Business students win competition third time

By August Policillo

The Venture Capital Investment Competition trophy rotates from winning team to new winning team each year; any team who since three times gets to keep and display the trophy for life. This is exactly the honor Tyson explained the nature of student judges from various schools around the competition: students from schools around the state submit business proposals to be evaluated by student judges from other schools. Tyson and professor Han Yu both advise students who wish to participate in the competition.

Tyson said the format of the competition could be directly compared with ABC’s “Shark Tank.” In Southern’s case, students acted as the “sharks.” “We gave some feedback, asked questions, and we picked the best presenter,” said Yu. Tyson said that before the competition, student judges were given some preliminary information about each business model in order to develop critical questions and analyze the proposals. At the presentation itself, however, Decker, Sullivan and Fedak were on their own. “It’s just the team members representing themselves,” Yu said, “We basically serve as the audience.”

Along with the student judges, Yu explained there were career venture capitalists that also judged business proposals. The way to win the competition as a team of student judges is to make choices best suited to the professionals. “We’re a lot more about television – dramatic, performance oriented – VCIC participants rigorously prepare for the event, and break down each proposal.”

“Valuation methods for small businesses are a lot different than valuation methods for large companies.” Decker said. “Therefore, we had to look at the assets versus the liabilities in order to value the companies and try to project what we thought future sales would be.”

Decker said profit margin was one of the key statistics to consider in this valuation. “Critical considering like this means Southern students flourished in competition.”

Students react to rescission of net neutrality

By August Policillo

Southern students who live and operate mostly on campus may be protected from the recent rollback of net neutrality rules; the service to students elsewhere may be compromised. Southern chemistry major Douglas Ceci said he feels about the recent change in national policy. He said net neutrality the way it existed before was put in place for a reason.

“I think some of it is really critical to a free society,” said Ceci. Freedom of information has become a particularly hot topic since the inception of the internet, and now that the providers can regulate the level of service more, Ceci said he feels unnerving.

“As nobody who spend a decent amount of time in Maryland dealing with Comcast,” said Ceci, “I already have a particular dislike for most service providers.”

He continued to say the fact that internet speeds will easily be manipulated by any of the larger service providers is wrong. Ceci commented when asked if he feared a decrease in reliability for Southern’s internet network, “It’s sort of an eventuality in a world where you can put a price on your availability of the internet.”

The good news, according to Omar Abid, a member of Southern’s computer science staff, is that the university’s network access should not be affected by the change in net neutrality regulations. Abid said, “I believe the university is a member of the Connecticut Education Network, which would unlikely throttle speeds for any reason.”

His expert opinion is that CEN would not take advantage of its clientele the same way a commercial internet service provider like Comcast, Frontier, Cox or Verizon FIOS would.

Student Mohamed Khatib said his concern is how the change will affect commuter students who are in “the slow lane.” He said it would affect ease of access to the internet, which would affect the remainder of the campus. “Everybody uses some sort of social media platform to connect with someone else,” said Khatib.

This aspect of the issue is in fact the way that Abid said the recent change in net neutrality would affect students - off campus. Internet service providers can now, according to Abid, choose to throttle everyone’s connection to select sources, but advertise and charge for the rate that the remainder flows at. He said this would allow those providers to keep making money without having to update their infrastructure as frequently. Abid gave an example of how ISP’s can manipulate their customers with this change: “If I am your service provider, I could basically force you to use your service like Xbox Streaming.

A group of computers in Bulley making Netflix so slow that it’s unusable.

One thing students might be relieved to hear – Abid said Connecticut has finally joined the multi-state plea to overturn the recent FCC rollback on net neutrality regulations. In other words, the state government is openly rejecting the federal decision to begin eliminating the protection offered by net neutrality.

Between this new development, and the state’s substantial amount of Internet bandwidth, Ceci said there is still hope that the rules could affect students, but it will likely not affect the university.
Steppin’ Up Team helps students plan for positivity

Karen Jean-Baptiste said 2017 was a rough year for a lot of students.

Jean-Baptiste, treasurer of Southern’s Steppin’ Up Drill Team, said she was offered by the Office of Student Life the opportunity to participate for the Week of Diversity and Inclusion in the Board of vision board events, where students gather to create visual posters to represent their goals and visions, but she had never seen such an event at Southern.

