

**Pet Therapy  
relieves  
students stress**  
Page 5



**Master class  
engages  
students**  
Page 8



**Record set  
against  
Assumption**  
Page 9

# SOUTHERN NEWS

WWW.THESOUTHERNNEWS.ORG

OCTOBER 2, 2019

VOL. 57—ISSUE 5

## Neff Hall welcomes new LLC

By Jacob Waring  
Online Editor

La Casa, located in Neff Hall, is a hybrid between a hall theme and a living community based around Hispanic and Latinx language and culture, according to Mandi Kuster, the associate director for Residential Education & Community Development.

“La Casa is very new. It is a piloted living, learning community [and hall] theme,” said Kuster. “It is for students who are interested in learning the language or learning the culture.”

Living Learning Communities are themed floors within residence halls which are aimed at specific students. These themes have ranged from first generation to nursing majors; the goal is to create a community that supports students facing similar or the same issues.

According to Kuster they decided to keep La Casa more open than other communities due to how new it is.

See La Casa Page 3

## Fall state of the university address

President Joe Bertolino speaks to the university during an assembly of administrators and faculty



PHOTO | JASON EDWARDS

President Joe Bertolino speaking at the university address in the ballroom.

By Jackson LaMar  
News Writer

By Jackson Volenc  
Reporter

President Joe Bertolino spoke with faculty and staff on Tuesday, Sept. 24, in the Student Center Ballroom to discuss some of the

university’s shortcomings, as well as review many of the school’s achievements over the past year.

“Even as we are bringing in new students, we are losing the students that we have, and we will never solve our enrollment challenges without improving our retention

rates,” Bertolino said.

Bertolino backed this statement of declining enrollment with some examples. As he stated, the retention rate of full-time freshman who enrolled in 2018 is 73.2 percent, which is a “significant dip” from 2017’s retention rate, which was 77.9 percent.

President Joe additionally named some of the new staff members who are focused on improving the school’s retention and enrollment rates in the future.

“We are very fortunate to have the services of three experienced and talented individuals to guide our recruitment efforts as the academic year unfolds,” he said.

The main “reality,” he said, is the declining enrollment number that has been on a decline since its peak in 2005. Back then, SCSU had 13,000 enrolled students. Now, the school has dipped under five digits at 9,817 enrolled students.

Bertolino said several other schools in the local New Haven area that were Southern’s competitors are taking potential transfer students from community colleges like Gateway.

These students, Bertolino said are choosing schools such as Central Connecticut State University, Quinnipiac University and University of New

Haven over Southern when looking to get their degree.

With all of that said, Bertolino also talked about the good that the university has brought. One of his highlights was sharing a “living history” video, which featured congresswoman, Jahana Hayes, who graduated from Southern in 2005.

Her journey, Bertolino said, saw her come from poverty to Southern to a national teacher award then ultimately, the U.S. congress.

The video highlighted Hayes’s time at Southern and mentioned that she was the first African American woman to represent Connecticut in congress.

The video then transitioned into the Inaugural Staff Award of Excellence. This is an award that gets presented to a group of employees bi-annually as an appreciation for their efforts “far beyond their job responsibilities” at the university.

See Address Page 2

## Campus rallies together for annual Day of Service



PHOTO | IZZY MANZO

International business major Sebastian Garzon, freshman pulling weeds off a fence in the Community Garden.

By Izzy Manzo  
Photo Editor

Students volunteered around the greater New Haven area and on campus on during Southern’s annual Day of Service.

On Sept. 28 students and peer mentors were bussed to various sights where they were given numerous tasks. The overall goal being to leave their assigned sight better than the found it.

Peer mentor and accounting major Victoria Neves, a senior, took a group of students to Southern’s Campus Community Garden, where they assisted garden manager Ellie Carlino, a graduate intern, with maintaining the garden.

Neves said she has participated in Day of

Service three times; once her freshman year and twice as a peer mentor, where she volunteered at Blake Street and downtown neighborhoods on Livable City Initiative sites.

“I’ve done the garden, actually, my freshman year,” Carlino said, “and now I’m back for my senior year.”

Carlino said, while the garden occasionally gets volunteers, around half of the work falls on her and students.

“It’s basically me and then a couple of student workers and, like I said, volunteers here and there,” she said.

Carlino, along with the student workers, all get paid, meaning that they have limited hours to take care of the garden in a given week.

“That’s why days like today, when we have the volunteers to help, it is a big help because, you know, I’m only paid to be here for a certain amount of hours per week,” Carlino said. “So we can only get so much work done. So, the extra volunteer work really does help.”

Although the group only consisted of five students, Carlino said they held their weight.

The work which mostly consisted of weeding around the garden, was completed quickly and efficiently.

“They’ve done a really awesome job,” she said. “I’m really excited.”

While Day of Service has been mandatory for students in the past, this year it was optional.

However, students

such as finance major Sarah Lemere, a freshman, said she still decided to volunteer for Day of Service because the event was for a good cause.

“It’s something to do to help out and give back,” said Lemere.

Although members of the community garden are dependent on volunteer work, they give back to the community as well — Carlino said that she works with New Haven farms to get seedlings, and food from the garden is used in a variety of ways once it is grown.

“We donate a lot of the food to St. Ann’s Parish, [and] now we have the farmer’s market, that happens bi-weekly; I think it’s every other Monday,” she said.

See Service Page 2

## More solar panels added to Davis Hall

By Ellie Sherry  
Reporter

Davis parking lot is getting a makeover with the addition of a solar panel system, which is a continuation of the Brownell and Davis garage paneled parking lot project.

Adding solar panels to the parking lots and garages is a project that has been in the works since 2012.

The idea of the project started when the solar panel industry started to change, and become more financially feasible for Southern to take part in the renewable industry.

“Figuring out how this power purchase agreement would look, which is what this kind of project is called — how that could work in a way that makes sense for Southern,” said Suzie Huminski, one of the sustainability professionals who helped the project become a possibility.

This new way of financing was designed so that one company can own the solar panels and then

over time you can buy the power that they create.

This change from Southern having to own all of the land and the panels to someone else owning the panels allowed for this project to become a reality.

“I’d say three years ago was when the basic structure was put in place, and the RFP,” Huminski said, “which is a request for proposals was released to companies to bid projects.”

Fast forward to September 2019, the Brownell lot and Davis garage have both been completed and the panels in the Davis parking lot are currently underway. Once all of the projects have been plugged in, around two million kilowatt hours of electricity will be made each year. While Southern does consume about 28–20 million kilowatt hours of electricity, this is a start to switching over, and it does make a dent in Southern’s carbon footprint. Many students are on board with the panel installation.

See Panels Page 3



PHOTO | IZZY MANZO

Solar panels installation in graduate parking lot.

# Vending machines require recalibration after change in vendor

By Jackson LaMar  
News Writer

Hoot Loot is one of the convenient features for students to pay for food, supplies, etc. It raises concerns however when that convenience is taken away for something so simple like a vending machine.

Since the start of the year, nearly every vending machine on campus lost its ability to accept Hoot Loot. This technical difficulty has to do with a change in the vendor.

Todd Mason, director of Financial Business Applications at the card office, shed some light on the situation.

"We had Coke do our beverage machines for a long time," Mason said. "And they didn't keep their end of the bargain so to say."

The problem with coke is was that they did not fill the machines as quickly as Southern wanted.

Because of this, many of the machines were empty for an extended period of time.

"We re-contracted with Berkshire who does the snack machines, to also do the beverage machines," Mason said, "and what's happening right now is the transition between those two."

Part of that transition between Coke to Berkshire is also changing the card readers from the old readers from Coke, to the new readers from Berkshire.

"I don't know when we do keep in contact with Berkshire about it," Mason said. "They haven't given us a definitive date yet, but it is in the process."

Hoot Loot is a part of every Southern students life and some students need this card to buy drinks and snacks because they may live to far from home.

However, for some students it is seen as an unnecessary step that they

can not live without.

Marvin Wilson, associate director for the Office of Residence life, spoke that Hoot Loot might be on its way out the door.

"I think it's probably one of those things where depending on who you speak with, the response will be a little bit different," Wilson said. "A lot of students honestly have a credit card, a debit card, or cash now."

Wilson said that this feedback came up a couple times during a couple of Residence Hall Association's meetings.

Because of some of these suggestions from students there could be a change for students who live on campus.

"Some students use the Hoot Loot for the laundry machine," said Wilson.

"And actually may move away from that because we got feedback that students don't like to have to add money to their card to utilize things, they



PHOTO | IZZY MANZO

Vending machines located on the second floor of the Adanti Student Center.

rather use their cash or their debit, or their credit card."

There are no concrete plans at this moment to replace drying machines.

Exploratory major Austin Farb, freshman says that every student has their ID at all times so might as well make it accessible

"I feel like they should use it," Farb said. "It's probably the easiest way of paying since everyone has their card at all times, so why not?"

Although this problem seems rather minor, vending machines still could be an important part of a student's life and they will need to be able to

access them.

"It's a small enough issue that could be fixed and benefit most of the students here," Farb said. "It's just simple and easy to use your card for paying for anything on campus, and I see a lot of people getting energy drinks all the time so they rely on those vending machines."

## Service

Continued from Page 1

According to Southern's website, the garden also donates a share of produce to families in nearby neighborhoods every week. The garden works with the Community Alliance for Research and Engagement,

which was founded by the Yale School of Public Health and works to find solutions to health issues such as diabetes and asthma.

CARE'S website states that its partnership with Southern is part of "on going efforts to improve the health of residents in New Haven's lowest-income neighborhoods."

Neves said she hopes through participating in the

Day of Service, students became more engaged and familiar with their community.

"[For] the next four years, this is your home," said Neves, "so you just [have to] keep giving back to get and receive all of the good that comes out of it."

See Page 12 for more photos of Day of Service and the Community Garden



PHOTO | IZZY MANZO

International business major Jayvon Gibbs, freshman weeding campus garden.



PHOTO | JACKSON LAMAR

Attendees of the presidents address in the Adanti Student Center Ballroom.

## Address

Continued from Page 1

Winners of this award included Amanda Mojica, Andrea Carlino, Angela Ruggiero, Francesca Poole, Mary Pat Caputo, Paulette Philson, Renee Knight, Shirley Anderson and Tonya Nelson.

Other highlights include new buildings: the Obama school that is scheduled to

open in the spring of 2020 in the heart of campus. SCSU will break ground for a new academic building for the school of health and human services. Designs are also being made for the new business building.

Bertolino also mentioned the 3000 solar panels down Farnham Avenue, and an extra 600 on Wintergreen garage. To top off solar panels another 2580 panels are being installed on the fitch street garage and 864 panels by

the car port in the rear. The money for this project is 100 percent covered by General Electric Company and the Connecticut Green Bank.

There were far too many positive points that Bertolino made that he is extremely proud of, but his speech concluded with the negatives that was mentioned in the beginning. Although there was more positive than negative, Bertolino hopes to turn around the enrollment situation.

# Womens studies widens their coverage to be more inclusive

By Alexandra Scicchitano  
Opinions & Features Editor

Women's Studies Program will be changing its name to Women's and Gender Studies Program.

