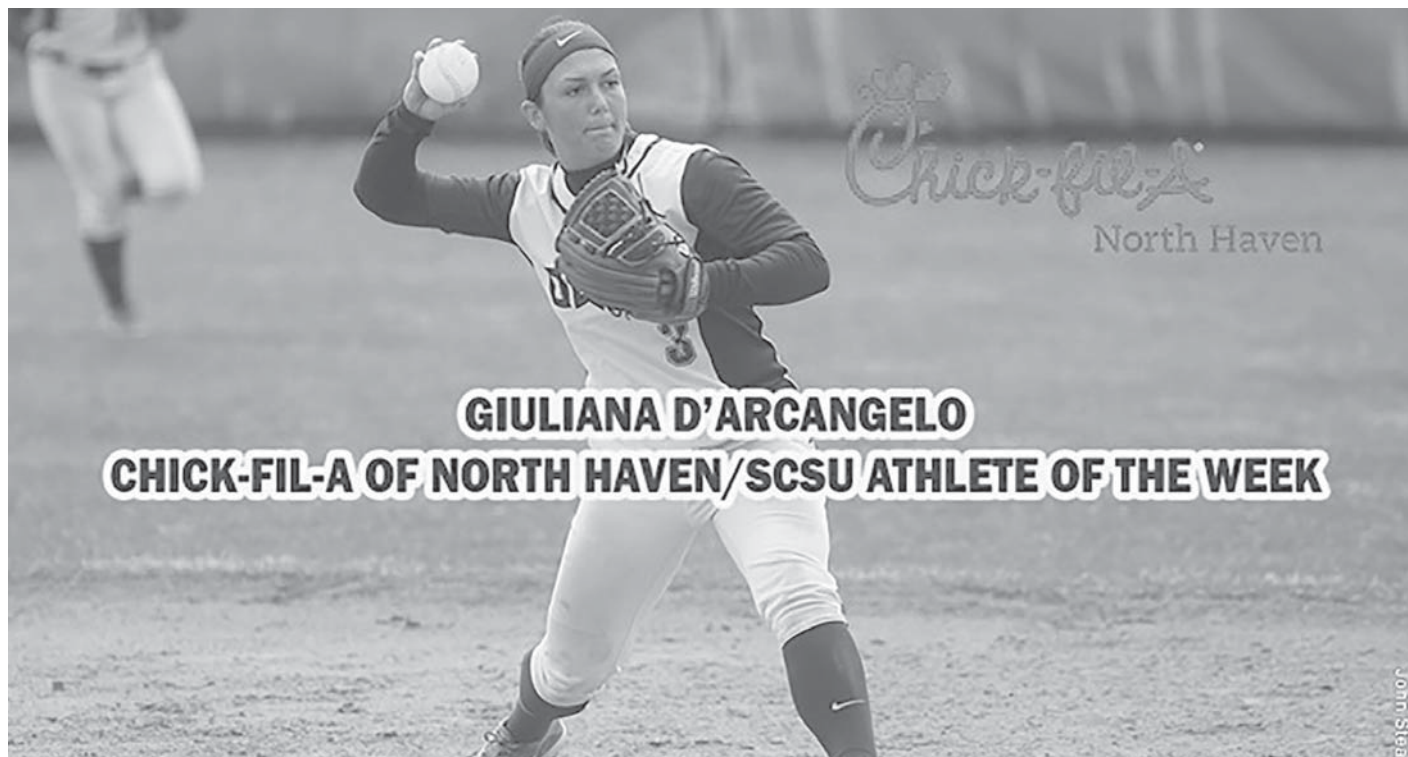
She said her players just want to prove that they are ready to win some big conference games. April 2 come-from-behind 3-0 win at American International College should spark some momentum - it was Southern's first conference win of the season. Today they play Adelphi at Pelz Field at both 2 and 4:30 p.m. and April 7 have another doubleheader against Dominican College, which is also at home.

The Owls have 13 seniors this year: Brooke Franco, Giuliana D'Arcangelo, Jaime Conklin, Yesenia Evaristo, Arienne Tedeschi, Danielle Piazza, Zoe Fanolis, Carissa Wasikowski, Lauren Yaffa, Samantha Peltier, Jodi DiSanto, Arianna Medeiros and Holly Noe.

Last season, the team went 12-27, including 4-16 in-conference, still getting key wins to the likes of Saint Michael's, Holy Family and Dowling College, to name a few. Back in 2013, the Owls went 32-22, a .593 winning percentage, and went 14-7 in the NE-10. A long season, Southern reached the Division II NCAA Tournament Regionals, going 1-2 keyed by defeating Caldwell by a final of 3-2 before falling to the likes of Molloy (5-3 in eight) and Caldwell again (3-2, eight innings).

