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SOUTHERN NEWS

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ALEKS returns slightly higher grades

Success rate increasing, DFW on the decline

By **Victoria Bresnahan**
News Editor
and **Tamonda Griffiths**
News Writer

According to the Interim Associate Dean for the Arts and Sciences Department Craig Hlavac, the DFW rate for Math 100P is "still unacceptable." However, new data from the School of Arts

and Sciences stated the DFW rate--the number of students receiving a D, F, or withdrawing from the course--has decreased by 2 percent from fall 2017 to fall 2018.

However, the DFW rate for all three semesters remained above 50 percent.

In fall 2018, the number of students that received A's or B's increased by 5.7

percent and 3.2 percent, respectively. The number of students receiving C's decreased by 6.7 percent, 2.9 percent for D's and 6.1 percent for F's. Overall, the withdrawal rate increased by 6.9 percent.

According to Mathematics Department Chairperson Leon Brin in Math 100P the ALEKS program works on a "mastery basis." While the program is an adaptive system which utilizes artificial intelligence, Brin said a student will sometimes find themselves

unable to finish the program. This could be because they run out of time to complete the remaining number of topics.

"There's no slack, there's no leeway for that person currently [in 100P]," said Brin. "That person gets an F despite the fact, you know, they're really close."

In the upcoming semesters, however, Brin said Math 100P may be replaced by a new course, Math 100E.

"[100E]'s a little more forgiving," said Brin. "100P

is not forgiving the way it's set up."

The primary reason for the creation of 100E is to minimize the hardline between failing and doing well, said Brin. Students who are close to advancing to the next course, but not close enough, will now receive a solid C instead of failing.

With Math 100E, Brin said if a student earns a C, they would be able to "carry over" the objectives they previously completed into the next semester and start the ALEKS program

where they left off.

"In theory, under this model," said Brin, "they could even work during the breaks."

However, to advance onto their LEP required math course, Brin said a student would have to earn a C+ or better.

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Robert Prezant said some of the emporium style models--such as the one in Hilton C. Buley Library--are based on the original in Virginia Tech.

See ALEKS Page 2

Bike-sharing system hitting the streets



PHOTOS | AUGUST PELLICCIO

Some of the donated bikes that will be a part of Project Gear, a new bike-share program created by students.

Project Gear provides students with refurbished bikes to travel across campus

By **August Pelliccio**
Photo Editor

Society has 11 years to commit to sustainability, and bettering the environment, according to Stephen Axon, professor of environment, geography and marine sciences. To help combat that on the university level, a bike-sharing program has been created by his students.

According to Axon, if the program is a success, it will be a step in the right direction for the university's sustainability.

"We know it's a problem," Axon said. "We have 11 years to address climate change as defined by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change."

David Bakies, a senior, and geography major, said he is the mechanical student-leader in Axon's class project for GEO 403: Applied Sustainability, and is aiming to install the bike-sharing program on campus for students.

The project involves restoring bikes to roadworthiness, Bakies said, and spreading the word to students, before finally implementing the bike sharing program



The new bike-share program aims to create a more sustainable campus.

campus-wide. "It's a student led course," said Axon. "It's run by the students, for the students."

Sierra Mayerson, a senior, and student in the class, said the system is modeled loosely off of New York City's Citi Bike system. However, there is currently no method for membership or reserving the bikes.

With no monetary system, Bakies said, the

bikes will be more readily available to students. Instead of having a time restriction or sign out system, the bikes will be available at any time.

"We could put locking systems on it, but if we make the bikes available 24/7 that means we have to make someone available 24/7 to sign out the keys," Bakies said.

Before all of the details

are finalized, Bakies said procuring and repairing the bikes are the class' priority. All of the bikes were donated into the program.

"Right now, we have six," he said. "We're looking for about 10."

These donated bikes are all in need of at least some work, which Bakies generally performs.

See Bikes Page 2

Programming space in Schwartz almost complete

The space will be available starting this fall

By **Tamonda Griffiths**
News Writer

A new programming space is being constructed in the basement of Schwartz Hall, according to Director of Residence Life Robert DeMezzo.

The discussion to build the space, DeMezzo said, took place recently with Vice President of Student Affairs Tracy Tyree. DeMezzo said they chose to utilize Schwartz Hall because of the availability of space.

"We currently have the Farnham Hall Programming Space," said DeMezzo, "but that's frequently booked."

According to Associate Vice President for Capital

Budgeting & Facilities Operations Robert Sheeley, the project will cost about \$375,000 for the 2,900-square-foot space.

"[The thing about] the programming space that we like is the exterior entrance," said DeMezzo, "so you don't have to walk through the lobby to get to the programming space."

The space will be used to host programs and events for the entire residence life community, as well as the various clubs and organizations at the university.

People will have to request to use the programming space though, DeMezzo said.

See Schwartz Page 3

Emergency blue light phones deteriorating

Underground malfunctions causing phones to break

By **Haljit Basuljevic**
Reporter

Recently, some of the emergency blue light phones throughout campus have been marked with caution tape across their faceplates.

For 20 years, the blue phones have been used for campus-based emergencies. However, they are malfunctioning with the same problems they have always had, such as water retention and deteriorating gateways.

"This has been an ongoing for several years with the code-blue phones," said Director of the IT Department Raymond Kellogg.

He said figuring out the cause of the problems has been difficult. One indication is the piping

underground fills with water, and the wires that connect from building to building oxidizes.

This causes the wires to have intermittent connections, he said, which disrupts the flow of energy between the two.

University Police Chief Joseph Dooley said he shares Kellogg's thoughts about their malfunctions.

The police department, he said, has assigned a student worker to check the blue phones on a regular basis.

"We're trying to stay ahead of the issue to identify where the problems are and get them fixed quickly," said Dooley, "but again, it's part of a much larger issue as to why they're going down."

See Blue lights Page 2

More lactation rooms considered

By Victoria Bresnahan
News Editor

Almost one year after the university became a Breastfeeding Friendly Campus—which was distinguished by the Connecticut Breastfeeding Coalition—public health professor Michele Vancour said the program is looking to expand the number of lactation rooms on campus.

“We have looked at other buildings, but there hasn’t been success,” she said.

Some of the spaces that have been considered would be costly to renovate. For example, an all accessibility bathroom that is typically unused, according to Vancour, would be an option, but

a toilet would have to be removed.

“That is very common,” she said. “How other universities achieve lactation spaces on their campuses is to retrofit their bathrooms—single person bathrooms.”

While lactation spaces do not have to provide running water, she said it would be beneficial to mothers in case they need to clean their pump or its accessories. Other recommended spaces had glass walls, which Vancour said may make some mothers feel uncomfortable.

Mothers who work for or attend the university are invited to look at these spaces with Vancour to

determine how comfortable it would make mothers feel.

Currently, there are three lactation rooms—Hilton C. Buley library, Jennings Hall and the Wintergreen building—available for mothers who may need to pump or breastfeed. Vancour said the spaces are in areas of most need.

The Wintergreen building serves as a space for employees and perspective students to pump, she said. Mothers who tour the university have the option to use the room while considering the university.

“That was an unthought [of] benefit and we were able to provide that,” she said.

Prior to these areas, Vancour said she was responsible for a lactation room in Connecticut Hall, which no longer exists. A pipe burst, and now the room is offline due to mold that grew in the walls.

“It was really underutilized anyways by that point in time, and now it’s just good that we have the other spaces,” she said. “It’s not really needed right there, the same way the other spaces seem to be getting good use.”

She said some of the lactation rooms were a result of breastfeeding

champions—students, faculty, staff and administration members who provide resources to mothers. Being a Breastfeeding Friendly Campus ensures that champions identify areas across departments that a mother can use, she said.

“Even though we have designated spaces,” said Vancour, “every champion is supposed to know another space that somebody just walking by could pop into.”

Mothers can discern a breastfeeding champion’s space by the blue sticker on their door of a mother breastfeeding.

Acquisitions & Collection Development Coordinator for Hilton C. Buley Library Kari Swanson is one of the several breastfeeding champions. She said in areas on campus where there is no designated space, a champion could arrange for a mother to use an office or another space.

Not only does Swanson showcase her breastfeeding champion sticker on her office door, but also on her laptop.

“People can know who we are, that we are people that they can come to if they need help finding a space or with information and support,” said Swanson.

Since a someone must



PHOTO | AUGUST PELLICCIO

The inside of the lactation room in the library.

schedule a time to reserve Buley’s lactation space, Swanson said this can be reassuring to mothers.

“I think that helps,” she said. “You know you have a place, you know it will be available when you need it.”

In addition, the room in Buley includes electric outlets, a microwave for sanitizing and curtains for privacy.

Natalie Sheehan, a senior and public health intern, works with Vancour and others on the Breastfeeding Friendly Campus initiative.

Currently, she said, there is no data on the exact number of people using these spaces. For now, they are primarily working on spreading the word about the initiative.

“Thankfully, you know, right at this point in my life I don’t need a lactation room,” said Sheehan, “but knowing that if I ever did, that it was here, you know, that my school would want me to still come to school and want me to be successful in any way that I could, that’s awesome.”



PHOTO | AUGUST PELLICCIO

Some of the resources for mothers in the Buley room.

Blue lights

Continued from Page 1

An estimated 15 to 20 blue lights have been affected and were placed out of order. Why they have been shut down could be due to anything from a complete malfunction, to a speaker issue, and Dooley said the police department are urgent when it comes to staying on top of the problem.

Dooley also said he tells student to rely more on the LiveSafe app because of the deterioration.

However, Kellogg



PHOTO | AUGUST PELLICCIO

One of the blue lights marked off with caution tape.

said although students have used the app for emergencies, there is

no reason to consider eliminating the blue phones completely.