Women's Studies started about half a century ago at Southern, with its first class beginning in 1971, said Yi-Chun Tricia Lin, the director of the Women's and Gender Studies Program.

"We never doubted for a moment that we taught gender studies," said Lin. "The program name was Women's Studies, but within Women Studies, we know it's about women, but it's not all about women; it's about the world we live in looking at through multiple lenses."

The program focuses on gender, gender minority, race, sexuality and class, according to Lin. It is not solely about gender studies, she said, because it also includes anti-racist, anti-capitalist, queer and other studies.

"At Southern we have talked about this multiple times to see if, 'Do we change the name; do we not change the name?' Lin said. "Finally, we said, 'A lot of this request comes from the student, while we are firm in our belief that we know our discipline, called Women Studies, it's not only Women Studies.'"

According to Lin, the program is adding gender into its people on campus can understand more about who and what the program is.

"Part of the thinking is [that] this is a way to really tell the world. We know who we are, but really when the world sees Women's Studies," Lin said. "They think this is about men hating, all of this are very untrue images of women that march, women that make social change."

Changing the name is a good way to help them re-center the classes offered by the department and help the professors within it rethink their teaching, and it makes them self-

reflect and ask, "are we doing what we're saying we're doing," Lin said.

"Ultimately, it was an attempt [to] reinvigorate the curriculum, the teaching, our reach out effort, as well to potential studies and colleagues, who have an idea, who teach, but think it's all about women," she said. Jenna Retort, the director of the Sexuality and Gender Equality Center, stated that she supports the name change and that it, "reflects the great work that they [have] already been doing in the department."

"In addition to work in the classroom, I think the Women's and Gender Studies does a lot of work in the community," said Retort. "They facilitate 64 days of Non-Violence, so I think that the department does a really great job of organizing a lot of programming that is already going on on-campus [and] in creating a robust schedule of events to kind of challenge our way of thinking

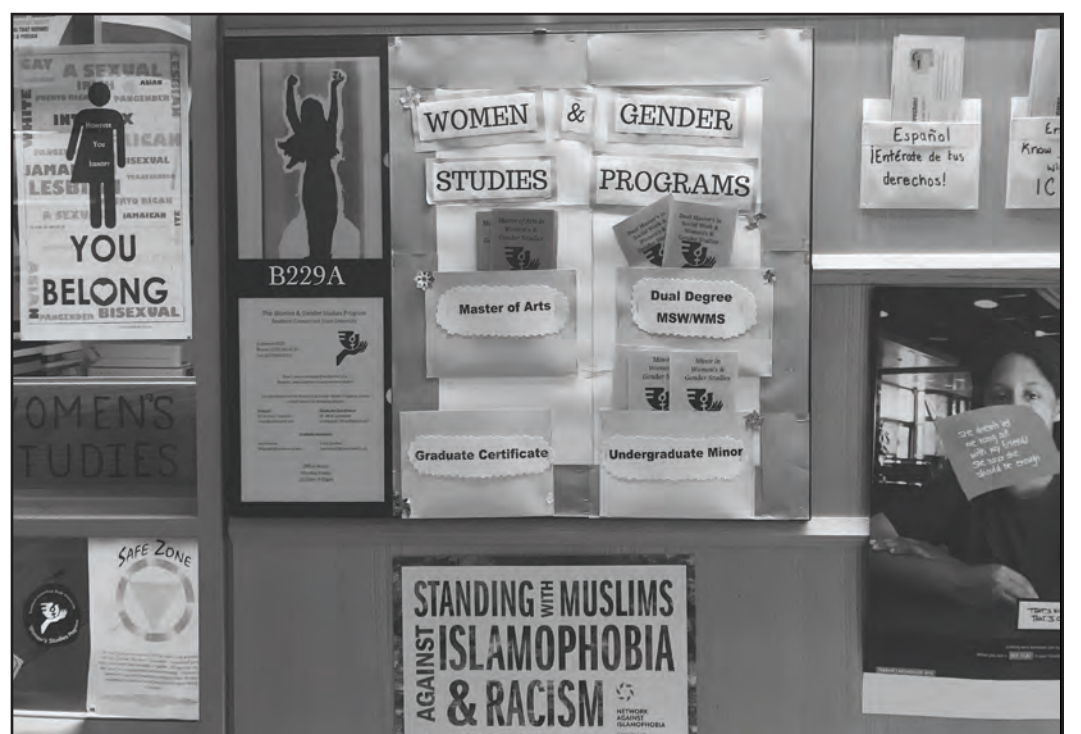


PHOTO | IZZY MANZO

Board outside of future Women and Gender Studies program office located on the second floor B-wing of Engleman Hall room 229A.

and to really engage our community in social justice efforts."

Erika Sanchez, a graduate assistant in the Women's and Gender Studies Program, said she graduated from the Women's Studies program

at Eastern Connecticut State University, but she always thought all of the programs were named something more than just Women's Studies, but that she was surprised and glad to learn of the name change.

"Whatever the name we give our program - Women's Studies, Women's and Gender Studies it's all about transforming our world for the better, really for our children," said Lin, "so that we leave behind us a better world."

# College democrats discuss presidential impeachment

By Anna De Simone  
Contributor

U.S. Speaker Nancy Pelosi's announcement that the House is initiating a formal impeachment into President Donald Trump on Sept. 24, was the leading topic of discussion for the SCSU College Democrats meeting on Wednesday.

Graphic design major Justin Gendron, a junior and SCSU College Democrats president, led a discussion on Sept. 25, where members were able to voice their thoughts and opinions on the impeachment proceeding, following the general portion of the meeting which covered upcoming SCSU College Democrats events on and off campus.

"I thought it was interesting because it gave Donald Trump something like a scarlet letter," said Gendron.

Club members collectively laughed and agreed when Gendron said if former President William Clinton was impeached for participating in sexual acts with an employee in the White House, then there is not a reason why President Trump should not get impeached.

Political science secondary education major Irene Machia, junior and

SCSU College Democrats member, said she felt as though the impeachment proceeding was the most interesting aspect of the meeting.

"It's a current event that's incredibly relevant," said Machia.

Machia then said the impeachment proceeding was something that people have been feeling would occur soon based on recent events related to President Trump.

"It was cool to see how it's gonna start, how it can go, and to hypothesize what's gonna happen" she said.

Siobhan Davis, a senior psychology major, attended the SCSU College Democrats meeting for the first time on Wednesday because she said she wanted to meet new people and have a conversation about what is going on in current news.

Serving the country, protecting its greater interests, not using his power to further personal goals all qualities that Davis said she believes a president should have.

Davis said the impeachment proceeding is an opportunity for people to realize how important it is to hold those in office accountable for their actions.

"The president



PHOTO | ANNA DE SIMONE

College Democrats executive board members, (left to right) Norman Whitney, Izzy Manzo, and Justin Gendron.

should be a person who represents our values and our collective future goals, not a person that is self-centered and willing to blackmail other countries for personal gains," said Davis.

Davis said she thinks the impeachment proceeding announcement was interesting and is intrigued to see how it will play out

in the U.S. Senate and in public opinion.

A Center for Information and Research on Civic Learning and Engagement study found that American youths, aged 18-29, made up 13 percent of all votes in the 2018 House elections according to the preliminary national exit poll data.

Machia said she believes

that college students should be politically engaged.

As a member of SCSU College Democrats, Machia said she wanted to actively go against the public's discouragement of youth involvement in politics.

"We're a demographic that has many opinions, yet lack the motivation to be involved," said Machia.

Gendron said the main

focus of the SCSU College Democrats is to emphasize the importance of voting and get people to vote because it's the easiest thing to do.

"It's so important that you vote because that's how you affect change, and that's how you kinda start at the local level and build your way up," said Gendron.

## La Casa

Continued from Page 1

Other living communities require taking related courses to be within the hall. La Casa has a similar

requirement, in which residents need to take a Spanish class during the fall or spring semester of that academic year. Kuster said if students are interested in the language or culture, then they are welcome to La Casa.

"We're going to run it more as a theme," Kuster said. "There has been a few students who have been selected to live in the community, and we reached out to them individually about the events they have planned."

Students specifically selected for the learning community will be grouped together in shared and adjacent rooms in order to encourage utilization of their language.

One of those students is nursing major, Ashely Resto, a sophomore, who said that she thinks it is great seeing a living community associated with Spanish majors. Resto said the experience has been great thus far.

"I'm in a few Spanish classes, and my roommate right now is part of La Casa. We've been able to interact, and it has helped me with my Spanish classes," Resto said.

Some students, such as nursing major Jala Mitchell, a freshman, have indicated those in charge of organizing La Casa need to promote it better to students like her, who are new to Southern.

"I don't really hear anyone talk about it as much as it should be talked

about," said Mitchell.

The Latin American and Caribbean Studies Program Steering Committee is partnered with La Casa in terms of helping with the creation of the name. Resha Cardone, the chairperson of the World Language and Literature department, worked with Kuster to make La Casa a reality according to Kuster.

According to Cardone, it is rather common at for other universities' living communities to focus on language, but La Casa is the first attempt in Southern's history.

"For many years, I wanted to bring a Spanish language living-learning community [to] Southern," said Cardone.

Cardone said if La Casa becomes a success, then there will be a possibility for more learning communities to be based around other languages in the future.

"If we have success with Spanish. There are many

people in the department of World Language and Literature who have interest in opening up similar resident hall experiences for other languages," she said.

Cardone said she has ambitious plans: she hopes that the dean of the College of Arts and Sciences will find a donor who would purchase a real house for a living, learning community. She said that because 'la casa' means 'the house' in Spanish, having an actual house on campus for the Hispanic and Latinx learning community would be ideal.

"I think there's a lot of advantages to having a house, I think it would be more appealing to students," she said. "I think, [for] Spanish speaking students, [it would be] sort of symbolic to have a real home on campus [and] would speak volumes for the [school's social justice] initiative to become a Spanish serving institution."



PHOTO | JACOB WARING

Jesse C. Neff Hall, where La Casa themed Living Learning Community is located.

## Panels

Continued from Page 1

"I think that losing the parking lot for a few weeks or months while the structure is being built is worth what it will do for making Southern's campus more green," said business economics major, Brendan Rizza, a sophomore.

However, while this is great for Southern

becoming more green, it does comprise the entire parking lot for an extended period of time. The Davis lot is a main parking lot for education majors, nursing majors and commuters, and it being closed has made parking more difficult for these people. Many have to park in Wintergreen and walk all the way to Davis, where their classes are.

"Losing the parking spots to the solar panels was complete and utter crap," said nursing major,

Morgan Fernald, a junior. "It would have made more sense putting them on top of the buildings, and in all honesty, the tuition hike isn't worth the tax breaks the university is getting at all."

While some students may like the panels and some may not, while the parking lot is closed, students can take advantage of the free shuttles that go around campus if they have to park in either Brownell or Wintergreen.



PHOTO | IZZY MANZO

Solar panels being installed in the graduate lot located in front of Davis Hall.

