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SOUTHERN NEWS

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SCSU community attends Women's March in DC



Members of the Southern Connecticut State University Community march in Washington, DC holding signs made by artist Panhadle Slim.

PHOTO COURTESY OF | TRICIA LIN

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Scholarship Foundation creates new online application

By Alex Palmieri

The scholarship foundation program can help students get money that are in need, Heather Rowe said.

“The foundation has over 350 scholarships,” said Rowe, business manager at SCSU. “January 5, we launched a new online software that takes all the scholarships together.”

A student can go into the portal and apply to an online application. Rowe said the requirements for each application are displayed according to their major. The scholarship foundation program is open until March 15, which is the deadline for the FAFSA for the fall semester.

“I’m the business manager for the foundation,” said Rowe. “So, the foundation asked for the application to be more streamline approached because we want to reach more students who are in need.”

From a development standpoint, Rowe said the application gives more exposure to the donors to advertise their scholarships. There are pictures along with their bios about each donor who are promoting their advertisement.

Rowe said the scholarship application takes about 30 minutes to complete, and it is pre-filled by the banner system. She said there are different questions to that are scholarship specific that the donors have asked. These different qualifications that donors have asked include a

specific GPA, community involvement, or certain activities that a student is enrolled in.

“You can search the scholarships,” said Rowe. “There are 285 advertised; this is just a general number. We only launched January 5, and we already have 1,255 applications. Last year we had about 570 applications, and this is open until March 15.”

Rowe said she hopes 1,500 students end up applying for scholarships before the fall semester. As far as promoting the amount of scholarships that are available by the university, Rowe said it starts with social media.

“The first thing we did was,” said Rowe, “January 5, we used social media. We went to Twitter and Facebook and we got 300 applications on the first day. Then we sent an email blast to students.”

Hernan Zambrano, a senior Spanish major, said he is still in the process of applying for applications because Southern offers a lot of scholarships. He said he hopes he receives some financial help for next semester.

“Southern has a generous amount of scholarships,” said Zambrano. “Therefore, I’m not sure how much I’ll receive; there’s a good chance I’ll receive a good amount.”

Zambrano said the process to apply for scholarships is very simple and online. He said it can take anywhere

from 10–30 minutes to apply, but he added that it is worth it because of all the financial help a person can receive in return.

“I’m sure with all the promotion and word getting around more and more,” said Zambrano, “eventually hopefully everyone does [apply].”

Doreen Commarata-Gilhuly, assistant director for alumni relations, said she thinks social media made the number of applications increase from last year. Because students were on break when the mass email was sent out, she said students may have had more time to fill it out.

“The email said “Free Money Available,” said Commarata-Gilhuly. “It was eye catching to students.”

Commarata-Gilhuly said she encourages all students to apply for scholarships because it will decrease the worry of families that may be paying for education. She added no matter what financial standpoint a student is in, they can always apply for scholarships.

“Students need to realize,” said Commarata-Gilhuly, “though they’re receiving financial aid, the scholarships can reduce their financial aid and their student loans. They need to understand that.”

Violence Prevention Advocacy Group creates PSA

By Adrianna Rochester

In an effort to join the ranks of other nationwide public service announcements, the Violence Prevention, Victim Advocacy Support Center along with the help of student leaders created a PSA on bystander intervention.

The purpose of any public service announcement is to bring awareness and change public attitudes towards social issues. Essentially, VPAS’ objective with their “It’s On Us” PSA is designed to do just that, according to Liz Brady, VPAS graduate intern.

The “It’s On Us” PSA—featuring President Joe Bertolino—has one clear message. The only way to stop and end any form of campus violence is by continuous spreading of awareness and getting people to realize it is up to us—the campus community—to doing something about the various social issues that affect the campus climate and the surrounding communities.

Why bystander intervention? According to Brady, bystander intervention can be used to prevent various types of violence, such as bullying, sexual assault,

sexism, harassment and more.

“No matter who you are, you can do something,” she said.

The overall goal of the PSA, Brady said, is to spread more awareness on bystander intervention, to show campus support and to get more individuals within Southern’s community involved.

“We started working on this last semester and though it’s still a work in progress we can show it to the campus and get more people into signing the pledge,” Brady said.

Benjamin Yambao, a junior social work major, said this is another way Southern is reaching out to the students to make them want to get active.

As a bystander, Yambao said our role as community members is to stand up for an individual who may be in need and either say something or do something to help a potentially dangerous situation.

Being a transfer student, Yambao said since coming to Southern he has noticed there is an actual presence

of social justice activism on campus compared to his other school.

Yambao, said “When helping to make the PSA video it was good to see so many people come together to make this happen.”

Keara Blue, a senior psychology major, said when it came to filming the public service announcement she had to find a way to be neutral and serious when discussing this topic.

“What we’re doing here is a good thing,” she said. “I want the campus to see that.”

“What was great about this was that students from different organizations took part in making the PSA and helped with the cause,” Blue said.

However, the “It’s On Us” PSA is only one component of the bystander intervention program, she said. The Red Flag Campaign also ties into bystander intervention as well.

The VPAS peer educators answer students' questions

By Alex Palmieri

Melissa Kissi said she hopes students will gain knowledge about what it means to be a peer educator.

“I hope they find out how to also bring it to Southern,” said Kissi, sexual assault and violence prevention specialist.

Kissi said her goal is that all the events she hosts, students all gain something positive. She said she wants to get the VPAS name out there so more students are aware that they are there for them.

“Students who come may be looking to be involved or learning something new,” said Kissi. “Whatever the case is, I just hope they learned something positive.”

With the VPAS peer educators Event being casual, Kissi said she wants everyone to know they are the student’s peers and they are here for everyone. She said she does not want students to be hesitant to ask them any questions they want.

“It is a fun group as well,” said Kissi. “Of course we talk about serious topics but we are just like you; we wanted to make this more casual.”

During the event, there was a basket filled with questions being passed out by the peers and students who attended. The questions were very general. It was a way for everyone to connect on a casual level.

Savanna Polica, a freshman elementary education major, said she has been to VPAS seminars before as well and she

has enjoyed them. Polica said the VPAS group is very polite and she wanted to get to know them more.

“They’re just a cool group,” said Polica.

Doralis Cebalos, a freshman nursing major, said she came to the event because she went to a lot of VPAS meetings before. She said it is a group of people who genuinely care about the community and about Southern being safe.

“It’s a very safe environment,” said Cebalos. “They’re a super nice group of people; we always come to their events.”

Cebalos said this event was causal and it was nice to get to know other people. There were peers of the VPAS staff along with a few other people that attended. Cebalos said if there were other events hosted by VPAS along campus, she would attend.

“I like the group,” said Cebalos. “Hopefully one day I can be a part of it too. I like what they promote; it’s a safe environment, it’s things like that, and getting to know what to do in certain situations.”

Cody Peters, a senior public health major, said she has not been involved with VPAS previous to the spring semester but when she was in search for public health internship opportunities, she said the VPAS internship was a step in the right direction.

“I got it and I was very excited to start interning here,” said Peters.

Peters said she hopes the seminar lets students know that there are resources all



Melissa Kissi (center) and the VPAS peer educators

PHOTO | ALEX PAMIERI

over campus that they can reach out to.

“This is a source on campus that students can reach out to, so if you live on campus, it is easily accessible,” said Peters. “They’re so nice; they’re so caring;

they really want to help you with your issues or whatever else you might be going through.”

CT legislators consider legalization of marijuana

By Natalie Accardi

Legislation that would make recreational marijuana in Connecticut legal was proposed to the General Law Committee on Jan. 9.

Political science professor Jonathan Wharton said Connecticut is terribly righteous, commenting on House Bill 5314, which would allow people who are 21 years of age and older to purchase and grow marijuana.

“Supposedly we’re liberal, but then we’re like ‘not in my backyard’ kind of thing,” Wharton said. He is a member of SCSU’s Faculty Senate as well as the chairman of the New Haven Republicans.

Democratic Sen. Martin Looney of Connecticut proposed HB 5314 despite opposition, which included democrats. On Dec. 15, 2016, Democratic Gov. Dannel Malloy said to Hartford Courant reporters that he does not approve of legalizing recreational use of marijuana.

Wharton said another issue that arises with the legalization of recreational marijuana is the conflict between state and federal laws. He said dispensaries cannot open bank accounts because the federal law prohibits banks and credit unions from taking money made from selling marijuana, according to Wharton.

“You have competing levels of government going against each other here. Is it

the federal government’s responsibility to enforce? Is it the state government now who wants to collect the sales income tax and deal with the banking provisions?” Wharton said.

Wharton said the state government would benefit fiscally from legalizing recreational marijuana.

“It would be a ‘cash cow’ for the state because they can raise more revenue especially considering the budget short falls,” Wharton said.

Connecticut has a \$1.3 billion budget deficit, according to the Office of Policy Management.

SCSU economics professor and MBA director Samuel Kojo Andoh said that if recreational marijuana is legalized, the government could levy a tax like it does for alcohol.

“[What is] equally important is the fact that if it’s legal and it’s sold openly, whatever criminal activities are attached to the purchase and sale of it will diminish because the competition will drive its prices down,” Andoh said.

According to Jerome Avorn, a professor of medicine at Harvard Medical School, the serious risk that comes with using marijuana is the behavior people engage in afterwards such as driving. Proponents of recreational usage of marijuana say that no deaths have been recorded due to overdosing on marijuana, which is confirmed by the U.S. Drug Enforcement

Administration.

Zachariah Pappas-Fernandes, a 24-year-old Stratford resident, uses medicinal marijuana to alleviate the pain from neck and spinal cord injuries he sustained from a car accident in October of 2011. Pappas-Fernandes said he takes a lot of different medications to manage his muscle spasms, arthritis, nerve pain and paralysis in the lower body and extremities.

