



## Passionate about art therapy

PAGE 8



## Volleyball falls to Adelphi 3-1

PAGE 9



## Final debate reflections

PAGE 4

# SOUTHERN NEWS

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## Honoring Ecuador at Noche De Gala



PHOTO | PALMER PIANA

This year's Noche De Gala celebrated and honored Ecuador after the devastating earthquake this passed year.

By Alex Palmeri

Every year, Southern hosts Noche De Gala, which acknowledges different Latino countries. This year, the country that was highlighted was Ecuador.

Robert Heron, vice president of Organization of Latin American Students, said he takes a specific country to express that country's culture, in attempt to make everyone aware of it. Since an earth-

quake hit Ecuador earlier in the year, Heron said he wanted to make everyone aware of the situation.

"We're actually donating some of our funds to them," said Heron. "All the funds that we make off this event are for scholarships for incoming Latino students."

Heron said he expected roughly 230 people to come to the event. With drinks, food and slide shows about the Ecuadorian nation, Heron said he wants everyone to under-

stand the culture.

"We need to stand united as human beings," said Heron. "Our brothers and sisters went through a tragic episode and a lot of members of their families have passed away."

Heron has a son who is half Ecuadorian, and the mother of his son is Ecuadorian as well. Heron said the mother of his son was personally effected through the tragedy that happened earlier in the year.

"I was a big advocator for this," said Heron. "Especially

having the money donated to Ecuador; so this kind of touches home for myself."

At the event, there were slides of the country before the earthquake, during the earthquake, and how the country stands now. Heron said he had the privilege to work with an Ecuador consult that is from the New Haven area that provided Southern with Ecuadorian musicians, performances, as well as Ecuadorian art.

"There's a lot of facts about

SEE NOCHE DE GALA PAGE 2

## Complicated campaign 2016

By Vivian Englund

Polling, trends and battleground states are amongst RealClearPolitics' reporter Caitlin Huey-Burns.

"What is so interesting about this election is that it is changing everyday," said Huey-Burns.

The opener brought by Joe Musante, set the tone for the keynote speaker.

"We have two of the most unpopular candidates in history," said Musante.

The event took place just twenty days before election day, which Huey-Burns said will be monumental.

The campaign, which she said has had many twists and turns, has been a "wild ride."

"I will never forget the day that Donald Trump descended down the golden escalator at the [Trump] tower," said Huey-Burns, "and that really became a symbol of the campaign. I'll never forget it because I wasn't actually there."

Huey-Burns said she was assigned to cover Jeb Bush in New Hampshire, who was assumed to be the Republican nominee.

"None of us [press] thought that Donald Trump would go through with announcing his candidacy," said Huey-Burns, "he had talked a lot about it before. So we were kind of watching in amazement. And in that moment it was kind of crystalized, two very different campaigns."

After filing her story on Bush at the local Panera Bread, Huey-Burns said she stayed in New Hampshire for a few days covering Trump.

She said she was trying to find out if people actually felt serious about Trump's campaign.

"I hung around and talked to a bunch of voters there. And I visited a Donald Trump rally a couple of days after covering Jeb Bush. After talking to voters there, I realized that this was a real campaign," said Huey-Burns.

She said this campaign season is

SEE POLITICAL FORUM PAGE 2

## Wellness Center hypes self care and GYT

By Alex Palmeri

Students at Southern were allowed to walk in to Granoff Health Services and get themselves tested for any diseases or HIV last week.

The event was called Get Yourself Tested. Students simply had to fill out an application, hand it into the front desk, and await their name to be called. Once their name was called, students were taken in to get tested.

"This is actually the first GYT where we have HIV included," said Jazmynn Jakubczyk, graduate intern for the Wellness Center. "So usually students can come in for GYT, and they'd only be tested for chlamydia and gonorrhea. But we have two dates this semester [including today] where they can get tested for HIV."

Jakubczyk said a lot of people ask for HIV testing, hence the reason why it was offered. GYT offered testing for STDs, HIV and PREP counseling. Jakubczyk said the first time Southern had the GYT testing, there were roughly 60 people. The second time around, she said she expected the same amount.

"The reason why we test for chlamydia and gonorrhea," said Jakubczyk, "is because those are the most seen STDs on campus. Everyone wants to get tested; it's nice to know; I think that's why we do it. It's nice to just be aware of your health."

Jakubczyk said if somebody does test positive for sexually transmitted infections, the students will get a call within 10 days with the results. She added that students will get a call and set up an appointment to talk about the results and the possible treatment. They also do the treatment at Southern.

Layne Gianakos, the PREP (pre-exposure prophylaxis) services coordinator at AIDS Project New Haven, said a big part of the HIV testing was getting people to know it is a necessary thing that students should do.

"It's a very simple, quick, easy test," said Gianakos. "It only takes 20 minutes and it's just a finger prick."

PREP, Gianakos said, is a new way to prevent HIV. He was at the event to give awareness about that, as well as to remove some of the stigma behaviors that might put a person at risk for HIV.

"PREP is a way to prevent HIV," said Gianakos. "So it's actually a medication you take every day; it's a pill, and it will prevent you from getting HIV. It's over 96 percent effective; it's very well tolerated; it's very safe. So we help people access it."

Gianakos said this was the first time that the AIDS Project New Haven did this. He said in the past, they have tested at Yale events, but took a hiatus from that for a while. They do testing in the community though, including health fairs.

"We've done testing at New Haven Pride," said Gianakos. "We also go into some of the local bars and we'll offer testing there."

As far as just the HIV results, Gianakos said the results are given within 20 minutes. He said to find results of other STIs takes longer. Gianakos added that he wants to know and be able to identify people who have anything that is infectious, so it does not spread and those students can be the healthiest they can be.

"As you know," said Gianakos, "HIV is something if you have it, you always have it. But you can be very, very healthy with HIV. So if we can identify the people that have it, then we can get them into treatment as soon as possible."



PHOTO | ALEX PALMERI

Layne Gianakos, PREP services coordinator at AIDS Project New Haven educates SCSU students on the process of getting tested.



PHOTO | DYLAN HAVILAND

Aysha Younas, a junior psychology major (left), and Daniela Guillen, a freshman business major (right).

## Henna Night brings cultural awareness

By Alex Palmeri

Henna Night at Southern promoted the Muslim Student Association according to Haroon Chaudhry.

"At least 100 people showed up," said Chaudhry, president of the Muslim Student Association. "It was really successful."

Chaudhry said one of the main reasons the event was held was to let all students and faculty know what the Muslim Student Association is all about. The MSA, Chaudhry said, is designed to raise awareness about Islamic culture. He said there are several events held at the university to let all people to better understand the Islamic culture. Chaudhry added that Henna Night was a lot more efficient than anticipated.

"I only expected about 40 or 50 people to be there," said Chaudhry. "The event was only from 5-7, like two hours. But we didn't close until 8; it was real good."

This was the first year Southern hosted Henna Night. Chaudhry said henna is like a tattoo, used for design. Every year a day before Eid, a Muslim holiday, Chaudhry said girls will go and get their hand designed. This day is called Chand Raat. He compared it to the Christmas culture in America.

"During that day, everybody just comes out, all the people will go out to places, and get their hand designed and buy clothing," said Chaudhry. "Just like for Christmas, you know how you guys do Christmas shopping? It's kind of similar to that."

Henna Night had a few accomplishments according to Chaudhry. He said after the event, one of the biggest accomplishments was people actually know what henna is all about now. Because entry into Henna Night was free,

Chaudhry said this was another factor to the successful population the night received.

"We did it for free," said Chaudhry. "So a lot of people showed up; it was a way for us to advertise."

Chaudhry said the student center was the best spot the event could have been held. He added everything went better than anticipated and it was an exceptional night.

As a new president of the MSA, Chaudhry said he has a lot of goals to achieve.

"My goal is to get the name out there," said Chaudhry. "My goal is to be the top three club in this university."

Zain Seyal, vice president for the MSA, did not attend Henna Night, but said it was a success. He said henna is a very cultural thing, but when people see it from the Islamic point of view, Seyal said it is a practice, especially for the prophet Muhammad. Seyal said henna night is a form of coming together and happiness in the culture.

"It's a lot of colors and culture that's kind of put into this," said Seyal.

Anam Khan, a junior communication disorders major, and part of the MSA club, said henna is a very cultural thing. She said at Henna Night, not a lot of students knew much about it. She said the whole purpose of the night was to expose people to the culture.

"We wanted to explain the culture and explain why we do it," said Khan.

Khan said she does not want the MSA to be exclusionary. She said whole purpose of Henna Night and the other events was to promote the MSA.

"We're just trying to be a friendly community and get more people," said Khan. "We're friendly; we just want other people to know, you know, to get rid of stereotypes and that kind of stuff."

## Priorities and midterms

By Brokk Tollefson

Tricia Hurst, a senior studio art major, is taking six classes while working two jobs, is the president of Southern's Photo Club and a sister in a sorority. Hurst says she often feels overwhelmed, but when it is midterm time, it is much worse.

"I prioritize my time, determine what's the most important things to do and then go from there. I try not to stress myself out too much," said Hurst.

David Pettigrew, professor of philosophy at SCSU since 1987, knows students can feel overwhelmed during midterms.

Pettigrew said, "Students will indicate that they have a lot of things due at once and that's unfortunate that the log jam effect is created."

Midterms are a time when students begin to feel overwhelmed by work which leads to them feeling depressed. This is according to a study performed by Cooperative Institutional Research Program at UCLA's Higher Education Research Institute. This study was performed on 150,000 students nationwide in 2014.

"The proportion of students who 'frequently' felt depressed rose to 9.5 percent, 3.4 percentage points higher than in 2009" UCLA states.

Pettigrew, who, according to him, is on his 30th year of teaching at Southern, said he knows how important it is to students to attend many of the extra-curricular activities Southern works hard to provide: sports, lectures by special guests, and clubs. When students are doing midterms, said Pettigrew, they pay less

attention to the social and extracurricular activities.

