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# SOUTHERN NEWS

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## Third annual Future Owls Fest



PHOTO | PALMER PIANA

Students from Fair Haven School painting in the Farnham Programming Space.

By Josh LaBella

Cristalyn Vargas said when she started working at Southern she wanted to connect the communities.

“So, I was able to get in touch with Fair Haven and we were able to go visit them,” said Vargas. “Then we had them come to campus as well to try and give them a good sense of what the college campus is like — if they have never been here before.”

Vargas, who is the director of Schwartz Residential Hall, said she started the program three years ago. She said what is great about the event is they have been following the same class the entire time.

“It’s great when they come and they are like ‘Oh, I remember coming here,’” said

Vargas. “It’s just really cool to get to spend time with them.”

According to Vargas, about 90 fourth grade students from Fair Haven School came to the Farnham Programming Space last Friday to do activities like canvas painting, painting and decorating potted plants, coloring, T-shirt decorating and face painting. She said they had a great time.

“They loved it,” said Vargas, “The teachers don’t even get involved. They just sit to the side and kind of have a little break. It’s great when they remembering being here from last year.”

Vargas said the goal of the program is to get the students to eventually come to Southern for their undergraduate degree. She said the program was a good stepping stone.

“In terms of really reaching out into the community,” said Vargas, “Southern does a lot of community service and civic engagement. So this is just one aspect of it.”

Vargas said the administration has been very supportive of the program.

Eddie Garcia, a senior psychology major, said this is his second year volunteering at the event. He said the program has a very positive outlook and gives back to the community.

“It’s something that gives me joy,” said Garcia. “Especially when I see the kids leaving and they had a good experience. It’s a very influential experience because you are inspiring them to get into higher education — which is something that a lot of kids don’t do.”

FUTURE OWLS PAGE 2

## The history of hymns and manipulation

By August Pelliccio

Tony Rosso said the “dynamite” of the Book of Revelation is the concept to challenge power of rule, an idea he said was brought back into light through hymns by Isaac Watts.

Rosso, an English professor, calls himself a “Blake scholar,” and said that nearly all of his work and research over the last 40 years has been centered on William Blake, an English poet. His April 5 lecture about 18th century hymns, he said, was a change of pace.

“This is the first day I may do something without even bringing Blake into it,” Rosso said, “but he’s behind it all.”

Chair of Southern’s history department, Troy Paddock, explained the recent shift in focus for Rosso as it applies to his courses in the literature of the Bible and 18th century British literature in whole.

“In the fall of 2017, he was on sabbatical,” said Paddock, “to do research on the relationship between 18th century British Methodism, and its influence on the current congregation.”

Rosso said Christian hymns have existed since the New Testament was translated from Greek to Latin, but the hymns were not recited in the fashion that people are familiar with today.

“There were Latin hymns,” said Rosso, “but they had no popular music element in them.”

He said it was during the time of the Protestant reformation and the Lutheran reformation, between the 14th and 16th century, that some folk signing became attached to church services, alongside the psalms.

Rosso said this practice did not become widely accepted in the Christian world, however, before Isaac Watts decided that psalm recitation during mass was too monotonous and lackluster.

HYMNS SEE PAGE 2

## VPAS discusses the pervasiveness of rape culture in society

By Victoria Bresnahan

“Rape culture is so invasive it isn’t even noticed as much,” said Mary Xatse, a Violence Prevention, Victim Advocacy Support Center graduate intern.

“Which is really where the danger comes from when we just start accepting it,” said Xatse, “and we don’t realize how detrimental, how dangerous [and] how this effects not only this campus, but how it effects every relationship we could have.”

The VPAS center held the Enter Your Thoughts Here discussion on Thursday to bring awareness to rape culture and the influence it has on society. Xatse said it is on and off campus and across the globe. Examples of its influence could be the “friend zone” or expected male and female roles, she said.

Fliers depicting tweets from President Donald Trump and Donald Trump Jr., advertisements with subverbal sexual messages, and song lyrics discussing rape were passed out at the discussion to highlight the ways rape culture is manifested into society.

“Rape culture just permeates through everything,” said Xatse. “We see it in music and how we are so quick to [say], ‘This song is so amazing,’ but, yet, we don’t hear the lyrics. When we actually do look at it, we [realize] this is not okay at all.”

While the goal of the discussion was not to find a solution to abolish rape culture, it was to get others to ask questions and

become aware of it, she said.

“Even if they’re hanging out with their friends and someone makes a sexist remark or makes a comment about someone else, that they would feel able to say that’s not okay,” said Xatse.

During the discussion, Benjamin Yambao, a junior and student educator, said rape culture can be split into two different entities: rape is a crime and prevalent, and sexual violence has been normalized in societies.

“Eventually, with that normalization and the minimization of sexual violence, it inevitably ends up [being] desensitized,” said Yambao, “in which it’s hard to talk about it because it’s so normalized because we just see it all the time.”

Although sexual misconduct cannot be completely prevented, Yambao said there are programs and forms of education available to understand terms such as consent. Instead of blaming the victim, Yambao said it would be more beneficial to discuss how traditional concepts of sexual misconduct are prevalent in society.

Anastasia Sloss, a junior and psychology major, who was helping facilitate the discussion, said she has seen commercials and advertisements in which men were objectified as well.

“It happens to both genders really,” said Sloss. “It is not just for women, but obviously these are more towards women and more aggressive than the [male] ones. It’s also interesting to see it’s not just one sided—like it happens to everyone.”



PHOTO | VICTORIA BRESNAHAN

Benjamin Yambao, junior and student educator, facilitating the VPAS discussion in the Adanti Student Center.

Sloss said rape culture is alive on Southern’s campus possibly through the hook-up culture, sending naked photos, the terms “side-chick”, “slide into the DMs,” booty calls, sexting and the friend zone.

“All of that contributes to the rape culture,” said Sloss, at the discussion. “That’s more on a personal level. That’s something almost all of us encounter almost every day.”

Sabrina St. Juste, a senior and IDS major, said having these discussions and

being educated about rape culture makes a difference. St. Juste said she cannot speak on behalf of the whole Southern community, but the campus is doing something simply by having the conversation.

“It’s something that we are just going to have to continue to do,” said St. Juste. “It’s something that we can’t ever stop doing. As a student here, I can honestly say, with all the experiences and like, all the education I received, it’s not something that I am just going to leave here.”



# Higher education bill will not affect state schools immediately



PHOTO COURTESY | JOHN PHELAN

The Connecticut State Capitol facing Bushnell Park in Hartford.

By August Pelliccio

A new house bill being put through Connecticut's Senate could make pursuing an associate's degree completely free for some lower income students, but Beth Bye said the bill will not address bachelor's degrees right away.

Bye, state senator, and chair for Connecticut's higher education committee, said in a phone interview that the initiative is rooted in a fundamental belief of hers, regarding how the state is run.

"Offering high quality public education is really important," said Bye, "and Connecticut has a long history of that."

Adam Joseph, communications director for senator Bob Duff, said the process began in the beginning of February, when a fair number of the Democratic caucus members come together to propose a group of about 20 bills. HB-5731, he said, was part of the agenda for that session.

"Senator Duff certainly played a key role in that," said Joseph.

He said Bye had been the one who in earnest was pushing for HB-5731, which has been colloquially titled, "Free to Start, Free to Finish."

"We started with a very broad bill," said Bye. "What we were trying to do is encourage high school students to apply for FAFSA, because we know there's a lot of federal money left on the table."

She said as of right now, the bill proposes that up to \$5 million will be put toward the initiative, with most of the funding being "leftover" federal aid money, and the last of

it being filled in with state funds. This will cover qualifying low-income students for an associate's degree at a community college, but Bye said the "free to finish" part might be scrapped.

"We were trying to include the CSU's as well, helping kids finish," said Bye, "but we were concerned that that would kill all of it."

Bye said that other states that have introduced similar bills have found that many students are now studying whose parents never considered that they could go to community college virtually for free, via federal aid.

Exactly whom the bill includes, according to the text itself, is in-state, full time community college students who graduated high school within two years prior. Students who live in households that make less than 300 percent the federal poverty level and meet these criteria.

"This proposal in particular is the most ambitious proposal," said representative Gregg Haddad in a March 8 press conference, "that attacks the increasing unaffordability of college in Connecticut, especially for low and middle income residents."

Bye said the push to change something was inspired by economic inequality that is common in this country, to which the higher education system only adds. As the state keeps cutting funding for the CSU's and UConn, Bye said she wanted prospective students to know that there is an option for virtually everyone.

She said the bill has had some opposition, but especially after deciding to leave out the bachelors support from the CSU system, Bye said there is a lot of support.

"It's designed to open up opportunity and reduce student debt," said Bye, "and to make people realize they do have an open door to college."

## Future owls



PHOTO | PALMER PIANA

Students participating in arts and crafts at the Future Owls Fest.

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Garcia said one of his favorite memories came from last year when they program went to the students school and he met the students who only spoke Spanish.

"I was able to read with them," said Garcia. "Then they came here and we made flower pots and the whole time we danced it was one of the greatest experiences ever."

Garcia said the program is very important and it would be better if more people knew about it. He said they are giving back to a community where a lot of the students do not continue onto higher education.

"It inspires the kids," said Garcia, "and allows students here to give back and do something motivational."

Fidana Ha, a senior education major, said she volunteered for the event this year because of her experience doing it last year. She said it gave her experience and exposure to elementary school students that she will be working with.

"I can practice getting more patient with a large group of kids," said Ha. "Last year I did paint. This year I loved doing pottery because the kids were so excited to water their plants and I would answer their questions about how their plants were going to grow. It's like giving them a little mini lesson while I'm here."

Ha said she hopes the students enjoy the program.

"I would love to think that they appreciate all the hard work we do here," said Ha, "but also the fact that we do enjoy spending time with them even though there's a lot of work."

## Hymns



PHOTO | AUGUST PELLICCIO

English professor Tony Rosso speaking about the connection between hymns and the Bible.

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"[Watts'] father challenged him to do something there," said Rosso. "So he did, and he changed the course of history."

This major change, according to Rosso, began with Watts putting music to hymns, beginning with excerpts from the Book of Revelation.

