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SOUTHERN NEWS

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Celebration of women in business lecture

**By Ali Fernand
Features Editor**

Lieutenant Governor Susan Bysiewicz spoke to students about the power of women in leadership roles. In honor of Women's History Month, the university has decided to celebrate the work of women in business.

"When you have diverse leaders at the table you make the best decisions for our families and communities," Bysiewicz said.

This event was held as part of the Bing Carbone Women in Leadership Lecture Series. The university felt the need to affirm its stance on equity for women. Speakers offered encouraging words to women who hope to be in leadership one day.

"In honor of Women's history month, we thought why not bring the most influential woman leader in the state of Connecticut," Assistant Director of the Women in Leadership Academy, Lisa Marotta said.

The Women in Leadership Academy is a program here at the university to help encourage women in finding networking opportunities. They help women find success in their prospective fields. To encourage future women leaders, they thought Bysiewicz

would be a perfect person to speak.

President Joe Bertolino also spoke at the event, mentioning his involvement with equity programs for women. With the construction of the new business building, he spoke on the successes that business students at the university already had.

"We have engaged in a significant number of conversations not only about equity but about income and salary," Bertolino said.

President Joe is involved in efforts to expand opportunities for women at

universities. He even holds leadership positions on boards who push the effort to see more women succeed.

"I have the privilege of sitting on the American association of university women's board of directors," President Joe said.

Women continue to be the minority in leadership positions in businesses. Though there has been work for women to find equity in these fields, men continue to dominate the business industry.

"If you look at how many women are in managerial

positions in companies, you will find that it's only 35% women," Bysiewicz said.

Women owned businesses are something that Bysiewicz feels passionately about. She stressed that women in government need to work hand in hand with women in business. This is to reach the goal of seeing more women in leadership positions in both fields.

Bysiewicz also mentioned the disparity in wages between men and women. This being a problem for women trying to

move up, especially women of color.

"Women continue to make 82 cents on the dollar, if you're a black woman you make 59 cents on the dollar, or if you're Latina you make 48 cents on the dollar," Bysiewicz said.

Connecticut has put in effort to ensure women's rights in the state. With policies such as paid maternity leave, women can become mothers without the stress of losing their salary or career. This also applies to needed medical leave.

"We have some great

policies in place like the best paid family leave and medical leave in the country," Bysiewicz said.

The speakers before Bysiewicz celebrated her accomplishments as a woman leader in the state. She served in the state house of representatives and as the secretary of state before becoming Lieutenant Governor.

"She is one of only 4 women to serve in this capacity since 1776," Director of the Women in Leadership Academy Alice Wieland said.

Even though women don't hold a proportionate amount of leadership positions, they do often do these positions well. According to Bysiewicz, businesses owned by women tend to be more successful and last longer.

"Women are great at collaboration and are used to multitasking," Bysiewicz said.

The Women in Leadership Academy is a resource for any woman looking to get a start in their field. This program is funded by Lindy Lee Gold and will continue its work even as Women's History Month ends.

"We are able to provide networking opportunities and different events to help women to be prepared to enter the business world," Marotta said.



PHOTO | LUKE MOLWITZ

Lt. Governor Susan Bysiewicz giving flowers to a business major, Wajiha Ali, a sophomore.

A New soccer head coach

**By Jaylen Carr
Sports Editor**

The university welcomed Owls alum and former All-American and NCAA Division II Champion Kevin Anderson as their fourth men's soccer head coach in program history.

After the retirement of former head coach Tom Lang on March 1, the athletic department had been searching for Lang's predecessor. Lang spent 25 years as the all-time winning coach in the program's history and helped lead the Owls to two NCAA Division II National Championships in 1998 and 1999.

"It's over been the across of about two months; it's a national search," Director of Athletics Chris Barker said. "We had roughly 70 applicants that applied, which was very competitive. Our search committee did a good job narrowing it down and ultimately finding Kevin Anderson as our next head coach."

Barker said Anderson's proven track record with not developing athletes as players, but also as people was crucial to his hiring.

"It's been a very exciting

first week," Anderson said. "To come in and know the history of the coaches that sat here before, it's kind of serial."

