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University awarded grant for CARE program



PHOTO | JACOB WARING

President Joe Bertolino speaking at the 125th Anniversary Kickoff Celebration.

By Joshua LaBella and Jacob Waring
Managing Editor, Contributor

President Joe Bertolino announced during the 125th Anniversary Kickoff Celebration that the university has received a \$3.68 million grant—one of the largest the university has ever received.

“The Center for Disease Control has awarded Southern a major grant to our CARE program, the Community Alliance for Research and engagement,” said Bertolino, “which is a partnership between our school’s health and human

services and the Yale School of Public Health.”

Alycia Santilli, director of CARE, said they received a confirmation from the CDC about being awarded the grant on Thursday. She said the grant will be dispersed over 5 years—around \$720 thousand a year. Santilli was congratulated by Bertolino.

“The call for the grant was under Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health (REACH),” said Santilli. “It’s

a competitive grant process that the CDC releases every 5 years. They award about 30 [every five years].”

According to Santilli, the grant is concentrated on health disparities related to chronic disease and low income communities of color. She said the grant would be focused on strategies related to nutrition, physical activity and community clinical linkages.

“CARE has been around in New Haven for around

10 years,” said Santilli. “One of the major assets that attracted us to becoming imbedded within Southern is, quite frankly because of the assets that the students bring to the work that we do.”

Santilli said they are focused on bettering the health in New Haven and the way they do so is to engage directly with residents and community based organizations. She said because a lot of students at Southern

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Students walked out of class to rally for immigrant



PHOTO | JENNA STEPLEMAN

Southern student Arianna Rivera and Lisa Bergmann, member of Communist Party of the United States of America, at the protest.

Protests occur throughout New Haven against deportations

By Victoria Bresnahan
News Editor

“We walk so Nelson can.”

That was what one of the posters read at the student walkout for Nelson Pinos, an immigrant who has lived in this country for 26 years, read at the student walkout last Thursday.

Several students walked out of class to rally support for Pinos who has been seeking shelter from deportation at the First and Summerfield United Methodist Church near the New Haven green for almost a year.

“His humanity is stripped away from him because he came to this country when he was 18,” said Justin Farmer, a political science major and activist participating in the rally. “Since then he has worked. He has a home. He is contributing.

He is paying taxes.”

Students walked out at Yale University and some New Haven high schools, as well.

Originally from Ecuador, Pinos has been living in the church for 294 days, said Jesus Morales, an organizer at Unidad Latina en Accion (ULA).

“He has not been able to leave a building,” said Morales. “He has not been able to go to the park.”

Community Outreach Chair for the Muslim Student Association and activist at the rally Asma Rahimyar, said they were standing in solidarity not only for Nelson, but also for the 11 million undocumented immigrants in the country.

“Every single person deserves human rights, regardless of where they are from,” said Rahimyar. “What background they

come from, and what they have been through. So, whenever that human right is infringed upon we need to get up and we need to speak out.”

Charles Biddiscombe, a senior, economics and sociology double major, was one of the students in charge of the protest. Biddiscombe said Pinos was set to be deported in November 2017. Pinos was working with ULA New Haven on his case, but ultimately he chose to take sanctuary in the church, he said.

Due to old legislation, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) is restricted from removing immigrants from churches. Pinos is one of four people taking sanctuary in Connecticut, said Biddiscombe.

“It is actually an incredibly easy process

See Walkout, Page 2

New registration schedule considered

By Tamonda Griffiths
News Writer

During a monthly faculty senate meeting, a new order of business was brought to the table; a viewable, full-year academic schedule.

“Traditionally, we’ve always published the summer schedule, for the upcoming summer and the fall in the month of March,” said Alicia Carroll, registrar. “What we’ve done is, we’ve tacked on the upcoming winter and spring.”

This idea was proposed by the Academic Year Scheduling Task Force which is co-chaired by Carroll and Craig Hlavac, associate dean of arts & sciences.

The goal of the Task Force is to publish a viewable full-year schedule by March 2019. Registration would still occur term-by-term and students would not be forced to register or pay for a full-year’s worth of school.

Carroll said this initiative was started in order to aid “traditional undergraduate students who are looking to get their degree in four years” as well as serve “non-traditional students.”

She said “non-traditional students” are students who work and have family obligations that they balance with their scheduling.

This new schedule view will allow those students to “balance their whole life,” she said.

“This is going to enhance the student experience and the ability for students to graduate on time,” said Hlavac.

In the last 10 years, the on-time four-year completion has gone up from 11 percent to 24 percent, according to Carroll.

“We’ve been on the right trajectory,” said Carroll. “The issue is things have changed. We can’t assume we’re going to keep moving up by doing nothing.”

See Registration, Page 2



PHOTO | JENNA STEPLEMAN

Protesters tied flags off the pedestrian bridge stating “Free Nelson” and “Abolish ICE.”



PHOTO | JENNA STEPLEMAN

Student protesters and activists rallied outside Buley Library.

Students attend gubernatorial debate

By Izzy Manzo
Contributor

Gubernatorial candidates Ned Lamont, democrat, and Bob Stefanowski, republican, discussed topics such as higher-education and housing at a debate at the Shubert Theater last Monday.

One of the debate's randomized questions pertained to the University of Connecticut, which dropped from 18 to 22 on the U.S. News World Report's ranking of public universities. Panelist Mark Davis of WTNH said cuts in state funding contributed to the loss and asked what the best solution is to stop the "brain drain" of college students leaving Connecticut.

"I've said repeatedly that I'm going to be committed to education and invested in education," Lamont said. "UConn is our flagship university...We have one of the greatest universities in the world, so let's make sure they're working on behalf of the greater good here in Connecticut."

College Democrats President Jamie Kelley said other schools in Connecticut should be

discussed as well.

"UConn is a flagship university, but it isn't the sole university in the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities system," Kelley said. "What about Southern, Central, Eastern, Gateway, and Manchester? What's happening here at our schools because of increasing cuts every year is horrifying."

However, Stefanowski said not everyone should go to college.

"We need to make college more affordable, and everyone needs to be part of the solution," he said. "We've got a situation where mid-size businesses have more demand for workers than supply."

College Republicans President Sarah O'Connor said creative approaches need to be taken to make college more affordable without raising taxes.

"I think that universities as a whole should be reformed," O'Connor said. "I think they're just sucking us dry. They say they do it for the students but it's unaffordable and clearly things don't work."

Lamont said business leaders always tell him young people need affordable places to live.



Gubernatorial candidates Ned Lamont and Bob Stefanowski at the debate.

"That's one of the reasons why I called for a \$300 property tax cut in the first year, and \$1,200 in the second budget," he said. "It makes it a little easier for that person to buy their first home."

O'Connor said Stefanowski did a better job standing his ground than in previous debates.

"I think Stefanowski did fantastic," she said. "His debating skills have increased, and he stuck to his clear points of what he

wants to accomplish."

In addition, O'Connor said Stefanowski's ideas will help improve Connecticut and its economy.

"I think everyone should get behind that because Connecticut is one of the worst states financially," she said. "We're so fiscally destroyed as a state that social politics don't matter this election cycle."

Kelley said it will be difficult to remember all the points Lamont made. "We'll remember



College Republican President Sarah O'Connor and Ty Seymour, a senior, political science major.

Stefanowski's point because it's about taxes," Kelley said. "He knows that's attracting people so he's going to say that over and over."

She said Lamont is on-point when it concerns policies.

"His approach is the pragmatic business approach that Connecticut needs," said Kelley. "Bob expects to cut \$10 billion in taxes like it's nothing, and that's just not possible."

Regardless of political affiliation, O'Connor

said the importance of exercising one's right to vote, and people should become more aware of politics on a state level rather than national.

"I think every voter should think 'what candidate is going to benefit me more, and what candidate is going to benefit the state?'" said O'Connor. "I encourage everyone to have a wake-up call and to realize that this is going to be your future."



Activists walk to the bottom of the pedestrian bridge to continue the rally.

Walkout

Continued from Page 1

for him to get released from the church," said Biddiscombe. "It is just granting a stay of removal, which involves reopening his case. But that will only happen if there is community agitation for it, because otherwise it will just stay on the shelves."