"Watts invented the genre of British hymnody," said Rosso, "by basing his understanding of the worship service on the new psalm to Jesus Christ."

Watts was able to revisit biblical messages, Rosso said, by compiling the first English book of hymns.

He said that Watts' early hymns reflected an important message in Revelation, "to dispute the claim of those who claim to rule."

Watts' original 1707 text, "Hymns and Spiritual Songs," begins with a preface to explain his connection with the Book of Revelation.

"While we sing the praises of our God in church," Watts wrote, "we are employed that that part of worship is nearest akin to heaven."

Rosso said this model reflects Revelation 5, from which he said hymnody as a whole was created. Hymns first introduced by Watts, Rosso said, are still used in nearly every English book of hymns throughout the Christian religion. In demonstration, Rosso asked his student, Rev. Gent Daniels, to lead the group in a hymn he said is widely recognized still, "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing."

Daniels said the version of the hymn he is familiar with became popular in the Bicentennial Methodist Hymnal.

"I have about five or six Methodist hymn books," said Daniels, "this is from the African Methodist Episcopal hymnal."

After the group was led in song, Rosso spoke about the song's journey from the earliest versions arranged by Watts, to the "commercialized Christmas song" that numbs the original meaning to this day. He said the hymn, like many of Watts', portrayed one of Revelation's main points — sacrifice.

"It's a lyrical theology," said Rosso. "It's the slain lamb, and the lamb's sacrifice that earned the praise of the angelic choir."



# The dynamic between kelp and climate change

By August Pelliccio



PHOTO | AUGUST PELLICCIO

Sean Grace, the chairman of the Biology Department, speaking to an audience about Long Island Sound.

Sean Grace said there is not necessarily an astounding decline in plant life due to global climate change, but certainly the effect can be seen in the local communities of kelp growing in Long Island Sound.

Vince Breslin, a professor of science education and environmental studies, said the April 4 lecture was part of a series of lectures being held this semester. Breslin said the lectures are all in regards to Long Island Sound, but more specifically the effects of climate change.

Breslin and colleague James Tait both work alongside Grace, the April 4 speaker, to direct the Werth Center for Coastal and Marine Studies. According to the WCCMS website, the seminar has been held annually, this time marking year 15.

"The purpose for the lecture series," said Breslin, "is to basically provide a forum for our faculty and our students to stay abreast on the most recent issues regarding Long Island Sound."

The specific area of concern for Grace's lecture was interspecific competition on changing temperate reefs. In other words, Grace lectured on findings from his research with kelp reefs and how they have adapted to the most recent climate surrounding Long Island Sound.

"When kelp is settling, they have multiple options on where they are going to settle," said Grace. "Usually, the female gamete will settle on any kind of substrate they can, and the male gamete swirls around, scenting for where the female is."

Grace said that coastal areas are, without a doubt, getting warmer, and at this point in time, there exists an unusual

coexistence between some kelps, and the substrates they plant themselves in.

Long Island Sound, Grace said, is geographically at the Southern limit of where the local variety of kelp can grow, but also at the Northern limit of where dense areas of underwater turf structures exist.

He said this effect of climate change becomes relevant because of the integrity of the growing plant, and how that is changed by the system within which the plant is rooted.

Grace said the area of attachment, or rooting, is called the holdfast, and during recent research, Grace tested the holding strength of these holdfasts by recording the force needed for dislodgement.

This research, Breslin said, was conducted during Grace's sabbatical leave from being department chair.

The general findings, according to Grace's research, were that kelp growing in a turf substrate dislodge with less force required than kelp growing on rock.

Grace said he found that the biomass of the holdfasts for kelp attached to turf surface is greater than the biomass of holdfasts for kelp attached directly to rock. Either means of substrate, he said, are suitable for the plant, but the rock-planted kelp has a different predisposition to thrive.

"If you're attached to turf, fine you can grow," said Grace, "but you can grow as much as if you were attached to rock, because you have to spend energy on your holdfast so that it can produce a structure to grab on to anything it can."

# SGA pushes for several policy changes regarding graduating

By August Pelliccio

Members of Student Government Association, during its most recent meeting, looked forward at several incoming opportunities in development.

First on the agenda on April 6 was to approve a new student organization, the Sports Management Student Association. Daphney Alston, the school's director of clubs and organizations, brought forward a presentation for the aspiring club, hosted by its president, Kelli McCombs.

"Our purpose would be to foster awareness of the sports management academic field," said McCombs, "and to provide networking opportunities with professionals in the field."

A key objective McCombs outlined was the recruitment of incoming students interested in the sports management field.

"Whether you want to go the communications route, the marketing route, there's so many different things you can do," said McCombs. "We want to give [students] the connections."

McCombs said the club will begin with a roster of about 15 students, all in the sports management discipline, but students within any department are welcome to join.

The club was approved for funding after an outstanding majority vote.

Anecia Gidden, vice president for the board of academic experience, shared a recent concern of the student government about Southern's language requirements. Gidden said the board met with Terri Bennett, co-director of the Liberal Education Program.

"So we asked, basically, why we need this requirement," Gidden said.

The response, Gidden said, was to the effect of students benefiting in the professional and social world from expanding their foreign language skills. Gidden said the board asked Bennett how effectively students could take advantage of this benefit after only taking foreign language up to the 200 level.

"It was a similar answer," said Gidden.

Gidden said that effective last year students studying communication disorders could take courses in sign language to fulfill their language requirements. She said the board asked if there was a way to make language requirements more specific to a student's field, but that sort of coordination would be difficult and would probably require adding new courses.

Some foreign language professors prefer a teaching model called the silent way, according to Gidden, and others use the more traditional textbook approach. Gidden said the board also recommended that since there is this inconsistency among professors, that the teaching method be listed on Bannerweb, visible during the course selection process.

Alexis Zhitomi, vice president of the board of student experience then recounted the board's experience meeting with Stephen Hegedus, dean of the school of educa-



PHOTO | AUGUST PELLICCIO

Kelli McCombs, president of newly approved Sports Management Student Association, in Connecticut Hall.

tion, April 5. Zhitomi said this was the follow-up to a meeting the board had with Terricita Sass, the school's associate vice president for enrollment management, about education students walking in graduation at the end of their fourth year.

"It's a very tricky subject," said Zhitomi, "and just like Dr. Sass, dean Hegedus says that students shouldn't be able to walk in the spring if they still have student teaching left."

Zhitomi said the board's main arguments were that walking graduation with the class you entered as freshmen with is emotional, and that most undergraduate education degrees are advertised as four-year programs. She said that Hegedus was sympathetic to these sentiments, but that the policy likely will not be changing.

# Social Work Job Fair lets students connect with area providers

By Josh LaBella

Nicole Paul said the Third Annual social Work Job Fair was hosted so social work majors could have the opportunity to meet with area social work agencies.

"To look for employment, we also have career services here to look through their resumes," said Paul, the assistant director of field education for the Social Work Department. "[It is] a networking opportunity for them."

Paul, who was one of the people who organized the event, said they also decided to have their own career fair because the degree is specialized. She said as part of the field education department, they place their students in an internship.

"It was a way for them to look

at the internships," said Paul, "and the variety that's in the field."

According to Paul, there were nearly 20 organizations represented at the fair. She said turnout was good.

"We had about 40 plus students that came," said Paul.

Chris Sager, who is the information coordinator for the Social Work Department and is on the Health and Human Services advisement team, said he also helped organize the event.

"This is the third annual one," said Sager. "So the idea is to bring in our BSW students, our MSW students and our alumni, and put them together with a lot of the major agencies in the state of Connecticut. Because, as I'm sure you know, most Southern graduates stay in Connecticut."

Sager said the fair is an opportunity for the students to meet

employers. He said even if the students are not read to graduate, they can still meet the organizations to get a feel for the field.

Sager said cuts in the social work field have shifted things. He said a lot of programs have had to close and cut back, but because there is such a great need for the services there are always jobs popping up.

"It means you might not get a secure job right away," said Sager.

Paul said there are a lot of part time positions available. She said that is perfect for students because they can work part time and go to school.

Sager said while the fair lets students meet agencies in Connecticut, it also brings the agencies to Southern. He said the feedback was great.

"I believe one person has already walked out of here with a

job," said Sager. "Another one was just interviewing so I don't know if she got a job."

Maria Anez, a masters student studying social work graduating in May, said she is an international student from Venezuela and she was looking for a place to offer her an opportunity to work. She said it had been going good and the people were very nice. She said she wants to work with children and families.

"Right now, I am doing my internship with young children," said Anez. "I like children and families so [I want to work] with anything that has to do with that."

Sara Hungerford, who is also studying for a master in social work and will be graduating in 2020, said she was at the fair to try and get an internship for her field hours. She said she needs to have 500 hours next year and

600 hours the third year.

"I am just trying to find a place that is, you know, in line with the area of social work that I'm interested in which is mostly adults, mental health and substance abuse," said Hungerford.

Hungerford said there were a lot of different booths to go to and people seemed really excited. She said she saw a lot of people looking for interns as well as a few job positions.

Jessica Mckee said she came to the career fair to hopefully get a job, but also to see what agencies were there and what they were offering. She said she was interested in multiple fields.

"I just haven't found my niche yet," said McKee. "It's been great coming here and seeing what's out there, who's hiring, and what they are looking for. Just to see what is going on out there."



## Dogs of SCSU help stressed students

By August Pelliccio

Not every 4 year old has such an positive effect on stressed-out college students, but Sophie the labradoodle tugs on her leash to see her favorite friends every week at Pet Therapy Thursdays

Robin River, a North Haven High School teacher, said she decided to research therapy animal training about five years ago. River said it was then that she adopted two dogs: Sophie and her sister Lilly. She quickly found out that not every dog is cut out for the job.

"You can tell right away which dogs are going to be right," River said. "[Sophie's] sister was not born a therapy animal."

The two dogs started classes at Pet Partners. According to its website, Pet Partners has 15,000 therapy animals currently in service.

After this training, River said the two dogs were tested on their skills as therapy animals. Lilly failed, said River, because she "couldn't be quiet and calm herself like [Sophie]."

At this point, River said Sophie has had her share of experience in her field.