PHOTO | AUGUST PELLICCIO

One of the donated bikes being repaired.

Bikes

Continued from Page 1

He said he will also oversee maintenance after the program starts later in the semester.

Planning and research went into creating criteria

for which bikes would be accepted, according to Bakies. He said bikes with a 16 to 20-inch frame would generally be suitable for the adults riding on campus.

“Our hopeful launch date is the Monday after spring break,” said Mayerson.

Axon said the

experiment is not only aiming to learn about sustainability, but how the department can engage the campus community with the bike-sharing program.

“To do something and to test bed an experiment like this is absolutely integral to the success of sustainability,” Axon said.

He welcomes alstudents with a vested interest in the field of sustainability to participate in the class in future years, he said.

“The fun part is they get to do something, not just talk about it but do sustainability,” he said.

Sustainability is a theme in the study of environmental issues, Axon said, and people are at the center of it all.

“It is something that is going to become increasingly central to everyday life,” Axon said.

ALEKS

Continued from Page 1

Lecturing via a professor is not a component in this course. Prezant said through emporium style learning, a student garners more independent, self-paced learning.

“So, you go at your pace in a sense,” he said. “It doesn’t mean you can take forever.”

Math Emporium

Coordinator Elizabeth Hart said over the summer, in Southern’s Educational Opportunity Program, she and her colleagues decided to chart student’s progress. Hart now also requires professors to spend a certain number of hours in the lab.

Hart said she wants to be able to encourage students to keep working at a reasonable and steady pace to possibly complete the course early.

“[The course]’s definitely time consuming,” said Hart.

At his prior university, Montclair State, which uses an emporium style learning method, Prezant said over time he saw a turnaround in how effective emporium style learning was for students; he finds this currently happening at Southern. He said faculty, administrators and staff at Montclair also had to “learn how to do it right.”

Considering that students come from different high schools and have disparate levels of knowledge in math, Prezant

said the independent style could help these students more.

“Every institution is going to find its own path,” Prezant said.

While the Math Department is analyzing what was done to create this positive uptick, Prezant said it would be beneficial to hear from students who took the course.

Hart, a former high school math teacher, said it is out of a student’s control as to what their curriculum will include in high school.

“Schools teach things in different places,” said Hart. “There are schools that call things different things and group things differently, or even focus things differently.”

Math Emporium tutor Sabrina Silva said tutors are assigned a class to help specific students in the courses, as well as attending lab hours.

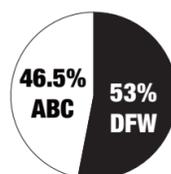
Silva, who took Math 100P, said it is important for students to be proactive. Some students are overwhelmed by the course, she said, and are not necessarily lacking in understanding towards the material.

“I feel like a lot of students don’t take it as seriously in the beginning,”

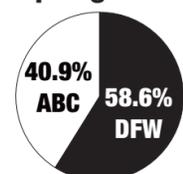
Math 100P

The following numbers reflect how students who took Math 100P did within the past year.

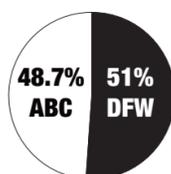
Fall 2017



Spring 2018



Fall 2018



DFW: A grade of a “D”, “F” or withdrawal from the class

ABC: A grade of a “A”, “B” or “C”

INFOGRAPHIC | SAM FIX

Source: the School of Arts and Sciences she said.

When a student has a question, a tutor and a professor are available for help, said Silva. If a tutor is unsure how to answer the question, the professor steps in. While she said most of the time a professor is available, at night, they are typically alone.

According to an email from Robert Sheehey,

associate vice president for capital budgeting & facilities operations, it cost \$1,184,000 to construct the Math Emporium.

Prezant said the cost of the emporium is not playing a factor into any lack of change in the program.

Hlavac said there are currently no plans to eliminate the ALEKS program.

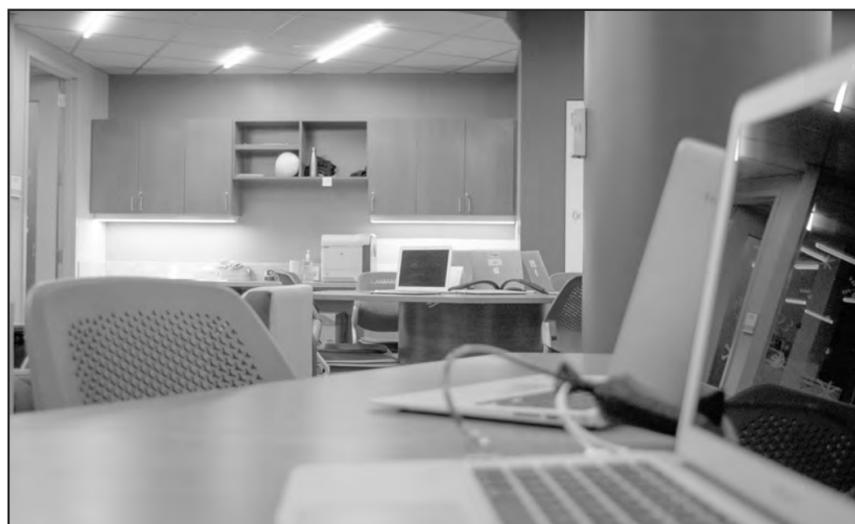


PHOTO | AUGUST PELLICCIO

The Math Emporium includes whiteboards and several laptops for students to use.

SGA allocates money for Giving Day prizes



SGA President Alexis Zhitomi at the weekly meeting.

**By Victoria Bresnahan
News Editor**

To incentivize students to participate in the university's upcoming Giving Day—which encourages alumni, students, faculty and others to donate monetary gifts to the institution—on April 1 the Student Government Association voted to allocate \$1,800 from their reserves for one of the fundraising events.

On Giving Day, members of clubs and organizations will be competing with each other to raise at least \$500 for the chance to win a prize. This will take place over a 24 hour period.

"I think the time crunch is a good incentive to do it though," said SGA

Representative-at-Large Sarah Gossman, at the weekly SGA meeting.

The allocated \$1,800 will be split into \$800 for first place, \$600 for second place and \$400 for third place winners to deposit into their fundraising account. Money in the account gets rolled over each year and provides a "foundation" for clubs, said Office of Student Involvement Assistant Director Daphney Alston, at the meeting.

"I think every club, if we are giving them money, is gonna be fortunate," said Gossman. "Even if it's from \$10 to \$1,000. Like, any little bit is going to help a club or organization."

Alston said her office recommended to the Office of Institutional Advancement that clubs and organizations be designated a page as part of Giving Day, for members to "compete amongst each other to raise the most money."

"So, the Biology Club

would get a page and if I'm a Biology Club alum or member or faculty member I would go to the links specifically for Biology Club and donate money," she said.

Clubs and organizations are encouraged to promote themselves on social media to garner outside donations during Giving Day, but they should be raising it through their club as well, said Alston. If no clubs reach the \$500 threshold, no prizes will be given.

In addition, clubs and organizations can collaborate together to work towards the donation goal, according to Alston. The SGA body decided to cap the number of clubs who can work together at four.

Alston said the university aims to raise about \$125,000 during the day. Last year, the university raised \$84,758 from 526 donors, according to the university's 2018

Giving Day webpage.

"The hope is to get faculty, staff, students alike to give," Alston said, "but including alumni, community members, people just in general who believe in Southern and want to see Southern progress."

The body also voted unanimously to allocate up to \$150 to purchase cupcakes for an event at Giving Day. Students will purchase a cupcake and receive a ticket that could possibly win them a parking spot in the faculty lot outside Engleman Hall for the academic year.

"The two to three dollars that they pay would go towards the annual giving day goal," said Alston.

The allocation and plan for this year's Giving Day will not necessarily apply to future years.

"Southern is catching up," said Alston, "and getting more involved."

Student-to-faculty ratio lower than national average

**By Tamonda Griffiths
News Writer**

During his annual Town Hall, President Joe Bertolino said the university's student-to-faculty ratio was 14 to 1, the national average is 18 to 1, according to the National Center for Education Statistics.

Director of Institutional Research Chul Lee said the ratio, "surprised" him. The university's ratio, Lee said, is an overall average of the undergraduate courses. The

ratio is discerned through a federal survey, and, he said the data that was found relates to whether the university could receive funding for financial aid or accreditation.

The federal survey, Lee said, is not the only survey the university participates in.

The commercial surveys the university is involved in, Lee said, sometimes exclude variables that the federal survey considers for ratios, such as science laboratory classes or music

one-on-one practicum courses.

The ratio, Lee said, is found by first "transforming" part-time students into full-time students by multiplying one-third to the number of part-time students and adding that amount to the original number of full-time students.

English professor Michael Shea said, at the president's Town Hall, in a ratio of 1 faculty member to 40 students, some students may receive less attention,

than in a smaller classroom of 1 faculty member to 15 students.

If a student is in an introductory 100 or 200-level course, Shea said usually a student requires "better teaching" or more one-on-one teacher attention to learn basic math and English skills.

From Bertolino's perspective, he said the ratio is not "the be-all-end-all" for determining if a student does well during their collegiate career.

In his leadership course,

Bertolino said he has 40 students and prefers a larger class because of the excitement and interactive nature he employs when he teaches.

Director of First-Year Experience Nicole Henderson said it is beneficial to have a more one-on-one teaching or learning experience than not.

"Most of the classes that [students are] taking their first semester are not large," said Henderson.

In a student's first

semester, Henderson said FYE tries not to put a lecture course on their schedule.

The INQ class, Henderson said, usually has between 20 and 22 students, which is paired with a critical thinking course. She said the class size for those two classes, in her opinion, is "non-negotiable."

