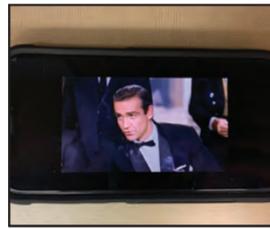




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SOUTHERN NEWS

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Halloween party held off-campus No students identified at Anthony's Ocean View Catering event

By **Jessica Guerrucci**
Editor-in-Chief

A Halloween party was shut down at Anthony's Oceanview Catering in New Haven for allegedly violating COVID-19 restriction rules.

"We have yet to determine how many Southern students were in attendance—or indeed if any were at all,"

President Joe Bertolino said in an email. "But this incident serves as a timely reminder about the potential for large, off-campus gatherings and parties to be super spreaders of the virus, as they have in college towns across the country."

The health department shut down the venue on Oct. 30 for violating Phase 2 Safety Guidelines. A

video taken at the party shows that no masks were worn and social distancing not taking place.

"As soon as we learned about it, we immediately began to tap our networks to see what we could learn," said Tracy Tyree, Vice President of Student Affairs.

Tyree said they connected with Police Chief Joseph Dooley, who

reached out to the New Haven Police Department to see what they knew about any students involved.

Bertolino reminded students following the event that any student, student organization, athletic or club sport team hosting or engaged in a large off-campus gathering will be subject to judicial action—potentially leading to possible suspension or expulsion under the COVID-19 enforcement policy.

Tyree said they looked on social media and talked to students, especially staff in residence halls, to identify participants.

She said they heard there were possibly pictures taken of parking decals or license plates, but still no evidence was found that could identify specific students.

"We could find nothing that named a student," Tyree said. "That really needed to be our starting point—which students

were involved. We continued with that through the weekend and never identified any students."

A viewer who sent in the video said it was attended by anywhere between 450 to 525 Quinnipiac and Southern students, according to WTNH.

Tyree said the university tried to identify why it was named in the WTNH article without specific evidence after being unable to identify any students.

Emily Rosenthal, Coordinator of the Wellness Center said "super spreader" events, like the one at Anthony's Ocean View Catering, can pose a huge risk to both the campus and the community.

"These events are really dangerous," she said. "They're happening at the same time we're seeing trends across the state and the country go up dramatically. Our numbers

at Southern are going up."

The city of New Haven was responsible for contact tracing at the event, which Rosenthal said can be difficult because people are not forthcoming about who was as the party.

While there are some positive cases on campus, she said none can be directly attributed to the party.

She also said positive cases have been slowly increasing over the past weeks, and while there has been no significant uptick, it was expected.

Following the event, Quinnipiac took action to identify students involved. In an email sent out by university president Judy Olian and Chief Experience Officer Tom Ellet, it said they had confirmed the identity of 20 students who attended the event and sent them home for the remainder of the semester.

See Party Page 2



PHOTO | HEARST CONNECTICUT MEDIA

Anthony's Ocean View Catering located in New Haven, Conn.

Pass/fail extended

By **Abby Epstein**
News Editor

Last semester's pass/fail option has officially been extended into the fall semester, allowing students to decide whether they want a letter grade or not.

According to Deborah Weiss, a professor in the communication disorders department, the policy is for graduate students and undergraduate students,

"What it does is it extends the pass/fail deadline—that had passed already—to Dec. 15 which is the last day of finals. It enables students with the consultation of their adviser to request a pass fail for elective courses, LEP courses and major and minor course under certain circumstances," she said.

There will be a list of major and minor classes posted by each department chair that will tell students what classes they will not be allowed to take as a pass/fail option.

"The reason is a lot of departments have certain grade requirements for their courses or grade requirements for certain prerequisite courses, so that is why it has been left in the hands of the department for only their majors and minors," said Weiss.

Dec. 15 is the last day of finals and for students to decide if they want to use the pass/fail option. Weiss said this date was chosen because many students should have a general understanding of what their final grade will be in a class.

"This semester, we

thought by putting this in place pretty early on letting students know ahead of time the cutoff date and that we could hopefully avoid students that they have not been informed early enough," said Weiss.

Some students believe the pass/fail policy is a good option to have available, with the different circumstances that many students are dealing with both on and off campus.

"I think the pass/fail is a good temporary option with COVID going on especially for new students because new students could have trouble adjusting from going to high school to going to college and figuring their time management," said interdisciplinary studies major Juliet Hrynyszyn, a senior.

Special education major Laura Jones, a freshman also sees the benefits to pass/fail and would use the policy if she was not doing good in her classes.

"I think it is a good thing to be put in place if it's not a grade you want see on your report card [transcript] like a D or something and you would not have to worry about that," said Jones.

There are benefits to deciding to make a class a pass/fail, but along with that comes some limitations.

"Some of the benefits are that if a student it not doing well in a course it will be reflected for some students it may be more positive, to let's say, see a P then opposed to seeing a D," said Weiss. "This is all

about student perception and what students are planning to do with their transcripts in the future."

Weiss said one of the limitations if a student is looking to go to grad school that some graduate schools may not be as happy to see a "P" on a transcript instead of a letter grade.

"So, it really depends on what the student's future plans are, and what the students whole perception is on what a respectable threshold is," said Weiss.

Hrynyszyn said she personally would not take the pass/fail option. Even with having online classes, she is still doing well. She also understands why some students may choose to take the option.

"I would understand completely because I was struggling in classes and if I didn't have the capability of doing online classes and teaching myself, then I would consider taking the option if I was struggling in a class," said Hrynyszyn.

The final decision on the pass/fail option comes down to the students and what they think would give them the best outcome depending on their future.

"So, it's a highly personal decision but one that we really encourage to talk over very thoroughly with their advisors," said Weiss. "With the advisors knowing the program, knowing or being able to discuss the student's future plans can really talk these things through with the student and make that decision."

Preparing for online

By **Donovan Wilson**
Reporter

As the academic year nears Thanksgiving break, students and staff alike prepare to go home and carry on with classes entirely online.

Due to COVID-19, the campus will not risk anyone going home for a week and then bringing back disease. Instead, everyone will work online much like last semester for the last couple weeks of the academic year.

"The university as a whole, and my classes in particular, seem a lot more prepared to enter online compared to last semester. Last year we were pretty much just thrown into it, but this year we know what to expect and we knew it was coming. Many of my teachers have already made their assignments and they have accommodated them to be done online," said history secondary education major Adam

Pelz, a junior.

In March of this same year, COVID-19 caused the world to enter a lockdown phase which sent the whole campus home just before spring break. However, rather than having the semester just end there, all classes resumed entirely online. The last couple weeks of this semester will run very much the same way.

Many students had difficulty learning and adapting to the entirely online model. This was due to the fact that most assignments were designed with a classroom element in mind and didn't have time to adapt to the online model seamlessly. Professors had time this year to tailor those last few weeks of assignments to being online.

"I think everyone's more prepared than last semester. I think last semester was harder to do because no one really knew what to do and it felt like professors were just giving work to finish

the semester. I think this semester they will be more prepared as they know it's coming and it's going to be a lot better," said nursing major Naissie Dumarsais, a sophomore.

Many classes this year, regardless of being on campus or not, have incorporated elements of online teaching in some way. Most on-site classes have an element of being a hybrid class, which means its partially online and partially in person. There are many teachers still teaching online-only and honing in on that skill.

"I was homeschooled all through high school, so all of my classes were online then. It's not going to be much different for me than what I've been used to for the last four years. Coming here was an adjustment for me, the end of this semester is just going to get back to normal," said history major Josh Schumacher, a freshman.