Although SCSU is Sophie's only "employment" at the moment, River said they have also worked together for the residents at an assisted living

facility in Woodbridge.

"It was a little harder because people were in wheelchairs," said River. "She couldn't lie on the floor; she had to stand up for an hour straight."

River said it was quite hard work for Sophie, but that she enjoyed it and continues to enjoy the work she does.

"She's loves it," said River. "She gets so excited when I take out my visit bag and get her work collar on, she flies into the car."

River said Sophie's work as a therapy dog is good for pet and owner alike, as well as for the students she visits.

Two students, Dakota Summer, and Peter Murray shared their experience with the labradoodle.

According to River, Sophie remembers her friends and recalled a fall semester evening when the dog would not stop tugging to run, through a thick fog, toward Schwartz Hall.

"She was pulling and pulling on her leash to run and come see me," said Murray.

Murray and Summer said they regularly attend Pet Therapy Thursdays. Murray said last year, that he only missed one visit.

Summer said she has a special bond with Sophie, and that they understand each other.

"One time I was having a lot of issues with health insurance, and it's like Sophie knew," Summer said. "She came right up to me



PHOTO | AUGUST PELLICCIO

Sophie, a registered therapy dog.

and put her head on my shoulder so I could hug her."

River said despite the connection Sophie shares with people, she has to continually train for the job she does. Pet Partners' certification is renewed every two years, said River.

Both when she was at Coachman Square assisted living facility and now that she is at Southern, every time Sophie goes to work she trains for about five minutes. This, River said, is to keep her well trained every day between the re-certification tests,

but also to put her into the right mood to calm people's nerves.

Despite this calm and disciplined nature, River said it's not exactly the same way when Sophie is "off the clock."

"When she gets home and I take off her work collar," River said, "she's just a dog again."

River said she barks, rolls around on the floor and goes crazy like any other dog when she is not being a therapy animal.

Explaining Sophie's story, River said: "Her father was a gray standard poodle who had been abandoned at the shelter. One day a woman brought in a female black lab and said, 'I need to tend to my very sick mother and I just need you to hold on to her for two weeks' She promised the lab was spayed, but that nor the two week 'deal' ended up to be true."

The shelter let the two out to get some exercise and they "found each other," according to River. It was not until a litter of five was born that they even knew that the lab had been pregnant.

Now 5 years old, Sophie continues to form connections with the students she meets, according to River.

Summer said to Sophie during a Pet Therapy Thursday meeting, "If I had a tail, I'd be wagging it as well, Sophie."

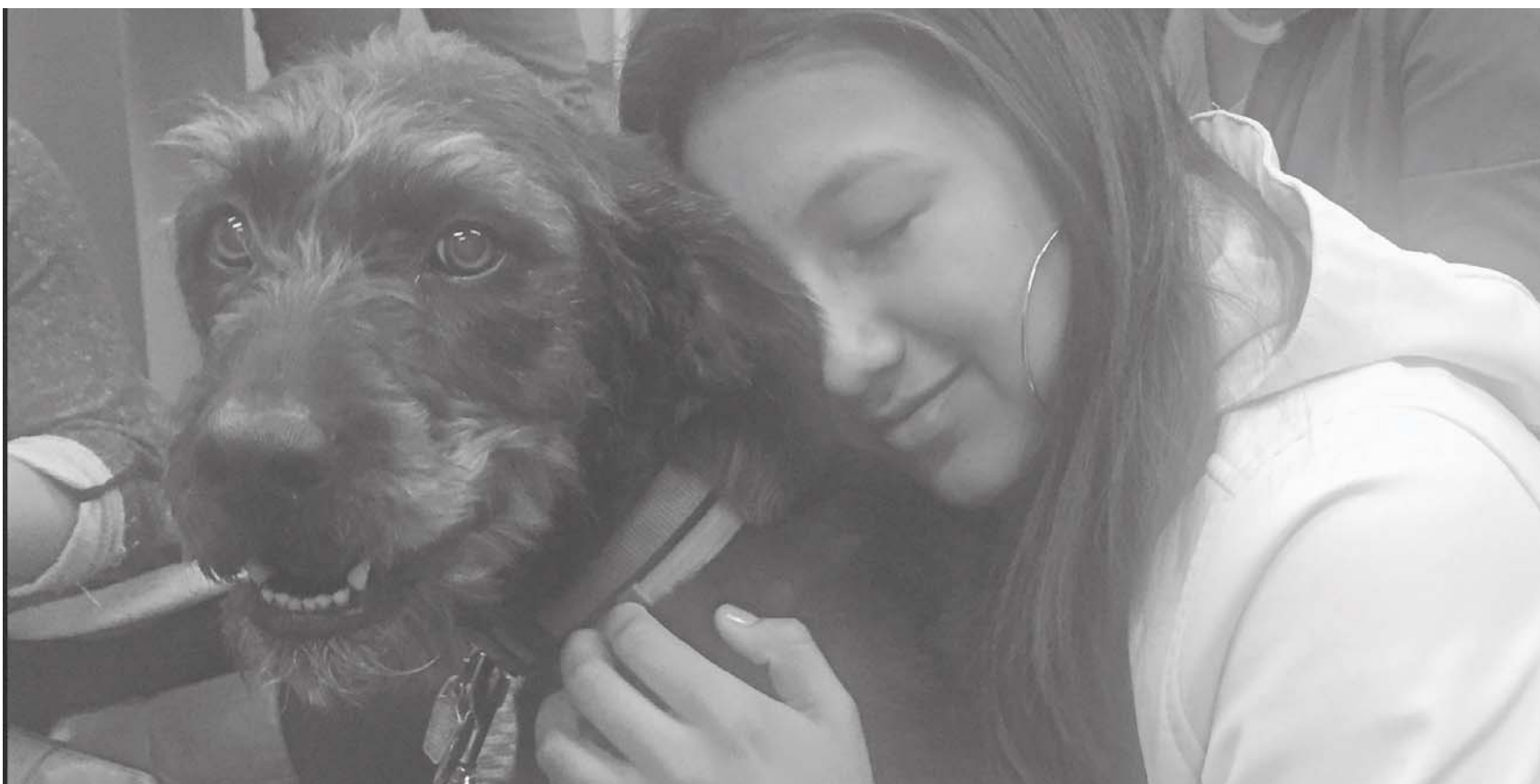


PHOTO | AUGUST PELLICCIO

Sophie sharing an embrace with Karen Cuzco, a Southern student, at a Pet Therapy Thursday.

## Southern students discuss life after college

By Gerald Isaac

Taylor Wesley, a Southern Connecticut State University alumna, said life after college was not what she expected it to be.

"I went to school for education, and while I got a job working at a school my career path changed due to my Instagram of all things," said Wesley. "I just began blogging about my curly hair on there and it really took off."

Wesley's Instagram page currently has over 36,000 followers. She has gained endorsements from several skin and hair companies that pay her to test out and advertise their products on her Instagram page.

"I spent all this time and money in college and I really ended up paying for college off of a free app," said Wesley. "At first my parents weren't really sure how to react, but you know as soon as the money started really coming in they were convinced."

Wesley went to two schools studying for education and wanted to teach kindergarten to first grade.

"The college experience is what prepares you for life and sticks with you more than the degree or class work ever does," said Wesley. "I hate to admit that I paid all that money to just learn how to be organized, responsible and to learn how to network, but it seems like I did."

Wesley said she believes that she is in a rare situation that most college graduates do not find them self in.

"I feel like I got lucky that while I still didn't find myself liking the field of study I went to school for I still ended up making a great living after college," said Wesley. "Most of the time people my age have to go and find a part time or full time job somewhere until they can figure out exactly what their degree can get them."

In January of 2017 the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that one out of every 40 college students was unemployed.

Shadrach Stephenson, 22, believes that the results he has seen is why he chose not to go.

While Wesley chose to try college as an option to pursue a career, Stephenson did not.

"I have seen too many people end up jobless after college so I'd rather save my money," said Stephenson. "It's just a matter of not wanting to waste any of my time and control my destiny."

Stephenson said he believes that life after college for his friends has left them in a worse predicament they would be in if they did not go.

"All my friends came out of college with a degree and debt that is only collecting interest," said Stephenson. "The whole time I've been working as an electrician and, yeah, it might not be a dream job, but life for me is okay."

Kyle Fontneau, a marketing major, said he prepares himself for an outcome as unpredictable as Wesley's.

"While going after my marketing major, I also learned a lot about cars and auto body work," said Fontneau. "I pretty much did this in order make sure I have something that would be able to pay off college as I try to figure things out once I graduate."

Fontneau spends his time outside of class fixing cars for friends and family saving the money he earns. According to Fontneau, life after graduating can be easy if a person prepares them self for it.

"A lot of people view college as paying for guarantee," said Fontneau. "Guaranteed money, guaranteed jobs [or a] guaranteed house and lifestyle that you want, isn't what you get when you pay for college."



# Students and body modification

By Victoria Bresnahan

For Megan Hill, the body is a blank canvas waiting to be covered in tattoos.

"I get a lot of people saying, 'You are going to regret it. You are not going to like it,'" said Hill, a sophomore exchange student and English major. "[But], obviously, depending on what you believe in, you only have one life, maybe you'll start thinking, 'What if I did get that tattoo?'"

Hill said the first of her five tattoos was a matching tattoo with her now ex-boyfriend that has since been covered with a different tattoo. Which, Hill said, "shows even if you make a mistake, you can just cover it up with another tattoo."



Megan Hill has multiple facial piercings, including a dermal on her left cheek.

Hill said she plans to get more tattoos, but they are expensive, time consuming and painful. She said a lot of thought goes into their appearance though is not much of a back story behind them.

"Obviously, people are different, but I don't have a back story behind it," said Hill. "I feel like if it's personal then there is a lot more at stake. For example, my first tattoo."

In addition, Hill has numerous piercings including a dermal on her cheek.

"Say you got something you're born with," said Hill. "You're born short, or born with some genetic things and you have no control over that. But with piercings you have control over that."

Sam Chabot, a freshman early childhood education major, got

her septum pierced around May of last year. Chabot said when she was a child her mother pointed out a man with a septum piercing and called it "crazy."

"I thought it was cool," said Chabot, "and so I always considered it. I wanted it since I was 15."

