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SOUTHERN NEWS

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Aid provided to those affected by shutdown

By Victoria Bresnahan
News Editor

Last Friday, President Donald Trump signed a bill to temporarily reopen the government after the longest shutdown in U.S. history.

Students, staff and faculty of the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities that were affected by the 35-day shutdown were given the option to defer on tuition payments until its reopening, per a statement released by CSCU President Mark Ojakian.

"As colleges and universities, we should do everything in our power to make sure we are not

adding undue stress at an already difficult time. That's why I am requesting that tuition payments for impacted students be temporarily suspended until the conclusion of the shutdown," wrote Ojakian in a letter to campus chief executives.

In addition, administrators at the universities were instructed to help students manage the cost of textbooks, transportation and other needs.

Those impacted by the shutdown could file deferment paperwork to pause any tuition payments they had to make, according to the Bursar Nina Cote. The paperwork garners information

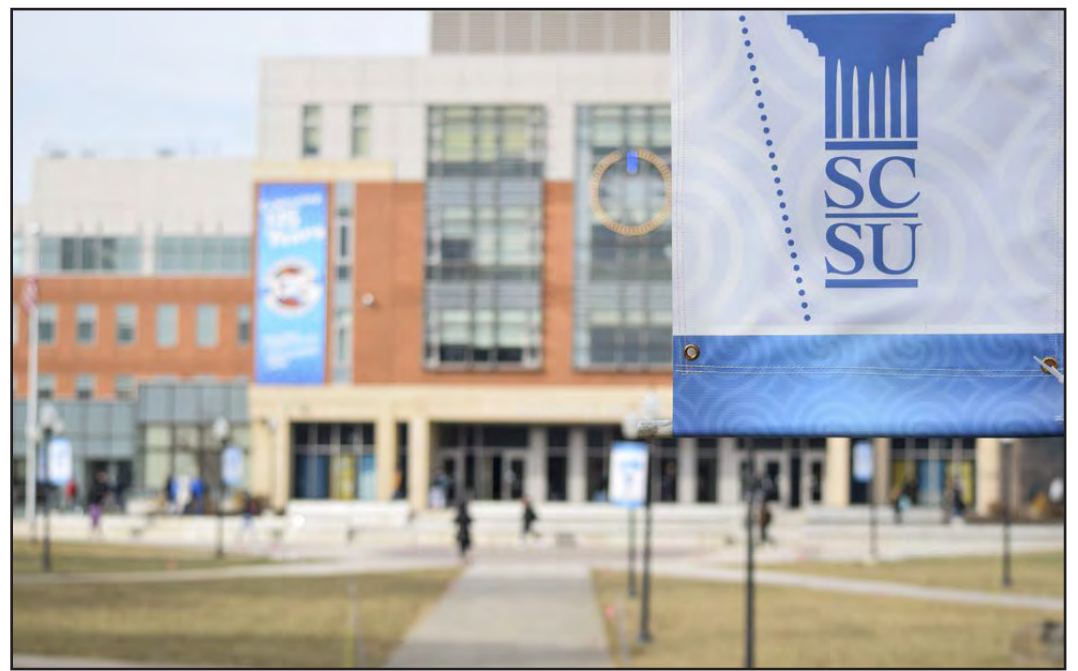
concerning how the person was affected, and Cote said, and was "simple" in nature to file.

Those who entered the deferment period had a memo placed on their account so their due balance did not appear.

"Once the government reopens, they'll have 45 days after that," Cote said. "So, they have an extended period after the shutdown."

As of last Wednesday, Cote had deferred three students, and was waiting on an additional three to complete their paperwork. Both federal employees and parents or caregivers of a student have sought the deferment, she said.

See Shutdown, Page 3



Students walk across the patio outside Hilton C. Buley library.

PHOTO | AUGUST PELLICCIO

Steam line burst near Earl Hall

Solar panel project moves forward

By Tamonda Griffiths
News Writer

An approximately 25-year-old steam line has burst outside of Earl Hall, and according to Robert Sheeley, associate vice president for capital budgeting & facilities operations, the condensation, not steam, emerging from the ground alerted there is a hot water leak underground.

The university became aware of the leak about a month or two ago, he said. Because of the age of the pipe, Sheeley said the leak was not "without expectation."

"Sometimes a pipe will last 35 years, so you don't just go in and dig it up," said Sheeley.

His biggest concern,

Sheeley said, was the potential absolute failure of the pipeline, which currently provides heat to the Lyman Center.

Loss of heat to Lyman would be "unacceptable," said Sheeley.

"The backup plan was installing the temporary boiler which has been installed and it's operational," said Sheeley.

In a statement to the university, Sheeley stated, "The boiler is necessary to provide building heat should the line rupture once exposed and when we cut the old lines out for replacement."

When incidents like this occur, it is important to be "very aggressive," said Sheeley, and be able to address the issue.

See Construction, Page 3

Trip to South Africa opened students' eyes



By Hunter O. Lyle
Sports Editor

While many students may have spent their winter break cuddled up at home, a small group from the geography department chose to spend their time exploring South Africa.

For his sixth time, professor and chair of the department of environment, geography, and marine sciences Patrick Heidkamp, along with environmental science professor Scott Graves, led the excursion to study the socio-economic problems South Africa is facing.

"I started the trip with the focus on environmental justice and sustainable initiative developments,"



The view south from top of Swartberg Pass, Oudtshoorn, South Africa.

PHOTO | SCOTT GRAVES

said Heidkamp. "I wanted a higher-level course so it engages on a more theoretical and intellectual level, with some of what's considered 'wicked

problems."

Heidkamp said these problems are complex, layered social and economic problems that are intertwined and not easy

to solve, such as the wealth gap between classes and farmers being pressured to give up their land for housing developments.

See Winter at SCSU, Page 2

Journalism professor dies from cancer

By Victoria Bresnahan,
and Southern News staff

On Saturday, Dec. 29, former and present members of the Southern News lost not only a professor, but a friend.

Professor Williams, or fondly referred to as Vern amongst staffers, passed away from cancer after a few short months.

His bluntness, humor and teaching style were pieces that encouraged all of us to become editors at the Southern News.

Prior to becoming news editor, I took Vern's JRN

**"...his influence and legacy will live on at Southern for a long time; take me as an example."
—Sam Fix**

306 course, digital news design. I recall him always asking his students how they were when they walked into class. We were equals, never just college students.

This past fall semester, I walked by him in the hallway—

after publishing what I thought was a great front page—and being critiqued for my layout choices.

For him, perfection was not the goal, but rather it was about creating a great piece of journalistic art.

Vern was one of the many journalism

professors who inspired me to reach for more and apply for this position. It was a pleasure to have been his student.

Here are what other Southern News staff members had to say about him:

"Vern Williams turned a simple tier one elective into two jobs and a minor for me. When I made my first semester sophomore schedule, I selected digital media skills, purely because it sounded like it would fit into my interests as a graphic design major.

As soon as the first class ended, I knew Vern would be one of my favorite and most influential professors.

He was laid back, treated every student with kindness and respect, and was incredibly passionate and knowledgeable about journalistic design and photography. He taught



Professor Vern Williams flying a drone.

PHOTO | JODIE GIL

some of the more mundane aspects of design, such as what grid to use on a page, in ways that were engaging and fun—a feat not all my professors have accomplished.

Vern and I immediately bonded over our similar

personalities and shared passion for design. Since then, I have become the co-layout editor for Crescent magazine, layout editor for the Southern News, a journalism minor, and I have made numerous

friends in the journalism department. I enjoyed every moment I had with Vern, and he truly shaped my life for the better. Vern will be missed, but his influence and legacy will live on at Southern for a long time; take me as an example."— Sam Fix, Layout Editor

"He was foremost a friend to me, during these four semesters, but a professor and mentor nonetheless.

Constantly, he provided me with the tools, knowledge and attitude to become the kind of photographer and journalist he knew I could be; the kind he was. about my professor at the dinner table, who was notably relaxed and easy to approach.

See Journalism Professor, Page 2

Discrimination, bias found through survey

By **Tamonda Griffiths**
News Writer

According to a recent Campus Climate survey, students, faculty and staff have witnessed or experienced bias/discrimination in terms of race and gender.

For the students surveyed, the third most prominent instance of bias/discrimination was political ideologies.

"We heard students say that it's hard - I'm just gonna say this generally - hard to be a conservative voice on campus," said Tracy Tyree, vice president of student affairs, at the presentation.

Not only were issues of political ideology reflected within the quantitative or numerical data, but also the qualitative data, she said.

According to

Assistant Professor of Communication Disorders Barbara Cook, Director of the Office of Diversity and Equity Programs Paula Rice and Tyree, the survey had been in the works for the last two years and had been administered to the university in November 2017.

"The hope was in doing this survey," said Cook, "we would end up with some really good data that might help to warn of things we could do to change practices and increase the campus climate if we found areas of weakness."

Cook, Rice, and Tyree presented the results and analysis of the survey to a lecture hall of about 43 faculty and staff and graduate interns.

Later in the afternoon, Cook, Rice, and Tyree presented the results again to the Student Government

Association during their final meeting of the semester.

"We want you to think about ways that you can further help us with this information," said Tyree.

Tyree said all first-year students receive some form of bystander training during their orientation to the university.

"I think encouraging the students as they enter into the university, you know offices like mine," said Rice, "making students aware, aware of where they can have resources and where they can report these incidents."

Asma Rahimyar, a member of the Task Force on Social Justice, said the group had distributed a survey in regards to social justice to faculty members, but also wanted to conduct something similar amongst the student body.

"It's challenging... for students," said Cook. "I don't, I can't respond why, but there seems to be challenge with engaging and completing surveys of this nature."

Cook said creating a new survey is a great idea, but coming up with a central question for the survey, whether it is one student organizations formulate themselves or build off of from the Campus Climate survey, should definitely be taken into consideration first.

There was an open invitation to all students, however, she said "this is not the best time of year" to get students to come to such an event.

"We are trying to be as transparent as possible with all of this, so we'll continue to do those kinds of presentations," said Tyree. "We just got to the

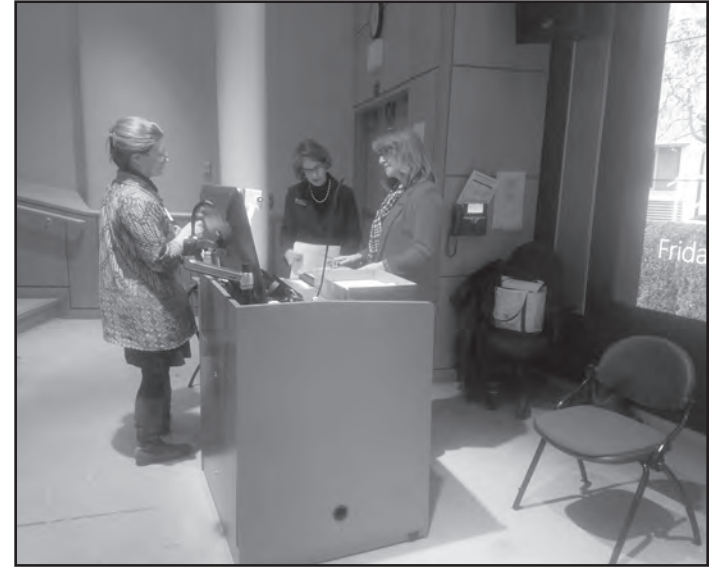


PHOTO | TAMONDA GRIFFITHS

Vice President for Student Affairs Tracy Tyree (center) and Assistant Professor of Communication Disorders Barbara Cook (right).

point that we had done the data analysis and in a way that we are ready to share it"

Tyree said a full detailed report of the data compiled should be available this spring.

