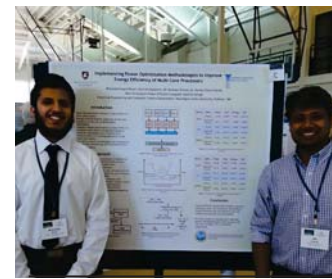




'The Fate of the Furious'  
is everything fans should  
expect  
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Owls edge  
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Southern researchers  
hope to revamp  
mobile security  
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# SOUTHERN NEWS

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## A Big Event helps out in small ways



Don Conklin, coordinator of the Special Olympics of Connecticut speaks to volunteers and participants of the event. PHOTO | PALMER PIANA

By Josh LaBella

On Saturday April 22, Southern hosted The Big Event, a community service day where students sign up to help out with different projects across Hamden and New Haven.

Corey Evans, a senior political science major, said the goal of the event is two-fold. "We want to get the Southern community to learn about what they can do to help," said Evans. "We also want to let Hamden and New Haven know that we are committed to being a social justice university."

Evans, who is the commissioner of Southern's service commission, said there were almost 300 volunteers that were sent around to go to animal shelters, clean up parks,

paint and much more. He said planning the event is stressful but he loves to see it come together.

"I've been doing this event for four years," said Evans. "I learned that the SCSU community are definitely willing to show up and help out, especially when working with clubs and organizations."

Mishele Rodriguez, a junior political science major, said putting on the event is a long and tough process but it is well worth it.

"I love to give back to the community," said Rodriguez. "Events like this are vital to the community. Maybe by giving back some students will find out it is their passion and will want to do it for the rest of their lives."

According to Jordan Cowles, a sophomore studying communications, he said he heard

about the vent through his fraternity TKE.

"We thought it would be a great way to give back to the community," said Cowles. "I did this last year with my inquiry class and it really brought us all together. That's why I am so willing to come back. It's bonding over community service."

Bryce Gentino, a sophomore engineering major, said he got involved through the community service commission and he loves the people he works with.

"I believe a lot can get done in one day if people are willing to work hard," said Gentino. "Rachel Noto and Corey Evans take on a lot of the responsibility and should be commended."

According to Alyssa Kegley, a senior public health major, the Big Event is exciting because it shows how Southern's different

clubs and organizations can band together to benefit the surrounding community.

"I love that we get to go out and help the community," said Kegley, "I've done a lot of service at Southern but it's the most rewarding when you get to go out into New Haven."

Rachel Noto, a graduate intern at Central Connecticut State University studying higher education and student development, was one of the people in charge of coordinating the event. Her second year participating, Noto said her favorite part is seeing it all come together and being able to have conversations with students about their service.

"We want students to take something out of the day," said Noto. "It's not just a trash pick-up, they are really getting involved."

SEE PHOTOS ON PAGE 2

## President of the Board of Regents visits Southern

By Alex Palmieri

President of the Connecticut Board of Regents Mark Ojakian, was at Southern to talk about the financial challenges that the Connecticut colleges and universities face.

President Joe Bertolino said the academic year started with a budget that assumed a \$2 million deficit. With a lot of hard work, Bertolino said there is a \$6.5 million budget gap.

"We have been able to find and work with a bunch of people that reduces that budget gap to \$500,000," said Bertolino. "So I want to thank you for your hard work in that regard. We will continue to tease out the budget in the course of the next couple of weeks."

Ojakian said there are some concerns that colleges and universities face and he understands everyone's concern. But he wants to make this a collaborative effort for everyone.

"I'm here to listen and to answer all your questions and talk about how we will get through the challenges," said Ojakian.

Ojakian said the budget situation is a little concerning. He said no matter what there will be uncertainty of the budget in general. He added there are serious issues in Connecticut and the pieces have to be fixed.

"I'm going to continue to fight against proposals that would diminish bargain rights in the state of Connecticut," said Ojakian.

Though there is no specific plan that is in place. But Ojakian did say he will do what he can to prevent firing professors and faculty from colleges and universities. He said he does not want to do that and it is not a part of the plan and he is going to try to not make that happen.

"I care about you," said Ojakian. "I'm trying to save jobs. If we don't

SEE REGENTS PAGE 2

## NBA referee Ronnie Nunn speaks at sports management lecture

By Alex Palmieri

Ronnie Nunn, a longtime NBA referee, spoke at the annual sports management lecture at Southern.

"Our guest for today," said Kevin McGinniss, assistant professor of recreation, tourism and sports management, "Mr. Ronnie Nunn, who I've had the pleasure of knowing for 30 years now."

McGinniss said Nunn was a select referee in the NBA from 1984-2003. He was a top six official and was recognized as a premiere official throughout the world. During his career, Nunn officiated over 1,000 regular season games, in 74 playoff games, four NBA finals, and two NBA All-Star games.

"His hiatus for basketball was short lived," said McGinniss. "He joined the NBA administration with the accepted position of directors of officials, the job he held from 2003-08. He continued another three years in the NBA as director of development."

Most recently, McGinniss said Nunn has served as developmental consultant for Europe, Asia and America. During the 2014-15 season, Nunn was a specialty coach for the New York Knicks. McGinniss said Nunn also provided training seminars to teams, coaches and individual players.

Nunn began his speech by saying he was poverty motivated. Growing up in Brooklyn, Nunn said he saw the struggle.

"We didn't have the money," said Nunn. "I was from East New York. It's a tough place today; it was a tough place then."

He said one of the things he wanted to do is be a professional player. Because there are only 400 or so players in the NBA, Nunn said it is very difficult for people to make it into the NBA.

"You can do the math," said Nunn. "Not many get there."

Nunn began to be very motivational in his speech after he said he tried out for the NBA a few times but it did not work out. He tried out three times and it did not work.

SEE NUNN PAGE 3



Ronnie Nunn speaks at the annual sports management lecture. PHOTO | ALEX PALMIERI

# Take Back the Night, a rally against sexual violence

By Josh LaBella

Life after rape is not easy and it takes support, said UCONN student Suzie Bertichelle.

On Tuesday April 18, Southern hosted Take Back the Night, a rally against sexual violence.

Bertichelle, the keynote speaker, said it is important for allies to be there for victims of sexual violence.

"Listen to hear them," said Bertichelle, "don't listen to respond."

According to Bertichelle, victims trying to deal with the aftermath of sexual violence should find the method of coping that works for them and pursue it.

"Don't give up," said Bertichelle, "Keep pushing the boundaries until you feel your voice has been heard."

The event started at 6:45 p.m. in front of the Dunkin Donuts in the Student Center, where students gathered to begin their march to the residential quad. After Bertichelle finished speaking, the coordinators opened up the floor for victims and allies to speak out.

Ariel Unger, an interdisciplinary studies major with concentrations in geography, public health and human sexuality, said she attended the event to show support. She was one of many students to go in front of the crowd and speak.

"This is an issue I feel close to because of my experiences with sexual violence," said Unger. "With the speak-out I wanted to show people they need to recognize what's going on and the victims need to recognize it themselves."

Unger said a large part of coping with sexual violence is denial. She said the event went well and she was surprised by the big crowd.

Catherine Christy, director of The Violence Prevention, Victim Advocacy and Support Center, was one of the coordinators of the event and said the event went really great.

"Take Back the Night is a night for survivors and for allies to support survivors," said Christy. "It's about giving a voice to them and providing a safe space for students to come up and speak."



Students sit on the ground listening to the keynote speaker, Suzie Bertichelle

PHOTO | JOSH LABELLA

Danae Sawchyn, a junior English major and peer educator for VPAS, said this was her first time attending the event.

"Sexual violence is a topic people really don't understand," said Sawchyn. "Take Back the Night is the biggest event to represent the community and survivors, and I wanted to show support."

Jerica Olson, a junior English major with a focus in secondary education, said she strongly believes in supporting victims of sexual and domestic violence.

"I believe in everything VPAS stands for," said Olson. "I came here tonight to better understand these topics, which are normally considered taboo."

Alicia Lanzetti said this was her first Take Back the

Night. She said she started working for VPAS to get her 30 community service hours for a social work class and she is glad she ended up with them.

"I am a victim of sexual violence and I haven't sought help yet," said Lanzetti, a freshman social work major. "But this event helped a lot. It was extremely empowering."

Kristina Filomena, a junior social work major, co-hosted the event and said it never ceases to amaze her how many people come up and speak.

"It shows how brave they are," said Filomena. "I feel like this population of people doesn't have a lot of advocates and events like Take Back the Night help raise awareness."

## A Big Event helps out in small ways



Kelly Dorsey and Michelle Bell at the Special Olympics for Connecticut event.

PHOTO | PALMER PIANA



Participants of the event drumming on yoga balls.

PHOTO | PALMER PIANA

## Regents

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Ojakian said there is a budget proposal that might come out. This budget will require to cut two colleges right away. He said his goal is to not let people off. Though people are not pleased with the hiring freeze, Ojakian said it helped balance out the budget within the past years.

"I'm laying out the reality for you," said Ojakian.

There are a lot of aspects Ojakian said need to be balanced. He said something has to give because there are a lot of deficits that need to be fixed.

There are concerns that the faculty had with Ojakian's presentation.

Bob Sheeley, associate vice president for capital budgeting and facilities operations, talked about buildings at Southern. He said 22 out of 134 positions were cut.

"Everyday is a struggle to get things done," said Sheeley.

Ojakian said what has tried to do is to advocate for the CSU system with the governor directly to get money for all of the colleges and universities.

"We have been quite successful since I've been on board," said Ojakian. "When I'm talking about facilities, what I'm really talking about is our colleges. Or colleges have different ways of providing for facilities management. Some of our colleges have state employees that manage their facilities. Let's figure out what works face."

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# Southern helps students update passports

By Alex Palmieri

Abby Lipuma said getting an updated passport at Southern was mandatory because she will be studying abroad within a year.

"I'm going to study abroad in Paris next spring," said Lipuma. "My passport expired last year so I had to get it renewed."

The event was held Wednesday April 19 from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. in the Office of Human Resources Conference Room. On Southern's website, it said during the event, the U.S. Postal Service processed the new passport applications and renewal applications.

It also said for people who are renewing expired passports had to submit the expired passport along with the application and fees. There were also no appointments required for the passport event. It was a walk-in, first come first serve basis.