"Students are busy all the time doing stuff with clubs, sports, and other activities," Pettigrew said. "It's tough, sometimes students are too busy to come because they're working so hard and we need to work around that as well."

Pettigrew said stress management is a part of the education at Southern. Teachers need to help students learn how to deal with stress with responsibilities.

"The stress of midterms is just one more piece to the experience of managing stress, but I think it's important that faculty are sensitive to that, and it helps us support the students," said Pettigrew. "I try to support them pedagogically and engage them in general and to help them feel comfortable talking about things like that."

Tolbert's schedule changes during midterms, as he stops doing some of the things he enjoys doing and instead spends time in the library studying and reading. Tolbert said even though he studies for hours at a time, breaks are very important.

Matthew Crisci, a sophomore history major, said to keep a fresh mind during difficult times like midterms and finals, it is important to set time aside for yourself to relax.

"I have to spend a little bit more time studying; a little bit more time to sit down and really focus on the stuff I need to do," said Crisci. "But I put time aside just for me and to lay back and chill out."



PHOTO | PALMER PIANA

The night was filled with Spanish dancing and cuisine in the ASC Ballroom.

## Noche De Gala

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Ecuador that people don't know," said Heron. "So we have them listed at the tables; so we try to bring knowledge about Ecuador to them. So it's kind of Ecuador here."

Joe Bertolino, president of Southern, also made a quick appearance at Noche De Gala. He said Southern students from all backgrounds and cultures are members, supporters and involved with the group.

"That's actually very exciting to see," said Bertolino. "All cultures coming together to celebrate a culture."

Bertolino said Noche De Gala is not only be supportive of one another, but to have a good time in the process.

He said it is a healthy and safe way to have fun on a Thursday night on the Southern campus, and to be supportive of the organization. Bertolino added that the Latino and Spanish descent is growing not only at Southern, but in the city of New

Haven.

"It is or soon will be the largest demographic in the city of New Haven," said Bertolino. "So the city will be what is termed majority-minority. I think that's very exciting. I think it's good for the city; I think it's good for our students."

Ultimately, Bertolino said the main reason he attended had very little to do with the party aspect of Noche De Gala.

He said he wants all Southern students to know that he supports them and cares about them.

"I think the more events that we can have," said Bertolino, "that not only support the Hispanic and Latino population, but more importantly that brings students together across culture, across racism, across ethnicities, across religions, orientations, lifestyles, etc., I think that's positive and important for our community."



PHOTO | DYLAN HAVILAND

Caitlin Huey-Burns discussed hot-button topics on the 2016 election campaign.

## Political forum

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

like no other. "This is a campaign that has in many ways just defied all of the political expectations and rules. We've gotten a lot wrong, we've learned a lot and it's been really fascinating to cover," said Huey-Burns.

Among other hot button topics was the discussion on the "unfair voting system" that has been made light of in recent weeks.

The time of Huey-Burns' keynote, Trump

was behind in the polls by seven points. However, she said it would not be shocking if the polls were to sway yet again.

"We have just had two terms of a Democratic president," said Huey-Burns, "and if history is any indication, then that usually warrants some kind of change in election. Donald Trump is very much campaigning as the change candidate-- but he has also had a lot of missteps and Clinton had

been able to be further ahead."

As far as polls she explained that Ohio is essentially a swing state for the first time in a long time in that they normally vote Republican.

"There is still a concern for enthusiasm," she said, "we have two unpopular candidates and this has been a long and demissive campaign and there is a lot of depression of voters-- so that in the final stretch is going to be key."

# Intersectionality and racism on campus

By Jeniece Roman

Melissa Kissi, an advocate for the Violence Prevention, Victim Advocacy and Support Center said she wanted to make sure that students felt comfortable during her talk on Racism and Intersections of Oppression and Sexual Violence.

“It is important information that I want you to learn, but if you need to get a drink of water, or fresh air, or zone out for a second, or step out then please do so,” said Kissi “Because again, it is heavy.”

Kissi said a person does not only have just one identity but a combination of multiple identities. Identifiers such as gender, disabilities, age, sexual orientation – all have different needs and experiences.

“That is going to impact the way that people view me, the way that they judge me, the way that they think I am capable of certain things and it’s going to also impact my experiences,” said Kissi.

Intersectionality is a term coined by Kimberle Crenshaw. According to Kissi, it is about not ignoring other parts of identity, as she said it is about understanding how these identities meet.

“So the way I think of intersectionality is when a person or group of people meet different

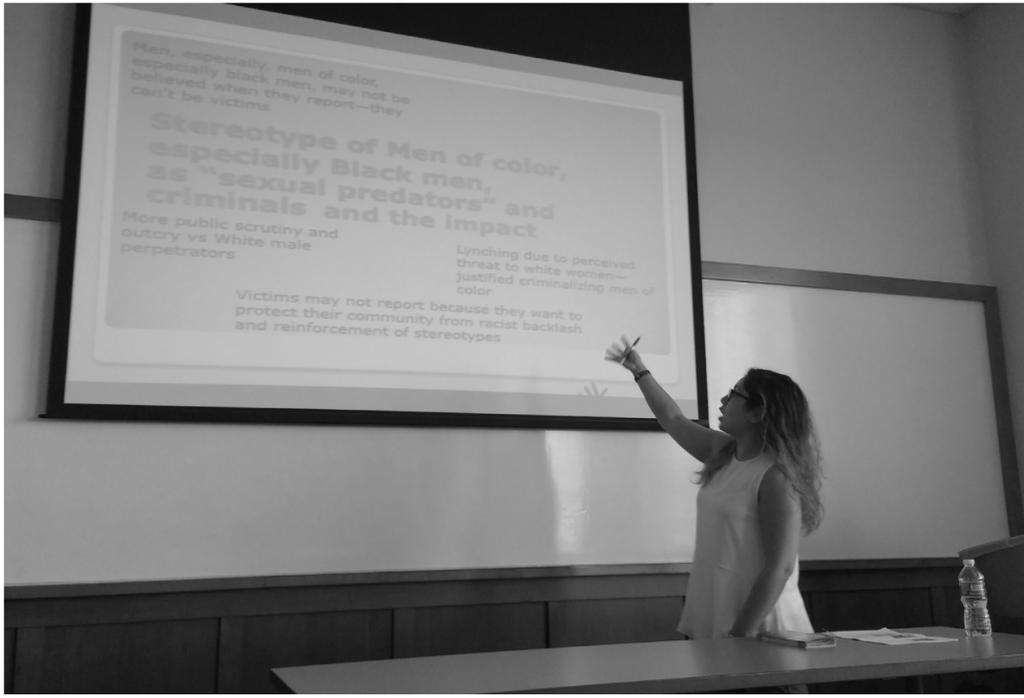


PHOTO | JENIECE ROMAN

Melissa Kissi of VPAS educates on intersectionalism and racism at a forum last week.

groups. Say someone was like a black female who’s gay: those are like many different identities that all intersect,” said Keara Blue, a senior psychology major.

People are afraid of black men because of the stereotype they are violent or criminals and that

this stereotype is a factor in the recent event concerning police brutality, according to Blue.

The Center for Disease control conducted The National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey, which found that one in five white men are victims of

sexual assault and over one in five are black men.

“People of all colors commit crimes,” said Kissi. “But if you do some research you can see that a black man and a white man might be sentenced for the same crime, a white man might get less

time.”

Kissi said that a bias occurred when the media failed cover the murder of Alyssia Wiley, a black woman, versus their coverage of the murder of Yeardeley Love, a white woman. According to the One Love website, Love, a senior at the University of Virginia was beaten to death by her ex-boyfriend. Kissi said that Love is a well known figure in the counseling community but there was hardly any coverage on the murder of Alyssia Wiley, an Eastern Connecticut State University student who was also murdered by her boyfriend – she was black.

Latasha Dudley, a political science major, said the area that Wiley was murdered was not far from her house, about a mile. She said she heard about the murder from someone in her neighborhood and her friends at Eastern did not know it happened.

“That’s why I heard cause it was so close to home that’s why everybody was talking about it,” said Dudley.

Kissi said despite certain stereotypes of gender, race, or sexual orientation, anyone can be a victim of sexual assault.

“Sexual violence occurs in all communities,” said Kissi. “It does not matter who you are, where you come from, what you look like it touches all communities despite some stereotypes.”

## Pet therapy bringing peace

By Jeniece Roman

Every Thursday from 3 to 4 p.m. in the Wellness Center students can be greeted by Sophie and Laney: not counselors, therapy dogs.

Dakota Summers, said she started attending pet therapy as soon as she found out about it. She has an emotional support animal guinea pig and a beta fish.

“When I heard there are animals that were going to be here I said I have to come, I have to come and see this place,” said Summers.

Robin River, pet partner for Sophie, said that she said she can see the positive affect the dogs have on people when they come into pet therapy.

“Every time I see someone put their hands on her I see their face change. They just, they smile, they relax,” said River.

Misty Ginicola, a faculty member in counseling and school psychology and pet partner for Laney said the program was initially offered during the final exam week in which students can spend time with 15 to 20 dogs. She said that the counseling center, wellness and some faculty on campus with dogs, have been trying to make the pet therapy a regular event for years.

“We’ve been trying to get a weekly event going for a while,” said Ginicola. “So, they just got the permission to do this last year. So it’s the first time [this semester] that we’ve done it every week now.”

Ginicola said she gets a lot of regulars, some of which miss their own dogs at home, some faculty and staff and also students that are anxious or stressed.

“The reaction is really positive. I’ve had students that are actually a little afraid of dogs or don’t really like dogs and come in and fall in love with Laney and Sophie,” said Ginicola.

Jennifer Pohl, a freshman special

education major, said that she had not seen her dog in almost a month when she first came to pet therapy.

