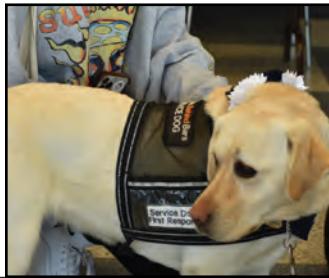




**Journalism
Alumni
Night
Page 2**



**K-9
Jules
birthday party
Page 3**



**Owls
win against
Mercy 6-1
Page 4**

SOUTHERN NEWS

WWW.THESOUTHERNNEWS.ORG

MARCH 22, 2023

VOL 62 - ISSUE 20

Rob Demezzo new position on campus

By Jaylen Carr
Sports Editor

After spending over 20 years as part of the university's Residence Life, Rob Demezzo is now the Senior Director of Conferences, Events and Student Affairs Auxiliaries.

"I have done housing for a long time, and I thought maybe it would be fun for housing to have a new director to bring new ideas because I have done it for so long," Demezzo said.

Demezzo says he wanted to stay at the university because he went there as an undergraduate.

"I have a love for Southern," Demezzo said. "I want to say that I bleed blue. I wanted to stay with Southern but do something different that I felt could benefit Southern students."

Double major in history and political science, Kyle Thaxton, a junior, said, he heard about Rob's new position when I found out he was leaving the place of Residence Life Director to transition to a new role on campus."

Thaxton, the President of the Student Government Association, said once he found out about Demezzo's departure from residence life, he did not know where or what department he would join.

"I found out that he was heading Southern's Auxiliary Events and Conferences Department and the Student Center during a Student Government Board of Student Experience meeting," Thaxton said.

Thaxton said he met Demezzo before when he was working in residential life, and he was helpful and always there to support students.

"I may not agree with Rob on everything, but I do know, based on my interactions with him, that he is a diligent and hardworking higher-education professional who wants what is best for students," Thaxton said.

The new department, Conferences, Events and Student Affairs Auxiliaries, works with the Student Center, Lyman Center and the universities food services to support student events, said Demezzo.

Demezzo, Owl alumni, said his job is to "ensure spaces are accessible and available for student use; that's everything from being able to book a space to ensuring that you have technology available to you and helping you with food services or getting catering for your event."

The availability of student space is the point of emphasis that the department wants to focus on, Demezzo said.

The department wants to make it simple for students to book rooms instead of having students go to different offices like the involvement or leadership offices, Demezzo said. "We can make it so through the conference and events area; you can book spaces in Engleman, the Rotunda and Lyman all in one shot."

The department is also looking to improve its website and the Student Center, Demezzo said.

"We are also looking on the external side," Demezzo said. "We can bring in a guest to the institution, possibly creating revenue."

Another component being Senior Director of Conferences, Events and Student Affairs Auxiliaries is the food services, Demezzo said. "Keeping the cost down and pro-

viding high-quality food and listening to the advice from our students as to what they want to see in Connecticut Hall and the Student Center."

Health care studies major Sade Richardson, a freshman, said that she hadn't heard about the Demezzo and the new department but hopes to improve the Student Center's food quality.

"Sometimes the lines can be super long, especially during lunch," Richardson said. "Maybe they can incorporate some healthier foods."