See Online Page 2

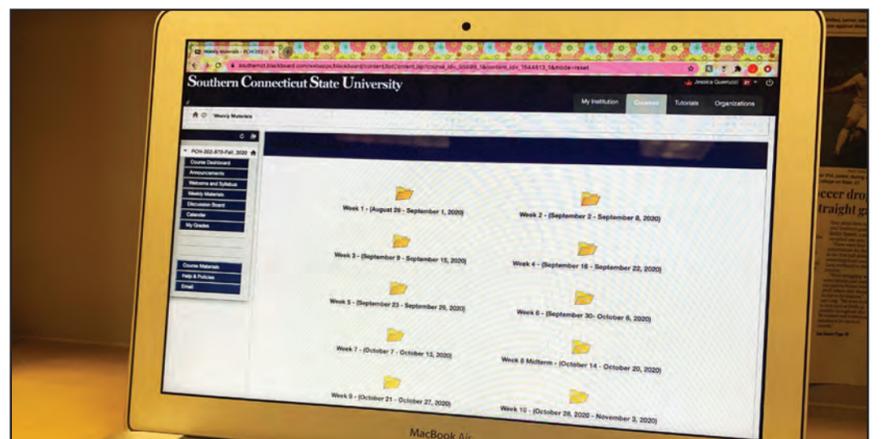


PHOTO ILLUSTRATION | JESSICA GUERRUCCI

An asynchronous class outlined on Blackboard.

Registration process runs smoothly

By Desteny Maragh
Reporter

Registration is a continuous effort to perfect, but faculty is working hard to ensure the process runs as smooth as possible.

“My preparation for registration is never the same. Every semester is different, but I think after three years working registrar, we are much closer to a functioning system,” said Alicia Carroll, registrar.

Carroll said this registration cycle has been the smoothest she’s seen since she’s been at the university.

Something new this year was a mass personalized email to each student

specifying dates and times for registration. In the past, there would be an email sent out with a chart of dates and times and students would have to navigate where they fit into that schedule.

Political Science major, Anne Bolisk, a junior said. “I got the email, and it was honestly a great reminder, I already had the date on my calendar, but it was good to get the update.”

Carroll’s office also prepares by having technical meetings with the IT support staff and Elusion, the product owner for the Banner Web registration system.

“Preparing for it consists of monitoring what we predict the expected enrollment turnout will be

and we track how many students show up in the first hour and first day of registration year to year,” said Carroll.

She calls preparation for registration a “collaborative effort.”

There’s a registration work group that consists of the Dean’s offices, advising staff and registrar’s office that meet monthly throughout the year.

When it is close to registration time, Carroll says this committee meets more frequently to have more conversations around the number of classes offered and what classes students need.

Outside of using IT and Elusion for preparation, they also team up on registration day. They

are on a day-long open call, to await anyone who might need assistance with technical issues.

Interim Vice President for Enrollment Management, Julie Edstrom, said registrations open on Monday, Nov. 2 for graduate and postbaccalaureate students and on Wednesday, Nov. 4 for seniors.

Edstrom said, COVID-19 has not impacted the registration process, but has meant that advising is mostly being done virtually. It also means that very few courses are being offered in person.

“Campus residents will still register by class, but they will have a short window of priority on their opening registration day

for on ground or hybrid courses only,” said Edstrom. “This is because many students committed to a year-long housing contract with the expectation they would have at least one on ground course.”

In fall of 2020, many course modalities changed from on ground or hybrid to fully online after students had signed their housing contracts.

So for spring 2020, “we wanted to offer residents some opportunity to sign up for on ground or hybrid courses,” said Edstrom.

At the prior request of students in the Student Government Association, the wait list function is up and running, and being used as a tool to monitor course wait lists so that

sections can be added. Edstrom said “so far, registration is going very well. Each class is divided into groups based on the number of credits earned so that fewer students are trying to register at the same time.”

This was to reduce the chance of overloading the registration system. The idea originated from other CSU schools.

Originally, Southern was one of the only schools having severe problems with site crashing issues during what seems like every single online registration.

Carroll said “truly, this year went way better than any other year and the proof is in the calls they’ve received.”

North Campus Townhouses under construction

By Donovan Wilson
Reporter

Amidst the townhouses reserved for quarantine, renovations are underway at North Campus.

The school had recently renovated the North Campus high-rise rooms with new and improved bathrooms. The next step was to give attention to the townhouses, which will be receiving new bathrooms, kitchens, flooring, appliances, cabinets and heating and cooling systems.

“I am extremely happy

that we did this,” said Robert DeMezzo, Director of Residence Life.

As of right now, Townhouse Line A has already been completed. Line B of townhouses is slated to be done by the end of this calendar year. Lines C and D may be finished by the end of the whole academic year. However, things can change very quickly.

This project was not a result of COVID-19. The funding was put aside before and was funded by the Connecticut State Universities group, not

directly by the school. In fact, COVID-19 actually negatively affected the project, as it postponed the projected usage of the summer to begin operations.

“If I’m assuming the best, then they’re saying if we are going to renovate them then now is the time. It’s an opportunity to do work they couldn’t otherwise do during the academic year. It’s like a restaurant that closes and says we might as well if we have the time,” said history grad student Michael Brown.

The funding from CSU

greatly helped the project. If the school had the summer to put a lot more work behind the project, things would be much more farther along by now. However, the townhouses being out of commission has given more ample time.

This coming to fruition was a long overdue process but the team is very excited about how well it’s coming along, so far. The idea and budget had to all be petitioned for and then proposed to the CSU board for funding. Then everything had to be planned and replanned

based on how much the landscape has changed over the last few months.

“At least start it at a different time. We are about to be wrapping up and the cases are going up this week anyways,” said history major Daniella Occhineri, a sophomore.

Many people had to be hired for this project. One of the major groups that were hired for employment on the construction team were architects to help design the renovations.

All of this was set up and decided to complete while

being used for quarantine.

The residence life team has plans to renovate many more parts of the residential buildings in the coming years. The next major move is to potentially focus more on the North Campus high-rise suites and renovate at least the whole kitchen area. There is no say when that plan would turn into a reality or even really if it will but time will definitely tell.

“We went into this project saying we need to do more than the bathrooms,” said DeMezzo.

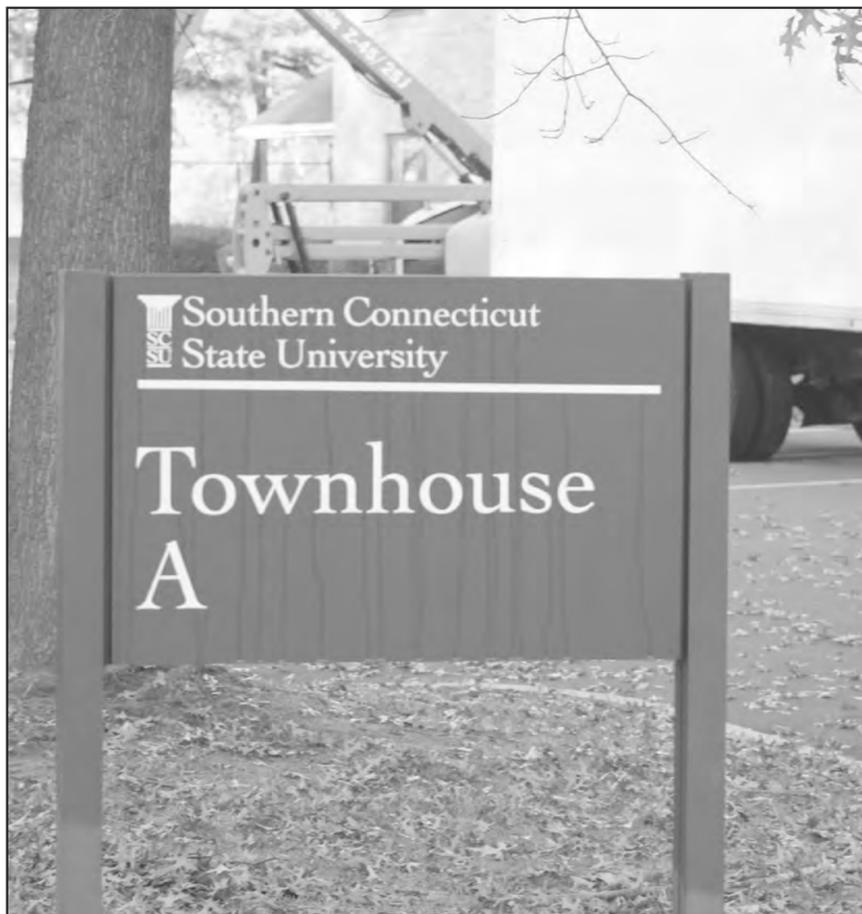


PHOTO | ROMA ROSITANI

North Townhouse A, the first set of townhouses to go under construction.