## Corrections

In the Sept. 25 edition, on Page 3 associate vice president of Student Affairs Jermain Wright previously held the position as interim associate dean of the Office of Special Programs at CUNY not as director.

In the last paragraph of the article Wright was misquoted. The quote should have read "My friends and I..."

## Southern is not a true social justice university

By **Essence Boyd**  
News Editor

For as long as I can remember, Southern has displayed a vision of being a social justice driven university without providing proof.

According to the university website, Southern “strives to ensure that all members of the community are treated with dignity, respect, kindness, compassion and civility.”

However, besides there being one month out of the year dedicated to making “everyone” – and I use this term very loosely, feel celebrated and included, the university does not correctly utilize being a social justice focused.

As students have been told, another part of being a “social justice” campus means giving everyone a platform to speak their mind, regardless of how others may portray their message to be.

Due to this, the university has numerous political organizations and minority clubs.

However, is this just another way to keep every group on campus squared away and happy? If I am being completely honest, upon coming to Southern and first being told of what social justice was, the whole concept seemed – and still does – to only be about race.

If you were to visit Southern’s social justice website, the first thing that is jumps out at you is, “The resources provided here are intended for faculty and staff to explore in an effort to strengthen their understandings of how systemic racism operates in our lives, communities and classrooms.”

If you think about it, it makes perfect sense. The only time this label has been used to its fullest was during incidents that challenged the day-to-day operation. Such as when a racial slur is used in a classroom.

On a different note, despite being told what social justice is, does anyone actually know what it means?

If you were to go up to any students and ask them what the

term meant and how Southern fits into this category, they would stumble, have no idea, or all have completely different answers.

Having been a peer mentor and a current resident adviser, you would think I would have a better understanding of what it means after the constant and endless training I have received to fill these positions, but I can assure you, I have no idea.

Now, this is concerning, someone who spends the most time with first year students has no clue how to educate about a message they are supposedly going to be emerged in for the next four years.

The label is almost the same as the giant “Vape and Smoking free campus” sign that used to be plastered across the pedestrian bridge. It was a literal label spread across the bridge to make the university seem better and ahead of the curve to parents, but it was never intended for students.

Because, if it was, students would not

be able to walk pass it puffing smoke out of their Juuls. If being a social justice university means giving everyone a platform to speak their mind and be all inclusive, how can you expect students who pay just as much money as everyone else to leave campus in order to smoke?

Smoking aside, this raises another question – how is Southern going to offer social justice as a possible minor in the future, if the general public does not have a basic understanding of what it means?

As a journalist on this campus, professors, students and staff have made it impossible for me to do my job even though we all seem to have the same goal of educating students, if we are an open and inclusive school, why turn away people simply doing their jobs?

However, for Southern, being labeled as something and actually following through on being that thing are two completely different issues, and no one is fooled.

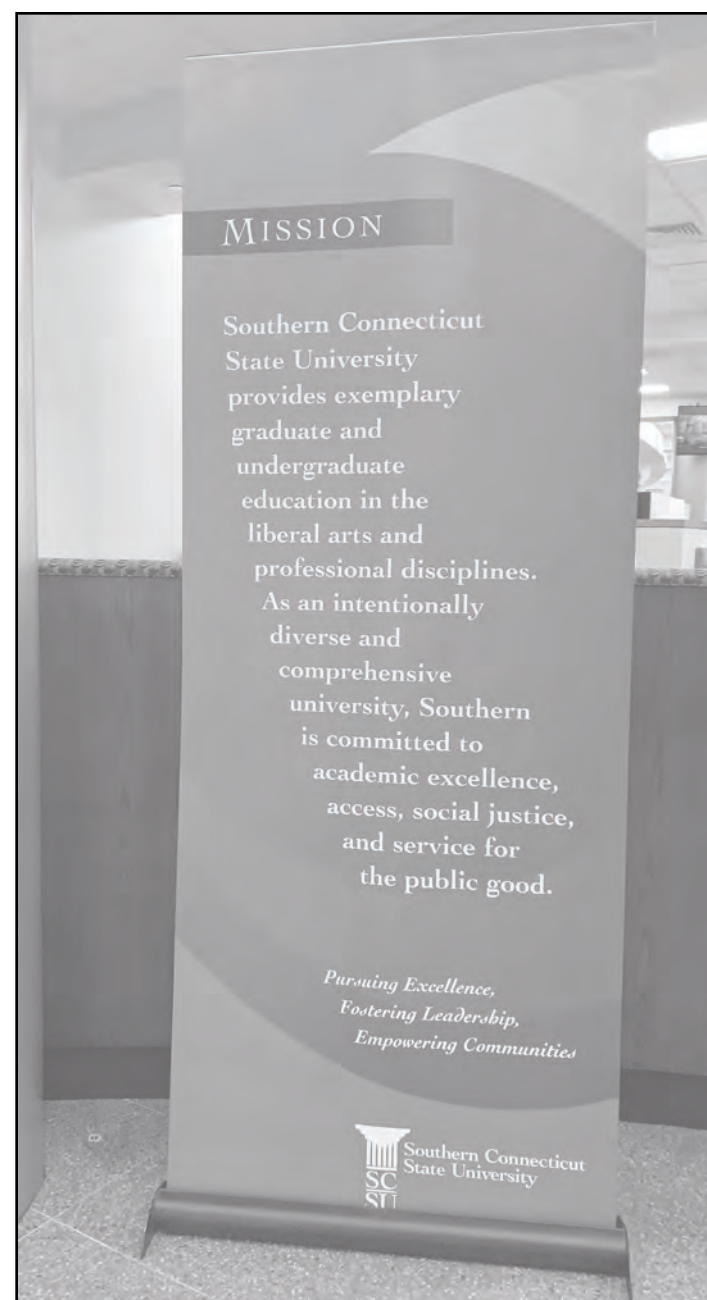


PHOTO | JESSICA GUERRUCCI  
The university’s mission statement displayed on the plaza level of the Adanti Student Center.

## EEE Mosquitos are a real threat to Connecticut

By **Ellie Sherry**  
Reporter

Every year, one million people are killed by the world’s most deadly animals — and no, it is not the shark. It’s the mosquito.

The majority of these deaths are from malaria, an infection spread by protozoan parasites, or dirty needles. The infection happens when an infected person’s blood goes into someone else; which is why it can be contracted by needles and mosquitos.

Luckily enough for

people who live in the United States, malaria cases are few and far between. Cases that do occur in the U.S. typically people who have traveled to a country where mosquitos carrying the infection are more prevalent.

Thanks to modern medicine, malaria can also be treated effectively if the infection is caught early on, but many people die from it because they do not have access to the necessary medications.

Now we have something even bigger than Malaria wreaking havoc, and it is right

here in Connecticut. The disease is called Eastern Equine Encephalitis, or EEE. So far, ten people have died from contracting the disease, and two of them have been in Connecticut.

When a mosquito that is infected with EEE bites someone, one of two things can happen. The infected person will either come down with some flu-like symptoms, or they will develop encephalitis.

When encephalitis occurs it causes the brain to swell and it results in death. One third of the people who get

Encephalitis die because it affects their entire nervous system, and there is little that medical professionals can do about it.

Towns that are closer to Massachusetts, where there has been the highest number of outbreaks, have taken precautions to prevent the spread of the disease. South Windsor, for example, is now closing any outdoor facilities and parks at 5:30 p.m. because it is the prime time for mosquitos to come out is at night.

To be quite honest, I am afraid of what is to come.

While modern medicine is a wonderful thing, doctors have been over-prescribing antibiotics for years. Antibiotics are only efficient when treating a bacterial infection, and illnesses like EEE are viral, which means that antibiotics have no effect. What we need is a vaccine, and there is still yet to be one effective enough to be released to the public. Until then, it is unknown how many other people this virus will impact.

It seems like Mother Nature is having a fit right now, between the hurricanes and the rise

of EEE outbreaks, and rightfully so. We have been mistreating our earth for years and now she has resorted to doing everything in her power to make us change our actions. We throw our trash into her, dump our gas in her, to and in other ways pollute her and take away her trees to breathe.

Of course, there are going to be repercussions for our actions, and I think this is part of it.

I think what we need to do now is start making changes in our actions and do the best to protect ourselves from this scary reality.

## SOUTHERN NEWS

Advisers: Cindy Simoneau  
Frank Harris III

Contact information:

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

Newsroom Phone: 203-392-6928

Fax: 203-392-6927

Mailing Address:

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

Issues printed by: Valley Publishing, Derby, CT

Follow Us on Twitter: @Southern\_News

Like us on Facebook: [facebook.com/thesouthernnews](https://www.facebook.com/thesouthernnews)

Visit us online: [TheSouthernNews.org](http://TheSouthernNews.org)

View print edition at: [OurSchoolNewspaper.com/Southern](http://OurSchoolNewspaper.com/Southern)

Tamonda Griffiths

Jessica Guerrucci

**Section Editors**

Essence Boyd

Alexandra Scicchitano

Amanda Cavoto

Hunter O. Lyle

Izzy Manzo

Jacob Waring

Samuel Fix

**Staff Reporters**

Jackson LaMar

Sam Tapper

Ellie Sherry

Jackson Volenec

Sofia Rositani

William Aliou

**Copy Desk**

Nina Bartłomiejczyk

J’Mari Hughes

Max Vadakin

**Business/Ad Manager**

Jacob Waring

Editor-in-Chief

Managing Editor

News

Opinions & Features

Arts & Entertainment

Sports

Photo

Online

Layout

News Writer

Sports Writer

General Assignment

General Assignment

General Assignment

Photographer

Southern News welcomes any and all comments and suggestions. If we make a mistake, please contact us and we will publish a correction or clarification in the next issue.

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

Visit [www.TheSouthernNews.org](http://www.TheSouthernNews.org) for more.

**Online Exclusive Articles:**

*Alumni Professional Day*

## Looking back: Fall of 2000



## Conn Hall finally passes inspection

Health concerns surrounding Connecticut Hall were finally resolved in December, after a student concern was raised at Food Committee meetings. Originally Conn. Hall failed its health inspection scoring a 64, with an 80 being a passing score. Violations included a bottle of Drano left next to a bread rack, the salad bar being temperature not cold enough, and food was improperly covered coming off the line. After corrections were made, Conn. Hall received a passing score of 94. Food manager Ted Young, said “This is very serious, and we’re taking it very seriously.”

### September

- Hoot Loot cards made their debut and replaced the old university identification cards. Carol Wallace, director of Administrative Support said, “The new card adds value for the students.”
- The women’s soccer team remained undefeated after beating Pace University 4-0. It gave them their eighth straight win. Two of the goals were scored in the last minute of play to give Southern the win.

### October

- Concern was raised amongst students as the West Nile Virus began affecting several towns and families all over Connecticut. Though birds are the prime host of the virus, Karin Guariglia said, “People should take precautions and be aware.”