“Luckily, because of marijuana I was able to get off some of them. I used to be on a fentanyl patch for pain, which is an opiate,” Pappas-Fernandes said.

According to the DEA, opiates are extremely addictive. Pappas-Fernandes obtained a medical marijuana card in the summer of 2015.

Victoria Jacobs, a senior psychology major, said marijuana should be legalized because it is not harmful.

“It might help people because a lot of people have anxiety and things like that ... I have anxiety so that would help me if I could just smoke,” Jacobs said.

Rebecca Lance, a senior exercise science major, said she thinks it should be legalized and that no matter how the government tries to regulate it, people will find loopholes.

“There is a loophole for everything, almost like cable. You could get a fire stick and jailbreak it and get all the channels and anything you want to watch rather

than paying \$300 a month for unlimited channels,” Lance said.

Alexis Villa, a junior communications major, said that it does not make sense for something as minor as marijuana to be illegal and he uses what Colombia’s President Juan Manuel Santos said in his Nobel Peace Prize acceptance speech in 2016 as an example.

“Columbia is a country that’s been plagued with drug problems for a really long time now. In his Nobel Prize acceptance speech, he [Santos] talked about how countries should end this war on drugs for marijuana and other low damage substance because you’re basically jailing peasants and people who are committing very minor offenses for things that don’t ruin lives,” Villa said.

Kennedy List, a senior nursing major, said she thinks marijuana should be legalized because it is not harmful and with the government regulating it, there would be a small occurrence of people tampering with marijuana and lacing it with other drugs.

List said, “To me, it [marijuana] is equivalent to alcohol. If not, it’s probably better to use than alcohol. I don’t like how people get huge sentences and are seen badly for a choice they make, which to me, I don’t think it’s a bad choice. I think it’s just like if someone were to pick up a beer and drink it.”

Students want feedback on finals

By Alex Palmieri

It is up to the student to email the professor to see what they got on their final exam, said John Paul Deveglia.

“If a student really is that concerned, they will make an effort, to see what they got on that exam,” said Deveglia, senior biology major.

He said there is not any particular reason on why teachers do not give final exams back but he did say they have a timeframe of when grades are due by and it is passed the end of the semester. Deveglia added it would be a lot of work for teachers to notify students of their final exam grade.

“Teachers can email every student, which is more work for the professor,” said Deveglia. “Or the student can take it upon themselves to email the professor because not every student wants to know.”

Deveglia said there was an instance where he wanted to know what he received on his final test. He ended up emailing his professor and he was more than willing to let him know what he got on his final and his final grade for the class.

Erin Larkin, Italian professor, said she does not distribute final test grades, but she would go over the test in person with a student if a student asked.

“If you would like to know your final grade or a final project, I would be happy to meet with you to go over the final exam.”

Frank Caraglio, a senior recreation and leisure studies major with a concentration in community

and youth development, said most assignments he did toward the end of the semester, he did get grades for. But for other assignments he did not get back, he said he knew he passed the class.

“I would still like to see them too,” said Caraglio. “It would be nice.”

Caraglio said all professors should be able to show students all final exams and final presentations no matter what.

“I feel like they just should,” said Caraglio. “I shouldn’t have to go out of my way and ask for it.”

Paul R. Petrie, English professor at SCSU, said at the end of the semester, grades are distributed a little bit differently. He said the syllabus should map out an outline for students so they know what to expect.

“Anything that said it is going to get a grade,” said Petrie, “I can’t imagine why a student wouldn’t get that grade.”

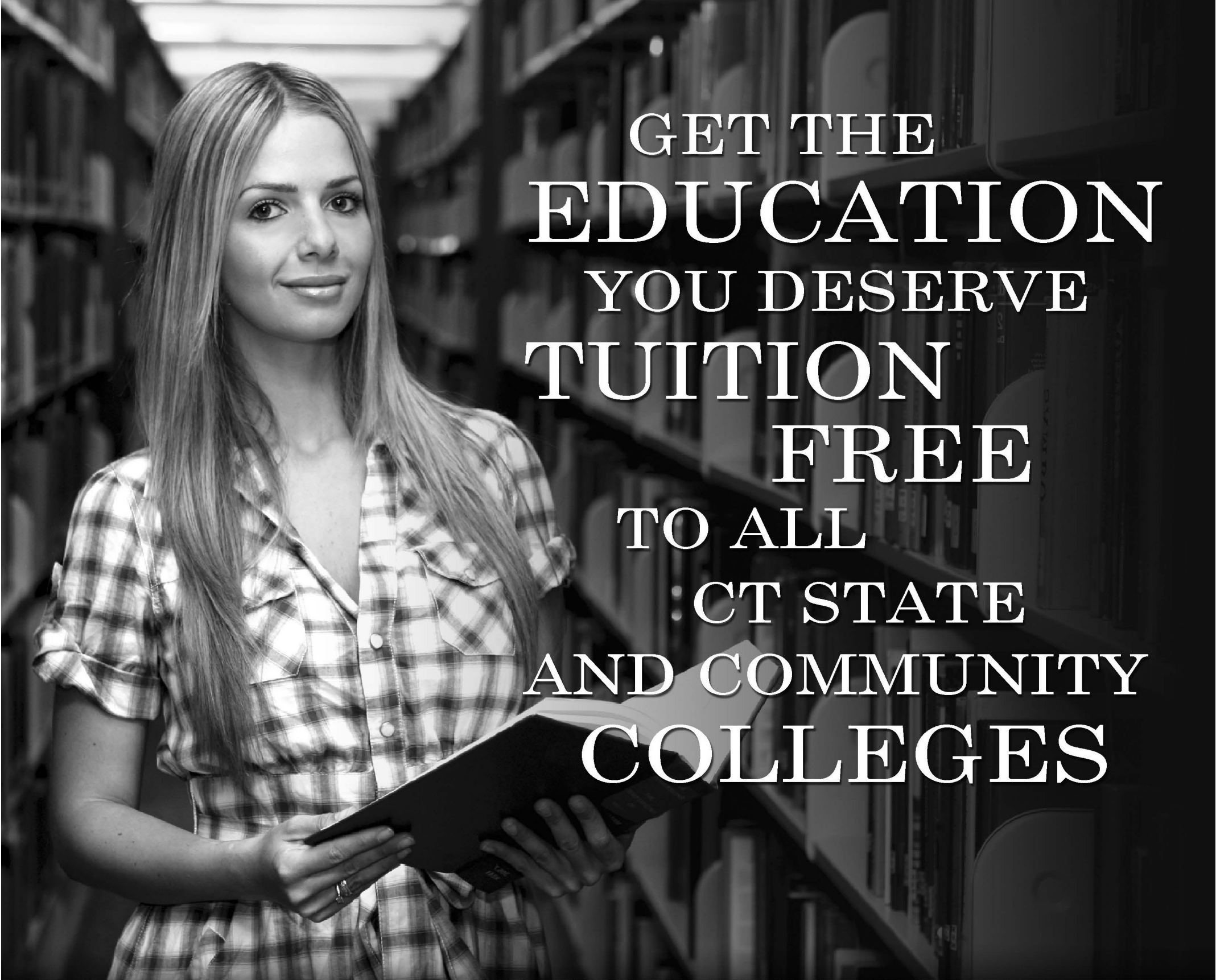
At the end of the semester, Petrie said a lot of students will hand in their final paper, and then disappear. He said he does not have the option of handing something back to them. If that is the case, Petrie said he does not give things back to people. Instead, Petrie will post the grade.

“What I usually do,” said Petrie, “if students are at the end of the semester, and they want to get their last pieces of work, I will do that. If you want to talk to me about your final essay and what happened, we will meet up at the beginning of the next semester and we will talk about it.”

Want to join the team?

The Southern News is looking to fill a General Assignment Reporter position.

Interested parties should contact Josh Falcone at joshuafalcone81@gmail.com before Jan. 30.



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Stick to those New Year’s resolutions

By Melissa Nunez

As February nears and the semester picks up, students and faculty may have trouble holding on to the commitments they made to themselves when the ball dropped. According to a study from the University of Scranton in 2002, 92 percent of those who make resolutions, abandon them by the end of the new year. So why does the overwhelming majority break their new year commitments?

The Statistic Brain Research Institute determined that losing weight trended the highest among 2017 resolutions at over 21 percent, self improvement followed at over 12 percent percent, and improving personal finances at 8 percent. Resolutions like these tend to be positive and aimed at improving one’s overall life and productivity but they can become overwhelming once the year presses on. We visualize our best selves in the beginning year but then find the resolutions to be intrusive in other aspects of our lives by the end of it.

While 41 percent continue to trust in their new year resolutions, 42 percent have decided to do away with the practice altogether, according to the Statistic Brain Research Institute. Some believe that time is relative, so a goal is a goal regardless on whether it was made at the start of the year or midway. I tend to agree, but who is to say a new year’s resolution should be any less viable because they are made yearly? Perhaps it is healthy to make a yearly commitment to overall improvement or self care.

Regardless, whether or not you have let your goals fall by the wayside, the commitment to bettering yourself is something you can return to.

Make sure these goals are realistic. Setting the bar too high can become discouraging and will definitely knock you off track the longer you try to accomplish it. But do not shy away from the challenge completely, vow that this will be the year you chip away at it.

Making lists help to keep you organized and focused on your commitments. Set reminders, write down your accomplishments, create a schedule. Make sure your new goals do not intrude on your responsibilities but rather become aligned with them.