PHOTO | SAM TAPPER

A forklift that has been used to help with the construction at the townhouses.

Online

Continued from Page 1

For a college freshman, it’s just entirely new to them but more refined than what students in college dealt with earlier this year.

One of the major issues with the spring 2020 semester was that a lot of students were suddenly without all the academic resources they relied on.

However, the campus has now entirely figured out how to move those resources online for maximized usage. A lot of the worries that students had the first time around have been considered and integrated into this new model of online classes.

Party

Continued from Page 1

“With 55 new COVID-19 cases, Quinnipiac made the decision to move online for the remainder of the week until Nov. 6.

“Those numbers [at Quinnipiac] were major almost unbelievable,” Rosenthal said. “We have not had anything like that, thank goodness. I feel like the trend we’ve had going the last several weeks has been slowly but steadily increasing, but nothing so extreme.”

Despite an “uncaring and selfish few,” Bertolino said, everyone has invested too much in having a successful fall semester to

see it be thrown away.

Tyree said generally she has seen students being responsible through the entirety of the semester and they have been compliant in mask wearing and social distancing.

When people first returned to campus, she said there was largely a pessimistic view of whether the university would be able to remain open until Thanksgiving, but that outlook has changed.

“We saw so much on-campus across the country that got off to a bad start,” Tyree said. “It’s been looking at ‘can we do this?’ and make it to Thanksgiving - and we’re two plus weeks away.”

Making it this far, she said, is a tribute to

the ways faculty, staff, students and the entire community have taken the virus seriously and been responsible.

With cases rising in the state, Tyree said it will be monitored as needed. She said they will continue to send strong messages to students as well.

Despite being close to the break, Bertolino still urged students to be mindful in the final days on campus and continue to be diligent.

“With a few weeks remaining until the end of on-ground classes at the Thanksgiving break,” said Bertolino in his email, “I urge everyone to continue to play their part in ensuring the health and safety of our campus community.”



PHOTO | NBC CONNECTICUT

The outside of Anthony’s Ocean View Catering.

The race to Thanksgiving break is in full speed



By Jessica Guerrucci
Editor-in-Chief

These are the opinions
of The Southern News
Editorial Staff

Think back to March 10. A email notification pops up. The subject line reads "From the President: Campus Closing Wednesday." This, my friends, was only just the beginning of an entirely changed college experience.

A university closure, that would supposedly last five days, turned into months.

Residence halls shuttered, a lively campus suddenly had gone silent, all because a student "attended a meeting in another state where another participant subsequently tested positive for the COVID-19 coronavirus."

Seven days later, the subject line reads "A letter to Students from President Joe Bertolino, re. the Spring Semester." It's an email we all knew was coming, but just didn't want to accept it.

On March 10, the now infamous "shutdown day", the United States confirmed 283 new COVID-19 cases, bringing the total to 1,000. Five deaths were reported, bringing the total to 31.

Now, nine months later, 9.58 million cases later and 234,000 deaths later, we've almost made it through our fall semester of college with this "new normal."

However, as of Nov. 5, CNN headlines read "The

US just reported more than 100,000 new COVID-19 infections, the most cases in a single day since pandemic's start," making us feel like we're pretty much in the same place as we were in March - except for the fact that we're not in a strict lockdown.

With numbers like that, it's easy to think things like "why are we still on campus?" or "why isn't the entire state locked down again?"

Well, facts are, we at least know much more about the virus than we did back in March and we've learned to operate within its restrictions.

Connecticut's positivity

rate has shot up to above four percent and was as high as six percent within the last few weeks. One of our neighboring universities, Quinnipiac, had made the call to go online through Nov. 6 after announcing an orange level spike in cases.

This came after they sent 20 students home who attended an event at Anthony's Ocean View Catering - one that some Southern students allegedly attended.

Connecticut has rolled back from phase three to "Phase 2.1" with more capacity restrictions and a "stay-at-home" advisory from 10 p.m. to 5 a.m. to

encourage people to stop going out - something that college students miss.

It's clear that the second wave is here, and somewhat luckily, it's here at a time where we are slowly approaching a shift to an all-remote learning after the last day of classes on Nov. 24.

Still, a lot can happen in the nine days of in-person classes that we have left. But we're in the homestretch.

As cases grow, it will be critical in these final days to be more mindful, more careful and follow social distancing measures and mask usage to the best of our ability.

Predicting the aftermath of the 2020 election results

By Mike Neville
Sports Editor

The biggest presidential election in the history of the United States is over just as quickly as it began - and it's been very dramatic.

There is a new sheriff in town and his name is Joe Biden - or should I say President Joe Biden, which will surely take some getting used to for everyone.

Many Biden supporters took to the streets to support his nomination as president elect when the Associated Press called the race.

Unlike previous elections in the history of our nation, this election was not drawn out over a few hours, but several days. It wasn't until four days after the election that the projected winner was finally announced.

Social media continued to buzz over the tweets of President Donald Trump, who claimed victory during the early hours of election night.

This election truly was special. More people voted this year than ever before, but what followed were concerns of mass hysteria that flooded the nation.

Before the election, thousands of businesses

around the U.S had closed its doors, and boarded up windows as precautions for any anarchy in the form of violent protests.

Cities like New York and Portland fortified key businesses with solid wood and steel to keep potential rioters out.

If Trump were to be re-elected, the possibility of a Civil War-like event was and is a major concern.

Radical groups like 'AntiFa' and rioters would likely clash with Trump supporters and possibly the 'Proud Boys', famously told by the President to "stand down and stand by."

Although this quote by the President was taken

out of context, war in the streets was more than a possibility.

Biden's election comes with its own problems, as millions of Trump supporters are calling for the election to be handled in supreme court, due to reports of fake ballots being put through.

We may not see violent protests in the streets, although it is always a possibility, but we could see some form of retaliation.

Going into the election, Biden's main point in his campaign was being able to contain COVID-19, even if this meant shutting down the economy.

A second shut down of the nation could once again cause the economy to plummet, but also protesters to become rowdier over mask mandates that will turn out stricter.

The nation has been engulfed with COVID-19 and has become a breeding ground and one of the worst places in the world.

This has been due to President Trump's melancholy approach to handling COVID-19, even brushing it off as nothing more than a common cold after contracting it himself.

One thing that Biden's election could do is put

a halt to COVID-19 once and for all, if he works with Anthony Fauci for a common goal.

The only thing scarier than more riots and violence in the streets of America are Biden's plan for taxes and minimum wage, which will strike a chord with some.

Biden's plans to raise taxes are not only stressful to many people but to those who have already lost so much due to COVID-19. If this is the result, do not be surprised if you hear sirens throughout each city, and each street with the slogan "blessed be America, a nation reborn."