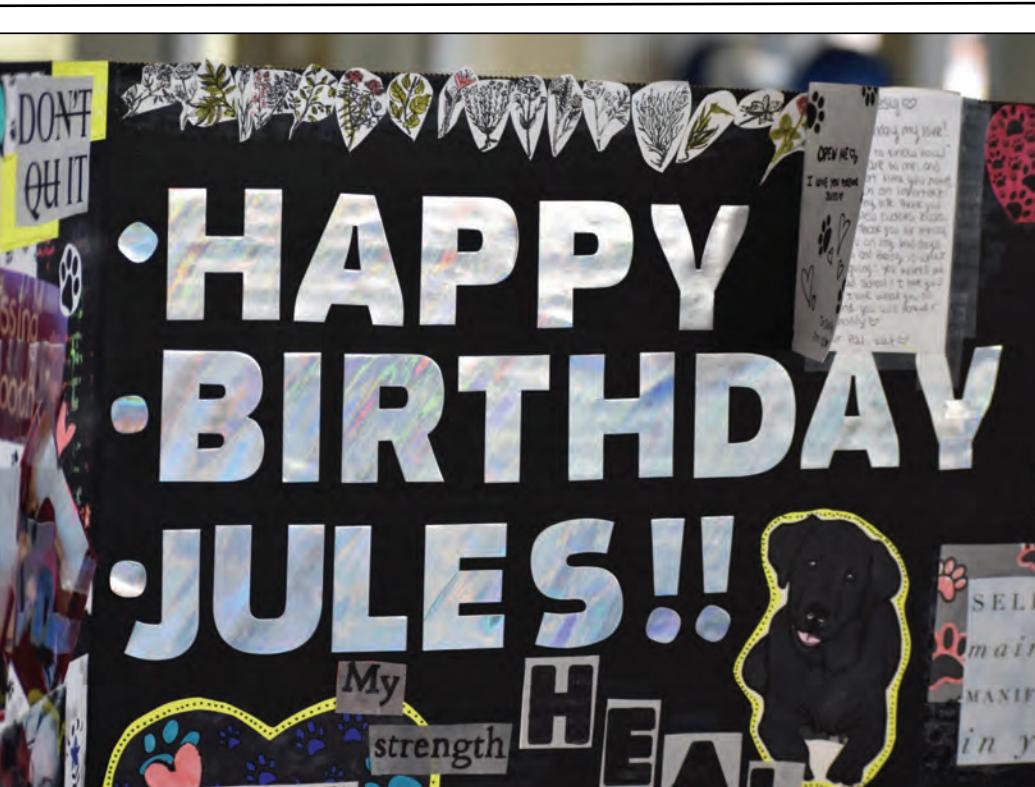
Music major Lincoln Carroll, a sophomore, said he hadn't heard about Demezzo and the new department either but hopes they can improve the food selection in the evening at Connecticut Hall.

"There are some nights that they have spicy foods," Carroll said. "Many other people and I just cannot tolerate spicy foods, so that leaves us on those days with not many options for what to eat."

Starting in his new position in July 2022, Demezzo said he wants to implement new things and improvements to the Adanti Student Center. He has already begun making changes this year, such as removing computers from the computer lab on the second floor of the student center.

"I worked to have some of the computers removed because students did not use a lot of the computers," Demezzo said. "But they did need a place where they put down their laptop and do some work."

Demezzo said that it's a lot of excitement about this new department on campus and looks to put the students first.



Birthday banner for K-9 Jules third birthday party on March 9 at Adanti Student Center.

PHOTO | LUKE MOLWITZ

Food pantry is open

By Jaylen Carr
Sports Editor

The universities food pantry now has multiple departments donating food items to the pantry because of the high student demand.

Michael Lawton, a graduate intern, said, "we have 19 departments participating in total, and the donations have allowed the pantry to have a steady influx of items."

Lawton said the departments consist of academic departments like English and history but also get donations from other departments such as the Office of Student Involvement and Conference Services.

Lawton said they contacted different departments, and the departments selected a popular item in the pantry from a list provided by the pantry.

"After selecting the item, we coordinate three dates in which we pick up from the food pantry," Lawton said. "So essentially, these departments that agreeing to partner with us are donating to us three times in the semester, which is a big help to us."

The help from the departments is immense because the pantry knows that the products they donate are popular among the students.

"It's nice to have it is coming from the eternal source of Southern," Lawton said.

Last semester the food pantry had over 300 students use the pantry assistance for over 1,100

grocery bags, Lawton said.

"While I do not have this semester's data yet, I can say that we have seen a greater number of students utilizing the pantry, so I expect both these numbers to rise," Lawton said.

The demand for the pantry has always been there, Lawton said. "COVID made a lot of chaos in a lot of people's lives whether they lost their job, housing secure or food insecure."