Baseball

Giuliana D'Arcangelo wins player of the week honors



GIULIANA D'ARCANGELO
CHICK-FIL-A OF NORTH HAVEN/SCSU ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

PHOTO | SOUTHERNCTOWLS.COM

Senior Giuliana D'Arcangelo has been a bright spot in what has been a down year for the softball program.

By Michael Apotria

In the midst of a remarkable individual season, freshman infielder Julia Lener said absolutely nobody was shocked when news broke that Giuliana D'Arcangelo had won player of the week honors.

"I'm not surprised at all," said Lener. "She is such a great ball player and someone I look up to."

Despite batting .500 (3-6) with two RBI, two triples, a stolen base and a home run, the honor of player of the week took D'Arcangelo by complete surprise.

"I got a text from my father saying congrats, but I had no idea for what," said D'Arcangelo. "Once I went on Southern's website and saw that it was me that was player of the week, well, it felt pretty special."

In what most would call a down year overall as a team, D'Arcangelo said she is just trying to make the most out of her final collegiate

softball season by being a steady role model for underclassmen on the team and by doing the one thing that attracted her to the game from the start, having fun.

"I'm just going out there everyday having fun with my teammates," said D'Arcangelo. "I think it's very helpful to have someone a few years older to show you around and help you get comfortable with a new lifestyle."

Lener said she has been doing everything she can to take advantage of the only season she will be playing along side D'Arcangelo.

"Coming in as a freshman and being able to play next to G (D'Arcangelo) is such a privilege," said Lener. "She plays the game so fluently, making it look easy. She looks out for me and I am forever grateful to say that I have played alongside such a talented individual."

Being a freshman on a campus and a team can be a little intimidating, said D'Arcangelo, but she does her best to make Lener and the other

underclassmen feel welcomed and comfortable.

"I've been trying to help Julia keep her nerves down," said D'Arcangelo. "We're all on the same team, whether you're a freshman or a senior, we all have the same role."

It is this sort of camarade that D'Arcangelo said she hopes can turn the Owl's season around.

"I'd say we are very close as a team," said D'Arcangelo. "We have some girls that have been hitting, we just need to support each other as a team and string everything together."

D'Arcangelo said despite what happens for the rest of the season she is just going to make the best out of it. While she said winning player of the week honors is humbling, she has her eyes set out on an accolade that is a little more prestigious.

"I'm honored to be named player of the week, but the at the end of the season, being an all-conference selection is what player's strive for."

SCSU Baseball vs. Saint Rose photos



PHOTO | MATT GAD

Freshman Nate Carney before he delivers a pitch in his nine inning shutout.



PHOTO | MATT GAD

Sophomore Mike DeMartino trotting towards first base for a base hit.



PHOTO | MATT GAD

Senior Griffin Garabedian swinging through a pitch in Southern's 10-0 win.



PHOTO | MATT GAD

Nate Carney right before he releases a pitch.

Northeast-10 Standings

WOMEN'S LACROSSE STANDINGS

	CONFERENCE			OVERALL		
	GP	RECORD	WIN %	GP	RECORD	WIN %
ADELPHI	5	5-0	1.000	8	8-0	1.000
LE MOYNE	5	5-0	1.000	8	8-0	1.000
NEW HAVEN	5	5-0	1.000	7	7-0	1.000
PACE	5	5-0	1.000	8	7-1	0.875
ASSUMPTION	5	3-2	0.600	7	4-3	0.571
SAINT ANSELM	6	3-3	0.500	10	5-5	0.500
STONEHILL	6	3-3	0.500	9	4-5	0.444
SO. NEW HAMPSHIRE	5	2-3	0.400	9	5-4	0.556
BENTLEY	5	2-3	0.400	8	3-5	0.375
SO. CONNECTICUT	4	1-3	0.250	8	3-5	0.375
FRANKLIN PIERCE	5	1-4	0.200	7	3-4	0.429
MERRIMACK	5	1-4	0.200	9	3-6	0.333
SAINT MICHAEL'S	5	0-5	0.000	6	1-5	0.167
AMERICAN INT'L	6	0-6	0.000	8	1-7	0.125