Voting should be a responsibility, not an option

By Sofia Rositani
Arts & Entertainment Editor

This year's election has been tiring, it feels like the ending of an Epic Rap Battle of History video; "who wins, who loses, you decide."

As a registered voter and it being my first election, people may think I was excited to vote and wave my rights high like the American flag, but that was the complete opposite, and I am not the only one who felt this way.

"I feel disillusioned by this election," said Samian

Quazi, a 32-year-old psychiatric nurse from Houston. "We don't really have any good choices. Neither candidate is really addressing any issues or offering any hope for this country to really make people's lives better," according to BBC America.

I am just like Quazi. I do not like President Donald Trump, but I also do not like Vice President Joe Biden either.

I did end up voting and choosing the night before to do it was my mistake, but I knew I was registered to vote already.

I was aware that I could

go to my local polling station, but I had no clue who I was going to vote for - and will not say who I voted for - but I was feeling the pressure of who to vote for not just from friends but also my family, which is one reason why I was originally not going to vote.

"Voting might make you feel good and powerful, he said, but the status quo will always remain intact: "I don't feel like playing along. I don't believe that we will ever be offered candidates that are interested in societal health. I can't imagine

the system producing politicians that I could vote for in good faith," said Hrant Papazian, an immigrant from Armenia, who went through a civil war in Lebanon.

These two are one of the many stories on BBC America's website of registered voters not using their right to vote. I can see why they would decide not to do it either. This year's election is a joke compared to the ones prior, and I can honestly say I am ready for it to be over and wait another four years until we talk about it again.

"It's very easy to see

when money and power within a party come into play to suppress young people," she said.

"We're essentially being guilted into voting for Joe Biden and for whomever the Democratic Party chooses when, throughout the primary season, young people were overwhelmingly ignored."

I will say with 100 percent certainty that since this year started, the pressure to vote for Biden has been crazy. Like the other day, I went to Barnes and Nobles to get this book and the first book I saw going in was

about Biden. I have never seen this much pressure to push people to vote and vote for a certain candidate in my life, everywhere you go it is all about voting for him.

This election has been crazy especially with Nevada, who took their sweet time with the voting counts.

But I am happy I changed my mind to vote in the end because being a part of something like an election is something many people in other countries cannot relate to so when I went to the polls, I did it for all those who could not vote.

SOUTHERN NEWS

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Online Exclusives

"What's going on in Connecticut"

Check out more on www.thesouthernnews.org

PHOTO

Breast cancer awareness walk



Students write "I walk for breast cancer awareness" and "I walk for my grandpa" on signs.



Healthcare studies major Brenda Rodrigues, sophomore.



Health science major Avery Gibbons, freshman.

By Roma Rositani
Photo Editor

October is annual Breast Cancer Awareness Month. A walk was held to raise awareness of the disease.

Students and faculty were able to participate in this walk on Nov. 4. The men's rugby team, the cheerleading team and the

dance team all came out to the event.

The walk began at the ResLife Quad and continued all around campus. If students attended, they were able to start at their own pace and were given a bib to show their support.

See Page 7 for more about the Breast Cancer Walk



Psychology major Jelise Nimmons, junior, participating in the walk.



Recreation and Fitness and Residence Hall Association gave out pink bracelets and water for the walk.



Pink Breast Cancer Awareness signs put around campus for students and faculty to follow.



Cheerleading team members write on banners "I walk for SCSU Cheer" and pin pink ribbons onto their jackets.



Students help each other pin on pink ribbons.



The men's rugby team show their support at the Breast Cancer Awareness walk.



Students pin pink ribbons to their shirt before walking.

Women's basketball addition looks to shine University of Albany transfer Patricia Conroy adds to Lynch's roster

By Edward Rudman
Sports Writer

Women's basketball expects a successful season this upcoming spring, as they added an abundance of talented players to the roster. One of these is University of Albany transfer Patricia Conroy.

Conroy, a 5'9 senior guard, played three years at the division one level and in 86 games for Albany, bringing experience along with her skill to the Owls, according to Head Coach Kate Lynch.

"Anytime you get a player who has that many years under their belt, anywhere, whether it's division one, two, three, you know, it's always kind of special," said Lynch. "Trish does bring that leadership aspect and that maturity level to our team. She fits right into our system. She's a really a hard worker and a knock down three-point shooter and everything thing else in the tool box."

Her career high includes three pointers made in a game while playing for Albany, during her junior year against Bryant University, when she shot 5/9 from behind the arc. She made 79 three pointers during her time

as a Bulldog, coming off the bench for 77 of the 86 games she played in.

When it came to deciding which team to transfer to, Conroy said Southern ended up being the perfect destination.

"I graduated early, so I had one year of eligibility at the time and I wanted to focus on speech and Southern has a speech program," said Conroy. "When I decided I wanted to transfer, I talked to Coach Lynch on the phone and she was my favorite coach I spoke to."

Even though the conditions surrounding this crazy semester hasn't produced the best environment for training, Conroy said that has not slowed down the process of acclimating to a new team and culture.

"The team's so patient, I feel like it's really easy to get accustomed to and the practices are always fun. I feel like sometimes in college, you dread going to practice but it's never been that here," said Conroy. "Everyone on the team is really close and we hangout a lot outside of it, and that makes the basketball part even better."

Conroy is not the only transfer this year. She is joined by junior guard



Conroy (right), driving past a defender in a game against Binghamton University on Jan. 5.

PHOTO | WWW.UALBANYSPTS.COM

Delaney Conors. Conroy and Conors quickly developed a relationship since they both found themselves in the same position.

"With getting accustomed to the team, we definitely gravitated towards each other because we both

were at the same spot. It was really nice to have that," said Conors. "She has such a bubbly personality and she always wants the best for everyone."

Forward Kiana Steinauer, a graduate student, has been a cornerstone for the women's team for the

past few years, setting the program's single-game high for rebounds with 23 against Adelphi University.

She said she is excited to have Conroy and Conors on the team for the 2021 upcoming season.

"I think Trish is a great shooter, she can really help

us out with that because we lost some really good shooters from. She also has a fire energy to her and her leadership qualities is something that we could use," said Steinauer. "I also think she's very smart. She has a good basketball IQ and can read the floor well."

Former track star finds passion

By Edward Rudman
Sports Writer

The Men's track and field coaching staff is comprised of multiple alumni who competed as an Owl, something Assistant Coach Joe Caraciolo says is one of the program's greatest strengths.

"Everything flows, there's no hesitation in anything, it's great," said Caraciolo. "Coach Nixon and Coach Nill, we were all teammates when we competed and that allows us to work a lot better together because we already know each other. We know how to work under pressure together, so it's flawless almost."

Caraciolo has had an accomplished career in

his own right when he competed as an Owl, including a Northeast-10 Conference Championship in the long jump as a junior and the New England runner-up in the long jump outdoors as a junior, according to the Southern Athletic Website.

During his time as an Owl, Caraciolo said he came into the program as a freshman that was full of great athletes and was still able to be a major part of the team from the start, as he was All-Region in the long jump as a freshman, sophomore, and junior.

"My experience was great. I joined the team with a bunch of All-Americans, a national champion, and a couple All-Americans in the making," said Caraciolo.

"Needless to say, I was joining a really good team. Super competitive, hard working group of guys and it pushed me to better myself in the jumps."

After graduating from Southern, it was only natural that Caraciolo joined the coaching staff, as he said it was always his destiny to coach and that his passion for it had developed long before becoming one.

"My high school coach had us volunteer a lot. We volunteered working at track meets during the summer and track for little kids and that's where my love for it came from," said Caraciolo. "One thing that really resonates with me still to this day is my high school coach always told us one day you're going to

have to give back to this sport and now, here I am doing that."