Lawton said the recent increase in students attending the food pantry was because of the awareness about the resource.

"The main mission for my job this year is to get the word about this pantry," Lawton said. "The students who use the pantry have been a really great means of doing this."

Sociology major Sedona Worth, a junior, said she got involved in helping at the food pantry because she wants to work for a non-profit organization that helps with food insecurity.

Worth said she had hosted gatherings at residential halls to help spread the word about the pantry.

"It's open dialogue," Worth said. "There are definitely a lot of people who say that they did not know that the pantry existed."

Worth said she puts flyers all around campus. "The students ask us questions about the pantry."

Once a student comes back to the pantry, they always bring a friend with them, Lawton said.

Lawton's role is to ensure the pantry operations run smoothly and learn

any additional support students need.

He is also "Working with students in crisis and finding sources of food to supply our pantry," Lawton said.

Psychology major Jasmine Patrick, a junior, said she helps out the food pantry to ensure students know that a service like this is here to support them and to ensure they understand what items are in the pantry.

"I greet people and help explain the rules of the pantry," Patrick said. "I also direct them to Michael, my supervisor, if they need any more resources like SNAP benefits, financial aid, and clothes."

Patrick said she is working with the pantry because of the work-study opportunity it provided.

"I plan to continue a master's in social work because it's a helping people profession," said Patrick.

Lawton said that whether a student is a commuter or lives on campus, full-time or part-time, the food pantry is open to them.

Lawton said that when students enter the pantry, they swipe their Hoot Loot card or manually put in their student ID number.

There are item limits posted throughout the store to help guide the students on how much they can take, Lawton said.

Lawton said that a food pantry is an excellent student service because it fills an essential need.

"I want everyone to feel comfortable enough to come to the food pantry and use this resource," Lawton said.

Jules birthday party

By Jaylen Carr
Sports Editor

On the Adanti Student Center Plaza Level, the universities police department hosted a birthday party dubbed "Let's Pawty" for Jules the K-9's third birthday, full of self-care and entertaining activities.

"Originally, it was going to be just a birthday party," Cynthia Torres, police Sgt. of the university, said. "There are five dogs from the same litter that made it to the service dog level, and entertaining activities."

Sgt. Torres said they wanted to get all of them together and honor that.

Samira Zuniga, a graduate student and intern at the Office of Student Involvement and Leadership Development, said, "I came here today to support our birthday boy, Jules. He always stops by the office

and brightens up our day."

Sgt. Torres said they had no budget for this event but had an overwhelming about volunteers wanting to help with the event.

During the event, there were stations for those in attendance to meet the dogs, play games and win prizes. The stations involved chair massages, a puppy kissing booth and art therapy.

Zuniga ran a station that involved creating a toy for dogs using old t-shirts.

"We use old shirts and cut them up," Zuniga said. "You choose three strands of shirts and bread them in a similar way as you would to your hair."

Zuniga said she had done this do-it-yourself craft for her dog, which he loves.

Jennifer Calabro, a guest that Sgt. Torres, brought in to manage one of the stations, was the one who

came up with the "self-care" name for the event.

"I am a creator and I create a lot of my own talent," Calabro said. "I am a huge component for self-care."

Calabro said when Sgt. Torres approached her about the event; she thought it would be a great event that included the purpose of service dogs.

"What's a better way to bring the two together — service dogs and policing and mental health," Calabro said.

Sgt. Torres said Jules helps those who go through trauma or violence and provides comfort.

"Our mission as handlers for service dogs is overall health," Sgt. Torres said. "The biggest part of that is mental health, and that is the area we work in."

See more on Page 4

PHOTOS

WWW.THESOUTHERNNEWS.ORG

MARCH 22, 2023

PAGE 2

Journalism department holds Alumni Night

By Sarah Shelton

Photo Editor

The university's Society of Professional Journalists, SPJ, chapter held an alumni night for students to get the opportunity to network with past graduates.

The alumni sat around a table while SPJ president Hailey Roy, a sophomore, asked questions. Each alumnus had something to say and "piggybacked" off what other answers and conversations.