While a student athlete at the university, Anderson was a 1992 First Team All-American and played a pivotal role in the 1992 NCAA Division II National Championship. Anderson even has records that stand today.

According to the universities athletic website, in 1992, "his 13 assists were the second-most in a single season in program history, a mark that stands at sixth place today."

"When the opportunity presents itself, it's always flattering to be wanted. Through the process of talking to Chris Barker, the search committee and the players on the team and our Vice President of Student Affairs, Dr. Tyree, it reminded me of my journey here," Anderson said.

During his time coaching at Columbia University, he learned that it is more than just a soccer program but is about building a community, Anderson said. "Trying to create a journey for kids to love their path and to

feel as grateful as I did. My journey here was really special and really unique."

Anderson said leaving Columbia University was a tough decision because he's been there for 14 years, but he knew coming to the university would be a fantastic opportunity.

After many years of coaching, Anderson brings his experience and values to this year's team.

"For me, it's about being truthful, it's about having empathy, having gratitude, understanding that the choices and decisions you make are truly choices, your choice to act and behave in a certain way," Anderson said. "Those are the ones that I will try to instill in this group."

Anderson said he spoke with the players on March 30 about being grateful for the people who help the team be their best.

"It's going to take sweat which is hard work and courage," Anderson said to the team. "The only thing I've told them is that I want them to tell their truth."

Barker said Anderson would bring a different perspective to the team, and because he's an alum-

nus, he will be able to connect with the players.

"For Kevin to come in here and just have a different lens, whether it be tactically, whether it be recruiting region, and I think all those are important," Barker said.

Barker said Anderson was right for the job because he would help the players. "We are very fortunate to have him and excited to watch him grow."

At Columbia, Anderson led their program to the most wins in program history, with 13 in 2016, and his team earned NSCAA Team Academic Awards for 14 straight years.

According to the United Soccer Coaches, "The Team Academic Award was created to recognize student athletes' commitment to excellence in the classroom. For a team to be considered for the United Soccer Coaches Team Academic Award, it must have a composite team grade point average of at least 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale) for all team members who appear on the official."

For more on this story visit our website southernnews.org

Interim president

**By Sofia Rositani
Editor-in-chief**

Chief Executive Officer of Housatonic Community College Dwayne Smith has been announced as the interim president of the university following President Joe's move to Stockton.

Smith will take over the role as interim president on June 1.

"With almost 40 years of leadership at public and private universities, he has a proven track record in enrollment management, curriculum development,

strategic planning and external fundraising - all areas of priority at our institution," Bertolino wrote in an email through Patrick Dilger..

Bertolino will be training Smith until it is time for him to leave for Stockton, which is July.

"I'm confident that Dr. Smith's energy, experience and vision will continue to move Southern forward, coupled with the talent and smarts that are so evident throughout our extended community," Bertolino wrote.

Smith and Bertolino were not available for comment.

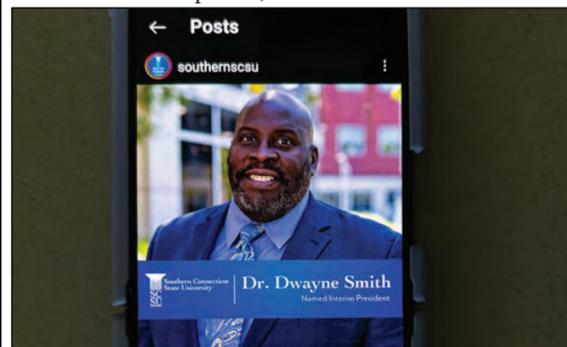


PHOTO | SARAH SHELTON

@Southernscsu instagram announcing the interim President.

University holds celebration for Otus' birthday

By Sarah Shelton
Photo Editor
Luke Molwitz
Photographer

On March 29, the university mascot was celebrated for his birthday in the Adanti Student Center by the theater.

This event included: a photo opportunity with the mascot Otus, cupcakes, Crumbl Cookies and painting acrylic owls.

President Joe Bertolino stopped by to wish Otus a happy birthday and to say hi to the attending students.