Lipuma said there was a fee to get a new passport of \$110 for the book and \$25 for the fee. The new passport lasts for 10 years. She said the people that she spoke to to get her renewal were very helpful in completing what she needed.

"They were really nice," said Lipuma.

Suzanne DeLuca, a sales service associate, said anyone can walk in at any time to get their new or renewed passport. She also said that she likes what she does and enjoys talking to people about why they are receiving the passport.

"I enjoy doing it," said DeLuca. "I like meeting new people and see where they're going."

DeLuca talked about the process of people getting a passport as well. First they take the completed passport application, making sure it is filled out properly. A birth certificate also needed to be handed in along with a photo ID. All of the information on the birth certificate and photo ID needed to match the passport application. All walk-ins were welcome to participate and get their passport as well.

"We have to see whether they need their passport



Suzanne DeLuca, sales and service associates for the U.S. Postal Service helping Katherine Keene, a senior Graphic Design major.

PHOTO | DYLAN HAVILAND

expedited or not," said DeLuca. "Basically once we do that, we make them take the oath, write a check or money order for \$110."

DeLuca said they take passport photos for \$15, but people can also get it done anywhere else such as CVS or Walgreens. After people sign the paper when they take the oath, DeLuca said the process is done and they get their passport.

Though DeLuca said she is not sure if she is coming back to Southern to do this event again, she said they will be around New Haven in the future and what she

does is fun.

"I love doing this," said DeLuca.

Anneifua King, a freshman nursing major, said she was going to the event to get a new American passport. She said she plans on going to Jamaica because that is where the majority of her family is and she wants to go there to visit them from time to time. She said when she gets her passport, she will be excited to go and see her family.

"That's where I came from," said King. "I need to visit my family."

## Funds raised for Giving Day

By Alex Palmieri

Southern's Giving Day was a fund-raising event that lasted 24 hours where all students, alumni, faculty and staff came together to grant opportunities for the future of Southern.

Jack Brown, a sophomore sports management major, was a part of Giving Day. He was taking donations for the track and field department at Southern. He said Giving Day is to benefit Southern's track and field team.

"This is to benefit the SCSU men's track team and make sure we raise money for all sports programs," said Brown. "I think it is very beneficial to the whole athletic association itself."

Students were asked to give any donations. If students gave \$5, Brown said they can try out some of the track events they had set up such as throwing a javelin or even racing some of the students who participate in track and field. If they donated \$20.17, they could have won a t-shirt and do any events that they wished to participate in.

"I think this is a lot of fun," said Brown. "I think it's going to be very beneficial for us and every single team here for Southern Connecticut State University and I am really enjoying it so far."

Kaitlin Ingerick, assistant director of annual giving, said that Southern's second Annual Giving Day far surpassed the expectations. In just 24 hours, there

were 541 members of the SCSU community that raised \$36,074 for Southern and its students.

"We had hundreds of students come out to enjoy our Giving Day events," said Ingerick. "A number of SCSU athletic teams held competing Phil-A-Cups to raise money for their program."

There was also an unselfie station, where students could take an "unselfie" with Otis the Owl and post it on their social media with the hashtag of #SCSUGivingDay. Ingerick said there was also a "Thank a Donor" station where students could write a personalized thank you note to one of the 300 faculty and staff members that contributed to the student success pay period.

"I was thrilled to see our entire Southern community come together to support our students," said Ingerick. "It just really goes to show you that amazing things can happen when we join together and believe in the value of a Southern education."

Ingerick was pleased with the outcome of Giving Day. With all of the donors and students that participated, the goal she anticipated was far surpassed. She was excited to see all of the donors.

"The goal of our Giving Day was to get 200 donors in 24 hours," said Ingerick. "We far surpassed that with 541 donors, raising \$36,074 for Southern and its students."

## Nunn

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Nunn said he might of made it maybe the 11th or 12th time he tried out, but he might of lost it right away because there is no guarantee.

"People are always coming in looking to do something better than you can do it," said Nunn. "Somebody can do it better than you but you don't allow that to happen."

Ethan Joyce, a senior baseball player at SCSU with a major in interdisciplinary studies, attended Nunn's speech and said it was what he expected. He said there were a lot of interesting points that Nunn bought up about his life and there was a lot of fun facts about his past. Joyce added that there

was one thing in particular that stood out to him saying, "his story of how he grew up in a tougher area and now he has all this success."

Nunn said if there is anything students need while they are in school it is knowledge. That is what will go furthest with them. He added to never let go of what your passion in life is.

"You have to do one thing about dreaming," said Nunn, "you have to have a path. You have to find out what the path is to get to your dream."



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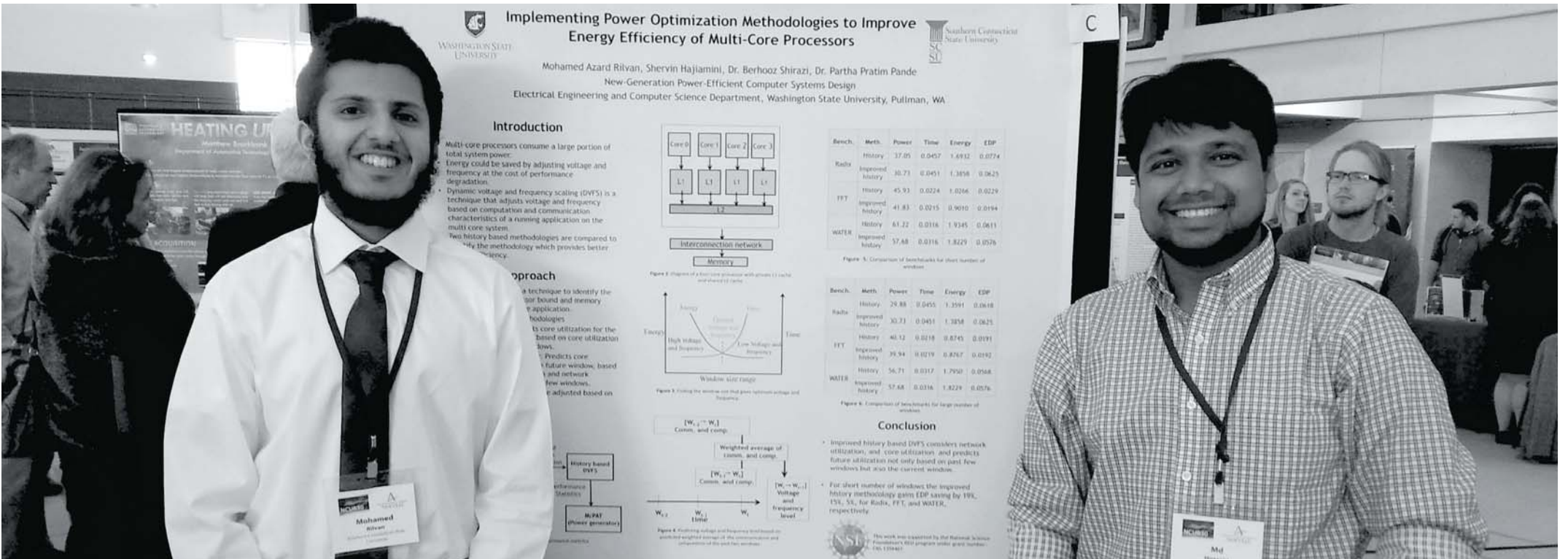


PHOTO COURTESY | SHAFAEAT HOSSAIN

Mohamed Rilvan, a senior computer science major, and Shafaeat Hossain, a computer science professor, presenting their research at the National Conference on Undergraduate Research University of North Carolina Asheville April 7 through 9, 2016.

## Southern researchers hope to revamp mobile security

The basis of computer science professor, Shafaeat Hossain and senior computer science major, Mohamed Rilvan's research is to establish a cell phone authentication system that is more secure and cost efficient.

By Melissa Nunez

When computer science professor Shafaeat Hossain noticed a bright, driven student in his computer programming class, he took notice. He said that is when he asked Mohamed Rilvan, a senior computer science major, to assist with research involving cell phone authentication about two years ago.

Hossain said while most smartphones have face recognition or touch screen authentication, each has their faults. He said face recognition accuracy varies by factors like light and the current touch screen technology is costly and drives up cell phone prices.

The premise of their research was establishing a seamless cell phone authentication, more foolproof than current security options and offered at a cheaper price.

Hossain said by utilizing the principal component analysis, they extracted capacitive images and established a touch screen authentication with an accuracy of 99 percent and \$50 to \$100 cheaper than the current touch screen technology.

Hossain added their research was collaborative in that Rilvan was assisted by Bing Wang, a computer science and engineering professor from the University of Connecticut as well as invited by the National Science Foundation for their Research Experience for Undergraduates program.

According to the NSF website, the NSF finances undergraduate research opportunities through its REU program, which consists of about ten undergraduate students working on individual research at their univer-

sities. The NSF allocates stipends as well as helps students with traveling or housing expenses.

Hossain and Rilvan went on to publish their initial findings in the IEEE International Performance, Computing, and Communications journal, a peer reviewed publication, and presented their findings in late 2016 in Las Vegas, Nevada. Hossain said being featured in this journal was an honor as only 20 to 25 studies were accepted.

But their research will continue, as Rilvan said their hope is to redefine smart phone security by taking their findings and evolving them.

It happens all the time, users unlock their cell phones only to put down it and go into the next room, leaving it vulnerable to theft or a security breach. But Rilvan and Hossain hope to adapt their findings so that not only will their touch screen authentication be more accurate, but would continuously verify the user by recognizing their swiping patterns.

Rilvan said although he is graduating in May, he is eager to return and continue his research with Hossain as they have begun applying for a patent together.

Rilvan added he is looking forward to see where this research will take him, as the cell phone industry is booming and hopes to be apart of the innovation and development.

The pair is also looking forward to three more publications featuring their research as well as an upcoming conference in San Diego, California where they will present their more current findings.