BASEBALL STANDINGS

	CONFERENCE			OVERALL		
	GP	RECORD	WIN %	GP	RECORD	WIN %
FRANKLIN PIERCE	5	4-1-0	0.800	19	12-7-0	0.632
SO. NEW HAMPSHIRE	6	5-1-0	0.833	22	17-5-0	0.773
MERRIMACK	3	2-0-1	0.833	19	8-10-1	0.447
STONEHILL	2	1-1-0	0.500	19	6-13-0	0.316
BENTLEY	3	0-2-1	0.167	18	2-15-1	0.139
ASSUMPTION	4	1-3-0	0.250	19	8-11-0	0.421
SAINT ASLEM	7	1-6-0	0.143	19	6-13-0	0.316
SAINT MICHAEL'S	4	0-4-0	0.000	4	0-4-0	0.000
SO. CONNECTICUT	3	3-0-0	1.000	19	14-4-1	0.763
PACE	5	5-0-0	1.000	22	15-7-0	0.682
LE MOYNE	3	2-1-0	0.667	22	14-8-0	0.636
NEW HAVEN	5	4-1-0	0.800	13	10-3-0	0.769
ADELPHI	7	3-4-0	0.429	23	13-10-0	0.565
AMERICAN INT'L	5	1-4-0	0.200	19	5-14-0	0.263
SAINT ROSE	4	0-4-0	0.000	17	1-16-0	0.059

OPINIONS

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Are humans inherently immoral

By Lynandro Simmons

Are humans virtuous or immoral? This question has become the basis for many philosophies for thousands of years. Some argue that people are naturally immoral but kept in check by society. Others argue that people are naturally moral but corrupted by society. Of course, there lies another argument, what is considered moral or evil. However, to save time, the concept of good and evil will be relegated to simple ideas. Good is treating others well and causing no harm, evil is causing strife for others and creating violence.

In a novel by William Golding, "Lord of the Flies," he explores humanity's true nature. Through the portrayal of children stranded on an island, Golding explored humanity's natural impulses and desire for social organization versus what some may consider humanity's lust to rule. In the end, the remaining boys on the island were found by a sailor. While the sailor criticized the unkempt boys and their warlike feral behavior, he then turned and stared awkwardly at his own warship. Golding's book is one of the best representations of these conflicting ideas and the nature versus nurture argument.

While another great argument to be made around humanity's devious nature hides in plain sight - the government. Governments across the world are there to solely keep people under control and, in some instances, oppress them. Even in Democratic governments, laws are created and established to purportedly protect the people's rights within that government. In the most liberal sense, this shows lack of faith in human nature. It speaks to the fact that in order for humans to become good, there must be some outline or guidance for them. Also, there is also another government sign that humanity has a cruel nature - war.



PHOTO COURTESY | RAMDLON

Moral or immoral, war can show the most inhumane sides to humans. Weapons of immense destruction are created to cause tremendous harm on others. The animalistic nature seen during war shows are what some consider the true nature of people. There are many horrific films that document the horrid experiences in wars, such as World War II or even the Vietnam War. These things are usually cast aside because some view war as a necessity and a part of the natural will to survive.

Beyond government structures, people need to look no further than their television. Violence in entertainment has long been a marketing tool. Movies like "Scarface" and TV series like "The Wire" are known as much for their violent scenes as much as their storytelling. People believe violence sells because nobody wants to watch stories with happy endings, which says a lot about people and what appeals to them.

Now, despite all that has been said, there is one argument that has posed as the redeeming factor in humans. When people are first born they are in their most unbiased state. For this reason babies are usually pointed to as the sign that humanity is naturally good and society creates evil. This, along with the many charitable activities around the world, would represent the redeeming factors of humanity.

However, whether babies are the sign for human nature or the politicians who incite wars is what remains to be seen. Human nature may not be solely good or evil, but it will cost you a headache.

The ongoing investigation into Russian election interference

By Lynandro Simmons

In a perfect world, politicians would place the importance of their country over party allegiances. However, watching television would have viewers believe something as crazy as foreign interference in America's election as becoming a party issue. By now, everybody knows about Russia's interference in the election and their alleged ties with President Donald Trump. As the weeks go on, more is being revealed about a case that some are going as far as to call this generation's Watergate scandal.

When FBI director James Comey revealed that the bureau is carrying out an ongoing investigation about Russia's ties to Trump, Democrats were thrilled. However, their memory must be short because they have to look no further than Hillary Clinton. During the presidential campaign she was under investigation for her emails, but she came out clean. As it stands, some believe Trump's ties to Russia are apparent. But something as serious as a president being compromised by a foreign nation is not to be taken lightly.

Just like Clinton's email scandal, this investigation could be closed without any charges filed. This can be due to the investigation not finding any evidence of wrongdoing, or even worse, they found something but cannot reveal it without revealing classified surveillance programs. At this point no matter what comes out it will be damaging to the confidence in the American government. Whether or not there is proof provided, some people have already decided how they felt.

One of the more shocking developments in this case was Mike Flynn,

Trump's former national security adviser, saying he was willing to be interviewed if he was granted immunity from prosecution. What is more alarming was he was denied immunity. Flynn looking for immunity does not look good. Asking for immunity during such a taxing time leads many to believe one thing - guilt. Trump took to Twitter to say that he told Flynn to ask for immunity because he was facing a "witch hunt."