In addition, Pinos is currently wearing an ankle bracelet so ICE is aware of his location, he said.

Motivated by a passion for social justice, Biddiscombe said he became involved in Pinos' case when he learned of ULA's commitment to work on behalf of immigrants. The organization conducts meetings at the United Methodist church to

include Pinos in this process.

This walkout is one of many events that will be occurring in support of Pinos, he said. The action following the walkout will also be large and potentially bring additional attention to his case, said Biddiscombe.

"The first part of the escalation was just a march through New Haven; so general community" said Biddiscombe. "But this one is because it draws attention to the fact that Nelson's children are also in New Haven public schools. So, it is really tying this specific aspect of the community and young people."



An activist's sign on the ground at the protest.

Registration



Alicia Carroll, Co-Chair of the Academic Year Scheduling Task Force.

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Carroll said it is "more the norm" to have students transfer in credits from other institutions and/or are working.

In a survey done by the Task Force, 90 percent of graduate students, of the 20 percent, who responded, said they simultaneously work and attend school.

"It's an art not a science because there's a lot of moving parts to scheduling," said Carroll.

Student Government Association (SGA), vice president, Mia Forgione, who usually attends faculty senate meetings said the goal of attending the meeting was to give a student's perspective on

issues. However, she said she was unaware the topic of full-year scheduling was on the agenda.

"The way it was described at the faculty senate, I think it could really be beneficial to students," said Forgione.

She said it would help students better plan for the future by knowing what classes they need to take and when they would become available to them.

Forgione said she wants to get some outreach from the student body to see what they themselves think outside of SGA.

The Task Force currently has a survey in the works for further student input, that will be sent out via campus email in the coming week.

New recovery program helps students

By Tamonda Griffiths
News Writer

The number of people fighting to end substance use is continuing to increase said, Sarah Keiser, the coordinator of alcohol and drug services.

"As of September 2018, 221 institutions of higher education have Collegiate Recovery Communities (CRC) across the country," said Keiser.

In September 2017, Southern received a grant to develop the CRC program and get students involved, regardless of whether they identify with addiction or recovery.

This growth in recovery parallels a growth in substance use disorders among college aged adults, she said.

Keiser, who has gone to various conferences about CRC programs across the country, said the stories shared by students of different backgrounds and campuses inspired her to start the CRC program at Southern.

"The institutions see the value in it," said Keiser, "They see they're able to retain and keep

students are actually being successful and graduating."

Keiser said she has spoken to multiple students recently who were unaware of the existence of CRC, and said they wished they had known about it when they had started their Southern career.

Tyler Pelletier, a junior, and recovering addict, said the CRC program has made a huge difference in terms of his experience at Southern.

Pelletier first came to Southern four years ago, but he was struggling with addiction and could not survive in a collegiate environment. Subsequently, after only about two weeks, Pelletier had dropped out and was living out of a duffel bag.

In October 2014, Pelletier made the decision to get clean, and he voluntarily underwent two months of rehab in Pennsylvania. He dedicated the following year of his life to his recovery before re-enrolling at Southern.

Pelletier now works alongside Keiser and the CRC program to try to help



Tyler Pelletier, a junior, and member of the CRC program.

others avoid what he went through due to his active addiction.

"I come into school now knowing that there's more of a presence of belonging," said Pelletier.

According to a 2011 study conducted by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration stated the rates of substance use disorders (SUD)

- in recovery and active -

tripled from seven percent in adolescence to 20 percent in early adulthood.

In addition, the study's findings stated, "The need for recovery support is especially high for SUD-affected college students; attending college and transitioning into adulthood can both be demanding, offering new freedoms but also less

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Bertolino gives annual university address



PHOTO | PALMER PIANA

President Bertolino presenting his State of the University address.

By Joe Freer
Reporter

President Joe Bertolino's annual State of the University address

opportunities for best practices, conduct best research, prepare teachers and leaders and promote educational innovations and learning in the early grades."

Bertolino said the school is scheduled to open in fall 2019.

In addition, Bertolino said the university has launched its third doctoral program, a professional doctorate in social work along with a new program that allows students to get their bachelor and master degrees in five years in certain majors.

"[This program] offers a time saving, cost efficient path to a graduate degree," Bertolino said.

He said another newly implemented academic are the Southern courses offered at Gateway

Community College.

"These courses are free, as long as students commit to Southern," Bertolino said.

The university headcount, he said, should finish over 10,000 students despite graduate enrollment numbers lagging.

Bertolino said the school's budget deficit is lower than what he inherited.

"Enrollment plays a key role in determining our bottom line," Bertolino said, "we were able to offset anticipated deficits from the last two years without drawing damage on reserves."

By the end of the 2017-2018 school year, Southern ended with what Bertolino called "a modest surplus." Bertolino said even

though 30 new faculty members were hired going into this year, only about half of that number will be hired next year.

Chelsea Ortiz, nursing information and programming admissions coordinator, said she feels more hopeful than she ever has been. Although she did not attend Southern, she thinks the school's reputation is better now than it was when she was in college.

Professor Regine Randall said, "I've always seen Southern as a place for opportunity."

As for the direction Bertolino is taking the university she said, "I appreciate how he [President Joe] can articulate it so well."

A video presentation

about one of Southern's oldest living alumni was shown in honor of the university's 125th anniversary. Bertolino said the video is going to the first in a series showcasing a different alumni from each decade.

"She is very proud of her roots at Southern," Bertolino said, "I think that should be an inspiration to all of us."

Bertolino said his goal is to make Southern a social justice safe space going forward and how it will impact on the university.

"We are striving to be a social justice university," Bertolino said.

He said he wants students to be "sensitive, courageous and strong enough to face challenges."

Grant

Continued from Page 1

are from the New Haven community it made sense for CARE to engage and train with the student body. She said the grant money would be used in a few different ways.

"The city of New Haven is particularly well-positioned for this grant," said Santilli. "We are very proud to be partnering with several non-profit organizations in the community. So we will be

giving some of our money right back out into the community."

Santilli said Project Access - New Haven would be a main partner. She said they were an organization that focuses on access to health care. She said CARE would be funding a community health worker whose job it would be to insure people have access to health care and social services. She also said a main component of CARE's services is a program called New Haven Health Leaders.

"We engage directly with residents and with students at Southern who are from



PHOTO | PALMER PIANA

Students attend the 125th anniversary kickoff event.

New Haven," said Santilli, "to work on different health initiatives in their own local communities. So that will be a big focus."

Santilli said she was excited the grant will also support several positions for graduate assistants.

She said it will provide graduate students on the ground experience and a chance to improve health. She said everyone within the Health and Human Services department and the administration were very excited about the grant.

"It's one of the biggest grants to come to our university," said Santilli. "There's been a lot of enthusiasm and support for our work. Not just for CARE and for Southern, but for the change that this has the potential to make in our communities."



PHOTO | PALMER PIANA

President Bertolino speaks outside Buley library at the 125th Anniversary Kickoff.

Recovery

Continued from Page 1



PHOTO | TAMONDA GRIFFITHS

Mary Xatse, graduate intern for Counseling Services.

Keiser said the CRC program offers a supportive environment to those who have been affected directly or indirectly by substance abuse, and those that work within the program are there to provide resources and help.

Mary Xatse, a graduate intern, works as an on-campus ally to those struggling with substance abuse.

"As long as I can help and there's something for me to do to help," said

Xatse, "I will continue to do so."

Keiser said that her biggest goal for CRC in the following years is to expand in order for the program to finding a space suitable "for students to connect and develop peer-to-peer relationships."

Keiser also said she wants all students to be aware of support that is being offered right now.

"They're humans people and we all need support," said Xatse.

State senator visits campus

By Hunter Lyle
Reporter

In honor of Constitution Day, the univeristy celebrated the day by inviting State Senator Gary Winfield to campus.

The founding fathers of this nation signed a living document 231-years-ago that laid out the rules in which they lived and ruled by.

"Having the Constitution, and having the first amendment is crucial today," said Winfield, "having a voice inspires people."

Winfield started from humble beginnings. Born in the Bronx, he started his political journey by first observing the politics in the world around him.