Before the questions,

students, staff and alumnus ate pizza and cookies. After, students had conversations around the room with different alumnus.

Sarah Shelton, a senior, showed some alumni the newsroom, as some of them were in room 225, before E-sports, and some were even in an entire different building.

The alumni present had many different jobs such as news anchors, trending writers and public relations.



Photo | Rafaela Martinez



journalism alumni Jason Edwards and Sam Tapper.



Journalism tech assistant and former journalism student Rafaela Martinez with a camera to record the event.



Former journalism students Kiara Smith, talking, and Jeniece Roman.



SPJ president Hailey Roy, a sophomore, doing a live video with journalism major Sole Scott, a freshman.



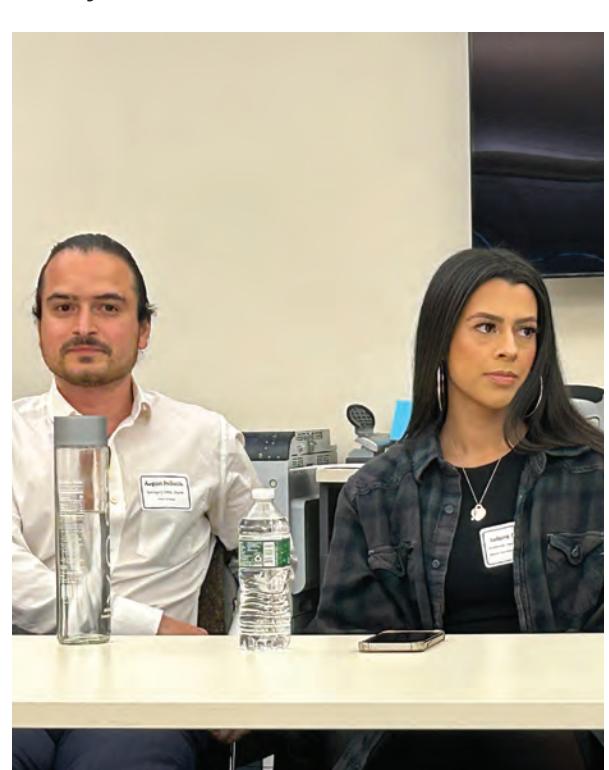
Student journalism majors Jaylen Carr, a senior, and Sole Scott, a freshman, talking to Kiara Smith about protective hairstyles on television.



from left to right, alumni Mike Levy, Mark Prokup and Emily Prokup having a conversation in the Newsroom.



From left to right, student Bradley Robidoux, adjunct professor Peter Paguaga and student Gary Robinson talking.



Alumni August Pelliccio and Jailene Cuevas.

FEATURES & OPINIONS

WWW.THESOUTHERNNEWS.ORG

MARCH 8, 2023

PAGE 3

Police dog Jules has a party for her birthday

By Jaylen Carr
Sports Editor

As a self-care expert, Calabro said getting involved with the arts can be a great self-care tool. "Healing comes in many different forms; it's just not one way to feel."

Sgt. Torres said Jules is her dog outside of the job, and he knows about 100 commands and helps her around the house with other things.

"He definitely helps with anxiety," Torres said. "I'm a survivor myself—domestic violence, and he is not necessarily just for me but for the whole university community."

Torres said Jules offers officer wellness when he sits in the police station at the university.

"We have Brody, the yellow Labrador who used to be an explosives and

ordinance dog," Torres said. "We have transitioned him to being an emotional support and therapy dog."

Torres said Connecticut has been lucky to have these types of dogs because the dogs are donated for free to the university.

Jules's experience being raised in prison helps him recognize human feelings like sadness and depression, Torres said. "When I am interviewing somebody that expressed trauma or violence, for the policing complicity, if someone is receptive to it, we would have Jules in the room, and it brings the whole tonnage down, and it's helpful for all of us."

Students came to the event to help support the event and take part in the many festivities.

Biology major Alyssa Morales, a junior, said she attended the event because

she has always loved dogs.