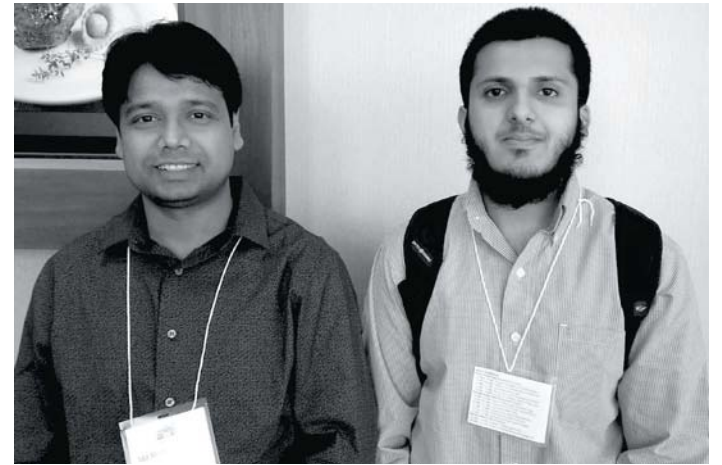


PHOTO COURTESY | SHAFAEAT HOSSAIN

Mohamed Rilvan presenting his and Shafaeat Hossain's research at the IEEE International Performance Computing and Communications Conference December 9 through 11, 2016 in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Hossain said the duo have even more ideas to adapt to their research, but they cannot share them with the public just yet.

While Rilvan is an undergrad, Hossain said he is not just an assistant but compared his contribution to the research much like a Ph.D. student. He added that Rilvan is not only an incredibly bright researcher, but a "polite, humble and personable" student and sees nothing but success in his future.

## Students assess Donald Trump's first hundred days in office

By Josh LaBella

President Donald Trump is making stupid decisions for our country, said Jahliah Green, a sophomore public health major.

"I don't like him," said Green. "He says whatever is on his mind, and it's usually offensive or not well thought out."

Green, who voted for Hillary Clinton in the 2016 election, said Trump has gotten better at controlling his words but he still should not be president.

"I basically stopped watching the news," said Green. "As soon as I see or hear his name I change it."

Sarah O'Connor, a freshman political science major, said Trump has been getting a lot done in his first 100 days—maybe too much.

"He needs to slow down actually," said O'Connor, a Trump voter. "It's really great to see him sticking to his promises, but he needs to pace himself."

O'Connor said she was happy the healthcare bill to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act did not go through. She said it was not well thought out and needed much more work.

Jonathon Wharton, a political science professor, said it should come as no surprise to anyone that Trump could not get the health care legislation passed in the first 100 days.

"Health care is a big problem for all presidents," said Wharton, "and that's nothing new."

Wharton said the big debate will come

later this week, when Trump has been in office for his first 100 days. According to Wharton, there is one area of politics that Trump exceeds at: conveying his message.

"You can say what you want about him," said Wharton. "But his presence is known."

Green said she was unhappy with Trump's decision to uses tomahawk cruise missiles on a Syrian air base in early April.

"It's going to lead us into a war with Russia," said Green.

According to O'Connor, the missile strike was a good idea and was long overdue.

"We are finally doing something to help the Syrian people," said O'Connor.

On campus, O'Connor said she sees even more open Trump supporters than she did prior to the election.

"I feel like a lot of Trump voters were supporters in secret," said O'Connor.

On campus, O'Connor said she feels more confident than ever about being a Trump supporter.

"The left is now forced to see our standpoint," said O'Connor. "We took the House and the Senate, so they can't do anything."

Green said she has not seen as many Trump logos on campus as she did when he first got elected. She said she is unhappy with how the Trump presidency has affected people's relationships.

"He's so polarizing," said Green.

"People can barely even talk about it without getting angry. It has ruined a lot of friendships, I'm sure."



PHOTO COURTESY | GAGE SKIDMORE

President Donald Trump speaking at the Feb. 24, 2017 Conservative Political Action Conference in National Harbor, Maryland.

A recent Gallup poll reported 52 percent of Americans disapprove of Trump's job thus far.

O'Connor said she is disappointed in how young people have reacted to Trump being the president.

"With all the different rallies we see, I get it," said Green. "I know you're frustrated. But people shouldn't trash campuses like they are at Berkeley over Ann Coulter coming to speak. If you want

to protest, do so peacefully."

O'Connor said she thinks it is challenging sometimes to be a Republican at a liberal school like Southern, but she is open for discussion.

"We should have a healthy debate," said O'Connor. "People are all about free speech until they find out you're a conservative."

# Southern students' readiness to enter the workforce

By Lynandro Simmons

Entering the workforce and beginning real life directly after college can be frightening for some kids who are moving on for their first time. However, Brian Chepya, a junior philosophy major, said he is prepared for the workforce.

"I've had jobs before," said Chepya.

Working in sales and having a management role has helped prepare Chepya for entering into the workforce after college, he said. His previous job as a manager and working 60 hours a week during a temporary break from college gave him insight as to how life could be after college, he said.

A lot of philosophy classes have also helped to provided additional information and allowed him to expand his mind. Though this has not necessarily prepared him completely for the workforce, studying for philosophy has helped to

strengthen his resolve, Chepya said.

"Certain other classes are helpful too," said Chepya, "like Photoshop and Excel classes."

These type of classes in college can help to strengthen students' resumes and give them an advantage going into the workforce, Chepya said. However, there are some things that a person can learn on their own.

Experience and internships aside, college provided something even more useful, a degree. Chepya said having a degree alone could provide a competitive edge for students entering the workforce upon graduation.

"That's what you're paying for," said Chepya. "You're paying for the piece of paper."

Griffin Goblirsch, a sophomore English major, said he did not have a particular desire to enter the workforce.

"My goal in entering college was to become better at writing," said Goblirsch.

If people considered their writing itself a marketable skill, then college has been helpful for him, Goblirsch said. College has helped him to improve his writing skills so he can pursue a career in writing prose fiction, he said.

Goblirsch said he was hesitant to attribute Southern to providing students with knowledge about entering the regular work force and said it depended on a student's major.

"I feel like the most basic of work-force abilities are covered in high school anyways," Goblirsch said.

William Maroney, a junior computer science major, said college helps students prepare for the workforce because students have to learn how to handle curveballs.

"The workforce will throw you curveballs and you need to be able to navigate," Maroney said.

Maroney previously worked in the medical field for 10 years and was in the

process of changing careers. This allowed him to see college for what it was worth. People have to learn to roll with the punches and college allows students to learn this, he said.

"In high school everything's pretty much laid out for you," Maroney said. "But in college you're in control of yourself."

For his major, specifically completing college was important to start a career, said Maroney. To have a good career trajectory and eventually supervise, the degree was necessary, he said.

Completing college also shows dedication and internships provide opportunities for students to get their foot in the door, he said.

"The college experience is what you put into it," said Maroney. "There are aspects that can help you and there are of course things that can be improved."

# How students are prepping for finals

By Sidney Jones

With only two weeks before finals commence, Sandra Gomez-Aceves, a senior journalism major, has only worked on assignment-based finals.

"I haven't started studying for finals yet," said Gomez-Aceves, "but I have been working on two final projects for about three weeks now."

Gomez-Aceves said because of her major the type of finals she has varies.

"Every year is different when it comes to studying," Gomez-Aceves said. "And as a journalism major, most of the finals are long term projects."

Finals week begins on May 7 and concludes on May 12. Students have two weeks to begin studying and preparing for finals.

Jennifer Canas Betancur, a junior social work major, said her preparation has not yet begun.

"It depends on what my final is and how much needs to be done," Canas Betancur said. "So this semester I have three presentations, a paper and one exam. I'll be able to do that a week before it's due."

Gomez-Aceves said she begins her studying the week of reading day and continues until she finishes her finals.

"I usually begin preparing for finals

the last week of classes and into the first week of exams," said Gomez-Aceves.

"Sometimes, if it's a multiple choice exam versus a writing assignment, I will spend about two days before it to go over things that could be on the exam."

Jared Labades, a sophomore athletic training major, also said he tries to prepare a week prior.

"I try the week before," said Labades, "but it's [most] likely to happen the day before because of how much work we get."

Students have different ways of studying for their finals. In 2014, USA Today College created the "25 Crucial Study Tips for Finals Week" to help students. These tips included creating a to-do list and a schedule, forming a study group and even overlearning the material. For Cantas Bentancur, she said she keeps it simple when studying for finals.

"I gather all the information I need first and just look it over," Cantas Bentancur said, "but for finals I'll make flashcards."

For Labades, his method for studying is preparing all the notes he has gathered throughout the semester.

Gomez-Aceves, like Canas Betancur, said she uses flash cards, but also will make her own study guide if she needs to.

Canas Betancur said that having well written notes is the best for finals.

"I believe good notes throughout the



PHOTO | MELISSA NUNEZ

semester and studying consistently for at least a week in advance to fully understand and remember the concept of the material will help," said Canas Betancur.

Studying for finals is not always easy. Labades said when studying, he can get easily distracted. While Canas Betancur said not having motivation and waiting until the last minute will make studying more difficult than need be.

Southern's Academic Success Center can help those who may have trouble. The center is located on the third floor of the Hilton C. Buley Library and provides not only study spaces, but also tutoring and writing seminars for those that need it.

The center is open in the library on Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., on Fridays from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

and from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Saturdays. They are also open late on Mondays in the Farnham Programming Space from 8 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Canas Betancur said once she starts preparing she will be positive for the upcoming finals.

"I'm confident," said Canas Betancur, "but I know I'll be more confident if I already started studying."

Labades said he's only worried about one class, the rest is simple.

"I am somewhat confident about my finals except chemistry, that will be the hardest one," said Labades. "The other ones I expect to be easy."



A photo of the White House taken on July 14, 2009.

PHOTO COURTESY | HANNAH ROSEN

# Southern's take on White House transparency

By Lynandro Simmons

Members of the media have recently criticized the White House transparency, or lack thereof. President Donald Trump has decided to end the practice of posting the visitors logs to the White House website, citing privacy concerns.

"A big part of it for this administration is that the people asking for this information the White House views as hostile to them," said Jennifer Hopper.

Hopper, a political science professor at Southern, said it is usually reporters or non-profit positive government groups that might want this information. She said these people may be trying to see if there are any visitors with conflicts of interests entering the White House.

The administration may be hiding the logs because they are considering what is in their best interest politically, Hopper said. Putting all the information out there may allow people to latch onto negative stories,

she said.

"If they don't release the information then those stories never get written," she said.

It is possible that if there was a lot of public outcry, with Americans saying that they wanted this information released, then the administration may have to reassess their position on it, said Hopper. However, she said it does not seem to be costing them any issues with their supporters.