"I grew up in the housing project in the south Bronx," said Winfield, "You can imagine how politics had something to do with where I grew up and the experiences that I had."

After moving to Long Island, Winfield found a politically active community and began to find his voice. Being around those people and exchanging ideas and

experiences, Winfield said, "it helped me feel like I could say something more in the space where I live."

He then enlisted in the United States Navy, where he worked on the nuclear power program. When returning home, Winfield found himself in New Haven, and was upset with what he saw.

"I saw a city that was very much divided," said Winfield. "It ate at me that the city of New Haven developed the way it did."

Winfield started using his voice to start pushing for change, while also motivating others to do the same.

In some other countries, when people speak out about the government, even local government, they get crushed, or even killed in some cases, said Winfield, but because of the Constitution and the First Amendment, there are protections and people can protest.

"You can speak out here because we have this document that says, 'you have the freedom to express yourself, you

have the freedom to petition the government for change.' And that's the beauty of the Constitution," said Winfield. "I found myself in a place where I was getting really happy that I could speak in this way."

In 2008, Winfield was elected to state representative as a Democrat, and in 2014, moved to the state senate. As a freshman politician, he began to, and continues to this day, advocate for bipartisanship.

There was a democratic supermajority when first arriving, said Winfield, but there were republican ideas that made sense, so there was a certain responsibility to make good ideas work.

For freshman, political science major and Secretary for the College Democrats Nick Carbone, took that message to heart.

"I learned a lot from today, especially in terms of bipartisanship," said Carbone. "We tend to get caught in our political bubbles, where its one side wins, one side loses like he said. You have to try and find



PHOTO | JENNA STEPLEMAN

State Senator Gary Winfield at his Constitution Day presentation.

common ground rather than hammering things through without a voice from the other side."

On a final note, Winfield stressed how important each person's voice is and nothing is truly impossible.

For people who think they only have one voice, and their voice will not matter, Winfield said, they are wrong.

"The reason that the death penalty is not here anymore," said Winfield, "transgender people

have rights they didn't have, we're a sanctuary state, we wrote a police accountability bill that wasn't supposed to happen. All that stuff happened because we had people that were like 'Maybe I can't make it happen, but maybe I can,' I tell my kids, I don't know what's impossible until I've tried it. It doesn't matter what you say because I don't know what I can do unless I've tried."

OPINIONS

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Yes, to caffeine

By Michelle Shnyder
Copy Editor

From my first tentative sips of my grandmother's cappuccino foam, coffee has been an integral part of my adolescent and young adult life. Coffee is a representation of adulthood; its fragrant aroma is associated with the taboos and privileges of being a grown-up. Now, being a relatively self-sufficient 20-year-old, my love for caffeinated cups of bliss has manifested into a full blown habit, cost-ing nearly \$30 a week. Truthfully, I have no desire to stop chasing caffeine.

All coffee lovers have preferences, myself included. However, in homework emerged moments of half asleep desperation, I have been comforted by many extra large cups of lukewarm gas station dark roast. Coffee has consoled me through breakups, midterms, long nights of arduous homework assignments, and long voyages to visit family. Morning cups of coffee, with the right person at the right time, make up so many precious

memories. I have tried coffee in Paris, Italy, Russia, Mexico, Spain, Canada. I have happily enjoyed dark roasts, light roasts, lattes, cappuccinos, mochas, even americanos.

Today, I am as caffeinated as ever. On average, I drink between two and five cups of coffee each day. On vacations and weekends, that number goes up. During midterms and finals, that number sky-rockets. There is no way I could possibly pass a caffeine Breathalyzer test. During finals week, if such a machine existed, I would

likely break it.

In one school week, I visit the school's various coffee establishments, namely Dunkin Donuts and Starbucks, a minimum of 14 times.

Through the years, I think I have developed a tolerance to the stimulating qualities of caffeine. Coffee barely gives me energy anymore. Coffee has become a hobby, a habit, a symbol for familiarity and adulthood, a way to meet people. At nearly six feet tall, I can vouch that caffeine does not stunt growth. My wallet, on the other hand, has experienced stunted growth, by way of gourmet coffee shops and sub-par gestations alike.

Or no, to caffeine

By Alexandra Scicchitano
Reporter

I am a junior journalism major, and I do not drink coffee. A surprise, perhaps, that a college student does not drink coffee. I do not avoid coffee because of the taste, I like the taste. I simply do not drink it because I do not see the value it holds. If I ever drink it, which is extremely rare, it is more for the taste than anything else. I do not usually drink soda with caffeine in it, either. I drink seltzer water the majority

of the time, and I never drink energy drinks.

I go to sleep daily around 1 a.m., and I wake up every morning at seven. I should be tired all day; how do I combat that? Sometimes I take naps if I am tired, and I have the time. That is not too often, but most of the time I do nothing. I just live life. I do not see the need to have something helping you to make it through the day.

My boyfriend is crazy into coffee, and said he has headaches if he has not had any coffee that day. It is addictive. That is why

people have headaches; they are having caffeine withdrawal, and that does not bode well for caffeine. I believe caffeine really is not good for you, especially if drinking three or four cups a day.

Caffeine does not make me feel good, personally, it makes me feel horrible. I have a roommate who drinks coffee and gets tired from the caffeine. Caffeine has vastly different effects on different people, so maybe it works for some, but not others. I have heard of some health benefits of drinking a small amount of caffeine, but drinking it just for the energy boost is not for me.



A collection of caffeinated drinks, over the course one week.

PHOTOS | MICHELLE SHNYDER

Nothing beats home cooking with friends and family

By Alexandra Scicchitano
Reporter

When I was little my family and I used to eat at Wendy's every Friday. Beyond the period we did that, we only ever went out to eat for special occasions. On holidays, we would eat at someone's house. When my uncle lived downstairs in our two-family home in Stamford, we would have Sunday dinner every week. He moved out when I was in 5th grade; there have not been too many parties anymore. Since we have gotten older, my extended family has held far fewer events. Everyone seems too busy. Going out to eat or going to a restaurant is a pretty rare occasion these days.

My grandparents still have us over every holiday. My mother is an only child, so we are their only grandchildren. We continued the Sunday tradition, with less frequency, until we got to college. Now, my sister and I are always up in New

Haven, and never down in Stamford.

I like going out to eat, but nothing beats making dinner with the family, sitting down and eating. Cooking seems a lot more memorable than going out to eat at an Italian restaurant. I remember being little, having such fond memories of my aunts and uncles, my grandparents and my family sharing a great time. It was loud, lots of screaming and laughing. It was a good time.

Now, in college, I do not go out to eat much. My sister, who also attends school in New Haven, and I have only gone out to eat a handful of times, since we do not drive. Since we can not often make accommodations to eat out, my sister and I both cook in our dorms.

It is important to me to cook in my dorm, and share with my suite-mates. We are all so active, it is nice to have time to sit down and all eat at the table. Sunday dinners are

almost impossible usually, because my suite-mates have jobs and participate in sports. When we get the time, we try to eat all together, but sometimes it will be only two of us. One

of my suite-mates is also Italian, so she understands the dynamic of family dinner.

Grocery shopping, itself, can be a bonding activity. Scanning the aisles, picking

out ingredients up with the intention of making a meal, it is great to know you and the people you share time with are contributing together.

It is good to have a

pleasant relationship with people you live with. I believe cooking can bring people together; eating is social activity, and should be enjoyed with your friends and family.



Groceries, stored in a dorm room pantry, ready for use in future meals.

PHOTOS | ALEXANDRA SCICCHITANO

SOUTHERN NEWS

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

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

Opinion Columns are 500 to 800 words and Letters to the Editor are a maximum of 400 words. They must include the writer's name and phone number for verification. We reserve the right to edit for grammar, spelling, content and length.

Looking back: Fall of 1980



Student held up

A Southern student was attacked at gunpoint 50 feet off campus by a 12 year old with a gun.

The incident happened near Davis Hall at 4:30 in the afternoon. As the student, identified as Joan, said she was walking on a dirt path behind the building, the boy stepped in front of her, pointed a pistol at her, and demanded she hand over her bag.

"I couldn't believe what was happening," said Joan. "I just got out of a social psychology class where we had talked about crime. In broad daylight I never expected it."