When it comes to coaching, Caraciolo considers it his passion, not a job. A normal day for him consists of 12 hours at the facility, and although it may get tiring or frustrating at times, it's what he loves to do.

Head Coach John Wallin said that Caraciolo is a great student of the sport and that he was always interested in the training aspect of it.

"All of our assistants, they were very interested in learning the method of the madness when it came to training for the sport while they were students and that really triggered the coaching concept, and that there's more than just showing up to practice and doing what coach asked," said Wallin. "And so, Joe was always intrigued with all the things that we did."

Caraciolo's expertise in jumping and his long time passion for coaching has given him the opportunity to help current Owls become better athletes and stay true to the sports while also giving back to it.

Decathlete Dan Brown, a senior, said, "I've never had a coach so full of information. One of the reasons I love track and field is the attention to detail it takes, technique and what not, to get better at your craft. Coach Joe knows too much about jumping and technique and all the little details and he's helped me become a better decathlete because of it."



PHOTO | WWW.SCSUOWLS.COM

Men's track and field assistant coach, Joe Caraciolo.

Field hockey team marches for cause

By Edward Rudman
Sports Writer

The field hockey program continued its support against domestic violence, participating in the Domestic Violence Awareness March that took place Oct. 21 on campus.

Head Coach Kelley Frassinelli has been a staunch supporter of the cause for years and even coordinated the team's participation back in March. Frassinelli is also a member of the school's Sexual Assault Response Team in conjunction with SCSU's Violence Prevention and Victim Advocacy Support Center.

"We've taken part in it every year as long as I've been here," said Frassinelli. "We're just doing our part with student athletes because you find that a large amount of domestic violence that happens between partners from teams and we want to make sure you can identify those red flags in a relationship."

The players that attended took part in a video of students holding poster's reading "We stand with you," "Break the Silence, Stop the Violence" and "It's on us to stop the violence".

The three groups, each holding posters, walked from the academic quad and met at the middle, where each saying was stated. The video ended with the message "Southern stands against domestic violence".

Defender Megan Habakangas, a senior,

said she has taken part in multiple domestic violence awareness events while under the tutelage of Frassinelli for four years and is thankful that she gets the opportunity to be a part of it all.

"Coming in my freshman year, I never really did a lot of community service voluntarily just because I didn't want to go and do something like that by myself," said Habakangas. "But being with a team and with a group, it makes you want to do better and be a part of something better and we've done so many things that we've - that have made me feel good to know that we can help, no matter how small the gesture is."

Habakangas said taking part in events such as the march opened her eyes to the issue of domestic violence and allowed her to see it from a different perspective that she had not prior.

Forward Brianna Caffrey, a freshman, is in her first year with the team and said taking part in the March and filming the video was great to do with the team and the final product was moving.

"I didn't really know how it was going to come together, but when we were saying the phrases, I could feel the impact it was going to have," Caffrey said. "When they put it together, the way it was pieced together, it really flowed nicely and I think it's going to be effective at bringing awareness to domestic violence."

Social justice month kicks off

By Donovan Wilson
Reporter

Social justice is one of the glues that holds the building blocks of society together and this campus is proud of their involvement in such – but it means something different to everyone.

“To me it means that our school not only gets involved by hosting events, such as marches and rallies, but also accepts everyone’s own opinions and judgements and it allows the students to express themselves by letting them support what they believe in different ways,” said healthcare studies major Briana Saleme, a freshman.

At the university, social justice is the concept of identifying and addressing systemic barriers such as

equity, access, and success for all members of the community.

With all eyes on the Black Lives Matter movement, it’s become a focal point in society and on campus.

The university said on their website that it is “committed to constructive dialogues where we treat one another with dignity, respect, kindness, compassion, and civility as we share varying perspectives, with the goal of creating an inclusive culture.”

“Social justice is kind of more important now than ever. People need social justice and social justice cues more than ever in times like this,” said communications major Spencer Brunet, a junior.

Instead of focusing

on social justice now, the Social Justice Month planning team has worked to do virtual programming throughout the year.

Students have been given many platforms to students to voice their opinions, including the BLM march and a ‘Voter Teach-In.’

“It means a lot if people take the time to look at each other and know no matter what we are all the same people. If I was to cut you and then cut myself, we’re all going to bleed blood,” said sports management major Marcell Walker, a freshman.

Social justice month is celebrated yearly at Southern in November.

It is a time that Southern spreads their beliefs and promotes it through events more outright than

ever but they exemplify these qualities throughout the whole year.

This year, they changed the paradigm from ally to antiracist.

Instead of calling themselves a “social justice school,” the website says “we aspire to become a social justice university,” stating a need to individually and collectively deepen the understanding of and commitment to taking action to end racial inequities at the university and beyond.

Social Justice Month is just a way to get students involved with messages of equality and helping to improve human interactions in the world, while also promoting discussion about what can be seen as “difficult topics.”

Sodexo works for inclusivity and diversity

By Gabriela Cuapio
Contributor

Sodexo’s Marketing Manager Liz Floyd, said Sodexo, the new food service company on campus, is customer-focused and incorporating new ideas to prompt student engagement such as the “Food Inspired By You” series at Connecticut Hall.

“Food is such a big part of everybody’s day-to-day life. We don’t want to be just a dining hall,” said Floyd. “We want to be part of campus and student’s college experience.”

Food Inspired By You features a dish that represents the student’s heritage and includes brief facts about them; it was created after freshman student Vanessa Mangiafico reached out to the Sodexo team through Instagram requesting a dish that would represent her Italian and Venezuelan background.

Mangiafico said that as granddaughter of immigrant grandparents, keeping their heritage present is important.

“Food is a large focal point at all our family gatherings and it’s a way to remind ourselves where we came from,” Mangiafico said.

Sodexo team decided to create a traditional Venezuelan dish, Pabellon Criollo, which consists of rice, shredded beef in stew and stewed black beans.

“I’m extremely grateful that they took my comment and made it happen. They made me feel like a piece of my family and my home was brought with me to school,” Mangiafico said.

Floyd said they are trying to establish different programs to get students excited and make them feel like they all have a say in the service that they’re being provided.

“If there’s a student that has a certain association with a dish that triggers a certain memory for them, we want to be able to provide that for them and that’s the importance food brings,” said Floyd.

General Manager Tony DeLuca said that as a new provider, it’s important for them to find a balance of what the university is

looking for.

“What we might think is a great fit for campus might not be right for the Southern community,” said DeLuca.

Since their arrival on campus, DeLuca and team have been engaged through social media marketing, joining student government web chats and providing students with surveys.

“We want there to be an open line of communication; we won’t know if something is wrong unless someone tells us,” DeLuca said. “It’s the open dialogues that makes us thrive.”

Part of diversity efforts from Sodexo includes providing students with a wide range of different food options for everyone’s needs and preferences.

“Over 50 percent of our food is driven by healthy options,” said Executive Chef Mitchell Greene.

A research study published on February 2020 by Taylor and Francis Group showed that healthy eating habits have a positive effect on student’s academic performance.

Greene said they have worked to create new ideas for vegan and gluten-free options for students and help break stigmas some may have towards it.

“When some hear the word veganism or gluten they may say ‘it must be bland;’ that’s not the case,” said Greene.

Greene recalled a time when he made vegan ‘spaghetti and meatball’ using squash as spaghetti and soy based meatballs with vegan mozzarella cheese.

“I think all together, dishes have to look presentable, they have to be fresh,” he said. DeLuca said that parents have reached out to him asking for help guiding students through their dining needs on campus.

“I team students up with Chef Mitchell and we show them around the dining hall. We point out everything that they’re looking for,” DeLuca said. “At the end of the day we can’t make every single person happy every day; but if we can make the majority of them happy and make sure they have what they need, then that makes us happy.”