The goal, Jean-Baptiste said, was to incorporate positivity in goal setting to ensure 2018 could be as good as possible for students.

Jean-Baptiste pitched the idea to Steppin’ Up’s president Ashley Jones, and with her approval, the event was planned for Jan. 18 in the Adanti Student Center.

The conference room was nearly full of students eager to build vision boards. Jones said she was happy with the turnout. Jean-Baptiste stocked the room with magazines to cut out from, Sharpie markers to draw with, tape and glue to create collages.

“It’s good to see it in front of you;” Jones said, “to write out what you want to do.”

Creating vision boards is something Jones said she does herself, to stay in check and not increase tuition.

“Everybody should have different sets of goals; short term goals, and long term goals,” said Jean-Baptiste.

It is best, she said, to tackle the short term goals first, while slowly picking away at the long term ones. Working strategically like this, to achieve goals, Jean-Baptiste said, is a process.

Freshmen sports management major brewery Raah is a non-member of Steppin’ Up, but came Jan. 18 because the event was open to the student body. Raah said the nature of the event made sense, because it got students to think about their aspirations for the semester.

“I’ve known about vision boards for a while,” Raah said, “I’ve just never done it.” Ultimately, Raah said he was happy he came, and he shared a couple of his goals for spring 2018.

“A bigger goal for me is to move out of my comfort zone more,” Raah said, “and to try some new things.”

Raah also said he hopes to make the men’s soccer team this semester, something he visually represented with cutouts of athletes on his board.

Colorful posters came along as the evening continued, many featuring motivational phrases such as, “this is your year,” and “you can be anyone.”

Jones said her goal as president of Steppin’ Up is to recruit more members, so the team stays full when seniors graduate.

As for now, DeMezzo and Rozewski said the general plan is to not increase tuition, but to see what we learn in some new people, and hang out with my teammates.

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Students design flags representative of themselves

By Josh LaBella

Coral Jimenez said after having success last semester with the Share Your Culture Event, the Cultural Competence Club was excited to do it again.

“We just brought a bunch of materials,” said Jimenez, “and told everyone to make their own flag. And if they didn’t want to make their own flag, we told them to just do something that represented them, their culture — just who they think that they are.”

During the Jan. 17 event, students supplied with construction paper, colored pencils, crayons, scissors and glue designed their own flags. Jimenez said the topics incorporated in their resulting work ranged from sexuality to music.

“Last semester we had a big piece of construction paper, and as people were finishing, we took a picture of everyone with their flag, or the item that they created, and made a collage,” said Jimenez, the president of the Cultural Competence Club. “At the following meeting we put our Southern’s location and my hometown’s location, "I cut this out sort of like Connecticut so I’m going to put out on time numbers tend to be the best way for us," said Flores. "It’s a relatively new structure that we’re going to move forward with and it’s a paid position.""City’s main objective is to support others and I think that’s really great."
Humans of SCSU: Drew McWeeney

By Victoria Bresnahan

Drew Michael McWeeney, a senior double majoring in early childhood education and music composition and technology, said he is currently working on separate projects with a Grammy award-winning composer, as a member of Eric Clapton’s band, and the director of bands at Drexel University.

"The top of the line people I have worked with have given me actual scenarios of what to expect in real life," said McWeeney. "There is just nothing else you can do that is better than that." McWeeney said he began to compose music in his freshman year of college, but has been playing percussion and the piano for 16 years. He said he is a composer of wind ensembles, orchestras, jazz bands and creates electronic compositions using music platforms.

McWeeney said Southern Connecticut State University was the only college he applied to due to its strong education program and "booming" music program. In addition, McWeeney said none of Connecticut’s state schools allowed him to pair early childhood education and music as majors. "That is why I chose Southern because they were able to do that," said McWeeney. "It was compatible," said McWeeney. "So not only will I get an early childhood certification, but I will also get music education certification. So, I am going for a whole handful of things." Currently, McWeeney said he is working on a project with Nathan East—a member of Eric Clapton’s band for over 30 years—when he met during a soundcheck in the Lyman Center. "I said to him, ‘If I wrote you a very big solo piece for an upright bass and we condensed an orchestra to play it would you play it?’" he said, MOSH PIT. "McWeeney said. "So, we have been in touch every week for about a year going through the music.”