Winter at SCSU

Continued from Page 1

"It's basically exposing students to really some of those, what seem initially to be unsolvable problems from an environmental and social perspective," said Heidkamp.

The first trip to South Africa started back in 2011 with only four students, and has become more frequent due to the increased interest.

"Initially, I only ran the

trip every other year," said Heidkamp, "but now it's become popular and we run it every year."

The group, which consisted of a maximum of eight students and two professors, traveled across the southern region of the Western Cape, examining several case studies and initiatives, such as iShack Initiative, which aims to strengthen communities and households by

providing electricity via 'Solar Home Systems.'

Sophomore environmental systems and sustainability major Ian Bergemann said he enjoyed enduring rugged conditions on wildlife refuge islands, Thimble Islands, and has recommended the South Africa trip after meeting Heidkamp.

"Out there you don't have any running water, so you have to get used to that whole sort of way of life, and I ended up really loving it and missing it," said Bergemann. "Dr. Heidkamp had actually come out

there, bringing a group of students from Liverpool at one point, and that's when he told me about the major and the trip."

Heidkamp said for many students, the trip serves as a powerful experience that hopefully makes them realize certain things about the rest of the world.

"The idea is to enable students to start thinking about [the socio-economic issues]," said Heidkamp, "and questions some of their own baggage and beliefs that they come in with."

Bergemann said while the trip opened his eyes a lot, he is still processing his experience.

"I'm still trying to think about all the things I saw, and process everything that I experienced because it was completely different from anything I've ever experienced before in my life," said Bergemann. "I would say, as amazing as it was, there were really hard parts about the trip."

From seeing informal settlements composed of small tin shacks to stray dogs and rivers filled with plastic, Bergemann said he was inspired to return to help sometime in the future.

"I would want to return, but I wouldn't want to return as a student or as an observer," said Bergemann. "I would want to return as somebody who's prepared

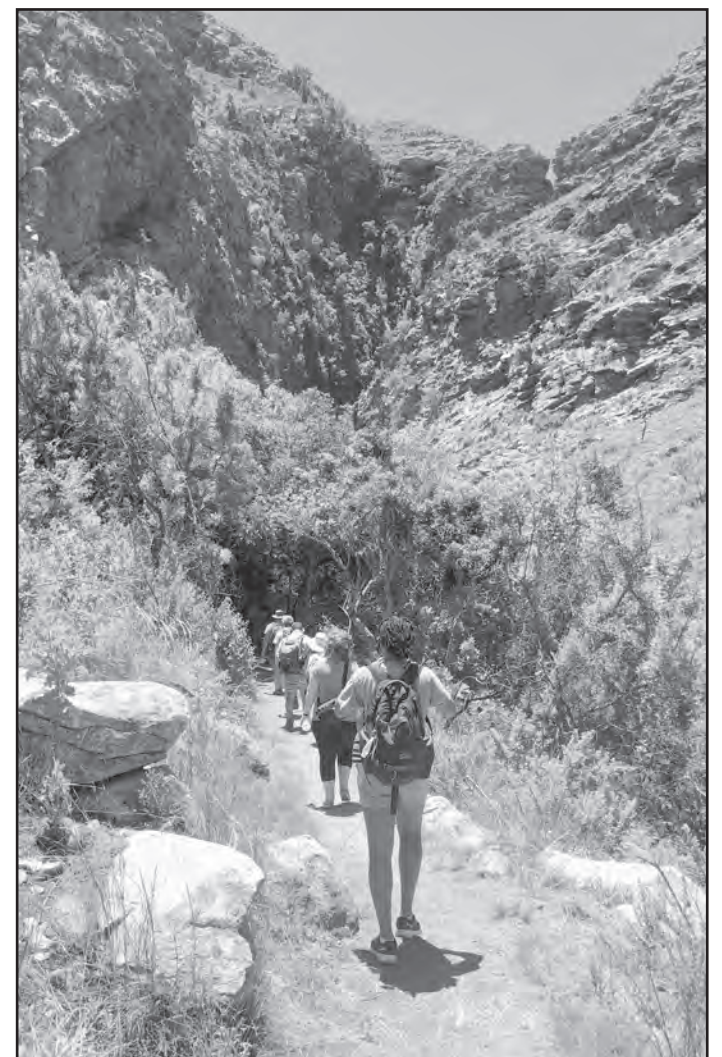


PHOTO | SCOTT GRAVES

The group walks the trail to Rust En Vrede Waterfall in Oudtshoorn, South Africa.

to help the people."

After seeing the issues surrounding the small African country, graduate student Michaela Garland said she learned a valuable lesson about humanity through this program.

"There is hope, I think

that's the biggest thing I took away from this," said Garland. "Despite everything that goes wrong, despite everything that's against you, they're the strongest people I've ever met and they have such hope that it's amazing."



PHOTO | SCOTT GRAVES

Farmer and activist Nazeer Sunday talks to the group at Philippi Horticultural Area, Cape Flats region.

Journalism professor

Continued from Page 1

I am sure that I would not be the co-editor in chief of Crescent magazine or the photo editor for Southern News if I had never met Vern.

I confided in him during times of adversity, along the course of my studies, and he always gave me the fresh perspective I needed to keep going forward. I hope to be the mentor to somebody, some day that he was to me." - *August Pelliccio, Photo Editor*

"Being a late transfer into the journalism department, I only knew Prof. Williams for a short time. However, anyone who knew him would agree that it only took five minutes to understand how truly genuine of a person he was. I had just one class with Prof. Williams but we worked

closely on improving the overall design of the Southern News.

The friendly and warm-hearted personality of Prof. Williams made me feel as if I had known him for years. He was a man who always had a smile on his face and never failed to put a smile on others. Prof. Williams was a great teacher and friend. I believe I speak for the whole journalism department and Southern News staff, past and present, when I say he will be deeply missed but forever in our hearts and memories." - *Kevin Crompton, Editor in Chief*

"Vern was exceptionally talented at bringing out the best in people. He homed in on people's strengths and enjoyed the process of teaching young minds. He was one of the first people to believe in my ability to succeed here. He was a

dedicated, passionate and innovative member of my school's community and throughout Connecticut. Thank you, Vern."

- *Amanda Cavoto, Arts & Entertainment Editor*

"I met Vern my freshman year and he was my first journalism professor for JRN 135. He was always so nice and helpful. He and I had several industry chats, as well. He was just a great individual who is already severely missed throughout the community." - *Matt Gad, Sports Writer*

"The first time I had been exposed to a journalism class, was in Professor Williams' JRN 135 class. I remember thinking during his class, 'here's someone who is truly passionate about his craft and knows what he's talking about.' I never

thought how much time, precision, work and enjoyment can be found in creating a page; there is nothing simple about it. It is an art. It is something, that thanks to Vern I can - at an amateur level - do. If I can be half as passionate about whatever I do in life as Vern Williams was for fonts, lines, graphics, alignment, and teaching, I'll be happy." - *Tamonda Griffiths, News Writer*

"Professor Williams has been my adviser the whole time I have been at Southern. He was a really great man who gave me input on my future here. He was the deciding voice in keeping journalism as my major when I was questioning staying or not. I valued his input as a professor and a friend, and I am very grateful for him to have been a part of my Southern career and my life. I will miss him, thank you Professor Williams." - *Alexandra Scicchitano, Online Editor*

"Professor Williams was the first professor I had when starting off as a journalism major. What stood out the most about him was he would always make an effort to say hello or ask me how I was when he'd see me.

In one class I had with him, I was struggling to understand simple things such as camera settings. I was a little embarrassed that I was struggling with basic material and did not want to speak up in front of the class. He recognized this and came up to me after class and stayed late until he was confident I knew what to do.

I was always appreciative that he would say hello to me, and will always appreciate how he waited after class to help me. I feel this shows his true character and that he cared about each of his students." - *Michael Riccio, Managing Editor*

"My long time adviser and professor Vern

Williams was not your everyday instructor. He had an aura about him that made you feel as if he fully believed in you.

I took over four classes with him and in that whole time I never once saw him in a bad mood. His famed coffee cup in hand, smile on his face, be it morning or night--he was excited to teach his craft.

I hate that I have to write in the past tense. He was not someone you can sum up in a few hundred words. He was kind. He was funny. He was a talented photographer. I'm sure he is getting some great angles up there. To his family, I wish the best in a difficult time, and for myself I can only take comfort in that the last time we spoke before winter break he said, 'See you soon, oh, and have a great holiday, I can't wait for Christmas.' If nothing else, I am glad he got his Christmas." - *Jenna Stepleman, former photographer*

Turning Point moves forward in club process

By Tamonda Griffiths
News Writer

At the final Student Government Association meeting of the fall 2018 semester, with a vote of eight in favor and nine abstentions, Turning Point was officially inducted as a club on campus.

“Our main purpose in coming here on campus is to unite everybody despite their political views,” said Jenna Dower, president of Turning Point, at the meeting.

Daphney Alston, assistant director of the office of student involvement and leadership development said the organization had successfully completed

the steps necessary for them to become a club, and recommended Turning Point to be approved to be an official club.

“The student involvement [office] would like to recommend the approval of the organization,” said Alston, “with the caveat that we have to review their chapter handbook...we want to be able to make sure that we do review all the documents and it aligns with any university policies.”

Alexis Zhitomi, president of SGA, opened the floor for questions from “non-elected members” and the public.

Dower said Turning Point’s first action as a club would be a formal

meeting that would involve watching some form of political documentary that shows the views of both democrats and republicans.

Dower said she feels people today are too aggressive when expressing their points of view, and would like to provide a safe space where people can come together to form “unbelievable friendships despite where you come from, what you believe, or what you don’t believe in.”

Dower cited statistics from the results of the Campus Climate survey-- which was presented to SGA as the first order of business for the meeting-- that said some students do not feel comfortable sharing their political views with their peers or

professors.

The Campus Climate survey cited that 11.5 percent of students said they had witnessed an incident of bias/discrimination in terms of political ideology.

“I agree...I’ve been dealing with a lot of biases because of my political view on campus and I am a senior,” said Dower. “I feel like it’s not fair, not only for me but for everybody else that’s on campus that might be scared to come out and face it.”

Sarah O’Connor, president of the College Republicans, said, during the meeting, she wanted to make clear the differences between the two political organizations.

College Republicans

stems from the National College Republicans in Washington, D.C which is a “profitable organization,” said O’Connor.

“We’re a profitable organization, we’re allowed to endorse [political candidates], allow internships, work for campaigns, allow jobs to our students here at Southern,” said O’Connor, “Turning Point is a non-profit, they’re not allowed to do any of the things we are allowed to do.”