Share your goals with your friends and ask for support if and when you need it. Tell each other where you see yourselves and each other by the end of the year and motivate each other to stay committed. It may seem embarrassing or even foolish, but talking about your goals helps you visualise and stick to them.

Lastly, recognize that failure will be a stepping stone to success. To those who accomplished their goals without ever knowing defeat, more power to you, but I am pretty sure us regular mortals have felt the discouraging sting of failure every now and again. Step one is try and fail. Step two is to get up.



PHOTO COURTESY | MARC NOZELL

Looking back on Barack Obama

While Adrianna Rochester was not old enough to vote during both of Barack Obama’s presidential campaigns, she feels as though his terms have left a lasting, positive impression.

By Adrianna Rochester

Hope and optimism are two words one can use to describe Barack Obama’s presidency. Even though I was not old enough to vote for Obama during either of his terms, his journey in the White House was one I watched closely.

The single most undeniable aspect to Obama’s legacy is that he showed a black man can in fact be the president of the United States. Such a fact will carry on throughout American textbook history. He became a symbol of hope and inspiration.

The first few years of his presidency were spent getting the nation out of the hole our former president left the country in, all while facing opposing forces from congress. This is one factor some Americans seem to forget.

He brought stability back to the economy, job markets, opened the country to Cuba again, ran a scandal free administration and more. Even though there is much more work that

still needs to be done, the nation is in a better place now economically compared to when Obama first took office.

Did Obama fail? No, the general public failed.. We needed a leader like him to run the country, but we were not ready for a president like Obama because many of the changes he tried to bring forth were pushed back and openly denied, even after he delivered Osama Bin Laden to the people.

It seems to me that for some time he was judged more on his failures rather than his accomplishments. However, in his farewell speech Obama admitted that more work is to be done. The need for change does not end with his presidency, but at the same time recognize the changes he did bring and admit he did the best he could do despite the odds. Looking back now, if I was able to cast a vote I would have voted for him, both times.

One word can describe Obama’s exit: bittersweet. It is bitter because there is so much more he has the potential to accomplish as the

president. Also, because there is not anyone I feel confident enough in to take lead.

At the same time, him stepping down is a good thing because running the country is a responsibility that can be too great for any person. He invested eight years into running the country, while still raising a family. We the people are privileged to have the privacy of our families, he was not. Though being in the spotlight comes with the position—after being in the public eye for such an extended period of time—privacy is one liberty he of all Americans deserve.

Obama ran the office with a sense of peace, humility and grace. Those qualities followed him and his family throughout their stay in the White House and touched so many lives in the process. He constantly reminded us that yes, he is the president, but he is also a man, a husband, a father, and most importantly, a human being. He embodied all of it without compromising the country or himself.

Press relations with the White house

By Lynandro Simmons

Donald Trump has been in the news for many things – allegations, controversial statements, winning the presidential election – but now it appears he wants to limit those reporting on him. Recently the newly elected president stated his dislike for the press and the false narratives he believes the press creates. Trump has not only stated his personal dislike of the press, but he has also gone as far as to vilify reporters.

Disliking the media is a personal opinion that many people hold and that is their right. However, it is important to understand the dangerous rhetoric Trump is using. He is the country’s newly elected leader and as such he will hold the highest office. A man with such a

position should understand why the freedom of the press is important despite his own feelings.

One of the most important aspects of the press being free is that it allows reporters and media organizations to attempt to remain objective in the fields they cover.

Trump, however, wants to allow access to the White House for only the reporters he deems worthy. This can create a conflict of interest for many reporters because just getting in will be a battle of favoritism and those who justly criticize Trump will be pushed out.

The relationship between the media and government officials is never supposed to be based on privileges. It is the media’s job above all else to be the watchdog of what is going on in the government.

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SOUTHERN NEWS

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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.

Ask Adelle from the Wellness Center

By Adelle Zocher

Greetings SCSU students from here in Schwartz Hall! My name is Adelle Zocher (no Grammys yet, but at least I've got the double 'L') and I am one of the undergraduate interns here in the Wellness Center. Our mission is to provide a safe space that fosters a healthy, inclusive and connected community. Our programs and partnerships on campus strive to provide you- the students, with tools that will allow you to become more knowledgeable and aware of positive health behaviors in order to enhance your lives as students, and as humans. My weekly columns will be based off of the CDC's(Center for Disease Control and Prevention) five "P's" of sexual health: partners, practices, protection from STDs, past history of STDs, prevention of pregnancy.

We will explore these facets of human sexuality, centered around fostering confidence and competence in communicating about sex, and STD testing-- We are here to answer your questions! Ask away!

As humans we are all uniquely sexual beings. We each define our sexuality in very different ways-- how you identify, whether you have sex or not, whether you are with a single partner or multiple partners, it is a personal choice and a personal right to express yourself in whatever way feels most comfortable to

you. We find common ground among the almost limitless spectrum of sexual expression in the need for accountability, shared responsibility, and open communication among partners.

Think of our sexual health care as an extension of our primary care- we routinely see our physician for a checkup, we get blood work, we visit the dentist. All of these are crucial for identifying, stopping, and/or slowing the progression of a disease. There is a taboo around the discussion of sexual health, particularly in regards to getting tested and communicating the desire/need for your partner to be tested. My goal is to provide you, my readers, with as many strategies as I can to facilitate communication between you and your partner(s) about the importance of getting tested. The stigma surrounding STDs is a major roadblock to overall health. As you would communicate with your partner that you have, say, strep throat, you should feel comfortable disclosing your sexual health status.

One of the best parts about honesty and open communication about STD testing and status is it facilitates intimacy-- not having to fret about your status or your partner's removes the stress and anxiety of uncertainty. Be proactive,

We offer a variety of resources here in the Wellness Center and across campus that aim to improve your sexual health, which translates into better health overall.



PHOTO | PALMER PIANA

Get Yourself Tested in the Granoff Hall Health Center offers free, quick and confidential STD testing on February 14th, April 22nd, and March 26th. On April 22nd will also offer HIV testing and special information on Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis for HIV (PrEP). Every Wednesday from 12-2 in the Engلمان rotunda or the Adanti Center, we will have our Wellness Wednesday table set up, please stop by for some information and giveaways! You can visit our Facebook page to learn about upcoming events on campus, and check out our Instagram, [scsu_wellness](#).

I hope you will use me as a resource--

I am an ally, a safe place to come for questions and advice, always confidentially. My job is to take your questions and concerns and provide comprehensive advice to improve your health and well-being. Feel free to drop by the wellness center to say hello, grab some protection products and other goodies, or contact me via email (zocheral@southernct.edu). At our various weekly programs, there will be a box for anonymous questions, which I will do my best to answer in upcoming columns-- I want to hear from YOU! Thank you for reading!

Donald Trump versus John Lewis

By Adrianna Rochester

There is apparently no depth too low for Donald Trump to sink when it comes to his unprecedented attacks towards anyone who challenges him.

Reactions have been strong towards President Trump's unflattering comments in a recent twitter burst about Rep. John Lewis, when he said he would not be attending Trump's inauguration because he did not consider Trump to be a "legitimate" president for the country and cited Russian interference in the elections. Lewis is not the only American who refuses to take part in the inauguration.

Once again, Trump took his aggravation to Twitter in a series of tweets where he claimed Lewis should spend more time fixing his district, which is "falling apart." In his tweets, Trump also said Lewis is a man that is all talk and no action.

Now the beautiful thing about our country is that we all have the First Amendment right to express ourselves and our grievances, which essentially both parties were doing.

However, even though I agree with Lewis, now that Trump is going into office he needs to focus more on his duties as a president instead of lashing out on social media at everyone who shares their opinion of him. Trump needs to recognize that not every comment that is made by a person calls for a response.

He is already entering the office with historically low



PHOTO COURTESY | FREEDOM TO MARRY

approval ratings. About 52 percent of the American people disapprove of the way the president has handled his transition and preparations into the White House, according to NBC news.

After the campaign Trump ran, people are going to continue to express their displeasure in him as our president. But attacking Lewis, who has marched for civil rights, was arrested numerous times due to his relentless activism,

helped gain voting rights for millions of Americans and continues to use his position as a congressman to better the lives of the people in his district, does not help Trump's popularity with the American people at all. In fact, attacking or even calling Lewis "all talk and no action" only adds fuel to fire that was unnecessary in the first place.

Trump should start picking his battles more wisely because Lewis is in fact a man of action, while Trump has shown he is all talk. Such talk is causing more and more individuals to take part in boycotting his inauguration. I do not think he knows enough about America or America's history to deliberately target one of the nation's civil rights heroes.

Lewis, along with other democrats and citizens are exercising their right to protest by not attending the inauguration altogether. Since the Twitter storm involving Lewis and Trump, it seems to me that more people are siding with Lewis and they, too, are following suit to protest, whether that means purposely missing the swearing in or to use the platform as a way to protest peacefully.

Nonetheless, the focus of the media and the American people needs to not be on Trump's tweets, but should be focused on bringing the country together again because if there was one thing Trump's campaign did it was show just how unequal and divided the nation is.

press relations

SEE PAGE 4

The reason a free press was ensured in the First Amendment was because of how important the role a press plays in a democracy. The press is often nicknamed the fourth estate due to this grand importance in the scheme of the government. If the legislative creates the laws, the judicial evaluates the laws, and the executive carries them out, then the press watches over all three branches. Knowing someone is watching helps to ensure that people will at least be hesitant to attempt illegal activities.

A free press also allows for the general public to formulate their own reactions to events instead of relying on what the government tells the public. This is why an independent and free press is a vital component to a democratic society.