McWeeney said he would not be the richest person in the world for these projects, but he is grateful to receive more side income. "I said the expected date, this piece will be played in 2020. Additionally, he said he recently received a call from the director of bands at Drexel University to commission and perform a wind ensemble piece he wrote. In September, McWeeney said he will be going to Drexel University to attend the rehearsals and prepare the piece to be played this coming December.

Lastly, McWeeney said he has been working with David Darling, a Grammy award-winning musician, and has been arranging, orchestrating and transcribing his music. He said he will finish this project tentatively at the end of February and Darling will be distributing the music to be performed.

"There are talks of collaborations in the works, so that is a big project," said McWeeney. "I am fortunate enough to land that opportunity because he is a Grammy winning artist. Upon graduation, McWeeney said he would like to teach preschool children and have a music career on the side. He said he has been interested in early childhood education since the second grade.

"I know I wanted to be a preschool teacher because there are a lot of young boys that do not have father figures," said McWeeney. "and they need that role model.”

McWeeney said music is also an important aspect for young children. "Kids need movement," said McWeeney, "and there are certain aspects of schooling that you cannot teach, [but] you can teach through music."
Students’ New Years resolutions

By Victoria Brescahan

Wishes, hopes, goals and dreams are the nouns edited and reiter-ated back into our lives each year. The fresh feeling at the beginning of the year is a cherry on top of a cherry, a light that says to some of us, “You’re never too old to start over.” Often, we find ourselves gravitating towards at least one resolution, though the diversity of topics discussed can always start again.

"Just because you stop, or have a bad day, does not mean the next day is going to be the same. If you’re feeling down on yourself, go do something that nourishes you," said Rivera. "Because that is like 50 percent of what I used to spend on last time." Rivera said goals are important for people to set because it helps aim them for something.

"If you are going aimlessly," said Rivera, "you can still get there; it’s just not as easy.

By Jeff Lawson

This spring semester, Southern is offering some new courses to fill certain needs for students. There is a political science course about inequality, as well as a new education course to prepare future teachers for a new certification requirement and mindset required in American education. The management & MIS department offers new special topics courses to prepare future managers.

Jennifer Hopper, the political science department, now in her second year of teaching at Southern, is bringing PSC 398 Politics of Inequality to. Southern for the first time after teaching it at Washington College, a private school in Maryland.

"It worked fairly well. It deals with a lot of topics in American politics and it’s pretty bad," said Fewing. "It’s the last thing I want to do, to think about the things that I’m presented with." Rivera, a sophomore art history major, said one of her reso-lutions is to try to stay on top of her school assignments.

"Essentially, it’s just me trying to complete everything once I am handed it," said Rivera, "because I have a thing for procrastination and it’s pretty bad."

Additionally, Rivera said she would like to budget her expenses because she spends a lot of money. "I spend a lot of on things here, especially the bookstore, and food," said Rivera. "Trying to spend less on food is definitely one of them because that is like 50 percent of what I used to spend on last time." Rivera said goals are important for people to set because it helps aim them for something.

New classes for the spring semester

Students sitting in a classroom in Engleman.

In the management & MIS department, Charlie Yang is teaching a new special topics course for student teachers to prepare them for this assessment. It is starting to catch on in even the best school programs.

According to Yang, this approach to leadership is often ignored in management education but says, "this is a life skill" and that it has applications in any field of profes-sion. It is starting to catch on in even professional sports coaching.

On teaching students to practice mindfulness, Yang said, "This kind of experiential learning is the building blocks for future, responsible managers."
Student explores passion for writing through young adult novel

Melanie Espinal

Writing a book may seem ambitious for some. Jolee Parolise, senior early childhood education major, wrote her first book her senior year of high school. One of her dreams was to be an author, she said. She always liked to read and write, and felt she had a big want to write ever since her senior year at Brandford High. She didn’t have the capstone requirement to do just that. She used the course to fulfill major requirements and to herself to achieve her goal writing a young adult novel.