O’Connor also said Turning Point has not acknowledged the actions of their organization at a national level.

“They’re not a social justice organization,” said O’Connor.

In a tweet from June 11, 2018, Candace Owens Turning Point USA spokeswoman and communication director, stated, “The entire premise of #MeToo is that women are stupid, weak & inconsequential.”

According to an article in

the Washington Examiner, a weekly magazine located in Washington, D.C., at various Turning Point, USA conferences and events incidents of underage drinking and allegations of sexual assault and harassment were reported and the organization was “ill-equipped” to handle those situations.

“I’m here to prove to you that I want to make a change,” said Dower. “I don’t want to follow some of the ways that Turning Point USA, some of their branches may have performed at their schools or how they perform at the internet.”

In starting the organization, Dower said she knew of the controversies surrounding her organization, but wanted to promote “peace and unity” with her chapter of the organization.

“Focus on what I want to do,” said Dower, at the meeting, “because it’s completely different...but just let me have a chance.”

Shutdown

Continued from Page 1

The university sought to help all federal employees, and others affected by the shutdown, said University Controller Loren Loomis Hubbell.

“We set it up to reach out to everyone who truly, meaningful effected by the shutdown,” she said.

While the deferral

process is a loss in university cash due to the lack of it, Loomis Hubbell said, it is ‘manageable.’

According to Bertolino, before Ojikian’s statement was released, the university was all ready prepared to help students impacted by the shutdown.

“We weren’t going to penalize students for that,” he said, “because

that’s certainly not fair. It creates some administrative backlog, but nothing we can’t sort through.”

Prior to the reopening of the government last Friday, he said the university was prepared to provide further resources of any capacity.

“We are going to do what is right,” said Bertolino. “If someone wants to give me grief for it, fine. But, we are going to do what is right.”



PHOTO | VICTORIA BRESNAHAN

Bursar Nina Cote (left) with University Controller Loren Loomis Hubbell (right).

Construction

Continued from Page 1

Larry Tomascak, programming, marketing, event management director of the Lyman Center said internally, a series of heating coils were replaced which specifically affected the heating of the theater in Lyman and some offices. With the installation of the boiler there is heat for the spring semester.

“We’re ready to go with the spring semester, you know, we’ve got events coming up, theater department programs and stuff and students are taking classes,” said Tomascak.

The facilities operations have been “terrific to work with” during this process, said Tomascak.

Sheeley said the piping to replace the burst steam line arrives on January, 28.

The trenching, or digging up of the area, will be isolated and fenced off for safety reasons, said Sheeley, but the condensation and trenching process is of no biological danger to

students.

However, Sheeley said there will be some inconveniences during the construction processing. The area around Founders Gate will be fenced off during that time, Sheeley said.

The cost of repair is approximately \$80,000, said Sheeley. The university has companies contracted through the state and are equipped to address the problem.

“That’s good, because if we have emergencies like this, we don’t have to put it out to bid and by putting it out to bid it takes time,” said Sheeley, “We don’t have time. We got to get this repair done.”

In addition, several thousand solar panels have been installed around various parking lots and garages on Southern’s western portion of campus, said Sheeley.

The panels are located in the back of parking lot 9, on a hill behind the Neff hall parking garage, and on top of the Wintergreen parking



PHOTO | AUGUST PELLICCIO

Construction to replace install new piping begins near the side entrance to Lyman Center.

garage.

“[Solar panels] have taken up no parking spaces,” said Sheeley, “except in the dogleg in lot 9.”

The parking spaces used for the solar panels are spaces that are “hardly ever used,” said Sheeley.

The panels were provided through a partnership with General Electric and Connecticut Green Bank, said Suzanne Huminski, the sustainability coordinator for Southern.

“We are buying the power from [the state and GE] at a reduced rate for 20 years,” said Sheeley. “We have no maintenance requirements, they take care of everything.”

Huminski said it would have been a “big upfront expense” of several million dollars to purchase the solar panels on its own.

“The way that the financing was setup.. was a very important factor in making sure that building the solar panel project didn’t take away from a different project that would help faculty and students,” said Huminski. “We didn’t want the solar project to mean we couldn’t build a new building or fix up a classroom.”

According to Sheeley, the university will save about \$60,000 to \$70,000 a year in electricity.

However, the exact reduced rate the university will have to pay for them has not been determined.

He said although the solar panels have been installed, the panels cannot be put into full effect until an agreement is signed with United Illuminating Company.

Huminski and Sheeley said the official date of operation is not that far off in the future.

Huminski said ever since the university pledged to the Climate leadership commitment in the early 2000s, they had started “actively planning” for this project.

Solar panels need clear, unobstructed access to sunlight in order to operate as efficiently as possible.

The sunlight absorbed is then inverted or transformed from direct

current of electricity into an alternating current, said Huminski.

Alternating current, she said, is more efficient in terms of “moving vast quantities” from one area to another.

“If solar panels are going to be on a roof,” said Huminski, “it needs to be on a roof that’s new or close to new.”

Huminski said both, roofs and solar panels “don’t last forever” and need to be replaced at least every 25 years or so.

If solar panels are installed on the ground, Huminski said the concerns are the possible “ecological” surroundings and whether or not that spot could have possibly been used as a construction site for a new building.

Huminski and Sheeley said the eastern side of Southern’s campus is the next location in the continuation of the solar panel project.



PHOTO | AUGUST PELLICCIO

The Lot 9 solar panels that will power parts of the university.

OPINIONS

The uncertainty of class cancellations

By J'Mari Hughes
Copy Editor

Imagine making your schedule, choosing classes each other, memorizing and abiding by that well-thought-out timetable for the upcoming semester—perfection. Now imagine all that being thrown out the window as a result of class cancellation not perfection. The type of cancellation we typically enjoy is the one where we wake up to a foot of snow and a “University closed” notification, not the one that potentially ruins an entire schedule.

So, your class has been cancelled for the semester, now what do you do? Try to find another class to meet that required credential? Wait until the following semester to see if it gets offered again? Of all the possible solutions,

any of them could make or break your ideal schedule but in that situation, the misfortune is deeper than just an annoying disruption to one’s schedule.

Southern’s website states factors of class revocation include educational needs and goals, financial consideration, and enrollment. It also says that if a class will be cancelled, students will be informed at least seven days before it begins unless the cancellation is due to a lack of enrollment, in which case students are informed sooner to have time to adjust their schedules.

There must be some reason behind the fact that academic deans choose to notify students sooner solely in regards to a lack of enrollment and not in other cases. They can inform students sooner, they

should regardless of the reasoning. I’m not implying that they probably work their jobs with the intention of inconveniencing students, but if they know, then why not share?

Sometimes a class cancellation is justified, like if a class does not have enough students. For example, if only two people sign up for a class, it obviously wouldn’t progress, whether regarding finances, or just how awkward it would be if one of them was absent. Essentially, we students are paying for each class and a class with only two students would make far less than a class of 20. The university still needs to pay the professor for that course, so if it is not meeting enough needs, I understand why the school would just rid it.

Southern’s cancellation guidelines say that deans may choose to cancel classes before registration deadline, not that they will. If a class were to get cancelled once it is too late to add another one to someone’s schedule, then that would not be fair to that student. After all, it would not be his or her fault.

I’ve never been a victim of a class cancellation so I cannot speak from experience. While, I’m sure that it does not bother some students as much as others, but I think it is ideal that if a class does get cancelled, we have enough time to find a new one.

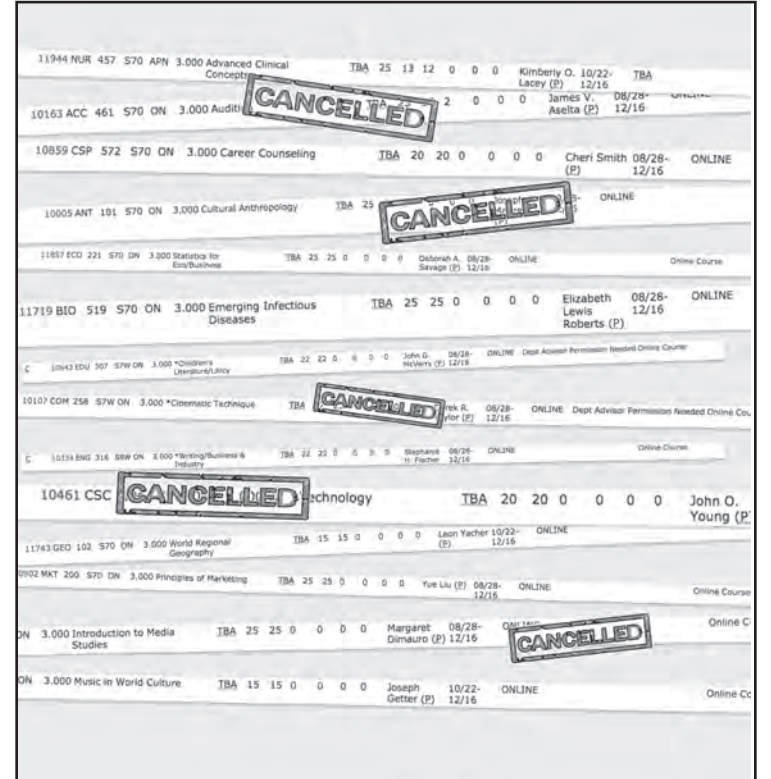


ILLUSTRATION BY | AUGUST PELLICCO

A student's nightmare Scenerio: Canceled classes

Morrill, Earl Hall one of the last few in need of renovations, rebuilding

By Jacob Waring
Opinions & Features Editor

When I pass Morrill and Earl Hall I often wonder if those buildings should be renovated or completely rebuilt. They are some of our oldest structures. They do not have the glamor or the glitz that the Academic Science and Laboratory showcases. I often assume that the facility captures the envious glances of students who don't occupy the

structure as often as science majors do, as it certainly does captures mine.

Dr. Robert Prezant, provost and vice president for academic affairs said, in a previous interview, that there is a new Health and Human Services building that the architects are already working on, and that a new School of Business is queued up next.

He said the growth of a certain programs or disciplines, where students

go after graduation, and where the opportunities for employment are, are all factored into the possible construction of a new facility.

"We need to make sure we have those resources so all of those [considerations] enter the mix when you're thinking about it the future," said Prezant.

We may not like it when our educational institutions act like cooperate businesses, but if colleges

do not look at areas of growth, there's a chance of a college's door being shuttered one day.

Southern is experiencing a self-imposed hiring freeze. Connecticut's economy is in shambles, and all the Connecticut State Colleges & Universities are feeling that pain. Certain money the college receives due to legal stipulations can only be allocated for that specific purpose and not dispersed elsewhere. Despite circumstances, the buildings' maintenance cannot be deferred.

Prioritizing buildings in a climate of economic struggles means hard choices because we unfortunately, do not exist in an ideal world where all the buildings are timely replaced or fully renovated.

I do understand the valid frustration of many who occupy Morrill and Earl Hall have expressed when other buildings are prioritized.