Happy Birthday Otus!



President Joe and Otus posing for the camera in the Adanti Student Center

Photo | Luke Molwitz



Photo | Luke Molwitz



Photo | Sarah Shelton

Journalism major Yvonna Rodriguez, a freshman, and business major Asia Fairweather, a freshman.

Cookie mix available for students to take.



Photo | Sarah Shelton

Different flavors of Crumbl Cookies being handed out.

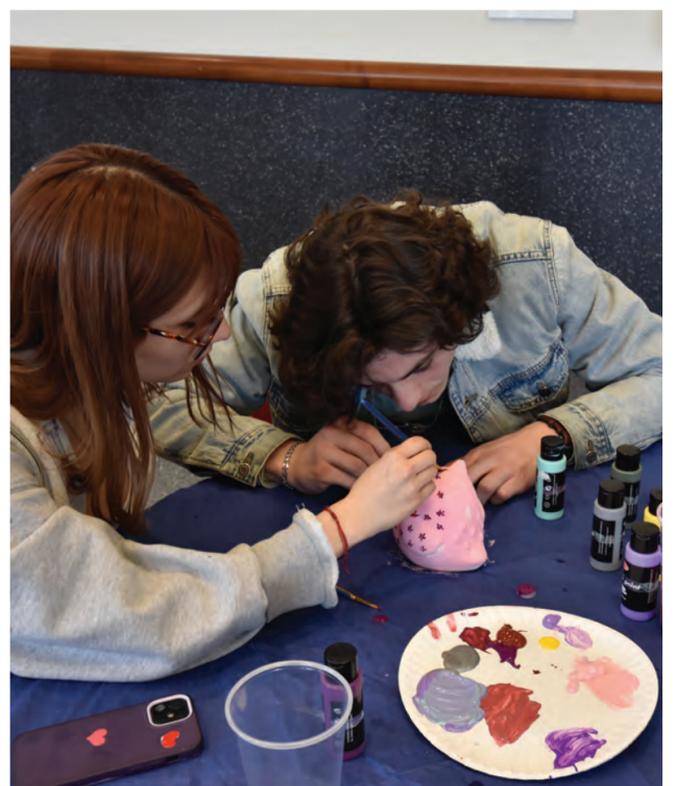


Photo | Luke Molwitz

Biology major Alyssa Morales, a junior, and psychology major, Gary Parrino, a freshman.



Photo | Luke Molwitz

A group of students taking a picture with Otus.



Photo | Sarah Shelton

A student's plate of a s'mores Crumbl cookie and a pack of chocolate chip cookie mix.

Crybaby is gone, Melanie Martinez is reborn

By Sarah Shelton
Photo Editor

Crybaby is no more as Melanie Martinez's new era is born.

After Martinez competed in "The Voice" back in 2012, she then released the EP "Dollhouse" which evolved into her first album, "Cry Baby" in 2015.

Since this, Martinez has played a character/kept her persona named Crybaby. This included pastel aesthetics and childhood concept songs to talk about serious topics. This includes "Dollhouse," a song about how bad a family is behind closed doors, and "Tag You're It," which talks about assault.

After Cry Baby, we move into 2019, her "K-12" era where the concept is basically the same, except it moves through Crybaby's life. This album came with a movie-type video that features all of the songs and their meanings. This can be viewed on YouTube.

Martinez then released the "After School EP" in 2020 with similar songs, but ones that just did not fit with the storyline for "K-12."

Now, Crybaby is no longer with the release of "PORTALS."

Martinez released "THE HATCHING," music video

for her "PORTALS" album buyers only. This shows a creature being born out of an egg.

I honestly have to get used to the new creature vibes. For the music videos, absolutely. But she recently took the stage in full prosthetics and I miss seeing her face.

The creature is a light pink, four-eyed fairy.

Other teaser visuals showed "R.I.P CRYBABY" carved into a mushroom.

The first song to be released from the album was on March 17, titled "DEATH."

I really enjoyed this song. It felt like a powerful new beginning, even if it is quite repetitive.