Parolise said, “As soon as I pulled it out and said ‘Oh, I’m not comfortable with teachers in the class were like. What? I think most authors do that, they can’t help but put themselves in the story. So, I think I put her in there because it put in part of my thoughts about going off in school and stuff like that, and just growing up and getting older.” Parolise said she used her characters to revamp her reality, giving some characters traits she wish she possessed.

“I think in high school I did really try to look outside of that much,” she said. “So, I didn’t have a lot of interesting things happening to me so that’s why I would write stories. These stories would feature characters with futures she would hope for, like outgoing people with successful college memoirs and awards. Since then, she said she made a lot of friends at Southern and did a lot of things her high school self would not have thought she could.

“I’ve come a long way, now I have different experiences that I can write into stories so I definitely accomplished that goal,” Parolise said.

Parolise made eight copies of the book and gave them to friends and family. She said she does not think her mom ever got through it because she cried so much, being proud of her daughter. The copy she has on hand was the one she dedicated to her mother, with her high school signature in blue pen on the dedication page.

Although Parolise was very proud of herself for finishing it, she said at times she gets embarrassed about the book and knows her work is not yet done. The book was never officially published and that is something she definitely wants to do in the future before that, though she said it needs a lot of edits. “It’s like double spaced, I wrote it on [Microsoft Word],” she said, laughing. “I was in high school and I didn’t know what to do with it.”

Reflecting on it now, she thinks a lot can be done to improve it, like adding more research and making the chapters held in the future more realistic. New than she is older, she said she thinks she might have better insight and answers to the questions her 17-year-old self asked through these characters.

After high school Parolise still dedicates her time to her craft, taking creative writing classes and publishing a piece at Southern’s literary magazine, Folio. She said she hopes to use Southern’s creative writing professors as a resource, and speak with them about the publishing processes.

“It’s kind of hard to be noticed and recognized as an author,” Parolise said, “or make it to the best-sellers list.”

Despite this, she remembers young adult novels that were not necessarily popular having the most impact on her life. Growing up, Parolise hadn’t really thought about what she wanted to do in life, but knew she wanted to write. Although she has decided to be an early education teacher, she said she does not plan on abandoning writing. Instead, she has pondered the possibility of creating children’s books, but admits that the young adult genre is her passion.

“My first love was writing,” she said, “and that’s definitely something I don’t want to leave behind.”

‘The Shape of Water,’ an amphibious love story

Mary Budács

Guillermo del Toro photographed at a San Diego Comic Con.

“The Shape of Water,” an absolutely masterpiece, has also raised riveting movies such as “Pan’s Labyrinth” and “Hellboy” has the ability to revamp stories that are so unique and out of this world in a way that makes them feel close to home. “The Shape of Water” is an amphibious animal hybrid in the top-secret facility in which they are janitorial staff. Elisa develops a fascination with the creature, referred to as the Asset, and they communicate with one another through sign language, music and the eggs she brings the Asset to eat.

To the government, the Asset is just an animal in a cage to be poked, prodded and evaluated to benefit human benefit. However, because Elisa sees the Asset as more than that—as equal, and as a being with personhood just like her—she knows that it has a soul and the right to live freely. This film is a sort of twisted, science-fiction love story. The Asset is valuable to not only the U.S. government but foreign powers as well. Eventually, Elisa and her friends free the Asset from the building, resulting in mass panic. This tension makes the film feel action-packed, seeing as janitorial staff were not even supposed to know about the Asset, let alone interact with it.

The cinematography, the soundtrack and the fantastic acting of Sally Hawkins, who plays Elisa, makes this period piece a swelling, forbidden romance, as well as a clever play on the classic trope of one person’s struggle against their government or the powers that be. The storytelling hit every mark, making sure that no detail was overlooked and that the audience was captivated throughout the entirety of the two hour long adventure.

There is an ethereal, fairy tale feel to “The Shape of Water,” not only considering the “Beauty and the Beast” undertones, but also the way that Elisa, though she is silent, expresses her affection for the Asset. She canh her lunch with it and brings a portable turntable so that they can listen to music together. The scene is reminiscent of two lovers on a picnic date. The whirr of the cinema relationship feels innocent and mystical and later turns into a deep and meaningful bond, especially seeing how Elisa saves the Asset’s life.