Despite her parents telling her she would look bad with a septum piercing, Sam Chabot went through with it anyways. In Connecticut, potential piercing recipients under 18 need parental permission, so she said she found a place in downtown Waterbury that would do without it.

She said the septum remained flipped up and out of sight until her 18th birthday.

Renee Chabot, Sam's twin sister, has a pointillism landscape tattoo on her inner bicep of a Vermont location her family visits in the summer. She said she wanted her first tattoo to be significant and a "twin tattoo" with her sister Sam, who has not had it done yet.

A pointillism tattoo consists of the artist switching between one needle and, for larger portions of it, a needle with five points, she said. Since she has sensitive skin, Renee Chabot said it was painful to get the tattoo.

"I was really nervous the first time, because I knew how bad my skin was," said Renee Chabot, a sophomore environmental chemistry major. "Once it hit me and I knew how bad that hurt, I was like,



Ethan Mehlin's tattoo inspired by the band Brand New.

"I could do this again. It's going to suck, but, like, I want more."

With his parents permission, Ethan Mehlin, a sophomore geography major, had Brand New's album cover "Deja Entendu" tattooed onto his inner bicep on his 16th birthday.

"I got that because my whole family loves the album," said Mehlin. "I listen to it with my dad a ton."

Mehlin said altogether, the tattoo took four sessions or 16 total hours to complete.

# Aliens, missing airplanes and assumptions

By Jeff Lamson

9/11. Extra-terrestrials. The Holocaust. One thing they all have in common: a lot of conspiracy theories.

Blake Losty, a sophomore anthropology major, said the government uses tragedies and disasters as an excuse or distraction to do certain things, such as going to war in the case of 9/11. She said that the Trump administration passed mostly unnoticed legislation as hurricanes hit the Gulf of Mexico last year.

Losty said that it is good that people want to question the information that they are given, but that some take it too far.

"We definitely should be concerned about what our government's doing, like in terms of privacy," Losty said, "but I think that sometimes people are too easily afraid that the government is just out to get them."

Anya Grant, a freshman commu-

nication major, said that she has been interested in 9/11 conspiracy theories since elementary school. She had been learning about 9/11 in school and decided to learn more on her own. She discovered the 9/11 Truth theories about the United States government's involvement in 2001 attack on the World Trade Center.

Grant has since maintained an interest in conspiracy theories, having kept people to discuss them with around her. She and a high school history teacher would often go back and forth talking about different theories. Grant decided to end a phone call with her mother for the opportunity to talk about her interest.

"So, it's a prominent thing," Grant said.

As for extra-terrestrials, Grant and her friend Katie Kendall said there is an extreme likelihood of their existence. Kendall, a freshman recreation and leisure major, said she believed Earth could not be the only planet in the universe with life.

The two said that they are uncertain on what contact, if any, they might have had with Earth. They said that the government must be hiding something at Area 51 and that it might be related to extra-terrestrials and that other secretive sites around the world could serve a similar purpose.

"Our government loves to keep secrets," Kendall said.

Having watched a number of the YouTube, Shane Dawson's videos, Grant said that the disappearance of Malaysia Airlines Flight 370 in 2014 may be linked to extra-terrestrials. There is evidence, she said, from voicemails and black-box recordings that allude to visitations from interstellar beings.

"If it [extra-terrestrials] did exist," said Sierra Ransom, "I wouldn't be surprised."

Ransom, a junior English major, said that she did not outright believe any conspiracy theories, but was open to the possibility of a number of them being true. She said that there is not a lot of

proof of things like the Illuminati, but that she would be open to believing them, if only more evidence existed.

Some conspiracy theories question whether or not certain things ever happened at all. This is the case for Holocaust deniers, or those who believe that people like Elvis or Tupac lived long after their alleged deaths.

Losty said that denying that the Holocaust happened is a belief based in antisemitism. Grant and Kendall agree that the Holocaust definitely happened based on the substantial physical evidence and personal accounts of those involved.

For celebrities who may or may not have died as reported, Losty said that these theories persist partly because people admire these people so much. A mysterious death, just like a possible link to the Illuminati, adds to their intrigue.

Losty said, "It's an easy myth to believe in."

# Milford food pantry helps supplement meal plan

By J'Mari Hughes

Living in an on-campus suite may seem luxurious when compared to the average dorm room. Multiple bedrooms, a personal bathroom and a kitchen are available to students living in certain buildings. But, that life of campus luxury comes with a limited meal plan, according to Jasmine Aseme, and, thus, it is Storehouse Project food pantry to the rescue.

On April 9, from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., the Milford food pantry made its frequent visit to Southern in Lot 9, next to Brownell Hall.

For the past four years, Storehouse Project food pantry has to come to the campus twice a month to donate food to students who need it. Donations include meat and fish, cereal and crackers, fruits and vegetables, all different types of foods for students at no cost. Volun-

teers Carl and Ilka Molnar come from Cornerstone Christian Center, a church in Milford.

"We wanna make things a bit easier for students because of all the high prices and different things they need," Carl Molnar said. "We just want to help out."

Aseme, a junior with a major in biochemistry, said students with kitchens in their dorms are allotted the "25 Meal Plan," which allows 25 meals anywhere on campus, and an additional \$150 to spend on food for the semester. After receiving an email about the food pantry, Aseme concluded that a couple of meal swipes, \$150, and the coupon she received for a free Oreo chocolate bar were not enough to last the entire semester.

"One-hundred fifty dollars usually lasts a month to a month and a half. It doesn't really do much," she said. "Usually I spend a lot of money on groceries and it

runs out really fast."

The Hechinger Report, an in-depth journalism website that shows how education can be improved, said the average college charges \$4,500 for food for one school year.

Michelle Rocheford Johnston, director of Alumni Relations, said she and other Southern workers understand students may have trouble buying food while needing to pay for gas, books and other expenses.

"I urge you to take advantage of it if you are in need," she said.

Carl Molnar said the food they give to students comes from the food bank and big companies like Target and BJ's. The church also helps with the food purchases with its Sunday offering.

Ilka Molnar recalled a time in her life when she needed help providing her family with food.

"When my kids were in school, I

wished there had been a ministry like this because it was hard sometimes," she said. "If everyone had the kind of help that we give, I bet parents would appreciate."

Being a part of a church, Ilka Molnar also likes to teach people about Jesus because, as she said, "You never know when God is going to call you home."

Ilka and Carl Molnar said usually 12 to 15 students come to the truck. Twelve, Carl Molnar said, is a lot to them. Some students are in class while the truck comes, but the two agreed that they need to do more work to get the word out.

Ilka Molnar also said winters are slow for them. "In the spring and summer, we get more students."

The Milford food pantry truck will return to Southern April 18 and May 2.

"When students are low on money and low on food," Carl Molnar said, "we're here to help them get through the month."



# Art in New Haven: Local art galleries to visit



PHOTO | CESAR GONZALEZ

Some of the Latin American art currently on display at Da Silva Gallery in New Haven.

By Cesar Gonzalez

Art in New Haven is not difficult to find. If you search around the city long enough, then you will be sure to see it all over in varying forms. Whether it is the graffiti found on abandoned warehouses to large institutions run by Yale, there is plenty of art to go around if you are itching to find different ideas and expressions created by artists all over the world, many of whom are right around the corner from Southern's main campus. A great place to start would be the Da Silva Gallery.

Founded in 2010 by Gabriel Da Silva as an extension of his parent company The Frame Shop (which is located right next door), Da Silva Gallery, located at 897-899 Whalley Avenue, is a small space that hosts roughly 5-8 different art exhibits per year consisting of various paintings, photography and sculptures each year; they are currently hosting a show that focuses on Latin American artists from all over the world.

"We represent local, regional, and also international artists," remarked Da Silva. He is also of the belief that SCSU is very important within the local community as well. "I personally think that [SCSU] is a huge importance

to Westville itself," later adding that the gallery is very much "open to [exposing] our business to the Southern community."



Gabriel Da Silva

As a whole, Da Silva Gallery is very much an establishment that exists to showcase art to the community.

Da Silva said hours reflect the need to have art that is abundant and available to the public.

Walk a few feet down the street from Da Silva Gallery and you will spot the Kehler Liddel Gallery. Considerably larger in size than Da Silva Gallery, Kehler Liddel consists mostly of wall-hung art (with some sculpture) that serves as a space for its 20 members to showcase their creations.

While the gallery does not carry a specific theme as a whole, member Amy Browning does note that "sometimes we will have shows," in reference to the previous show that was hosted at the gallery, an all-black artist

exhibit titled "The N-Word" that showcases the differing uses of that word through history.

"I think if [SCSU] students are interested in making art, seeing [experienced artists'] products is very important for a student," remarked Browning on why SCSU students might want to come visit Kehler Liddel. "We have a pretty high level of artistic merit, so I think that makes it pretty interesting to come down."

Also on Whalley Avenue is The Range at Lotta Studio. Organized by artist Mistina Hanscom, The Range is a space for artists to both showcase and develop their artistic ventures all in one spot. The studio also serves coffee to both artists and visitors.

"Our main focus is enhancing the product of artists that are here," said Hanscom, who also remarked that the studio is a great place for students to visit and see artists at work.

While much of the art in New Haven could be considered overshadowed by both of the two Yale-run galleries in the Yale Art Gallery and the Center for British Art, it is refreshing to see that there are other showcases for art within New Haven, and that they are interested and invested in being open to the Southern community.

## More attendance needed at Southern theater productions

By Victoria Bresnahan

Molly Flanagan, a sophomore and director of the upcoming one act "The Flier," said according to a case study of the theater department currently being conducted by Marketing 397, this spring "Lysistrata" sold 431 tickets. 233 were purchased by Southern students and five by faculty and staff.

"[During] the marketing for 'Stop Kiss,' I sent way more emails and ads to professors," said Flanagan. "I also did a talk back after 'Stop Kiss' that had women's studies professors on the panel. They were awesome, but the attendance for the talk-back was the cast and crew, and some family friends because of the cast and crew."

Flanagan said the number does not distinguish how many faculty members may have not used their faculty card to purchase the ticket or received one of the 64 complimentary tickets for the show.