Martinez sings about the creature who has returned from the dead with the repetitive "I'm back from the dead" line to show she is returning to the music industry, but differently. I really enjoy the beat drops, guitar and drums. This must sound amazing live.

I liked the music video that accompanied this song because it shows her Crybaby character getting reborn into this spiritual creature. It really keeps the Crybaby storyline going, instead of softer songs, this album gives a dark-pop and pop-punk feel.

The next song came out

days before the album, on March 29, titled "VOID."

Martinez writes in a Tik Tok that the song is self-written and self-produced.

The song had the same vibe as "DEATH," and that this point, I knew it was going to be a cohesive album.

"VOID," however, is about going insane with cruel thoughts about yourself.

There is one lyric in the song that fans are debating what it says. It either says, "I hate who I was before" or "Why hate who I was before?" Either way, I think the lyrics to this song are deep and this song is something I have definitely felt before because of society.

Finally, on March 31 the rest of the album, "PORTALS," became available on streaming platforms. It has 13 songs, not including "THE HATCHING."

"DEATH" is track one and "VOID" is track two. Track 3 is titled "TUNNEL VISION."

According to Apple Music, Martinez said "I wrote this song while in Hawaii in February 2021 with Kinetics & One Love. We were surrounded by coqui frogs singing to us, the sound of rain hitting the roof and pure connection."

I personally believe this song is about how she

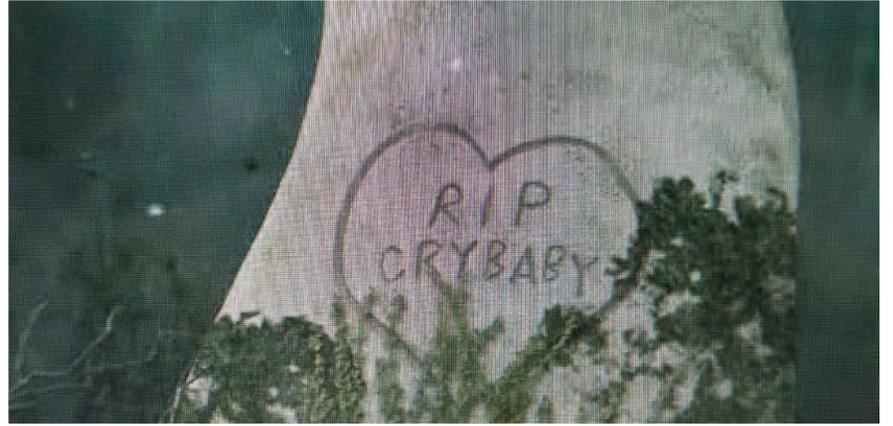


PHOTO | SARAH SHELTON

RIP CRYBABY carved into mushroom photo taken on a MAC Computer.

was body shamed during her music video for "The Bakery" and how someone, probably her ex, only wants her for her body.

I really like the music and autotune used in this song. You can still hear her soft vocals with a bit of fun editing to them. It probably gives the most traditional pop feel out of the 13 songs.

The next song's title, "FAERIE SOIRÉE," reminds me of my French-Canadian history. Martinez is Canadian and in french, soirée means an evening party. I like how this song has layered vocal tracks with an alternative touch.

Track five, "LIGHT SHOWER," gave the album the ballad-like touch it needed.

The next song, "SPIDER

WEB" is about "social media's chokehold on society," according to Apple Music. I personally relate, minus the parts about being famous, because I am obviously not. The backbeat of this song makes the sad lyrics sound fun.

The next few songs, "LEECHES," "BATTLE OF THE LARYNX," are slower.

Track nine, "THE CONTORTIONIST," reminds me of a toxic relationship I was in. This is definitely one of my favorites on the album as I love relatable lyrics, the orchestra touch and the exciting beat. This also goes for Track 12, "EVIL."

"MOON CYCLE," seems to be about menstrual cycles, also known as periods, stereotypes.

Fun fact for misogynists, according to Great Green Wall, testosterone levels rise during the period. Yes, the common male hormone.