“The Shape of Water” is a celebration of love, self-discovery, acceptance and sticking it to the man. For del Toro fans, it is a definite must-see. It may be a bit of a strange
Theater students prepare for Kennedy Center Festival

When it comes to preparing for the 50th Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival, junior theatre major Matt Iannantuoni said repetition is key.

“Repetition, repetition, repetition. Knowing I know it is important,” he said. “It’s a different type of nervousness, performing in front of professors than at the festival.”

Iannantuoni, along with several other students nominated by Southern’s theatre faculty, competed in the annual festival on Jan. 19, which features student acts from colleges throughout New England. Every year, theatre staff selects students based off of their craft and performances to represent Southern’s theatre department in the festival which is in Western Connecticut State University, as well as having a chance to move further in April to the nationals held at the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C.

This is the first time Iannantuoni will be attending the festival. He stressed the importance of reading through lines, in preparation for the pre-festival rehearsal showcase in front of faculty.

Olivia Davenport, a sociology major and theatre minor, is also attending the festival for the first time.

Davenport said that there’s a lot more to the festival than student performances, like their panels, workshops and speakers for both students and professionals.

The workshops offered are listed on a tentative schedule on the Kennedy Center Region One website. Among them is a workshop titled aspire Creating Your Own Destiny, the business of running a small theatre, with speaker Paul Ricciardi, which teaches students steps to organizing a non-profit theatre company.

Davenport said the festival is one of the only opportunities for students to “have classes, go and learn at workshops and get feedback on things that we choose.”

She and her performance partner Sever Belli are performing “Almost, Maine” play by John Cariani of vignettes which feature different characters who are couples experiencing love and loss in small town in Maine, “almost” in Canada.

Belli said their characters are a new couple wrapped up in a miscommunication.

The two of them, along with Iannantuoni, ran through their lines in the communal area alongside the theatre department office.

Belli has been to the festival before. He said another great experience at the festival is being able to watch the performances of the other schools involved, and get a feel for the competition.

“I get to sit and listen to the other students who are in the same kind of boat I am,” Belli said.

Besides the ability to perform, watch performances and attend workshops and panels, the main attraction of the festival is the various awards and scholarships students can be nominated and audition for. There are awards for scholarly articles, acting, musical theatre, directing, design, tech, directing, playwriting and even theatre journalism. Some, like the Irene Ryan Acting Scholarship, range from $500 to $5,000, according to the ECAFT Region One website. At the last festival, two Southern students received some of these awards. James McLaughlin received The Vectorworks Award for Design, a technology and management award, and Marcelle Moreyrie received the directing award, David Wheeler Award for Excellence in Actor/Director Communication.

Belli said of the festival, “It’s like the college Tony Awards.”

French Club holds movie night with crepes and Disney

On Saturday, Jan. 20, French Club hosted their first Week of Welcome event, a movie night in Adanti Student Center’s theater.

Though the venue may have been popular with the number of students attending, the French Club, led by Jessica Hartwell, club president and senior, has a lot more to the festival than socializing and eating as the film. The event allowed some time for discussions and workshops and even a technology and management award, and Marcelle Moreyrie received the directing award, David Wheeler Award for Excellence in Actor/Director Communication.

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Whales, zombies and dragons were spotted in Adanti Student Center as students and some brave faculty members experienced the virtual reality world brought to Southern by UNIVRSE. Running two HTC Vive Virtual Reality headsets, those in attendance were able to play game demos and VR experiences in front of the Ballroom in ASC last Thursday.

Daphney Alston, assistant director of clubs and organizations in the Office of Student Involvement, discovered UNIVRSE from their participation in a Network and Chill event that took place in Hartford in October 2017. According to Alston, she witnessed the young professionals from the area posting their VR experiences online and generally having a good time. Alston then contacted Earl Stallings and made arrangements for the demo at Southern. On UNIVRSE’s website they describe themselves as, “Connecticut and Massachusetts premier virtual reality destination.” Through what they call a VRNITEOUT, they can provide between one and three Vive headsets to entertain parties and all sorts of social gatherings in groups more than 20 people.

UNIVRSE also provides a 50-inch TV so that those not wearing the headset can see what the player sees. This turns the VR experience into a much more social affair. On Thursday, some students were seen encouraging and giving advice to those in the VR headsets.