Hopper added the issue of Trump's tax returns is an another point altogether.

"The tax issue is a little different," said Hopper. "There has been more bipartisan calls for the release of the President's tax returns."

The Trump administration has also compared itself to the Obama administration in terms of transparency. However, while the Obama administration also faced criticism surrounding transparency there were some differences.

"The Obama administration was incredibly proactive in cutting down any leaks from the White House to the news media,"

said Hopper.

The Obama administration also subpoenaed journalists in regards to preventing White House leaks. This was an issue Obama's administration was heavily criticized for on the left and viewed as problematic, said Hopper.

Despite this slight similarity, Trump was unique in one aspect. He was the first president to not release his taxes, Hopper said.

Jonathan Wharton, a political science professor, said the issue revolves around access.

"It's not like it's legally required that they have to give over the logs," said Wharton.

It was done for the media originally, Wharton said. But in this regard, it is not like the administration is doing anything shady.

"Now if Congress were to pass or law or if there were hearings or investigations, that's another story," Wharton said.

If a government institution like Congress is demanding it that is one thing, Wharton said. But unless it is something legal that requires it, there should not be this much

attention. Even revealing the taxes were just something for the media, he said.

"It was done as an effort to understand the fuller picture of a candidate," Wharton said.

The media has come to expect it because it was done in light of the whole water gate business, said Wharton. It never has been a law implemented and is more like a gentleman's agreement between the media and government officials, he said.

"Don't get me wrong, I live for open access," said Wharton. "You're talking about a guy who scrutinizes tax evasions for his research."

The criticism is not solely from the left and, in the criticism regarding the taxes, some Republicans are saying that Trump should release them.

Wharton said he agreed Trump should release his taxes, despite it not being a law.

"It's been done before by previous administrations and carries on a precedent," said Wharton. "Plus it would end the scrutinizing and concern around it."

# Rap newcomer Playboi Carti releases his debut mixtape



Photo of Playboi Carti in the middle of his set during a performance in November of 2016.

PHOTO | THE COME UP SHOW

By Gregory Gagliardi

Playboi Carti's debut mixtape falls short producing the next "Broke Boi" and "Fetti," but is still an enjoyable listen.

Atlanta rapper Playboi Carti bust onto the scene with his SoundCloud hit "Broke Boi." He followed "Broke Boi" with another hit, "Fetti." But during these moments Carti shied away from public exposure. He constantly teased his debut mixtape, but nothing happened. Fans began to wonder if the tape would ever drop.

Carti's fans dream came true on April 14 when the mixtape titled "Playboi Carti" dropped. The mixtape is far from perfect and lacks creativity at certain points, however there are stretches where Carti runs lap around his competition.

The tape begins with the Harry Fraud produced "Location." The beat in "Location" sounds like a video game theme song and Carti does not overcomplicate matters. He flows well and repeats catchy phrases like "tats on my neck and my arm" over his ad libs that provide a smooth song.

It is not till the second song, "Magnolia" where we see Carti unleash his full potential. Over a bouncy beat by PierreBourne, Carti flows perfectly. Carti will not floor

you with his lyrics. He uses expansive flows and one liners to move a song; he is not a narrator. "Magnolia" is an example of this. Quick jabs over a tailored made beat provide a memorable cut.

The best moments are in the beginning of the track list. After "Magnolia" is "Lookin'" and "Wokeuplikethis," both feature Lil' Uzi Vert. "Lookin'" is repetitive and too stagnant. No flow could save it and it is a hard pass. Uzi and Carti quickly redeem themselves with "Wokeuplikethis." A song in which they confront copycat artist who bite their style while bragging about their lifestyle over a bubbly video game sounding trap ballad produced by PierreBourne. Both artist come with a point to prove. Both sound cocky and aggressive, but in a playful way. Carti and Uzi will not hurt you, but they are aware artists are biting them, they opt to mock and remind them, this sound belongs to them.

Throughout the remaining tracks Carti begins to recycle flows and his lyrics begin to bore. The saving grace is the production. Carti is not weak on any song, and many are good, but after a while songs begin to mesh together and the mixtape loses its individuality.

"New Choppa," is a breath of fresh air. It features ASAP Rocky, an artist who mentored Carti. The two unleash powerful flows over a dark street style beat.

Rocky feels at home. Flowing like a seasoned veteran he approaches the beat like a baseball on a tee elevating the song to new heights.

A final highlight is "Dothats---!". The beat, which sounds influenced by Pokémon video games, is arcade sounding. The beat is rather funny because it does sound so happy yet incorporates gunshots, which sound peaceful rather than dark. This song is why Carti has so much potential. Dothat----! does not make, but Carti feels natural in this environment. You will not hear the song at a party, but when it is 2 a.m. and the parties over toss "Dothats---!" on and talk to people you love.

Final verdict: The production carries the mixtape. Carti does not have many memorable bars, but his flow remains in intact for the majority. Carti has found his style. Rather than producing a song like Broke Boi Carti ventures into the 2005 arcade nostalgia type sound and comes through.

Score: 7/10.

Best songs: "Magnolia," "Location," "Wokeuplikethis," "Let it go," "Dothats---!", "Yah Mean," "Kelly K" and "New Choppa."

Worst songs: "Lookin'," "Had 2," "No.9" and "Half & Half"

## Photos from the 2017 Spring Week Concert



PHOTO | PALMER PIANA

Photo of A Boogie Wit Da Hoodie during his performance in the Academic Quad.



PHOTO | PALMER PIANA

Photo of students enjoying the spring concert.

FOR MORE PHOTOS FROM THE SPRING WEEK CONCERT SEE PAGE 14



PHOTO | PALMER PIANA

Students wait outside in the Academic Quad for the A Boogie With Da Hoodie Concert.

### Correction:

- In the April 19 issue, A&E Student Art of the Week was incorrectly attributed as "Reed Newley." The student's name is Reed Beeley. Beeley is a junior History major.

# New 'Astroneer' video game allows for fun space exploration



PHOTO | DYLAN HAVILAND

"Astroneer" video game is available on PC and on the Xbox One.

By Josh LaBella

As my fellow Astroneer Gary Scaramella and I blasted off our first planet into space, I was not sure of what was going to come next. The open-world early access game lets the player figure it all out by themselves.

"Astroneer" is a space-based sandbox game that is currently available for the Xbox One and PC being developed by System Era Softworks. It is set during a 25th century gold rush where players must explore a solar system of planets and try to stay alive long enough to colonize it.

The first thing I noticed about the game was that it gives you very little in terms of tutorial. The game starts with the player in a space capsule dropping hurtling through the sky and landing on a random planet. When you get out of your capsule the only form of instruction you get is a list of what the buttons do on the pause menu. There is no set goal or storyline.

That is not to say it was a bad thing; the game is exploration driven and discovering new things always feels rewarding. When you first leave your camp you leave behind the air hose that refuels your air tank. This means you spend your first several resource gathering missions trying to budget time. If you get too far away from your base you may suffocate. As you gather resources you can

craft other tools or build new platforms on your base that can do a variety of things.

The game is multiplayer and you can have up to three friends join your game. It was fun to be able to explore the solar system with a buddy. Cooperation is key in this game and I needed a helping hand many a time. Plus, during dust storms, when lethal rocks were hurtling through the sky and smashing into everything in their path, it was nice to have someone to hide in a cave with.

The controls and interface in the Xbox edition are wonky to say the least. You need to hold down several different buttons at once while adjusting the camera to see where you are looking, and it frequently led to me doing or clicking the wrong thing. The player can change the world around them using a tool that can delete, add, or smooth out the land.

The problem was the three symbols that appeared when you used the tool looked very similar so it was easy to delete land when you were trying to add it. It also was almost impossible to control how much land was affected, with almost no consistency in how the tool morphed the earth.

The graphics of the game are more cartoonish than lifelike but the art style is quite beautiful. The colors on the different planets are very vibrant and the landscape was always incredible to look at. The developers also nailed the day and night cycle, having both gorgeous

sunrises and dazzling night skies filled with stars. The player and the tools they create all look very shiny and crisp. In general the game is well-polished and pleasing to look at.

"Astroneer" did have a few technical problems. First off, it had a very slow rendering speed when you encounter new territory. Next, it could be quite buggy and it was not rare that I would clip through the earth and fall under the map to my death, losing all my goodies. Finally, the loading screens were fairly long and the multiplayer did not always work right away.

The best part of the game had to be the soundtrack. The music was atmospheric and at any given time inspired wonder, fear, excitement or loneliness. There were several moments when playing where I found myself simply sitting and listening. There is not much sound in the game other than your tools and sensors, so the music really made the experience whole.

My verdict is that "Astroneer" is a great game. It does not have much of a storyline, but the crazy exploration makes up for it. Plus, there is still more content to come. The exploration is exciting and the scope of the game makes you feel like a true space adventurer. The music and graphics provide a tranquil and easy-going vibe as you progress through space.

# A second season of 'Thirteen Reasons Why' is needed to tie up loose ends and give viewers closure

By Matt Johnson

It has become almost impossible to scroll through Twitter without reading about Netflix's new hit show, "13 Reasons Why." The show has received a 90 percent approval rating from Rotten Tomatoes and has been captivating audiences ever since all 13 episodes became available for streaming.

The story, adapted from Jay Asher's novel, takes you through the journey Clay Jensen, played by Dylan Minnette, goes through following the suicide of his friend, Hannah Baker, played by Katherine Langford. The series shares a narrative that is relatively similar to the book and touches on several sensitive topics such as suicide, bullying and sexual assault.

At the beginning of the first episode Clay receives 13 tapes, which were recorded by Hannah before she took her own life. Each tape gives detailed explanations of how bullying ultimately lead to her suicide. The shows timeline switches back and forth between present day and flashbacks to when Hannah was alive. The director uses this strategy in order to show the aftermath of the suicide as well as what lead up to it.

The series creates a lot of new plot that is not present in the book. The major differences between the original book and the show cannot go unnoticed. In the book there is no specification of the character's sexual orientation or their ethnicity, but the show has multiple characters that identify as gay and the cast is very ethnically diverse. The most significant change between the two is the court case. The book does not

mention the court case, but one of the main plot points in the series is the legal battle Hannah's parents intend to initiate with the school over the death of their child.