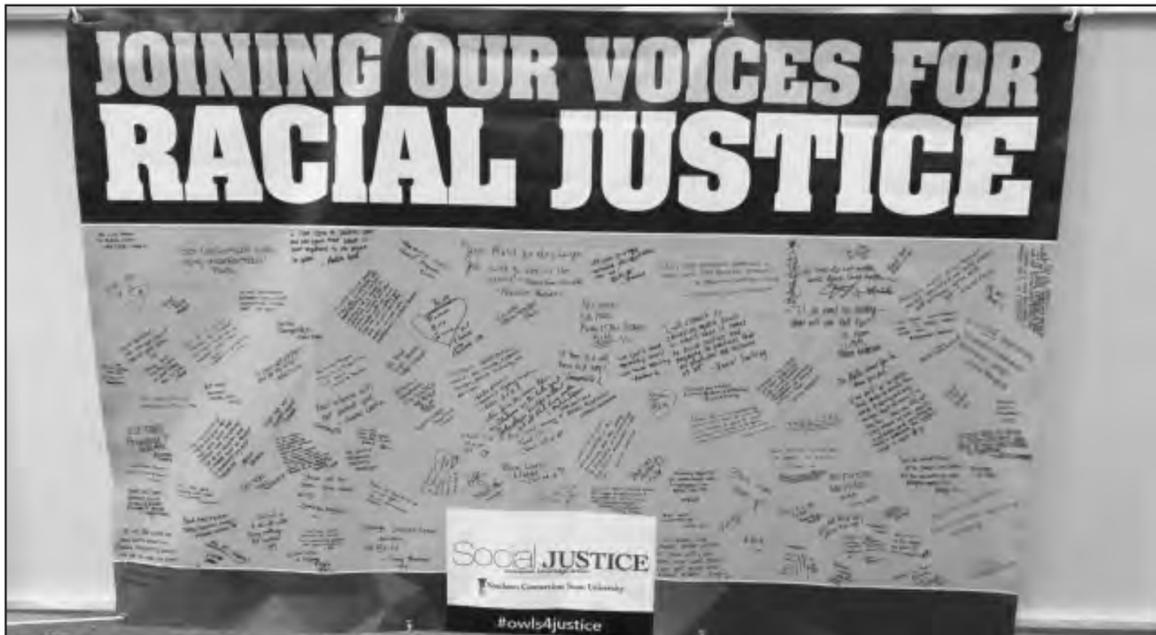


PHOTO | DONOVAN WILSON

A social justice banner hanging in the Student Center signed by several students.

Hope

Continued from Page 8

“We the youth. We the people of this country. We got a voice too. We will be seen. And we will be heard,” he sings.

With articles naming the “The best anti-Donald Trump protest songs from the past four years” prior to election day, it’s clear there’s no shortage of diss tracks.

But whether you like Trump or not, the musical pieces are a statement. These artists are going out on a limb, risking their career by making such a statement.

I mean, look at Lil Wayne. He’s been thrown to “cancel culture” after meeting with Trump and

supposedly endorsing him before the election, while his tweet implied, he simply had a conversation with him about criminal justice reform – something that has the potential to be good.

Point is, whichever side of the argument you’re on, it is a risk to make a statement politically – without knowing what impact it will have on your musical career.

So even if they don’t necessarily agree with one side, it can hurt their career if they associate themselves with someone their fans don’t like.

But ultimately, these artists know they have influence, and if they want to stand up and use their platform to mobilize a young voter population at a time where our country is extremely divided, I’d say by all means – do it.



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION | ROMA ROSITANI

Demi Lovato’s ‘Commander-in-Chief’ on an iPhone.

Want to get involved in student media?

Apply for openings available for next semester!

Southern News open positions:

- Editor-in-Chief
- General Assignment Reporter
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WSIN Radio open positions:

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- Webmaster
- Programming Director

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- Editor-in-Chief
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*Other editor positions for clubs will become available depending on selections made for leadership positions.

Applications are due by Friday, Nov. 20.

Follow this link to apply: <https://forms.gle/7rM2BR4WGE29hCTi7>

For any questions, feel free to reach out to guerrucci@southernet.edu.

Students walk for Breast Cancer awareness

By Abby Epstein
News Editor

A mile walk was hosted by the Programming Board and Campus Recreation and Fitness to spread awareness about breast cancer.

Signs of encouragement and facts about breast cancer were placed along the walk to educate people on ways of preventing it. Participants were able to wear bibs that read “I’m walking for,” and could write their name below.

“It was the idea of when they are doing the walk—you don’t want it to feel like it’s just a walk around campus. You want to keep the acknowledgement of what we are walking for,” said Eve Altieri, a graduate intern for Recreation and Fitness.

The event was brought up to Recreation and Fitness after Programming Board Chair Natalie Sinclair reached out for assistance hosting. She said she wanted to collaborate because Altieri has had more experience with organizing a public health

focused event.

“We were basically asking in my programming board meeting what events students want to see during the semester, and one was a breast cancer awareness type of event and then we decided on a walk,” said Sinclair.

Altieri and Jenna Dunn, Adviser of Residential Hall Association, said many students participated and some showed up eager to walk before they could even finish setting up.

“I think that honestly this worked really well. Planning it was really fun and seeing everyone come out to do it I think is a little more encouraging,” said Altieri. “So far this semester, there aren’t that many people on campus but it’s really encouraging to see so many students come out and do the walk.”

“I think this is a really good cause and when I was in high school, we always did a breast cancer walk and this is so important to me because I do have family members that have had breast cancer before and I know

friends that had family members with breast cancer before,” said health care studies major Brenda Rodriguez, a sophomore.

History education major Andrew Seaton, a sophomore, was walking for his high school gym teacher. Back then, he said every sport program would find ways to show support for her during Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Seaton was a part of the wrestling team, where they wore pink socks in her honor.

“She was just always a great lady, always around us, always the life of every sport at my high school,” said Seaton. “I think it was a good walk, you know it definitely reached out to the community and let other people know and just showed support for it.”

Others walked in support of their friends. A member of the dance team was walking for her teammates who had family members living with breast cancer and for breast cancer patients in general.

“We are supporters of

breast cancer. There are people who have had relatives who have had it, so we are supporting people on our dance team and at southern,” said dance team member Jelise Nimmons.

Ali Fernand is another member of the dance team who was walking for both of her grandmas who have had breast cancer. She said that events such as these are important and she likes seeing people come out to support.

“One of them had it twice and she passed away before I was born, and one of them had it recently but she’s doing well now,” said Fernand. “It’s very important. It has affected my family and I might get it one day since it’s in my genes. It’s nice to know there are a lot of people willing to support the cause for people who do get it or are more likely to get it.”

The walk was put on for anyone who wanted to show support for breast cancer. Signs were placed around campus, allowing anyone on campus to

be able to read them, making the awareness broader than the people participating in the walk.

“It’s a risk to everyone,” said Dunn. “I think it is important to spread

awareness and obviously remember and keep people who are going through this in our hearts.”

See more photos of the Breast Cancer walk on Page 4.



PHOTO | ROMA ROSITANI

Students hold awareness signs for breast cancer.

Election outcomes discussed



PHOTO | DESTENY MARAGH

Professors participate in ‘What Happens Next’ virtual event.

By Desteny Maragh
Reporter

Director of Student Conduct and Civic Responsibility Chris Piscitelli hosted a live discussion about what students should expect after casting their votes in this upcoming presidential election.

Jonathan Wharton, a political science professor, said electoral college heads will meet on Dec. 14 to make their decision.

The electoral college is made up of party officials, donors, and state leaders and next month when they meet, they make the official decision.