Originally planned for Wednesday, fear of snow convinced Alston to reschedule to the same time as the Commuter Luncheon which she admitted might have increased turnout. “I think it was a happy coincidence,” Alston said.

Some students came back to try more than one of the demos and others played the same one more than once. One of the latter is freshman English major, Sophia Oneto. Oneto says she was drawn to the Commuter Luncheon and VR Experience by a general interest in video games. While Oneto says VR is an, “awesome concept,” she also says that she is not yet sold on it, adding, “I feel like the technology still has a few bugs to work out.”

Oneto said that some of the problems like not really being able to move but instead to stay stable or in the case of the bow and arrow game that she played, “teleport,” to different locations by shooting highlighted areas with the arrows. There were also some technical difficulties with too much sunlight getting into the sensors on the controllers; because of this, the curtains to the room had to be drawn closed.

Both Alston and Oneto said that after what was their first experience with VR, they’re open to trying out some more of what VR has to offer. According to Alston, UNIVRSE’s VR Experience might return. Alston noted that the event was easy to organize logistically and that UNIVRSE offered a “great price.”

UNIVRSE associate demonstrates HTC Vive.

Alston also says that the goal of having between 20 to 25 students attend the VR Experience was successful and that in the future more events that can be experienced by one person in 10 minutes or so might be paired with commuter events.

"A strong positive self image is the best possible.” preparation for success.”

“"I am very exact as an artist and I can express that through graphic design.”
The women's basketball team has lost four of their last six games to start the new year. The basketball team holding hands for the national anthem prior to tip off this season.

By Matt Gad

Double-digit wins for women's basketball head coach Kate Lynch before the calendar struck Jan. 1, 2018 was impressive. But the team has to finish if they want to continue playing basketball in late February and March.

In one of the first home games for the 2018 part of the season, the Owls fell to Stonehill (23-2), by a final score of 67-52. That afternoon, senior Abby Hurlbert and sophomore Kiana Steinauer led the show with 10 and 11 points, respectively. Redshirt senior Murad, raised in Storrs, Conn., and a graduate of E.O. Smith High School, was outscored 21-13 to an opponent that was led by the hot hands of Samantha Hyllip's 17 points and Kelly Martin's 13. Lynch's squad came out of the gate strong, taking a 12-9 lead after the first 10 minutes, but was outscored in every remaining quarter as the game went along.

Lynch said after the defeat: "[Stonehill] beat us to every loose ball. We didn't box-out enough; we guarded their stuff pretty well, it was just that we made some defensive mistakes and a team like that is excellent, and they run the stuff really well so we have to guard it one-on-one, you can't make defensive mistakes." Stonehill capitalized off 32 points in the paint and 14 off turnovers. They also had 12 from their bench and held a 13-point lead in the final stretch of the game. The Owls' largest lead was a 10-point advantage in the second and they scored 18 in the paint and 19 off Stonehill turnovers. As the 2017-18 season has progressed, both teams have found themselves in good spots in the NE-10. Southern has only managed to take a go up in their home record at 4-3 but has won nine games on the road so far. Lynch said she was able to tell the team that despite the loss, they had a stretch where they played some strong competition. "We beat ourselves in some facets but we certainly didn't lose to a bad basketball team by any means."

By Mike Riccio

Jerry Luckett Jr. scored a season high 31 points and grabbed a team high of nine rebounds against Stonehill on Saturday, but the Skyhawks defeated the Owls 89-69. The Owls (7-8, 4-6 in the NE-10) have lost four of their last six games to fall below .500 for the first time since early December. The Skyhawks (9-7, 5-5) have won seven of their last nine games after starting the season 2-5. For the Skyhawks, sophomores BrandonTwitty, 34 points, and Will Moreton, 32 points, both set career highs in points as well. Moreton also grabbed a game high 12 rebounds, recording his second double-double of the season. Luckett Jr. said he and the team want to improve off their performance in order to try to turn their season around. "I'm just going to come out and try to be aggressive, like I did tonight, and try to correct those little mistakes that I had personally and help my teammates and try to lead my teammates so we can get these victories." Luckett Jr. scored the first 22 Southern points of the game to give the Owls a 12-8 lead. The Skyhawks (8-7, 6-4) tied the game with 5:35 to go in the first half, their first lead of the game, but the Owls responded with a 15-5 run to take a 34-20 lead into halftime. Luckett Jr. scored 21 of his 31 points in the first half, while Isaiah McLeod added eight points and a pair of three pointers for the Owls. The Owls shot 56 percent in the first half on route to their largest scoring half of the year.