"We're mostly working with students in the first semester," said Henderson. "There's much more [that is] needed to be done in the second semester."

North Campus cars invaded by thieves



One of the cameras outside of North Campus midrise.

**By Haljit Basuljevic
Reporter**

Director of the IT Department Raymond Kellogg and his team were involved in setting up cameras around the North campus parking lot, which unlocked cars were broken into two years ago. Another break-in occurred last week.

"On Saturday (Feb. 23), at approximately 3:30 a.m., two unidentified males entered the lot on foot from PineRock Ave. They attempted to open the doors of vehicles parked in the lot behind the North Campus Midrise Residence Hall and Townhouse Buildings before finding two unlocked vehicles and removing personal items from them," stated University Police Chief Joseph Dooley, in a campus advisory email.



PHOTOS | AUGUST PELLICCI

Thieves have stolen items from cars in parking lots around North Campus before.

According to Dooley, three complaints about the incident have been communicated to the police. There is no certainty the intruders were students. However, they had been roaming the parking lots and pulling on

car handles.

A similar situation occurred about two years ago.

The current investigation is ongoing to determine who the thieves are. Dooley said the police department has worked with campus

advisories and the director of Residence Life to ensure students are aware.

He said the best measure for further prevention rests upon students to voice any suspicions and that being more on the lookout helps the police department.

Schwartz

Continued from Page 1

Sheeley said the project began around the beginning of the fall 2018 semester and should be complete in three to four weeks.

"We ran into some problems," said Sheeley, "that we didn't anticipate, which we resolved, but they delayed the project a little bit."

DeMezzo said he would like to utilize the space as quickly as possible, but will hold off on booking until the fall 2019.

Schwartz Hall, Sheeley said, is one of the oldest buildings on campus. He said rusted cast iron pipes were replaced before they became an issue, both economically and in terms of safety.

Inspections have been done by the Office of the State Building inspector, and everything has been brought up to code, according to Sheeley.

Construction has been a nuisance to students DeMezzo said.

"The construction did require a lot of like, drilling and removal of walls and such," said DeMezzo, "which did create some noise. However, we did work with the contracts to make [sure] that happened later in the day so it wouldn't wake up students."

Programming and Outreach Graduate Intern at Counseling Services Mary Xatse said it is hard not to hear the noise from her desk in the Wellness Center, located in Schwartz basement..

"We know they're like working hard," said Xatse,



PHOTO | AUGUST PELLICCI

Construction for the programming space will be completed within the next three to four weeks.

"but it's very hard to miss the fact that there's construction going on."

Clinical Graduate Intern Blaine Hudson said it can be disruptive not knowing when the construction will start.

"We're very appreciative of what they're doing, and we know that we can't control everything," said Hudson, "and these things happen, but yeah, it has been a little challenging at times."

Correction

In the Feb. 27 edition, in an article about the LEP on page 3, information about changes to the program were incorrect. While there have been no changes to the LEP this year, there have been in recent years.

OPINIONS

PAGE 4

MARCH 6, 2019

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Governor Lamont's 'sin tax' is ridiculous

By Jacob Waring
Opinion & Features Editor

Governor Lamont proposal of new or increased "sin tax" laws is a shameful attempt at revenue generation. The law will create either new or increased taxes on sugary drinks like soda, alcohol and beer, and it will also apply to other items such as e-cigarettes and plastic bag.

We already have taxes on beer, soda and water--that is a five-cent deposit.

The new proposal could increase the five-cent deposit to 25-cent. 10-cent tax on plastic bags which will be an added tax. Lamont even proposed a tax that is up to 75 percent on vaping products. This is all per item. When weed becomes legal in this state and I bet you it will be added to the list of "sins" that need to be taxed.

The Lamont administration is masquerading this tax as a way to better people's health and the environment rather than admitting that they are proposing the tax to deal with the state's enormous deficit. Chris McClure, spokesman for the Office of Policy and Management admitted as much to the Connecticut news media.

Connecticut is staring down the barrel of a \$1.9 billion budget deficit for fiscal year 2020, which is then followed by a \$2.5 billion deficit in 2021, according to Yankee Institute for Public Policy. Our new governor will have to strategize ways to decrease the deficit with the least amount of pain. But believe me, our state is going to be feeling this financial pain for years to come.

Now, if his administration at least admits they are adding these new or increased taxes as a way to combat the deficit, then I would be a little bit more supportive of his proposals. I expect a certain amount of arrogance from our elected officials but to claim they are doing it for the betterment of our health? For our environment? I highly doubt that.

Fact of the matter is, the majority at Southern is going to be affected by this "sin tax". We have bills to pay, loans to pay off and other expenses of daily living that makes college life a challenge for many of us. All this does is result in students getting a financial gut punch and being told what is better for us to consume.

We need stop dispense the naivety in the idea that increasing taxes and age restrictions to such products will not stop teenage or people below 21 from consuming them. This is a liquor and smoke-free campus but I think we all know there's a good chunk of students smoking or drinking

despite the cost or their age. This moral high ground is just a way to construct a reasoning to generate revenue for the state with the least amount of pushback.

The plastic bag tax is incredibly without logic because cities and towns all over Connecticut either have bans, are in the process of banning or are contemplating banning plastic bags. Is Lamont really that out of touch where he thought a plastic bag tax is either needed, wanted or even necessary?

All proceeds of the plastic bag tax would go to the state, which I believe is a first. As typically a percentage of the proceeds would go to retail establishment, which is what California and the District of Columbia with their respective bag bans.

Lamont's constitutes along with the students here at Southern are adults, and as adults we can decide what healthy and unhealthy habits to inflict upon our bodies. Making soda, cigarettes, alcohol and plastic bags more expensive is not going to make people stop consuming such products.

Products with addictive qualities having an increased tax will certainly not deter individuals from purchasing such products. I personally have known people who bought endless number of cigarettes and alcoholic beverages despite the expense they incurred that could be prioritized elsewhere. The tax is going to only make people have less money rather than choose healthier choices.

He also made a proposal to raise the minimum age towards buying tobacco and vaping devices to 21 years of age. Like the tax, it is a way to encourage people below that age to not partake in such vices.

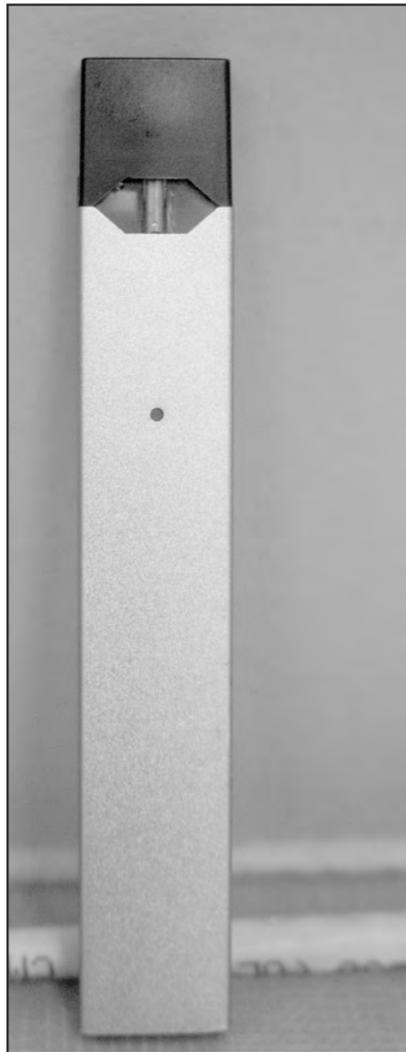
It is ridiculous that Lamont is riding on his high horse rather than admitting that these taxes are needed to deal with a deficit that is not going away anytime soon. I would be less upset and more understanding as to why such a tax is being implemented.

This state is hurting financially. I know something needs to be done and I suspect everyone is throwing ideas at the metaphorical wall in hopes a solution that works sticks. I do not envy the governor's position because it is catch-22 for him either way. I just don't think this necessarily is the correct approach because we all suffer for it. Some would say we would all suffer for the financial woes of this state but is perhaps no good solution anymore.



PHOTOS | JACOB WARING

"Sins" like soda, JUULs, cigarettes, alcohol and plastic are some of the items for the "sin tax".



SOUTHERN NEWS

Advisers: Cindy Simoneau
Frank Harris III

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

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

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Delivery apps from Page 5
Men's basketball pictures from Page 9

Looking back: Spring of 1997



CSU Day relied on technology to make impact

Over 100 students gathered at the state capital on April 9 in an effort to convince legislators of the merits of the Connecticut State University system. Organizers of the event used fax machines and emailed legislators to voice themselves to legislators. Over 200 letters were faxed. Students also made presentations at the capitol.

March

- The men's basketball team defeated UMass-Lowell 95-56 to win the NECC championship and received an automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament. Southern would eventually lose to Cal-St. Bakersfield in the Elite Eight, ending the season at 28-4.
- Men's basketball player Tim Greene was named to the all-conference first team, while Jermaine Carter was named Most Valuable Player of the NECC Tournament.

April

- Southern celebrated Earth Day with Veeder the Condor, music, exhibits, and guest speakers. The event was sponsored by the Environmental Futurists, Geology, and the Biology clubs. Veeder, an Andean Condor, was the only free-flying, captive condor in the world.
- Newly renovated sidewalks in front of Connecticut Hall were vandalized. People wrote their names and made other marks in the concrete before it hardened.
- The women's rugby team defeated UConn for the first time in program history, winning 12-7. After already beating Western, Central, and Eastern, head coach Tiger Mann said the team "wanted to own Connecticut."