With the rise of the Internet it is true that now more than ever fake news has become a larger issue, but that should not lead to the press losing its freedom. During his campaign, Trump continually spouted about fake news despite not fully understanding the complex issue the Internet has created. He has also talked about how he wants to change how libel laws are handled in relation to public figures. For public figures it is more difficult to win a libel case due to the many stipulations that must be proven first. Changing the libel laws would cause a dramatic shift in the culture of journalism.

Once again Trump not liking reporters is his own personal right, but viewing the press as some fictional opposition party is dangerous. Yes, the press can do a much better job and no, Trump does not have to like every reporter. However, restricting the press in any way will set a dangerous precedent for the future of America.

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A border wall will prove to be impractical

By Lynandro Simmons

One of the main components of the platform president Donald Trump ran on is the idea of building a wall along the US-Mexico border. While some have found this to be offensive, others believe this to be a suitable position. The climate surrounding what some believe is an immigration problem in America has become very divisive.

Now, to say that there is not a population of unauthorized immigrants in America would be incorrect. Also, the large majority of unauthorized immigrants do come from one country in particular- Mexico. "Unauthorized Immigrant Population Trends for States," a Pew Research Center study, said Mexicans made up 52 percent of all unauthorized immigrants in 2014. However, these numbers also fail to point out a more significant trend - these numbers were on the decline. In 2014 there were 5.8 million unauthorized Mexican immigrants living in America, down from the 6.4 million in 2009 according to the same study.

This gradual decline should be noted because for a variety of reasons the threat of immigration from

Mexico has become lower. After 2009 you start to see a slow but gradual decline in illegal immigration. One of the reasons for this gradual decline is the economic crisis of 2008 at the beginning of Obama's presidency. The first type of jobs to go in this crisis were many of the low-wage earning jobs in the construction sector that required minimal education. This disproportionately affected immigrants from Mexico and unfortunately - or fortunately depending where one stands - that meant the opportunities many Mexican-immigrants came to America for disappeared. While there was not a mass migration back to Mexico due to the economic crisis, it did contribute to a gradual decline in illegal immigrants.

The slowed economy served as a deterrent to immigrants looking to America for economic opportunities. Also it is important to note the economic crisis itself interrupted what had been a growing trend of high immigration levels - legal and illegal.

The next important thing to note about what Trump claims to be a problem in America is the fact Obama was already handling this issue. "Deportations by U.S. Department of Homeland Security," a Pew Research Center study, said a total of 2.4 million unauthorized immigrants were deported under Obama's administration from 2009 to 2014. This also included a record number of 435,000 in 2013. There has been a decrease in deportations due to

Obama's administration in their final years focusing on those who have been convicted of a crime and those who have recently crossed the border.

Also creating a wall is not so easily accomplished. The US-Mexico border, which stretches 1,900 miles from the coast of California to the southern tip of Texas. There are parts of the border's terrain that are too hilly to build a wall there, which means a wall would have to be combined with additional manpower.

Wall or no wall, the issue of immigration was already on its way to becoming a more manageable situation. It would be best for the calls to build a wall to stop. Yes a wall may help to an extent, but it is a limited solution at best and severely impractical at worst.



PHOTO COURTESY | TONY WEBSTER

The international border between Mexico and Imperial Beach in San Diego.

OLAS puts on a Latin Dance Night for the Week of Welcome

By Emily Plavcan

The sounds of Latin music filled the ballroom of the Michael J. Adanti Student Center last Wednesday night. During the Week Of Welcome, the organization OLAS (Organization of Latin American Students) held a Latin Dance Night in the Ballroom of the Student Center. They had the owner of the “House of Salsa” from here in New Haven, Alisa Bowens, come to teach different kinds of Latin dances to any that attended the event.

Leslie Garcia, a sophomore psychology major, is a member of OLAS and said, “The reason I joined OLAS was the first Salsa night they held my freshman year first semester.”

During the event, the instructor

was teaching different kinds of dances through the night and people were up from their seat learning and trying them out.

Lexi Comeau, a junior business major, said that she went to the Latin Moves Week of Welcome event to support her roommates who are members of OLAS.

Comeau says about the event, “It was interesting watching everyone learn how to dance and the food was good.”

OLAS’ mission, which can be found on Southern’s website, states, “The Organization of Latin American Students (OLAS) is a group of students who have united to raise Latino awareness on campus, and try to find solutions to the needs and problems of our Latino students. We are committed to the preservation of our Latino cultural

heritage by devoting ourselves to the enhancement and creation of relevant classes, programs and events which will stimulate our identity and cultural roots. We, as students of Latino heritage, are an extension of our people’s struggles for advancement and self-determination. Therefore, we will express our commitment to the recruitment of Latino students and continue to relate and work with the Latino community of the New Haven Metropolitan Area.”

Garcia says that, with being a member, she looks forward to the socials that OLAS has and she enjoys everyone coming together. She also looks forward to other things they do as a group, such as movie nights and big dinners all together.

Christina Batista, a junior biology major, who is also a member of OLAS

says that they normally have an event like this during every Week of Welcome. Batista also says that they have events like this through the school year such as, Noche De Gala, which is held in the first semester of the school year, normally held in October.

Batista says that they had a bigger turnout of people show up for this event last year, they were expecting more people to show up, “I think we’ve had more successful events but I wouldn’t say it was unsuccessful.”

Garcia says that OLAS tries to make everyone feel welcome and comfortable at their events. She says, “We all have a good time. We try to make everyone comfortable and try to get people to participate.”



PHOTO | COURTESY OF METHODSHOP

Retro revival: 90s T.V. shows are now back from the grave

By Sherly Montes

Revivals of 90s favorite T.V. shows have been popping up on Netflix and cable since summer of 2014, with the sequel of the hit show “Boy Meets World,” “Girl Meets World.”

The Disney Channel show is based on Cory and Topanga Matthews raising their teenage daughter, Riley Matthews, in New York City as she faces tough and life changing experiences that allow her to experience the world outside of her comfort zone.

The show focuses heavily on Riley and her friends and important issues that kids today are facing, much how its predecessor “Boy Meets World” dealt with

issues that kids in the 90s were going through.

Overall, the show did well when it originally aired, with an audience of 5.2 million viewers for just the first episode alone and critics gave it a B rating, according to TVLine.

Unfortunately, the show was cancelled this past weekend after running for 3 seasons due to a lack of high enough viewer ratings. Fans of the show have blamed this mostly on the fact that the show was on the Disney Channel, as opposed to more liberal channels such as FreeForm or even Netflix.

Another revival that aired last year was the sequel to “Full House,” “Fuller House.”

The Netflix show follows DJ Tanner-Fuller, Stephanie Tanner, and Kimmy Gibbler as they all live

in their childhood home, helping DJ raise her three sons after her husband’s sudden death doing his job as a firefighter.

“Fuller House” currently has two full seasons out on Netflix, both consisting of 13 episodes each.

According to Fox News, “Fuller House” had ratings of 7.33 million viewers for its first season and ratings dropped to 3.32 for the premiere of season two. However, the Netflix original show has been renewed for a third season and a date has yet to be set for the release.

Another show, the latest to be revived, is “Gilmore Girls.”

The mini-series, airing on Netflix, is called, “Gilmore Girls: A Year in the Life.” The first season consists of only four episodes and follows Rory and Lorelai as they

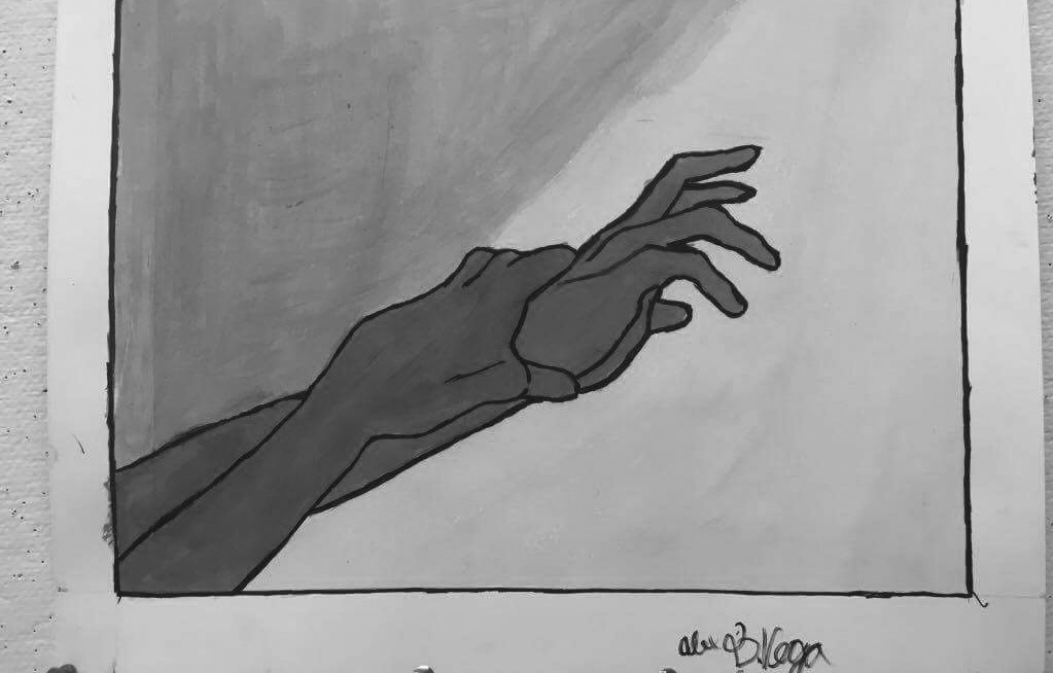
navigate through new chapters in their lives.

So far, the series has done very well and the viewer average for the four episodes was 4.97 million, according to the Variety magazine website.