Cheerleading gets taste at nationals

SCSU cheerleaders at one of their performances.

By Matt Gad

Cheerleading recently appeared at the 2018 UCA and USA College Cheerleading and Dance Team National Championships, held in Orlando, Florida, from Jan. 14 to 18.

"I think that this experience was much needed for both me and the team," junior Jessica Telesco said. "It opened our eyes to see what it is like to compete at the college level. As for representing Southern, it was a great opportunity. Some of these girls have been working there to four years, including myself, to get back on the nationals mat and to wear Southern across our chest was amazing." The championships featured schools from all three NCA divisions. In Division I, where the Owls competed, the University of West Georgia claimed the top victory in Division III. The championships also featured coed programs and an open slate for community colleges, where Shelton State, out of Tuscaloosa, Ala., won. Senior Lauren Sheetz said she was just so excited to see Southern go to the nationals for the first time in her tenure and that she was fortunate to be "able to go and perform for my final time (at the nationals stage)."

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Men’s basketball

The Skyhawks answered by going on a 15-2 run to take a 55-54 lead. Three points by Badou and Ulyen Coleman helped the Owls build a 60-59 lead, but turnovers on three straight possessions allowed the Skyhawks to retake the lead. Stonehill never trailed the rest of the game.

The Skyhawks outscored the Owls 56-28 in the second half by going 16-23 from the field and 7-12 from 3-point range. The Skyhawks also made 17 of their 21 free throw attempts in the second half, whereas in the first half they went just 2-5 from the line.

Luckett Jr. said coach Scott Burrell wanted the team “to come out and put our foot on them first” as they were coming out of halftime. “We turned the ball over right away and they just started getting it, they started hitting shots and we never got back in the game.”

The New Hampshire Daily Hampshire Chronicle

The men’s basketball team was the University of Southern Connecticut, not the University of New Haven. The University of Southern Connecticut is a public university in New Britain, Connecticut. The University of New Haven is a private university in West Haven, Connecticut.

Chris Palmer

Former Southern football player Chris Palmer, who holds two degrees and is a member of men’s and women’s basketball and the swimming programs, takes a direct hit from the calendar. This year, though, there might be an added obstacle for this year’s team.

“It’s the worst thing in the world to have a break like that in-between [the season]. You go home and get comfortable, but then you have to come back and be grinding until the rest of the season,” said coach Mike Wallin.

“This year, there’s an added obstacle in the Southern program, and many other Division I, II and III the New England Championships, typically put after everyone’s conference meets, have been moved in favor. Wallin’s senior sprinter Luke Velez knows it’s a new challenge that has to be faced.

“Our motive was to come in and try to keep our lead. We went away from being aggressive on offense and we didn’t stick with the game plan and it shows, and we let them get back in the game.”

By Matt Goddard

Breaking up a season with the holiday break is never ideal for any coach or any program, but indoor track and field, like men’s and women’s basketball and the swimming programs, takes a direct hit from the calendar.

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“One of the big challenges that we focus on is usually after conference meets; the conference is usually the start to our championship season but this year it’s different. The New England meet is going to be two weeks before our conference meet, so we really try for that meet,” Velez said. So far in the season, the indoor team has competed at the Barber and Wright Alumni Meet, the Elm City Challenge, the Yale Season Opener and the Saint Thomas Aquinas Division II Challenge, which was held in Staten Island, N.Y. Jan. 12. Ahead the team will compete at the Sander Invitational Jan. 26 and then will have the Metropolitan Championships Feb. 1 and second in New York, N.Y. and the moved-up New England Championships, in Boston, Mass., Feb. 2 and 3. The Northeast-10 Championships this year will be Feb. 17 and 18 in Northampton, Mass. and then there will be one more chance for student-athletes to qualify for nationals at the Boston University Last Chance Meet Feb. 25.