Overall, according to the case study, in 2013 the theater department took in \$19,832.88—the shows performed that year were Julius Caesar, Rocky Horror, Hay Fever, and the One Acts. From fall 2016 to spring 2017, the department made \$6,279.00.

"But, this year, just counting the three shows we had—not including the One Acts—we made \$9,000.00," said Flanagan. "So, it's gone up a little bit and I think that's on part to the marketing for 'Lysistrata' and 'Stop Kiss.'"

In addition, last year, students did not have to pay to see any of the shows, and Flanagan said this could play into the attendance rate.

Erin Macleod, a sophomore and actress in the "The Flier," said the attendance rate may be decreasing due to the \$5 student charge. She said the charge is not fair, and students should be able to attend the student-productions for free.

"I feel like a lot of students used to [see the shows]," said Macleod. "Some still come out, but I feel like it's just a little lower than it was."

Macleod said it would be appreciated if more students attended and experienced what everyone is doing on campus.

"We talk about relevant issues," said Macleod. "So, I just feel like people should care more, but what are you going to do?"



PHOTO | VICTORIA BRESNAHAN

Molly Flanagan, a sophomore theatre student.

Abigail Podlubny, a senior and stage manager for "The Flier," said the main stage in the Lyman Center could fit about 1,200 people. Podlubny said for one of the matinee performances of "Lysistrata" this spring, there were 20 to 30 people in the audience but they were still responsive to the show.

"It shows a lot of resilience for us because we are performing to such a small audience," said Podlubny. "They can be great audiences, but it is a little discouraging sometimes. We would definitely like to have bigger

audiences."

Podlubny said the actors put a great amount of time and work into the productions, and she wishes the community was more aware of it.

"People go to the football games even if they are not into it just to go," said Podlubny. "because it's an experience. Even if it is just once in your college experience that you come and see a show."



# Journaling: an artistic exercise

By **Melanie Espinal**

Creativity is like a muscle. The more you exercise it, the more it will grow. Many people may believe that professional writers or established visual artists get their talent naturally, which may be true for some; it is more likely, however, that the artist endured several drafts, perhaps scraping entire manuscripts, song lyrics or canvases away before reaching their desired product.

Using journals and sketchbooks are great tools creatives can use to mentally map their thoughts. Aside from being a good way to keep track of ideas for pieces of art, journaling can be a good tool to reflect on the process of art. Journaling provides so much more than reflection.

Think about how many artists and creatives you admire. Do you wish they had journals explaining their thoughts and providing visual contexts to the life experiences that may have inspired pieces of art you connect to?

While many modern artists and writers may journal, the process seems to be almost antiquated. This is unfortunate, especially after looking to the writings of people like Virginia Woolf, whose letters and diaries gave irreplaceable insight on her secret life, exploring her wants and desires. It is unfortunate that the process is not as common with the inclusion of journal-like functions on social media sites like Facebook. These outlets will not be there forever. These companies own your entries, they

are being stored somewhere unknown and may never see the world 100 years from now. Physical journals have the possibility to inspire young artists and writers for years to come.

As a young writer, looking to the documents of writers I admire has been an invaluable tool to not only unlock another layer to the understanding of their art, but also see how they responded and coped with issues that can be both universal to artists or speak to the human condition.

As a visual artist, looking at Frida Khalo's journals, it is amazing to see the wild imagination she had. Her abstract mind showed her suffering, which at times was violently chaotic and other times, vividly harmonious.

Most art is imitation, building of established artistic techniques or motifs. Journals however, can provide a safe environment to develop your artistic voice. Many creatives do this outside of writers and visual artists. Oscar winning director Guillermo del Toro's journals unveil the images from his wildly imaginative landscapes that eventually made the big screen, such as "Pan's Labyrinth" and "Hellboy."

Journals can be your artistic legacy. All the ideas that never made an art gallery or got the approval from publishers in today's world can provide a different layer for what it was like for people of our time to live. So journal - do it for yourself. Do it for the future.



Melanie Espinal

PHOTO | VERN WILLIAMS

## Week of April 11 Billboard Top 10 Albums

1. "Boarding House Reach" - Jack White
2. "?" - XXXTentacion
3. "Black Panther: The Album, Music From and Inspired By" - Various Artists
4. "The Greatest Showman" - Various Artists
5. "Culture II" - Migos
6. "Bobby Tarantino II" - Logic
7. "Stoney" - Post Malone
8. "Divide" - Ed Sheeran
9. "Evolve" - Imagine Dragons
10. "Camila" - Camila Cabello



Jack White at Sala Razzmatazz in Barcelona, Spain in 2012.

PHOTO COURTESY | TERESA SEDÓ

## Review: The cast of 'Jersey Shore' back to shenanigans

By **Chloe Gorman**

After months of promos, the much anticipated "Jersey Shore" revival finally aired last Thursday.

The hit MTV show was rebooted after a five-year hiatus from partying. Viewers had the chance to catch up with the cast of self-proclaimed "guido" and "guidettes" as they made their way to Miami.

The episode begins with glimpses into the new lives of the cast members. The stars, now all in their late 30s and early 40s have all "grown up" - supposedly.

Jenni "JWoww" Farley and Nicole "Snooki" Polizzi are both moms of two and married. Ronnie has a baby on the way and DJ Pauly D has a kid of his own. Vinny took up a new diet and is all about nutrition. Deena is also happily married.

However, not all is well and good for everyone. Mike "The Situation" has a major situation of his own: A court case for tax evasion, which could get him jail time for up to 10 years. It also means he may not be able to participate in the "family vacation" with his castmates.

Sammi "Sweetheart" was MIA and in her place was a life size doll equipped with a voice box that said Sammi's most famous lines like "Ron, stop."

Clearly, each cast member is still reaping the benefits of their six season stint that ended five years ago. Pauly D's garage is decked out in new cars, Vinny is living large in Staten Island, and Nicole and Jenni both are living affluently.

With the show being so hyped up over months, I was worried that it would not live up to my expectations.

But, the cast was up to their regular shenanigans as soon as they all connected at their Miami compound, complete with a pool and a view of the Miami skyline.

Although Mike was absent due to his court case, the crew still went out and managed to get crazy on their first night in Miami.

While it was only the first episode, it amassed 2.55 million viewers, according to TV By the Numbers and was already picked up for another season before the first episode even aired.

It is hard to tell where the season will go, but I am excited for this season.

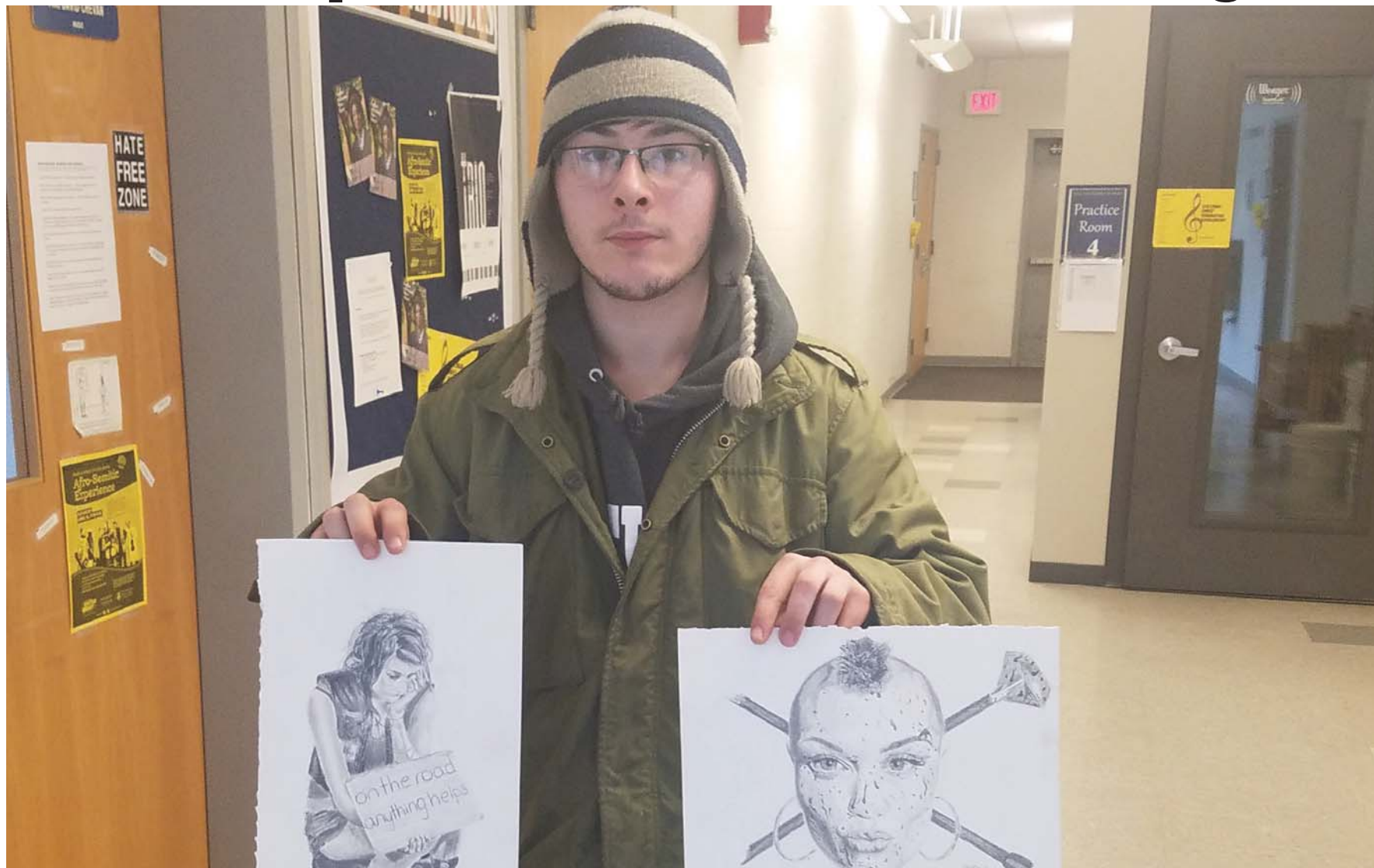


The cast of "Jersey Shore" in 2012.