These differences are what would allow the series to continue. The show has a more elaborate plot and creates new storytelling opportunities that would allow the narrative to be further explored through the lens of multiple characters. Season one tells the original story, but with new details that can be elaborated on if the series were to continue.

Viewers have been continuously asking if a second season is even necessary since the original story in the book has been told in full throughout season one. This is true, but season one does not give the viewer much closure. With additional plot and characters, the end of season one hints that there is more to come. There are several loose ends to be tied such as the death of a second student and the unfinished court battle.

In an entertainment industry where every new movie is a sequel and every show is a spin off, why not explore and elaborate on the plot of a book? Season one was met with mostly favorable reviews and there is a lot more that this series can offer. Hannah's story may have been told, but there is far more to this story. The show also offers important life lessons about the repercussions of bullying and how schools need to take initiative to prevent it from happening. As of now Netflix has not announced any plans for a season.



PHOTO COURTESY | LARRY 4-11

Actor Dylan Minnette from "Thirteen Reasons Why" at the "Let Us In" movie premiere.



Copies of the book "Thirteen Reasons Why" by Jay Asher.

PHOTO COURTESY | RITA CRAYON HUANG



PHOTO COURTESY | JBURD2

Snapshot of "The Fate of the Furious" actor, Vin Diesel, in a previous "Fast and Furious" movie.

## 'The Fate of the Furious' is everything fans should expect

By Lynandro Simmons

Somewhere a long time ago, the "Fast and Furious" films went completely off course. A film series that started off centered on drag racing has turned into a high speed heist genre of its own. The further the film series strayed from street racing, the farther it forayed into the territory of an outlandish extravaganza. "The Fate of the Furious," the eighth film in the series, may just be the most extravagant film of the series yet.

The new film in this expansive series centers on the main character Dominic Toretto—played by Vin Diesel—betraying his crew. Dom is forced to betray his crew due to the film's antagonist, Cipher, played by Charlize Theron, having captured an important person from Dom's past.

One of the most interesting aspects of this betrayal is the fact that Dom has long been the character that has preached the importance of family. But when Cipher forces Dom to become her worker the film turns into a suspenseful inter family-drama with Dom going head-to-head with the crew he assembled himself.

Though "The Fate of the Furious" sees the film series almost completely abandoning its original premise—and the first

film since the loss of actor Paul Walker—the movie still does a great job of getting the audience's adrenaline running. Now, does the movie run a little too long, shows a lot of over the top scenes and lack a really strong plot? Sure, but this film series has always been about the action packed scenes.

One of the strongest facets of the film is the naturally diverse cast that have grown together. From Vin Diesel to Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson, the series boasts a talented cast that have become akin to family, and this shows with the chemistry on screen. The film allows for each character to have their own screen time and key moments in contributing to the action in this film.

The climax of the movie is as preposterous as people can imagine with a showdown on the frozen Russian wasteland. The final sequence of the movie features everything fans can expect: high speed driving, excessive explosions and smart remarks from Tyrese in his role as Roman Pearce.

In the end it seems "Fast and the Furious" has finally decided to leave the world of racing and delve into an all-out action packed film. After this film it has been made clear to fans that there is no turning back.

What is most commendable about this



PHOTO COURTESY | AUTOMOTIVE RHYTHMS

Photo from the premiere of "The Fate of the Furious" hosted by Chris "Ludacris" Bridges and Tyrese Gibson.

film is how the series has managed to reinvent itself completely over the course of eight films. Not many franchises can last that long all the while transforming the premise of what the series really is. But this series has managed to reinvent itself without losing its core audience and

achieving mass success. Who knows what is next for "The Fast and Furious." But one thing is certain, this series has no plans of slowing down.

## IN-HOME CARE IS IN DEMAND.

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Senior Kyle Hart at bat during Southern's 6-4 win over UNH.

PHOTO | PALMER PIANA

## Owls edge UNH

The baseball team beat UNH on Saturday to give the team their 20th win on the season, which puts them first in the Southwest Division.

By Matt Gad

A 6-4 win over the University of New Haven earned Southern a season win. They will visit their rivals once again at their home. But until May 2, the Owls have to keep battling.

"We lost a lot of these games last year," head coach Tim Shea said. "Learning how to win is contagious - everybody's doing their job and, as a result, we've got it rolling pretty well."

Nate Carney picked up the win, sending him to 4-2 on the year. The freshman left-hander tossed six innings of work, allowing eight hits, three runs and a wild pitch. He relied

heavily on the ground ball, picking up 12 of his outs at first base.

Carney now has a 3.02 ERA in 53.2 innings of work this season. This was the only start in which he did not strike a batter out.

"New Haven's a good team. You gotta get to them early and we did a good

**"I'm happy that we're coming together as a team."**

— Jim Palmer, junior shortstop

job getting two in the first," Shea said. "We had some other opportunities but we didn't get any runs out of

it." In that first, Nick Lamberti opened the scoring on a RBI single, plating leadoff hitter Jim Palmer. Kyle Hart followed, driving home Lamberti to make it 2-0. In the third, Tyler Criscuolo flied out to center field, but Palmer was able to score on the sacrifice fly.

Palmer went 2-4, scoring two runs on the afternoon: "I think we just have a lot of veteran guys on this team that keep us level-headed and keep us working later in the game to get the job done," he said. "I'm happy that we're coming together as a team - everybody's working towards the same goal - we're all pushing

each other everyday to get better."

A couple more hits and runs by Greg Zullo and Hart gave the Owls a 6-1 lead in the third inning. Carney allowed two more Chargers runs in the sixth before Griffin Bremer took over in relief. Bremer allowed a run to make it 6-4 before Quantique White came on for the save.

"Carney's a competitor," Shea said. "We weren't sure how he was going to be on four days rest but he threw an early bullpen and looked really strong and he pitched six solid innings for us."

He was helped out early by Lamberti, who is now hitting .408 for the Owls:

SEE BASEBALL PAGE 11

## Carrasco looks to finish Southern career strong



PHOTO | SOUTHERNCTOWLS.COM

Carrasco was named to the NE-10 weekly honor roll two weeks ago.

By Matt Gad

Adriana Carrasco, a senior psychology major, is making sure that her last outdoor track campaign is one for the books. Last year she was an All-American in the 4x100 and 4x400 meter relays for both the indoor and outdoor seasons.

"The season has been going well so far," she said. "Outdoor is such a short season so the main focus is to stay healthy through the championship meets."

The women's outdoor season began April 1 at the Mark Young Invitational in New Haven. The next meet, April 7, members of the team were split by the Miami Hurricane Invitational in Coral Gables, Florida and the Sam Howell Invitational in Princeton, New Jersey.

The regular season runs until the Yale Springtime Invitational April 30 in New Haven. NE-10 Championships are then held May 5 and 6 in Easton, Massachusetts.

"Adriana was an All-American again indoors - she's healthy and running really well. I would expect her outdoor season to be better than any season she's had so far," said coach John Wallin.

Wallin, who is the head coach for the men's team, is one of the coaches on the women's staff. Melissa Stoll is the team's head coach. The men's and women's track and field coaching staff features several coaches who specialize in various event and training areas.

One of Carrasco's teammates, Sonia Morant, said she is someone who always wants the best for everyone. Morant is

SEE CARRASCO PAGE 10



PHOTO | THE NCCGA

The golf team posing after they won the NCCGA team of the week award.

## Golf team is Nationals bound

By Phil Zoppi

The Southern Connecticut State University golf team has already qualified for Nationals and has been ranked as high as number two in the country this season.

The golf team is currently number 29 in the country but Chris Kuczo, the president of the golf club, is really proud of the way his team has performed in 2017.

"We were definitely expecting to be this good," said Kuczo. "I'm so impressed with our ascent into the top 50. This the highest we have been ranked and I think we can

compete with any team when we are on."

The golf team has 14 players in total and Kuczo has pointed towards Vincent Barone as being one of the very best on the team. According to the National Collegiate Golf Association Barone has an average score of 75 this year and a low round of 71. Kuczo has said that Barone used to be an eight or nine handicap and now does not need a handicap at all.

Southern has not been known for being a powerhouse at golf but Barone believes that the team and he can keep up with any team or golfer in the country.

"Honestly, I feel that I can compete with any NCCGA golfer in the country," said Barone. "I know what I am capable of doing on the course, it's just a matter of whether I hit the right shots at the right time. I believe I have more tournament experience than the majority of club golfers and I also believe I have more accolades."

Alabama is ranked No. 1 in the country and Barone has recognized the talent that they possess on paper but thinks that Southern can compete with them at Nationals.

Kuczo is confident that Southern can compete with teams like Alabama as well but

SEE GOLF PAGE 11

## Social media awareness

By Matt Gad

There are a bunch of social networks out there these days – Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat – but there is one that is getting lost among the reeds. LinkedIn, the online resume and networking tool, still holds a very important place in society. It is time it gets the mainstream recognition it deserves.

You do not know about it until you need to. You are unprofessional online until you need to stop. There are serious issues with social media today – kids will tweet, or retweet, anything

they think is funny. Racist, sexist and just plain distasteful content is shared online millions of times a day, and the people supporting its popularity have no clue that they are affecting their digital footprint so much.

Instead of posting irrelevant information, you should make your accounts a mixture of your personal and professional self, not just a hilarious feed of immaturity. In my opinion, Twitter and LinkedIn should come together. Clean up the spam accounts, build a paywall and promote professionalism and general decency. Once the social media landscape is

fixed, children can grow up with an early understanding of the life they should create for themselves. At the very least just please realize that these behaviors gives these platforms a bad name.

Journalists and celebrities need clean places to display their content. There is too much inappropriateness taking place – it is up to our generation to pick up the pieces and make everyone smarter. The reason I like LinkedIn so much is because there are no opportunities for foolishness – it is straight to the point – you build a resume to display, you join networks and

you make virtual connections with the likeminded. There is no bad footprint when you are stressing people to make smart choices online. This world is not going to support you if all you do is abuse your favorite social networks for a daily inappropriate laugh.