May

- Renovations began on Schwartz Hall. Balconies were removed from the building and were replaced with large windows. For the interior of the building, projects included replacing wiring, plumbing, re-doing kitchens, and putting in a new heating system.
- Among 4,000 graduating seniors from Southern, Western, Eastern, and Central, 12 Southern students were honored with the Henry Barnard Award for academic excellence. Students must have a at least a 3.7 GPA, demonstrate leadership, and be involved in the community and campus.
- An outbreak of false fire alarms repeatedly dislodged students during all hours of the night. Seven different alarms were pulled during a two-week span from April into May.
- The women's rugby team won the national championship by defeating West Chester 27-15.

Compiled from the Southern News archives by Michael Riccio, Managing Editor

Akeem Browder, an agent of change

By Haljit Basuljevic
Reporter

For Akeem Browder, the political implications of his brother's death, Kalief Browder, motivated him to confront as to what he saw was a complacent and corrupt justice system.

As part of 64 days of non-violence, the Multicultural Department and the Residence of Life hosted the agents of change to communicate the Kalief Browder story.

Throughout the videos Browder presented in the ASC theatre, audiences were given a glimpse of the excessive force and damage the correctional officers used on Kalief.

On the other side, documentary clips and pictures with celebrities showed Kalief boldly expressing his discontent to how he was treated.

Browder, whose Time documentary exposes more in-depth on this controversial case, made it understood that his brother's rejection for a plea bargain was based on principal. When virtually no one raised



PHOTO | AUGUST PELLICCI

Akeem Browder sharing his brother's experience in the U.S. justice system.

their hand as to whether they would accept a plea bargain, Browder was amused.

"Where are we as a nation, of black and brown people, or people period," said Browder, "as a nation, where this still goes on in 2019?"

He said that he wanted to continue

his brother's legacy by making his story known. To challenge the perception that all those jailed are merely convicts overlooks a system that can deliberately go awry, he said. It can also lead people to ignore an individual's suffering.

He said with the fortunate circumstance

of having his brother's story being told, it also stands for those who have gone unheard, but also generates a kind of suspicion by the community where they feel that over a bookbag, a sentence to prison is not far off the mark.

Browder spoke about his brother's case and the

impact on his family, he said that is the way he desired his message to come across. Even when recalling his mother's reactive death and the details of his brother's incarceration, Browder remained calm and focused.

"I had to tell the story different. I could not let the public turn because there were so many graphic images that you could've turned the tale from so we had to teeter from keeping the attention without being too harsh," said Browder.

Immediately afterward, Browder turned to the audience to challenge them to consider the main crux of these issues: how can everybody be more aware of these issues and subvert as to what he sees are major problems in the incarceration system.

He said that the repercussions for poor families in black communities is even more felt. He said that the financial privilege of being bailed out still might not be enough.

See Browder Page 6

History department houses free historical books



PHOTO | J'MARI HUGHES

Jacqueline Isabella, history department secretary, posing with the free books.

By J'Mari Hughes
Reporter

Students can find the history department's office in Engleman Hall, which has been housing free books since October 2018.

"We have a lot of faculty that put books outside their doors," said Jacqueline Isabella the history department's secretary. "They just sort of line them up for free."

Isabella said she informed the other faculties that the department wanted to

collect the books outside of professor's offices to combine into one area.

She said she asked for no more than five books per semester, which professors leave in the department. When the shelf began, Isabella said, it was full of books, some alphabetized by author and others on display by which she thought would catch students' eyes.

"They're really paring down now so I might have to take some more from their little doorways," she said.

See Browder Page 6

Convenience of Delivery apps make life easier for students

By J'Mari Hughes
Reporter

Pizza and Chinese food are no longer the only restaurants delivering to people's doorsteps, as Uber began its own food delivery service in 2014 known as Uber Eats.

Mobile apps such as Grubhub and Door Dash have also been delivering to homes, jobs, and college dorms on campuses like Southern's.

"I get hungry at night sometimes and we don't feel like cooking," said Sarah Joseph, a senior, an exercise science major, SCSU resident. "I think it's convenient especially if you're working, you don't have time to cook or you just don't have the patience for it."

Joseph said she uses Uber Eats because of its wide amount of options in comparison to other apps. She said she orders food from McDonald's,

Garden Catering and York Street, where she loves to get basil fried rice.

Paula Alarcon, a senior, a biochemistry major said she has ordered pancakes from Three Brothers Diner using Uber Eats.

"I think it's lack of time," she said, "at work sometimes you can't go on break so you don't have time to go get food. It can be beneficial but it could also be because of laziness."

Madison Mesite, a freshman, a nursing major also said not being able to leave work is what causes her to use delivery apps, which according to her are perfect for people who work, cannot drive, or have social anxiety. She said she prefers Uber Eats and is impartial to whether ordering food makes people lazy.

"One time I ordered from Grubhub and the



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION | AUGUST PELLICCI

UberEats is one of the many delivery apps that people use to order food.

guy wouldn't even get out of the car," Mesite said. "I do feel lazy like I could go out and drive to get food but I'm like, 'Let's just call Uber Eats, it's easier.'"

According to Digital

Trends, the cheapest food service is Seamless, which does not charge users a delivery fee. Grubhub and DoorDash's prices depend on the restaurant and minimum fees, while

Uber Eats charges an additional five dollars plus to a customers' meal.

See more on:

thesouthernnews.org

A Generation in recovery against addiction

By Jessica Guerrucci
Reporter

Addiction means something different to each one of us. In the documentary, “Generation Found,” it meant community, connection, and support, and worked to break the stigmas surrounding addiction.

On Tuesday, Feb. 26, Southern showed the documentary “Generation Found” in the Student Center theater by Greg Williams. The movie focused on a recovery high school in Houston, Texas and showed how their community came together to create a peer-driven youth and worked towards the family’s recovery. A recovery high school is a school for students recovering from substance use disorder.

Sarah Keiser, coordinator of alcohol and other drug services and is involved in the collegiate recovery program on campus, said the film helps address stigmas about addiction.

“A misconception that people think is a lot of people don’t get sober at a young age. These recovery

high schools and collegiate recovery programs across the country are growing every year,” said Keiser.

Before the movie was shown, students had the opportunity to talk with different organizations in the community, such as Glorious Recovery, Turnbridge, Liberation Programs, Today I Matter, and several others, and after the event they held a panel discussion led by Mario Diurno.

Certified recovery coach Carol Cruz, who was on the panel, said she is a person in long term recovery and has been sober for 24 years. Cruz said her son is the reason that she is here today, and said he is her “miracle baby.”

“I do training, I facilitate, I coach, I teach, I mentor, everything that I eat and breathe is all about recovery,” said Cruz.

Cruz said it is important for people to talk about addiction because if people keep silent, nothing is ever going to change. In the movie, the students at Archway Academy, the recovery high school, do not judge each other, instead, they push each

other to do better.

“If they see someone is having a bad day, they lift them up,” said Cruz. “Shouldn’t it be like that all the time? That’s how I feel, it should be like that all the time. We should all be lifting each other up and unfortunately this disease oppresses people and down to not want to talk to people.”

Tyler Pelletier, a social work major who was also on the panel, is a student in recovery, and part of the collegiate recovery program on campus. Pelletier said he has been involved in several tabling events on campus to spread awareness regarding addiction.

“A lot of that is kind of raising awareness and letting people know there are recovery supports on campus, there’s different AA meetings, smart recovery meeting, different pathways to recovery and great councilors,” said Pelletier.

John Lally, who is President of “Today I Matter,” as well as a panel member, lost his son Tim to an overdose, and started the nonprofit organization



PHOTO | AUGUST PELLICCI

Mario Diurno, (left) John Hamilton, John Lally, Tyler Pelletier, and Carol Cruz were the participants of the “Generation Found” panel discussion.

in response to his death.

“After his passing we just needed to do something active, we needed to do something to honor him, and try to make something good come from his struggle,” said Lally.

As part of Lally’s organization, they made 165 posters of people that have been lost to addiction with titles under their photos such as “artist” or “musician” to show that these people were more than their addiction.

“These are good people that we’ve lost. They look like our family and our friends, they’re no different than any of us, and we’re not ashamed of them,” said Lally.

John Hamilton, the president of the Liberation Program, a non-profit, behavior health agency gave a different perspective during the panel discussion.

“There’s multiple pathways to recovery and we work closely with the recovery community to

have a seamless handoff to people developing a healing process with community and recovery,” said Hamilton.

Diurno, who led the panel, said he is in recovery and that Williams inspired him during his journey. He said how addicts are not bad people, just sick people trying to get well.

“You just have to treat people with love, dignity, and respect,” said Diurno. “That’s what I’ve learned in the last 30 years.”

Books

Continued from Page 5

The shelf ranges from textbooks to novels, all relating to history. Christine Petto, chair of history department said some books come from publishers.

“They like to entice us to start using their books so sometimes we have textbooks or different kinds of books,” Petto said, “and [other professors] have so many that they think, ‘Ugh I have no place to put this’ and so those will end up on the shelf as well.”

Isabella said she spread the news of the

shelf through the history department’s Facebook page and their newsletter. At least once a week, she said students come by to either take a book or read one before class.

Among the students who visits is Ryan Plourde, a senior, who said he learned of the books by being part of the history department.

“I’ve gotten a variety of books over the last year or so from these places, ranging from things about the first world war, to books on culture and ethics,” he said.

Plourde, who majors in history and special education, said he racked up over a dozen books from the department’s shelf and in the alcoves of professor’s offices.

Petto said the space creates a relationship with the department by letting majors and non-majors know they can read and take a book if they desire.

“It’s a nicer venue,” Petto said. “We created this space so that students could come and sit here so it’s nicer than going in the alcove where there’s a pile of books and sitting on the floor, whereas if they make their way here they can sit and read for a while.”