Terrence Lavin, chair of the art department, told me in a previous interview that Earl Hall was supposed to be replaced 15 years ago and other buildings were prioritized instead.

"This building is really

ancient," said Lavin. "We have massive problems with roof leaks, other technical issues, [and] our space needs are completely incongruous with the building that we have."

I had students in Earl Hall tell me that many of the areas in Earl are not ideal for art. The leakage, when it rains, have been such an issue that equipment gets ruined and needs needing to be repaired. What's more unfortunate is that drawings and other artwork that are situated near the windows get ruined. This had led to a lot of students that frequent Earl Hall to say they feel the building gets overlooked.

Robert Sheeley, associate vice president for capital budgeting and facilities operations, has said that he is on top of everything. They're already in the process of resolving the leakage, but facilities are taking the cautionary route.

He told me that he had signed a requisition to possibly solve the leaks coming from windows and roof. His department would only be doing one section of the building to see if replacing the window wall the exterior of Earl Hallworks. It estimated cost

is to be 2.5 million dollars.

I expressed to Sheeley how I believed that Morrill needs tremendous work done, and he agreed with me.

"Morrill Hall needs some work done to it. This summer we'll be doing two of the halls at Morrill. We're be renovating them. Hall needs a complete renovation, especially on the second floor," Sheeley said.

It is marvelous that there are plans in progress with the goal of maintaining, extending the life and improving the facilities at Southern. My preference is for department to of have a new building because we are an institution that is flourishing and growing, however I know that takes time, money and ideal circumstances to accomplish.

I also know that the longer we put off renovating our older buildings more issues they will have, and renovations may cost the university more money than a new building would. Maybe the data supports a new School of Business or a Health and Human Service but it's my belief that Morrill and Earl Hall should take priority. Otherwise, it is all for naught.



PHOTO | AUGUST PELLICCO

The Academic Science and Laboratory Building is one of the newest structures on campus.

SOUTHERN NEWS

Advisers: Cindy Simoneau
Frank Harris III

Contact information:
Email: scsu.southern.news@gmail.com
Newsroom Phone: 203-392-6928
Fax: 203-392-6927

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

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We are the student newspaper of Southern Connecticut State University, and we welcome the writing of all Southern students and faculty.

To submit a piece, email it to scsu.southern.news@gmail.com, or stop by the Southern News office on the second floor of the Student Center, Room 225. Electronic submissions are preferred.

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.

Looking back: Spring of 1990



Southern celebrates Black History Month

During February and March, the student center will host five speakers each Wednesday to discuss the future of African-Americans in the United States. Among the speakers invited was Willie Woods, who was inducted into the Football Hall of Fame in 1989.

More from Spring 1990

February:

- Construction on Farnham Road will replace sewer pipes that caused a serious health hazard. The exit to parking lot nine had to be closed, causing students to complain and say entering the lot was dangerous.

- Senior forward Rich Radicioni set the basketball all-time career scoring record in a loss to Bridgeport on Feb. 14. Radicioni would finish with 1,936 career points.

March:

- The Southern News offered a general subscription service to 285 out-of-state parents of freshman. The 285 subscriptions were among 500 sent out every week to alumni and in-state parents. The remaining 250 papers were sent out to other freshman parents and alumni.

- Women's basketball head coach Tony Barone was awarded the NECC Coach of the Year after the Owls went 19-8. Senior captain Julie Dale was named to the All-NECC team.

April:

- Southern 64, the campus radio station, sponsored a Mr. SCSU Pageant. Campus organizations were invited to enter a contestant. The pageant consisted of wearing gym shorts and a talent contest. First place was awarded \$100, splitting half of it were their campus organization.

SCSU Drill Team steps it up with vision boards

By J'Mari Hughes
Reporter

Steppin' Up Drill Team president Trevaun Ricketts said that when it came time to design herself a vision board, she used positive quotes to help her accomplish her goals.

When Southern's group of steppers isn't showing off their footwork, team member Khadijah Osmanu said members partake in community service, competitions, and hosting events such as the Vision Board making, which took place Wed, Jan. 23.

From 8 p.m. to 9 p.m. room 311 of the Adanti Student Center was taken over by SCSU's one and only drill team as they invited students to create their own vision boards. Goals, interests, and hobbies were cut from the pages of old magazines, assorted onto colorful construction paper and decorated with glitter glue and colored pencils.

Southern's Steppin' Up Drill Team is made up of a wide amount of students whom Osmanu, a freshman, called both a sisterhood and brotherhood.

"We help each other out around campus, we form bonds," Osmanu said. "We're like a family."

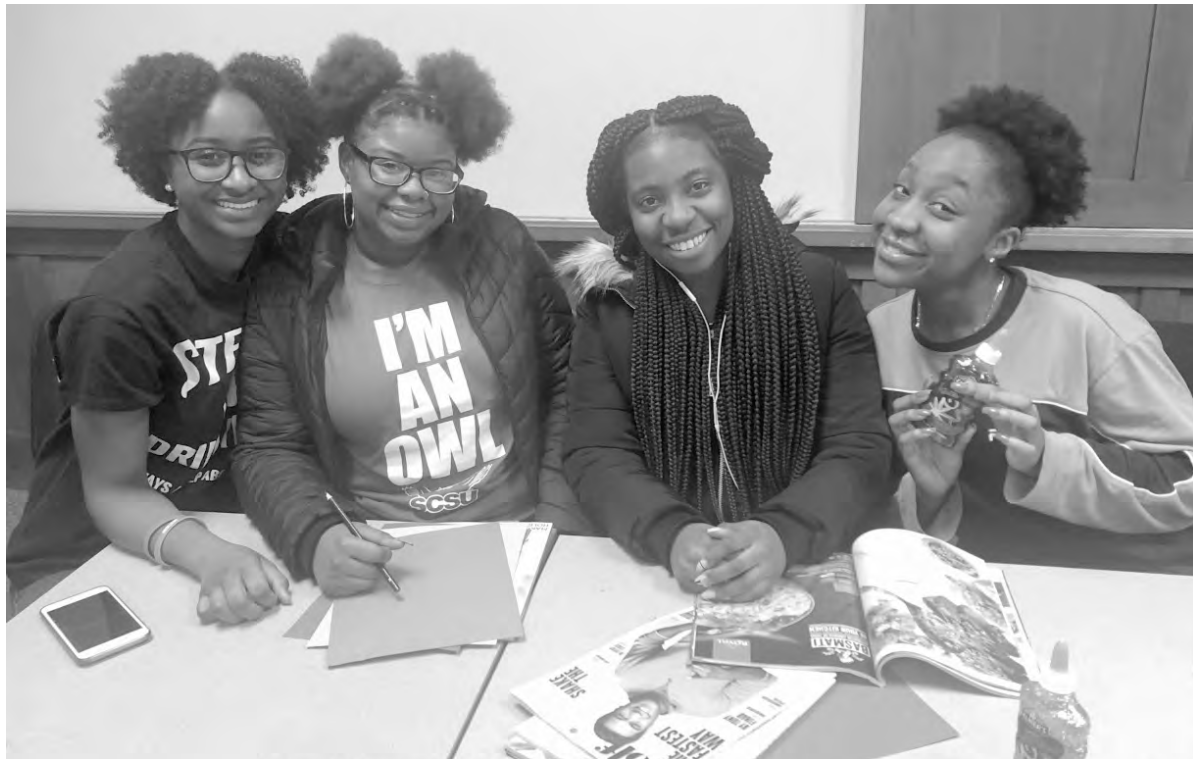


PHOTO | J'MARI HUGHES

Elina Miller, (left to right) Zahnyah Scott, Anika Miller and Khadijah Osmanu of the Vision

Miller said the event began last spring and because of the positivity it spread, the team wanted to keep it going. As a part of Week of Welcome, members said that Student Involvement Center reached out to them in support of their event and provided them with the supplies to get it along.

"I love to eat so that's why there's food on mine," said Ricketts, a senior. She also decorated her board with pictures of clothing and said,

"I like to find new styles. I'm a simple person but I don't always stick to one."

In addition to food and clothing, Ricketts colored her board with reminders of school in regards to her graduation in May, which she said she is excited for.

Lay's potato chips and water bottles were available as snacks for those who came. Throughout the room, the stylings of Cardi B, Beyoncé, and Fantasia were heard on a loudspeaker controlled by students who

called out what music they wanted to hear.

A common goal many students had for the semester was the lack of procrastination. Freshman Anika Miller said she often waits until the last minute to get her work done which she hopes to put an end to. As well as holding off on schoolwork, Miller also said she was guilty of falling asleep in class and hopes to do away with that and do better in class.

Students decorate jars to admire qualities in others

By Jessica Guerrucci
Copy Editor

On Thursday, Jan. 24 the Violence Prevention, Victim Advocacy (VPAS) and Support Center held a "You Are" Jar Making Party where students were given the opportunity to decorate jars and write on popsicle sticks things that they admired about themselves or a loved one.

Sabrina St. Juste, who is receiving her

master's in social work and current V.P.A.S graduate intern, said that the program was meant to start a conversation. "We thought that having this program would be helpful and encourage students to look for qualities that they admire in themselves in hopes that they choose to have healthy relationships with others," said St. Juste.

Students had the choice to keep the jar for

themselves, but Nathalia Curi, a communication major, said she chose to make the jar for her best friend.

"I wrote 'you are loved' on my sticks and thanked her for the times that she's helped me when I felt alone," said Curi. "Then I wrote her some encouraging things for when she feels alone or when she feels like her relationships aren't going very well, just remind her that she's awesome."

Taslina Sultana, a psychology major, said she chose to make her jar for her two-year-old daughter, who she said is always kind and behaves for her.

"She doesn't bother me too much, she lets me cook, she lets me study, so that's why I wrote 'you are so smart,'" said Sultana. "Then I wrote 'you are happiness for life,' because my life has been so much more enjoyable with her now."

Students had the choice to either keep the jar for themselves or give it to a loved one, but some students decided to leave it for a stranger. Keri Warner, a psychology major, said she left her jar on the table and left a note saying, "take me."

"I feel like the strangers are the people that kind of need your love the most."

See Jars, page 6.



PHOTO | JESSICA GUERRUCCI

Ben Yamba, (left to right) Taipha Antoine, and Sabrina St. Juste showing off their jars.

SCSU Fitness Center gets the job done

Jessica Guerrucci
By Reporter

Kyle Handy uses Southern's gym nearly every day, and while it is not his dream gym, he said it gets the job done.

Students have the option between choosing a gym off-campus or using the fitness center here at Southern. Students said many different factors come into play when it comes to choosing a gym. For Handy, a business major, he said he uses Southern's fitness center because it is convenient and it is a good price.

"It's a pretty good deal," said Handy, "It's forty-five dollars for a semester and normal gyms are about 20 to 30 bucks a month, so it's a little cheaper."

Handy, who is a Southern resident, said that it's also a good option to have because he can squeeze in a workout between his classes. Joseph Izizarry, who is getting his master's in athletic administration

and is a fitness center employee, said it is a good option for commuters as well.

"It's great because in between classes you can come and get a work out. It doesn't necessarily have to be two hours, but you can get a quick thirty minutes to an hour work out if even if it's just on the treadmill or lifting weights," said Izizarry.