### November

- Common and routine usage of racial slurs continued to be heard around campus, specifically the N-word, raised concern amongst students. Sandra C. Holley, dean of Graduate Studies said the word is degrading, “I don’t use the n-word and it’s not in my vocabulary,” she said.
- Conn. Hall health issues were discussed after dining food services provided by Sodexo Marriot failed two subsequent health inspections. Andrea Vassallo, a member of Environmental Futurists said, “The reason why I don’t live on campus anymore is primarily because of the food served in this building.”

### December

- Southern’s athletes said they felt restricted by gym limitations because they were not permitted to work out or use equipment without a trainer or coach supervising them. Soccer player, Shannon Sharack, said, “If you want to be a good athlete, you should be able to workout whenever you want.”

Compiled from the Southern News archives by Jessica Guerrucci, Managing Editor

## Relieve some stress and gently pet a dog

By **Tamonda Griffiths**  
Editor-In-Chief

Big bright eyes, shiny black fur and a calm disposition – these were just a few ways of how students and Pet Partners volunteer handler Suzanne Porter would describe Luna.

“Luna is a rescue [dog],” said Porter. “So, it’s some kind of lab mix. We were told maybe a flat coat retriever – which is a real breed, I looked it up – and it’s like a black golden retriever.”

Porter said she and Luna had been involved with Pet Partners for over four years.

“It was something I always wanted to do,” said Porter. “I always knew there was a therapeutic element to animals, especially both horses and dogs.”

Porter, who is also a special education teacher, said she also does reading therapy with her students during which they read aloud to Luna in order to get better at reading.

Porter also acts as an instructor to others training to become Pet Partner volunteers themselves.

“The training is basic obedience, like ‘come, sit, stay’ and then a little extra,” said Porter. “They have to be able to tolerate loud noises, sudden movements, people who may have jerky movements – like in a hospital, like, you might find in a hospital setting walkers, wheelchairs, crutches, sometimes. They have to be able to walk by another dog without reacting.”

Porter said, although she has gone through this training, she does not qualify as a dog trainer, but as a dog handler.

Porter and Luna were swarmed by a crowd of over 30 eager students on the third floor of the Adanti Student Center in the ballroom atrium on Thursday, Sept. 26.

The students were there to join in on Counseling Services Programming and Outreach’s weekly Pet Therapy.

“It was a collective thing started years ago, and it went from being once or twice [per] semester to, ‘maybe we can do it more to being something that students can enjoy weekly,’” said

Mary Xatse, Counseling Services graduate intern and coordinator for Pet Therapy, “so, I am grateful that when it started it was already something that people saw the benefits in, so it’s just an amazing part of what I do.”

According to a survey of 246 college students conducted by the University of British Columbia, interactions with therapy dogs can have positive lasting effects even more than

10 hours later.

English major, Sophia Oneto, a junior, said Pet Therapy was a “great way to end the day.”

“It’s a pretty friendly – it’s a friendly environment,” said Oneto, “you know, like all the people are just here to pet dogs and chill.”

Oneto said after particularly stressful days throughout her college career, being able to finish the day

with petting a dog was very helpful in reducing that stress that she has.

She had originally found the event, she said, to fulfill the health and wellness criteria for her freshman Inquiry class.

“I’ve been coming to this thing since I was [a] freshman,” said Oneto.

Getting to interact with dogs and complete an assignment simultaneously, Oneto said, was a “yes” for her.



PHOTO | TAMONDA GRIFFITHS

**Pet Partners volunteer handler, Suzanne Porter, chatting with students about dogs and college life whilst they pet Luna, a flat-coat retriever at weekly Pet Therapy on Thursday, Sept. 26.**

## Esports club makes their autumn debut

By **Sydney Peacock**  
Contributor

It all started when Esports president Miles Bagoly and vice president Brian Harner were playing the popular game “Rocket League.” After seeing banners with “esports” advertised, Bagoly and Harner said they realized there were teams of professionals all going head-to-head in an online video game competition. From there, the idea of forming their own esports team began, and was eventually put into action at the university.

On Sept. 20, the Student Government Association voted to approve the esports

club as an official organization on the university’s campus.

Esports involves the world of competitive online gaming, pitting different teams against each other in order to accomplish a similar goal, typically in tournament-style matches. With the formation of the ‘Collegiate Star League’ in 2009, a site which allows North American college esports teams to enlist in tournaments and play against other schools, college teams became more commonplace.

With the continuing growth in esports popularity, Bagoly and Harner, ultimately decided to switch from

a solely “Rocket League” focused club to an all-encompassing esports club.

Now, the club participates in roughly fifteen different games, and has a set of five completed teams. “Rocket League,” “Counterstrike,” “Call of Duty,” “League of Legends,” “Overwatch” and “Super Smash Bros.” are some of the major titles the club is broadcasting. The club claims it has switched their emphasis from “Rocket League” over to “Super Smash Bros.”

“We recently found out that [Super Smash Bros.] is extremely popular and competitive,” said Harner. “People get

really excited about it.”

Because of the game’s popularity, the club was hoping to host a “Super Smash Bros.” tournament in the near future. The event would be open to the university for anyone to demonstrate their skills.

Although the esports club does not currently have its own space, Bagoly and Harner said they hope to obtain one within the next year.

The Central Connecticut State University’s esports team was granted a space and gaming equipment by their school, the club hopes something similar could happen here at Southern.

Fancy facilities or not, Bagoly said he was positive Central “doesn’t have the same physical drive that we at Southern have,” which gives Southern the upperhand.

For now, Bagoly and Harner said they’re just looking forward to seeing where this club could be headed.

“A lot of people have a lot of drive and a lot of confidence,” said Bagoly, “I’m really excited to see what they do.”

Southern’s Esports team has until Oct. 13 to register teams on Collegiate Star League, but it is also looking for

casual players.

Both Bagoly and Harner said they were impressed with the number of students interested in the competitive esports teams. According to Bagoly, at the Student Involvement Fair in September, esports reportedly received 40 signatures within a half hour.

When first hearing about the club, special education major Michael Chelgren, a freshman, said he felt the club would introduce more opportunity, “for those looking for something that more suits their style.”

Bagoly also said there have been a lot of marginalized students that did not feel they had a place to call home in the campus community, such as being in a sorority or involved with sports and other clubs. He said he believes that the club might be one of the “final steps to making everyone feel included.”

Excited for what the year holds, Bagoly and Harner said they want to welcome all new members.

“We always tell people,” said Bagoly, “if you can get enough people to have a team, we will support you all the way.”



PHOTO | SYDNEY PEACOCK

**Esports club President Miles Bagoly (left) and Vice President Brian Harner.**

# 'Girl Talk' aims to talk about women's reproductive health

By **Essence Boyd**  
News Editor

Unlike some who have been avoiding confronting the hostile climate surrounding women's reproductive health, the sorority Hermandad de Sigma Iota Alpha, Inc. hosted a round table discussion coined "Girl Talk" to address it openly on Tuesday, Sept. 24.

"There is a stigma surrounding women health care services and anything pertaining to that," said president of Hermandad de Sigma Iota Alpha, Inc. Dayana Lituma-Solis. "Women's health care service, and just women's health in general, should be a subject that

everybody should be able to ask about and not feel nervous or apprehensive asking questions about."

The forum was open to all students and focused on issues minority women face, such as sexual violence and teenage pregnancy.

According to Lituma-Solis, the main goal for the event was to create a safe supportive space in which students were encouraged to ask any questions they had surrounding women's health.

"It was a workshop that I thought was very critical to have at this time, considering the state of stigmas surrounding this issue, because it is important to have

this background information, to be prepared and to have the knowledge," said Lituma-Solis.

Attendees were encouraged to take part in group discussion, which was accompanied by numerous informational videos on the many different types of contraception along with a presentation by Lituma-Solis.

According to a study done by Planned Parenthood, 6.2 percent of students nationwide report having sex before the age of 13, 43.8 percent by grade 10, and 63.1 percent by grade 12.

As one of Southern's few Hispanic and

Latinx organizations on campus, Lituma-Solis said although their first obligation is to spread Latino culture on campus, and, as a women's organization, they also spread female empowerment, which starts with self-care.

"First and foremost, we send the message of Latino culture to the rest of the world, but, beyond that, another important message that our organization tries to send out to others is that we are here to support [women]," said Lituma-Solis.

One of the students in attendance was communication disorders and psychology major Karina Aviles, a junior.

According to

Aviles, although the presentation was information heavy, being informed of all the resources available to women off campus was a much needed seeing as how on campus resources are not the best fit for everyone.

"I know that things happen in college, and the health center [on campus] can sometimes not be the main option for certain students," said Aviles, "Knowing that there are other options around the area can help students feel more comfortable and get the help that they need."

Anthropology major Madison Harris, a freshman, said the event was informative,

but the information shared should used to educate all students.

"This should be broadcasted more widely across campus, because there are lots of men and women who don't know about the anatomy, who should be more informed," said Harris.

Overall, students who attended the event should have gained a better sense of women's health and where to receive health related assistance on and off campus.

"[We] send out that message of women's empowerment," said Lituma-Solis. "Taking charge of your own knowledge, rights and your own health."

# 'The Ripple Effect' brings light to veteran suicides

By **Sofia Rositani**  
Reporter

"Suicide: The Ripple Effect" the documentary by Kevin Hines, details how, at the age of 19, Hines attempted suicide by jumping off the Golden Gate Bridge and became one of

the very few that survived after doing so. This experience changed his view on life, and Hines now travels the world as a mental health advocate in order to raise awareness and prevent others from making the same mistake he did. The

documentary was shown for suicide prevention month by Southern's Counseling Services and Veterans' Services offices.

After the documentary, Coordinator of Veteran and Military Services Giacomo Mordente, recounted

his time as a soldier during the Vietnam era, and his suicide attempt.

He was given a standing ovation, and others shared their struggles and how his story helped them.

"My experience as a social worker all these years obviously brings a lot to the table," Mordente said, "but what finishes it off is my personal experience."

Director of Counseling Services Nick Pinkerton, said suicide prevention is a "difficult topic," but still altogether a necessary one.

"I think this movie honestly candidly discusses more important aspects about suicide, while, at the end of it, helping the audience viewing it to remember that the most important parts are hope, connection and

healing and support," he said. "That's why I think this is a powerful movie, and we are glad to show it."

According to Pinkerton, data shows more people are experiencing suicidal ideation.

In fact, according to a Harvard Medical School study from 2015, "One-fifth of all students surveyed had thought about suicide, with 9 percent reporting having attempted suicide and nearly 20 percent reporting self-injury" and the rates of suicidal ideation were higher than the last time the survey was administered.

"I think there are some indications that more people are struggling with suicidal thoughts," Pinkerton said, "so it's really important to get this message out

again. There is help, you are not alone and support's available."

Michelle Lawler, a counselor at Southern, helped at this event, and though she said she did not help with picking the movie, she still acknowledged the impact this documentary can have for many.

"I think, in terms of suicide prevention, it's a film that is very current and popular throughout the country for [veterans] and all people to start the conversation on suicide prevention," Lawler said.

"[Hines] is one of the very few survivors who are able to live and tell that story, so in his journey following the jump, he decided to promote mental health and suicide prevention around the country and he has dedicated his whole life to that."