The shelf is not only limited to students. As Petto said, she read a book about the Lowell family and gave it to her brother.

Plourde said she thinks it is a great area for students to get books, especially history majors because it is easy and convenient to look through the shelf, take one

book and be on his or her way.

“I’d love to see it be expanded and other professors who want to maybe learn to some of their books to contribute to it,” he said. “It’d be awesome if more book shelves were

brought up.”

Isabella, a graduate of Southern, said she admires that the books are not strictly textbooks, rather ones that appeal to those interested in history.

“Good books for free—I think that’s pretty great,”

she said. “We started this wondering how it was going to work out. It was sort of this grand experiment that could not end well and we’d have to scrap but I really think it’s been successful so I’m happy we did it.”

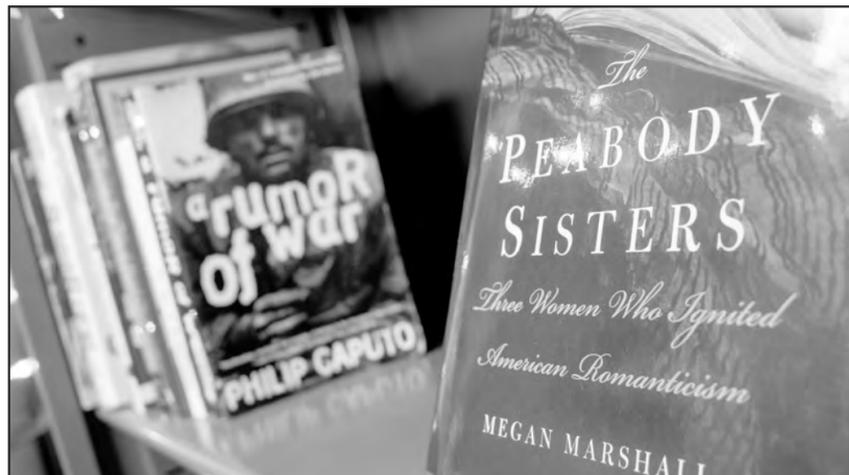


PHOTO | JACOB WARING

Some of the free books students could select to take from the history department.

Browder

Continued from Page 5

For “You would then be free to fight your accusation out on the streets. Well, that’s great, but when your accusation has a price of \$3000, maybe you don’t have that money,” said Browder.

Akeem Browder is the founder of Kalief Browder Foundation and an advocate for shutting down Rikers Island. Browder was not hesitant to express his utmost

disappointment with New York City’s mayor, Bill de Blasio’s concerns with the prison. When asked as to elaborate his thoughts, he said that much of what New York promised was “lip-service.”

When asked by the audience as to what the residents of Connecticut can do, he said that learning the language of the law and voting is essential in changing the landscape on how the system is worked.

“Average people don’t know about law. And so since you don’t know of law, we just enforce it on you,” said Browder.

After his presentation,

a crowd of nearly over 60 lined up either to take pictures and ask Browder questions.

Rose Perez, a senior, interdisciplinary study major, said that as a mother of four, she finds the inspiration to act within her community. This means getting involved with her children’s school and offering her thoughts about the curriculum that they so often teach.

“I think the biggest thing that we’re learning is learning the law to educate our community,” said her husband Nilvio Perez, “not just live through the news and say ‘that doesn’t happen to us.’”

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'The Vagina Monologues' showcases women and non-binary individuals

By **Alexandra Scicchitano**
Online Editor

The Vagina Monologues was a good place to talk about things that are considered taboo in today's society, said Justine Jarvie, a participant in the monologues.

"Are vaginas important? Absolutely," said Jarvie, a graduate student studying women's and genders studies. "I think feminine sexuality is really important and it's something that has been shamed in our society for so long."

Twenty years after Eve Ensler's play The Vagina Monologues

shattered taboos, the stakes simply could not be higher. As stated by OwlConnect, V-Day is a movement that grew out of the untold stories of woman, that spelling is used to include all people that identify as female. V-Day is a global activist movement to stop violence against woman and girls. We believe woman. We believe in their right to tell their stories and we believe their stories need to be heard - nothing is more powerful.

Besides talking about taboo topics about feminine sexuality, the goal of the production was to raise money and bring awareness

to resources both on and off campus said Jarvie, who has participated in the show three times.

"It also links you to community resources. The YWCA of New Britain, who we are benefitting from these performances, they're one of nine rape crisis centers in Connecticut," she said.

The performance is intended to be very intimate, with no setting or props besides a stool or a stand, so the focus was only on the person performing, Jarvie said.

"With each individual person, they really made it their own," said Paul Robinson, a second-year masters social work graduate, who attended the show.

Ashley Seiler, an IT technician who works with Jarvie at another job, said she was invited by Jarvie to attend the performance, and Seiler brought along her friend Megan McGuire, a mental health nurse, to see it as well.

"I loved it, I loved the emotion behind [the performances,]" said Seiler.

"A lot of range from the serious to the very hilarious," said McGuire.

The show can be different every time because there are different people, different monologues and "different energies," which can make the shows "really always fun," to do, said Jarvie.

"I love the honor and respect and the reverence of what they talked about," said McGuire.

"It's good to go to these kinds of events because it can get people, who don't have vaginas [identifying males], to understand them and to understand topics like this that are still taboo in society today," said Jessica Clark, a junior English second education major.

"I really liked it, [the show], I



PHOTO | AUGUST PELLICCIO

Miranda Kross performing her monologue last Wednesday.

enjoyed how much feeling they had with it and I feel like you get lost in the monologues. Some were sad, some were funny, I really like that there [was] a lot of everything," said Clark.

While wearing his 'Stay Woke' shirt to the performance, Robinson said he did not feel uncomfortable during it and pointed at his shirt to give credit as to why he wasn't uncomfortable.

The Violence Prevention, Victim Advocacy Support center was invited to have a tabling where there was a VPAS representative at the production to give out brochures and talk to about what the center can do for students on campus, and off campus said Melissa Kissi, the sexual assault and violence prevention specialist for VPAS.

"I think it's important for our office to be present in events like this just because the topic can be potentially triggering for people whether they've experienced sexual violence or not, or whether they know somebody [who has] or not," said Kissi.

According to Jarvie, she said she was proud of the show and that she loved the cast, but she does wish that men would come to these events more often and become more actively aware of the some of the issues these women face today.

"I wish more men would engage with it," Jarvie said.

"I feel like coming to events like this makes it less taboo and people are more open to talk about it afterwards, or just really think about [vaginas,]" said Clark. "This celebrates our vaginas."



PHOTO | AUGUST PELLICCIO

Vanessa Parker, a graduate student, performing her monologue last Wednesday.

Crescent Players host writing workshop for imaginative short stories

By **Haljit Basuljevic**
Reporter

On Wednesday, Feb. 27, the Crescent Players hosted a workshop for writers to showcase their imaginative short stories and scripts against a creative, challenging experiment.

During the middle of the workshop, one could feel the ensuing silence as writers tried to jot down a fitting word that matches the mood and image of the story. Scores of students were churning at their tables, some at blistering speed and others contemplating as if it is a chess move.

"If you come to a mental block, repeat the word that you just wrote over and over again. Just keep writing," said Molly Flanagan, an IDS major and junior.

For the experiment, writers were given a backdrop of showtime music and a circulating image of a painted moss-covered crag rock surrounded by water. Choices between writing a play, script and short story were given.

Flanagan said she was inspired by the experiment after attending various playwriting workshops and picking up some of the ideas she gained there.

"I kind of took it a step further by opening it up to like, playwrights and screenwriters because the workshop that we do, we just write stories," said Flanagan.

Before writers had honed their pens, Flanagan identified to the audience that there were notable differences between screenwriting and playwriting, such as screenplays written with actors and designers visually in mind. Hence, there are "stricter formatting rules."

"The formatting rules for screenplay has four main elements: a scene heading, action, character and dialogue," said Flanagan.

She also said that an example of a format for screenwriters would be to begin with at least three pieces of information.

"Interior, blackbox, day. Or exterior, campus, quad, night," said Flanagan, "Then you go immediately into action, say, 'Jacob walks along the quad' and then go to dialogue."

Flanagan said that the exercise was intended for thinking visually about a story. And after three to five minutes of the first draft, the music and images switch. Now, the semblance of a house beat and the white-hot image of two musicians

are given for everybody to see.

"The practice challenged me in a way where Molly didn't give us any specific info about the prompt, she showed us. So it was challenging to me to understand exactly what I seeing in the pictures," said Matthew Lopes, a theater major and junior, who said that the transition between music and image gave him clarity as to where his story was going.

Among the few stories that were presented, Lopes interpreted the lone rock as a frog approaching a storage unit containing a little boy and from there the story referenced everything from Zootopia to Cocoa to Madagascar.

Vittoria Cristante, theater major and junior, stated that this has been the first time they've done a screenwriting/playwriting workshop. She added that the semester will follow up with more workshops, including an improv workshop that will be showcased next week.

"I hope this can be part of a bigger playwright initiative because we don't have professors here who can teach playwriting," said Flanagan. "So to me, like as students, I feel like it would be good to start that. Our own playwriting program."



PHOTO | HALJIT BASULJEVIC

Molly Flanagan, a senior, giving instructions to writers.



PHOTO | HALJIT BASULJEVIC

Molly Flanagan, a senior, showing writers an image for inspiration at the event last Wednesday.



PHOTO | HALJIT BASULJEVIC

Attendees of the workshop writing on their laptops.

'The Tragical History of Dr. Faustus' impresses audience



Characters acting on the Lyman Center stage last week.