This is probably one of my least favorite songs on the album, but I love the meaning. Plus, it may be shade towards her ex, Oliver Tree's, lyric in his song "revival," "I'm angry and bloody like a [censor b-word] on her period."

The last songs, "NYMPHOLOGY" and "WOMB," are amusing and very entertaining.

While I miss Crybaby, this is definitely an interesting and thrilling change.

The album ends with the lyric, "life is death, is life is death, is life, is—"

Religious leaders on campus prepare for holidays

By Jaylen Carr
Sports Editor

With many religious holidays approaching, university religious leaders support students through holiday-related events regardless of religious background.

Campus Minister for Catholic Outreach Brooke Armistead, the religious leader of the universities Catholic Ministry, said, "We do a lot of volunteer work, bible studies; really try to foster a community for Catholics to come together for a community and support."

Communication major Armistead, a senior, is also a student on campus and said this is her first year as a campus minister and had enjoyed it.

"We offer bible studies once a week; really trying to focus on the community on those events," Armistead said. "We are just trying to bring together the community."

Rabbi Barbara Paris, the advisor for Hillel, which is the Jewish Student Organization, has served the past four years leading the organization.

"We have a good core group and lots of things going on in the group," Paris said. "I view my role as trying to do outreach to any student who may identify with the Jewish faith or just wants to learn more about the Jewish faith."

The many religious organizations on campus try to teach about their faith and make it inclusive for everyone regardless of their upbringing.

Paris said she has an open door for anyone at the Interfaith office on the second floor of the Adanti Student Center and views her role as a student resource.

According to the university website regarding Multicultural and Interfaith Organizations on campus, "The Hillel Jewish Student Organization provides a framework in which individuals can come together to share, experience, and explore Judaism's culture, heritage, religion, practice, and civilization."

Paris said because there were dedicated students that worked with her, they wanted a Hillel to exist. "We have been able to start a Hillel, maintain it and grow it."

InterVarsity Christain Fellowship, also called IV leader Glenda Marcelin said a big part of the job is making herself for students.

"IV is a group that basically allows multiple different faith backgrounds," Marcelin said. "We meet up on Tuesdays, and we'll look in try to understand how the word applies to our lives as college students. We really welcome anybody from any type of faith background because we want people to understand how Jesus is."

Marcelin said the organization recently went on a mission trip to New Orleans.

According to the university website regarding Multicultural and Interfaith Organizations on campus,

InterVarsity "practice taking risks, being brave and going out as a community to share the love of God with all people. Our group is for people who want to learn about God, who identify themselves as Christian and those who are just curious."

Paris said in the Hillel organization, she would dub some of her students into the organization as cultural Jews.

"They like being part of the Jewish community, they like the holidays, they like food, they like the traditions," Paris said. "But they wouldn't necessarily say that they are regular synagogue goers; they are not very religious in their minds."

Paris said the

organization is doing a spring cleaning as they get ready for Passover. "We talk about what we personally what we want to clean out from ourselves."

Paris said the origination always has Shabbats, or a religious gathering weekly and follows the Jewish calendar throughout the academic year.

Armistead said despite not having a religious title, she was always there to help support students.

"We do have a priest and a nun available for students if they need someone in that category," Armistead said. "I work out of the Interfaith office with Rabbi Barbara, and we have snacks; students can come in if they have questions; if they need support, I'm the

one they would reach."

Some religious organizations find it easy to spread the word about their organization on campus, but others find it difficult.

Armistead said the Catholic organization is present throughout social media. "We don't just post events; we also like to post inspiring stiff or things that Catholic wants to see."

Paris said Hillel faces some challenges with reaching out to students because of the HIPPA or privacy laws; the university does not provide information about students' religious identity.

"We have the club fair, but I have to say one of my favorites is called 'Grilled Jesus,' Marcelin of InterVarsity said. "We'll get

contact cards from everyone body which filled out contact cards from one of our tabling events."

Students would then send questions about life, the organization, or our faith and get those questions answered, met by an organization member, and receive a grilled cheese sandwich or Nutella sandwich, Marcelin said.

Armistead said, "the Interfaith office is coming together to put students from each religious organization to have everyone come together for support, prayer request instead of having the Catholics separate, the Jewish groups separate. Having everyone come together is what Interfaith is."