PHOTO COURTESY | NEW YORK TELEVISION FESTIVAL



## Student explores realism through art



Sophomore Scott McCall in Earl Hall.

PHOTO | JEFF LAMSON

By Jeff Lamson

Scott McCall is a sophomore psychology major with a background in sketching and drawing. He said that family and friends are disappointed he is not doing more with art, such as a full major. But he is considering having art as a minor and said that art has some links with psychology in terms of emotions.

"I try to go for realism and just trying to make everything look as real as possible, and just getting all the details in that I can. I'm obsessed with detail when it comes to that stuff."

McCall's includes Norman Rockwell as one of his influences, but says that he does not see himself having a career in art. He said that he just does not work fast enough. But this does not rule out any future with art; McCall said that he might want to be a courtroom sketch artist on the side, having practiced with passerby and friends alike. He said that drawing has become like second nature to him and that even in retirement he expects it will remain a prominent hobby.

"I draw what I see. If I see something, then I can't, I don't just arbitrarily leave it out. And everything piles up on top of each other, everything kinda combines to form what you ultimately see. So, in the process you have to get every little building block there. Otherwise, it just doesn't look the same; looks more stylized and that's not necessarily what I'm trying to go for."



Two of Scott McCall's sketches.

PHOTO | JEFF LAMSON

## Go to Southern's art exhibit before it is FINITO!

By Alexandra Scicchitano

Both Tracy Henri and Brian Thomas Moringiello have pieces up in the John Lyman Center for the Performing Arts for the monthly ongoing event FINITO! Art Exhibit.

"I have nine works of art on display in Lyman," said Henri, a senior in the Art Department with a concentration in printmaking. "Five which are a variety of prints ranging in different sizes, one [which is] a very colorful piece of my version of President Joe Bertolino."

"I have three photos from a series of six," said Moringiello, a senior photography major.

FINITO! Art Exhibit features artwork from graduating studio art majors.

According to Southern's Factbook, in Southern's 2016 Spring semester, there were only 181 majors enrolled in the Art Department but 10,320 individuals enrolled at Southern. All art majors combined were only 2 percent of the college in the 2016 spring semester.

Henri has a very eclectic style to her work, and crosses "The works that are in the Lyman are different forms of printmaking, minus the ceramic pieces," Henri said. "There are a variety of practices to use in the production of a print: serigraph (silkscreen), linocut, solar plate, mono-prints, woodcut and more."

Henri said it can take between a few hours or days to come up with a concept and execute it. She has been producing her prints for approximately three and a half years and she enjoys it a lot.

For Moringiello, it took him about a month to complete the series of six photographs.

"I love staged photography and abstract," said Moringiello. "Staged because you have total control of the whole shot and everything in said shot has a meaning being there. Abstract because who doesn't like a little weird every now and again?"

Moringiello's featured art pieces are staged pictures of two people in a cluttered room doing different things



A set of prints of President Joe Bertolino by Traci Henri.

PHOTO | ALEXANDRA SCICCHITANO

in each picture.

"I wanted to play with different lighting and kind of take a journey that plays with your mind," said Moringiello about his series of pictures. "Why are they wearing masks? Why are they nude? Why are they doing the things they are doing? And by finding those answers yourself creates a scene that is solely your own. Each viewer creating their own story in a sense."

"I plan on going on a trip, a personal one, and see where my art takes me. Let that decide for itself," Moringiello said about the future.

Moringiello said he prefers the "weirder, more unique sides" of art. He finds it "fascinating, the emotions one can feel viewing something that they can't quite understand."

Henri said she will explore printmaking and "enjoy the passion which I have obtained."

"My art is an extension of who I am. I produce pieces that I enjoy creating, but I also try to go a little further out of my comfort zone," Henri said, "which the professors that I have in the Art Department encourage. I do what I do because I truly enjoy it"





Connecticut Jammers quad rugby team during tip off of intersquad scrimmage at Moore Field House.

PHOTO | KEVIN CROMPTON

## Softball searching for answers



PHOTO | PALMER PIANA

Freshman Cailey Botteon jogging to the dugout after being thrown out on the basepath.

By Matt Gad

Jill Rispoli will not let her softball team get their heads down for long, even during a tough 2018 campaign. Despite going winless over the weekend, what is on her mind is still the greater picture.

"We try to focus on small victories within the game," Rispoli said. "Good things will come if you continue to focus on the positives and fundamentals [we want to] do all the little things right."

The team is currently 5-17, as of May 9, having lost a doubleheader at home to Adelphi, with scores of 8-6 and 13-2, and then two each to Franklin Pierce and Southern New Hampshire University.

"I believe we have a talented group. It's a young group, for certain, but it's talented, nonetheless," she said. "We're fast, we're smart on the bases and we're very capable of making every play. Now, we have to learn how to fire on all cylinders throughout the game."

And despite only winning five games so far, the team certainly buys into Rispoli's confidence. Senior pitcher Victoria Ceballos, who also plays first base, said that the team needs their offense, defense, communication and energy all on "the same page."

"The good thing about playing college softball is we have two games every day and it's a long season," Ceballos said. "In this conference it's hit or miss some days. You're playing a team that might beat up on you and you might beat up on them the next game so you gotta stay positive."

Compared to baseball, softball plays a shorter schedule, and, like Ceballos addressed, scheduling is done in the doubleheader format.

# Adaptive sports at Southern

## Southern hosted the third Adaptive Sports Fest Saturday in collaboration with Gaylord Sports Association at Moore Field House

By Kevin Crompton

Steve Emt, a former UConn basketball walk-on, lost complete use of his legs the night he decided to get into his car after drinking. Emt flipped his car over on the highway traveling at about 80 mph. Along with broken ribs and other injuries: Emt severed his spinal cord and would be wheelchair bound for the rest of his life.

Now 23 years later, as USA's number one curling Paralympian, Emt shared his story Saturday at the Gaylord Sports Association Adaptive Sports Fest hosted in collaboration with SCSU at Moore Field House.

"It doesn't matter what you were before, whether it was birth, an accident or whatever, there's so many things to do," said Emt regarding adaptive sports. "I mean I was fortunate this sport found me five years ago and here I am now, number one in the country traveling the world and a paralympian representing my country."

In collaboration with Gaylord Specialty Health Care Hospital, SCSU recreational therapy professor, MaryJo Archambault, helped plan and organize the event.

"We want to raise awareness, especially with the New Haven community, the benefits of adaptive

sports and that there are adaptive sports out there," said Archambault. "Adaptive sports is just so beneficial for people. It's a

**"It's life changing."**

— Steve Emt, USA paralympian

great opportunity, as Steve [Emt] was talking, it's an opportunity to be competitive."

Archambault said that in addition to raising awareness to disabled athletes, another goal of the event was to educate the recreational therapy students in attendance.

Students were welcomed

and encouraged to participate in some of the sports such as goal ball, which is an adaptive sport for those with a visual impairment. The ball used has bells inside of it to help athletes better locate the ball during play.

"So that everyone would be on the same level we put on blind folds," said recreational therapy major Richard Mills. "We did a couple of drills in the beginning. He kept throwing the ball back and forth to us just so we would get the feel of listening to it."

Mills said that once the participants "got the hang of it," they were able to play a full game.



PHOTO | SOUTHERNCTOWLS.COM

Freshman goalie Laura Morton during Southern vs. Bentley game.

## Lacrosse falls to Bentley

By Matt Gad

Despite three goals from junior Samantha Cozzolino, the Owls were unable to handle the Bentley Falcons at Jess Dow Field last Saturday, losing the contest, 13-6.

"We've had better days with better outcomes," interim head coach Betsy Vendel said. "But we're definitely learning from our mistakes. This team definitely works for their upperclassmen, their senior class, and they're hungry for more wins. They definitely work hard everyday to try and achieve those goals for their seniors."

Coming off a 19-3 defeat at the hands of Adelphi, the Owls were trying to get their season back in focus, in search of their fourth win. Bentley came into the contest with seven wins, having dominated the NE-10 Conference at 6-1 and taking on an Owls team with in-conference struggles so far this season.

The Falcons led the scoring in the first half, going up 8-3. They had multiple goals from Julia Glavin, Kathleen Gillespie, Claire Thompson and Cara McCarthy and one each from Ciara Morley, Jillian Lynch, Paige O'Neill, Marykate Staines and Sabrina Goebel.

"We're usually more of a second-half team but today we just had a breakdown together as a team. We were slower on attack today; more stagnant," Cozzolino said. "Our defense played well we were just unlucky with calls. There's definitely a lot to improve on but we have the time to do it."

In addition to Cozzolino's offense, the Owls had goals from Nicole Healey, Taylor Portelinha and Hailey Prindle-Nelson. They did, however, pick up a lot of yellow cards, which is given for a first-time penalty and involves a five-minute absence from the game.

SEE SPORTS FEST PAGE 10

SEE SOFTBALL PAGE 11

SEE LACROSSE PAGE 11



## Mike Papale's new job

By Matt Gad

He used to be Scott Burrell's right-hand man, helping diagnose defenses and improve shooting percentages. He used to spend a lot of time in Moore Field House watching and coaching his student-athletes. And he did all this while also managing his foundation, In A Heartbeat.

Papale stepped down as the Owls' assistant men's basketball coach after last season, wanting

more time to focus on the foundation of which he was a founder and president. He would still be seen at games, cheering or promoting the foundation, often both. And when I asked Burrell about Papale leaving the sidelines, he had only good things to say, saying Papale is able to do something he loves.

This year, Mark Fogel, who was previously at Quinnipiac, fulfilled the role of assistant coach, getting his first taste of games when the team traveled to the Carrier Dome

for a pre-season exhibition with Division I Syracuse University. But Papale, surprisingly or not, wasn't done with basketball. And he wasn't done doing it nearby.

Recently, he was named as Fairfield Prep's newest boys' basketball coach after the Jesuits had a subpar season this past winter. Papale is hoping to term their program around, being handed the reins to a school, and a program, with so much character and honor. But he will still be surrounded by college

basketball or, at least, a college campus: Prep is located at Fairfield University.

So now he gets to be the ringmaster for two gigs: president of In A Heartbeat and the lead guy behind the Jesuits' boys' basketball squad. And yes, I had to correct myself a few times while I was drafting this column: I kept saying men's basketball, but, in high school, at least officially, it's boys' and girls', not men's and women's.