Though Izizarry works at the gym, he said that he prefers to go off-campus to L.A fitness, because they have more machines and he is able to go with his friends.

"Friends that I lift with go with me to that gym so it's a little easier for me to have someone to spot me versus when I'm here I work out by myself and it's a little more isolated," said Izizarry.

Several students said that while it is a good option to have a gym on-campus, they feel it is more limited than gyms off-campus. Lindsey D'Andrea, an exercise

science major, said that she stopped using the fitness center at Southern because she often found herself waiting in line to use machines.

"The gym here is really small in comparison to how many students there are," said D'Andrea. "There's more cardiovascular machines but last time I went, there was only one squat machine and one bench," said D'Andrea.

Handy said that the bench press is the one machine at Southern that always has a long wait and he said they should get another. Matt Bickley, a finance major, also said the fitness center at Southern needs another bench.

"I started going to The Edge in Hamden instead because it has a lot more to offer and it's way bigger," said Bickley. "The gym here is pretty good but it's limited. For example there's only one bench and I'd rather pay more to go to The Edge

where they have ten."

Though some students prefer to go to an off-campus gym, they still said it is a good option to have on campus and provides students with several different workout programs.

Izizarry said that he liked how spacious the group exercise room is at Southern's fitness center and that he's done the group cycling before.

"We have great programs here at Southern," said Izizarry. "We have our group exercise classes, we have cycling, we have Zumba, yoga, and other training."

D'Andrea said she's been to the group yoga class before and said it was challenging, but it helped her take time to be stress free.

"It's definitely a good option to have a gym on campus," said D'Andrea, "It promotes a healthy lifestyle and it's more convenient for people on campus because they don't have an excuse not to go."



PHOTO | JESSICA GUERRUCCI

Some of the equipment in the Fitness Center.



PHOTO | JESSICA GUERRUCCI

From left to right: Briatney Portillo, Nathalia Curi, and Keri Warner decorating their jars.



PHOTO | JESSICA GUERRUCCI

Some of the refreshments provided for those decorating jars.

Jars

Continued from Page 5

I knew had friends, and I knew I had family but in the moment that didn't matter," said Warner, "It was kind of the people who made small differences, like holding the door open for me, or just smiling as I walked by, that made me feel like my presence was acknowledged."

Cameron Row, a computer science major, said that he chose to leave his jar for a stranger because he already encourages his loved ones and said he didn't feel that he needed to make them a jar to let them know

they're admired.

"I left it here for people to take for encouragement because everyone should know they are beautiful and everybody is loved," said Row.

Instead of making a jar for a loved one or a stranger, Taipha Antoine, a public health major, and V.P.A.S member, said she made a jar and used stickers to write the word "loved" on it, because her jar was about loving herself.

Regardless of what students chose to do with the jar, St. Juste said that the point of the program was to encourage students to look for qualities that they admire in themselves in hopes that they choose to have healthy relationships with others.

"No one was ever hurt from getting a

little encouragement and to be reminded that you are loved and to have someone to focus on the good things instead of the bad," said Curi. "I water bottles were available as snacks for those who came. Throughout the room, the stylings of Cardi B, Beyoncé, and Fantasia were heard on a loudspeaker controlled by students who called out what music they wanted to hear.

A common goal many students had for the semester was the lack of procrastination. Freshman Anika Miller said she often waits until the last minute to get her work done which she hopes to put an end to. As well as holding off on schoolwork, Miller also said she was guilty of falling asleep in class and hopes

to do away with that and do better in class overall.

"I definitely don't want procrastination to take over my life this semester," said Zahnyah Scott. "To be honest, I consciously know (my vision board) is there so if I ever catch myself falling short, I always look back at it."

Vice president and senior Elina Michel compared the vision boards to New Year's resolutions, saying the two are both goals people want to pursue. A goal of hers, she said, was to make it on the Dean's List.

"It's nice seeing your goals out there," Scott said. "It's like you're seeing everything you want to achieve and you can follow it. It's something to look up to and strive for."

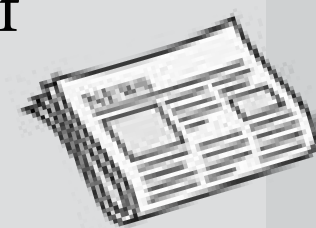
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Seven problematic things about “7 rings”

By Amanda Cavoto
Arts & Entertainment Editor

After releasing her album “sweetener” back in August 2018, which hit number one on Billboard 200 soon after its debut, Grande did not miss a beat for next era and released her single and album title “thank u, next,” on Nov. 3, 2018. After seeing its massive success as her first number-one single on the US Billboard Hot 100, Grande released another single, “7 rings,” on Jan. 18.

One: Lyrically underwhelming. Hey Ariana, we get it, you have money. I am not sure if there was a time anyone thought you did not have money. Why take an entire song to brag about the fact that you carry the wealth of one percent of the population? In the lyric “been through some bad s**t, I should be a sad b***h, who would have thought it’d turn me to a savage.” I could respect your ability to capitalize on the horrific trauma you have endured, specifically

within the past year, but telling me “happiness is the same price as red-bottoms” does not exactly promote your brag-like message of getting over your trauma. It appears as classist, as if money really does buy happiness and anyone that is under-privileged financially can never truly be happy. As someone as mainstream as Grande, all types of socio-economic groups listen to her, so the message just comes off as sour, arrogant and misleading.

Two: Musically, Grande

has received a ton of backlash from other artists such as Princess Nokia, who publically addressed Grande on Twitter and Instagram for her similar sounding beat on her song “Mine.” On “7 Rings” Ariana raps, “You like my hair? Gee, thanks. Just bought it.” On “Mine” Princess Nokia raps about black and brown hairstyles, saying “It’s mine, I bought it,” with a similar sounding beat.

Three: Whether she plagiarized the musical content or not, when compared to both her live

performances and prior studio-recording albums, this sound “just aint it” for her. She has a powerhouse of a voice, both in range and projection, and it is beyond underutilized in this single. If she is looking to branch out in her sound, please try something else and leave the hip hop vibe to the cultures that started it.

Four: Platform and privileged. With someone in Grande’s high power position as an international icon, her white feminist based mentality of reclaiming the girl boss attitude ignores the key elements of intersectional feminism. By boasting about her wealth and her lack of a man by her side, she misses the components of feminism that actually affect a much wider population of underprivileged women. People have mentioned a criticism of expecting too much from “just a young pop star” but I beg to differ. With someone with a big of a platform as Grande, she has all the tools, resources and privilege in the world to educate herself and actually make an impact on something she constantly capitalizes on financially, which is her promotion of “feminism” in her music.

Five: A slap in the face to anyone that suffers from any type of trauma or mental health issue. Grande claims that “whoever said money cannot solve your problems must not have had enough money to solve ‘em.” She talks about

capitalizing on her traumas by becoming a “savage,” but discusses no correlated strategies to how she got there. Her retail therapy addiction is not going to cure your mental illness, will not improve your mental health or help you cope with trauma. For someone with young fans, this type of message can leave uneducated minds hopeless in overcoming their own traumas.

Six: In Grande’s very few defenses, the song does get a decent rep for maintaining her loyalty to her friends and celebrating hardwork. Inspiring women to hold it down for their friends, rather than investing in a man, is a message worth sharing. “Buy matching diamonds for six of my b*****s. I’d rather spoil all my friends with my riches,” Grande said. Her constant hype-up of her friends is refreshing and I appreciate that message.

Seven: The spin-off of “My Favorite Things,” sung originally by Julie Andrews, is captivating because of her naturally talented voice. However, the change in lyrics was barely creative and too similar to her spin off of old popular movies in her prior music video, “thank u, next,” where she displays references from “Bring It On,” “Mean Girls,” “Legally Blonde,” and “13 Going on 30.” And to add insult to injury, once she gets to the rest of her supposed original content of the song, it leaves less to be desired.



PHOTO | AMANDA CAVOTO

Ariana Grande in her new music video, “7 rings,” released on Jan. 17.

Musical Bingo ends in a student winning a TV

By Alexandra Scicchitano
Online Editor

Musical Bingo took place on the first night of the semester, Jan. 22, at 8 p.m. in the Adanti Student Center Ballroom. Students gathered to try their luck at getting \$1,500 worth of prizes that included a smart TV and a Nintendo Switch. Other prizes included a GoPro, an Apple Watch and an Amazon giftcard.

“It’s bingo time! Stop by the ballroom and play musical bingo with the Office of Student Involvement and have the chance to win \$1,500 worth of prizes,” stated the OwlConnect event page.

Daphney Alston, assistant director of clubs and organizations, hosted the event by shuffling through a playlist of mostly old school hip hop and R&B songs for the chance to get a line of songs across, down or diagonal on the students’ Bingo cards.

Some of the featured songs at the event were “BedRock” by Young Money, “Independent Women, Pt. 1” by Destiny’s Child and “Umbrella” by Rihanna. The crowd reacted with excitement and laughter as they heard their old favorite tunes.

The event also offered stickers for the Week of Welcome passport so students could earn prizes.

The Office of Student Involvement and Leadership Development seeks to ensure that all students know of and are engaged in co-curricular opportunities off of and receive rewards for winning, stated Southern’s website about The Office of Student Involvement and Leadership Development.

“It was great, I had a great time,” said Dan Folchick, a sophomore and marketing major, who won big by winning the grand prize of a smart TV.

Folchick said he has gone to these kinds of events before, such

as regular bingo, that the Office of Student Involvement and Leadership Development hosts, but he did not expect to win big that night.

“I usually go all of the events to test my luck and I guess I got lucky today,” said Folchick, who expressed his happiness about the win.

Folchick said with his new TV, he is going to set it up in his dorm and watch TV on it.

Rebecca Lee, a junior, recreational therapy major, said that she had a good time even though she did not win anything.

“[I went] because I didn’t have that much homework and I wanted to spend time with my friend,” said Lee.

Because of how much time and funding that went into the event, Casey Powers, a senior recreational therapy major, said that she went to get the most out of it.

Both Lee and her friend Powers said that they were both close to winning

multiple times throughout the whole event.

“No, I didn’t, [win] I was so close,” said Lee.

“I liked it, I liked Bingo,” said Powers, “I was close to winning, [but] I didn’t win.”

Going to these kinds of events, said Lee, can be a good escape from school work and homework that people have to do now that they are back in school.

“It gives [people] a break from school work,” said Lee.

Lee also said that she recommends going to these events because it helps “build friendships” if you go with someone, and also could lead to entirely new friendships.

Lee said that she liked it was Musical Bingo and that it was not like normal Bingo so it was much more fun, but that she also has gone to these events before.

“I liked how they had music for it,” said Lee.

Going to these events are good, Folchick said, “because you never know what can happen.”



PHOTO | ALEXANDRA SCICCHITANO

A bingo card with various songs used to play Musical Bingo at the event on Tuesday, Jan. 22.



PHOTO | ALEXANDRA SCICCHITANO

Dan Folchick, the winner of the 32” smart TV from Musical Bingo on Jan. 22.