“I personally do have mental health issues and like that’s a thing and I haven’t been able to find a therapist in the area yet so this has kind of been like some substitute I guess. This definitely helps,” said Pohl.

According to Ginicola, oxytocin, a bonding love hormone, is expressed when one is petting a dog and can lower blood pressure and stress. She said that students have told her that just being in the same room with the dogs has an affect on them and changes their energy.

“There’s a lot of research on the value of therapy dogs for both physical and mental health. So it makes it a nice compliment program for Wellness Center,” said Ginicola.

River said that she rescued Sophie as a puppy and started training her because she knew she would be a therapy dog.

“I knew right away. So I would hug her and hold her and touch her a lot and play with her feet and make sure she was very comfortable with people and other animals,” said River.

National registering for therapy dogs, pet partners, sees it a partnership between the handler and the therapy dog. The handler takes a coarse, an exam, and then the dog goes through physical exam and training in basic obedience and temperament, followed by a live exam.

“They test her reactions and how well as a handler I responds to her and how I interact with her and also how she responds to those interactions,” said Ginicola.

River said that Sophie passed the exam last December but that her sister did not pass the exam.

“You can’t make a dog be a therapy dog,” said River. “They have to want to do it, they have to want to enjoy it.”



PHOTO | JENIECE ROMAN

Jennifer Pohl and Dakota Summers pet Laney on Thursday Oct. 20.

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PHOTO | CREATIVE COMMONS

## U.S. graduation rates on the rise: here is a look behind the numbers

By Kaitlyn Regan

Jessica Kenty-Drane, a professor of sociology of education, said Connecticut has big wealth gaps in its public school system and is a small example of what the whole country is like.

Kenty-Drane said there is a growing gap because of this concentration of wealth.

"They're able to keep accentuating the top where the boundary gives, they just keep moving it up," said Kenty-Drane, "and then you have people at the bottom, just scrambling."

Monday, President Barack Obama announced the nation's high school graduation rate for 2014-2015 is 83 percent, a new record. According to the White House fact sheet, Connecticut's graduation rate is 87 percent.

Kenty-Drane said Connecticut has some of the greatest disparity in terms of income inequality of any state, but overall has a relatively high quality of life.

"We are fortunate in a way that some children are getting pulled up. Now, that's not universally true," Kenty-Drane said. "We have school districts that have much lower graduation rates than what our state average is."

Graduation rates are incredibly tied to poverty, Kenty-Drane said. The more impoverished a community, the harder time most communities have trying to keep their graduation rates up. She said some towns have been able to disrupt the connection between poverty and their graduation rates.

"They've typically done some pretty exceptional things to that," Kenty-Drane said. "It's keeping communication with the families strong, bringing families into the schools."

Connecticut is a knowledge sector state, said Kenty-Drane, and people are encouraged and pushed into college because of that.

Alexis Haakonsen, director of admissions, said the amount of freshmen students at Southern rose from 1,275 students in 2014 to 1,394 in 2015 students because Southern started using the Common Application and an extensive high school senior search program.

Kenty-Drane said the gap begins before kids even walk into a public school.

"You've already created the gap just by having very disparate experiences in childhood and that's not all okay, some of it's really wrong," Kenty-Drane said. "Some of it is really that kids' well being is not being met in a lot of communities."

Katie Graf, assistant principal at Frank Scott Bunnell High School in Stratford, said they are a diverse community and have put lot of interventions in place in order to help their most at risk, struggling students and get them to graduation.

In Bridgeport, where Graf worked for 11 years, Graf said the district has implemented several credit recovery programs. Graf said Bridgeport does have many credit recovery programs in house, both during the school day and after school. She added most of these programs are internet based.

"For students who have failed courses previously or have been unsuccessful in their high school career and really need that extra boost in terms of recovering credit necessary towards graduation," Graf said.

Stratford does not offer an in house recovery program, Graf said, however they do have an alternative program that students can temporarily go to if they need to earn lost credit. Stratford is currently contracting with an online platform to eventually offer online credit recovery services.

Recently, Graf said she met with representatives from The WorkPlace, which is through the Department of Labor and based out of Bridgeport. Graf said they are now working with high school students who are struggling academically.

"In terms of mentoring, counseling, and really helping them to get motivated to graduate and move on to be a productive citizen in the workforce," Graf said. "There are a lot of programs like that, it's just a matter of us knowing about them, hearing about them, and then referring our students to them in time before it's too late, catching it early."

## Students reflect on the final presidential debate

Sophomore, Kiah Strickland said Donald Trump, as a candidate, makes her upset and uncomfortable and she feels that he has no respect for women.

By Meagan McAdams

Freshman Nate Didomizio, was not pleased with Donald Trump's performance in the final presidential debate.

"I think I have standards for the president and he does not meet them what so ever," said Didomizio.

Trump and Hillary Clinton had their last debate Wednesday, Oct. 19 at the University of Nevada. The moderator, Chris Wallace from Fox News, focused the debate on six topics: immigration, the supreme court, debt and entitlements, the economy, foreign hot spots and fitness to be president. Other topics that were discussed included gun control and abortion.

According to the Clinton campaign, Trump lied 137 times throughout the three debates. That is one lie every 50 seconds that he spoke.

Polls conducted by the Washington Times, and the Drudge Report

declared Trump won the debate while CNN and The New York Times dubbed Clinton the winner.

"It was an easy victory for Clinton," said sophomore, Quinn O'Neill. "It was a hard fought battle by Trump though."

Before the debate was over Trump had a hashtag trending on twitter.

"We've got some bad hombres here and we're going to get them out," said Trump, referring to undocumented immigrants in the United States.

The hashtag #BadHombres was being used by celebrities including Chelsea Handler and Rashida Jones. Twenty-one new shirt designs began trending on Redbubble, many including Trump and Hillary's comments from the debate.

Throughout the debate, Trump said voters should "watch the polls," and he would only accept the legitimacy of the election if he won. He said that the election is supposedly

rigged against him. Clinton called this "horrifying" and said he was "talking down our democracy." Also, while discussing abortion, she described Trump's language as "scare rhetoric."

"Donald Trump is a grown up and spray tanned version of a child who was never told no," said sophomore Kiah Strickland.

With his belief that all major media is biased, Trump provided an alternative viewing platform for his supporters; Facebook live stream. According to CNN it was the most viewed debate-related live stream that night, there were around 200,000 viewers. The New York Times reported that Trump's Facebook coverage of the debate may have been a preview of a Trump television network that Jared Kushner, Trump's son-in-law, has begun looking into. He reached out to Aryeh Bourkoff, a media investment banker.

When the topic of the

recent sexual assault accusations against Trump came up, he said that he thinks the Clinton campaign hired these women to step forward and say these things about him. Mike Pence told the Chicago Tribune that Trump's team is currently working on finding information to prove the accusers stories to be untrue. Trump denies that any of the women's claims are true, and that their stories have already been proven untrue.

Trump also referred to Clinton as a "nasty woman" while she speaking about how she would handle debt as president by raising taxes on the rich. He proceeded to say that no one has more respect for women than him later in the debate.

"He makes me uncomfortable and angry," said Strickland following the end of the final debate. "I'm absolutely appalled that he even dared to run for the presidency. He has zero respect for women."

## SOUTHERN NEWS

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# Halloween writing contest winners

## A passerby and the ghost

By Jason D'Addio

The sun began its descent below the horizon; a beautiful sight to behold by the Spanish cliffside on, none other than, All Hallows Eve, the beginning of a three-day celebration. Its gleaming rays were only rivaled by a marvelous hotel that stood alone by a steep rock face, consumed by fire and ablaze in the cool wind. All was solemn, all was quiet. It was a sight to behold – and beholden it was. A Spaniard passerby trotted along with his head cocked low, down on his luck and half-drunk from a long day of debauchery. Clumsily trudging up the grassy hillside, he approached the hotel and his eyes soon widened in disbelief. The heat radiating from the structure sobered him up quickly and to ease his weary self, he decided to catch a glimpse of the endless Atlantic Ocean.

While moving toward the very edge of the cliff, the crashing sounds of waves penetrated the man's ears and the scent of salt mixed with ash drifted up his nostrils. His sight though, was greeted to a rather strange scene. Standing at the precipice was a woman draped in a long, white, night gown with flowing brown hair that swished during gusts of wind. Hesitantly, the young fellow stepped closer and with each cautious step, his curiosity only grew. By the time he was nearly beside her, his face had turned blue from holding his breath too long.

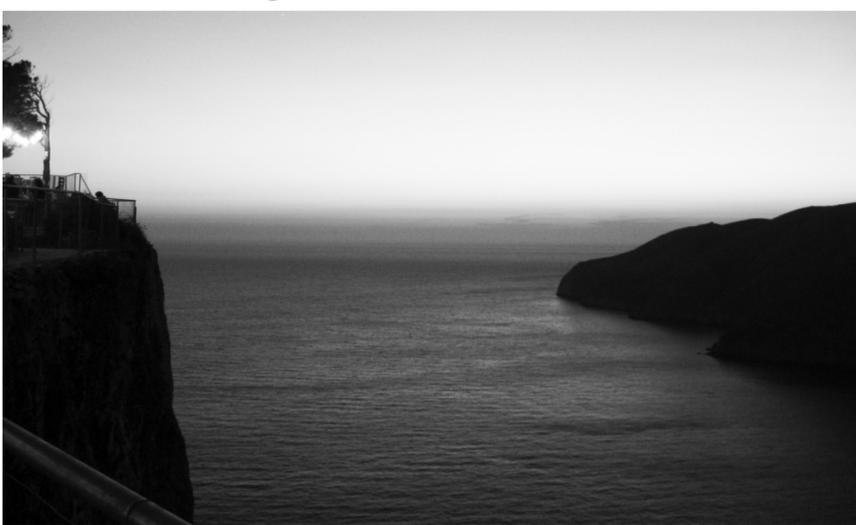


PHOTO | CREATIVE COMMONS

"You're here. Nobody ever comes here anymore."