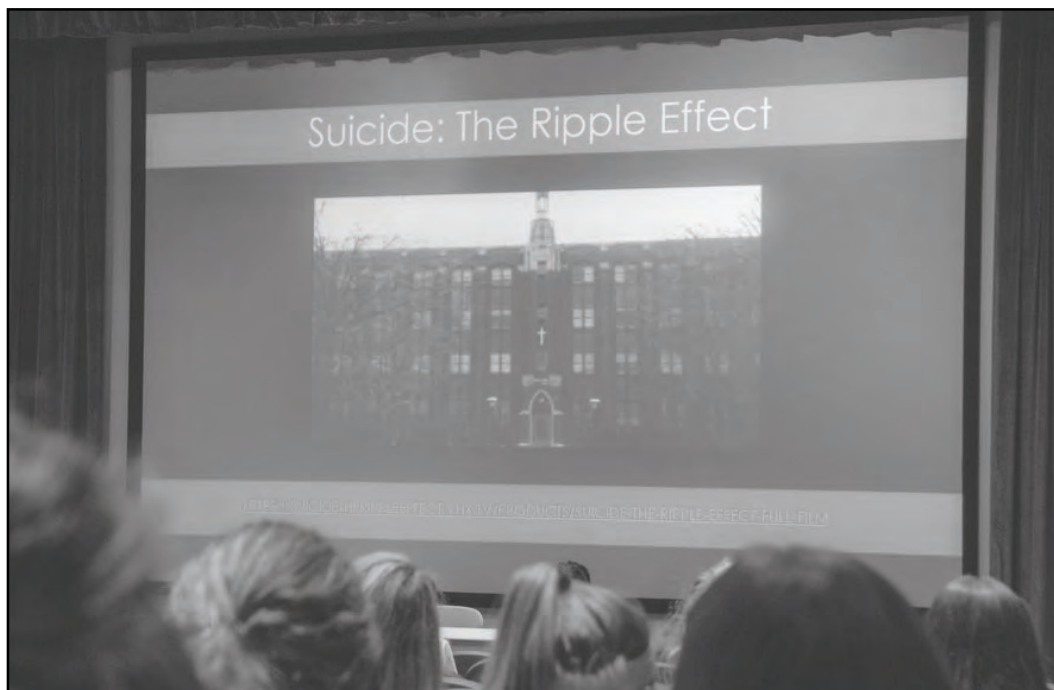


PHOTO | WILL ALIOU

Students watch the movie "Suicide: The Ripple Effect" on Wednesday, Sept. 25.

# Students shoot their shot with headshots and resumes

By **Jessica Guerrucci**  
Managing Editor

Values, interests and skills - these, along with knowing how to make intentional connections, are the qualities Kelvin Rutledge said students need to understand about themselves when preparing to enter the workforce.

"Some individuals need an internship, some need a shadowing experience, some need a clinical rotation," said Rutledge, director of Career and Professional Development. "So, part of that is just knowing what option you need and, more importantly, how you get those connection points."

On Sept. 25, three Southern organizations, the Multicultural Center, Career and Professional Development and University Access Programs coordinated

with the National Association of Health Services Executives to invite students to "Shoot Your Shot," an event that provided tools to prepare students for the workforce.

The event included opportunities for students to get critiques on their resumes, participate in mock interviews, network with local organizations and get a professional headshot.

Fred Boateng, president of the National Association of Health Services Executives Connecticut Chapter, said one of the most important factors in getting a job is a good headshot.

"If an employer is looking at you as a candidate - probably your LinkedIn, or your Facebook, or your Instagram - whatever social media they want

to approach," said Boateng. "It kind of gives them a depiction of who you are."

According to a survey done by CareerBuilder, 70 percent of employers use social networking sites to research job candidates during the hiring process. Boateng said headshots are the first thing employers see and are often a first impression of a candidate for a job.

Sara Hungerford, a graduate student studying social work, said both the headshot and resume critiques are what drew her into the event.

"That seemed really appealing to me, because for the National Association of Social Workers, I have to do a profile picture for that and for LinkedIn, and I wanted it to look nice," said Hungerford.

Between local

organizations such as Yale New Haven Health, Hartford Healthcare and LBD Firm attending, Hungerford said she did not expect to see so many employers at the event.

"I was glad to see that there's a few hospital providers here," said Hungerford. "So, that could be really beneficial. I could potentially network [and get] advice on how to gear my resume specifically toward a certain field."

Brittany Dzwonchyk, a graduate student studying social work, said she too came to event for the headshot and resume critiques. She said she never had her professional resume looked at before, so she wanted to know what sections she could add to and what to omit.

While there are events and career fairs on

campus, Dzwonchyk said she sees they tend to be directed towards undergraduate students, so she was appreciative that this one was more geared towards her interests.

"I think this is great," said Dzwonchyk. "I think this is exactly what

graduate students need, to be honest, because you have professional profiles - you've got LinkedIn, you've got different profiles with different organizations - and it's important to have something professional to present yourself as."



PHOTO | JESSICA GUERRUCCI

Fred Boateng talks to students on Tuesday, Sept. 24

# Danny Brown makes his own 'Best Life'

By Jackson Volenec  
Reporter

In the new single "Best Life" from rapper Danny Brown's upcoming new album, the artist uses the talents and skills he has obtained throughout his career, but with a simple throwback style that reminisces his first albums and the 90's boom-bap rap music that inspired them.

This is not an observation that requires deep analysis, as legendary MC Q-Tip, one of the lead members of 90's hip-hop group, a Tribe Called Quest, which helped defined the hip-hop genre, is on the production behind the single "Best Life." During the peak of his career, Tribe released

groundbreaking albums such as "The Low End Theory" and "Midnight Marauders," — both platinum-selling albums in the 90's.

Even though Brown is taking inspiration from 90's hip-hop on these singles, his identity has not been lost in the process of going back to his roots. The iconic delivery of his lyrics remains intact, with his high-pitched inflection piercing through the smooth, jazzy loops he flows on top of.

Brown is an example of an artist who uses his art to reflect his current state of mind at the specific time that it was written and recorded. We have seen this honest approach at songwriting ever since his first project "Hot Soup" came out back in 2008.

Perhaps the most disturbing, impactful display of Brown's honesty is in his previous album "Atrocity Exhibition," which is a terrifying dive into the wallows of drug addiction and intense isolation that Brown found himself trapped in. On this album, we were exposed to distorted and manic instrumentals that reflected Brown's state of mind. This album, although amazing, was concerning for listeners, as the drug addiction he discussed seemed like it could have killed him any day.

Luckily, on "Best Life," we have seen a much more light-hearted Brown, who has seemed to conquer his addictions that had been holding him down on his previous work. The

lyrics talk about turning his life around for the better: "Cause ain't no next life, so now I'm tryna live my best life."

The new material that Brown is releasing in the days leading up to his new album lets listeners look forward to a new direction for him, with more introspective and uplifting lyrics on full display on this track. The personal storytelling that we see on this song is on par to his previous efforts, but this time he reflects on his past in a way that is not depressing or bitter, as we saw on "Atrocity Exhibition."

The reflective lyrics we see on "Best Life" are reminiscent of the empowering and celebratory introspection we saw on "Grown Up," one of Brown's biggest singles that was

released in 2012. On his new song, however, the fantastic beat from Q-Tip tops the other song easily.

"I just feel like I came full circle. Going back to the beginning, going back to the basics," Brown told Pigeons and Planes in an interview about this track. He discussed how he felt that going back to the classical sounds of 90's rap music was what he wanted to do after going into such experimental territories on "Atrocity Exhibition."

The song "Best Life" is a single off of Danny Brown's new album "uknowwhatsayin," scheduled to release Oct. 4. Brown is also performing at Toad's Place in New Haven on Sunday, Nov. 17.



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION | IZZY MANZO

An iPhone displaying rapper Danny Brown's new single 'Best Life,' from his album 'uknowwhatsayin,' scheduled to be released on Friday, Oct. 4.

# Celebrity raises awareness about HIV diagnosis

By Sofia Rositani  
Reporter

Jonathan Van Ness, a hairdresser, podcaster and Queer Eye star, just came out as being HIV-positive in his newest memoir called "Over the Top". In the memoir, he talks of his struggle with being addicted to drugs and sex during his college years. One day, he said, he spontaneously fainted while highlighting a customer's hair. The next day he went to Planned Parenthood to diagnose his flu-like symptoms. That day is the same one in which Van's life changed forever. His results came

back HIV positive. In his memoir, he wrote, "That day was just as devastating as you would think it would be."

HIV is the virus that leads to AIDS, or Auto Immune Deficiency Syndrome, when the disease is left untreated.

Many celebrities have come out as HIV positive, including Charlie Sheen, Freddie Mercury, and Magic Johnson. Since then, there has been less of a stigma revolving around it, and there has been more support with those who have the disease.

Jonathan Van Ness is a prominent person in the LGBTQ+ community. He is known for his

feminine look, and bubbly personality.

"I am glad he is coming out and being open about it because you don't see people talking about it and it is a problem in the gay community still and I feel really sad," said secondary education major India Encarnacion, a freshman. "I think the more celebrities that come out, people will be more comfortable talking about it instead of being really scared and having to keep it a secret."

Social work major Rosaliz Carreno, a freshman, was shocked to know Jonathan Van Ness has HIV.

"I am kinda surprised

from a show that would help with their lives they would know to protect themselves, and the dangers of HIV," she said.

Carreno also said she thinks now that he has come out on being HIV positive, the more people will feel more comfortable regarding this topic, and it will raise more awareness for those who do not know much about this disease, or how to be tested for it.

During 2019, many more ways to help those with HIV have been discovered, according to The New York Times website.

"An overwhelming body of clinical evidence has firmly established that people living with HIV

who achieve and maintain an undetectable viral load — the amount of HIV in the blood — by taking and adhering to antiretroviral therapy as prescribed cannot sexually transmit the virus to others. But we have much work to do."

In March of 2019, two patients were cured from HIV. These patients were cured 12 years apart but were cured from the same treatment, a stem cell transplant, The British Broadcast Corporation reported.

A test taken by the Center For Disease Control in 2017 noted that the diagnosis for HIV was higher in young men with 87 percent, than in young

women, with 30 percent. Less than one percent of youth who received an HIV diagnosis were aged 13 to 14, 21 percent were aged 15 to 19, and 79 percent were aged 20 to 24.

The Wellness Center and the Health Center offer free screenings for those who want to be tested for HIV, or any other STD. They focus on sexual health, which involves free protection, and helpful advice for your reproductive health.

Jonathan Van Ness is a public figure in the LGBTQ+ community. His coming out garnered respect from many of his celebrity colleagues and strangers alike.



PHOTO | SOFIA ROSITANI

Secondary education major India Encarnacion, freshman, giving her opinion on celebrities coming out with HIV on Wednesday, Sept. 25.



PHOTO | SOFIA ROSITANI

Social work major Rosaliz Carreno, freshman, talking about her opinion on Jonathon Van Ness' HIV diagnosis inside Hickerson Hall on Friday, Sept. 27.

# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

WWW.THESOUTHERNNEWS.ORG

OCTOBER 2, 2019

PAGE 8

## Sigma Gamma Rho inspires painting with trap music

By Hunter O. Lyle  
Sports Editor

Rushing more chairs into the room, while welcoming newcomers in, the members of Sigma Gamma Rho were unaware of the number of students that would come to their annual social mixer, Trap and Paint.

In lieu of an official rushing event, where sororities try to advertise their group and draw in and recruit students, social work major Karina Vasquez, a senior and SGR vice president, said her sorority, which according to their OwlConnect page

is dedicated to enhancing, "the quality of life for women and their families in the [United States] and globally through community service, civil, and social action," throws a mixer instead of what some would consider the usual.

"[The Trap and Paint event] is just a social. We usually have them at the beginning of the semester to kind of gauge the girls that are interested because we don't have a normal rush event as other sororities do," said Vasquez. "It's just a thing to get the girls familiar with us, and also for us to

get familiar with them in a fun type of way."

Vasquez, who has been involved with the sorority for all four of her years at Southern, said this year the older members were letting the younger ones run the show.

"We had this event last year when it was just me [and the president], so the girls who came in last semester kind of took it and made it their own little rendition," said Vasquez. "We let them do their thing to gain experience in the chapter so when we leave they can still do their own thing."

With today's top trap music artists in the background, students were able to paint multiple small canvases while talking amongst themselves and current sorority members. Each student was given a small sized canvas, a pallet filled with acrylic paint, a cup of water to refresh their brushes and an array of colors to choose from.

The event started in 2017 under the name Sip and Paint according to current SGR President Kristen Gayle, but the sorority changed the name this year to try to

attract more students.

"Someone came up with the idea of maybe instead of having little mock-tails," said Gayle, "have it with music."

Public Relations Chair of SGR Shakaya Walcott, a senior, said the sorority advertised the event on Instagram, Twitter and Snapchat and that these kinds of events give students the opportunity to learn more about what goes on around campus.

"I feel like it gives them an opportunity to get out of their rooms and just explore something else on campus," said Walcott. "It also opens their eyes a

little bit when they get to know some of our sisters."

Social work major Lamonie Baldwin, a sophomore, said events like Trap and Paint help students connect to the people they go to school with.

"I feel like [the Trap and Paint event] benefits us a lot, especially my first year here, because I would come to events like these, and that's how I made friends," said Baldwin. "I feel like this type of event is a good way to meet new people, to become closer with people and to just be involved."



PHOTOS | HUNTER O. LYLE

Members of Sigma Gamma Rho hosting their event last Tuesday, Sept. 24 in the Adanti Student Center.



PHOTOS | HUNTER O. LYLE

Students creating art with supplies given by sorority Sigma Gamma Rho at the event last Tuesday night.



PHOTOS | HUNTER O. LYLE

People painting small canvases at the Trap and Paint event last Tuesday night in the Adanti Student Center.

## Master class engages students with challenging choreography

By Joe Bulwidias  
Contributor

The SCSU Dance Team hosted its first master class. The class, focusing on street jazz, was taught by Daniel Ramos.

"My goal for this class was to just bring a really different style of dancing to the dance team," said Ramos. "I just wanted to bring more of a different stylized kind of jazz and challenge them with more technique."

Ramos said he danced his entire life. His first inspiration to dance came when his family brought him to see the nutcracker ballet, but he did not begin formal dance lessons until age 15. Ballet, modern, contemporary, jazz,

lyrical, and hip-hop are just a few of the dance styles Ramos has formally learned.

The master classes are the idea of the new head coach Madison Correia.

"It's just to improve [the team's] dance abilities,

improve their skills and expose them to different things they've never done before," said Correia.

The class also gave the opportunity to those outside of the team who had danced in the past to come, dance and have fun.

Correia is a graduate of SCSU and was captain on the dance team for all four years of her undergraduate schooling.

Correia and Ramos have known each other since he took dance lessons at her mother's dance studio, Connecticut Dance Conservatory, located in Stratford.

According to Ramos, the goal of the class was to have fun and make them all feel like rock stars.

During the master class, the attendees began by warming up with some cardio. Upbeat and modern music was played as the attendees did a mixture of jumping jacks, jogging and high knees.

Soon after the cardio, warm up exercises began to get everyone dancing.

From there, Ramos demonstrated the dance routine that everyone in attendance was going to learn. The routine was a mixture of classic jazz and street jazz.

"Street jazz has been around for a really long time," said Ramos. "I'm just a huge fan of that style and the craft of it."

The atmosphere of the class was a very relaxed and supportive environment. Often, head coach Correia could be seen cheering on members as they learned the new style.

Psychology major Jelise Nimmons, a sophomore, and member of the dance team and said she found the master class challenged the team and had them thinking outside the box.

Nimmons has been dancing for 15 years and found her previous experience with jazz helped her to learn the routine.

At end of the event, all attendees got the hang of the multi-stepped dance routine. There was no competition at this event, as everyone was enjoying the experience of a new dance style, and fun routine.

Correia said she hopes that master classes will be offered once a month by the SCSU Dance Team. The next class is being planned for October with another dance instructor.



PHOTOS | JOE BULWIDIAS

People standing at the master class hosted by Daniel Ramos last Wednesday, Sept. 25 in Pelz Gymnasium.



## Overtime loss

### Women's soccer still keeps spirits high

By Sam Tapper  
Sports Writer

Despite their best efforts and a late second half lead, the Owls' women's soccer team suffered an overtime loss to the Southern New Hampshire University Penmen in an NE10 matchup at Jess Dow Field.

The Owls, who fell to 4-3-1 in the loss, were locked in a battle with the Penmen right from the get-go, as both teams saw practically no offense in the first half. The Owls were able to open the scoring late, thanks to a goal in the 81st minute by forward Johanna Wahlen, a senior native of Germany.

"We won the ball and it was played into Meg Kelley," said Wahlen of the goal. "We played a quick one-two, so I got the ball again, and there was a lot of space, so I started running, and then I was able to kick it with my left foot in the right-upper corner."

It looked as if Wahlen had gotten her team on the board in the first half, however the ball she put

into the back of the net would be waved off due to a foul. The goal that counted was the second of the season for Wahlen, occurring in consecutive games.

The Owls had the lead with just eight minutes left to play in regulation, but it did not last long. Less than two minutes later, SNHU would tie the game on a goal from junior Allyson Patterson assisted by sophomore Sydney Carney to send it into overtime. In OT, SNHU won in the 99th minute thanks to a goal from senior Shae Roys, also assisted by Carney.

"I think that on both ends it was a battle. I think there were a lot of good things for us coming out of this game," said captain and graduate student Mikaela Magee. "It ultimately ended in a loss, but I don't think that's something that we're going to take too much to heart. We're going to look at this game, we're going to learn from it, we're going to move forward and we're going to get better from it."

Magee was one of eight players to play at least 90 minutes during the game. Among that field was goalkeeper Allie Smith, also a graduate student. Despite taking the loss, Smith would have a strong outing in net, making six saves on 14 shots faced. Even though she was not perfect, her effort did not go unnoticed by head coach Adam Cohen.

"I thought she came up huge for us," Cohen said. "Our team understands how to defend, and they know that starts with putting the work in and they're always willing to do that, so, that's typically why we defend really well."

With the second loss of the season, the Owls remain in the middle of the pack in the NE10 standings, just under Assumption. Though the loss could potentially be tough to swallow, both Cohen and Magee are encouraging the rest of the team to keep their heads up, as the confidence level remains "very high."

See Soccer Page 10



PHOTO | WILL ALIOU

Forward Rossella Graniero, junior, during a game against Southern New Hampshire University last week.



PHOTO | WILL ALIOU

The Owls battle for the ball during a home game against Assumption College.

## Field hockey loses despite the goalkeeper's record day

By Jackson Volenc  
Reporter

Southern's field hockey team lost 0-6 to Assumption College on Saturday, at Jess Dow Field, despite goalie Brianna Craft's 29 saves, marking a new career high.

The Owls, who have struggled to find any positive momentum this season, faced the Assumption Greyhounds, who at the time ranked tenth nationally, for their seventh loss of the season.

During the first half of the game, a majority of possessions were spent on the Owl's side of the field. The Greyhounds' offense was oppressive and fast paced the entire game, giving the Owls few opportunities to make an offensive play themselves.

"Knowing that this team was very fast and very strong in a lot of areas on the field, for us, it was about trying to get better vision," said head coach

Kelley Frassinelli. "We knew that it was going to be a crowded game for us, which is something we need to work on."

Although the Owls were down 0-4 going into the third quarter, but the momentum that Assumption had seemed to be beginning to die down towards the halfway point. However, Assumption scored two more goals against Southern, leaving it at 0-6 when starting the fourth quarter.

"I think the score says different compared to how we actually played. I think we had some really strong defensive strategies out of this game," said co-captain and goalkeeper Brianna Craft, a senior.

Since the Greyhounds are a high-ranking team across the nation, as well as in the NE10, the Owls knew they had to prepare.

"We've been practicing for Assumption; we know they play numbers up from us, but we focused on being on the most

offensive players," Craft said. "I think we played to the best of our ability."

Frassinelli said in order for the team to be more successful in the future, the Owls need to improve their offense as well as their defense. Which was made part of their game plan going into the last quarter.

"For us, in that game, all we wanted to do was prevent them from scoring in that last quarter," said Frassinelli. "That was something that we really had to buckle down for and say 'Okay, this is what our strategy is going to be,' and we were able to make that work."

Despite the loss to an NE10 opponent, Craft achieved a career-high of 29 saves this game, breaking her previous home game record of 23. There were more than 40 shots total taken towards the Owls' goal throughout the game.

See Field Hockey Page 11

## Volleyball regains hope after victory

By Sam Tapper  
Sports Writer

After losing five games in a row, the Owls' volleyball team got back on track with a 3-0 sweep of Pace University in the opener of NE10 play.

The Owls had not won a single set in their previous four matches, something that would have been unheard of just two weeks ago, when they stood at 7-1. Regardless, the game against a struggling Pace squad was an opportunity to get back to their winning ways.

In the first set, Pace held on as the score stood at 8-8. From that point on, it was all Owls, as they saw a tie game quickly turn into a 20-9 lead, led by the Owls' captain, and senior Jillian Chambers. Chambers played in two of the three sets that night and finished with five digs and five kills in 14 total attempts.

"Coming off the NE10 championship, every team is out to beat us," said Chambers on starting

out NE10 play with a win. "Everyone's trying to do whatever they can, so we know we have targets on our back, and we know we have to work 10 times as hard to keep winning, but I'm super proud of what we did today, and I'm looking forward to the rest of the season."

For Chambers, the season is still young, as she was forced to miss the first 12 games of the season due to injury. Stats aside, Chambers was heavy on the attack, as she had numerous spikes the average person would not want to be on the other end of.

Owls' head coach Lisa Barbaro said having Chambers back is a big boost for her team.