Joan said the assailant proceeded to hit her on the side of the head when she refused to give up her bag. After being knocked out, Joan said she woke up to find her bag still with her.

Joan said she returned to the scene of the attack with a group of friends and spotted the assailant. Joan said they chased after him but he escaped into the woods.

More from Fall of 1980

September:

- * Southern hires 8 new police officers to increase campus security after several cases of sexual misconduct the previous school year.

- * SCSU "disaster" staged in the residential quad. William Faracclas, chairman of the Health and Sciences department, said the simulation was to "help people learn how health services work in case such a disaster really happened."

October:

- * A female student was sexually assaulted by a man who had "cased out" her house off campus and arranged a set up.

- * Southern Police allowed to carry firearms for a one-year trial period.

- * The college gets its first computer system which was capable of supporting 50 terminals at once. The system was shared by both students and the administration.

- * Student shot in the back by while watching TV with friends in his apartment behind Davis Hall.

November:

- * Due to a deficit of more than \$250,000, 24 positions were marked for layoffs at the end of the year.

- * Women's studies minor approved by the All-College Curriculum Committee.

December:

- * The Owl's Nest Pub was closed down after losing \$27,000 in three years.college's budget problems being resolved.

Compiled from the Southern News archives by Josh LaBella, Managing Editor

New Cat Café encourages adoptions

By Jacob Waring
Contributor

The bicolor tabby cat's eyes narrowed and pounced at the makeshift tail teaser cat toy while his playmate, Stella Marguy, giggled with glee. At Mew Haven Cat Café, a brand new establishment located in New Haven, one can enjoy a Matcha Latte while mingling with some feline pals.

Marguy and the cat, Lady Bug, will remain close, by way of adoption; owner Angela Pullo said all cats at Mew Haven available for adoption.

Pullo, who runs the café with her husband, Michael, explained the adoption process that takes place. The café is partnered with Animal Haven, she said, and they handle all aspects of the adoption, from contacting a veterinarian, to interviewing potential owners, to assuring the right fit for the cat.

Pullo said Animal Haven is likewise responsible for selecting the cats for Mew Haven.

"We keep good communication with them, so we know when cats will be leaving," said Pullo. "We know when to let the people know who are interested in putting in adoption form, say, that their cat may be going to someone else."

Adoption fees vary from roughly \$180 to about \$400, which depends on the age of the cat, and how many are adopted.

The section dedicated to mingling with cats is filled with felines of all shapes, sizes and colors. Valentina, an adult tortoiseshell cat walks up to everyone with the expectation of being pet, and Mew Radley timidly watches from around



PHOTO | JACOB WARING

(Left to right) Kerstin Moreau, a communication major, Copper Chay-Dolan, a communication major, and Hale Muncey, an art major.

corners. Jack, a tabby with a lot of white fur, took a cat nap, and kittens tackled each other with playful delight.

Each cat, and people playing with them, are supervised by the cat attendant. Acadia Crouse, attendant on duty, said she makes sure the cats are safe, along with the people.

"My number one role is to make sure that the cats are stayed healthy and taken care of," said Crouse. "All these cats are adoptable, and we're trying to find homes for them forever."

Crouse said many of the cats had come from shelters, so observing the way they interact with people helps her determine whether the adoptee is a good fit.



PHOTO | JACOB WARING

Two cats available for adoption, at Mew Haven Cat Café.

Crouse said she runs down the rules to everyone before they enter the cat area: no flash photography, no feeding the cats, et cetera. Safety, she said, is a chief concern. She routinely goes around cleaning the area, she said, checking on the cats and people. Crouse said she does take joy in working with her feline friends.

"It's pretty much the perfect job, because you get to have the therapy of hanging out with cats all day, plus, interacting with people," said Crouse. "You get new personalities of every cat and person, it's awesome."

Online, people can reserve a spot. Adults are charged \$12, students, teachers and Seniors are charged \$10, and children, \$8. After arriving at the café section of Mew Haven, guests are escorted to the cat play area, next door. Due to health regulations, guests enter the two sections separately.

The café is just a short drive, or brisk walk away from campus, on Blake Street and Whalley Avenue.

Students have already said they enjoy the venue, only having opened Sept. 18. Kerstin Moreau, a communication major, and Hale Muncey, an art major, said they both spent an hour in the café, just days after the opening.

"Honestly, it's really nice," said Cooper Chay-Dolan, a communication major. "The cats here are really cool."

As Chay-Dolan explained his thought that the cats will get acclimated to the environment with time, one jumped right onto his legs.

"Oh, there's a cat on my lap," Chay-Dolan said, smiling. "It's just amazing."



PHOTO | JACOB WARING

Mew Haven front window.



PHOTO | JACOB WARING

Cooper Chay-Dolan, a communication major, holding a cat at Mew Haven Cat Café.

Students value having their resumes extensive, current

By Alexandra Scicchitano
Reporter

Kirill Chernyak, a senior, management information systems major, said keeping a resume updated is an effective measure for keeping tabs on oneself.

Chernyak said he updated his resume most recently at an event hosted by the Office of Career and Professional Development on campus.

The event, titled Resumania, was advertised on Southern's

website as a non-appointment workshop, open to any student.

"Stop by," read the event's page, "and receive 15 minutes of individual feedback on your resume draft by a Career Coach or Employee Partner."

Chernyak said he was updating his resume, after taking a few years off from school, and returning.

The update, Chernyak said, is a good way to "see where you're standing, where you're off, and what your weaknesses are."

A statistic from online job

recruitment company Copier Careers, states that 57 percent of people keep their resumes up to date.

Another student said her own resume was integral in continuing forward after school.

"I'm currently applying to the Peace Corps," said Kya O'Donnell, a senior, psychology major. "They want a three-to-four-page resume."

Past experiences and different skills can show capabilities better than test scores, said Nicki Niedzwiecki, a senior, political

science major. A resume, she said, gives students more of an opportunity to portray themselves.

Next time she is applying for a job, Niedzwiecki said, she will update her resume again. Resumania is not the best option for her, she said, because of the limited amount of consulting time offered.

Niedzwiecki said she thinks a way to get more specific help, is to make an appointment at the office.

Buley free-read shelf: unknown by some, fuelled by passion

By Joe Freer
Reporter

Students walk by it, on their way to the Owl Perch, to the printers, the computers or the bathrooms in Buley. For over 10 years, librarians have put out a display of hand-picked leisure books for students to check out to encourage free reading.

Jamie Aschenbach, head of access services said she is encouraged by its growing popularity.

“Originally the book collection started as one bookshelf, but now it’s two,” Aschenbach said. “We’ve started putting funding towards the bookshelf so we can get more bestsellers and new releases.”

She explained how

students are more drawn to big names such as Stephen King, J.K. Rowling and other major authors. Their goal to increase student reading, Aschenbach said, is achieved by making sure their selection features recognizable names.

Rebekah Heiland, a sophomore, nursing major, said she is an outspoken reader, but has never heard of the leisure bookshelf. Heiland said it might be more popular if it was advertised more.

“I think [free reading] is important and a lot of students would take advantage of it,” said Heiland, “even though they’re often busy and stressed during the semester.”

Judaen Brown, a senior, Spanish and English double-major, also said

she had never heard of the collection. She said that now that she knows the bookshelf is there, she is interested in checking it out.

Brown said she thinks more students would check books out if the shelf were in a higher-traffic area.

The books are selected by fellow librarians, said Aschenbach, and the more popular a book is, the longer it stays on the shelf. Every so often, she said the staff looks through the shelf and replaces books that are in worse condition with newer ones. The ones taken off are still available to check out, according to Aschenbach, just not in the handpicked shelf.

“What we have been doing is going to public libraries and see what they



PHOTO | JOE FREER

Detail of the current selection on display at the free-read shelf.

have multiple copies of,” Aschenbach said.

Students are also encouraged to fill out a recommendation form at

the front desk, she said, or to contact Aschenbach directly if they have a book they want to be featured on the shelf.

“We have an order coming in within the next month,” she said, “with some bestsellers and graphic novels.”

Aschenbach said she encourages students to donate books, as well.

“Donations are welcomed and can go to one of two places,” Aschenbach said, “the free library in the north dorms or here.”