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Tackacs breaks four records, Owls win 21-11

By Jaylen Carr
Sports Editor

Attack Bayleigh Takacs, a graduate student, broke four records on the April 1 matchup against Franklin Pierce University, with two being all-time assist records and others scoring.

Takacs became the all-time assist leader in Owl history in the first quarter when assisting on the Owls' first score by attack Karli Rowe, a graduate student. The record was held by former player Carol Keal who had 55 career assists. Takacs had six assists in the game, which broke the record for most assists in a single game.

"It was a good day," Takacs said. "It is my mom's birthday, so I'm glad she is here."

Takacs also broke two other records by scoring 11 points, leading the team. She set her career high in points with five and six assists which helped her to break a 16-year-old

scoring record by Allison Kownacki, who had 10 points in a single game.

So far this season, Takacs has 22 goals and 22 assists, leading the team in both categories.

"The assist, I cannot do it without my teammates catching the ball and finishing," Takacs said. "As much it's me putting it in their stick, it is them catching it and finishing it, so it is all a team effort."

With Takacs's historic day, the Owls fought off a comeback in the third quarter by Franklin Pierce. Pierce outscored the Owls in the third quarter, but the Owls closed the final quarter by scoring unanswered goals.

"That was the game that we have been waiting to have," Head Coach Kevin Siedlecki said. "We just put our foot on the gas and had that instinct that we've been looking for all season."

Siedlecki liked the fact that the team could put the game away in the fourth quarter by outscoring Franklin Pierce. Unlike

the previous win against American International College, Siedlecki said the team could not finish the game and kept American International in the game.

"As a team, we really worked together, and we moved the ball well around on offense; we trusted each other to catch the ball, trusted each other to take the right shot," Takacs said. "We have all the confidence in the world on defense."

Goalkeeper Caelan Connors, a freshman, had six saves in the game, pushing her total to 78 saves in the season. Rowe helped the Owls in scoring by five goals and one assist.

"I thought we played really well," Midfield Brianna Shaw, a junior, said. "We came out from the start very strong, and we knew we needed to continue being strong for four quarters and not let up."

Shaw scored an unassisted goal in the second quarter after attempting four. "I think



PHOTO | LUKE MOLWITZ

Attack Bayleigh Takacs, a graduate student tries to get the ball in the game.

my role is to win the draw and to place the draw to my circle girls, and that is what we did today."

Shaw's 14 draw controls tied the university single-game record set by Steph Seymour in 2020.

"For us to come up with 10 goal wins there, I feel really good," Siedlecki said.

"Not playing scared and playing to win instead of not playing to lose, and I

couldn't be happier how that fourth quarter went to put them away."

Siedlecki said the players moved much better offensively in this game compared to the past few games.

"We're seeing openings, and we're wearing the defense down, Siedlecki said."

Despite the 21-11 win, Siedlecki and the players

believe the team can improve in some areas on offense and defense.

"We have to clean it up a little bit, defensively," Siedlecki said. "They did a very good when they went on their run; they did a good job exposing our zone."

For more of this story visit our website at thesouthernnews.org.

Baseball team falls to Queens College 4-3

By Matt Cain
Contributor

The university's baseball team put up a fight against Queens College in a 10 inning game, ultimately losing 4-3.

The Owls now have a season record of 16-6 and a 5-1 at-home record.

Head Coach, Tim Shea was not feeling the extra-inning loss.

"Disappointed. There are some positive things, but we did not do enough on the offensive side," Shea said.

The positive outcome is the pitching. Pitcher Mike Szturzman, a freshman got the start on the mound. It was not a bad outing as he went six innings and gave up one run, as well as a couple of hits.

Szturman also managed to pitch in and out of trouble, getting out of the 3rd inning with the bases loaded. The middle innings were

where the Owls fell apart letting the knights get hits that should have been pop-outs.

In the fifth inning, Queens College scored three runs, two of them coming from a two-run homer. As well as picking up errors.