PHOTO | ALEXANDRA SCICCHITANO

Senior Casey Powers and junior Rebecca Lee checking their bingo cards at Musical Bingo on Jan. 22.



Beauty products commonly used by SCSU students.

PHOTO | AUGUST PELLICCO

Makeup makes a creative and individualized outlet for SCSU students

By Jessica Guerrucci
Reporter

For Jailene Cuevas, makeup is more than just an everyday routine. Instead, it is a definition of who she is.

Cuevas, who is a journalism major, said she first taught herself how to do makeup because she did not feel confident in the way she looked.

"I used to be overweight and I used to get bullied a lot because I wasn't pretty, so makeup to me at the time was a way for me to try to hide a double chin or hide who I really was, then later it became a way for me to express myself," said Cuevas.

Cuevas said that as she began teaching herself to do her makeup, it helped build up her confidence. Doing her own and other's makeup was a way for her to make people happy and to get to know someone.

Others started exploring the world of makeup in different ways, for Saline

Mboya, a nursing major, said her "girly" personality and love for art is what drew her in.

"I watched a few tutorials, but most of my learning was from trial and error," said Mboya. "Back when my makeup kit wasn't as large, I used to go into Sephora and do my entire face in the store using all of their sample products. That's what really taught me and enhanced my skills."

For Hannah Mott, an education major, makeup was something that she grew up around and that was what inspired her to give it a try.

"My mom first got me into makeup. I would always go into her room and use her expensive makeup and I would watch her put it on and always dreamed that one day I could wear it too," said Mott.

Some students said that they use YouTube to watch makeup artists in order to improve their skills or to inspire a new look to try,

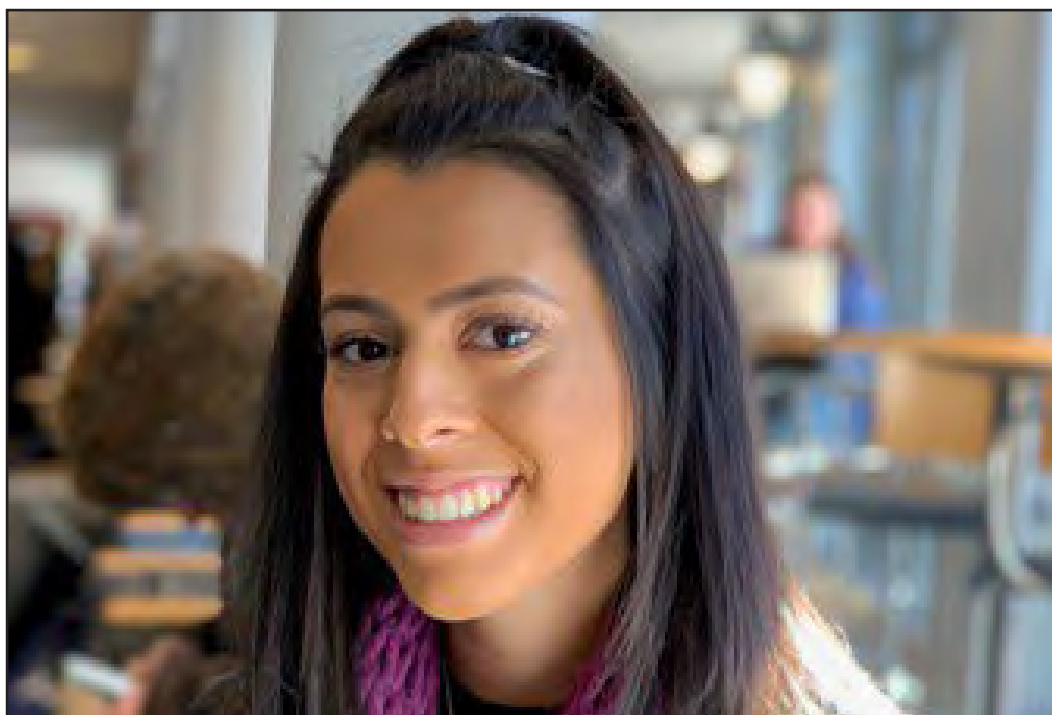


PHOTO | JESSICA GUERRUCCI

Jailene Cuevas, a senior and journalism major, expresses herself through makeup.

but Cuevas said that she prefers to try new looks and products on her own because she thinks every person has different facial features.

"I like to take control of my face, because a certain YouTuber or makeup artist can do a face a certain

way, but I don't have the same eye shape, I don't have the same head shape, so I have to learn it on my own," said Cuevas.

When Mott started doing makeup she did not have access to video tutorials, so she learned by just experimenting with

different styles to find a look she loved.

"Back when I was learning make up there really wasn't any YouTube," said Mott. "Now I watch YouTube videos to better my skills and knowledge about what products are out there and

what make up looks I want to try."

In order to showcase her skills to more people, Mboya said she started her own Instagram page that she named "slayedbysaline," where she posts all the different looks she has created.

While these students may not be professional makeup artists, they have still done many of their friend's makeup for special occasions like parties and school dances and they have even made some money doing it.

"It's something I would love to do, if I could make a profession out of it I would, but as of now it's just a side thing," said Cuevas.

Despite it being a side thing, Cuevas said that makeup has had a big impact on her life and that it is her personal way of expressing herself.

"I love makeup," said Cuevas. "If there is a day I do not wear makeup it means something is wrong with me."

Sizing up streaming services for students

By J'Mari Hughes
Reporter

Netflix is home to over 4,000 movies, 1,000 TV shows, and 110 million users. Over 90 percent of college students use the streaming service, according to a survey from LendEDU.

Every month, Netflix releases big time movies and TV shows whose popularity circulates throughout tweets, YouTube videos, and, as said by sophomore Esther Clebert, memes.

Titles such as "To All the Boys I've Loved Before," "Stranger Things," and most recently, "Birdbox," are only a few of Netflix's content made widely popular by its viewers throughout social media sites.

"I saw ["Birdbox"] on Facebook and people were hyping it up so I said, let me watch this," said Tiana Brown.

Students expressed an interest in a wide variety of genres from anime, documentaries, dramas and sitcoms. Sarah Foristel, a sophomore, said she watches medical shows and that she is on the Grey's Anatomy kick for the fourth time.

Foristel also said that when it comes to paying for Netflix, she shares an account with two people. Like her, Clebert and Brown share an account with other friends. They said there is no need to pay for an account if someone is offering his or hers for free.

Because of Netflix's desire to produce more original content, USA Today said that the price will increase by one to two dollars per streaming plan.

"Being a full time student, I wouldn't have the extra money," Foristel said. "But we all agree to keep doing it evenly no matter what the prices

are."

Freshman Soleil Colone said that she and her sister split paying for Netflix and Hulu. With the way Hulu's prices are set up, Colone said she and her sister would be paying an even amount if Netflix's prices rise, rather than one of them paying more than the other.

"I've kinda stopped watching Netflix and started using Hulu more just because I pay for the kind without commercials so it's kinda like the same thing," she said.

One difference between the two streaming services is that Netflix does not come with commercials, like Hulu, YouTube, and cable do. Clebert said she prefers Netflix over Hulu or cable because she cannot stand the constant interruption from commercials. Colone said she still uses cable to watch certain TV shows because they are not

available on Netflix.

"I like the Firestick," Brown said, "because sometimes you can get more new recent movies or even older ones that wouldn't be on Netflix." According to Wikipedia, a Firestick, or an Amazon Fire TV, is a digital media player and its microconsole remote developed by Amazon. The device is a small network appliance that can deliver digital audio and video content streamed via the internet, to a high-definition television. It also allows users to play video games with the included remote, via a mobile app, or with an optional game controller."

Jonny Middleton, a sophomore, said he prefers Netflix because it is the most readily available, while Foristel said she does not even understand Hulu.

"I'll only watch Monday through Thursday because



PHOTO | J'MARI HUGHES

A shared Netflix account homescreen.

of the way my schedule is," Foristel said, "and then I only watch maybe an episode if I get that far into it."

Defying the popular belief that millennials binge-watch Netflix all day, Clebert said she only uses the platform sporadically. Brown

that she will now take a break due to school, and Middleton said he will watch it only two to four times a week when he has nothing else to do.

"I wish it had more shows," was the one piece of criticism Clebert had about Netflix, "like SpongeBob."



Senior guard Kealan Ives scans the floor against Bentley on Jan. 26.

PHOTO | AUGUST PELLICCIO

Largest roster grabs first win of season for gymnastics

By Matt Gad
Sports Writer

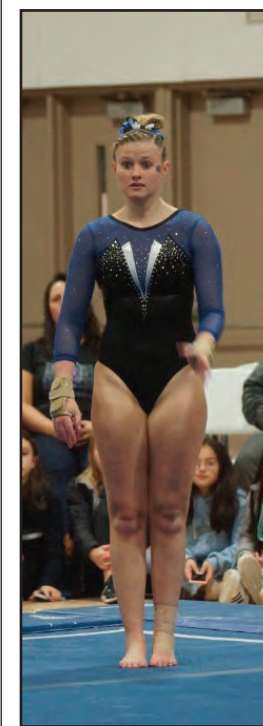


PHOTO | SOUTHERNCTOWLS.COM

Junior Keylea Brothers competes in floor exercise during meet on Jan. 27.

21-athlete roster is underclassmen, with six new freshmen coming in after last year's recruiting class gave the team seven new student athletes.

"We opened up with our season's highest score in program history, so that was definitely a good thing for us because we have a young team," senior co-captain Kylyn Dawkins said. "We were all happy about it."

The team lost four seniors last year due to graduation after finishing in third place of the ECAC Championship, which was held last year at Moore Field House, and sending six student-athletes to nationals. This year's ECAC Championship, which is held on a hosting rotation between the Owls, Bridgeport and West Chester, will be held in Bridgeport, which will also be the host site for April's national meet.

While the program has consistently sent several members each year to that meet, they have been unable to qualify for it as a full team since 2007.

"I hosted here in 2007," Nelson said. "We qualified as a team my first year when I was an assistant and then we made it in 2007 but since then we've had a couple more teams come into the league and it's hard competing against Division I."

Southern women's gymnastics, which defeated Brockport and Rhode Island College last Sunday for their first win of the season.

"In 16 years I've been here it's never been 21 kids," coach Jerry Nelson said. "That's how many we're carrying right now. We've been trying to increase our enrollments so we can increase our base of competitive athletes but we're limited because of our double facilities and how small our facility is in Pelz, but it has been a project of ours for the last four years to get a little more people on the team."

Thirteen of the team's expanded

SEE MEN'S BASKETBALL PAGE 10

SEE GYMNASTICS PAGE 11

Owls have career night

Isaiah McLeod leads team with 33 points, Kealan Ives follows with 29 points in victory over No. 24 Bentley University.

By Matt Gad
Sports Writer

The Owls (12-8, 7-5) saw a grind-out performance last Saturday, including a powerful stretch run to eventually put away No. 25 Bentley (15-5, 8-5). Senior guards Isaiah McLeod and Kaelen Ives both dropped career highs, with 33 for McLeod and 29 for Ives. Sophomore transfer guard C.J. Seaforth pulled in 22 of his own.