"I really just want to play with dogs," Morales said. "The environment is happy and welcoming, and I think it's really nice that Southern is having this event."

Nursing major Sean Qian, a freshman, said he was hanging around the student center saw the event organizers, and thought it would be great because he loves dogs.

"We have a foundation account that is the big announcement today," Torres said. "Looking to the future, we would love to see enough money in the account to pay for the dog food and vet visits."

Torres said they pay it forward by giving back to the community by purchasing a student's books or helping students that want to become first responders.



PHOTO | LUKE MOLWITZ

The paw cupcakes served and Alyssa Ziniak, a junior, with police dog Brody at Jules' birthday party on March 9.

Review- 100 geeks release a rock inspired album

By Ali Fernand
Features Editor

100 geeks just released their highly anticipated new album "10,000 geeks." I was one of the people looking forward to what the group had coming next. The group consists of Laura Les and Dylan Brady, both eccentric personalities. Their sound is unconventional, with jarring sound effects and noise all around. This genre of music is called "hyperpop" which has gained traction within the past few years. 100 geeks were most definitely a huge part in the genre gaining popularity.

Their first album came out in 2019 called "1000 geeks." This album blew

my mind with what music could be. Many people feel that pop is a boring genre, but this took a completely new spin on what the genre could be. It was different, and that was very exciting to see. After that album gained its own cult status, they released a remix album which contained features from popular artists. People like Charli XCX, Fall Out Boy, and Rico Nasty were all ready to hop onto this sound.

This new album takes a different twist than I wasn't expecting. The songs that I enjoyed most on their first album leaned into the electronic influence. "Ringtone" is still one of my favorites by them from their first album, I may

even like the remix of it better. The first album also took influence from punk and ska, but it was still dominated by the highly processed electronics. This album still contains a lot of electronics. The first single released was "mememe" which I immediately loved. It was everything I liked about their first releases. It has a fun synth melody with a satisfying chorus which escalates to include guitars and other loud rock elements.

This album definitely has more rock influence. The second single released was called "Doritos & Fritos" which is full of bass guitar and the now familiar jarring sound effects. I really liked this

single when it came out. It felt like something different for them, but still fits the unique sound I've grown to love. A lot of people I talked to didn't like this song very much, but I always found myself defending it. The songs on this album sound more like this song than "mememe." However, it sometimes doesn't include many electronics at all. Another moment on this album that leans into the electronics is "757." I love this song; it is everything I love about hyperpop.

Overwhelming fast

electronics with fun vocals

that probably could not be replicated live.

I feel conflicted about

this new album. I want to

give it more time because

I originally didn't like the first album either. The thing with hyperpop is that it sounds crazy until it starts sounding good. Maybe I need to sit on this one and listen to it back when I'm not trying to be critical of it. I just don't like their sound as much when it leans into the ska influence. Ska rock has just never been a genre of music I have been very into, I even find it a bit annoying. I like it when it is mixed with other genres like 100 geeks has done in the past. However, there are a few songs on here that are just pure ska like "I Got My Tooth Removed."

Some of the songs sound like they're pulling straight from the early 2000's. "Dumbest Girl

"Alive" has a guitar riff that sounds pulled straight from a Papa Roach song. Though to their credit, this song is nowhere near as corny as a Papa Roach song. "Hollywood Baby" also sounds like a direct inspiration from a "Blink-182" song, another band that I find annoying.

I never want an artist to be discouraged from trying a new sound. I'm happy that 100 geeks leaned into a different part of their inspiration. This album doesn't feel new though. A lot of these songs could have been pulled straight from the "Warped Tour" days. I'm not a huge fan of this album, but I am excited to see what else this group might do in the future.

Opinion- The school needs better parking spaces

By Sarah Shelton
Photo Editor

Walking to class in the rain, dark and cold weather is something I have to do daily as the university will not let me park in the Fitch Street parking garage.

When it comes to parking at the university, both residents and commuters have problems.