## Owls claim the top spot in the USTFCCA rankings

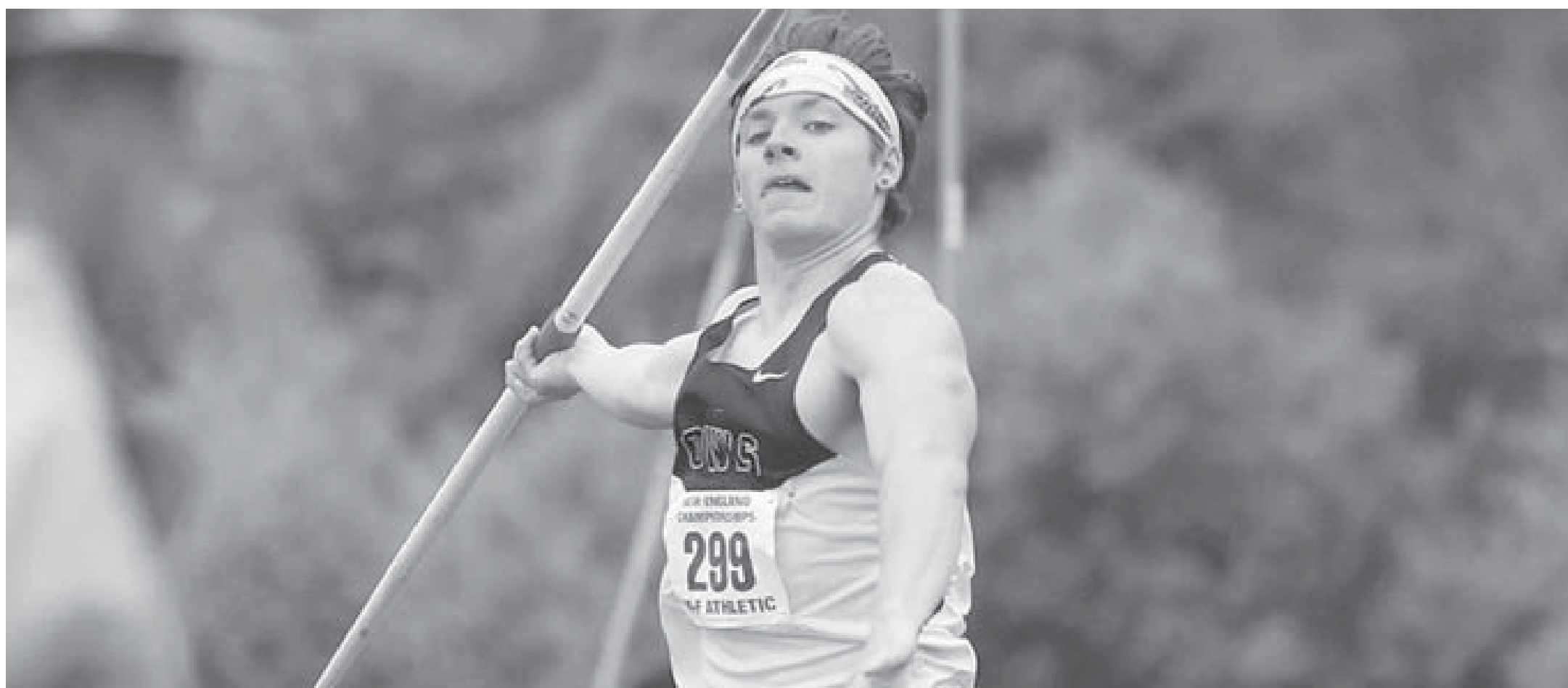


PHOTO | SOUTHERNCTOWLS.COM

Junior Hunter Stokes competing in the javelin at the USC Open this season.

By Michael Apotria

The month of April is coming to a close and the SCSU men's track and field team is at the top of the USTFCCA rankings, but senior Yakabu Ibrahim said the team is not quite where they want to be yet and must not get complacent with only a few meets left until the conference meet.

"Honestly, we can't slack or get comfortable," said Ibrahim. "We are doing good now, but we aren't where we want to be just yet. Hopefully some of the conference we'll be there."

The Owl's finished the indoor track season on top after winning the NE-10 regional meet. Ibrahim

said he believes the success has helped the team transition from the indoor season to the outdoor, and said how important it is to maintain the same drive and determination them win now that they are the team everyone is gunning for.

"Everyone saw what we did indoors and it really sent the message to our competitors in the conference that we mean business," said Ibrahim. "We had a lot of guys step up during crucial moments for the conference win. It was really inspiring for us moving forward."

Track and field head coach, John Wallin, explained how important it is for members of the team to maintain their focus

throughout the entirety of the long season.

"Track and field is basically the only sport that goes entire school year," said Wallin. "It always starts out intense with indoor track around the country, but as the season progresses the kids tend to gravitate towards that 'school is coming to an end mentality' and we have to re-establish that excitement and focus."

Additionally, Wallin said that this is not uncommon amongst collegiate track and field athletes and the coaching staff recognized it years ago and has instilled plans into their program to address it.

"Right around this time of the year we do a lot of motivational stuff with the kids on the team,"

said Wallin. "We remind them of the goals that were placed at the beginning of the year and make sure they stay focused on them."

Eight months have passed since the start, yet Wallin said nothing about this success the team has seen so far has shocked the coaching staff, even with the NE-10 indoor regional meet win and personal bests set by the team, he said he knows what his athletes are capable of, even when they might not.

"Nothing leading up to now has surprised any of us," said Wallin. "We see what these kids are capable of doing during practices. The kid might be surprised, but we are well aware of what they can do long before the mark

comes out."

While it is a great feeling knowing your team is on top of the division with the season winding down, Ibrahim said there is still a lot to accomplish and they can not take their foot off the gas just yet.

"I want to win as much as possible," said Ibrahim. "That means conference, New England's and I want to qualify for the USA nationals, world champs and a couple of summer meets. If we stay hungry, we can compete with anybody and I truly believe that."

## Carrasco

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

another relay runner, currently in her junior season.

"She's encouraging. Our team chemistry is strong and everyone is friendly and wants the best for each other," Morant said. "We compete together and she inspires and encourages me, making me feel like I can compete well and strong. She just makes me feel more relaxed before a race."

Wallin said Carrasco is someone who leads by example. He said she is not extremely vocal but he is spoken to her about it, especially in relation to chemistry among her relay teammates.

"She works really hard, puts her hat on tight and goes to work – as a coach you really appreciate that. It's important to just be who you are (as an athlete)."

"We're a very dynamic team," Carrasco said. "During practices and meets we are always cheering each other on. Support is huge and it helps a lot of us compete to our best potential. The coaches are always pushing us to be our best every day and I love that."

Carrasco will look to finish her senior season strong and tap into that potential.



PHOTO | SOUTHERNCTOWLS.COM

Carrasco has been named to the Northeast-10 women's indoor track and field All-Academic Team during her career.

## The Yankees are back

By Phil Zoppi

The New York Yankees have started the season hotter than ever and just like that the evil empire is back.

Okay, maybe I am getting a little ahead of myself but the Yankees are definitely on the rise and there is no denying that. With players like Aaron Judge, Gary Sanchez and Jordan Montgomery already showing glimpses of greatness, the Yanks are set up to dominate for years to come.

MLBPipeline.com ranked the Bronx Bombers as having

the second best farm system in the MLB so there is a lot of talent that the Yankees have not even brought up yet. The most important prospect being Gleyber Torres, who the Yankees acquired from the Chicago Cubs last summer for Aroldis Chapman. On top of Torres, the Yankees have one of the most coveted outfield prospects in Clint Frazier, who they also got at the deadline last season.

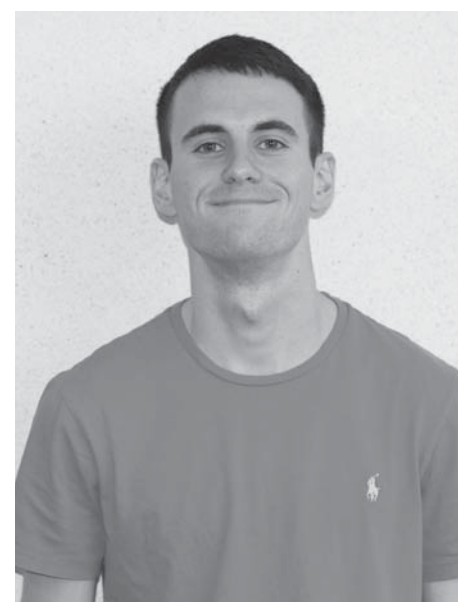
Even though the Yankees have competed for wild card spots the last couple seasons it is no secret that they are

rebuilding. The rebuild is almost complete now. Brian Cashman is setting this team up just like the core four teams of Derek Jeter, Mariano Rivera, Jorge Posada and Andy Pettitte were set up. Acquire a bunch of young talent and then when the team is ready to compete go out and sign two to three big free agents.

Those two to three big free agents are going to be available after the 2018 season in the form of Manny Machado, Bryce Harper and Matt Harvey. Machado has already talked publicly about the idea of him

playing in New York and it has gotten Yankee fans more excited than they have been for a long time. On top of Machado I think I have heard every Yankee fan I know talk about how Harper will be a Yankee in 2019 and that is definitely a strong possibility.

I am not saying the Yankees are fully back to their dynastic ways but it is a lot closer than people think.



## Baseball

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

"He leads the conference in hitting - he does a lot of good things," said Shea. "He gets on base, he drives in runs - when we get Palmer and Lamberti on base good things happen."

Palmer suffered an injury after just five games last season. He batted .200 and scored a run in his sophomore campaign, which came against Chestnut Hill Feb. 27.

"We set goals before the season - win a conference, win a regional, qualify for a College World Series," Palmer said. "We just try to be the best team that we can be."

The Owls, who are 8-1 in NE-10 play and 21-10-1 on the year, are home to Adelphi today at 3:30 P.M. They have a series against American International set for April 29-30 and then have the UNH game May 2.



Griffin Bremer delivering a pitch against UNH on Tuesday.

PHOTO | PALMER PIANA

## Golf

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9



PHOTO | SOUTHERNCTOWLS.COM

Vincent Barone getting ready to tee off.

he has other concerns that he has to worry about as president of the golf team. There are many responsibilities that Kuczo has to deal with for the golf team to even be able to compete with other schools.

"I have a lot of responsibilities," said Kuczo. "Most of the time I'm organizing funds and rosters to get our team to tournaments. Lots of it is behind the scenes busy work. But I like having a leadership role, I've certainly embraced it the past two and a half years."