PHOTO COURTESY | ISABEL CHENOWETH

**By Jessica Guerrucci
Reporter**

"The Tragical History of Doctor Faustus" was brought to life on the Lyman Center stage, highlighting one man's struggle between heaven and hell.

Southern's Theatre Department and the Crescent Players came together to show Christopher Marlowe's "Dr. Faustus." The play was directed by Rebecca Goodheart, who is the producing artistic director of Elm Shakespeare Company in New Haven.

Michael Shea, the chair of the English department, who teaches courses on the theatre of Shakespeare and his contemporaries, including Marlowe, was on the panel where they discussed the production with the audience after opening night.

"It was just a discussion about this particular production and how people saw certain issues, like how the staging was done, and there's a lot of really excellent sound production, and visual projections of video," said Shea.

The Lyman Center, which usually seats 1,500, was set up differently, creating a much smaller stage, with a smaller audience. Hannah Dustin, a music major, said she liked how they flipped the stage around.

"I think it made it more personal, like it was more interactive. Like when he was giving the cup to the people in the front, it made it more personal," said Dustin.

Dustin also said she thought that the lighting and video projections brought the play to life, comparing these effects to virtual reality goggles.

With the lighting, video projections, acting, and several other elements bringing the play to life, Shea said this play, which touches on dark magic, is fitting, because theater itself has a magic to it.

"You have the suspension of the actors being who they really are played as roles, and you kind of believe those roles," said Shea "and so the whole notion of a play about magic is interesting because plays

themselves have kind of a magical quality to them."

The audience said they were impressed with the acting and how much it added to the allusion of the the production. Specifically mentioned was Matthew Iannantuoni, who played Dr. Faustus, and Sasha Mahmoud, who played Mephistophilis. Elena Lofgrin, a sociology major, said she was most impressed by Mahmoud's acting.

"The one who played Metastophilis, I just liked the way she carried her body, it was very rigid and it kind of like showed how she's a demon," said Lofgrin.

During the panel, Shea said they discussed the play's relevance in the world today regarding the human conscience and morals.

"We were talking about the sort of continuing struggle that humans have with how much how much are you willing to sacrifice," said Shea "and if you don't believe in a soul, how much are you willing to sacrifice your conscience to do a wrong thing in order to have worldly gains, and are they worth it?"

Cameron Rho, a computer science major, also said it was interesting to see a play that was first performed in 1592, still have relevance.

"I thought it was really interesting to see how an older play could apply to the same kind of themes we see in society today," said Rho.

Dr. Faustus, who makes a deal with Lucifer, in which he gives his soul in exchange for 24 years of service from Mephistophilis, a demon who has already been . At first Faustus enjoys his new powers, but as time passes and his impending doom comes closer, he finds himself wanting to beg for mercy, but it is too late. Considering Faustus remains in hell at the end, Shea said the play suggests his sacrifice was not worth it.

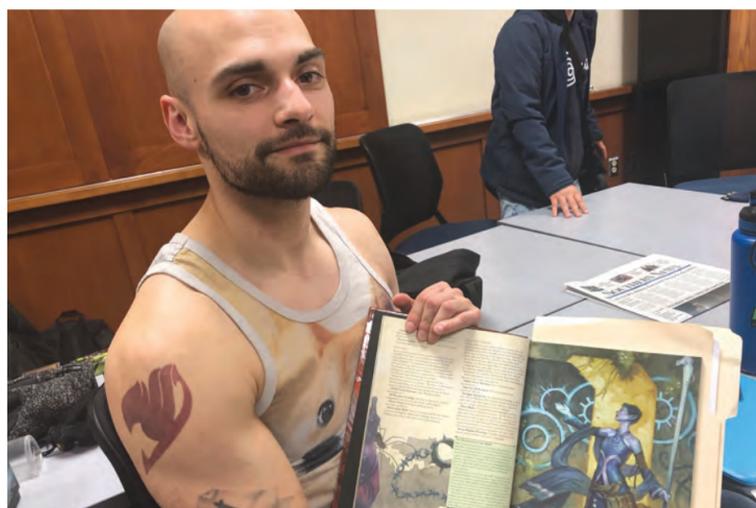
"At the end Faustus is damned, yet through the course of the play he never has anything," said Shea. "He gets what he wants, but what he wants doesn't seem satisfying to him in the course in the play as it did when he thought about it at the beginning."



A scene from the production of "The Tragical History of Doctor Fautus."

PHOTO COURTESY | ISABEL CHENOWETH

LARPing club makes for a great escape from stress



Edward Cordero, a senior, with a picture of his Dark Elf Rouge character.

PHOTO | J'MARI HUGHES



LARP club members playing Magic: The Gathering.

PHOTO | J'MARI HUGHES

**By J'Mari Hughes
Reporter**

Live action role-playing, or LARP, is an activity where participants portray fictional characters and engage in activities such as mock combat and puzzles.

Southern's LARP club, "The Guild," has been on campus since 2014.

"We have overarching storylines that involve medieval times, magical apocalypse, 'oh man every guy for himself' kind of deal," said club president Jocelyn Marsto. We also have individual one shots where a story that can be started and finished within the amount of time allotted by the club."

Tuesdays, the LARP club hosts an event called "Tabletop Tuesdays," where members participate in games such as War Hammer 40K, Magic the Gathering, and a common favorite among the group, Dungeons and Dragons.

"A lot of imagination is involved," said graduate student Kerstin Moreau. "We're in our one group and our characters are people in the world doing what we wanna do."

Moreau, an original LARP club member and cosplay fan, said her game character is named Dylan and has one desire to stay as far north as possible.

"He had a bad homelife and was able to leave," she said, "so he doesn't care what he does so long as he doesn't stay in one place too long, that's his main goal."

Senior Edward Cordero has his own character, a Dark Elf Rogue which, gaming site Lineage II says, have high attack and strike critical rate.

"This is the first time I've been able to make a character from scratch and have my own storyline," he said, "and having this group is pretty nice with your imagination."

Another character Voxie, accompanied by

her pet badger Bartholomew, is portrayed by Marston, a senior.

"She goes wherever the wind takes her, she's whatever race is short like gnome or dwarf and she does whatever she pleases," Marston, a biology major said.

Another event the organization partakes in is Utopia Descending, a futuristic game where players are under control of capitalistic corporations and must fight monsters, to put it very simply, Marston said.

As president, Marston said she helps run parlors, create overarching storylines, and buy supplies to make gaming tools like boffers.

Boffers, she said, are swordlike items made of PVC pipes, pool noodles, and "a lot" of duct tape, and are soft enough to whack opponents with, often made along with spell packets when the club gets together for crafts.

Xavier Hopkins, a junior, said he has been with the LARP club for three years and said it is like a little adventure for everyone.

"I love the concept of figuring out what we're doing," said Hopkins, a film major. "We have combat nights where we battle one another. It's always intense a good bonding experience."

Moreau said occasionally, LARP clubs from nearby visit . The club also does things for different holidays, one being Valentine's Day, where Marston said they created a speed dating service featuring characters like hillbillies and Gollum from Lord of the Rings.

Hopkins said when he first heard of the LARP club, he jumped at the opportunity to join and now loves the people surrounding him in it.

"It's very therapeutic and a great way to have an escape from the stress college can bring," he said. "We've become very close here, it's a great club with great people in it."

First round victory

Men's basketball advances to second round of NE10 Conference Tournament

By Hunter O. Lyle
Sports Editor

In their second consecutive year hosting the first round of the NE10 playoffs, Southern snuck past Stonehill College with a big effort from senior guard Kealen Ives.

Coming in as the fourth seed, (12-8 in NE10) in the Southwest Division, the Owls took on the fifth seed in the Northeast Division Stonehill (8-13 in NE10), who they lost to earlier this season.

The game started off with the Skyhawks shooting lights out from deep. Junior guard Brandon Twitty caused the most trouble for the Owls early, connecting on his first five shots from deep, while the rest of the Skyhawks shot 4-7 from deep (57 percent), for a team total of 9-12 (75 percent).

Southern's head coach Scott Burrell said the team knew how much of a problem Stonehill's shooting was going to be, and the team focused the early game plan on preventing that.

"[Stonehill] came out hot, they were on fire. Nine for 12 in the first half, and that's what sparked their lead, and sparked their energy," said Burrell.

After giving Stonehill a 20-11 lead with just over 12 minutes left in the first half of play, Ives started to pour it on, slicing and dicing to collect 20 points in just the first half, and bringing the Owls within three at halftime, 43-40.

"In the second half, we played better defense. We contained their shot, contested their threes, contained their drives," said Burrell. "When we play good defense, it's going to start transitioning to buckets and will pick up the energy, and we made some huge shots tonight."

Ives said he and the rest of the team were motivated by the harsh fact that the season could have been over.

"I didn't want to end my career like that," said Ives. "The next game could possibly be my last game, so I just want to give it everything I got."

Coming out of the halftime break, the Owls seemed to be picked up where they left off. Ives continued to shake the defense and score at will, giving the Owls a two-point lead with 10 minutes remaining. Stonehill kept the game close, continuously hitting deep shots and flipping the lead several times late in the game.

As the clock ran down, the Owls were able to pull ahead, thanks to clutch efforts from Ives, sophomore guard C.J. Seaforth, and senior forward Joey Wallace, who hit a dagger three with only minutes left. The Owls went on to win 80-75.

"The main factor in the win was just staying together," said Seaforth. "We all just kept talking, even down by 12, and acted like we've been there before. [We] just fought through and came out with the win."

Seaforth also said the chemistry between his teammates was the only reason he was able to make an impact in the second half.

Along with Ives's high scoring performance, two other Owls finished in double digits: Seaforth tallied 16 points and two steals on the night, and senior guard Isaiah McLeod, who left the game early due to an on-court injury, grabbed 12 points and 2 steals as well.