Despite Flynn's request to testify before Congress if given immunity, he was rejected by the Senate Intelligence Committee. All of these constant updates and stories have people weary. In truth the Senate Intelligence Committee has a good track record of thorough, credible investigations. However, their investigations take years to complete and people who want this case to be solved now could end up waiting until the next presidential election.

Adding fuel to the fire is the credibility of the media. Due to lack of faith in the media and the rise of fake-news people are finding it difficult knowing what to believe. A situation of this magnitude is either being taken with a grain of salt, or being viewed as the biggest scandal in recent American history. Depending on the credence people place in the media, some are writing this off as another fake news story.

So now the media, party allegiances, and people's personal opinions are all mixed into a scandal that should take precedence over personal feelings. Bottom line is this investigation needs to be thoroughly conducted and devoid of outside influences. Hopefully Americans, no matter what party, will realize it is in everyone's best interest that this matter is truly resolved.

Being proactive in the wake of a tuition increase

By Lynandro Simmons



PHOTO COURTESY | SKITTERPHOTO

Next year, the tuition at Southern is expected to go up as it does every year. The plan is a 4 percent tuition increase, which means people will see their tuition rise from \$10,079 to \$10,482. For many students, the rising tuition may affect them, for others it may not even be noticed.

On the positive side, Mark Ojakian, in an effort to remain transparent, emailed students of the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities to inform them about the increase. It was also positive that Ojakian said that doubling the tuition in an effort to close a deficit will never be his plan. All of this shows that the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities has their students' best interest at heart.

At Southern there are many opportunities to help make college more affordable. Scholarships, grants and on campus jobs can help alleviate some pressure off of students paying for college. At Southern there is also a financial advisor. One of whom being Lewis DeLuca, who provides priceless advice for students experiencing issues in paying for college. If the tuition increase does cause problems for anyone, DeLuca is one of the best people on campus to talk to.

Despite all of these factors one fact

remains - an increase is still an increase. Sometimes when colleges increase tuitions, students do not understand why. Seeing is believing in this case and often students do not see where their money is going. This disconnect can cause resentment or anger for some students who feel their money is going to waste. Students already have a plethora of issues they have to deal with outside of school and keeping up with the costs of college only adds to their stress.

Over the years, the cost of education has rapidly increased. Student loan debt has become a national issue being heavily discussed. This, in addition to the fact that colleges are not able to guarantee students a career are pushing many out of higher education.

According to data released by National Student Clearinghouse Research Center, a non profit organization, college enrollment fell by two percent from school years 2014 to 2015 and 2015 to 2016. The decline in

college enrollment has continued as tuition has increased.

There is also the issue of many students not being fully aware of the tuition increase, despite Southern's efforts. Students often do not feel the blow to their pockets until it is time to pay their tuition the following semester. Some students will be forced to pick up extra shifts at their jobs or take out an extra loan to cover the slight increase. Students that are already working in addition to school, picking up another job or extra shifts means less time focusing on class work. Understandably, the university has to increase tuition to afford the many programs and services they employ. However, maybe if students could see just where their tuition is going, the process would not be as painful.

Either way the price of college will continue to rise. In the meantime students should apply for as many scholarships and grants as they can.

SOUTHERN NEWS

Advisors: Cindy Simoneau
Frank Harris III

Contact information:

Email: scsu.southern.news@gmail.com

Newsroom Phone: 203-392-6928

Fax: 203-392-6927

Mailing Address:

Southern Connecticut State University
501 Crescent Street
Student Center Room 225
New Haven, CT 06515

Issues printed by: Valley Publishing, Derby, CT

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Opinion Columns are 500 to 800 words and Letters to the Editor are a maximum of 400 words. They must include the writer's name and phone number for verification. We reserve the right to edit for grammar, spelling, content and length.

PHOTO

Southern Welcomes Accepted Students



Students and parents walking over the campus bridge April 1.

By Palmer Piana

Accepted Students Day is a day for individuals who have recently been accepted to the university to have the chance to visit campus.

The day was packed with information both students and parents might want to know about the upcoming semester.

They were introduced to various services the campus provides, clubs to join, organization to be a part of, and were able to ask general questions about the school.

The event was held from 9:00 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday April 1 and took place over the entire campus. Stations were set up everywhere from the residential quad to the Lyman Center.



Angel Torres is an incoming biology major talking to the representatives from Southern's Habitat for Humanity chapter.



Poster on display showing various recreational activities students can be apart of on campus.



Residence Life booth set up on the third floor of the Student Center.



Alaska Tilly a psychology major starting college in the fall, with her parents talking to representatives from Residence Life.



Clubs and organizations set up booths to introduce students to what extracurriculars there are on campus.