He exhaled loudly. Shifting his line of sight back to the doomed hotel as it was being gobbled up by the flames, he could not help but crack a smirk. "I can't imagine why."

Unable to catch a glimpse of the mysterious woman's face, the man thought it best to stand beside her, maybe even offer some comfort given the gloomy situation. When the sleeve of his dress coat grazed her arm, he turned and saw a face that was hauntingly pale, with crestfallen blue

eyes that had a glazed coating to them. Her lips looked soft while also devoid of color; the plush, red hint of blood flow was nonexistent. Soft cheeks and a shapely figure only complimented her beauty, enhanced by void black, topaz gemstone around her neck. Despite her physical charm, the man could not help but feel uncomfortable.

"What are doing here?" he asked. "And what in God's name happened to that building?"

"We wanted to end it together. My love and me."

Tears began to roll down her face. "But his desire was to go down with our crown jewel; that wonderful, grand, old hotel. But me" – she paused.

"But you, what?" said the man.

The woman exhaled softly and whispered. "I always loved this spot. The ocean. The sky. The birds. The serenity of it all. Wouldn't you?"

Off in the distance by the bay, orange and white fireworks erupted in color as dusk began to fall, almost signifying a climax to the moment at hand. The strange woman suddenly grasped the man's wrist and pulled him close.

"Here. This place. This is where I always wanted to exit this world." Her grip began to loosen. "What a shame though, that fate didn't allow me even that."

"Wait!"

With nothing but grace, the woman released her cold fingers and fell backwards off the cliff's edge, to the man's horror. Her ghostly white gown fluttered from the sharp drop as she vanished below the horizon. Rushing to peek his head over the cliff, the man was shocked to discover the absence of a body or blood on the rocks below. There was not even a scream or a splash and the man figured he would have at least witnessed the woman's swift descent. Nothing.

Perplexed and spooked, the Spaniard headed home to gather marigolds for the Day of the Dead. Honoring the long dead parents he never knew was something of a tradition.

## Honest living

By Zanny Stowell

In a world of industry, life is about compromises. I know that. My father and his father before him, they didn't need to know it, not the way I do. There was a time you could get by and live happy on hens and cows, not the ones wired through with tubes, but ones you brushed and gave names to, with sweet milk and mismatched marble eggs.

But it's all novelty, now. I live off the skin of my teeth, off the goodwill of suburban families who pretend they enjoy the experience of navigating a stroller along a dirty pathway, off the children who steal penny-candy and spit in the water troughs. I let them peel and pull apart ears of corn for inspection, only to find them wanting compared to the ones at Stop n' Shop. I don't sell them the things they need, anymore. What I sell them is authenticity. What I sell them is the ability to pretend, just for one moment, that life is simple, and milk is sweet.

But authenticity does not run off dead cows.

Pearl was the first to go, her stall in the barn empty. The other girls—Myrtle and Rita and Misty—stood quiet and shivering, staring at me with those big, sad eyes cows have. I found Pearl in the cornfield, pale and disemboweled, her tongue swollen and everything limp in the center of a flattened circle. Every stalk around her, perfectly crushed, as if God had taken his fist and smashed it down from the very heavens. And I found it awfully odd, I'll admit, but blamed it on the coyotes. I managed to nudge

her out of the field with a tractor and into a shallow ditch.

That night I slept uneasy. I dreamt of milking cows, but all their teats could spit into the bucket was frothy blood. I bottled it in glass jars. I churned it into ice cream. I sold it to a family with long fingers and black eyes, who spoke in a language I couldn't understand.

In the morning, Myrtle was gone. I knew to find her in the corn field, in the same circle where Pearl had been, her legs straight up in rigor mortis, her eyes and teeth gone like someone wriggled them out with pliers. A sickly sweet smell hovered above the flattened stalks, a smell that clung to the hairs in my nose long after I'd nudged Myrtle out and into a ditch alongside her sister.

Maybe I slept that night. Maybe not. It's hard to remember. A family slithered in through my window, long-fingered and black-eyed, and even though they spoke in a language I could not understand, I knew what they wanted from me.

It must sound awfully odd, but don't worry. It's all settled, now, because, like I said, you learn to get by on compromises. I drew up a pattern and cut the maze myself, and for ten dollars a person you and your friends can go in and let yourself be swallowed up into the field. Most people, it'll take about thirty to forty minutes to get through, and they'll come out laughing, dizzy with vertigo and itchy from the stalks that lick as rough as a cow's tongue. The rest, I suppose, are the ones who found the circle.

Things are good. I'm getting by.



PHOTO | CREATIVE COMMONS

## The sixth floor

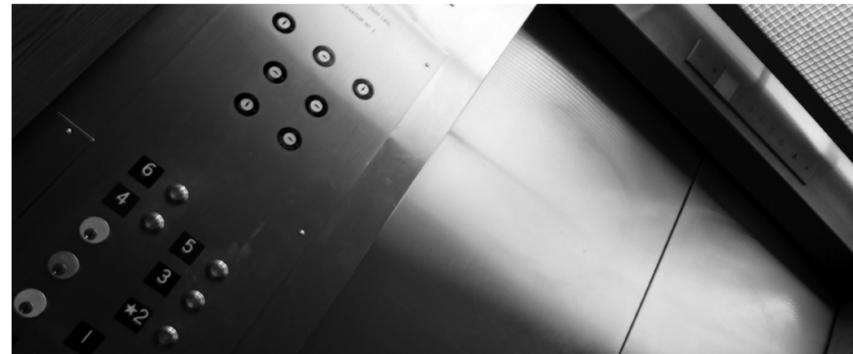


PHOTO | CREATIVE COMMONS

By Jolee Parolise

A flash of lightening lights up the dim room as Luna heats up some water on the stove. The news plays on the TV in the background, and the weatherman warns everyone about the incoming storm. Luna pulls her sweater closer around her: the heat never works in this crappy apartment. To fix her problem, she pours the hot water into a mug with a tea bag and wraps her hands around the cup. She hears a clap of thunder from outside, and when she looks out the window, it's finally raining.

She leaves the kitchen for her bedroom to grab another blanket, but hears the TV making a loud noise. It's static. She rushes over to the TV and hits it a few times before the image is clear again. Everything in this place seems either broken or ancient. She knows she needs to move, but where else will she find a cheap apartment only ten minutes away from her job? Even the neighbors are perfect, they're barely ever around. Actually, when she thinks of it, she cannot remember seeing anyone in the hallway except for her first day. It was an old couple across the hall.

The raining turns to pouring, and she can barely hear the TV anymore. She turns it off angrily and decides to grab a book to settle in for another night alone. But when she looks for her book, she cannot find it. It was right on the kitchen table. She looks everywhere, near the toaster, in the fridge, under the chairs, but it is nowhere. She looks at her orange cat, Louie, but he just stares back at her. Am I going crazy? she thinks.

Suddenly, the TV comes back on. On it appears a creature in a clown mask and wild red suit. His eyes are rolling around in his head, and he licks his lips while poking the camera creepily. Luna's mouth falls open. She rushes

to the TV to turn it off, but it keeps popping back on. Who is he? Where is he? He looks like he is in a small, empty room. She starts hitting the TV again, but it will not stop. Every time the TV comes back on, the clown's face is closer and closer until his bright, red eye fills up the screen.

A knock comes at the window. Luna's heart races as she slowly looks over. A white gloved hand reaches up and lands on the window. Luna hears a blood curdling scream and realizes it's her own. She jumps up and grabs the phone to call 911, but the line is dead. She whips open her front door and knocks on the old couple's door across the hall. She knocks so hard the door flies open.

"Hello?" she calls, creeping inside. Maybe if she is not alone her heart will stop beating so fast. Then she sees the old man is sitting up at the kitchen table. The room is dark and she cannot see. With a clap of thunder and a flash of lightening, the room is lit up and she can see he's dead, bleeding from the forehead and eyes wide open. Luna's blood runs cold. She feels rooted to the spot, but she knows she needs to keep moving. She runs back to the hall and over to the elevator. She needs to get out of here.

The elevator feels like it will never come, but finally it does and she steps onto it alone. The door closes and her breathing starts to slow. Everything will be okay, she tells herself. She watches intently as each floor goes by. Six . . . Five . . . Four. But then it stops and goes black.

"No!" she screams. She bangs on the door and searches for the buttons on the wall. Her heart races so fast, it could burst out of her chest. Tears run down her cheeks. The button lights start to flash, and it feels so cold in the elevator. She realizes she is not alone. A hand rests on her shoulder just as the elevator starts to fall.



PHOTO COURTESY | CREATIVE COMMONS

Creative Commons photo of pumpkin muffins as a treat to enjoy during the fall season.

## Students enjoy baking and eating delicious treats during the fall season

By Sherly Montes

The air outside is crisp and cool, but inside a lot of dorms and apartments, the kitchen oven is making the air warm with the smell of something delicious baking in the oven.

The fall season brings along flavors such as apples, pumpkins, caramel, and everything that is pumpkin spice, or cinnamon covered. These warm baked goodies tend to make their ways into ovens and shopping carts often during this time of year.

Delish, a top 10 food-related website owned by Hearst Magazines Digital Media, just released a list of baked treats for the fall season in a listicle called, "65 Perfect-For-Fall Desserts." The list contains seasonal favorites and new fall creations such as pumpkin caramel pie, pumpkin brookies (brownie cookies), caramel apple poke cake,

apple crisp cookie cups, and triple-chocolate pumpkin bread, just to name a few.

The Huffington Post has also jumped in line to celebrate the best recipes for sweet treats to share in the fall time. The article, "Fall Is The Season For Baking. These 18 Recipes Prove It" states that, "fall food are the best foods." It also lists treats such as ombre spice cupcakes, pumpkin crumb cake muffins, easy chair spiced donut, salted caramel pretzel chocolate chip cookies, super moist pumpkin bread, and many more.