Overall, these revived T.V. shows have been successful in their comebacks and it is mainly due to the fact that nostalgia plays a factor for those who grew up watching these shows, as well as the fact that those who have children may want them to experience the same kind of show that they watched when they were younger.

As two of these three shows will continue to produce episodes, it will be up to viewers to determine how good the shows are and how long they will last.

Student art of the week: Alexander Vega



Alexander Vega, a sophomore studio art major.

PHOTO | DYLAN HAVILAND

“Art is a form of expressing oneself and getting their own ideas across to others.”



PHOTO COURTESY | MONELLE CHITI

The XX performing at the Alcatraz in Milan, Italy in 2010.

Album review of The XX’s third studio album ‘I See You’

By Gregory Gagliardi

There is a playlist on Spotify titled, “The XX in the Studio.” The playlist is a selection of tracks The XX were listening to while recording their third album, “I See You”. Frank Ocean, David Bowie, Drake, Nina Simone and others are listed on the playlist. With a vast array of music, The XX used these influences among others to create a bold, vibrant, headrushing cacophony of sounds that blend together to near perfection.

The album begins with the song “Dangerous,” a groovy dance track filled with horns and electronic samples. Producer Jamie XX gives vocalists Oliver Sim and Romy Madley Croft a template to sing haunting lyrics such as, “Let them say they are warning signs, they must

be blind.” On the record, one track gives a direct line of caution and exclaim. The following songs take this template and go in many directions.

“Say Something Loving,” the following track is another track in which Jamie XX shines. Jamie XX, the producer of the group, spent the four-year period between the group’s last record “Coexist” to become a star. His magnificent debut album “In Colour” made him an in-demand DJ who proved meshing sound is his forte. But Jamie XX didn’t run from The XX, he simply evolved. Throughout this album his sampling is everywhere. On the standout track, “On Hold” Jamie takes a sample from “Hall and Oates” pulses it with a head rushing bassline and lets Sim and Croft deliver.

Both Sim and Croft did everything and more on this album. Each lyricist does not just sing, but as questions. On “On Hold”, Sim asks, “I think you’re too soon to call us old, when and where did we go cold? I thought I had you on hold.”

As if “On Hold” did not get you on your feet the following track “I Dare You” will put in you a dreamlike sequence floating you in and out of ecstasy as you drift through the brisk winter air in search of a fireplace to bundle up next to. “I Dare You” is The XX trapping themselves in their sounds, and being as simple as possible. The beat is simple, a progressive electronic pattern that lets Madley Croft belt my favorite lyrics, “I’ve been a romantic for so long. All I’ve ever head are love songs.” Her pre-chorus gives weight to the chorus in

which both singer come together for a ride through London as we enter each night-club looking for a floor to call home.

This album is the group’s first record in four years. There was, rightfully so a lot of anticipation behind this record. The XX directly or indirectly, only they know the true answer followed this technique. This album gives us a new sound that is not clumsily lumped together. It is spaced out, performed with ease, and above done on their time. This is an album by The XX for The XX, and for people who can appreciate a group not being held back by previous pressure from worldwide success.



PHOTO COURTESY | ERIC G.

Movie review of Denzel Washington’s latest film ‘Fences’

By Lynandro Simmons

“Fences” is a film based on the 1983 play of the same name. The main character in the film is Troy Maxson who is played by Denzel Washington. “Fences” takes an introspective look on the life of an African-American family post segregation.

When the film begins we are introduced to Troy and his closest friend Bono. They both work for a sanitation company and spend their days riding the back of garbage trucks. Troy lives with his wife Rose – played by Viola Davis – and his son Cory. This tight knit family also includes Troy’s brother Gabe, a mentally impaired man who never recovered from an injury sustained in World War II. While Gabe’s role in this film is minimal in comparison to his brother, he provides an almost eerie insight to Troy’s own internal conflicts. “Let’s get ready for judgement,” Gabe shouts as he walks off screen after first being introduced.

This is a film driven by the dialogue of the characters. In fact, within the first scene the conversation between Troy, his wife Rose, and Bono gives the audience a summary of all the characters the film will show.

Troy is a conflicted man, Bono is trying to be Troy’s positive influence, and Rose is a woman who wants Troy to open up. Throughout the film, Troy’s dialogue presents a man of conflicting ideals and solemnly coming to grips with his position in the world. Listening to Troy talk is like listening to a man trying convince himself. He angrily lashes out at his son’s dreams of being an NFL player pointing to himself as an example of what dreams get. Troy asserts he was unable to get into the Major leagues because of the color of his skin. However, his wife points out his advanced age as being the reason.

“Fences” is a film that doubles as a tough pill to digest. The film presents the question “What about me?” This question not only permeates Troy, but his son and his wife. Rose ponders this question when she finds out Troy is cheating and brings home a daughter out of wedlock. Cory wonders how his father can be intrusive on his own dreams and ambitions. This leads to a dysfunctional family with Rose being the center-piece trying to hold it together.

Early in the film the audience sees Troy working on his fence. Interestingly enough the meaning of the fence changes throughout the film. When Troy is building the fence he gives it the feeling of being a prison – keeping him locked in and death locked out.

From Rose’s point of view the fence represents a protective space to keep her family together. In Cory’s eyes the fence appears as a prison locking him into his father’s goals and shutting out his dreams. The most impactful moment in the film is when the fence’s meaning to Rose changes in the climax. After finding out about Troy’s illegitimate child she clutches the fence as if finally realizing it has become her own prison.

“Fences” ended somberly. Troy passes away and leaves Rose to raise his daughter while Cory joins the Marines. The question asked in the film never appears to be answered completely. Instead it seems to show a pragmatic way of viewing life. The family comes to grips with understanding nothing revolves around one person.



As part of the Week of Welcome university events, Elliot Zimet, the ‘Master Illusionist’ which attracted both students and outside citizens to campus.

PHOTO | DYLAN HAVILAND

Illusionist, Elliot Zimet, puts on a fun performance in Lyman

By Emily Plavcan

Magic and illusions took place right in front Southern’s eyes on Friday night when Elliott Zimet “Master Illusionist” visited the Lyman Center for a night of fun and unbelievable things.

The show was an event for the Week of Welcome. Before the show, the Lyman Center’s lobby filled up with students and outside citizens coming to see this show. Rachel Martineau, a sophomore communications disorder major, said she was excited for the show. “I heard of him through Week of Welcome, it seemed like a unique type of show,” she said.

The show consisted of a bunch of tricks that blew the audience away. He did tricks that consisted of birds appearing out of nowhere, guessing a card a audience member picked that he never saw, using a spinning wheel to make it seem as though his head was shrinking and growing in size.

He, with the help of an audience member, made a table levitate. This audience member was Annie Kaczmarczyk, a junior nursing major. Kaczmarczyk said her time on stage was a little frightening. “It was scary at first. I was trying to see what he was doing,” said Kaczmarczyk.

Zimet was on “America’s Got Talent” for his illusions. On his website, ElliotZimet.com, it says a little bit about him and how he began his journey with magic: “When Elliot saw his first magic show at the age of nine, he knew that magic was to be his life.”

More of Zimet’s tricks included taking one bird and ripping it apart to create two birds and asking people to say their favorite or lucky numbers, and somehow those numbers were all on a lotto ticket sitting in a box on the stage. Zimet was continuously asking for audience members to help with his tricks and it became competitive at times to see who might get to the stage first to be able to help him.

There was one portion of his show where he had an audience member get on the stage and aim a loaded paintball gun at his mouth. He claimed that he could catch it with his mouth. He successfully caught the paintball with his mouth.

He had a camera follow him for some of his tricks that projected onto a big screen so everyone could see the smaller tricks that he did, such as making a coin someone had, bend.

Urfa Kadeer, a junior english major, said that the camera helped when she could not see, “It was cool when he came into the audience and used the camera.”



PHOTO | DYLAN HAVILAND

Illusionist Elliot Zimet performed at the Lyman Center on Friday, Jan. 20.

For his final trick of the night, Zimet took two of the doves that he had made appear earlier in the show, that he had left in a cage on the stage for the duration of the show, and made them disappear right before the audience’s eyes. All that was left was the sheet that he covered them with.

Magic filled the auditorium of the Lyman Center Friday night and it was because of the illusions of Elliott Zimet, “Master Illusionist.”

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Michael Mallory (#3) cuts through two defenders in Southern's 86-82 win over Franklin Pierce. Mallory leads the Owls in scoring with 23.1 PPG.

Mallory shines in win

SCSU's Michael Mallory had a team-high 24 points in the Owls 86-82 win over Franklin Pierce.

By Matt Gad

Saturday, two of the Northeast-10 conferences very best went head-to-head. And like normal, senior captain and guard Michael Mallory, Southern's all-time scoring leader, was on his game from the tip.

Mallory shined with 24 points, including five rebounds, 10 assists and a steal in 39 minutes of work. Per the final statistics, he was on the floor the longest, on both sides.

"I was happy we all came together," Mallory said. "We played a complete, hard fought 40 minutes. It was a very, very tough team - they're very

good on their side."

Off the bench, Joey Wallace was not afraid to leave his mark on Franklin Pierce, who entered the contest at 10-7, with a 7-4 conference record. The sophomore recorded 17 points in 34 minutes for the Owls, shooting 50 percent (5-10 field goals).

"I was happy we all came together."

— Michael Mallory, senior guard

Wallace was also 2-4 from three-point range and 5-6 at the line. He played 34 minutes and was just one of many Owls active on the

glass.

In total, Southern scored 31 off the bench, compared to 16 from Franklin Pierce. The Owls outscored the opposition 46-42 in the second half after going into halftime 40 apiece.