Both teams scored exactly 54 points in the second half as the men were able to win 100-88,

for their second consecutive victory. They beat Franklin Pierce 100-89, on Jan. 23 to put an end to their previous three game losing streak.

"Our guys competed. We had some lapses but when it got close we bumped it down and got stops," coach Scott Burrell said. "I was happy with our effort after losing one of our best players."

About a minute into the game, sophomore guard Ulyen Coleman went down hard and had to leave the game due to leg injury. Resulting in the Owls having to rely on more of their bench, specifically in guards

Joey Wallace, a senior, and Michael Mozzicato, a freshman. "That was definitely tough [seeing Coleman go down], early in the game... one of our best players," Seaforth said. "[Wallace and Mozzicato] came in and did whatever they could to help us win."

Wallace hit eight points and five rebounds in 28 minutes of action, and Mozzicato picked up four defensive rebounds and an assist in 16 minutes on the floor.

"They all make big shots, they're all gamers and we've had a chance to win every game we've played, except Saint

Anselm, if we just cut back our turnovers," Burrell said. "We didn't have a lot of turnovers tonight and it helped us win."

McLeod, who's been dropping 20 or more on a consistent basis, picked up seven rebounds and three steals to add to his ledger. He also shot 10-17 (58 percent) from the field, including 7-13 (53 percent) from the three point range. Ives, who has been running the point guard spot with effectiveness this year, pulled back a perfect 12-12 at the line and also dished out eight assists as he excelled in his 29-point career-high.



Photo | August Pelliccio

Senior guard Amanda Pfohl with the ball during a home game against Bentley University on Saturday.

Women's basketball offense stifled against defending conference champions

By Hunter O. Lyle
Sports Editor

In a match up against the defending 2017-'18 NE-10 champions, the women's basketball team was unable to steal a win against Bentley University.

The women's team had a tall order to fill when the Falcons, who hold the top spot in the NE-10 and ranked 20th in Division II, walked into Moore Field House.

"Everyone wants to beat the number one team in the league,

and Bentley's number one, so we really wanted to get the win," said senior guard Amanda Pfohl. "Unfortunately, we made some stupid mistakes and they capitalized on them."

The two teams seemed equally matched, both relying on their shooting and ending with the exact same results, 43.8 percent (7-16) from the field and 37.5 percent from deep (3-8). A free throw from junior guard Aaliyah Walker gave Southern a one-point lead going into the second quarter.

From then on, Bentley started to put the pedal down.

Between throwing the ball to their post players under basket, or driving and dishing to their open 3-point shooters, who shot over 60 percent from beyond the arc in the second quarter alone (5-8), the Falcons started to pull away and ended the half with a seven-point lead, 39-32.

In the second half, Southern's reliance on shooters became their downfall, shooting only 18 percent in the third, and 46 percent in the final quarter of play.

SEE WOMEN'S BASKETBALL PAGE 11

Starting slot open for injured men's basketball



By Matt Gad
Sports Writer

Ulyen Coleman went down hard last Saturday in the Owls' 100-88 win over No. 25 Bentley. Only about a minute had run off the clock since the opening tip when the star sophomore guard, last year's NE10 Rookie of the Year, went down in agonizing pain.

It was tough to see such a talented player possibly lose his season to injury. At a time when there's only a handful of regular-season games left and the Owls are battling for postseason positioning in March's conference tournament, losing one of the team's best players has to sting.

Yes, the team has a lot of talent and depth but Coleman's absence will take a hit. It will mean guys on the bench will have to step up, namely senior Joey Wallace and freshman Michael Mozzicato, both guards.

Due to his experience in his fourth season for the team, Wallace will likely be getting the nod from coach Scott Burrell's squad in the starting lineup [this was written and laid out before last night's game] but even so, Mozzicato, turning heads as a freshman, will have to stay ready. So far this year, Wallace and junior forward Taurus Adams II have been coming off the bench a lot, with the latter subbing in and out with Luke Beesley as Wallace takes Coleman's spot, look for Mozzicato to serve as the top man off the bench to relieve the team's top guards.

The case for Wallace:

He's a senior, earned minutes during his freshman year, and played behind successful guards such as Michael Mallory and Desmond Williams and he already has significant chemistry with his classmate, Isaiah McLeod, and his head coach, Scott Burrell.

The case for Mozzicato:

He's been given a good amount of early playing time as a freshman, he's won as a high schooler and he played a valuable 16 minutes last Saturday coming with three of his four defensive rebounds in fairly quick fashion.

This season, the team has faced multiple injuries and absences over the course of the season, losing senior guard Isaiah McLeod for several games, Adams II early on, and as senior guard Joey Wallace for a good portion of the first half of the season.

So yes, it is a giant loss for the Owls to be without Coleman but their depth and superb level of talent should keep them in a strong position as the regular season winds down and they continue to push into the NE10 Tournament.



Junior guard Imani Wheeler closes-out on Bentley player on Jan. 26.

PHOTO | AUGUST PELLICIO

Owls have strong leader in Imani Wheeler

By Matt Gad

Sports Writer

Sports management major junior guard, Imani Wheeler, a from Virginia, is very valuable to the women's basketball program with her on and off the court leadership, experience and playmaking abilities.

"It takes a lot to learn and do the stuff on court...you gotta learn how to work with other people, with their strengths and weaknesses and I've been trying to be a leader and run the offense how coach wants it," Wheeler said.

She's been averaging 10.4 points, 2.7 rebounds and 4.5 assists per game as a starter and she's had breakout games against New York Tech, where she scored 17 on Dec. 18 of last year, Dec. 30 when she scored 23 against Dominican, Jan. 12 when she had 18 against Southern New Hampshire

and then Jan. 23 when she dropped 22 on Franklin Pierce.

"This is the first time Imani's really played a lot of minutes. She had [former player] Murphy Murad in front of her the last two years she learned from her," coach Kate Lynch said. "Imani's gotten better each game in a lot of ways and I'm looking forward to seeing her finish out the season and seeing her senior year, too."

Wheeler has been getting a bulk of minutes as one of the team's starters, averaging over 35 minutes a game. "Physically, Imani's really worked on her strength in the weight room," Smith said. "She lifts crazy amounts from when she started just so she can finish around the rim better because she does drive [the ball] a lot. On the court, she's a lot smarter...I'm not sure if that comes with comfortability or a higher IQ of learning the game more."

Smith, like Wheeler, has been seeing a sharp increase in minutes this year as spots opened up due to then-seniors leaving the program. Last year, Wheeler's season-high came against New Haven on Nov. 29th when she scored 12 points and had three defensive rebounds. Her career-highs have been coming this season since she's now in the starting lineup.

"Personally, I'd like to eventually break the assist record. I was going for the steals but Kiana [Steinauer] beat that so now I have to beat hers," Wheeler said. "But I just want to win a championship and contribute to the team as much as I can. I don't care about my own personal success."

Joan Van Ness had 15 assists in a game against Rutgers in the 1976-77 season before she had 13 against UConn in the 1977-78 season. Van Ness had 197 single-season assists in the 1976-77 season; 21 more

than Nicole Grossbard, who reached 176 assists in a season in the 2015-16 campaign.

"[Imani] brings that leadership, and she's somebody that's really difficult to guard so we do set her up off a lot of quick hits. She's a great defender," Lynch said.

Wheeler was on the team last year when the team held a record of 21-10 won their first round game of the NE10 Conference Tournament.. Abby Hurlbert scored 38 points in the win against Southern New Hampshire, the first 38-point single-game performance in program history since Lynch did it herself, against Saint Rose, Feb. 23, 2008.

"I wanted to be away from home, and I liked Coach Lynch's message of winning a championship," Wheeler said. "I know they did that and I thought it'd be great to learn from their experience...I fell in love with the team when I came to visit."

Men's basketball

continued from Page 9

Ives, who has been running the point guard spot with effectiveness this year, pulled back a perfect 12-12 at the line and also dished out eight assists as he excelled in his 29-point career-high.

"We came into this game ready to go," Seaforth said. "Bentley's a good team, 25th in the country, so we had to come in with that killer mindset and get them out the way like we did."

Seaforth had four rebounds, five assists and four steals to go along with his 22. The Iona transfer earned his way into the starting lineup recently after struggling to score earlier in the season, getting a lot of time now to play with Ives, who transferred in this year from Rider.

"CJ and I both came in from Division I, a higher level of basketball. Not to take anything away from Division II but there's a few things that are different about the game," Ives said. "In the beginning of the season we talked about trying to dominate and really do what we're supposed to do and it's coming into fruition now that we're starting to get a rhythm. When C.J. gets hot it's definitely a good thing for us."

The Owls are currently in the midst of a three-game road trip, which started last night at Assumption (6-13) and continues at Saint Michael's (5-12) Saturday. One week from tonight they will head to West Haven to take on their major rival, the University of New Haven (13-5).

"We take it day by day," Burrell said. "We move the ball, guys make big shots and it becomes infectious. You hope the guys feed off it and play team basketball."



PHOTO | AUGUST PELLICIO

Isaiah McLeod, (Left to right) C.J. Seaforth, and Kealen Ives hustle to contain the fastbreak during a game at home against Bentley on Saturday.



PHOTO | SOUTHERNCTOWL.COM

Sophomore guard C.J. Seaforth takes a contested shot against Bentley.

team

On McLeod Nine: Owls senior holds high accolades

By Hunter O. Lyle
Sports Editor

Midway through his fourth and final season as an Owl, senior guard Isaiah McLeod wants to cap of his career by bringing some banners to Moore Field House.

After a successful season last year, in which the Men's basketball team held a record of 16-12 and reached the second round of the NE-10 tournament, McLeod said he made personal goals to improve and lead the team.

"I kind of had a break-out season my junior year so being a lot more consistent, being a leader, and just being one of the best players in this conference were individual goals I had," said McLeod. "It's just baby steps to get there."

McLeod originally picked up basketball from his father, who in his high school days played with NBA greats such

as New York Knicks legend Patrick Ewing and also Rumeal Robinson, who played on 11 teams during his career. McLeod said when growing up in his hometown of Cambridge, Mass., the comparisons to his father motivated him to focus on developing and improving his game.

"As a kid, hearing, 'oh your dad was better than you at this age,' it kind of put fuel to my fire," said McLeod, "I always wanted to work more and be better than him."

Since walking into Moore Field House over three years ago as a recruit, McLeod has been a focal point to the team, averaging 20 points per game and 34 minutes per game his freshman year. He has also been an almost immediate boost to the team, scoring 18 points in his first game as a collegiate athlete.

"I'm glad he stayed, I'm glad he's progressed. Every year he's gotten better," said Head Coach

Scott Burrell, who arrived at Southern the same year as McLeod. "It's amazing how great of a scorer and shooter he is. He could be even more selfish if he wanted to on the offensive end, but he's such a team player that he fits in perfect with the system and doesn't try to do too much."

McLeod currently boasts top five in scoring, top ten in points scored, and top 15 in steals in the NE-10 conference. Along with his conference accolades, McLeod also ranks sixth in most 3 pointers made in Southern athletics history and joined the 1,000-point club last season as the youngest inductee in school history.