Marlene Kinchen, a junior theater major, said, "I definitely bake more in the fall than I do any other time of year. It's just that nice warm feeling of baking pies or cakes or tarts. It's just so fulfilling."

Kinchen said she loves baking this time of year, but she doesn't buy into the hype of just pumpkins and apples.

"There are so many other fruits and vegetable to be excited about, not just

pumpkins and apples," said Kinchen. "I prefer playing with spices and mixing up flavors. I love playing around with sweet, tangy, tart, and all of that and it still ends up being something good."

Nevoya Roberts, a sophomore marketing major, said, "I don't buy into the types of foods you should eat this year. I don't like pumpkin spice or pies."

Roberts said she likes pumpkin, but not the fake pumpkin flavored foods that are popular this time of year.

"I eat pumpkin differently, like actual pumpkin," said Roberts. "I'll eat it boiled or in a soup, but honestly I'll eat anything at any time of the year."



PHOTO COURTESY | CREATIVE COMMONS

Creative Commons close up photo of pumpkin oatmeal cookies.

## 'The Pretty Reckless' offers unique sound on new release



PHOTO COURTESY | CREATIVE COMMONS

Creative Commons photo of Taylor Momsen, lead vocals for "The Pretty Reckless" performing live in concert.

By Natalie Barletta

In the era of modern rock music, it is rare to find a band that is both authentic and raw in sound. Sure, there are bands like "Halestorm" and "The 1975," but those bands often tend to gravitate towards the metal or alternative end of rock, rather than pure rock and roll.

With that being said, there is one band out there that still houses the pure rock and roll made famous by classic bands such as "Aerosmith," the "Eagles" and "Pink Floyd." Ladies and gentlemen, that band is The "Pretty Reckless."

In their third album, "Who You Selling For," it showcases that sound with both raw,

emotional lyrics and strong guitar accompaniment.

The band, formed in 2009, is composed of lead singer Taylor Momsen (best known for her roles as Cindy Lou Who in "Dr Seuss' How The Grinch Stole Christmas" and Jenny Humphrey in the CW's "Gossip Girl"), guitarist Ben Phillips, drummer Jamie Perkins and bassist Mark Damon.

Compared to their earlier albums, 2010's "Light Me Up" and 2014's "Going to Hell," "Who You Selling For," has more of a blues-like sound, rather than the band's heavy hard rock sound, similar to the works of Joe Walsh.

Without a doubt, Momsen's vocals really shine in each of the tracks, especially in songs "The

Devil's Back," "Back to the River," "Already Dead" and "Wild City."

The album starts off with "The Walls Are Closing In/ Hangman," a song that begins with Momsen's vocals and piano, and then slowly integrates guitar to create a more hard rock sound, creating a sound that is both haunting and beautiful.

While several songs have a more blues feel to them, songs like "Oh My God" and lead single "Take Me Down," have a more heavy, hard rock feel to them, which is remnant of the band's earlier music.

A few other songs such as "Devil's Back," have a more acoustic, coffee-shop feel to them, and have beautiful lyrics to accompany that sound.

Highlights of the album

include "Prisoner," a more edgy track that discusses resisting being a prisoner.

Another great track is "Wild City," a song that discusses the sins that a city might possess and how one might lose their sense of innocence in it.

"Take Me Down," is also another great hit, and discusses Momsen being at the crossroads in a relationship, however, she remains devoted to rock and roll. What makes that track so great is both Momsen's vocals, along with the repetition of lyrics "sign with the devil" to create a tune one can easily rock along to.

One of the best tracks of the album, "The Devil's Back," is an acoustic track that discusses the pressures and anxieties that

young women might face in today's world, such as weight, liking the person that one has become and maintaining a youthful appearance.

Overall, "Who You Selling For" is an amazing rock album for the modern era of rock music, especially for those who crave the sounds of "AC/DC" and "Led Zeppelin." What makes this album so great is the real, raw authentic sound that the band has, as listeners can truly feel the emotion behind the music and each note that Momsen sings.

With that being said, "Who You Selling For," is the best rock released in 2016, and is hands down a must listen for rock fans who are looking for fresh music to join their "Pink Floyd" and "Led Zeppelin" records.

# Dressing for the fall season introduces its own challenges and difficulties



Photo of students walking through campus wearing mixed articles of clothing.

PHOTO COURTESY | PALMER PIANA

## By Jeniece Roman

The fall season means fall fashion, but according to students it might not always mean dressing for the cold weather.

Pam Solis, a junior public health major, said it has been difficult finding something to wear with the recent unpredictability of the weather. She said that she brought all of her summer clothes home and the following week temperatures rose.

"It's a little frustrating. When the weather changes you kind of expect that when the semester starts, it's going to get colder," said Solis.

Alexis Greenwood, a public health major, said it can be

challenging to dress for the weather, but gets help through the weather app and relies on layers when dressing.

"It's difficult," said Greenwood. "I usually check the weather pretty faithfully."

Greenwood said she checks the weather so she is aware of what the next day will be like, whether it is hot or cold.

She said although it can be difficult, dressing for colder weather is easier than dressing for warmer weather.

"If you have on, let's say, like a wrinkled shirt, you throw a hoodie on over that and nobody can see the wrinkled shirt as opposed to maybe like when it's warmer outside," said Greenwood. "Then obviously you're going to have to iron your shirt."

Maddy Causapin, a sopho-

more pre-nursing major, said it is easier to live on campus because she can go back to her dorm midday and change if she needs to, but that living on campus also has challenges.

"I went home this weekend and I was debating whether I should bring home my winter stuff back or bring my summer stuff back to my house," said Causapin.

Greenwood said she brings most of her clothes to campus and because she goes home every weekend, it makes dressing for the weather unpredictable.

"I will try and leave some things at home and I'll try and do like half and half. I leave some fall stuff at home or if I notice it's getting warmer out I'll be like, let me bring my sandals back to school or

something like that. So it kind of has been a challenge going back and forth," said Greenwood.

Layering her outfits with long sleeves, a sweater, or jackets is another way that Greenwood said she likes to dress.

She also said she relies on tall boots and sweatpants because they are very comfortable. Her recent favorite accessory is bangles and layering them with Alex and Ani bracelets.

"The jeans and T-shirt are pretty okay for any weather you can kind of pick and choose whether or not you want to add another layer," said Greenwood.

Causapin said there is a difference between the way that students at private univer-

sities and public universities dress. She went onto say that Southern students have a more casual style.

"If you look at schools around here like Quinnipiac or Yale, you can definitely see that they dress differently than we do," said Causapin.

Solis said she has been looking at over sized sweaters but there are several fall items she does not own that she would like to.

She has been looking at fall booties, scarves and anything like dark colored clothing and said she likes to dress up regardless of the weather.

"I like to feel comfortable and look good," said Solis. "It's not for anyone it's just for myself."

# Students put the finishing touches on halloween plans and costumes



Creative Commons photo of carved pumpkins that serve as halloween decorations.

PHOTO COURTESY | CREATIVE COMMONS

## By Sherly Montes

With Halloween only five days away, students are planning their weekends, putting finishing touches on decorations and deciding on which costumes they are going to wear.

"I was a police officer last year," said Stefanie Carias, a junior business administration major with a concentration in finance. "Me and my boyfriend matched when we dressed up. He was a robber and I was the police officer."

Carias said she is still not sure what she will be dressing up as this year. She has plans

to dress up with a group of friends and they are thinking of dressing up as animals, but she does not have any idea of which animal costume she will pick.

Adriana Breda, a sophomore psychology major, said she will be dressing up as a devil this year.

"This year I'm dressing up as a devil because I have the devil ears and stuff and I figured I already have it, so I could just put that to use."

Breda's plans on Halloween consist of attending Owl Fest, and working as she is a desk attendant on campus.

However, she said she will hang out with friends on the

weekend before Halloween.

"I didn't really do anything last year because last year was the first year that I didn't dress up," said Breda. "I stayed home and just handed out candy. I feel like I missed out last year, so this year I'm excited to be here and be involved and get dressed up."

When it comes to Halloween costumes today, there are many inspirations for what people could wear. From the funniest and silliest costumes, to the more gore and scary costumes, they are all inspired by a trend or by popular movies and shows.

Southern students agree that a lot of the costumes that

will be seen this year are likely from popular movies, shows or internet trends.

"I think we are definitely gonna see a lot of the 'Suicide Squad' characters," said Carias. "I'm sure the Joker and Harley Quinn and all that are very popular this year."

According to FrightGeist on Google Trends, a few of the top costumes searched nationally are Harley Quinn, Joker, Superhero, Pirate, Wonder Woman and Star Wars. And locally, the five most searched costumes are Harley Quinn, Pirate, Superhero, Wonder Woman and Dinosaur.

Aside from just the costumes, Breda said her favorite thing

about Halloween is the decorations.

"I like the little owls, pumpkins and stickers you can put on your windows," said Breda. "On our dorm door we have the 'Do Not Enter' sign up and we have a little owl that has eyes that light up."

Carias also loves pumpkins and Halloween decorations.

"We have three pumpkins in my apartment," said Carias. "I love the ghosts and the spider webs and all of that. I love Halloween and if I had the funds, I would definitely do more and go all out for Halloween."



PHOTO | ALEX PALMIERI

Laura D'acres, a senior studio art major, standing in front of the pottery that she made.

## Studio arts major aspires to start her own art therapy studio

By Alex Palmieri

Laura D'acres, a senior studio art major, has always been interested in all of the art aspects. She loved it so much, she never really even thought of it as a career.

As a transfer student from Norwalk Community College, D'acres came to Southern to major in art education. But the more studio classes she started taking, it made her realize what her true passion for art truly was.