“The schedule may change the tactics of how we run and where we run [in the season],” Velez said. “I hope it wasn’t a permanent change. For the younger athletes’ sake I hope [changing the New England meet] wasn’t a permanent change but I know he condones the schedule is going to stay the same.”

Last year the Owls placed third at New Englands when they were held Feb. 14 and 15 in Roxbury, Mass. A change in the scheduling, Wallin said, did not schedule the 60 Last Chance Meet in the 2016-17 campaign.

And on the indoor season as a whole, Wallin said the expectations are to perform well at New England, to win the conference meet and also to send more student-athletes to nationals than they did last season.

“We’re frustrated with the change,” Wallin said. “Some people really like it but it’s not good. But we’ve just trying to win the conference and send a bunch of kids to the national meet if we have three guys there and they each win we score 30 points and then it places us as a team. [With the meet switch] we advance based on performance.”
We need to have better shot selection and to capitalize on more of the other teams’ mistakes,” Lynch said. “We had open shots, we need to knock them down.”

Murald echoed a lot of the frustrations her head coach saw in the game, adding that Stonyhill runs a very familiar offense for the Owls to go up against and that some of the fast-break scenarios put them in a bad spot.

In their next showing, though, in Ridge, N.H., the women pulled out a 58-54 victory over Franklin Pierce. They lost to Bentley, 64-48, last Sunday in Massachusetts but come back to Moore Field House for a stretch of games that includes Assumption, Saint Michael’s and the University of New Haven on Jan. 31 at 5:30 p.m.

Jaguars best season in over a decade

“2018 has been amazing for us,” said Castellone. “Our athletes are fired up and ready for the challenge. They train hard and the results showed. At the finish of the 1650-yard freestyle, Fanucci came in second place. He used one word to describe the race “brutal”. The 1650-yard race is a 66-lap race which Fanucci completed in 17 minutes and 50 seconds.

On the women’s side, they were completely dominant, winning with a point a differential of 90. Led by captains Katie Crochet – winner of the 50-yard freestyle, 200-yard IM and 200-yard backstroke. The women’s team is a top ten team in the nation.

Prado, as he blasted music throughout the men’s and women’s home basketball games inside moore Field House. “This program was one we wanted and worked on with the help of all the coaches, teams and everyone on campus.”

“The Owls won the 2009 national championship in Lake Buena Vista, Fl. They won the all-girls’ lineup for Division II that season. The cheerleaders are currently back to New Haven. They won the 2009 national championship in Lake Buena Vista, Fl. They won the all-girls’ lineup for Division II that season. The cheerleaders are currently back to New Haven.

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The men and women’s team of SCSU swimming had a strong showing last Friday, defining the College of Saint Rose by a point total of 729 to 142. Dominant from start to finish, SCSU looked poised as they aim to bring the state championships back to New Haven.

Lead by captains Tyler Castellone and Lucas Fanacci, the men were fired up and ready for the challenge. Standing out was the preparation of the team. They train hard and the results showed. At the finish of the 1650-yard freestyle, Fanucci came in second place. He used one word to describe the race “brutal”. The 1650-yard race is a 66-lap race which Fanucci completed in 17 minutes and 50 seconds.

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Northeast-10 Standings

SCSU swimming vs. The College of St. Rose

An SCSU swimmer reaching the a wall to finish a race.

SCSU swimmers checking scoreboard during meet on Friday.

SCSU men's swim team preparing for relay.

SCSU women's swim team diving into water at start of race.

SCSU men's swim team preparing for relay.

Northeast-10 Standings

**Men’s Basketball**

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The best veg-friendly options in New Haven

By Lyndra Simmons

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The goal of the movement was to show solidarity with the movement.

Women’s March is that they can be a catalyst for change.

According to Baum + Whiteman, a non-profit that focuses on the environment and animal rights, the Women’s March is an example of how positive change can happen.

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Three to five inches of snow were forecasted to fall the day the spring semester was scheduled to begin. As morning broke, school was not canceled or delayed but a thin white blanket of snow began to cover the sidewalks and streets. Eventually the temperature began to rise and the snow turned to a mix. By the afternoon, the snow had melted.

There were no classes affected by this quick winter flurry.