Organizing funds is something that Kuczo is especially focused on right now as the team tries to raise enough money to go to Nationals. Nationals will be held on April 29 and 30 in Hot Springs, Arkansas. The expenses of transportation and housing are costly but it looks like the golf team is going to be able to attend Nationals.

John Coniglio, the co-vice president of the golf club, puts the chances of the team going at 50 percent earlier in the week so it is a nice surprise that Southern will be able to attend Nationals. Kuczo likes Southern's chances at Nationals.

"I can honestly say that I think we can really compete if we go to Nationals," said Kuczo. "We have a solid team, and we are really clicking all at the same time right now."

## SCSU Giving Day

# Giving Day exceeds expectations



PHOTO | SOUTHERNCTOWLS.COM

The athletic program raised \$1,865 and the School of Education raised a total of \$1,370.

By Matt Gad

Southern held their second annual Giving Day April 18, helping both the athletic and academic sides of the school prosper for years to come. Parents, student-athletes, friends and faculty all wanted to lend a hand.

"We were overwhelmed with the support that we received," associate athletic director Michael Kobylanski said. "We surprised our donor goal by 222 percent, which was much higher than we projected for."

This was the first year this event had included the athletic department. Kobylanski utilized social media to spread the word, where various athletes were featured in a count-down to the Giving Day proceedings.

"Every team was out trying to get as many donations as they could," athletic director Jay Moran said. "We even had our own mini-contest a week ago where nine or 10 teams of our teams had 100 percent of their athletes give to the school."

Most of the day's donors gave to the designation of "University's Highest Priorities," while others

helped out the School of Arts and Sciences and Health and Human Services. The athletic program raised \$1,865 and the School of Education raised a total of \$1,370.

"People could choose where their money would go and the coaches were able to decide how the money would be allocated," Kobylanski said.

You were also able to donate to a specific team, he said, helping them fund everything from seasonal trips to timing and practice equipment. For example, the baseball team went on several trips to Florida. and South Carolina this spring to play games against various opponents.

Said Moran: "Our athletes appreciate everything the university does for them so when it comes to campus-wide activities they're the first ones to get involved."

He added: "[the athletes] are role models in so many ways on and off the field. I think they appreciate what the university does for them so by giving back it says that they thank the university for their involvement in their careers."

Most of the donations collected during Giving Day came from

Southern alumni. Behind the 40 percent contribution on behalf of the alumni, the faculty and staff racked in 28 percent of the final tally. Two people also helped raise \$50 for the President Bertolino and Dr. Leipold Student Success Scholarship.

\$6,424 was raised among the aforementioned 222 donors. In terms of athletics, women's volleyball had 108 donors contribute \$2,790 and women's basketball had 33 donors give \$697. In men's sports, 20 donors gave head coach John Wallin \$1,131 to work with and one donor gave Tim Quill and his men's swimming and diving team \$500.

"Southern Connecticut State University is a community - it takes efforts by everyone. I think giving back teaches our young men and women that, no matter what they do in their career, they should give back to their institution," Moran said.

On the university side, 541 donors raised \$36,074 and they hit 270 percent of their 200 donor goal. Fourteen donors who said they were from the Class of 2020 raised \$688 and 15 from the Class of 2018 raised \$422.

# SCSU Baseball vs. UNH



PHOTO | PALMER PIANA

Third baseman Greg Zullo in the field during Southern's game against UNH.



PHOTO | PALMER PIANA

A UNH player taking a pitch.



PHOTO | PALMER PIANA

Head Coach Tim Shea making a pitching change on Tuesday.



PHOTO | PALMER PIANA

A Southern outfielder makes a catch on his knees.

## Northeast-10 Standings

### WOMEN'S LACROSSE STANDINGS

	CONFERENCE			OVERALL		
	GP	RECORD	WIN %	GP	RECORD	WIN %
LE MOYNE	11	11-0	1.000	14	14-0	1.000
ADELPHI	11	10-1	0.909	14	13-1	0.929
NEW HAVEN	11	9-2	0.818	14	11-3	0.786
PACE	11	9-2	0.818	14	11-3	0.786
STONEHILL	11	8-3	0.727	15	9-6	0.600
BENTLEY	11	6-5	0.545	14	7-7	0.500
FRANKLIN PIERCE	11	5-6	0.455	13	7-6	0.538
ASSUMPTION	11	5-6	0.455	14	7-7	0.500
SO. NEW HAMPSHIRE	11	4-7	0.364	15	7-8	0.467
SAINT ANSELM	11	4-7	0.364	15	6-9	0.400
MERRIMACK	11	2-9	0.182	15	4-11	0.267
SAINT MICHAEL'S	11	2-9	0.182	12	3-9	0.250
AMERICAN INT'L	11	1-10	0.091	14	3-11	0.214
SO. CONNECTICUT	11	1-10	0.091	14	3-11	0.214

### BASEBALL STANDINGS

	DIVISION			OVERALL		
	GP	RECORD	WIN %	GP	RECORD	WIN %
SO. NEW HAMPSHIRE	11	10-1-0	0.909	36	29-7-0	0.806
MERRIMACK	13	10-2-1	0.808	34	18-15-1	0.544
FRANKLIN PIERCE	14	10-4-0	0.714	36	24-12-0	0.667
BENTLEY	12	6-5-1	0.542	31	8-22-1	0.274
ASSUMPTION	13	6-7-0	0.462	34	15-19-0	0.441
STONEHILL	14	5-9-0	0.357	35	11-24-0	0.314
SAINT ANSELM	14	3-11-0	0.214	35	10-25-0	0.286
SAINT MICHAEL'S	13	1-12-0	0.077	20	1-19-0	0.050
SO. CONNECTICUT	9	8-1-0	0.889	32	21-10-1	0.672
LE MOYNE	11	8-3-0	0.727	36	24-12-0	0.667
NEW HAVEN	9	5-4-0	0.556	27	18-9-0	0.667
PACE	10	5-5-0	0.500	36	23-13-0	0.639
ADELPHI	13	6-7-0	0.462	39	21-18-0	0.538
AMERICAN INT'L	11	3-8-0	0.273	36	14-22-0	0.389
SAINT ROSE	11	2-9-0	0.182	29	5-24-0	0.172

# OPINIONS



PHOTO | MELISSA NUNEZ

Part of the trail cutting through the marshland at the Branford Trolley Trail.

## The trails and footpaths of New Haven County

By Melissa Nunez

Three weeks from now, students will hightail it out of their finals, pack their bags and head home until August. With some more time at their disposal, summer could be an opportunity for relaxation, renewal and rejuvenation. While some tack on more work hours or classes during the break, students can find it worthwhile to take some time to focus on personal growth and capitalize on those warm summer months ahead.

During the semester, students focus on professional and academic development, but with temperatures rising they can find new and interesting ways to stay active outdoors.

According to the Harvard's School of Public Health, regular physical activity can keep your health in check and help to keep many other health risks at bay as well, such as heart disease, diabetes, certain cancers and more.

While people associate states like Florida and California for their tropical coastlines, many prefer New England states for their mild temperatures, scenic trails and greenery. So take advantage of your own backyard, grab a

backpack and check out some local forests and footpaths.

Many of the students at Southern are Connecticut locals and reside in or around New Haven. If you are on the lookout for some beautiful scenery, then look no further than East Rock Park located in downtown New Haven. East Rock Park has both paved and dirt paths and is perfect for anyone looking to take the steep trip to its crest to view the vibrant city below.

Looking for more trails? Do not leave New Haven just yet- Connecticut locals should also stop by West Rock Ridge State Park. According to the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's Website, at the tip of West Rock Ridge State Park, one can see 200 square feet from its peak and offers hikers breathtaking views of the New Haven Harbor as well as Long Island Sound.

Another local and more infamous hiking spot resides not too far from New Haven. With its rocky terrain forming the silhouette of a colossal sized human dozing, it is dubbed Sleeping Giant State Park in Hamden. At the end of the one and a half mile trail, visitors will find a stone observation tower at its summit, with views of Long Island Sound and the surrounding New Haven area, according to DEEP.

Avid adventurers can return to the mountain regularly for scheduled hikes, like on May 7 at 8 a.m. for the "Early Bird Watchers' Hike" or on May 21 for the "Early Bird Watchers' Hike," as listed on the Sleeping Giant Park Association's website.

There is also the Trolley Trail in Branford, where each sector of this stretch offers a tapestry more diverse and vivid than the last. From spans of leaf blanketed trails shrouded by trees, to a bordering picturesque marsh, visitors will return time and time again for the striking landscape. The trail itself stretches 480 feet and offers views of a historic abandoned trolley track as well as a striking red footbridge.

Between the fall and spring semesters, students are used to their bustling, high stress schedules and while students can utilize their break to continue their productive streak, it is also a chance to broaden their horizons. Why not explore all the beauty Connecticut and New Haven county has to offer?

## Ask Adelle: Maintaining healthy relationships

By Adelle Zocher



PHOTO | MELISSA NUNEZ

Graduate intern at the Wellness Center, Adelle Zocher.

It's the final countdown! I am sad to say that this will be the second to last 'Ask Adelle' Column before the semester ends. As I will be graduating, this column will be taken over by future Wellness Center interns, and I hope you will stay tuned to

see how it evolves and continues to give you the information you want and need.

College is a time for individual, professional and interpersonal growth—particularly when it comes to intimate relationships. With many new faces and opportunities, your time here at SCSU might lead you to that special someone. Trust and communication are a cornerstone to all successful relationships—whether it is with a family member, professor, boss, friend or love interest. Mutual respect is crucial to beginning and maintaining healthy relationships of all kinds.

So what makes a healthy relationship? Cody Peters, an undergraduate intern at the Violence Prevention, Victim Advocacy and Support center, a healthy relationship relies on factors such as communication, while unhealthy relationships can make someone do things with them and prevent their significant other from seeing family members, etcetera.

"A healthy relationship is one in which there is good communication and respect

between the two people in the relationship," said Peters. "An unhealthy relationship would be one in which there is a lack of respect for one another, and where someone tries to take control of their significant other's life."

If a partner is violent, pressures you into any sort of sexual activity or treats you with disrespect, that relationship is not worth it—especially in the case of sexual or other violent behavior. You may recall that I mentioned consent in a previous article. Consent exists when both partners freely and with sound mind give permission to the other to engage in sexual activity. Both must feel that at any time they may stop without fear of pressure from their partner. The moment consent ceases to exist, proceeding is considered sexual assault, no matter the nature of the relationship.