The electoral college is here to “help balance out the small state, big state dynamics. That’s why the founding fathers created it,” said Wharton.

This discussion was held on Facebook Live at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 4, election day.

Piscitelli had Wharton and political science Department Chair Kevin Buterbaugh answer the question “what happens next.”

The Office of Student Conduct and Civic Responsibility, along with the Office of Orientation, Transition & Family Engagement and the SAGE Center collaborated to put the event together.

“Groups of people who are afraid of each other, so everyone went to the polls trying to protect themselves from the opposing party,” said Buterbaugh.

He and Wharton have opposite views on what is to come for America after the election.

“This is a very close election,” said Buterbaugh. “One of my first impressions of the election was worry, especially with places around the country boarding up storefronts and apartment buildings in urban areas. We might have a real violent protest, but we haven’t got any information of anything like that transpiring.”

Buterbaugh said if Trump does manage to win again, this will be the third time a minority winning candidate has won in this century.

He said this will create potential legitimate problems for the United States government, which can lead to bumps down the road.

“I think we are in for some very rough weeks ahead and potentially you might see violence across the country because the majority did not get what they wanted,” said Buterbaugh.

Wharton, who disagreed with the theory, said “I have a sense that the

system played out, the process worked, and this is the way it operates.”

“I think there are a lot of lessons to learn, but I don’t think it’s the end of the world or people will start rioting,” said Wharton.

Wharton said this is a good dose of reality for both parties when it comes to learning ways to deal with issues on election disagreements.

Looking towards the immediate future, Buterbaugh said, “we’re going to see a resolution quite quickly, states like Georgia and North Carolina, will either add to the margin of victory for Biden or they’ll give the margin of victory to Trump.”

Wharton said he predicts lawsuits, junctions and recounts soon.

“Even if a decision can be made by Friday, I think the controversy will still continue on,” said Wharton.

Differing from Wharton’s opinion, Buterbaugh said, “If Biden wins the electoral college, the were not going to see about of push back in lawsuits from Trump.”

Buterbaugh said the popular vote is essentially affirming and ratifying what the electoral college thinks.

Speaking on voter turnout, Buterbaugh said he thinks it is a process of polarization.

Native American Jeopardy brings fun competitiveness

By Ellis McGinley
Copy Editor

Thursday, Nov. 5, the Multicultural Center hosted “Indians Who Rocked the World,” a game of Jeopardy that taught participants facts about historic Native American culture.

The event was part of the university’s ongoing ‘Social Justice Month’, the theme of which is anti-racism.

November is also National Native American Heritage Month, which was described as celebrating in “Festival style.”

The university joins federal institutions, such as the Smithsonian Museums, National Park Service, Library of Congress, National Archives and Records Association, and National Endowment for the Humanities in recognizing Native American Heritage Month.

Although the event was dubbed “Indians Who Rocked the World,” only one of the five categories focused on “Men and Women.” The others were “Tools and Weapons,” “Sports and Games,” “Food,” and “Clothes.”

About a dozen students attended and three teams participated in the game. Like classic TV Jeopardy, participants could choose from the five categories, each of which had questions worth 100, 200, 300, 400, and 500 points. The team with the most points was eligible for a reward from the MCC.

The flyer advertised “prizes, gift cards, and much more.”

Healthcare studies major Ashley Coleman, a freshman, said “I thought the event was a great way to educate others and it was a nice break from a lecture.”

Simon McIntyre, a graduate intern for the Center, hosted the game on WebEx. Diane Brown-Albert, coordinator of Multicultural Student Activities, supervised. “[Native Americans] would dig trenches, then throw wooden snakes down them and see which got to the end first,” said McIntyre, describing a winter game called snow snake.

According to the Jeopardy, Algonquin and Iroquois tribes played many games of chance.

Other answers included Samuel de Champlain, the Frenchman who fought with the Algonquin tribe against the Iroquois; squash, corn, and beans, or the “Three Sisters” crops which grow best together; and lacrosse, which was invented by Native Americans.

John Smith, an English captain, was also included in the “Men and Women” category.

“Kilts,” said Team Leasya, when asked what type of garment Native American men wore. Team Ashley answered correctly: Native American men preferred leggings.

The question that seemed to stump players was “what types of eggs Native Americans ate”. Teams guessed chicken, turkey, snake, and reptile: the correct response was bird and turtle.

The answer did not specify which tribes this applied to.

Participants also learned about clothes such as moccasins, worn in warmer seasons, snowshoes, worn in winter, and Gustoweh, a traditional headdress made of strips of wood and feathers worn as part of indigenous regalia.

Regalia is usually worn by Native American dancers as part of powwows, ceremonies, and other events that may feature traditional dresses.

The questions focused largely on tribes of the Northeast, where games like snow snake originated. Another figure featured in the “Men and Women” category was Deganawida, or the Great Peacemaker, who is said to have founded the Haudenosaunee.

The Haudenosaunee, or League of the Iroquois, was located around the Great Lakes and, at one point, parts of Canada, Virginia, and Kentucky.

The university resides on what was once Wappinger, Pausgussett, and Quinipiac land; all three tribes spoke the Algonquin language, but were not associated with the League.

Connecticut still recognizes the Pausgussett tribe as a historic tribe. Team Ashley took first place with over 1,000 points earned. They were followed by Team Leasya in second place and Team Niama & Shanie in third.

“I was really excited to learn more about the Native American Indians. I knew more than I thought I did and guessed on the rest,” said Coleman, the winner.

‘Rap and White Gaze’ addresses racism

By Desteny Maragh
Reporter

Assistant philosophy chairperson and professor, Chelsea C. Harry, hosted an event called “Rap and the White Gaze,” where the realm of rap was explored through the eyes of a white listener and connoisseur.

H.A. Nethery, associate professor of philosophy at Florida Southern College, was the guest speaker.

The informal Q&A followed a presentation

by Nethery on rap music and critical whiteness studies.

He professed his love for rap and how it has impacted his life.

Nethery said “it is both possible and impossible to appreciate rap music as a white fan.”

“On one hand, it is impossible for me to have the experience that rappers illustrate in their songs and thus it is impossible to fully appreciate the songs without access to those experiences.”

He said rap offers

white people a gift that exposes the opaque white-racist self through the inducement of double consciousness within the white listener.

Nethery is not only a professor, but has had countless peer-reviewed presentations and even written books on racism and rap.

His first experience with the genre was in the fourth grade, when he was living in the predominantly white town of Urica, Cali. He was gifted a copy of NWA’s “Straight Out of

Compton” record.

“That was my first real point of access with Black people,” said Nethery. “As I grew older, I was interested in the paintings of tragic lives that were told through rap.”

Nethery said after listening to the trauma-filled stories that rappers told, he was able to gain racial awareness.

He said he always considered himself a non-racist or ally, but he did not become an anti-racist until much later in his life.

Nethery’s presentation focused on what it means to be a white person and be a fan of rap music and culture.

To engage in rap music, Nethery said, there is a required “direct-self-reflection on my own complicity within the systems of white supremacy.”

Nethery said rap music has origins in oppression and the disgusting and brutal treatment of people of color.

In this sense, “rap music is an expression of lived experiences of being the target of a world structurally dominated by white supremacy,” said Nethery.

A pivotal point in the presentation occurred when Nethery played a clip from a Kendrick Lamar concert. The video shows a young white woman called on stage to recite the lyrics of a popular song called “m.A.A.d city.”

The video was a test to see if the young woman would recite the lyrics without repeating the n-word.

The woman said the n-word, her first attempt before being called out by the artist.

Her defense of using the word was, “I only sang it how you wrote it.”

After defending herself and being booed by the audience, she admitted her wrongs and recited the song again without any mention of the word.

Nethery called this an example of “white appreciation of rap music gone horribly wrong.”