"It was great to have her back on the court; she's been a big part of our success over the last three years," said Barbaro. "Now, to have her back for her fourth year, we're really excited. She really makes a difference for us on the court."

The Owls won the first set 25-12, but the Setters did not yield go away in the second and third sets. Pace went neck-and-neck with the Owls, and it seemed every time Southern was ready to pull away, the Setters caught a break, partly due to a few miscues by the Owls.

"I'm just really proud of the team effort tonight," said Barbaro. "They played hard; they played together as a team. Defensively, a lot of talk and communication, not many balls hit the floor, so I'm really proud of their defensive effort at the net, as well as what they've done for us at the service line too. They really kept Pace out of system for most of the night."

The Owls won the second and third sets 25-23 and 25-20. They saw another boost on their attack from junior Ariel Letcher, who finished with a team-high 14 kills in 37 attempts, as well as 11 digs and an assist.

See Volleyball Page 10



PHOTO | WWW.SOUTHERNCTOWLS.COM

The volleyball team regrouping during a home game against Queens College on Sept. 6.



## A dive into the heart of NE10 football

By Sam Tapper  
Sports Writer

After the first four weeks, the heart of the college football season has finally arrived. Across the NE10, there has been quite a bit of action to remark upon in week four.

For starters, we'll begin with the hometown team: The Southern Owls. Unfortunately for the Owls, they remain winless throughout the first weeks, after losing 19-13 to conference rival American International College on Sept. 28. Though the team has many questions facing them, there were some bright spots on the offensive end, which they had struggled with all year.

First, the Owls went with a new man at the helm; freshman Jackson Ostrowsky out of Mount Pleasant, Mich. Ostrowsky made his collegiate debut, starting over redshirt-senior Matt Sanzaro and redshirt-sophomore Mathew Sapere who saw playing time in 2018.

Ostrowsky's final stat line read 27-for-48 with 282 passing yards and two touchdown passes, both caught by graduate transfer and wide receiver Brandon Swain-Price. Ostrowsky also had a strong connection with Owls' top receiver, sophomore Julian Chung, who finished with 12 catches and 137 yards, both career highs.

At the very least, Ostrowsky and company were able to stay in the game the entire way. The Owls were able to score before halftime for the first time all year, thanks to a touchdown pass from the quarterback. Ostrowsky was only sacked twice, but also threw two interceptions. It is unclear if he will remain the starter going forward, which will be something to watch for in week five.

Moving onto one of the conference's top teams, the Assumption Greyhounds improved to 2-0 in the NE10 after a 53-6 thrashing of Franklin Pierce, also on Sept. 28. In their second time scoring 50 plus points, the Greyhounds' quarterback Easton Turner, a junior, finished 6-11 with 112 total yards and a touchdown pass, but it was the run game that dominated for Assumption.

In the final game of the week, University of New Haven suffered their first NE10 loss to Bentley University, 31-14. The New Haven Chargers had a 14-7 lead after the first quarter, but were held to zero points the rest of the way, thanks to the Bentley Falcons' defensive effort.

Stonehill had a bye-week this week. They currently sit at 2-1 and 1-0 in the NE10. They will host AIC in week five.

# Southern students prefer the pig skin

By Hunter O. Lyle  
Sports Editor

As the National Football League enters week number four and as Major League Baseball nears its post-season, students and sports fans alike will most likely be watching a first down instead of a first inning.

Many children in America grew up playing one of these two pillars of Americana. Some, like secondary education history major Derek Pearson, a senior, played both. Pearson, who favors football, said his opinion was formed through experiencing both sports.

"I played baseball quite a lot as a kid; I also played football," said Pearson. "Out of the two sports to play, I just preferred football over baseball, and I think that lead into me wanting to watch football more than baseball, because I just felt like baseball was really slow."

Some baseball fans believe that the MLB might be living in the NFL's shadow now, like recreation and leisure

major Justin Dean, a senior, who said he thinks football is recruiting the younger audience.

"I think kids nowadays, not kids, but teenagers and twenty-year-olds, I think they like the fast-paced game," said Dean. "Baseball is very slow, and it takes more concentration and situational awareness. Football is more fast-paced; there's always something going on. I think that's what kids like nowadays."

While the NFL and the MLB are the only two major sports in the United States to overlap at this point and time of the year, giving people the opportunity to pay attention to both sports, a survey conducted on campus this week has shown that students favor football over baseball.

According to a small survey of students conducted at the academic quad, about 65 percent follow the NFL more often than they follow the MLB. The survey also showed that about 95 percent think the NFL is more popular in the U.S., and only

about 43 percent think that baseball still is, or should be considered, America's pastime.

Charles Dowd, deputy athletic director at Sacred Heart University and adjunct sports management professor at Southern, said the difference in preference could be regional, at least on the collegiate level.

"College baseball in the northeast is — if we draw a hundred people, that's crazy. Whereas [Sacred Heart's] football program is fairly successful, so we get five, six thousand people," said Dowd. "At most universities that have both, football gets a little preferential treatment."

Dowd also said that, on the professional level, the NFL has created a system that draws fans attention most days of the week.

"The NFL is definitely more media savvy," said Dowd. "The NFL has basically got us now, Sunday, on at four, Sunday night, Monday night, Thursday night, so it's almost like your body rhythms are kind of geared towards the NFL season."

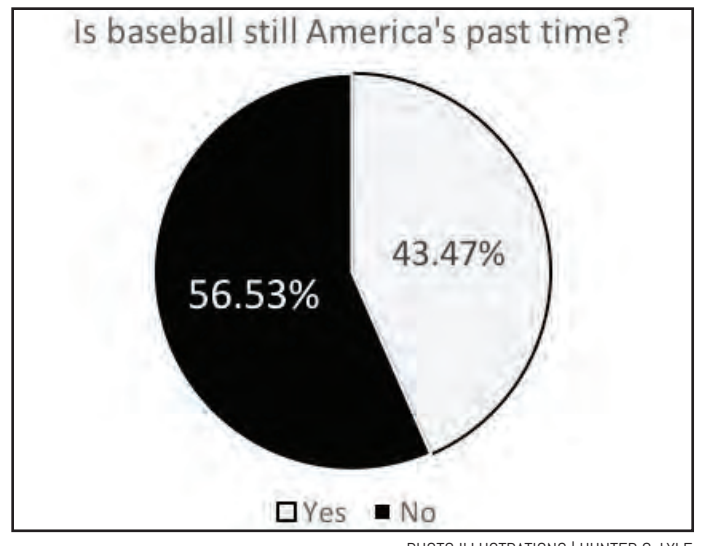
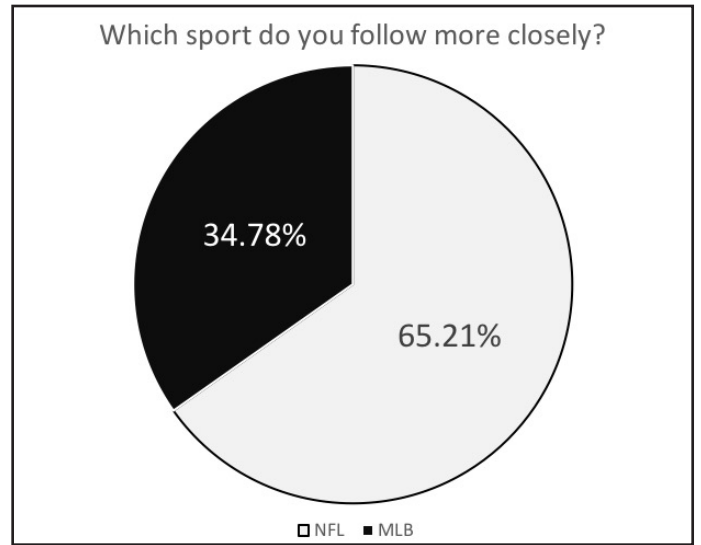


PHOTO ILLUSTRATIONS | HUNTER O. LYLE  
Results from the survey conducted around campus showing that football has gained a lot of fandom.

## Soccer

Continued from Page 10

"It's one game," said Cohen. "Whether you win a game, or whether you lose a game — it's one game. So, either way, you're going to move forward and learn from it and grow and get better, and that's what we'll do whether we win or lose."

The matchup with the Penmen was the Owls' first home loss of the season. Up next, the

Owls will host Queens College, a non-conference opponent followed by a five-game road trip. They will then return home again to host the University of New Haven.

"I think it's just to kind of have a short-term memory on it," said Magee. "You look at the things you did well, you look at the things you did bad, and you use that, and you move forward. I think that in this conference we have such a short turnaround, so moving forward from this is really important."



Defender Amanda Dustin, sophomore, battling for the ball during a home game.



PHOTO | WILL ALIQU

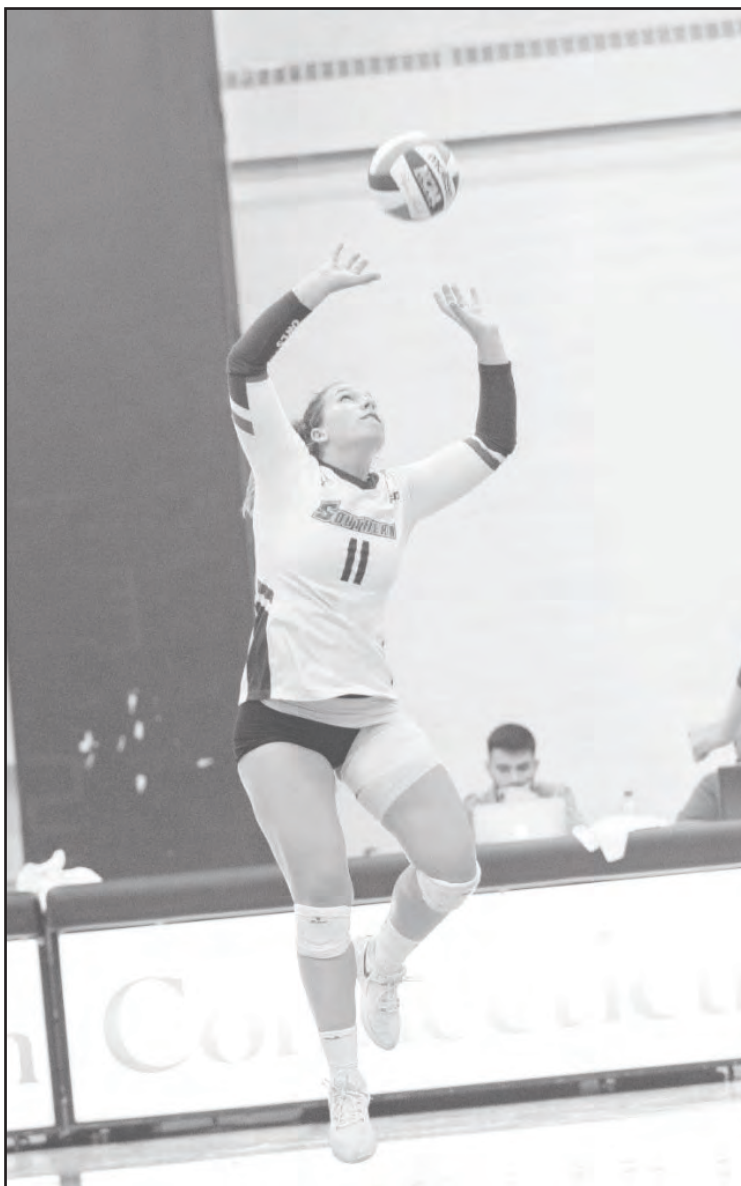
## Volleyball

Continued from Page 10

"I just wanted to have fun and play my heart out," said Letcher. "That's always my mindset, and that's what I did, and my team was behind me, and it was really great." With the win, the Owls

improve to 8-6. Up next, the Owls will host American International College on Oct. 1, as they look to improve to 2-0 in the NE10.