Senior forward Austin Carter picked up eight defensive boards, and junior Jerry Lockett Jr. had seven -- six defensively and one on the offensive side of the ball. Carter also contributed with 16 points in 37 minutes of action.

When asked how his team performed, head coach Scott Burrell said he was glad the team got off their "little skid." Southern dropped their last two before Saturday's 86-82 victory, a 85-70

loss to Saint Asylum and then a 95-79 defeat at the hands of the University of Bridgeport.

Overall, the Owls are now 13-6, with a 9-3 mark in the NE-10. Ahead they face Assumption College in Worcester, Massachusetts on Jan. 24 and then are back home for Bentley on the 28th at 3:30 pm. Feb. 15 they will travel to take on their crosstown rival, the UNH Chargers, over in West Haven and will host the conference tournament beginning Feb. 24.

But there is work to be done before that, Burrell said. "Our goal is to win the rest of our games. We're not in a place where we can be comfortable." There's eight or nine

Jerry Lockett Jr. has emerged as a consistent scorer for the Owls



Jerry Lockett Jr. is second on the team in scoring as he averages 15.6 PPG.

By Phil Zoppi

Southern men's basketball needed to find a reliable scoring source to pair with Mike Mallory after the departure of Desmond Williams and they found that in junior transfer Jerry Lockett Jr.

Lockett Jr. has quickly made his presence known as one of the best players on the team as he is second on the team in scoring with 16.2 points per game and tied for first in rebounds per game with 7.9. The talented forward points to his height of six foot seven inches and big frame as the main reason for his success as an Owl so far.

"The best part of my offensive game is attacking the offensive glass and attacking the basket," said Lockett Jr. "Using my size and frame to get into the lane has seemed to be very successful for me this year."

Bringing in new players to a system that was already working is tough to do at any level of basketball. It even took LeBron James, Chris Bosh and Dwyane Wade a while to get familiar with each other's playing styles as the 2011 Miami Heat started off 9-8.

The Owls have not had to go through a rough transition, like the Heat, as they have started off hot with a 12-6 record. Michael Papale, the assistant men's basketball coach at Southern, has been really impressed with the way Lockett Jr. has integrated himself with the team.

SEE MENS BASKETBALL PAGE 11

SEE LOCKETT JR. PAGE 10



Crochet was named College Swimming's NE10 Conference Swimmer of the Week for her performance last weekend.

Crochet impressing in senior year

By Matt Gad

Katie Crochet was named the Northeast-10 Conference's Swimmer of the Week on Jan. 17. A multiple time honoree, Crochet, a senior, has had a successful season so far, recently placing first in multiple events in meets against Saint Rose and Le Moyne College.

"Katie's been training really well and doing what she needs to do to prepare herself to qualify for NCAAs," head coach Tim Quill said. "She was voted a captain by her peers so she has the respect of the entire program."

Quill noted that the men's swimming and diving team is part of the voting process for captains for the women's team, as well as the women voting for the men when they elect their respective captains.

Crochet is one of three captains on the women's team this season. While she has placed among the top finishers at numerous meets throughout her athletic career at Southern, Crochet pointed out that this season both the men's and women's swimmers have been "swimming to their best times."

Said Crochet: "I tend to set high expectations for myself. I expect to repeat as

conference champion in the 50 freestyle, 100 freestyle and 200 freestyle, and to be awarded the most outstanding performer at the conference meet later this year."

The Owls recently defeated UCONN, Storrs 119-159. In swimming, much like track and field and cross country, the lowest score wins. Crochet finished first in the 50-meter freestyle and participated in the winning 800 meter relay team with Megan Garner, Sydney Fromkin and Emily Wolfe. Their winning time was 8:15.2.

SEE CROCHET PAGE 11

Social media in sports

By Matt Gad

After Pittsburgh’s AFC Divisional win last week, wide receiver Antonio Brown said he was having an adrenaline rush. So much so he grabbed his phone and started streaming on Facebook Live. But that was not the only issue – he was streaming head coach Mike Tomlin’s locker room rant on how the Patriots had an extra day and a half rest after their win over Houston.

Pittsburgh’s game in Kansas City ended up being delayed due to an ice storm. The game, orig-

inally scheduled for last Sunday at 1 p.m., was pushed back until after the Cowboys-Packers showdown, with a kickoff around 8:15 p.m. Brown, who removed the livestream replay after backlash began, had not been live for too long, however, the impact was clearly felt.

Safe to say, Tomlin was really unhappy. Not only did it catch the head coach in the heat of the moment, but it was completely inappropriate to be putting locker room footage like that online for everyone to see.

Of course we see some of what goes on in the locker room when players are interviewed

for TV, but this was a moment that was not supposed to have gone public. It was not the time for AB to be livestreaming – not on gameday, and especially not right after a win. He was being careless. Thankfully, Brown apologized a few days later, but the mistake was already made.

And it brings us to the following question: in this new social media driven age, where does the line need to be drawn? Personally, I am an advocate for livestreaming and original content, however, it was not the place for Brown to be on his phone and broadcasting to all of his fans, and potentially, fellow

NFL players and coaches.

There should absolutely be no instance where a player is allowed to just randomly take out his phone to stream out to the world without any clearance. Also, Tomlin, in full rant mode, clearly had no immediate awareness of what was going on – how embarrassing. It sends a bad message to the organization, to Antonio Brown himself, to the league and to all of his fans watching on their end.



Southern gymnastics performing at high level



PHOTO | SOUTHERNCTOWLS.COM

By Matt Gad

It has been a good start to the gymnastics season, head coach Jerry Nelson said. There are eight freshmen on this year’s team, which is making everyone very optimistic about this year’s campaign.

The year started at Towson University on Jan. 7 where Southern fell, only scoring 187 points. The following week, on Jan. 15, in a meet with Westchester and SUNY-Cortland in New Haven, the Owls finished second, scoring 188.550 points.

Said Nelson: “We have a strong team who work and compete really hard. We’re going against a

lot of Division I teams so we’re in a hard league (for us) but the girls train really well and we think we compete well.”

Senior Abigail Bensley, one of the captains and a nursing major, said the team dynamic is much different this year than in the past due to the influx of freshmen spots.

Yet, she said everyone cheers for each other and gets along well. Last season Bensley scored a 9.35 on the uneven bars and a 9.8 in floor exercise, finishing sixth at the ECAC Championships. She had a 9.725 score in the floor exercise routine at the USAG Championships two weeks later, on April 8. She was also an ECAC All-Academic team selection and

a USAG Scholar Athlete.

Rotem Porat, a senior psychology major and the second of three captains, born in Tel Aviv, Israel, said, “The chemistry is really great.” She said the freshmen create a strong vibe on the team that really benefits everyone as a whole.

On Jan. 22, in New Hampshire, the team competed against Pittsburgh, New Hampshire, and Alexandra Avendano, the team’s junior captain, had the highest individual finish for Southern, placing fourth overall on the floor exercise at 9.75. The Owls finished third as a team.

Porat finished in seventh on the balance beam with a score of 9.55. Avendano was 10th, at 9.45. Junior

Kathleen Aberger, an exercise science major, also finished in the top 10 in her individual competition.

The team will face off against Yale University on Jan. 28 at 4 p.m. and at home against the University of Bridgeport on Feb. 4 at 1 p.m. Continuing their Division I schedule, the Owls will head to Providence, RI for a meet with Brown University on Feb. 12.

On Feb. 17, Southern will host Yale, Rhode Island College and Springfield at 5 p.m. That will be their home regular-season finale. Beyond that, there’s another dual meet in Philadelphia, PA with Westchester, Maryland, and Springfield College.

Head coach Jerry Nelson

is coaching his 13th year with Southern. He is also the chairman of the USA Gymnastics Collegiate Women’s Championship Committee. Nelson started in 2005 and was named National Coach of the Year in 2007. Southern has won three ECAC Championships during his tenure.

Linda Mullin, an assistant coach, was the 2010 Division II National Assistant Coach of the Year. 2017 marks her 12th season with the team. She graduated from Southern in 1993 and was an ECAC Assistant of the Year in 2008, 2014 and 2016.

Luckett Jr.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

“He’s meshed perfectly,” said Papale. “His game fits our style of play perfectly so that was an easy match. He is just a good overall person so there was never an issue with him being able to fit in with the rest of the guys.”

It is not just what Luckett Jr. is doing on the court that has impressed Papale. This past week Luckett Jr. was named to the Northeast-10 weekly honor roll for his performance on the court and in the classroom. Those smarts that Luckett Jr. displays in the classroom can also translate to the court according to Papale.

“Jerry has definitely evolved over the course of the year,” said Papale. “We work with him everyday on where to get his shots in our offense and how to take advantage of playing with the leading scorer in the conference, Mike Mallory. He has definitely improved his knowledge of the game over the course of the year. Off the court, Jerry excels in the classroom. He had a great first semester here at Southern and finished with a 3.7 GPA.”

The respect that Papale has for Luckett Jr. is mutual. Transferring to a new team with a new group of players and coaches can be nerve-racking for any player but Luckett Jr. has credited Papale as one of the people who made the transition really



PHOTO | SOUTHERNCTOWLS.COM

Jerry Luckett Jr. has proved to be an important piece for the men’s basketball team. His height, frame and athletic ability has helped him average 7.9 rebounds per game.

easy for him.

“Coach Papale has been awesome,” said Luckett Jr. “He’s been there for me from the jump. From helping with getting classes situated, on court action, and more, he has

been vital to my development here at Southern.”

The more Luckett Jr. plays with his still somewhat new teammates will only help the men’s basketball team. Having a reliable second scorer has helped Southern be able to

maintain a solid record and compete in the Northeast-10 conference. Luckett Jr. truly believes this team has no limit to what they could achieve this season.