After the game, Seaforth said the team was ecstatic with the win, and was just happy they were able to play in one more game this season.

"Right now, we're all just happy we came out with the win. Kealan came out and had a great game, got 37. Coach kept telling us to go to him, go to him, so that's what we did," said Seaforth.



PHOTO | AUGUST PELLICCIO

Guard Kealen Ives, a senior, shoots a free throw during the first round of the NE10 Tournament against Stonehill College.

See Men's basketball Page 11

Fresh faces for softball

New energy and talent arrive ahead of home opener



PHOTO | WWW.SOUTHERNCTOWLS.COM

Infielder Sara Buscetto, a junior, at bat in a game earlier this season in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.

By Matt Gad
Sports Writer

The softball team holds high expectations for this season, as this year's squad features 10 underclassmen and what the team is calling a very deep lineup, one through nine.

Head coach Jillian Rispoli said the incoming class of athletes has already impressed her.

"We have a handful of fresh faces," Rispoli said. "And those young kids have brought to the table an intense amount of talent - they are a phenomenal group offensively. This group of freshmen has so many different qualities and so many different weapons to bring to the game; they are really fun to watch."

Along with the five freshmen the team acquired, catcher Jacqueline Dumont, outfielder Ally Petrella, infielders Liz

DeRosa and Alexa Bacoulis and outfielder Ivy Geloso, the team also has some key returners that Rispoli is expecting significant contributions from.

"Our pitching has come a long way. Jazymn Martinez is a sophomore on the staff and she looks wonderful," Rispoli said. "Every time we see her she is not just throwing but it is art; she has become that skilled with throwing her pitches and Kailey Westington just needs to bring it every day because she has the stuff and then seniors Madison Feshler and Delany Turner have the ability to get outs whenever they want them," she said.

The team feels that its offense is much more complete this season and it should help them remain competitive in games, especially since they play exclusively doubleheaders in the regular season.

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PHOTO | AUGUST PELLICCIO

Attacker Samantha Cozzolino, a senior, fighting towards the net in a home game against the New York Institute of Technology.

Lacrosse suffers early in season

Despite second half push, comeback falls short for third straight loss

By Matt Gad
Sports Writer

After going into halftime down 12-2, the Owls stormed back in the second half and outscored the New York Institute of Technology, 6-5, despite a deflating loss.

"We went into this game thinking we could win. We thought we really matched up pretty well," he said. "They just came out on fire."

Senior midfielder Brooke Basso got the ball rolling for the Bears, scoring just 10 seconds into the game and her teammates took it from there.

NYIT scored eight unanswered goals before freshman attacker Bayleigh Takacs got the Owls on the board halfway through the first half.

Coming out of the locker room senior co-captain Samantha Cozzolino fired back-to-back goals, both off assists from junior attacker Morgan Chase, before

junior co-captain Brianna Grade, who specializes on defense, scored the first goal of her career.

"We handled the ball better in the second half," Grande said. "We gained more confidence...[our] attack was working the ball around, the defense was stepping in front and it was more of a collective unit."

The Bears were held with just one goal through more than 15 minutes of play in the second half before the NYIT put one through the net, unassisted, to make it a 14-6 contest.

"We won the second half but NYIT did not pull any punches; they did not take anyone out [in the second half]," head coach Kevin Siedlecki said. "We just have to believe that this is the level we can play at because we really can -- we did it for 30 minutes today but we need to find our stride and do it for 60."

See Lacrosse Page 11

NE10 needs to change tournament scheduling



By Matt Gad
Sports Writer

Friday night the NE10 Tournament opened for basketball, but there was one problem: the Owls had one team playing at home and one team on the road out of the state, playing a first-round game at Merrimack in upstate Mass. Sure, with a better record the women could have also been awarded a coveted home game, resulting in an NE10 First Round doubleheader at Moore Field House, but that just was not the case.

The first two rounds of the conference tournament have both the men's and women's brackets playing do-or-die March basketball on the same night and at the same time.

A similar situation happened in soccer this past fall, with the men's and women's teams, except both teams were able to play their opening games of their respective NE10 Tournaments on the same day, with one in the afternoon and one at night.

Yes, when it comes to the semifinals and the championship rounds of the tournament, men and women's basketball will not have a crossover, but even for the early rounds, the stacking of games seems unnecessary and inconvenient.

Why not have one tournament start on a Thursday night, for example, with the other one on Friday? There are players on each team that may want to watch their friends and now they are unable to since these games are happening simultaneously. You could have an NE10 advisory panel on this issue with just basketball head coaches Scott Burrell, Kate Lynch, as well as soccer coaches Adam Cohen and Tom Lang alone and the league would probably hear a lot of frustration for scheduling these games on the same day or night.

To a minor extent, I understand the reasoning. Maybe to some schools, it does not really make much of a difference.

But when a school has both sets of squads in the conference playoffs, like what Southern is facing this playoff season, this entire situation can become a little irritating.

So the question here is pretty simple: why does the league choose to operate this way? Is there an advantage they have by doing things this way? I mean, what is the justification for having both tournaments start at the same time? Please NE10, enlighten the fans, because we really just do not get it.

If I could sit down and have a conversation with NE10 commissioner Julie Ruppert, I would just ask her what the reasoning behind all this is.

I think there should at least be a dialogue going on about why they can't start one tournament on a Thursday night for the First Round and split up the Friday basketball slate. Fans and athletes alike would appreciate the change in playoff scheduling tradition.

Stahlbrodt shining in rookie year

By Matt Gad
Sports Writer

It has been a year of big-time performances for women's gymnastics freshman Hannah Stahlbrodt, one of the only Owls that compete in every event on competition day.

As part of a rejuvenating look on the team, its largest sized squad ever, as coach Jerry Nelson has said, Stahlbrodt has been able to set new marks meet in and meet out.

"Since the Yale meet, I have gotten better and it is getting more fun as the season goes on," Stahlbrodt said.

In the team's last meet on March 1, where they faced both Towson and Bridgeport, Stahlbrodt was responsible for collecting 38.125 points, winning the floor exercise and also scored well in her three-out event categories on the bars, balance

beam and in the vault.

"To have someone come in strong and do all four events is a boost for the team. This is one of the strongest teams since I have been here," senior co-captain Kylyn Dawkins said. "The chemistry has always been good but it is different this year."

On Feb. 17, where the team met Springfield College and Ithaca College Stahlbrodt walked away with a program record 39.050 points in the team's meet at Springfield College against the Pride and Ithaca. With a 9.850 on bars she tied a program record, as well.

"Her consistency is a big thing for us," senior co-captain Tiffany Coleman said. "It is definitely hard to do four events so it is very impressive, especially as a freshman."

Stahlbrodt, who has also been honored by the ECAC this season, said she did not know what to expect coming into the team.

"This was beyond what I expected and it is way better," she said. "My expectations were set at what I thought I could do, which was three events like everyone else and I exceeded my expectations."

Stahlbrodt said everyone typically competed in four events during the club level but that when people come to college they usually just work on their specialties.

"Hopefully, as a team, we break 193 points, which would be a new school record," she said. "Hopefully I will keep exceeding my own goals and the team goals, too, and I can keep getting better."

Friday the team will compete against Temple, West Chester and Maryland and then they will face off against Maryland, Penn State and Brown in College Park, Md. over the weekend.

"We just want to continue going up. We have broken several records already this

year," Dawkins said. "Our goal was to start off how we left off last year and we have already had our highest season-opening score ever so just want to stay consistent."

The team would like to keep trying to break the all-time scoring record, she said, and every meet they are just trying to achieve that feat.

"Even though we do not win against other teams we are getting personal highs. We do not always have to win but it is just about that team score," Coleman said. "We are breaking records every meet almost, which is good."

On March 16, the team will have its Senior Day at home against Bridgeport before they then travel to the University of Bridgeport, the home of the Purple Knights for ECACs a week later and Nationals starting April 11, if the team or individuals qualify.



PHOTO | WWW.SOUTHERNCTOWLS.COM

Hannah Stahlbrodt, a freshman, extends on the uneven parallel bars earlier this season.



PHOTO | WWW.SOUTHERNCTOWLS.COM

Hannah Stahlbrodt, a freshman, competes in the floor exercise in a meet at Springfield on Feb 17.

Softball

Continued from Page 9

"We lost a lot of key position players last year - our starting shortstop, our starting catcher, our starting center fielder and one of our starting pitchers so that is definitely tough but the younger girls are doing a really good job coming in and filling those roles," junior co-captain Sara Buscetto said. "One thing we have this year that we have not had since I have been here is a really strong hitting team top to bottom."

She said that the bench players also consist of a lot of talent and depth that they can use when they need to, like to move runners over or to hit for average.

"We are a very strong offensive team at the plate and on the basepaths," senior co-captain Madison Feshler said. "I have a lot of confidence in our offense this year and we also have the defense to win games."

The way the team's schedule is structured, they play a lot of games in a short time span. Starting with a spring break matchup against Rollins College. Every time they meet an opponent, at home or on the road, it will be for a

doubleheader.

"It is a really long season. There are some really long days at the field, especially when we are traveling, but the goal is to do our best to mentally prepare for doubleheaders in advance," Buscetto said.

The team is currently 1-3 throughout their four games played in Myrtle Beach, S.C., and after its six-game spring break stretch in Florida, the opening homestand will begin March 19 with LIU Post and continue with games against New Haven, Merrimack and Assumption College.

"The expectations are high because we play in such a competitive conference," Rispoli

said. "The NE10 is sending four to five teams to the regional tournament every year so we have to be prepared and we have to set the bar high because the competition is so fantastic."

Last year the team went 11-31, but it was a three-game improvement over an eight-win year the previous spring.