If you feel you have been the victim of sexual assault or abusive behavior or are in anyway fearful, please contact the SCSU VPAS office located in the basement level of Schwartz Hall, call (203) 392-6946 or visit

SouthernCT.edu/sart. Concerned friends and loved ones can also contact the office as an advocate. One in five women and one in 71 men will be raped in their lifetime, and 80 percent of the time the victim knows the person who sexually assaulted them. It is still rape if an intimate partner forces themselves on you, even if you had previously given consent.

A healthy relationship takes work on both sides, and like a flower it must be cared for and nurtured in order to grow. Think of the golden rule— treat others as you would want to be treated. We all crave human interaction to different degrees, and being a student means that interactions are inevitable. Remember to be respectful, open to new ideas, and treat others with kindness—you never know what battles people are fighting. It is amazing the possibilities that can come from simply remembering to smile. Readers, stay safe, stay healthy and be well, remember we are always here in Wellness to answer questions or direct you to the help you need.

## SOUTHERN NEWS

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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.



Smoke rising from crowd in front of the stage.

## A Boogie performs at spring concert

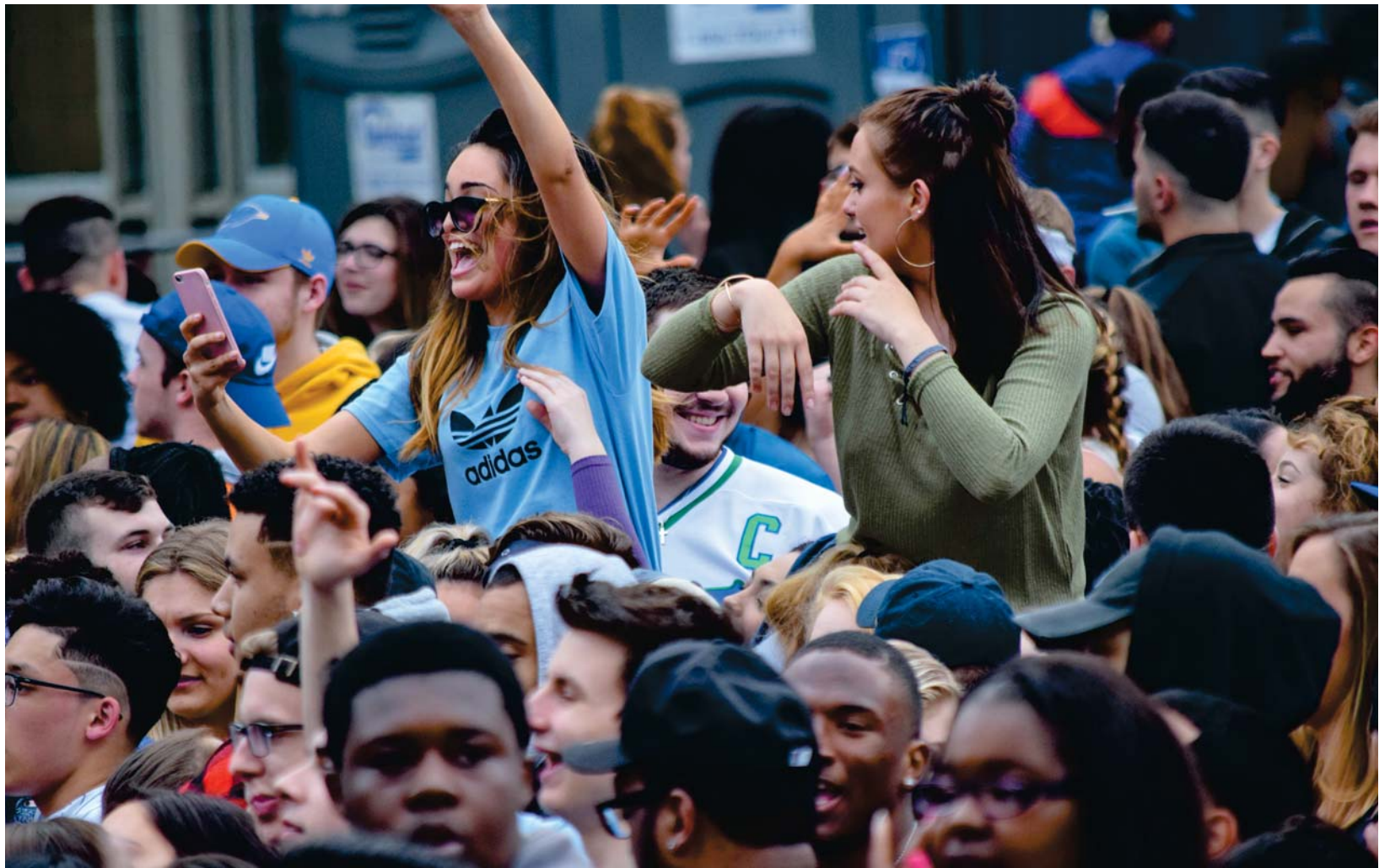
**By Palmer Piana**

Each year Southern hosts a spring concert on campus where they invite popular artists to perform for the students.

This year Southern invited rapper A Boogie Wit da Hoodie who appeared to be a hit amongst the students in attendance.

The concert took place Saturday April, 22 in the academic quad starting at 5:00 p.m.

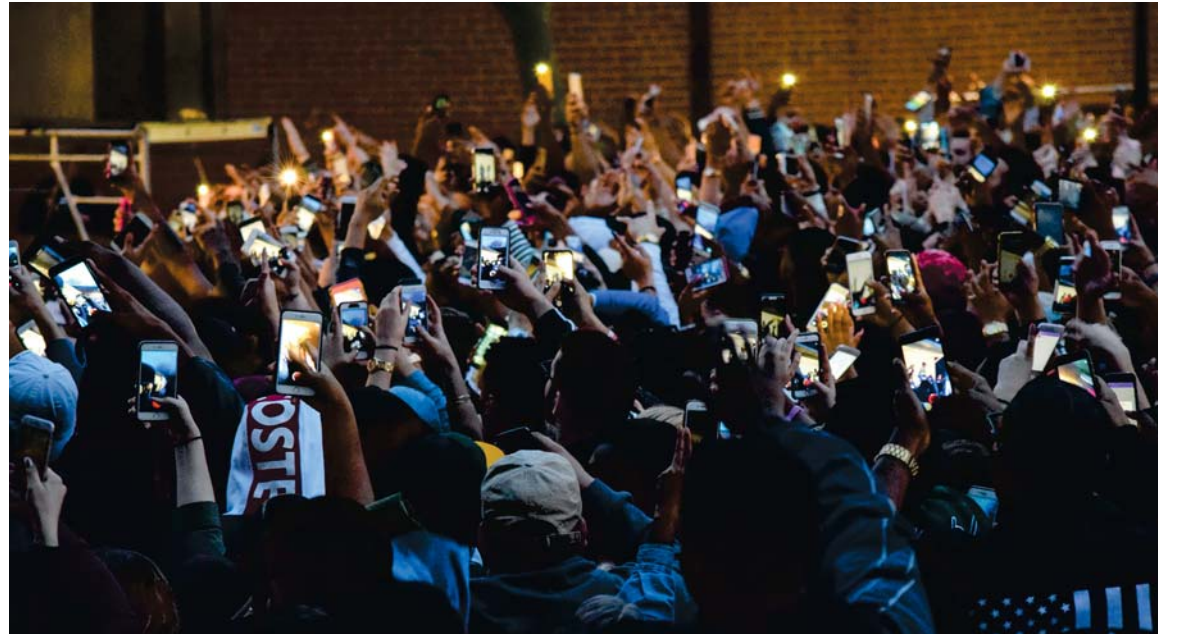
The crowd grew impatient as they waited for the headliner to take the stage, as he was an hour and a half late. All seemed to be forgiven however, when the rapper took the stage to perform.



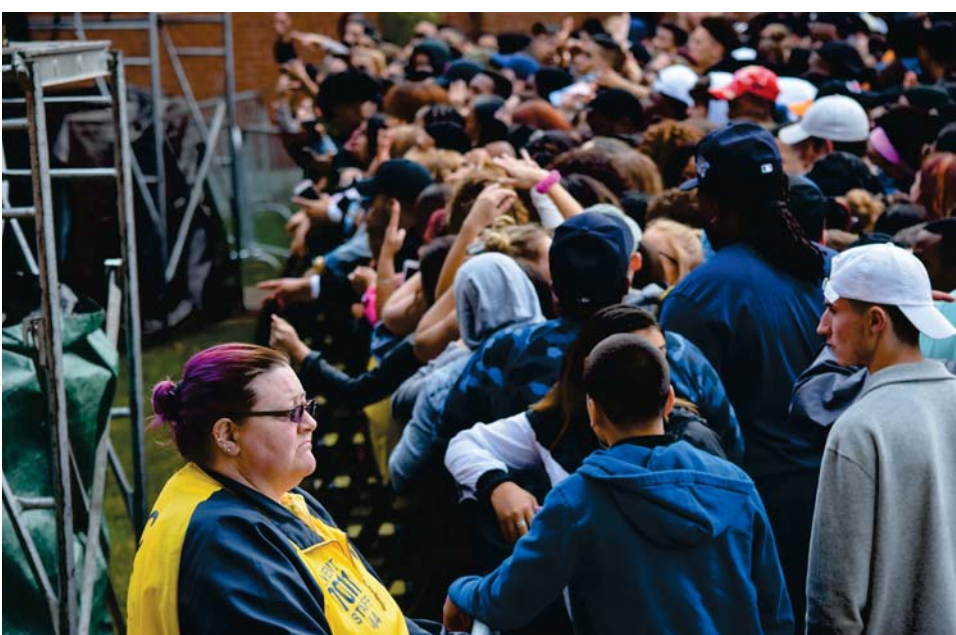
Two audience members being hoisted above the crowd dancing to the music.



Rapper A Boogie Wit da Hoodie performing on stage.



Audience recording with their phones as A Boogie takes the stage.



Front row of the concert being monitored by security.



Friends dancing to music being played as they wait for A Boogie to take the stage.