"I plan on going to grad school for art therapy," said D'acres. "When I have my masters in art therapy, I want to either work with children with special needs, or work with veterans with PTSD."

D'acres said her sister was in the military, in the marine branch. Though her sister did not admit that she has PTSD, D'acres said she can tell that her sister has changed since she has been back from Iraq for the second time.

"So I figured," said D'acres, "doing art therapy with veterans would be good."

D'acres did not know about art therapy until 10 years ago, so she did not know this is what she always wanted to do. A main reason why she would like to get into this field is to help people.

"It's just convenient that," said D'acres, "what I ended up wanting to, is something that I love to do."

At home, in D'acres little free time, she said she likes to paint pictures of a lot of different things that come to her mind. She started painting at Southern because of the classes she took. At home, she likes to work on portraiture.

"So I do portraits of past family members and stuff," said D'acres.

Her favorite art medium is ceramics. D'acres said it is calming and therapeutic for her to play with the clay and relax.

"Ceramics is probably my favorite studio class," said D'acres.

Being close to age 30 by the time she graduates, D'acres said she hopes to stay in the art therapy field for as long as possible. Although life might throw her curveballs and have unexpected events, she said she hopes to be an art therapist until the time she retires. Her end goal is to stick with art therapy as long as possible.

"You never really know what's going to happen," said D'acres. "But I want to maybe start my own company doing art therapy."

Since she was a kid, D'acres said she has always had a love for art. She said as a small



PHOTO | ALEX PALMIERI

Ceramic cups and dishes made by Laura D'acres, senior studio art major.

child, the memories she had were coloring and just exploring all of the different arts. Though there was no specific moment or event that made her become interested in it, D'acres said she has just always been interested and had a passion for art.

"The therapy side," said D'acres, "probably when I was at NCC and took my first psychology class is when I got into the psychology aspect of it; and then just marrying the two subjects into art therapy."

## Student art of the week: Steve Jean Simon



PHOTO COURTESY | STEVE JEAN SIMON

Edited film photograph titled "Enchanted Forest" created by Steve Jean Simon.

"Art means self-expression and just looking at things differently in life and telling a story."



PHOTO | DYLAN HAVILAND

Steve Jean Simon, junior photography major.

Student art of the week is an arts and entertainment project from the Southern News. If you are interested in submitting work in any artistic format please contact editor Sherly Montes through [scsu.southern.news@gmail.com](mailto:scsu.southern.news@gmail.com)



PHOTO | SOUTHERNCTOWLS

Sophomore Alex Brown (#25) challenges a Saint Michael's player for possession of the ball in the Owls' 2-0 win over the Purple Knights on Sept. 17. Brown netted his second goal of the season against the Purple Knights.

## Jay Turiano named assistant coordinator for SCSU athletics



PHOTO | SOUTHERNCTOWLS

Turiano graduated from Southern in 2013.

By Phil Zoppi

Jay Turiano has been named assistant coordinator of athletic facilities for Southern Connecticut's athletic department.

Turiano is very familiar with Southern, as he was a 2013 graduate, and a four-year student worker for the athletic staff.

"As a student worker I worked in the equipment room and studied sports management at Southern," Turiano said. "This was really something that I wanted to do with my life and my career. It's great to be back and I definitely could have saw myself return here one day. Everything just worked out."

**"It's great to be back and I definitely could have saw myself return here one day."**

— Jay Turiano  
assistant coordinator of athletic facilities

Some of Turiano's daily responsibilities will be following up on facility maintenance problems, assisting with scheduling athletic contests and helping with getting transportation for athletes.

Before returning to Southern, Turiano had multiple experiences that helped him

SEE BROWN PAGE 10

SEE TURIANO PAGE 11

# On the rise

After not scoring a single goal last season, Brown is now the second leading scorer for the Owls as he's tallied up five goals in the last 10 games

By Phil Zoppi

Sophomore Alex Brown of Southern's men's soccer team has taken a big step up in production from his freshman year.

"Last year was a very difficult year for me mainly because coming in I didn't know what to expect," said Brown. "But after I got used to how things are, I started contributing to the team."

Brown has done more than just contribute to the team this year. He has racked up five goals this season and 10 points, which is good for second on the team. Junior forward Louis Greenway Tambini lead the team with

six goals.

Tambini has been thoroughly impressed with the way Brown has performed this season.

**"Alex has improved a lot since last year . . . I'd even go as far as saying he's been our most improved player."**

— Louis Greenway Tambini,  
junior forward

"Alex has improved a lot since last year," said Tambini. "I'd even go as far as saying he's been our most improved player. Injury held him

back last year so it's been good to see him score a few goals this year. His physical capabilities give any defense he's playing against a lot of problems."

Brown and Tambini have carried the Owls in the scoring department, as they have 11 of the team's 23 goals. This dynamic duo could be doing even more damage, but recurring ankle injuries have held Tambini out of five of the 14 games this season.

The stellar performance from Southern's forwards has helped the team to achieve a 6-6-2 overall record. Tambini believes that the team could be doing even better.

"We've dropped a few games this season

that we really should have won against weak teams," Tambini said. "We need to finish off strong, and hopefully put a run together in the Northeast-10 Tournament. It's definitely going to be tough."

Even though Tambini has missed multiple games due to injury, Brown still believes that he is doing a great job of being a leader for him and the Owls.

"To me Louis is a great leader on and off the pitch," said Brown. "He helped me boost my confidence on the pitch. It's easier to follow his footsteps because he understands what I'm going through since we play the same position. I've

## Owls fall 3-1 to Adelphi



PHOTO | SOUTHERNCTOWLS

The women's volleyball team is 14-11 overall and 4-5 in the conference. Alexandria Jurgens (#11) recorded 19 assists and 12 digs the Owls' losing effort.

By Tyler Ferrara

For Alexandria Jurgens, a junior on Southern's volleyball team, a double-double performance is not as important as defeating the opponent.

"I did okay," said Jurgens, the right side hitter from Cornwall, N.Y. "I would have rather us win and not have as great stats. At the end of the day I wasn't satisfied."

Southern volleyball fell 3-1 in sets to Adelphi University on Tuesday Oct. 18, inside Pelz Gymnasium. The Owls dropped their third straight game to the Panthers, after managing to win six consecutive games. Southern took the first

set 25-19, but that would be the only set the Owls captured, as Adelphi would take the next three sets 25-23, 25-18 and 25-13.

Jurgens had a team-high 19 assists and recorded 12 digs in her double-double performance against the Panthers. However, Jurgens was not happy with how the team played, and noted some changes for the upcoming games.

"I think we just need to change our mentality," said Jurgens, "and come together more as a team. [We need to] play harder and get out of our ruts that we get into during the game, and be able to pull ourselves out of them."

Sophomore Leanna Jadus was one kill shy

of joining her teammate Jurgens in a double-double night. Jadus racked up nine kills and 13 digs.

Not only that, but Jadus leads the team in kills as she has tallied up 264 kills in 23 games. Additionally, she is second in digs (247) behind freshman Anna Venard.

Jadus broke down her performance against Adelphi last Tuesday night.

"I tried my hardest to get everything up and make good plays and do everything I could," said Jadus, the outside hitter from Long Beach, Calif.

Jadus, just like Jurgens shows leadership on and off the court. Jadus was already thinking about the upcoming games and thinks the team needs to

SEE VOLLEYBALL PAGE 11

## Kevin Durant stirs up the NBA

By Edgar Ayala

This 2016-17 NBA season has a lot in store for the franchises, the players and for the fans watching it all go down on the court.

The biggest talk and sop opera for this season is Kevin Durant leaving the Oklahoma City Thunder to join the Golden State Warriors. This past summer, Durant became a free agent and was free to join any team he wanted in the league.

However, no one thought Durant was going to sign with the reigning two-time Western Conference Champions. With

the team that has the reigning two-time MVP, Stephen Curry.

Not to mention Durant signed with the Warriors just one month after Golden State beat Oklahoma City in the Western Conference Finals. But he did. And he signed with the Warriors after having a 3-1 series lead over Golden State.

And to this day, Thunder and NBA fans have completely bashed Durant for joining the Warriors. As the old saying goes, "if you can't beat them, join them." Which is exactly what Durant did.

Not only that, but on the other side, you have Russell Westbrook. I still cannot

understand why Durant never confronted Westbrook when he decided to leave OKC.

Westbrook has gone on record saying that he found out about Durant's decision through social media. I just don't get it.

A guy that you've been teammates with for eight years and your right-hand man on the team, and you don't have the audacity to at least call the guy? Disgusting. That was a low move by Durant.

It is not the fact that he left Oklahoma City, it is whom he left to and how he did it that pisses me off. It is still unfair that a top-three player

in league joins a 73-win team, as if the Warriors needed him - cause they didn't. But it's how he left. He left his brother hanging, and Westbrook has every right to be mad.

In spite of Durant joining the Warriors, I see no other franchise beating the Warriors in this year's NBA Finals. I do not even think LeBron James and the Cavaliers can defend their crown this year.

With the Warriors addition of Durant, Golden State looks unbeatable.



## Michael Cerisano back to his old ways after ankle injury



PHOTO | SOUTHERNCTOWLS

Senior linebacker, Michael Cerisano (#52), is once again leading the Owls in total tackles after having a season-ending injury that caused him to miss the 2015 season. He has tallied up 63 tackles in eight games thus far.



PHOTO | SOUTHERNCTOWLS

Michael Cerisano.

By Phil Zoppi

Senior Michael Cerisano of Southern's football team has returned from injury, and is playing the best football of his college career.

Cerisano was only able to play in two games during the 2015 season due to a broken ankle. After an offseason of rehab, Cerisano found himself back in the middle of the Owls' defense.

"It feels great to be back on the field again," said Cerisano. "After breaking my ankle I knew it was going to be a tough road to get back, but I worked hard in rehab and it feels good."