For commuters, there are specific lots, such as the Brownell Hall parking lot and the lot across from Farnham Hall.

As a resident, I'm also only allowed to park in certain places.

According to the Inside Southern website, "All vehicles operated or parked on campus at any time must properly display an SCSU parking decal. Vehicle owners and operators must register their vehicles at the University Police Department."

It also states, "Residence hall and commuting students must park their vehicles only in designated lots. Only vehicles with appropriate decals are permitted in these areas."

I have a North Campus permit meaning I can

park at North Campus, Wintergreen Garage and West Campus garage. However, with all of my classes in Morrill, the best parking for me, when the weather is bad, would be the lot next to the library. As that is staff and faculty only, the next best spot is the Fitch Street garage. I'm not allowed to park there either.

When I go to work on Mondays in the Student Center for the Southern News, I want to be able to park in the small lot by Schwartz, but it's only for certain parking permit residents.

While there should definitely be designated spots for commuters and faculty, how did they decide on these? Farnham students should be able to park across the street for a night if need be instead of forcing Wilkinson and Hickerson residents out of their spots. While I am fine walking from North Campus most days, if it is icy I sometimes do not want to risk it. I have already been injured on this campus twice.

Why is my only option besides North Midrise parking the parking

garage when faculty, staff, residents, visitors and commuters can all park there?

I do feel lucky because North's parking lot is bigger than the other resident lots, but the last time it snowed, I got up early and moved my car to the Wintergreen

Garage before it was announced we had to move just to get a spot. With the commuters and staff that were there that day, and residents moving their cars into the garage, it was hard to find a spot later on. They are full.

Instead of investing in

buildings we already have, maybe invest in another parking garage?

"Do we really need this?" my roommate always says every time we walk past the new school of business. Maybe we can turn that area into more parking opportunities.

When I'm in the library until 9 p.m., or it starts hailing again, I just want to have the option to park closer, rather than walking all the way down Pine Rock Avenue alone in the dark and the cold, where I literally cross the New Haven line into Hamden.

SOUTHERN NEWS

Advisors: Cindy Simoneau
Frank Harris III

Contact information:

Email: scsu.southerncn.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

Issues printed by: Valley Publishing, Derby, CT

Follow Us on Twitter: @Southern_News

Like us on Facebook: facebook.com/thesouthernnews

Visit us online: TheSouthernNews.org

View print edition at: OurSchoolNewspaper.com/Southern

Sofia Rositani

Editor-in-Chief

Vacant

Managing Editor

Section Editors

Sofia Rositani

News

Ali Fernand

Features & Opinions

Jaylen Carr

Sports

Sarah Shelton

Photo/Online

Vacancy

Layout

Staff Reporters

Vacancy

News Writer

Vacancy

Sports Writer

Luke Molwitz

Photographer

Vacancy

General Assignment

Vacancy

General Assignment

Copy Desk

Maddy Reyes

Abiba Biao

Business/Ad Manager

Vacant

SPORTS

WWW.THESOUTHERNNEWS.ORG

MARCH 22, 2023

PAGE 4

Owls Sports Update

We were not able to cover the games below because of spring break. Each game recap includes stats and key milestones from the game.

Baseball

Game Recap-March 11: Won against Alliance University 21-4 in Boca Raton, Florida. The Owls scored 13 runs in the seventh inning. Third basemen Mike Ferrett a junior, had two home runs and brought six runs in for the Owls.

Game Recap-March 11: Lost against Caldwell 12-9 in Boca Raton, Florida. Outfielder Andrew Eng, a graduate student, was two for three at bat, with one of those hits being a home run.

Game Recap-March 13: Won against Molloy 15-8 in Boca Raton, Florida. Outfielder Andrew Eng, a graduate student, had two home runs.

Outfielder Connor Goggin, a sophomore, went three for three at bat and had a home run.

Game Recap-March 15: Lost against Post University 9-4 in Boca Raton, Florida. Infielder Josh Wettemann, a freshman, hit a two-run home run in the ninth inning.