"We want to lead [the underclassmen] so we do not get to those low points as often," Buscetto said. "We want to win every inning, every pitch in every at-bat to really stay focused. We have a lot of young girls on a team of 16 so they have not really gone through the past two seasons so this is all brand new to them."



PHOTO | WWW.SOUTHERNCTOWLS.COM

Infielder Julia Lener, at bat in their second game of the season against Le Moyne.



PHOTO | WWW.SOUTHERNCTOWLS.COM

The team huddles up during their annual alumni game on Oct. 20.

Men's rugby approach the 'seven seasons'

By Matt Gad
Sports Writer

The SCSU club rugby team, known on campus at the Black Attack, is getting ready for its spring session of rugby, also known as the "sevens season."

Instead of playing 15 a-side like with what happens in the fall season, the spring is one with a more athletic style of play, emphasizing speed and other vital skills.

"There are plenty of new guys this year," coach Bob Chester said. "The majority of the team is freshmen and sophomores with limited playing experience so the more rugby we can play, the better."

The team will host a 15s game at Jess Dow Field April 6 against Eastern Connecticut State University and they will also compete in three to four Sevens Tournaments this spring, Chester said, including the conference tournament at Babson College at the end of April.

Chester said a tournament will

typically feature 8-16 teams in which the teams play a round-robin format, having to win a handful of 14-minute games to advance further on.

"We are looking forward to this upcoming season with a lot of enthusiasm," junior co-captain Andrew Goggin said. "Sevens requires a lot more athleticism and we have a lot of guys who can win one-on-one matchups. Our goal is to win a lot of the tournaments we are going to play in and anything worse than winning first place in at least a few of these tournaments is certainly not good."

Ricky Kirk, a former defensive lineman for the Owls who played rugby club in New Haven after he graduated, will join Chester as an assistant coach this spring to help continue to develop the team.

Co-captain senior Palmer Piana also said that Chester has so many connections in the game that he will frequently bring guys in to help out the team.

"The guys that graduated last spring, that was pretty much our

sevens squad so there are a lot of new guys now," Palmer said. "We have never played sevens in this conference before but from what I saw in the fall I am cautiously optimistic."

Chester said he is excited about the season and that he feels confident in his captains to lead the team.

"There is a good vibe," he said. "Guys have fun. I have been involved since 1981 and I still love it."

Chester, a Southern graduate himself, founded the club before moving on to become a founder in the New Haven men's league in 1986.

"The number one reason why we play is because it is fun," he said.

The team's opening tournament at Babson was canceled due to inclement weather and while Chester did say some scheduling is still getting worked out, the plan is for competitive play to really start up after Spring Break.

"I am hoping we will have more success this season. Our

goal is to win tournaments and make nationals and I would consider anything less than that a failure," Goggin said.

With the team now in a new conference, New England Wide Collegiate Rugby, travel has become less hectic as games are now not as far away.

"Last fall we had to go up to Vermont but every other game was fairly close; within an hour," Goggin said. "But my freshman and sophomore years we went all over the place, up to Middlebury, Vermont, Providence; it was tough sometimes."

The conference features Coast Guard, Hartford, Quinnipiac, Sacred Heart, Vermont, Boston University, Central Connecticut State University, Springfield, Western Connecticut State University, Westfield State and the Worcester Polytechnic Institute.

"It is a closer based conference and we are playing all new teams," Goggin said. "The new competition hopes you build a better team and I love it."

Bring back wrestling as conduit for aggression



By Hunter O. Lyle
Sports Editor

There seems to be a campaign going on around the country to make every aspect of life less combative and physical. From video games to school yard scuffles, everything seems to have become a PG-13 version of what it once was.

Even sports have seen a decrease in physical contest. The NFL is under heavy fire from discussions of chronic traumatic encephalopathy and on the collegiate level, football is on the chopping block in many universities around the nation.

In the NBA, where this movement can be seen most obviously, the league has moved away from the tough and rugged play of old, with fouls being called more frequently and broadly.

However, sports are a perfect home for physicality and aggression. Countless times, I have heard coaches talk about how players should "take it out on the field" or "put that anger to use."

Southern athletics should consider bringing one sport that could be considered of a poster child of controlled aggression, back onto campus: wrestling.

During the 1980s, Southern had a wrestling program, and even made a trip to the Championships in 1982. The program continued to be a part of Southern's athletic, until the late 1990s, where it was discontinued for reasons that can not be verified.

As a fan of any sport that combines physical challenge and prowess with skill and performance, I urge Southern to bring back the wrestling team, a program that was teetering on the verge of NCAA banners and recognition.

Wrestling, unlike any other sport in Southern's athletic programs, pins one contestant versus another, both only able to win using their brute strength, sharp minds, and practiced strategies.

In many high schools and colleges across the country, wrestling is a major sport that attracts fans and spotlights. The reach of the sport goes beyond educational programs, as it is also a major event in the Olympics.

The sport, which was one of the first featured in the Olympics, is such a well-loved sport, that when it was removed from the Olympics in 2013, there was an immediate protest and petition to reinstate wrestling, which passed and will take effect in the 2020 games.

In most other realms of life, I can understand the shift away from anything that inspires hostility, but sports and athletics thrive off the mindset of enmity. Athletes know what they are signing up for when they agree to play a contact sport, a sport they most likely have been playing throughout their lives already.

Having a wrestling team would utilize and act as a conduit or a valve to tap into this bottled up energy.



PHOTO | ALEXIS DELIA

Flanker Pierce Piana, a sophomore, breaks a tackle in a game against the University of Hartford last season.

Men's basketball

Continued from Page 9

Even before the semifinals match started, Ives said he knew he was going to have a big game.

"I just felt it early. It started early in shoot around," said Ives. "I came and just shot it from far, and it went all net, and I was like 'oh yeah,' and it carried on to the game."

Looking ahead to the team's next playoff game in hostile territory against Saint Anselm College which was played on March 3, Burrell said the team should savor the win before getting back to work.

"Number one, let [the team] enjoy this game right now. It's

a huge win, without Isaiah, without Ulyen [Coleman], I mean that's 40 points on the bench for us right now," said Burrell. "We let them enjoy it, come back, prepare and watch film, and get our game plan down."

Southern continued their win streak by upsetting the No. 1 ranked team in the league Saint Anselm on their home court 97-87. Seaforth and Ives lead the Owls scoring, both ending with 25 points. Senior guard Joey Wallace also contributed to the teams success by dropping 19 points, 13 rebounds as well as three assists.

The team, standing one way away from making the conference finals, takes to the road once again to face long-time conference rival and No. 2 seed in the Southwest Division University of New Haven for the semifinals on March 6.



PHOTO | AUGUST PELLICCI

Guard C.J. Seaforth, a sophomore, drives to the paint in a home playoff game against Stonehill College on Friday.

Lacrosse

Continued from Page 9

The game ended 17-8, with the Bears netting the final goal of the game in the last 18 seconds. Cozzolino led the Owls with four goals, giving her eight on the season and over 100 now in her career, and Chase and freshman Karlie Rowe also contributed to the scoring.

"We have worked more as a team this year and we are not really concerned about wins and losses," Grande said. "We have a new coaching staff and [Siedlecki] is here to build a new program. Of course, we want to win but we are more into making sure everyone works well together and we

are trusting each other more than in past years."

In a 15-5 loss to LIU Post a week ago, Rowe found the net four times in her second ever collegiate game. She led her team to a 5-5 second-half score despite the Owls being on the receiving end of a 10-goal barrage at the start.

"We are making progress. We had 17 turnovers so that is down from the previous game so we are seeing progress against really good teams; we just played two Top 25 teams," Siedlecki said. "We have a really difficult schedule but we are focused on making progress every day."

The Owls will go up against Merrimack in its next matchup Saturday afternoon, seeking to give Siedlecki his first win since

leaving his post on the women's lacrosse team at Daniel Hand High School.

"[Merrimack] is going D-I next year so it is our last year playing them and they have some really good recruits because they are going up next year but we are just going to prepare this week to defend them," Grande said.

After going up against the Warriors, the team has New Haven March 12 and Saint Anselm the following Saturday.

"Right now we are starting seven freshmen or sophomores," Siedlecki said. "They are going to get more experience and they are going to be more capable; it is happening a little bit at a time and we just have to be more consistent and play for 60 minutes."



PHOTO | AUGUST PELLICCI

Attacker Morgan Chase, a junior, during a home game played on Sunday.

PHOTO

Campus is still beautiful in the rain

By August Pelliccio
Photo Editor

As the proverb dictates, March “goes in like a lion, and comes out like a lamb.”

Having had three examples of snow in the forecast already this month, it seems

that the former half of the old adage stands true.

Just before the blanket of white graced campus, dreary, cloudy and foggy conditions lingered. Rain and gray skies made for wet walks across campus, but unexpected beauty emerged through the

lens. Using a combination of traditional and unconventional photography techniques brought out the way campus shines through the rain drops and fog.

The Old Farmers Almanac for 2019 predicts no more snowfall beyond this point in the atlantic corridor, which

includes New Haven, but the Weather Channel predicts more snow between March 8-10.

With warmer temperatures, rain will come again at the month’s end, making more beautiful gray skies, fog, glistening raindrops and haunting reflections.



Inverted image: Ralph Earl Hall Fine Arts building seen in the reflection of an acculation of rain water on the sidewalks running across the Academic Quad.



Tree branch with raindrops at Adanti Student Center.



Long Exposure: A wooded area north of Jess Dow Field almost completed obscured by fog in the cool air.



Triptych: a single rain drop rolls down the structure and into the reservoir of H2O: Liquid Zone, an art installation located at the northwest corner of Engleman Hall.