The free library in north campus operates with a “leave a book, take a book” policy, Aschenbach said. The collection started last year, she said with only five books and now has an entire cart. Aschenbach said the Buley staff plans to expand the free library collection to other dorms, starting with Farnham Hall.

Once students learn about the bookshelf, Aschenbach said they generally become interested, and are more likely to check books out. She said she is thrilled when students come to her about free reading and encourages readers to contact her about new book ideas to feature and any other pieces of advice that might help the bookshelf and free library.



PHOTO | JOE FREER

Jamie Aschenbach, head of access services, standing next to Buley’s free-read shelf.

Artist of the week: Clark Herring

By Joe Freer
Reporter

Clark Herring is a communication major with a concentration in film, television and digital production, along with involvement in the campus and local music scenes.

At school, he plays bass in a blues band every Friday. The group is going through a bit of a transitional period after

losing their vocalist which has resulted in Herring to try to take the project in a different direction.

“I’m thinking me and this other guy [the band’s lead guitarist] could sing and do some harmonies together,” Herring said.

Outside of school projects, Herring has been producing rap beats under the name “oddfish,” since his junior year of high school. He said it was something he picked up from a friend, and he

learned how to operate his production software with help from online videos.

“I’ve developed my craft over the last couple of years,” Herring said, “I’m mainly on Logic, I don’t use programs like Pro Tools or Fruity Loops.”

He explained that even though programs like Pro Tools and Fruity Loops are more popular among producers, Logic is easier to use without a drop off in quality.

As far as his production

style, Herring said “I like to produce under is kind of like Earl [Sweatshirt]. Deep heavy synths, with bass and kind of dark.”

Herring writes all of his pieces without music theory and relies on his ear. He does not shy away from experimenting with new sounds, however.

“But every once in awhile, I’ll do something catchy, light major scale stuff,” Herring said. “I’ll adapt a sound from an album I’ve been listening to.”

Like many producers, Herring makes his beats for other artists to put lyrics over.

“My biggest credit, is that I produced for a guy out in Chicago named Owen Finn,” Herring said.

He knows Finn through his friend, Alex, from Cheshire, who is now also in Chicago.

“So, one day, over winter break, Alex was here in the dorms and I played him a track I was working on,” Herring said. “I worked like thirty minutes on [it] and was like whatever [and showed him]. It was literally just the drum and the bass and Alex was like, ‘I really like this. Send it over to me.’”

The next thing Herring



PHOTO | JOE FREER

Clark Herring, a communication major, playing bass.

knew, his friend was in Chicago and worked on the beat with Finn and the song made Alex’s album.

“Eventually the album came out and there was some hype for it, and a song can get a few thousand listens when it first comes out,” Herring said.

But the biggest accomplishment Herring said, was that the song was discovered by the same group that makes videos for well-known artists like Lil Uzi Vert and Lil Xan called Lyrical Lemonade. The song was featured on their artist of the day blog and Herring was given credit under his “oddfish” name.

In the future, Herring wants to be a full-time music artist. He continues

to try new things and has started free-styling over his own beats and teaching himself how to sing. Even though he loves producing, Herring said he finds himself going back to the roots he grew up on, despite not being able to find a full band.

Herring’s main focus right now is hip hop to help meet the demand of local artists and the genre’s increasing popularity.

“I tried the band thing for a number of years, it never worked out,” he said. “Truthfully I’d rather be in a band [because] that’s the music I grew up with and that’s what I’m used to. But at this point, if it happens, it happens, you know?”



PHOTO | JOE FREER

Clark Herring, a communication major, sitting at his desk, mixing audio.

“Assassination Nation” doesn’t hit hard enough

By Jeff Lamson
Arts & Entertainment Editor

A bit fun and a bit political, “Assassination Nation,” is worth a watch, but has unexpected pacing and stylistic inconsistencies that come off as unneeded.

The film follows four high school girls in an American town called Salem – no, not that Salem – in which public figures’ and the entire town’s data history is shared uncovered and shared on the internet. What happens next can be compared to “The Purge,” and it is our four main characters that get blamed for the exposure.

The problem is that this synopsis which is on IMDb and even what is sold in the trailer should be the inciting incident for the meat of the film. However, the whole town’s data does not get exposed until about halfway through the film and the girls getting blamed for it is basically in the transition to the third act.

Instead of seeing them live through the chaos of this, the front half of the film is mainly setup. Not that the payoff is not satisfactory in its own way, but if one is just to go off the information given, you would think that way more of this movie was fun action scenes rather than 20-somethings at high school party scenes.

This whole expectation versus reality aspect of the viewing experience makes the front half feel long and the conclusion rushed. It is not even



PHOTO | GAGE SKIDMORE

(Left to right) Joe Russo, Sam Levinson, Bill Skarsgård, Suki Waterhouse and Hari Nef speaking at the 2018 San Diego Comic Con International, for “Assassination Nation,” at the San Diego Convention Center in San Diego, California.

that there were no loose ends tied up, but for a climax set up reminiscent of “Hot Fuzz,” one might expect a little more of that.

More banter and more butt kicking could go a long way with this one.

The style of the film sometimes is fantastic, if not a little distracting. The use of pinks and blues worked to great effect in some scenes, but in others felt out of place or were not even present giving the whole film an inconsistent look to it.

Also, they did this odd three

vertical panel way of showing the screen early in the film and it did not work as well as the filmmakers might have thought. It was distracting and unnecessary when many of the scenes could have worked fine on their own and in sequence. This style never makes a return which makes it all the more out of place.

However, the single shot scene from outside the house in the climax was fantastic. It made the windows and doors serve as a restriction to the aspect ratio, increasing a sense of anxiety and claustrophobia.

It may not have been amazingly difficult, but it definitely worked as a tension builder in what is supposed to be an intense scene.

While the film was fun at times, there were some missed opportunities to go all out with it and have the kind of attitude that the narration does. And while the political messages are very much needed and in one’s opinion, accurate, it eventually becomes comparably as reductive as “The Purge,” without having as much fun with the idea as it could have. And they could have turned down the edginess. It has a

montage of trigger warnings at the beginning of the film that seems to be meant as a joke which is contradictory to what one would expect of an otherwise socially conscious film.

There is much to appreciate about what this film was trying to do, and someone could still definitely have fun with it and walk away with positive messages. It is just that the package the meat comes in is not quite as good as it deserves to be.

“Jurukàn” film screening



PHOTO | ALEXANDRA SCICCHITANO

Producer Rosa Emmanuelli Gutiérrez (left) and director, Gonzalo Mazzini (right).

By Alexandra Scicchitano
Reporter

The main idea that filmmakers, Gonzalo Mazzini and Rosa Emmanuelli Gutiérrez, was to ask, “What is a Puerto Rican?”

“There’s million ways to be Puerto Rican,” said Gutiérrez.

The film, “Jurakán – Nation in Resistance,” aims to highlight resilience of the Puerto Rico’s three million inhabitants. It goes over its history of being a colony. There was also a Q&A session with Mazzini, the director, and Gutiérrez, the producer.

Mazzini said that they titled it Jurakán similar to the Spanish word for hurricane, because Puerto Rico is in a social and economic hurricane.

“We filmed this before Hurricane Maria,” said Mazzini, who wanted to emphasize that the name had nothing to do with Hurricane Maria hitting Puerto Rico and it was to focus on the

other issues in Puerto Rico.

The initiative started from borrowing cameras and lights from relatives and friends and just going straight to Puerto Rico, said Mazzini.

“People believe in our cause,” said Mazzini about how many people helped fund the making of the documentary.

Mazzini said that there are a lot of other major events missing in the documentary and that it is hard to put the whole history of Puerto Rico in 93-minute documentary

Elmer Rivera Bello, an attendee of the event and vice president of the Connecticut Puerto Rican Agenda, said that the film helps people understand the relationship between America and Puerto Rico.

“The film looks to shed light on the 120 years of [the] Puerto Rican and American relationship,” said Bello.

“There is so much to learn from Puerto Rico,” said Mazzini.

“It was a learning process in every way.”

Mazzini said that the experience was eye-opening and that we should not close our doors on people from other countries.