Game Recap-March 16: Won against American International College 8-6 in Boca Raton, Florida. Relief pitcher Nick Guarino, a graduate student, won his fourth game and had seven strikeouts.

Game Recap-March 17: Lost against Post University 10-2 in Boca Raton, Florida. First basemen Jack Drewry a sophomore, went three-for-three at bat. Catcher Billy Sullivan, a sophomore, went two for four at-bats with a double.

Game Recap-March 18: Won against American International 7-2 in Boca Raton, Florida. Pitcher Tommy Benincaso, a graduate student, had five strikeouts and held American International to two runs.

Current Record: 12-5

Softball

Game Recap-March 13: Won against Molloy University 5-3 in Leesburg, Florida. Catcher Jacqueline Dumont, a graduate student, went three-for-three with a score.

Game Recap-March 13: Won against University of Mary 20-8 in Leesburg, Florida. The Owls scored six runs in the ninth inning.

Game Recap-March 15: Lost against the University of Minnesota Crookston 2-1 in Leesburg, Florida. Catcher Jacqueline Dumont, a graduate student, went two for two at bat. The Owls score their only run in the seventh inning.

Game Recap-March 16: Lost to the University of Indianapolis 10-0 in Leesburg, Florida. The Owls allowed six runs in the third inning.

Current Record: 3-7

Women's Lacrosse

Game Recap-March 15: Won against Saint Michael's College 17-2 in Savannah, Georgia. Attack Karlie Rowe, a graduate student, scored her 100th career goal. The Owls set a new NE10 program record by winning by 15 goals.

Game Recap-March 17: Won against Savannah College of Arts and Design 21-9 in Savannah, Georgia. The Owls scored eight goals in the first and second quarters. Attacks Alexandra Ruel and Morgan Reilly both scored six goals each.

Current Record: 5-2

Gymnastics

Game Recap-March 18: The Owls participated in the Gymnastics East Conference Championship in Williamsburg, Virginia. The Owls scored 192.525 points. All-round Angel Lee, a junior won the 2023 Gymnastics East Balance Beam Championship and became the first Owl to become GEC Champion.

All information are from the athletic website.

Baseball team wins first home game 6-1, Mason has two RBIs

By Matt Cain
Contributor

With the Owls scoring four runs in the sixth inning, they were able to secure their home opener against Mercy College 6-1.

This home opener was set for March 7, but due to the cold and windy conditions, the coaching staff approved moving the game to the next day.

Pitcher Tommy Benincaso a graduate student, got the start and had a good outing. Benincaso gave a strong five-innings, with only one run allowed, and gave up one hit. Benincaso also pulled out the win on the mound which was his first win of the season.

"My approach was a bit the same, seeing that we played this team before," Benincaso said.

The Owls are familiar with Mercy College, as they had a hard-fought double header series at Mercy's home field on March 5 with the Owls winning both of those games.

The pitching was different from the first games they played.

In this matchup against Mercy College, Benincaso only allowed three baserunners in his final three innings.

Benincaso also had help from the bullpen in the later innings. Pitcher Tyshaun Diaz a sophomore, came out and gave two innings, as well as pitcher Peter Phillips a sophomore to close out the game.

Phillips didn't get the save because of how the Owls broke open the game in the fifth and sixth innings. The Owls rallied 10 hits in the ballgame with most of the lineup getting a hit.

Outfielder Colin Mason, a graduate student contributed huge to the Owls five run win. He had three hits with four at-bats. Mason also batted in a run on a double down the right-field line.

Mason would also come into score on a line-drive single from outfielder Andrew Eng, a graduate student.

"This was our first home game, we want to protect



PHOTO | SCUOWLS.COM

Outfielder Andrew Eng, a graduate student at bat versus Mercy.

our home field," Mason said. Mason wasn't the only one with a good game, getting help from his teammates. Third basemen Mike Ferrett, a junior had two hits with four at-bats. Both third basemen and second basemen Derrick Jagello, a freshman and Zach Bedryczuk a sophomore got hits.