“I believe this team has a lot of potential to be great,”

said Luckett Jr. “If we keep working hard and stay positive, with the talent that we have, there is no ceiling to what this team can accomplish and I’m blessed to be apart of it.”

Aaron Rodgers is the GOAT

By Phil Zoppi

Aaron Rodgers is the best quarterback to ever step foot on an NFL field and it is not very close. Rodgers has proved his superiority over any other quarterback time and time again throughout the incredible run that his Green Bay Packers have been on. Yes, they are his Packers because without him they do not have more than two to three wins. The one aspect of Rodgers' game that separates him as the

best quarterback ever from guys like Peyton Manning and Tom Brady is his exceptional mobility. Brady and Manning are great quarterbacks, but they do not pose the threat Rodgers does. The mobility and keen awareness that Rodgers has flashed throughout his career has been on full display in the playoffs. I do not need to give you statistics to prove that he is the best to ever lace them up, just watch the man. No one on this planet can make the plays that Rodgers did on his famous Hail Mary

against the New York Giants and his unbelievable roll out and throw on 3rd and 20 against the Dallas Cowboys. Brady and Manning have zero chance at making either of those plays. Rodgers may not be the fastest or most agile quarterback in the NFL but he is by far the best at buying that extra second so that his receivers can break open. Seriously, go back and watch the Hail Mary and you will be amazed at the amount of time Rodgers creates with just slightly shifting his body from side to side. The

awareness is top notch. No other quarterback has the kind of feel that Rodgers does when they are in the pocket. On top of the talent, look at the players that Rodgers is doing this with. Number one target Jordy Nelson goes down? No problem. Number one running back Eddie Lacy goes down? No problem. You could throw college receivers out there and the offense would still excel. Rodgers is the best and all you need to do is watch him to know.



Men's basketball

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

games left and we have to try win them all.” Burrell noted that the losses do not reflect well on the program. Last year a talented Southern team was shocked in the first round of the NCAA Division II national tournament. Simply put, Burrell said, they need to find themselves. “This win was a big step towards that,” said Burrell. “The second season here at Southern’s been fun. We’ve had a lot of injuries this year but we have to fight through ‘em.” So far this season the Owls are holding a .468 overall winning percentage. They have gone 5-3 at home and 7-3 on the road. They will have a chance to improve on their road dominance five more times this season, traveling to face off against Assumption College, Merrimack, Adelphi, the University of New Haven and Le Moyne College.



PHOTO | SOUTHERNCTOWLS.COM

Austin Carter had a game-high 3 blocks against Franklin Pierce. Carter has a total of 22 blocks.

Crochet

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9



PHOTO | SOUTHERNCTOWLS.COM

Crochet had two first place finishes last week as she looks to finish her senior season strong. Crochet said the team is very close knit. “We train together, lift together, win and lose together,” she said. “We train side-by-side with the men so we can encourage each other and push us beyond our comfort zones.” “She’s a great role model,” Quill said. “She’s had a couple season best times leading into January, which is a great thing when you’re swimming fast heading into your conference meet it just sets the tone for a great championship.” The women’s swimming and diving team is past the halfway point in their season. On Jan. 27 they face the University of Bridgeport at home. On Feb. 4 they compete in the UConn Open and Feb. 16 is the start of the conference championship, which will be hosted by Southern, lasting four consecutive days. Crochet, a communication disorders major, was born in Waterbury, Conn. In her junior campaign she placed third in the 800-yard freestyle relay, fourth in the 400-yard freestyle relay, fifth in the 100-yard freestyle and 200-yard freestyle relay at the Metropolitan Collegiate Championships. She earned Honorable Mention All-America honors in the 50 freestyle during the NCAA Championships. Crochet was also a conference champion in the 50 and 100 yard freestyles. March 8 the NCAA Championships begin in Birmingham, Alabama, continuing through the 11th. “The men’s and women’s teams have trained exceptionally hard,” Crochet said. “I am extremely proud of them and I am excited to see how the rest of the season turns out.”

Football

Ray Catapano finished at the top of the depth chart



John Sloan

PHOTO | SOUTHERNCTOWLS.COM

Ray Catapano started the season as a backup but finished the season as the established starter at quarterback.

By Jared Klim

For the first time in a five years the Owls played in a post-season game to end the season with a tight 26 to 24 loss to rival University of New Haven. A wild end to a wild season, where new faces came to find pivotal roles in the Owls winning season. But no player’s push to the front was more central than junior quarterback Ray Catapano. With a mid-season injury to starting quarterback Rob Nittolo, Catapano was thrown into the starring role. “I knew I was going to get a shot that season,” said Catapano. “Whether it was for one play or the rest of the season, so I knew I had to stay ready. This was a special season for this program because it was the first winning season we’ve had in a while.” Catapano had an exceptional run this season where he led the owls in almost every statistical passing cate-

gory including yards, touchdowns and completion percentage. At one point being listed a receiver during the season it was Catapano’s mobility, agility and strong arm that reminds football fans of a Russell Wilson play style. As for the team, Ray positively remarked on the team as a whole. “We had a very special group of guys who came together and really enjoyed playing with each other on the field,” said Catapano. “We all started playing with more confidence. A big factor in our success this season was that we all trusted each other to do our job.” The Owls’ offseason is well underway as the team prepares for the 2017 season to make a second straight winning season and a possible playoff appearance under gridiron club Coach of the Year Tom Godek, who was awarded the honor last month. With Catapano under center the Owls will look to take advantage of continuity under center at the coaching position along

with offensive big plat threats Vochan Fowler, Shaquan Hall and Kendall Thomas to improve on a winning season. “We return of a lot of guys on both sides of the ball so with a lot of hard work this offseason, we have high expectations for ourselves and this upcoming season,” said Catapano.



PHOTO | SOUTHERNCTOWLS.COM

Catapano will lead the Owls into the 2017 season.

SCSU men’s basketball vs. Franklin Pierce



PHOTO | PALMER PIANA

Senior Michael Mallory (#3 with ball) dribbles past a Franklin Pierce player last Saturday in Moore Field House.



PHOTO | PALMER PIANA

Sophomore Joey Wallace (#22) shooting a free throw as Franklin Pierce and Southern players look on.



PHOTO | PALMER PIANA

Senior Austin Carter (#11) picks up one of his three blocks that he recorded against Franklin Pierce.



PHOTO | PALMER PIANA

Head coach Scott Burrell and other SCSU players look onto the court during the Franklin Pierce game.

Northeast–10 Standings

MEN’S BASKETBALL

	CONFERENCE			OVERALL		
	GP	RECORD	WIN %	GP	RECORD	WIN %
NORTHEAST DIVISION						
SO. NEW HAMPSHIRE	12	9-3	0.750	17	13-4	0.765
MERRIMACK	13	8-5	0.615	19	13-6	0.684
FRANKLIN PIERCE	12	7-5	0.583	18	10-8	0.556
SAINT ANSELM	12	6-6	0.500	16	10-6	0.625
BENTLEY	12	6-6	0.500	17	9-8	0.529
STONEHILL	13	5-8	0.385	19	10-9	0.526
ASSUMPTION	12	4-8	0.333	18	5-13	0.278
SAINT MICHAEL’S	12	2-10	0.167	17	3-14	0.176
SOUTHWEST DIVISION						
LE MOYNE	12	9-3	0.750	18	14-4	0.778
SAINT ROSE	12	9-3	0.750	21	17-4	0.810
SO. CONNECTICUT	12	9-3	0.750			
19	13-6					0.684
ADELPHI	12	7-5	0.583	20	14-6	0.700
NEW HAVEN	12	6-6	0.500	18	11-7	0.611
PACE	12	2-10	0.167	20	5-15	0.250

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

	CONFERENCE			OVERALL		
	GP	RECORD	WIN %	GP	RECORD	WIN %
NORTHEAST DIVISION						
BENTLEY	12	11-1	0.917	19	15-4	0.789
ASSUMPTION	12	8-4	0.667	17	13-4	0.765
SAINT MICHAEL’S	12	8-4	0.667	17	10-7	0.588
SAINT ANSELM	12	7-5	0.583	18	12-6	0.667
MERRIMACK	13	7-6	0.538	18	9-9	0.500
STONEHILL	13	7-6	0.538	17	8-9	0.471
SO. NEW HAMPSHIRE	12	3-9	0.250	19	8-11	0.421
FRANKLIN PIERCE	12	0-12	0.000	17	2-15	0.118
SOUTHWEST DIVISION						
ADELPHI	12	12-0	1.000	19	17-2	0.895
AMERICAN INT’L	12	7-5	0.583	20	12-8	0.600
SAINT ROSE	12	6-6	0.500	18	11-7	0.611
LE MOYNE	12	5-7	0.417	18	9-9	0.500
SO. CONNECTICUT	12	4-8	0.333	19	8-11	0.421
PACE	12	3-9	0.250	20	9-11	0.450
NEW HAVEN	12	3-9	0.250	17	4-13	0.235

Southern and the Women’s March

By Adrianna Rochester

The turnout for the presidential elections caused many Americans to rally together after it became clear the unity President Obama brought to the country during his presidency vanished after the climate of the presidential campaign revealed deep division between the American peoples.

In reaction to Donald Trump becoming the 45th president of

the country, thousands of people in America gathered to protest the inauguration. One specific movement—The Women’s March, which took place the day after the inauguration—gained nationwide support. About 200,000 people from around the country were expected to attend the march in the nation’s capital, according to USA Today.

Often times people do not talk about the state of the country, but there is always an urgency, especially now, said Dr. Yi-Chun

Tricia Lin, director of the women’s studies program.