Queen would also take the lead in the fifth as well. Outfielder Connor Goggins, a sophomore, had a decent day. He would go 2-for-4 at the plate and driving in the game-tying run.

Goggins has been one of the Owls' premier hitters, with a batting average of .395 and a .704 slugging percentage.

Even with his good performance throughout the season and in the game, Goggins believes the team could have been better.

"We played a decent game, there are still some things we could of did better," Goggins said.

Fielding was a

key factor in the game. Queens College would get on base with a couple of infield singles and a fielder's choice.

The Owls are usually a good defensive team. They have a .956 fielding percentage on the year so far.

"We let them get hits that shouldn't have been hits," Coach Shea said. Catcher Billy Sullivan, a sophomore, batted lead-off in the game.

Sullivan would only have one hit with five at-bats in the game. With Sullivan struggling in the game, he had little history with the starting pitcher from Queens College.

"I faced him in the summer, he's got a good couple of pitches and some off-speed, so it was tough," Sullivan said.

As the game narrowed down, a pitching change came from both teams. The Owls would bring in outfielder

Matt Smith, a graduate student and pitcher Tommy Hughes, a junior.

Smith would give three innings of work to keep the game close. Hughes kept the game close as well, but only needed one run, the owls' bats stayed silent to take the game to an extra inning.

Queens College scored one run in the top of the 10th, but Queen would put it away in the bottom of the 10th with a strikeout.

Going into the weekend, the Owls have a two-game series with Queens over the weekend. The Owls are now going to see how they can get better in the next coming games and take a different approach against a good pitching team.

"We didn't get enough offensively; these are things we have to change up," Shea said.

The plan of attack going forward seems to be to put the ball in play.

For more of this story visit our website at thesouthernnews.org



PHOTO | SCSUOWLS.COM

Outfielder Colin Mason, a graduate student on the mound.

Lee makes history at conference championship

By Matt Cain
Contributor

Angel Lee becomes the first Owl to win the Gymnastics East Balance Beam Championship, (GEC) at the conference championship.

The team is led by a sophomore standout and quality point scorer, Angel Lee. Lee is having a breakout season, with her only being in her sophomore year she surprised everyone.

Lee won the GEC and her impressive score held up through both sessions.

Her win at the conference would make history, as she is the first Owl to win the beam. Angel put up a score of 9.70 and 9.85 and this score would contribute to a 48.57 team score on the beam.

Lee plays a pivotal part on the team this year. Her maturity and work ethic have been on full display this year as well.

All round Libby Allen, a sophomore, speaks highly and loves training with.

"She makes practices fun, and she stays positive all the time," Allen said.

With the practices sometimes being long, Lee brings the team's



PHOTO | SCSUOWLS.COM

All round Angel Lee, a sophomore on a beam during a conference event.

comradery to the table with her positive attitude.

"We have been positive, happy, we have been ready to compete," Allen also stated.

Allen and Lee practice together and learn from each other all the time. They met last year as freshmen and have been friends ever since.

Lee has grown since last year. She now has a definite spot in the lineup, rather than working to try and get a spot in the lineup last year as she did last year.

Lee herself knew what she was capable of. Through all the madness, she managed to stay relaxed and focused. After scoring big points in back-to-back meets, she was not shaken. She

managed to stay calm and composed.

"My mentality was surprisingly calm, this year coming in it wasn't that scary and it all kind of leveled out," Lee said.

Coming into this season Lee knew the work she had to put in and just wanted to execute. However, the season is very long and can be draining. Lee manages to push through and stay strong.

Since Lee is having a great season, the coaching staff decided that two-thirds through the season is when she can take it easy.

"I told the coaches that I'm barely doing anything, I need to recharge," Lee said.

With Lee performing out

of her mind this season, the one person that was really surprised was Coach Knox.

Coach Knox has been the head coach of the gymnastics program for over three years.

"In my years, she is light-hearted and just comes to the table with a different attitude."

Coach Knox said Angel Lee carries herself very well. She is not only a huge help on the team but also gets involved on campus. Lee also is handling business in the classroom too; holding over a 3.0 grade-point average.

For more of this story visit our website at thesouthernnews.org