Matt Gad - Sports Writer

## Women's soccer prepares for 2018 season



Southern women's soccer team running on Jess Dowe Field during warm-ups .

PHOTO | SOUTHERNCTOWLS.COM

By Matt Gad

The women's soccer season ended Oct. 28 when the team lost to Franklin Pierce, 4-2. But not too long after that, their offseason began, something head coach Adam Cohen cares a lot about.

"We train Monday through Thursday and play our scrimmages Friday nights," Cohen said. "We play Monroe Community College, Fairfield University, Central, Quinnipiac and we'll play a youth team as well; a club team."

The schools they are playing this spring are not ones they will face next fall. The schedule is not public yet, however, the scrimmage slate does not include

schools in Division II. Cohen said that, in addition to their games now, there will also be a few pre-season contests in the fall before the regular season gets underway.

Junior Mikaela Magee, a midfielder, said off-season training is "vitaly important" to the team's success. She said that the winter and spring is "all about" developing the team and building chemistry, as well as an opportunity to address individual skills so that they are better "as a whole" in the fall.

"The scrimmages themselves are an opportunity to put into place what we work on in practice," she said. "We use the games to develop our attacking

and defending principles so, as returning players in the fall, we can work on other tactics that will help us win games."

Another component to their offseason is strength and conditioning, which the team does under the guidance and direction of the athletic department's strength and conditioning coach, Dave Hashemi, who started at Southern in August 2015.

"We stop the week before finals and then they have a summer program that they can follow. It's not mandatory and we don't track their progress but we develop it," Cohen said. "The NCAA does permit local student-athletes to come work with the strength coach over the summer, though."

Magee said that her and her teammates are "encouraged" to get involved with summer teams and follow the team-built lifting program to "come into preseason in the best shape possible." She said that is "very important" because there is not much time from when they get back until the regular season kicks-off.

Another component of Cohen's off-season involves the recruiting process. He said that he generally monitors club teams a lot, as opposed to scouting from various high school programs, because they are all in-season at the same time. The club teams have games outside of the traditional fall soccer season.

"Players join clubs and they

play on those club teams and as they go to middle school and high school they start going to more showcase events," he said. "Those are usually the teams we're following and where we're watching players."

Cohen said that, in addition to coaching the Owls, he likes to stay involved in the youth game. He stressed the importance of relationships with other coaches because that is what helps in the recruitment process.

"You want to help the coaches, you want to help the players and you want to be able to watch and stay up to date with the best players in the area."

## Sports fest

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

"It was actually really fun," said Mills. "It was three v. three and right after you would catch the ball you'd have to get right back up and fire it back."

Emt said it was an honor and pleasure for him to be able to speak at the event.

"It's huge," said Emt "When I had my accident 23 years ago I had so many questions and being an athlete before that I wanted to go out there and just take on the world and I had so many questions. People were trying to help but [the Adaptive Sports Fest] didn't exist back then."

Emt said that it was incredible to see all the different adaptive sports that were being demonstrated at the event. He said he was unaware that many of them even existed.

"An opportunity," said Emt, for anyone to come out no matter their disability and find that one niche like I found with curling - it's life changing."



PHOTO | KEVIN CROMPTON

USA curling paralympian Steve Emt speaking to a participant at the Gaylord Sports Association Adaptive Sports Fest.



## Rob Gronkowski head to head with Lawrence Taylor

By Kevin Crompton

A friend of mine showed me a recent photoshopped image of current New England Patriots tight end Rob Gronkowski and retired New York Giants linebacker Lawrence Taylor going head to head at the goal line. The image was captioned "Does Gronk score here?" After much debate on who would win the matchup I've decided to dive in deeper to this fan-posed question. Would we witness a "Gronk spike" in the end zone or is L.T. sticking it to the 6-foot-6 tightend?

First off let's set the scene. In this hypothetical scenario, both

players are in their prime with no lingering injuries — rare for Gronkowski but just try to imagine a time when that was the case.

The Patriots have the ball inside the redzone and Taylor is playing off the line in a zone coverage. Brady takes the snap and fires out to Gronk on a short route in the flat. Gronk catches the ball cleanly on the five-yard line, tucks it away, establishes himself and turns up field. In front of him stands one of the most feared players in NFL history — no. 56, Lawrence Taylor. Each player is in an ideal position for what he attempts to do. Gronk has his shoulders square to the

goal line and L.T. breaks down cleanly ready to deliver the hit.

Now for some numbers. Rob Gronkowski is listed at 6 foot 6 and 265 pounds. Taylor a tad smaller in his prime, was listed at 6 foot 3 and 240 pounds.

Okay, so Gronk has three inches and 25 pounds on the linebacker. At first glance, it appears to be "advantage Gronk" however, I argue that the 3-inch height differential puts Gronk at a disadvantage. You've heard the saying low man wins and as cliché as it might be, it's almost always accurate. If Gronk is going to attempt to run through L.T., he must lower his pads those three inches just to be at Taylor's

standing height and then much more to put himself in the right position to lay the truck stick. Sounds miniscule but it's something that should be considered. Next is the weight. Twenty-five pounds is a lot. A clear advantage for Gronk however, it's not the difference maker. The most important factor in this situation is technique therefore Rob Gronkowski is stood up at the goal line by the Hall of Famer.

At the end of the day Lawrence Taylor is a better tackler than Gronk is a runner. Sorry Pats fans — another heartbreaker courtesy of New York.



Kevin Crompton - Sports Editor

## Softball

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9



PHOTO | PALMER PIANA

Sophomore Sara Buscetto leaving the batter's box after bunting.

Recently, a lot of their games have come out as losses, with the team's last win having occurred March 25 in a 9-4 win over Stonehill at home.

"This game is all about adjustments," said Rispoli, who was named the Owls' head softball coach in 2014, taking over for Lisa Barbaro, who used to coach both softball and women's volleyball on campus. "Having different approaches at the plate, shifting defenses and giving opportunities to other players. At this point in the season, we certainly change some things up as we try to ignite the lineup."

The team traditionally leads off with Sara Buscetto, a sophomore catcher and infielder, who played significantly last season, when the team went 8-27. The softball program has not had a winning season since 2015, when they were 19-17. In 2013, under Barbaro, they were 32-22 and reached the NCAA Tournament, winning a game with Caldwell, 3-2.

"Our older players do a wonderful job of setting the bar high with respect to communication, commitment and respect for one another," Rispoli said. "Not to mention their production on the field is impressive and we're very proud of them."

On the road this year, the Owls are 0-10 and at Pelz Field they are 3-3. Following yesterday's action with New Haven, their next homestand will begin April 18 with Pace University, followed by games with Mercy and The College of Saint Rose.

## Students struggle to make time for sports



PHOTO | KEVIN CROMPTON

Southern student section at Moore Field House during a women's basketball game this past season.

By Sean Alcide

For a multitude of reasons, students are finding inconvenience in making it out to the field, the basketball court, the diamond, etc. Freshman Tiffany McCormick, said her appearance at SCSU games are "very rare." Although McCormick enjoys touchdown passes, the games are often on nights she's scheduled to work.

"Usually, it's my schedule," said McCormick of what conflicts her availability to attend SCSU games. She, in particular, mentioned days like Thursday and Saturday as the challenging days where games are often played, but she is normally scheduled to work.

Sophomore Nicole Healy, said she is "not often" in attendance at games on campus. In her two years at Southern, she is only been to a few games.

Healy said the timing of the

games have played a huge factor. "Most of the time, they are on the weekends, and I go home for several different reasons," said Healy, "to spend time with my family or other stuff I prioritize."

Taking it even a step further, Healy said she believes that the in-week scheduling of games on campus can also be better.

"The times that they are during the week, there are normally a lot of events going on those nights," said Healy. "So, I just prioritize those over sports." Healy did mention she mostly enjoys watching volleyball and swimming.

Will Aliou, a junior journalism major, said he has not been able to attend Southern sporting events as much as he would like due to the challenge of implementing them within his busy schedule.

"I transferred to Southern last spring and haven't gotten the chance to attend any sporting

events, besides part of a softball game," said Aliou. "I do prefer baseball and softball games, when I can make it out."

Freshman Kayana Smith said that one reason for her lack of game attendance is not having someone to tag along. Smith said she feels more encouraged and comfortable stepping out with comrades.

"She's usually the person I go with," said Smith, referring to her friend McCormick. "When she's gone, I don't want to go by myself."

Despite the many weekly sporting events happening Southern, students such as Smith, Healy, and Aliou are not prioritizing attending. Collectively, they said their busy schedules have not been compatible to that of the games, as well as their interest level not having been in favor of Southern sports.

## Lacrosse

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

In all, the Owls picked up six instances while Bentley only had three.

The Falcons were also presented with a green card for a delay of game issued to their team captain, Goebel. According to women's lacrosse rules, the green card is always reserved for that of a player in the captain's role.

"We're just in a mid-season slump," said Cozzolino, who plays on attack. "We have the talent but we just have to get together, stay composed and execute."

The Owls are currently 1-7 away from Jess Dow Field and 1-1 at home, having beaten American International College, 14-10, March 28. They have five games left: today at home with Le Moyne, Friday at Southern New Hampshire University, April 17 at home with New Haven and April 21 with Merrimack and April 25 on the road at Assumption College.

In recent memory, the women's lacrosse program hasn't reached more than four wins in a given season. In 2014, with Maureen Spellman, who left the team after last season to accept the same position at Division III Endicott, the Owls went 4-13, despite a 1-10 conference record and 2-8 mark on the road.

"It's definitely doable," Vendel said, on reaching more than four wins. "Definitely doable."



Emilie Johnson

PHOTO | SOUTHERNCOWLS.COM

Junior Brianna Grande looking to pass the ball during a game this season.



# Softball vs Adelphi University



Sophomore Sara Buscetto throwing the ball to first base.

PHOTO | PALMER PIANA



Freshman Cailey Botteon (left) and freshman Lauryn Zubia running to the dugout inbetween innings.

PHOTO | PALMER PIANA



Freshman Lauryn Zubia talking to first base coach Kelly Paterson.