Junior forward Taurus Adams II said that McLeod is one of the most important parts of the team offensively.

"[McLeod] brings energy. He brings offense," said Adams. "He can score, go out there every night and give us 30. He can give us a lot."

After he graduates from Southern with a sociology degree, McLeod said he plans on trying to play basketball professionally for some time, and then returning to his hometown of Boston to serve his community.

"Since I was a kid I've always had this plan A and plan B," said McLeod. "My plan A has always been I want to play overseas professionally. My goal with that is to go visit the world, see a bunch of countries for a couple years, and then I want to go back home and become a police officer."

While he plans to follow his dream of playing professional basketball across the world, McLeod said that he will strive to come home and be a presence in the Owls locker room when he can.

"Of course [I will miss Southern]," said McLeod. "I'm going to visit. If I do go overseas, I'm going to visit every time I'm home."

Owls break records over winter recess



By Hunter O. Lyle
Sports Editor

As the 2019 Spring semester starts back up, academics rolling in full swing, it is time to reflect upon the winter break. Where the majority of Southern students most likely were able to eat good food, spend quality time with their families, and push that next visit to the gym to the new year.

While others celebrated the holidays, and took part in the seasonal cheer, there was no leisurely break for the Southern athletes. During those 37 days of non-educational enjoyment, history was made, and highlights recorded. Here's what happened:

Women's Basketball:

The women's basketball team played a total of seven games over the holiday break, and held a record of 4-3 within those games. More importantly, junior forward Kiana Steinauer found herself in the record book for her outstanding 30-point, 30-rebound performance against Concordia College on Dec. 19. It was the first 30-rebound game in Southern's history, the second 30-30 game in NE-10 Conference history, and the second 30-30 game in the Division II realm since 1996.

Men's Basketball:

Like the woman's team, the men also faced seven opponents, and they also went 4-3. Along with an above .500 record, the men also held onto their longest win streak of the year, which started Dec. 1 against Adelphi University, and ended seven games later when they were defeated by Southern New Hampshire University on Jan. 12. The team faced four NE-10 matchups, but were only able to claim one victory, which was against Merrimack College on Jan. 9.

Gymnastics:

The gymnastics team had it's first two meets of the season, the first being a quad-meet against the University of Bridgeport, Yale, and Rutgers University, and the latter being a meet against Brown University. While they were unable to grab the win in either meet, the Owls set the record for highest recorded score in a season opener in Southern history, with a score of 190.275.

Men and Women's Swimming and Diving:

The men and women's swimming and Diving team both had three meets over the break, facing Le Moyne College, the College of New Jersey, and Marist College. The women's team was able to edge out Le Moyne and the College of New Jersey, while the men were only able to beat Le Moyne.

So now that 2019 is here, and the Southern spring semester is up and running again as usual, there is sure to be more records broken and riveting games to watch from the Owls athletics.



PHOTO | WWW.SOUTHERNCTOWLS.COM

Senior guard Isaiah McLeod hustles back on defense against Bentley University.

Survey found more students rooting for Rams over Vegas favored Patriots in Super Bowl XLIII

By Michael Riccio
Managing Editor

Although Southern is located about 125 miles from Foxborough, Mass., and Connecticut is a state in the New England region, 86 of the 144 students and faculty polled are rooting for the Los Angeles Rams to win Super Bowl LIII against the New England Patriots.

Michael Archer, a junior majoring in public health, said he is a Rams fan and "this is the first time in a while" a team he is rooting for is playing for a championship.

"I'm backing them up a hundred percent," Archer said.

Even though Archer lives on the east coast, he said he has always rooted for teams out west such as the Lakers and Kings. Once the Rams relocated back to Los Angeles for the 2016

season he had to root for them.

"I've never been a football fan much before that," Archer said. "When the Rams came to L.A., I had to hop on it. I have to root for my boys."

Isaiah Araujo, a transfer student, said he is rooting for the Rams to win the Super Bowl because he does not like the New England Patriots.

"I'm an Eagles fan," Araujo said. "We won Super Bowl 52, so why would I want the Patriots to win?"

Although a majority of people polled are rooting for the Rams, 108 people think the Patriots are going to win on Sunday. Jake Trautner, a sophomore and a Patriots fan, said they will win by at least 20 points. He said he is so confident because of quarterback Tom Brady.

"We got the goat," Trautner said. "He's going to be amazing. He's going to be out of this world."

Andrew Hans, a senior majoring in communication, is picking the Patriots to lose though because of the "Drake Curse."

Canadian rapper Drake has been seen supporting University of Kentucky basketball, the Toronto Raptors, University of Alabama football, and mixed martial artist Conor McGregor.

Kentucky has not won a championship since 2012, the Raptors have never made an NBA Finals appearance, and McGregor was submitted by Khabib Nurmagomedov in a fight last October. Before the conference championship games, Drake wore a shirt donning the logos of the Saints, Chiefs, Patriots, and Rams from left to right. The Saints lost the first game last weekend to the Rams, while the Chiefs lost to the Patriots.

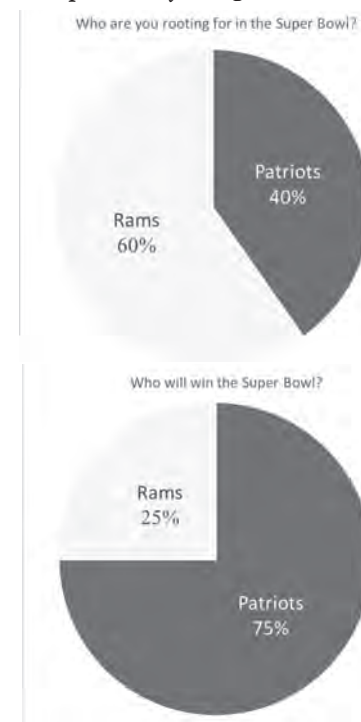
"So I think the Drake Curse is real and according to his shirt

and if it goes in the order it's going in," Hans said, "then the Patriots are going to lose, and I want them lose."

Araujo said the Rams are going to win however because they have "an awesome offense" led by running back Todd Gurley III, "an amazing coach" in Sean McVay, and thinks their defense is capable of stopping Tom Brady during the fourth quarter.

Lupoli and Archer said the Rams are going to win because of their quarterback, Jared Goff. Lupoli said he is very talented and Gurley will be able to "run all over the Patriots line." Archer said Goff's potential is "huge" even though he's still young.

"He's proved this entire season that he is more than capable," Archer said. "Facing down probably the best quarterback of all time, that's going to put his stuff to the test and put everything on the line."



Women's basketball

Continued from Page 9

By the time the final buzzer rang, the lethal shooting from Bentley gave them a 13 point deficit, winning 69-56.

Head coach Kate Lynch said that the team's effort and focus were main factors in the loss.

"We didn't play a full 40 minutes," said Lynch. "When you play a team like Bentley, any mistake that you make, they're going to capitalize on, and that's what they did."

This loss comes at a time where every game may prove crucial. As the team enters the latter half of the season and battles for a playoff spot, all of the last eight games are NE-10 matchups.

As the team currently sits third in the Southwest Division for the NE-10, Pfohl said

the last stretch of the season tends to be the most difficult.

"That's the tough part because everyone gets tired, there's injuries and everything, but that's really when you have to give it all you got and leave it on the court," said Pfohl. "Especially because you're not guaranteed, we're not in playoffs. No one knows those rankings yet, so it's kind of do or die at the end of the year because if you're not in the top four, your season ends."

The team is scheduled for a three-game road trip, facing Assumption College, Saint Michael's Col-lege, and then rival University of New Haven on Feb. 6.

"I always say you can never lose twice. I can never miss two shots in a row, you should never lose two games in a row so the pressure is definitely on," said Pfohl. "Assumption [College] is also very good, so we just need to prepare well and practice and we can get the win for sure."

PHOTO

A not-so-warm winter welcome

By August Pelliccio
Photo Editor

At the start of the new spring semester, students were greeted with an interesting

weather pattern. Temperatures in the low teens followed a winter mix of snow and rain, leaving tree branches and structures on campus coated with a

glossy layer of ice. Temperatures rose above freezing before the end of "syllabus week," but there is plenty more winter weather ahead.



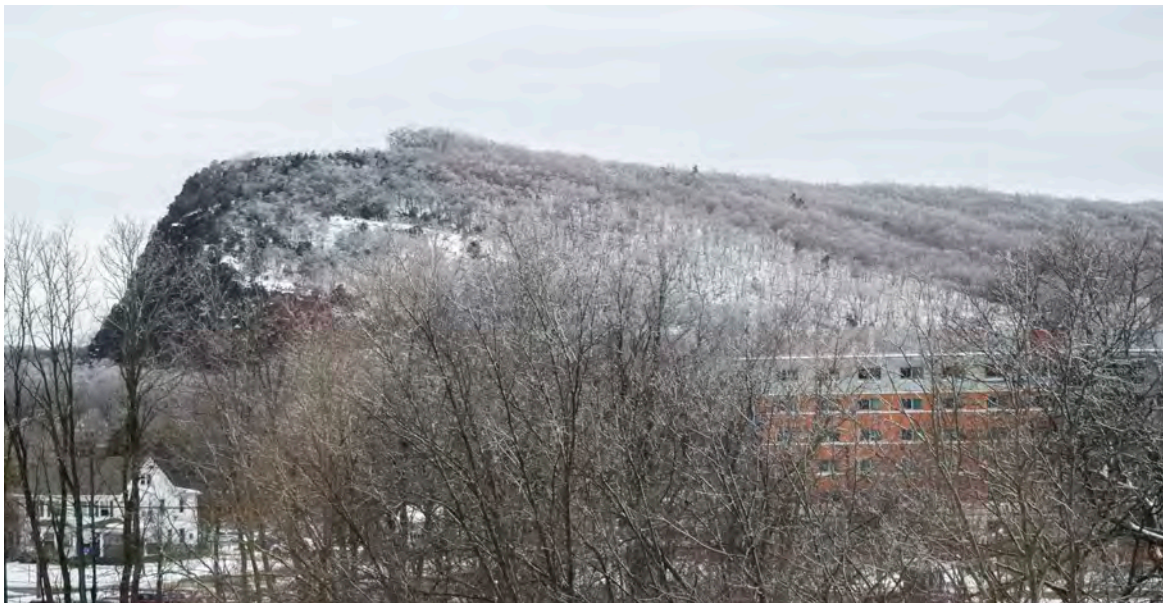
Beads of ice form over frozen branches on a bush outside Engleman Hall.



Ice coated the trees in front of Earl Hall, and the frozen ground blanketed in snow.



The bronze owl sculpture finally made its debut on campus, outside of Engleman Hall. The new sculpture was "dripping" with icicles, and glazed with a frozen coating.



Snow covers the ground, all the way up West Rock Ridge, seen just behind Schwartz Hall.



Tree branches between Earl Hall and Adanti Student Center encased in ice.



An ice-covered branch hanging in the Adanti Student Center's shadow.



The Academic Quad, seen with a thin coating of snow and ice still remaining on the ground.