“Again, it’s good for everyone to see the film to erase a lot of misinformation,” said Bello.

“It’s more about the issues going on in Puerto Rico,” said Bello.

This is the filmmakers first tour in America for the movie, and that it is important because most Puerto Ricans are in America, said Mazzini, and this was the first screening in Connecticut.

“It sheds a light that we’re the hurricane,” said Bello.

Mazzini said that there is a disconnect between America and Puerto Rico.

Gutiérrez said, “We have to know our past to understand our present to have a better future.”

BROCKHAMPTON “Iridescence” album review

By Donovan Wilson
Contributor

“Iridescence” is BROCKHAMPTON’s first album for RCA Records following a contract signing earlier this year. It also makes history for the band by being the first project without former member Ameer Vann following sexual assault allegations against him, also earlier this year.

As this series of events unfolded and the album changed names and statuses time after time, fans began to worry that the album would either become non-cohesive or become too similar to the previously released “Saturation” trilogy. The question on everybody’s mind was, would BROCKHAMPTON continue to innovate their lane of music or would the hype die down way too early?

Fortunately, BROCKHAMPTON delivered on the anticipated innovation with a whopping punch on “Iridescence.” BROCKHAMPTON takes their previous influences of industrial hip hop and uses their newfound mainstream success to test the waters and push the work to the forefront.

From the minute the record jumpstarts to life with the song “New Orleans”, you can hear the rough deliveries and squeaky beats that usually line tracks from groups like Death Grips that live in a much more obscure universe than BROCKHAMPTON previously seemed to.

However, there are still songs reminiscent of BROCKHAMPTON’s typical irreverent, 90’s tinged, group hip hop vibe in songs like “Tonya” and “Thug Life”. This album also seems to take the focus off of Kevin Abstract as the main star and instead shoves Joba to the forefront. Joba takes focus on many of the

groups verses and some of the hooks all throughout the entire album, with a newfound gritty and aggressive flow on many verses. This album’s shining star is definitely its innovation and changes in subtle, yet drastic ways.

The album, as with any album, is not absent of its flaws. Its only real drawbacks would be that throughout the album you will hear certain structural flaws and edits that do not belong here and there.

Other than that, “Iridescence” is a cohesive project that seamlessly links together how everyone felt while dealing with Vann’s departure and all the events in their lives that followed it.

The same jittery flows and individual minds mentality exists here, but with a new, tuned up and adventurous attitude unlike anything the group has ventured into. The subject matter follows this new found loss of a member but also holds the groups typical themes of juvenile activities and discovering sexuality. The way Kevin Abstract seamlessly works his sexuality in without even turning a head is still very prevalent in the bands lyricism. BROCKHAMPTON’s writing is as sharp and tuned as ever.

“Iridescence” is a strong record for the relatively new hip hop group, helping to solidify their place in the scene as owners of hip hops new and fresh driving forces.

The combined use of old favorites and new tricks combines for a near perfect album full of only great tracks, with none truly falling flat. BROCKHAMPTON’s “Iridescence” is a solid eight out of 10 and really shows that this group is not going anywhere but up and doing nothing but breaking ground for their brand of hip hop to be.

A celebration of hispanic heroes and icons

By Hunter Lyle
Reporter

Banners and signs, detailing the lives of famous Hispanic figures, lined the top floor of the Adanti Student Center as the Hero's and Icons Opening Reception began.

As a part of celebrating National Hispanic Heritage Month, several groups at Southern came together and creating an event to commemorate the many individuals that helped shape Hispanic culture and history.

"At Southern, we're a university that celebrates diversity," said Anna Rivera-Alfaro, advisor to the Organization of Latin American Student. "We don't want to just say that, we want to show that," Rivera-Alfaro said.

The event featured historical icons, such as Mexican civil rights activist César Chavez, who helped create the National Farm Workers Association. It also featured icons from pop culture, such as Puerto Rican actress Rita Moreno, who won an Oscar for Best Supporting Actress for her role in West Side Story. The event was catered by Soul de Cuba Cafe, a local Cuban restaurant.

The event was put on by a collaboration of three groups, the Organization of Latin

American Students (OLAS), Southern's Multicultural Center, and an organization from the city of New Haven called Arte Inc.

Southern was introduced to this event last year when Arte held it in Hartford, said Rivera-Alfaro. Arte actually owns the banners, but Southern was able to reserve them for this year.

Arte Inc. is a not-profit organization that is, according to their mission statement, "dedicated to developing and promoting Latino art, culture and education." Arte serves disadvantaged urban families with limited resources, who do not have the access that their suburban peers do."

"We've been involved in the community for a long time, we have served on different boards and committees and whatnot, and the Latino community is very unrepresented in New Haven, in many different areas," said Co-Founder of Arte Inc., David Grego. "So, we wanted to do something to change that and help Latino youth strive and do a little better."

During the reception, David Grego and fellow Co-Founder of Arte Inc and Southern Alumni Daniel Diaz presented Rivera-Alfaro with two checks. The first



PHOTO | HUNTER LYLE

Anna Rivera-Alfaro (center) hugging David Grego (left) after receiving \$1000 in scholarships and donations.

check, worth \$750, was awarded to OLAS as a scholarship. The second check, worth \$250, was donated as a personal thank you to the OLAS students for performing at a gala.

"On Saturday night, we had a big gala here, a black-tie gala in the ballroom and some of the OLAS students danced," said Grego, "so as a personal thank you to them, we are donating an additional \$250 to the organization."

Among the attendees, were several students who, like junior, and economics major, Ronald Roman, were in some way involved with the program.

"I came tonight because I am an active member of OLAS and our VP actually mentioned it to me while she was working down at the desk," said Roman. "I'm always here to support anything for Latin American students and Anna-Luis and Anna [Rivera-Alfaro] throwing anything like

this."

For Roman, OLAS is more than just another club on campus.

"[My heritage] is really where I found my base on campus. I didn't really enjoy college until I found OLAS, our heritage club," said Roman. "That's when I really found my whole friends and family here at Southern. So, it's a number one priority for me."

Fiesta Latina kicks off Hispanic Heritage Month

By Jenna Stepleman
Photographer



PHOTO | JENNA STEPLEMAN

Students set up their tables and activities for the fiesta.



PHOTO | JENNA STEPLEMAN

Red and white flower vases are set up on the tables at Fiesta Latina.



PHOTO | HUNTER LYLE

Sororities set up booths to show support and speak to students.



PHOTO | JENNA STEPLEMAN

The band, Agua Pa Chocolate, plays outside the Adanti Student

Correction

In last week's issue of the Southern News it was written that an active membership is needed to participate in Just Dance! at the SCSU Fitness Center. After contact with class instructor Megan Baker, we were informed that no such membership is needed for those wishing to participate.



Quarterback Matthew Sapere during Saturday's win against Stonehill.

PHOTO | SCSU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS

Sapere leads Owls to blowout win over Stonehill

By Matt Gad
Sports Writer

After losing their last two games, at home to Bentley and then at the University of New Haven, the Owls really needed a win to pick up their spirits. Last Saturday night they delivered.

Matt Sapere, a redshirt freshman starting in place of the injured Matt Sanzaro, was on target most of the game. He went 15-of-22 for 170 yards and three passing touchdowns. He also ran for 56 yards on the ground, including a 23-yard first-down

scramble, in the team's 42-21 victory.

"One man goes down and it's gotta be the next guy up," Sapere said. "I think I got my feet wet last week against New Haven so my confidence was there coming out tonight and it was a great team win - everything was put together on all ends of the football."

Senior running back Eli Parks also led the offense by carrying the ball 31 times for 140 yards and freshman wide receiver Julian Chung led the team with six receptions for 65 yards.



Senior wide receiver Earl Myers during Saturday's game against Stonehill.

PHOTO | SCSU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS

SEE FOOTBALL PAGE 10

Owls storm back in second half to take down Assumption



Senior captain Mikaela Magee during a game against Assumption College on Saturday.

PHOTO | PALMER PIANA

By Matt Gad
Sports Writer

Down 2-0 at halftime, second-half goals from junior Johanna Wahlen, freshman Greta Brunello and sophomore Meaghan Kelley pushed the women's soccer squad to a 3-2 victory over Assumption College last Saturday afternoon for their fifth win of the season.