After witnessing the way the elections went and the current social state of the country, Lin said she felt “compelled to join in solidarity to take a stance for human and women’s rights.”

“I wish we didn’t have to march, but when times call for us to band together, we march,” she said.

Lin said she encourages people of all ages and walks of life to advocate at their own will because to not participate means you are not in solidarity.

“The Women’s March didn’t just happen in D.C.,” she said. “People were marching everywhere.”

“Even here in New Haven and places like Hartford and Boston people were marching not only for women’s rights, but the rights of all people,” Lin said.

Students were also buzzing about the many protests and they too answered the call to protest the inauguration. One such student was Deidra Henry who said when she heard about the Women’s March in D.C., she immediately made plans to attend.

“One voice isn’t enough, we need more voices to even begin to make change,” Henry said.



PHOTO COURTESY | TAYLOR BIRD

Protestors from the Women’s March in Washington D.C. on Constitution Ave

She said even though she was unable to go to D.C. to march beside those protesters because the price of the bus and train tickets became too expensive, she opted for the women’s march that took place in New Haven, Conn.

Alisha Martindale, graduate student of the women’s studies programs, said this is a national movement for women’s voices to be heard.

“Now that I’m older and understand the political world more,

being at the march was important to me,” Martindale said. “It’s neat knowing I was a part of history.”

Martindale said, “I hope someone is able to see my activism and use that to inspire themselves to also become active in the cause too.”

Lin said, the people must brace themselves for what is to come next, but no matter what the future holds she will continue to fight for social rights and remain hopeful for the nation and humanity.



PHOTO COURTESY | YI-CHUN TRICIA LIN

Yi-Chun Tricia Lin, Diane Harriford and Resha Cardone attending the Women’s March.

Donald Trump officially takes office

By Lynandro Simmons

The inauguration this year is like a bad joke, said Donnery Evans.

“To go from Obama to Trump is a total flip,” said Evans, a junior athletic training major.

This total flip is the reason many have chosen to boycott the inauguration. Many are not pleased with the results and are now questioning how this could even happen, said Evans.

Trump’s inauguration has continued the streak of controversy following the president into office. Throughout Trump’s presidential campaign, some of his actions have caused controversy – his remarks about women, his derogatory views on some minorities, slandering reporters – and Evans was unsure how Trump could bring anything to the office.

“Things will change for sure, but not positively for minorities,” he said.

Due to the controversy surrounding Trump, Evans said he would not watch the inauguration. He also said he is happy that others are participating in the boycott.

“I think it’s good that some of the Democratic members are also boycotting the inauguration,” said Evans. “It shows they stand against what he represents.”

Though he said he was unsure how he would deal with this presidency, he maintained confidence that America would survive.

Julia Raucci, a freshman elementary education major,



PHOTO COURTESY | OFFICIAL WHITE HOUSE FACEBOOK PAGE

said this inauguration did not sit too well with her. Unfortunately, when the election occurred last year, Raucci said she was too young to participate.

“Now I feel partially bad I couldn’t vote,” said Raucci.

Despite her inability to vote she said this election made her uneasy because Hillary won the popular vote and still lost.

“2016 National Popular Vote Tracker,” a chart by the independent and nonpartisan Cook Political Report, said Clinton led Trump by nearly 2.9 million votes.

“It almost makes you feel our votes don’t matter,” she said.

However, this inauguration was not the first time she

remembered controversy. Though it was not as controversial she recalled being in fifth grade during Obama’s first inauguration.

“I remember teachers not feeling too good about it back then,” she said. “I was too young to fully grasp why.”

Raucci said that she also understood those who chose to boycott this inauguration. While she understood those who are boycotting, she also said she had mixed feelings on whether or not it would be an effective way to promote change.

“I personally believe it’s good to stand up for what you believe in, but it’s also adding fuel to the fire,” she said.

Those who dislike the platform Trump ran on should not be forced to show fake support either, she said. Instead, everybody should work in a constructive way to ensure things do not change dramatically. Raucci said that she does not expect Trump to gain a second term, but this presidency alone could end horribly.

“Things like same-sex marriage could be lost,” she said. “We could end up taking a giant step backwards.”

Meagan Perrcault, a sophomore Social Work major, said she was not thrilled in the least bit about the inauguration.

“I think I speak for a lot of people when I say this is not good,” said Perrcault.

Trump as a president is terrible because of some of the dangerous things he represents, she said. Trump stands for everything America has worked hard to distance themselves from. It is also important to understand some of the people he incites, she said.

Dismantling the Affordable Care Act

By Natalie Accardi

While Donald Trump is adjusting to his role as president, 18 million people could lose their health insurance in a year if pertinent provisions of the Affordable Care Act are repealed, according to the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office.

Republicans have consistently remained against the ACA, but they do not have a concrete replacement plan if Congress repeals it. The ACA helped provide insurance coverage for an estimated 20 million people, according to a 2016 report by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Detractors of the ACA say that it will increase taxes as well as the cost of health care. The CBO reported that from 2016 to 2025, \$1.7 trillion would be spent on the ACA and taxes would be raised to \$1.2 trillion. However, the federal deficit decreases over the 10-year period because the taxes are greater than the \$1.7 trillion cost of the law. The savings come from \$800 billion from Medicare and other provisions.

SCSU economics professor and MBA Director Samuel Kojo Andoh said that the ACA is beneficial because it allows for more

people to access health insurance and the cost of services such as visits to the emergency room are especially costly for those who are uninsured.

“This is a very rich country, we could afford to create a process which ensures that everybody has health care,” Andoh said.

SCSU political science professor Jonathan Wharton said a major issue with the ACA is that both the democrats and republicans politicize the issue. He is a member of SCSU’s Faculty Senate as well as the chairman of the New Haven Republicans.

“On the one hand, democrats are saying over and over again, ‘This is a human rights issue. Everyone should have health care. Canada’s got it. European countries got it. Why can’t we do it?’” Wharton said. “Then the republicans on the other hand say, ‘Hey, this is going to cost employers more money. They’re going to let go of people, they might have to go out of business because of this.’”

Both parties make legitimate points, but they are not communicating to address the issue, according to Wharton. He said the beauty of politics is the art of negotiation.

“Communication is quintessential to

governance and if that’s barely taking place on something like healthcare,” said Wharton, “how can you expect to tackle all the other major issues?”

Wharton said another issue that is not addressed with the ACA is the issue of fraud, which costs a substantial amount of money.

“When it comes to healthcare, there are a lot of cases where there’s fraud coming from the doctors in filing. You hear this all the time coming from Medicare and Medicaid,” Wharton said.

The government has recovered \$10.7 billion in healthcare fraud in the past three years, according to the HHS and the U.S. Department of Justice. The HHS and DOJ attribute its success to the ACA because they have granted an additional \$350 million to be used over the next 10 years in order to enhance anti-fraud measurements and other tools such as advanced technology to target suspicious behaviors.

Cantrell Cheeks II, a senior communications major, said President Donald Trump’s supporters may feel like he will replace the ACA with a better health care plan.

“I feel like it’s very important and people probably don’t realize how big of a differ-

ence it makes. I feel like regardless, it needs to be here,” Cheeks said.

Bianca Flowers, a public health graduate student, said she supports the ACA and wishes that repealing it was not even an option.

“I’m a public health major, I think that you should look in the best interest of the public, in terms of health, especially when it comes to elders, women, children, and people with disabilities,” Flowers said.

People with mental health issues depend on the ACA for medical necessities such as therapy, medication, and depression screenings. The ACA also does not allow insurance providers to discriminate based on preexisting conditions, according to the HHS.

Flowers said people should be trying to help, not dismantle a law that provides essential health care services to many.

“Life is already hard as it is, I don’t think we should make it anymore difficult especially when it comes to health care. Last thing I’ll say is health care is a right and not a privilege,” Flowers said. “I don’t think your status or money or anything like that should come into play when it comes to your with your health.”



SCSU mens rugby playing Connecticut Jammers in Pelz gym in a game of wheelchair rugby Jan. 22.



Seimou Smith trying to strip the ball from Connecticut Jammers player.



Eric Kemmling (left) of SCSU carrying the ball, about to get rammed by Connecticut Jammer player.



SCSU men's rugby team playing Connecticut Jammers in Pelz gym in a game of wheelchair rugby.

CT Jammers steamroll men's rugby team



Will Kornegay, a member of the Connecticut Jammers participating in wheelchair rugby.

By Palmer Piana

The men's rugby team took on the Connecticut Jammers in a game of wheelchair rugby.

Wheelchair rugby is one example of a growing genre called adaptive sports in which people with varying degrees of disabilities are able to participate.

In this event, specialized wheelchairs are used that are designed to be able to ram into one another as well as reach impressive speeds. The main objective is to carry the ball into the end zone while avoiding the opponents who are trying to ram, trap or slow down the ball carrier.

Players on both teams seemed to enjoy themselves.

Richard Hawk, a freshman pre-nursing major on the SCSU men's rugby team said, "Great event, great crowd and I was surprised how hard they could hit."

This event was put on by the department of recreation, tourism and sport management in conjunction with the exercise science department.

Mary Jo Archambault, an assistant professor of the department, was there running the event.

She said the purpose was to "raise awareness of adaptive sports and inclusive activities for people with and without disabilities to better understand each other," with hopes to "start adaptive sports here at Southern."

The game ended with a Jammer's victory of 26-13.

The next event the department is hosting is planned for April and will be an adaptive sports festival showcasing different sports this genre has to offer.

Professor Archambault says they are always looking for volunteers and anyone interested can contact her directly at Archambaulm2@south-ernct.edu.