The young woman’s initial response, Nethery said, is a way to decrease her burden of the use of the word and push the blame onto the artist, rather than taking ownership of her mistake.

Overall, Nethery says the color of his skin limits him from having the same experiences as people of color so he can not appreciate hip-hop of that color, only a superficial experience.

Harry said she organized this event because “there have been several exceptional social justice events on campus already, and I wanted to offer students a specifically philosophical approach to BLM and critical theories of race.”

Harry wanted someone who could encourage students to “think about how we can use critical race theories to interrogate them in everyday life and to challenge systemic racism in our culture.”

“LET’S TAKE THE SCENIC ROUTE / I COULD SHOW YOU THE STRANGE FRUIT / IT’S LOOKIN’ LIKE BEIRUT.”

-PUSHA-T “UNTOUCHABLE” FROM KING PUSH.



PHOTO | DESTENY MARAGH

Quote from a song by King Push used in ‘the Rap and the White Gaze’ event.

Celebrities diss Trump in songs

By Jessica Guerrucci
Editor-in-Chief

With all eyes on the 2020 Presidential Election, the band Mt. Joy put their feelings simply in their latest song release “Mr. President,” saying “Yes, we need a new President.”

This isn’t the only diss track attacking Donald Trump, the current president, that was released leading up to Nov. 3. Celebrities have taken up their call to action and have been actively voicing their political views through songs – a responsibility they should proudly bear.

Mt. Joy offers a more optimistic approach to the dreaded election, implying that even if the country is at its final breaking point, there’s hope – if we “give it all our energy” and come together.

Demi Lovato’s recent release “Commander in Chief” came as a vocal masterpiece aimed at Trump, criticizing him for his leadership and action on the issues of COVID-19 and racial injustice.

“We’re in a state of crisis, people are dyin’, while you line your pockets deep,” Lovato sings, referring to COVID-19, with over eight million cases in the U.S. at the time of the song’s release.

This song came as a more direct attack on many of Trump’s policies – a bold stance for the artist, who said she doesn’t care if the song ruins her career. She’d rather voice her opinions as an American

and create something she believes in.

“I’ll take integrity in my work over sales any day,” she said about the song.

You have to be able to respect that.

These two songs came as recent as October, both a chance to sing out their views to fans, hopefully to help them make what they believe is the correct political decision for our country, but also showing that music and politics are intertwined.

These songs, while a direct attack, both offer some degree of hope. Mt. Joy suggests “we fall in love” with our country again. Lovato chants “won’t give up, stand our ground. We’ll be in the streets while you’re bunkering down.”

They empower a generation who is strongly influenced and has been speaking out widely for what they believe in and now they have these anthems to sing along to while they do it.

There has been more harsh attacks on our current president throughout the year like in YG’s “FDT,” and if you know the song, you know what that means. The song’s cover is a picture of Trump’s face, so it doesn’t get any more direct than that.

Even with the callouts around racism and the chorus stating quite directly YG’s feelings, the song still offers the central piece that makes these songs powerful – hope.

See Hope Page 6

Students react to Connery’s death

By Sam Tapper
Managing Editor

Sean Connery, Scottish actor, starred in many major roles in Hollywood throughout his life, and his death at the age of 90 on Oct. 31 has caused many fans to reflect on his life and the true talent he was.

Connery was best known for his iconic role as the original James Bond. He starred as Agent 007 in seven of the films. He also had lead roles in numerous other classic movies, such as: “The Man Who Would Be King,” “The Molly Maguires” and Henry Jones Sr. in “Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade” later in his career.

However, many students did not know who Connery was. Others only knew him as “the original James Bond.” For history major Josh

Schumacher, a freshman, he mainly knew of Connery from his role alongside Harrison Ford in “The Last Crusade.”

“I’m only familiar with a couple of his movies, the main one being “The Last Crusade,” said Schumacher. “I think it’s really unfortunate. But things like that are natural, we’ve got to just live with it.”

Contrary to Schumacher is business administration major Chris Philopena, a junior, who is an avid James Bond fan and very familiar with Connery’s movies. Philopena said Connery will go down as “one of the greatest actors of the 20th century.”

Philopena was not overly surprised to hear of Connery’s death, describing 90 as “a good long run,” but did say the situation itself was “unfortunate” while also calling it “sort of expected.”

“The biggest thing pre-World War I was to be an opera singer, then in the 20s and 30s and through that time it was to be a movie star, and when the 50s, 60s 70s came, it was to be a pop music star, so the biggest thing you can be changes, and Sean Connery was like the tail-end of that golden-age of Hollywood movie era,” said Philopena. “People in that sort of category, mythologize level of famous. Everybody in the world knows them.”

Philopena said Connery was not the first Bond he knew when growing up watching the movies, as there have been seven different actors to play the 007 Agent. Despite that, he said Connery set the tone not only for what the character should be, but served as an idol for men, young and old, to aspire to be like.

“Someone like Sean Connery, especially if you

watched a lot of movies and television as a kid, as a guy, you have these ‘idols of manhood,’ and James Bond is very much one of those,” Philopena said. “This is what a man should be. A man should be suave, a man should be well-dressed, a man should be situationally aware, witty, clever. He forms a masculine personality in a sort of way, and for that I think he was very significant.”

The most recent actor to play Bond, Daniel Craig, who played the role in the franchise’s four most recent movies and the upcoming “No Time to Die,” set for release in 2021. Craig offered his own condolences, saying that “he defined an era of style” and that he “was one of the true greats of cinema,” according to BBC News.

Craig will not be continuing as James Bond in future movies and a successor has yet to be named. Some that have been rumored are Tom Hiddleston and Richard Madden.

Connery joins a list of public figures to die in 2020, including Kobe Bryant, Chadwick Boseman, Eddie Van Halen, Regis Philbin, Ruth Bader Ginsburg and many others. In addition to everything else, the talent and influence the world has lost this year holds historical significance.

“It’s still important to remember who has died,” said nursing major Daniela Labrador, a sophomore, “especially role models such as celebrities and stuff. It’s still important to remember them.”

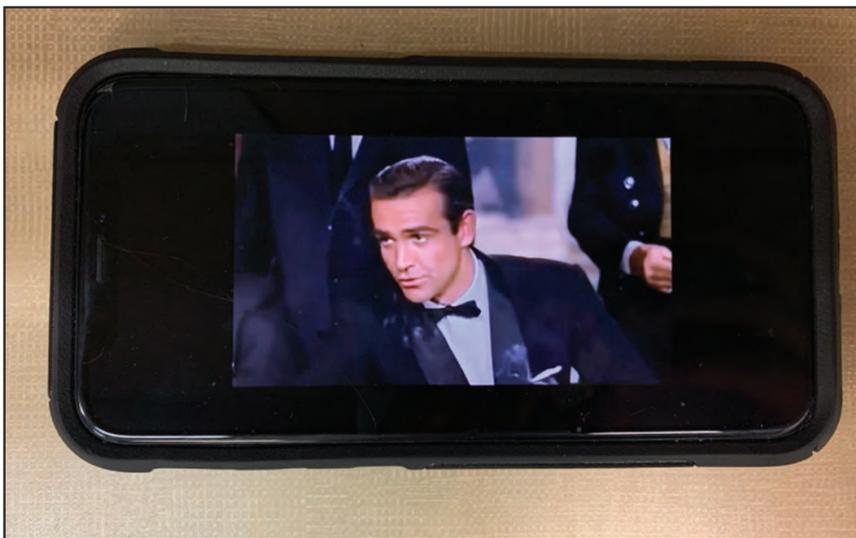


PHOTO | JESSICA GUERRUCCI

Sean Connery in one of the many James Bond films he portrayed Agent 007 in.