The last full season that Cerisano was able to play showed off his immense talent. The six-foot, 225-pound linebacker anchored Southern's

defense as he led the team in tackles with 98, and finished third in sacks with four during his sophomore year.

Losing Cerisano early in the season during his junior year was a huge loss for the Owls' defense.

Chris Lorenti, the defensive coordinator and inside linebacker coach for Southern's football team, was thoroughly impressed with the way Cerisano got himself back in shape after the injury.

"Mike had an incredible offseason since his injury," said Lorenti. "He has a completely different body type. He's able to play significantly more snaps in a game than he was last year or the year before that. When we lost him last year it was a big blow for us defensively."

Clearly, Lorenti has a lot of

respect for Cerisano as a football player and that respect is mutual.

"Coach Lorenti is a great coach," said Cerisano. "He pushes us to excel in every way possible. He's helped me in a lot of ways in playing football and also off the field as well."

To no surprise of the coaching staff, Cerisano has picked up right where left off before his ankle injury.

He leads the team in tackles this year with 63. Those tackles and smart plays from the linebacker position, has contributed to a much improved Southern defense.

The defense has had timely turnovers and played big parts in some of the wins Southern has put together this year, and Cerisano is right in the middle of that.

In the 35-15 win against

Merrimack on Saturday, Cerisano recorded his fourth game of the season with 10 or more tackles in a game. As the senior from Newburgh, N.Y. tallied up 11 tackles against the Warriors.

There was one aspect of Cerisano's game that needed improvement after his injury, according to Lorenti. Lorenti praised Cerisano for his play during his sophomore and junior seasons before the injury occurred, but noted that he needed to improve his pass coverage skills. Lorenti is starting to see that improvement.

"I think his mental game is significantly better than it used to be and that's probably the biggest difference in his pass coverage," said Lorenti. "He understands more of what's going on around him in the

defense than just knowing what his own job is."

Suffering a season-ending injury is something an athlete wants to avoid at all costs. Obviously, Cerisano wanted to avoid his injury as well, but the injury did give him a chance to improve on those pass coverage skills all offseason.

"I knew pass coverage was one of my weak points as a player, so I took that and worked on it a lot this offseason," said Cerisano. "I feel I've been doing better this year and I'm understanding the opposing offense's game plan each week."

Even though Cerisano is a senior, his injury made him eligible for a medical redshirt year, meaning he will be back in an Owls' uniform next fall.

## Brown

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

always enjoyed playing with him."

Tambini described his season as frustrating due to his ankle injuries. Brown has gone through injury

struggles of his own, as he fractured his metatarsal just three games into the season during his freshmen year. This was a scary injury for Brown that required a

long rehab process in the offseason.

Playing at the level Brown is now, was something that he was worried he would not be able to do after his injury his freshman year.

"Last year took a toll on me," said Brown. "I didn't know if I'd be able to do anything

physical after it healed. But after having surgery, I started working out with the track team and over the summer to bounce back for when fall season starts."

Brown has come back well from his injury, as he has played in all of Southern's 14 games thus far. The

individual performances from Brown have been impressive, but he is more focused on where the team is going to end up at the end of the season.

"Well this year we're pretty good at the moment," said Brown, when referring to the team as a whole. "We're currently focused

on first making the conference tournament and possibly the NCAA after that."

Brown and the rest of the Owls will take the field one last time in the regular season on Oct. 28, as Southern takes on Southern New Hampshire in a crucial conference game to finish off the regular

season.

The Owls will also look to qualify for the NE-10 playoffs with the game against Southern New Hampshire.

The men's soccer team is currently in ninth place with 14 points. The first eight team qualify to the playoffs.



PHOTO | SOUTHERNCTOWLS

Alex Brown celebrates after scoring a goal in the Owls' huge 5-0 win over Saint Anselm on Oct. 1.



PHOTO | SOUTHERNCTOWLS

Brown scored his fifth goal of the season this past Wednesday against Adelphi in the Owls 3-2 loss in overtime. Men's soccer sits at a 6-6-2 record overall.

## Dak Prescott or Tony Romo?

By Phil Zoppi

A few weeks ago, I wrote a column describing why there was no quarterback controversy between Dak Prescott and Tony Romo. I have changed my mind, kind of.

When Romo is healthy enough to start, he should start. I now believe he needs to have a short leash.

I, like many other NFL observers, never could have imagined what Prescott is doing as the starting quarterback for the Dallas Cowboys.

Prescott went up to Lambeau Field and beat arguably one of the best quarterbacks to ever play the game in Aaron Rodgers.

I could give you countless stats about Prescott, like how he has the second-best quarterback rating in the NFL behind only Matt Ryan. I do not need to give you all of them, though.

Just watch the guy play an entire game and you can see that Prescott has the "it" factor. Nothing fazes this guy.

Clearly, the Cowboys have struck gold and found their

quarterback of the future. But that doesn't mean they should turn their back on Romo. Not after what he has done for the franchise.

After Troy Aikman, the Cowboys had absolutely nothing at the quarterback position until Romo took the starting job in 2006.

This franchise owes him for what he gave. Romo has played through countless injuries like broken ribs, a punctured lung, and broken bones in his back. Romo gave Cowboys fans something they hadn't had since the Aikman era, a

quarterback that gave the team a chance to win.

Maybe Romo does not have it anymore and if he does not then the Cowboys will do the right thing and sit him down after a couple of games. But you have to give Romo a shot.

Romo deserves way more respect than he is getting from Cowboys fans. The man gave everything he had to the Cowboys franchise for over 10 years. Give Romo the shot to prove he still has a little more to give.



## Volleyball

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

change.

"I think as a team we need to prepare ourselves a little bit better and watch more film, and just remember we need to stay mentally tough throughout the game," said Jadus.

Southern's head volleyball coach, Lisa Barbaro, noted coming into the game against Adelphi was going to be a tough one.

"We've been struggling the past few matches with trying to be consistent and we knew that Adelphi was a good team so we were trying to focus on being better defensively," said Barbaro.

"We knew they were a very good offensive team and knew they had great hitters," she said. "One thing we had to do was stay disciplined with blocking and positioning."

Barbaro has been a part of the SCSU volleyball team for 13 seasons, but also coached the women's softball team. She

managed both the volleyball and softball teams for 10 years before leaving the softball program in the 2014-2015 academic year.

This year, Barbaro has one senior, Faith Ford, who leads the team in solo blocks, block assists and total blocks at 70.

With the loss, the team now stands at a 13-10 overall record.

"Our conference is really strong throughout, and on any given night anybody can beat anybody," said Barbaro.

In addition, the team also played Saint Michael's College and won 3-0 in sets on Friday. The following day, the team would face Saint Anselm College, but dropped that game 3-0 on sets this past Saturday.

Bringing their record to 14-11 overall, and 4-5 in the conference.

The volleyball team next sees action on Oct. 27, in a conference game against Franklin Pierce University in Rindge, N.H.



PHOTO | SOUTHERNCTOWLS

Leanna Jadus recorded nine kills and and 13 digs against Adelphi University last Tuesday inside Pelz Gymnasium.

## Turiano

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

prepare for this new position.

After Turiano graduated from Southern in 2013, he went to Fairfield University to obtain a master's degree in communications. While at Fairfield University, Turiano was a graduate assistant in the athletic department.

Turiano also spent two years as an assistant athletic director at Fairfield Prep. He believes these experiences are going to help him transition into his current role for the Owls.

"It was a great two years at Fairfield Prep to get to see what it's like working out of a high school lens as opposed to a collegiate lens," said Turiano.

Jay Moran, the athletic director for Southern, believes these experiences are going to make Turiano perform well in his new position and help Southern athletics as a whole too.

"He was able to get into another institution and see how they ran their facilities," said Moran. "He can bring some of what he saw and learned to us, and we can implement some of that at Southern."

The athletic administration at Southern helps make sure that sporting events run smoothly throughout the year. Turiano's experiences make him a qualified person for the job.

Moran added Turiano is going to fit in well with the athletic administration because of his attitude.

"I think he has a great personality and a great sense of humor," said Moran. "He fits well with the staff because he is very friendly to the public. He's a fine young man with a bright future."

Turiano has not been on the job long, but he said that he is fitting in well with the new position. Working specifically with Moran has been something that Turiano has enjoyed.

"So far it's been wonderful working with Jay," said Turiano. "He's a really great guy and he's leading the athletic department in a great way."

Turiano is already helping the athletic administration, as he worked the women's soccer game against Stonehill on Oct. 18, in the Owls' 1-0 victory.

"It's been going well," said Turiano. "We had a great win in women's soccer against Stonehill, it was a good win for the program."

When Turiano works a game some of the responsibilities are making sure the field is set up properly, overseeing student staff at the game and helping the officials with anything they need.

What Turiano has been doing relates game management, and making sure that the game runs smoothly without any problems.

Turiano and Southern's athletic department will look to continue to make sure Southern sports are run properly, as the fall season winds down.

## Southern students weigh in on the 1945 curse on the Chicago Cubs and their chances to win it all



PHOTO COURTESY | PETER MERHOLZ

Wrigley Field and the Cubs have been "cursed" after a 1945 incident that involved a smelly goat named Murphy. The Cubs made the World Series once again after 71 years, taking on the Cleveland Indians.

By Matt Gad

Before the Cubs clinched a spot in the World Series on Saturday, 1945 was Chicago's last appearance. That year, the Cubs got struck with the "Curse of the Billy Goat."

"I think they will break the curse this year," said Nick Mazzaco, a sophomore finance major. "They need to resume the legacy that they were supposed to have."

The stigma of the "Curse of the Billy Goat" has plagued the team since the infamous fourth game of the 1945 World Series. Restaurant owner and founder of Billy Goat Tavern, Billy Sianis, was removed from the ballpark because his pet goat, Murphy, had a strong odor that disturbed other fans at Wrigley Field.

Sianis was infuriated by the decision that he allegedly said, "Them Cubs, they ain't gonna win no more."