It was the team's second win in a row after defeating Saint Anselm College, 1-0 on Sept. 18.

"It's all about the players and how tough they are and how much they want to play and fight for each other," head coach Adam Cohen said. "We have a good mix of veteran leadership and good young players, too, and they all get along so well together and they love playing for each other."

At the 51-minute mark, Wahlen was able to strike

from the right-hand side to ignite the Owls' offense and get them on the board, unassisted, at a 2-1 deficit. Brunello then scored her first goal of the season off a corner kick and an assist by Paula Nunez Escobar. Kelley sealed things off with a cross, from a Kelsey Burr assist at 78 minutes, for her second goal the year.

"It feels great to be on the team this year. Everyone has such great attitudes and it makes it a lot of fun and I think you see that in the way that we play," Wahlen said. "Last year, we lost a large group of seniors from the year before so it was tough but this year it's great because we're all on the same page."

The main thing about what allowed the team to fuel their second-half comeback was that nobody was panicking, according to Cohen.

SEE SOCCER PAGE 11

Gage on pace to earn more accolades

By Hunter Lyle
Reporter

After a long scholastic sporting career, decorated with accolades and titles, Alyssa Gage enters her last year as a student-athlete at Southern.

The now senior nursing major was born and raised in Beverly Hills, Florida, where she attended Seven Rivers Christian School as a three-season athlete, playing basketball, volleyball and softball.

After graduating from Seven Rivers Christian School, and after winning Female Athlete of the Year three times, Gage chose to attend College of Central Florida, a junior college, where she would focus on volleyball.

After staying for two years, and after earning two consecutive conference titles, Gage chose to take her talents to Southern.

"Southern felt like a good fit for me," said Gage. "I wanted something different, like a totally different state, new people. I chose Southern because I just felt like this was the place for me."

The team recruited Gage because she had a lot of experience, said head coach Lisa Barbaro, and the team needed someone who knew how to win.

"She's been a major difference maker for our program," said Barbaro. "On top of that, just the way she carries herself and her leadership. I think the whole team feels very confident

when the ball is in her hand."

Like many successful athletes, Gage's passion and love for the sport of volleyball started at a young age.

"I have been playing volleyball since the fifth grade," said Gage. "I got into it just from middle school. I just wanted to try something new and then I just fell in love with it."

During her time at Southern, Gage has received a wide array of achievements. She was named All-Region, All-ECAC and All-NE10 selection as well as named to the NCAA Regional All-Tournament Team.

Besides her accolades, Gage also brings a certain presence to the team to help the younger players.

SEE VOLLEYBALL PAGE 11



Alyssa Gage during a game against University of New Haven last year.

PHOTO | SCSU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS

Franklin Pierce in, Merrimack out for next fall



By Matt Gad
Sports Writer

Starting next fall, Franklin Pierce will become a Division II football school and a football-playing member in the Northeast-10 Conference (which actually has 15 schools). Currently, the school runs a sprint football program which competes against Navy, Cornell, Army, Saint Thomas Aquinas and Mansfield. But sprint football does not gather the same attention as the general game does. Specifically in Division I, there are significant media deals in place to showcase many schools on television and streaming services each week during the season. In Division II, you can still get live media exposure from time-to-time, as we saw earlier this month when NCAA and MyTV9 chose to broadcast the annual Elm City Bowl, between the Owls and New Haven Chargers.

Franklin Pierce will become a traditional football school in the fall of 2019 and then will get a full schedule. Right now, teams play 10 regular-season games a year but they generally need to fill one of those with a non-conference opponent. However, Merrimack has been going through the process to move to Division I and join the Northeast Conference. That will all come to fruition in the 2019-20 season. Merrimack and Franklin Pierce would just flip-flop spots in the conference and on the respective football schedule.

In 2012, Bryant left the NE10 and joined Division I. A year later UMass-Lowell did the same. So while the football number may remain solid, this change makes the league one school smaller, going from 15 to 14. Only time will tell if the league will pick up any new members but, at least for the next school year, it seems to be headed for 14 member-schools. The NE10 started in 1979 with seven schools, and now they are the second-largest athletic conference in all of Division II.

Men and woman's swimming and diving teams welcome in next generation of Owls



Junior Leonardo LaPorte during a race at the NCAA championship last season.

PHOTO | SOUTHERNCTOWLS.COM

By Matt Gad
Sports Writer

Last year, head coach Tim Quill and his men and women championship teams held banners up high. They will attempt that feat again this season.

During the 2017-18 campaign, the men's side came home with conference championship number 13 while the women did the same thing, winning their doventh title and their second in as many years.

"After graduating a really good senior class last year on the women's side this is kind of a rebuilding year for us," Quill said. "We did bring in a good size women's class, with seven newcomers in the water, so we will see how quickly they develop. That will be the determining factor."

Nicole Cislo, Emily Darroch, Rebekah Lockery, Brooke Pope, Ellie Sherry, Ashley Sloan and Loren Wurst are all coming into their freshman years, filling some roster spots left by graduated seniors Aubrey Bailey, Katherine Crochet, Kerstin Eckner, Sydney Fromkin, and Lily Martin.

"We definitely have a lot of pride and excitement coming off last year," senior women's co-captain Meaghan Spagnolo said. "It was amazing to win on both the men's and women's sides. It'll be interesting to see how the freshmen push themselves all the way through the year."

Quill said the team is an underdog this year, but he is happy with what he has seen so far at practice.

"They seem to be gelling well as a program so we're excited and casually optimistic," Quill said.

On the men's side, the expectations are high, and Quill said they can be "as good" as last year. Just three freshmen have joined the squad: Tyler Cusano, Zachary Fell and Robert Nagy, and they are without recent graduates Brandon Beaudoin, Lucas Fanucci and Tyler Vander Vos.

"It's really rewarding to be the captain of such a hard-working program because all the upperclassmen want the taste of victory," men's co-captain Tyler Castellone said. "I can't wait to fight for that championship again."

Despite being officially listed as two programs, both the mens and womens

swimmers and divers operate under one unit, with the same coaching staff and schedule.

"We work together, train together, travel together and compete together," Quill said. "Even though the NCAA treats swimming as men and women we treat it as one."

Competing and always working together keeps the entire operation fluid. Spagnolo said the bond they all share is "truly like no other."

"We spend every waking second together, whether we're shivering in a freezing cold pool at 6 a.m. sweating it out in the weight room or pushing through a hard set," she said. "We're always there for each other. It's so important for our team to have strong chemistry because, although most people think swimming is an individualized sport, it truly is not without your teammates."

The regular-season will begin for everyone Saturday at the Fairfield Invite at 1 p.m. The team will have four home meets this year, along with their alumni meet during Nov. 3. They will make their competitive Hutchinson Natatorium debut Nov. 9 at 5 p.m. against Pace University.

Football

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"A big credit goes out to our coaches and players for really digging down deep at practice," head coach Tom Godek said. "We had an early-morning practice out here [last] Tuesday and it was raining but everybody was there ready to go for a really good football team. We knew Stonehill would come in here hungry."

The Skyhawks came into the game with the same record of 1-2, having opened their season with a 34-19 loss to Fairmont State, a 57-54 triple overtime victory over Saint Anselm, and a 27-7 loss at the hands of LIU Post Sept. 15.

Their quarterback, Kyle Smith, went 12-of-30 passing for two touchdowns and 184 yards while their running back, Justin Felder, went off for a 98-yard night.

"Stonehill came out and played their second front to start the game so it took us awhile to figure some of that stuff out," Godek said. "But Matt showed some poise in there. He's a competitive guy and when you're recruiting kids you're looking for kids who are competitive."

At the 14:10 mark in the third quarter, redshirt freshman Jeremiah Banto blocked a punt for a 31-yard touchdown return to give the Owls a 21-7 lead and a short time later Sapere found Andre Ridley for 42 yards to give him his third touchdown pass of

the contest.

Said Godek: "It looks like the offense did all the work but our special teams came in with the blocked punt and we had a few defensive scores."

"It was so important to get a win. You can't come off of two losses and be way up here naturally. You have to work as a team to get that energy and that motivation back and I think we did a great job this week," Sapere said.