PHOTO | PALMER PIANA



Senior Victoria Ceballos delivering a pitch.

PHOTO | PALMER PIANA

## Northeast-10 Standings

### BASEBALL STANDINGS

	CONFERENCE			OVERALL		
	GP	RECORD	WIN %	GP	RECORD	WIN %
<b>NORTHEAST DIVISON</b>						
ASSUMPTION	11	7-3-1	0.682	29	13-15-10	0.466
FRANKLIN PIERCE	11	9-2-0	0.818	28	19-8-10	0.696
SO. NEW HAMPSHIRE	9	5-4-0	0.556	28	17-11-00	0.607
STONEHILL	9	4-5-0	0.444	22	11-11-00	0.500
BENTLEY	8	5-3-0	0.625	23	11-12-00	0.478
SAINT MICHAEL'S	7	1-6-0	0.143	22	5-17-0	0.227
SAINT ANSELM	9	1-8-0	0.111	22	7-15-0	0.318
MERRIMACK	12	5-7-0	0.417	25	12-13-00	0.480
<b>SOUTHWEST DIVISON</b>						
LE MOYNE	10	8-1-1	0.850	30	22-7-1	0.750
PACE	11	6-5-0	0.545	22	12-9-10	0.568
NEW HAVEN	11	7-4-0	0.636	26	22-4-00	0.846
AMERICAN INT'L	12	4-8-0	0.333	29	13-16-00	0.448
ADELPHI	10	5-5-0	0.500	25	13-11-10	0.540
SO. CONNECTICUT	8	3-5-0	0.375	27	16-11-00	0.593
SAINT ROSE	8	2-6-0	0.250	23	9-14-0	0.391

### SOFTBALL STANDINGS

	CONFERENCE			OVERALL		
	GP	RECORD	WIN %	GP	RECORD	WIN %
<b>NORTHEAST DIVISON</b>						
ASSUMPTION	6	5-1-0	0.833	16	10-6-0	0.625
SAINT ANSELM	12	9-2-1	0.792	31	22-8-1	0.726
BENTLEY	14	6-8-0	0.429	27	9-18-0	0.333
STONEHILL	11	4-7-0	0.364	21	5-16-0	0.238
SO. NEW HAMPSHIRE	10	7-3-0	0.700	30	24-6-0	0.800
MERRIMACK	12	7-5-0	0.583	28	20-8-0	0.714
FRANKLIN PIERCE	10	3-7-0	0.300	20	6-14-0	0.300
SAINT MICHAEL'S	8	1-7-0	0.125	18	4-14-0	0.222
<b>SOUTHWEST DIVISON</b>						
ADELPHI	13	9-3-1	0.731	32	17-14-1	0.547
SAINT ROSE	7	5-2-0	0.714	21	10-11-0	0.476
PACE	14	7-7-0	0.500	24	9-15-0	0.375
LE MOYNE	11	6-5-0	0.545	28	20-8-0	0.714
AMERICAN INT'L	9	2-7-0	0.222	22	2-20-0	0.091
NEW HAVEN	14	6-8-0	0.429	29	13-16-0	0.448
SO. CONNECTICUT	11	3-8-0	0.273	22	5-17-0	0.227



## SNews views

# PRIVACY VIOLATIONS AND SOCIAL MEDIA

Southern News staff editorial

When there is a breach of privacy, people panic. This was the case when it was discovered that more than 70 million Facebook users' data was obtained by Cambridge Analytica when the firm was hired by Trump's 2016 election campaign.

Robert Mercer and Stephen Bannon have largely funded Cambridge Analytica. The firm was recently exposed for offering to entrap politicians.

The data that was obtained by Cambridge Analytica from those 50 million plus Facebook users included what they "liked" on the platform as well as their identities and friends. In 2014, researchers asked Facebook users to take a personality survey and download an app and the app scraped private information from the profiles, as well as their friends' profiles. Facebook has since banned this kind of activity. (New York Times).



PHOTO COURTESY | JD LASICA

Mark Zuckerberg, the founder of social media platform Facebook.

This situation is not a data breach, nor was Facebook hacked. Facebook's policy is that users automatically consent to researchers using their profile's data for "academic purposes." However, Facebook does make it clear that that data cannot be sold or transferred to "any ad network, data broker or other advertising or monetization-related service," according to its policy.

The problem with that is Cambridge Analytica officials denied that they used or obtained Facebook data; they have since changed that story. They made a statement to the New York Times and said they used the data.

This information can be difficult to keep up with, and it is intimidating to users of the platform and social media in general because it feels like it has come out of nowhere.

There is an argument that one should not post information about themselves on the internet that they would not feel comfortable with everyone in the world knowing. While that is valid in some regards, that does not take into consideration the expectation of privacy when users turn on the "only me" feature for how certain content on their Facebook page can be viewed.

Some users think that Facebook, as well as other applications that require an account or other social media platform, asks for too much information from them in order to use the baseline services of the website. There should be more transparency and better explanations as to why Facebook for example needs such information from users.

Furthermore, even though there is fine print that details what Facebook is and is not allowed to do, it is difficult to read and relatively inaccessible. The language used is not in layman's terms and the average user is not going to expect the worst or be distrusting of such platforms. While it may be beneficial for all of us to be a bit more skeptical, being paranoid all the time is not a healthy way to live and consume media.

How can Facebook users protect themselves or feel comfortable using the platform if the information that they privatized is being used by third parties? While to some it may seem obvious that it would be used and that nothing posted online is ever entirely private or safe, what Cambridge Analytica did was deliberate and misleading; the group used information to target advertisements in order to influence 2016's presidential election.

Will this mean that everyone is rushing to delete their Facebook and associated accounts? That would include the ultra-popular Instagram and WhatsApp, Farmville and Candy Crush.

Moreover, deleting Facebook will not eliminate all possibilities of the data that we put online being used by external groups. Google and all that they own such as YouTube, various advertising companies and cookies on online shopping sites are tracking the moves we make on the internet. Not to sound like we are living in a dystopian futuristic society, but every move we make online is being watched by one or multiple parties.

In general, it is easy to get caught up in the headspace of outrage and panic in regards to personal information being used for purposes we did not feel we explicitly agreed to. This feeling is not invalid; users should be outraged

at the dishonesty Facebook and particularly Mark Zuckerberg have exhibited, even in their silence. In a digital world there should be more transparency so that we can better keep up with the inner workings of a world that many (2 billion on Facebook alone) of us use every day but may not understand.

What we can learn from Facebook and Cambridge Analytica using information in the way that they have is that nothing is sacred and whatever we post online is subject to being seen by eyes we don't necessarily want seeing it.

It may seem obvious, but as more information comes forward about what companies really know about us and how they obtain that information, it is best to brace ourselves for the worst and understand the repercussions of sharing so much of our personal lives online.



## Cambridge Analytica

PHOTO COURTESY | WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

The Cambridge Analytica logo.



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Advisers: Cindy Simoneau  
Frank Harris III

Contact information:  
Email: [scsu.southern.news@gmail.com](mailto: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

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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

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## Kids get crafty at Future Owls Fest

By Palmer Piana



Coloring pages provided for fourth graders visiting campus.



A student painting on a canvas in the Farnham Programming Space Friday afternoon during the Third Annual Future Owls Fest.



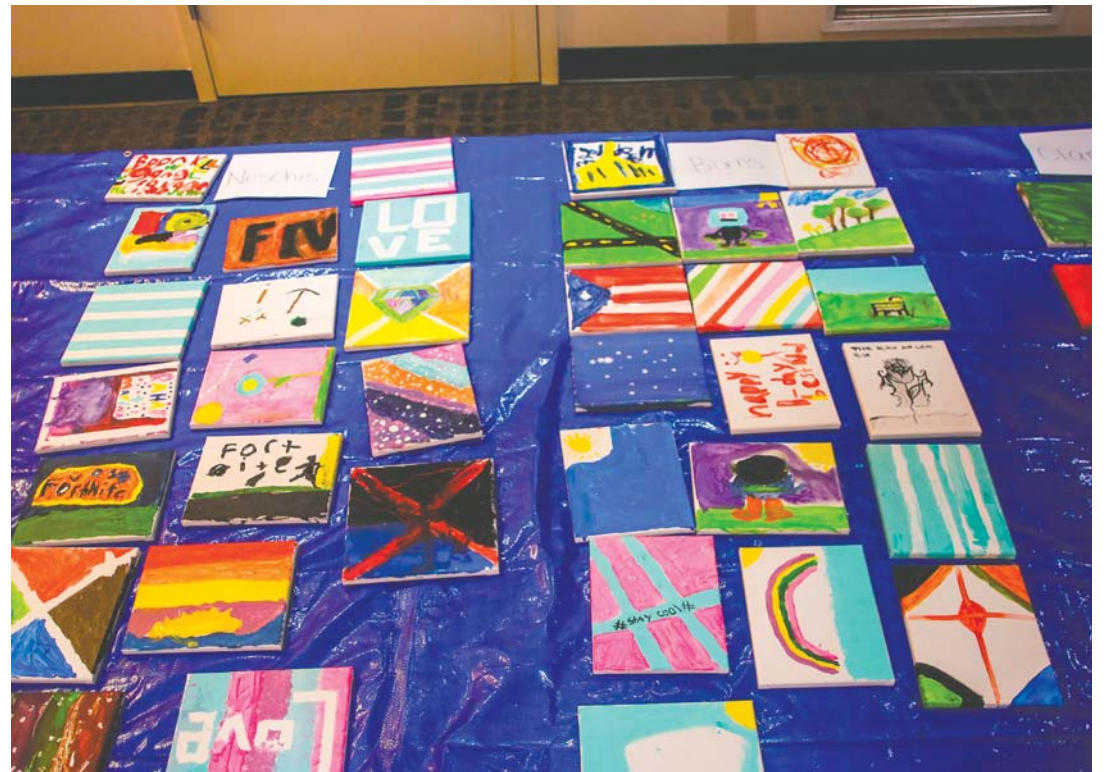
Students viewing their classmates' paintings as they dry.



Fourth graders doing arts and crafts while visiting campus.



Paint brushes sitting in a cup of water after being used by the students.



Wide array of paintings drying on a tarp on the ground.