"I'm just really looking forward to the rest of the season," said Barbaro. "I'm not really looking too far ahead; I'll enjoy this one for tonight and then it'll be back trying to get prepared for AIC on Tuesday."



Setter Tea Carter, senior, setting a ball during a home game earlier in the season against Pace University.

PHOTO | WILL ALIQU

## Young goalkeeper makes promises of improvement

By Edward Rudman  
Contributor

The Southern men's soccer team's season is in full swing and the team has imported some new talent to the team this year in Brazilian goalkeeper Andrey Carvalho.

Carvalho, a freshman, is from São Paulo, Brazil and chose to attend and play soccer at SCSU for various reasons.

"I thought the best thing for me and my future was to choose both academics and playing soccer, and the only country that provides that is the U.S.," said Carvalho. "I felt Southern had the most to offer compared to the other schools I was looking at."

Carvalho has had to do some adjusting since coming to the states, and he said the process has been easier to handle with the help of his teammates. One thing Carvalho had to adjust to is the differences in culture between Brazil and the U.S. when it comes to soccer.

"In Brazil, there is more stress on the mentality of the game, and, in the [U.S.], it is a much more physical game; the players are bigger and stronger than back

home," said Carvalho.

Carvalho has been playing soccer since he was seven years old, back in his home country of Brazil, and has been able to build up a sense of confidence when he is in goal by utilizing his wealth of experience, something he considers to be his greatest strength.

As a goalkeeper, Carvalho has one of the most important positions on the field, and a lot of pressure comes with that, but he said his confidence in himself makes it less stressful.

"Once I am focused and confident, it's harder for me to make a mistake, and I play at a higher level," said Carvalho.

It is clear that his confidence helps him perform at a high level, as he has been able to post a save percentage of .833 — a team high — through his first 3 starts. He has also recorded a team high in saves amongst the goalkeepers with 15.

The soccer team has been off to a bit of a slow start, posting a record of 2-2-3, which head coach Tom Lang attributes to injuries.

"We've had some injuries to start off the season, and it's lead to a couple of poor results in the conference, so we kind of want to bounce

back and get back on a positive note," said Lang.

The team took a step in the right direction on Saturday, Sept 28., when they beat Stonehill 2-0. Carvalho was in goal for his third start of the season and posted a shutout, something he said was his main focus for the game ahead of time.

Team captain and defender Noah Rattet commented on the outlook of the game beforehand, regarding the team's performance and mindset.

"We're starting to be at the level of conditioning that we want," said Rattet, "and now we just need to take each game step-by-step and head into the right direction, starting with Stonehill."

Rattet also spoke about the importance of finishing the games out strong, as the team has already gone into overtime three times this season and came out with a tie in all three.

Carvalho said he hopes he can be as much value and impact to the team as possible and is optimistic about having a great season.

"We're going to keep working as a team and we will be way better as the season goes on," said Carvalho, "I promise you that."

# Craft leads younger core by example

**By Sam Tapper**  
Sports Writer

If you go to a town like Cheshire, Conn., you will find many girls who began playing field hockey young. However, Southern's star goalkeeper Brianna Craft's field hockey career began unexpectedly in high school.

Craft, a senior out of Hamden, Conn., and the starting goalkeeper for the Owls, did not begin playing the sport until her freshman year of high school. As a softball player of many years, she was tasked with finding something to keep her busy in the fall off-season. Though her mother suggested she look for a job, Craft preferred to explore other sports.

"My coach was my [physical education] teacher in elementary school, and we stayed friends," said Craft. "She coached the field hockey team at my high school, so I was like, 'I guess, field hockey:'"

Craft did not know much about the sport when she first started, not even knowing what positions there were or what she wanted to be. All she said she knew was that she "didn't want to wear a skirt." With that preference and her experience as a softball catcher in mind, her coach made her a goalkeeper.

Though she was playing a sport largely unfamiliar to her, Craft was a quick learner. Throughout high school, she was an all-conference selection and a two-time defensive MVP. Before her field hockey career began to fully take shape, and the recruiting process started.

When she arrived on campus, she was quickly thrown into action. The starting goalkeeper job was wide open when she first began, and despite being a freshman, head coach Kelley Frassinelli awarded her the role.

"The piece that put her on the field for us is her dynamic play, her

ability of decision making that she had to do," said Frassinelli, "and one thing she's had to learn and grow into over the years is her communication skills on the field, so that's become a huge piece of her game."

Craft is one of three captains on the team, all of which have their own particular roles within the team. One handles the organizational aspects, another is described as the "disciplinary captain," and finally there is Craft, who is the "go-to" for anything and everything the younger players need.

Throughout her time at Southern, she has broken records, most recently setting the program record for saves in a game against Assumption College on Saturday.

However, there has been little success regarding the team's record. Through her first three years, her team has gone a combined 6-48, their last win to date coming in September of 2017.



PHOTO | WWW.SOUTHERNCTOWLS.COM

Goalkeeper Brianna Craft, senior, staying mobile on defense during a game against LIU Post last season.

This year, her team is 0-6.

Despite the struggles, Craft said she has held her head high and kept a positive attitude throughout her career, something she knows she must do when she is leading the younger players by example. Though there were discouraging times, she said her focus was on making the most of the opportunity.

"It's definitely difficult because it's not great going through losing seasons, not even winning one game," said Craft. "You just have to look back on why you're here: you love the sport. You have to make the most of what you're here to do. You can have all the skill in the world, but if there's no chemistry, no positivity, you're not going to get anywhere."

Among her group of teammates in 2019 is fellow captain and graduate

student Jana Migliaro, who Craft has spent her whole career with. In that time, Migliaro has seen the Craft's growth as a player and a leader firsthand.

"She was really quiet coming in, she did not talk really at all," said Migliaro. "We both were kind of quiet, but we grew into ourselves eventually, so it's funny to see how she was when she first came in to now."

As her career draws to a close, it is hard for Craft to imagine where she would be if she did not choose to play field hockey, and she states that she believes she made the right decision in doing so.

"I'm very thankful that I got to come here," said Craft. "If I hadn't, I don't know where I'd be. I wouldn't have made the friends I have; I wouldn't have made the connections I have. I wouldn't have wanted to be anywhere else."



## Best-of-three for NCAA post-season

**By Hunter O. Lyle**  
Sports Editor

In collegiate athletics, regardless of the sport, the regular season can be a long, exhausting climb to something in which the only payoff is an elusive chance for a playoff drive, which can be ended just as quickly as it began.

To remedy this, more sports should have a best-of-three series to determine the champion, rather than just one stand-alone game. The fans, the teams and the athletic administrators would all benefit.

First off, football should remain a one-and-done game style, due to the higher risk of impairment to the players' physical and mental health. Instead, the change proposed would affect collegiate team sports such as soccer, basketball, field hockey, lacrosse and baseball.

A best-of-three series would eliminate dull and lengthy playoffs and instead provide more exciting post-season games. Three games would boost both fan interest and athletic challenge.

This removes the possibility of skeptics crying out that the champion team won only because of luck. There is no lucky shot that 'should not have gone in' as one may hear some bummed-out fans exclaim after a loss. If a team wants to win, they must prove it — at least twice. On the flip side, it also gives teams a chance to rebuttal after a loss.

There is another stipulation to these hypothetical rules that should also help this system work. On plenty of occasions in professional sports, there are teams in the post-season that, whether it be lack of skill or will, are matched up against a Goliath of an opponent and constantly get rocked, night-in and night-out.

To fix this, I would like to add a 'Blow-Out Rule:' if a team, in any game during the series, gets blown out majorly — for instance, in basketball, a 30 point final deficit would qualify, and in soccer, a 12 point deficit — that team should be eliminated from the playoffs. This would help keep competition interesting, while also doling out some mercy to the losing team.

This change in post-season play would benefit the respective athletic departments as well as the teams.

Each team now gets at least one home game. Teams that would have had to travel would now get a chance to summon some school support, sell tickets and recruit fans. Teams that would have been hosting would now get two opportunities to cash in on school spirit.



PHOTO | WWW.SOUTHERNCTOWLS.COM

Goalkeeper Brianna Craft, senior, sliding in front of a shot during a home game against Shippensburg on Sept. 8, 2018.

## Field Hockey

Continued from Page 10

"Goalies don't normally see that many shots, so I was really tired. My defense really helped me out," said Craft.

By the fourth quarter, SCSU had significantly improved their defense, as they had not allowed Assumption to get any goals during the final quarter. Even though the Greyhounds had still been on the Owls' side of the field for the majority of the game, Southern's team was able to keep a solid defense.

"I think we need to figure out how to tighten the ropes earlier in the game," said Craft, "and to offensively play harder and move the ball up the field, get a couple shots on cage. That's what we need."

The Owls' next field hockey game will be against University of New Haven on Oct. 2 at Jess Dow Field.



PHOTO | WILL ALIOU

Forward Ellie Craft, sophomore, fighting for the ball during a home game on Saturday against Assumption College.



PHOTO | WILL ALIOU

The field hockey team rushing the field during a home game on Saturday against Assumption College.



PHOTO | WILL ALIOU

Forward Janelle Ward, freshman, carrying the ball upfield during a home game against Assumption College last Saturday.

# PHOTO

WWW.THESOUTHERNNEWS.ORG

OCTOBER 2, 2019

PAGE 12

## Students visit garden during Day of Service

By Izzy Manzo  
Photo Editor

In this edition, the Southern News reported on Southern's annual Day of Service, which took place on

Saturday, Sept. 28. During the event, students volunteered their time and services at multiple locations around New Haven, Conn., including the SCSU Campus

Community Garden behind Davis Hall.

**See Page 1 for more about the Day of Service and the Community Garden, in the News section.**



A student searches for weeds near fruit bushes in the Community Garden.



Business accounting major Alycia O'Connell, freshman.



International business major Sebastian Garzon, freshman, searches for weeds among flowers in the Community Garden.



Alycia O'Connell (left) and international business major Jayvon Gibbs, freshman, clean the fence surrounding the Community Garden of weeds and vines.



Finance major Sarah Lemere, freshman, moves a plant out of the garden.



Sebastian Garzon pulling weeds from the Campus Community Garden's exterior.



Campus Community Garden manager Ellie Carlino inspects some of the plants growing.



Alycia O'Connell prepares to pull a weed out of the Campus Community Garden during Southern's Day of Service.