The Owls will stay at home to take on Saint Anselm Saturday, with a 2 p.m. kickoff, before heading into their bye week. The Hawks are 1-2 and defeated American International, 29-21, last week.

Godek said that Sapere will remain the starter until Sanzaro is cleared by the training staff from his "upper-body" injury.



PHOTO | SCSU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS

Matthew Sapere throwing a pass during Saturday's game against Stonehill.



PHOTO | SCSU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS

From left to right, Jarred Bennett-Moorer, Jared Labades, Matthew Weiss, David Campbell, and Kobe Wiggins prior to a play on defense during Saturday's game against Stonehill.

Volleyball

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"Gage is definitely a lead by example kind of kid," said Barbaro. "She presents herself very confidently, and not in a cocky way. She's confident in her abilities."

Gage always keeps a calm mindset, said Barbaro, whether Gage is playing well or not, she always keeps a true game face, and a lot of the other players look up to that.

"I look to the freshman and let them know if they need anything, they can always come talk about anything they need to," said

Gage. "I also want them to be comfortable because I know, coming in as a freshman at my junior college, of course you're intimidated and scared, and you don't want that to happen. You have to push them, like tough love."

Sixteen matches into the season, the women's volleyball team has reached a record of 7-9, but when playing at home, the Owls have gone 5-1. With 15 games left in the regular season, the team is still aiming for the New England 10 tournament.

"Our goal for this year is to not beat ourselves," said Gage. "Keep being positive, keep moving forward."



Alyssa Gage celebrates with her teammates during a game against Dominican College earlier this year.

PHOTO | PALMER PIANA



Bailey Bassett during a game earlier this season.

PHOTO | SCSU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS

Goalkeeper Bassett transfers from UConn to Southern

By Marquis Ormond
Contributor

Bailey Bassett is a junior goal keeper for the Southern Men's Soccer Team. Bassett allowed just one goal that came on a penalty kick in the Owls' latest victory over Franklin Pierce.

Bassett said his first love in high school was actually basketball, not soccer. It was not until his coach encouraged him to give soccer a chance that he decided to do so. He played his sophomore year and made it on the varsity team. At Ellington High School, he was an All-State selection and set the school record for most career shutouts with 30.

Bassett said he tries to resemble his game after Petr Cech, goalkeeper for Chelsea FC, when trying to develop his craft as a goalkeeper.

One of Bassett's favorite meals to have before his soccer games is garlic chicken along with pasta or rice. He said he also eats kale a lot too to help give him more energy.

Bassett is a transfer from the University of Connecticut. He redshirted his freshman season and did not see any game action before coming to Southern. Bassett praised the level of competition and training at UConn before transferring and said he enjoyed it.

"The environment over there to help you push yourself and find the best out of yourself and the competitive nature just pulled you in," Bassett said. "The level of training was unbelievable. I loved it."

Bassett, already having the competitive nature in him, realized that UConn only helped push himself to be an even better competitor and student of the game.

Bassett saw his opportunity to let his talents take full spotlight and shine when he had the chance to transfer to Southern, which was one of his options to play soccer at originally. He respected the tradition of Southern's soccer team in the past and had much



Bailey Bassett saving a goal in a game earlier this year.

PHOTO | SCSU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS

respect for head coach Tom Lang. The team comradery helped him settle in here at Southern very smoothly.

"He's a leader by example and a team player," said Zak Wright, a junior and captain. "Bailey is just a big positive influence. He's a competitive guy. He's not going to give you the chance to take a play off. So, in that sense he's just a good guy to have around. Good energy."

Jhony Gonzalez, another captain on the team said, "Bailey really really likes to listen to Lil Uzi Vert and his current favorite song by him is 'New Patek'."

Bassett compared playing the goalkeeper position and defending penalty kicks in particular to chess.

"You got to be mentally strong," said Bassett. "You don't want to

Soccer

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"We felt like we had time but there had to be some urgency. We got that first goal and then we knew we had a chance," he said. "We're going to enjoy this one for a bit and then get ready for our next match."

And that next match, as Cohen is referring to, will come on the road at Adelphi tonight. The Panthers are currently 6-0 with all but one of their games in conference play, meaning they are also a perfect 5-0 inside the Northeast-10.

Last season, the Owls fell to them, 3-0, at home when the Panthers got on the board early in the first half and then scored two more goals in the second to seal their victory.

In 2016, when the Owls had a 9-7 season, they went to a 1-1 draw with

them which, at the time, gave 8-1 Adelphi their first and only tie of the season.

Back then, Wahlen was a freshman. Now being two years later, she said she has enjoyed coming over from Germany and being a part of the team.

"I used an organization to send my video around to different coaches and I just liked it here. I got along right away with Coach Cohen," she said.

Wahlen is one of two athletes on the team from Germany and one of four overall. Nunez Escobar, a sophomore, is from Spain and Brunello is from Italy. The rest of the roster is from the northeastern United States.

After Adelphi, the Owls will face American International College Sept. 29. They will return to Jess Dow Field Oct. 2 to take on Pace, which will start a three-game homestand that will also feature games against Stonehill and Mercy College, Oct. 6 and Oct. 10, respectively.



Freshman Kelsey Burr during Saturday's game against Assumption College.

PHOTO | PALMER PIANA

The most underrated sports team this season



By Michael Riccio
Sports Editor

If you are not paying attention to the women's soccer team, you should start.

They improved their record to 5-3 after winning five of their last six games. They are 4-1 in the NE10, good for third place in the conference before their road game against first place Adelphi on Wednesday.

They already have wins against Queens College, University of New Haven, Saint Anselm College, and Assumption College, teams that all finished with better records than them last year.

Before last year, the team made the NE10 tournament in three straight years, and five of the last six seasons. But they went just 2-12-3 in 2017, and 2-9-3 in the conference. It was their worst year in program history.

This year, the team returned 11 players, including two-year captain Mikaela Magee and sophomore Meghan Kelley, who was tied for the most goals on the team last season. Also returning is Johanna Wahlen, who has scored four goals this season after not scoring during her first two seasons at Southern.

Incoming freshmen to the team Kelsey Burr, Kaitlyn D'Amico and Greta Brunello, have all contributed with goals this season, and goalkeepers Abigail and Tamra Zippin have both rotated at the position.

In the Owls' win over Saint Michael's on Sept. 8, it was Burr who tied the game on a penalty kick after the Owls went down 1-0 in the game first three minutes. Burr would also score the only goal during the 70th minute in a 1-0 win against Saint Anselm on Sept. 18. Brunello helped lead a second half comeback on Sept. 22 against Assumption. Down 2-0 in the second half, the Owls got on the board on a goal by Wahlen before Brunello tied it and Kelley scored the game winner.

The Owls have already more than doubled their win total from last season, and they are doing it by using a mix of returning players and incoming freshmen. Adam Cohen, the head coach for the last 14 years, has guided the Owls to a 110-101-29 record during his tenure. By being so experienced and successful during his tenure, he has been able to retool quickly and get the program back on track after a bump in the road last season.

With only three seniors on the roster this season, the women's soccer team should be a force in the conference for years to come. Wednesday night's game against preseason Adelphi will be a good test for the team going forward.

PHOTO

OLAS kicks off heritage month with food and dance



President Joe Bertolino sitting at the event listening to the speakers.

Photo | Palmer Piana



The Organization of Latin American Students' dancers performing at the event.



Alexis Zhitomi, president of Student Council, speaking on behalf of the student body.




Jorge Vargas and Yeimielzi Cruz performing a couple's dance for the crowd.



Zulma R. Toro, thirteenth president of Central Connecticut State University, delivering her speech.

Graduate Admissions Open House

Thursday, October 4, 2018
3 - 7 PM
Adanti Student Center Ballroom



Join us for an opportunity to meet with graduate faculty in more than 40 areas of study in education, business, health and human services, and the arts and sciences. Visit our campus and explore the possibilities of graduate education at Southern.

- Speak with faculty and admissions representatives
- Engage with current graduate students
- Explore financial aid opportunities
- Take an optional tour of our campus

To register, visit SouthernCT.edu/gradadmissions/openhouse