Head coach Tim Shea was very pleased with the performance the team put on, but the team could have improved in some areas on the field.

"The doubleheader that we did win, we were sloppy and didn't pitch well," Shea said.

Being that the doubleheader was at Mercy College in Dobbs Ferry, New York, the Owl's wanted to make sure this game was out of reach and a certified win.

Coming into the March 8 matchup, Shea said he knew the weather was not the best, however, he did not let that affect the training and preparation for this game.

This win now puts the Owls 7-2 on the season, and the Owls have high hopes for this season.

This being one of the very few home games so far, they wanted to come out and defend and get

a feel for their own ball park.

"We've only been on this field twice, once on practice and this game right here," Shea said

Coach Shea is very high on pitching as well as hitting this season.

In previous years, the teams pitching was down and gave up a lot of runs, now they look to fix that with their current rotation.

The pitching rotation is very strong, as they haven't given up that many runs in the series they had.

For more on this story, visit the-southernnews.org

Nill reflects on time on campus

By Sheldon Gargano
Contributor

Track & Field Coach Brian Nill wasn't too sure at first if he wanted to stay around after he graduated to become a coach for his alma mater.

Nill was a former 800-meter runner who earned All-American Honors in Division 2 here at Southern Connecticut in 2013 and made that transition in 2015 to coach.

"I ended up talking to coach Wallin and we discussed coaching, but it wasn't set in stone once I graduated but having those conversations with him kind of made me realize, yeah I think this is the direction I might want to go," said Nill.

Although he coaches long-distance runners, some field athletes still had appreciation for who he is as a coach.

Cameron Belton, senior, shot put & discus thrower said, "I believe he's a good coach because he really pays attention to how I'm training along with everyone else and so he knows when to increase the intensity and when to pull back, he's someone I can trust when I need advice as well".

As a coach making an

impact on their athlete's life can be a feel-good moment when trying to steer them in the right direction and that's an attitude coach Nill enjoys very much.

"In the relationship between academics and athletics we recognize student-athlete, the academic side of things then the athletic part.

Teaching that and letting them know that having & getting a degree in something is going to help you afterward," he said.

Nill liked to emphasize that putting people in the best positions to succeed was key to him because everything is done through a process. Whether it's on the track or in the classroom.

Natanael Barbosa-Torres said, "I think coach Nill is a good person who cares a lot about his athletes and his job. He gives us his best foot forward every day and it shows in the results we produce".

Coach knows how to work with athletes because he knows everyone responds differently.

For more on this story, visit thesouthernnews.org

Goggin looks to bounce back

By Avery Martin
Contributor

The day before leaving for a nine-game trip to Florida, redshirt sophomore Connor Goggin was optimistic about the season ahead.

Goggin, a marketing major who plays outfield, said, "We have good leaders, good coaches, a good group of guys, so I am excited to see what we can do."

Last year, we made the regionals, but this year we will try to get to the world series."

Coach Tim Shea was quick to praise Goggin.

He said, "He will do anything you ask him to do. He's been banged up quite a bit, but he still performs at an extremely high level. He's had surgery;

he's come back, restore something in his arm, and then decided he was going to play through it. He is really one of those gritty kind of players that will do whatever he needs to do he will do for the team. He is the kind of player you love having on your team."

When looking back at recovering from several injuries in his baseball career, Goggin said "At first I didn't know if I was gonna play again, but as time went on I realized I was able to play and I wanted to. It's just good to get back."

Shea was also excited to see how Goggin can help the team through the rest of the season.

"I hope he continues his trend because right now he leads the

team in every offensive category. He is hitting for power, hitting for average. He scores for us and gets on base for us. He is off to a very good start," he said.

Thus far this season, Goggin has a .424 batting average. He has recorded 12 RBIs, two home runs, one triple, and two doubles.

"We have been on two trips, played a few games around here, one at home. We are off to a good start," said Goggin.

Shea says "He is in the middle of our lineup, just like last year. He plays a great left field.. He can go get a ball and is very accurate with his throwing."

For more on this story, visit the-southernnews.org