The Cubs have not won a World Series since 1908 - the longest drought in MLB history.

This year, the Cubs have won a league-high 103 wins in the regular season, and was the only team in the MLB to reach over 100 wins.

"They have a deep lineup and a strong pitching staff," said Liam Norton, a freshman math education major. "I have confidence that the Cubs can finally pull it off, that they can finally make history."

Despite all the believers, there are still a good amount of skeptical baseball fans who think the curse will continue to haunt the Cubs.

"I mean, who wants the Cubs to actually win it all?" said Carter Antaya, a freshman biology major. "I'm a Mets fan and we beat up on them last year. Yeah it is cool for history and all, but they don't really need to win this year do they?"

Antaya added that since the curse has been with Chicago since 1945, and really more so since they last won in 1908, some of their own fans might have doubts too.

"It is pretty funny," said Josh Arata, a sophomore business major. "It is just hysterical to me that a billy goat has caused so much drama to one franchise. I mean there's no question that this year's team is loaded with stars, but again they have not had any luck since decades ago. People have reason to be uneasy."

After Sianis was kicked out of game four of the 1945 World Series, Sam Sianis, his nephew, tried to break the curse by bringing a goat to the field on opening day in both the 1984 and 1989 seasons. Sam would bring the goat again in 1994 and 1998 to stop a losing streak the Cubs were enduring.

The Sianis family no longer brought a goat to Wrigley Field. Norton said he is aware it has been ages since they have won, but purely from a baseball perspective, he believes in the Cubs.

"I like their coach. I like the players. I am not a Cubs fan, but I am rooting for them in the playoffs," Norton said. "They won 103 games. It is time to break the curse."

However, there are some superstitious coincidences about the smelly goat named Murphy that involve the Cubs' curse.

The Cubs owner during their last title run in 1908 was Charles Murphy. In 1969, the year the New York Mets won the World Series over the Baltimore Orioles, their general manager was a man named Johnny Murphy.

In the 1984 league championship series, the Cubs lost to the Pittsburgh Pirates at Jack Murphy Stadium. And last year, when they faced the Mets in the NLCS, Daniel Murphy was the hero that killed the Cubs' dreams of advancing to the World Series.

"All that is insane," said Antaya. "All these crazy sports coincidences seem to always pop up and it just makes you scratch your head."

The Cubs look to end their 108-year World Series drought when they take on the Cleveland Indians this year.

# SCSU Volleyball vs. Adelphi photos

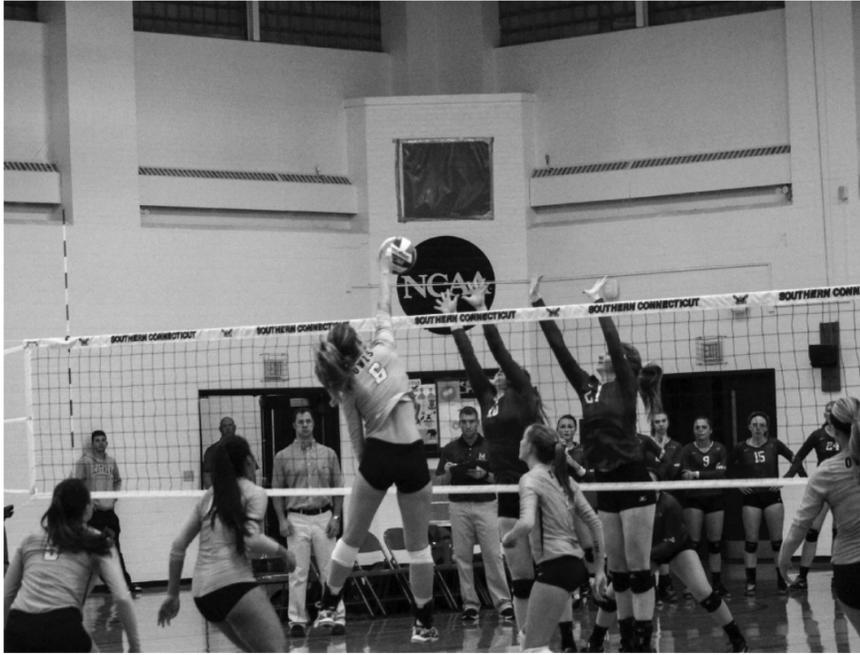


PHOTO | PALMER PIANA

Junior Sean Taylor (#6) hits the ball in the air for a point attempt in the Owls' 3-1 loss to Adelphi University.



PHOTO | PALMER PIANA

Freshman Jillian Chambers (#10) puts her hands up at an attempt to block one of Adelphi's shots.

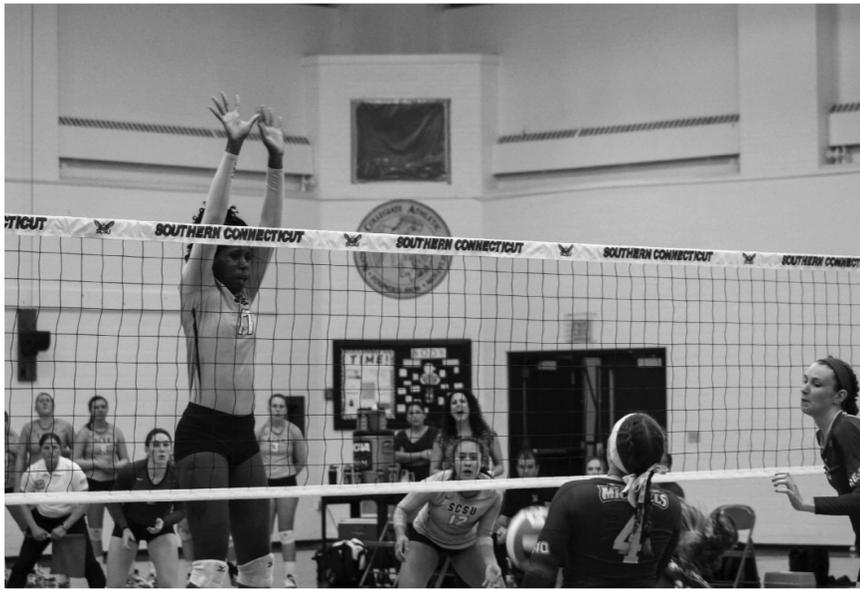


PHOTO | PALMER PIANA

Senior Faith Ford goes up to block a shot. Ford leads the Owls' in block shots with 50 through 25 games.



PHOTO | PALMER PIANA

Sophomore Leanna Jadus rounds up the team in the Owls' loss to the Warriors last Tuesday inside Pelz Gymnasium.

## Northeast-10 Standings

### MEN'S SOCCER

	CONFERENCE			OVERALL		
	GP	RECORD	WIN %	GP	RECORD	WIN %
ADELPHI	11	10-0-1	0.956	14	12-1-1	0.893
FRANKLIN PIERCE	11	8-3	0.727	13	10-3	0.769
MERRIMACK	11	8-3	0.727	15	11-4	0.733
SO. NEW HAMPSHIRE	11	7-3-1	0.682	14	10-3-1	0.750
LE MOYNE	11	7-3-1	0.682	15	10-3-2	0.733
ASSUMPTION	11	6-5	0.545	15	7-8	0.467
AMERICAN INT'L	11	5-5-1	0.500	15	7-7-1	0.500
STONEHILL	11	5-6	0.455	15	7-8	0.467
SO. CONNECTICUT	11	4-5-2	0.455	14	6-6-2	0.500
NEW HAVEN	11	3-7-1	0.318	15	6-8-1	0.433
SAINT ROSE	11	3-7-1	0.318	14	5-8-1	0.393
SAINT MICHAEL'S	11	3-8	0.273	14	5-9	0.357
SAINT ANSELM	11	2-8-1	0.227	14	3-10-1	0.250
BENTLEY	11	1-9-1	0.136	14	1-11-2	0.143

### FIELD HOCKEY

	CONFERENCE			OVERALL		
	GP	RECORD	WIN %	GP	RECORD	WIN %
SAINT ANSELM	10	9-1	0.900	16	14-2	0.875
STONEHILL	10	8-2	0.800	15	12-3	0.800
LIU POST	10	7-3	0.700	14	11-3	0.786
ADELPHI	10	7-3	0.700	16	11-5	0.688
ASSUMPTION	10	6-4	0.600	15	9-6	0.600
MERRIMACK	10	6-4	0.600	13	6-7	0.462
AMERICAN INT'L	11	6-5	0.545	17	10-7	0.588
BENTLEY	10	5-5	0.500	16	7-9	0.438
SO. NEW HAMPSHIRE	11	5-6	0.455	17	9-8	0.529
PACE	10	4-6	0.400	16	8-8	0.500
SO. CONNECTICUT	10	2-8	0.200	16	4-12	0.250
SAINT MICHAEL'S	10	1-9	0.100	16	4-12	0.250
FRANKLIN PIERCE	10	0-10	0.000	15	3-12	0.200

### FOOTBALL

	CONFERENCE			OVERALL		
	GP	RECORD	WIN %	GP	RECORD	WIN %
LIU POST	7	7-0	1.000	8	8-0	1.000
ASSUMPTION	7	6-1	0.857	8	7-1	0.857
BENTLEY	7	5-2	0.714	8	5-3	0.571
NEW HAVEN	7	4-3	0.571	8	4-4	0.571
SO. CONNECTICUT	7	4-3	0.571	8	4-4	0.429
AMERICAN INT'L	7	3-4	0.429	8	3-5	0.429
STONEHILL	7	3-4	0.429	8	3-5	0.429
MERRIMACK	7	2-5	0.286	8	2-6	0.286
SAINT ANSELM	7	1-6	0.143	8	1-7	0.000
PACE	7	0-7	0.000	8	0-8	0.000

### WOMEN'S SOCCER

	CONFERENCE			OVERALL		
	GP	RECORD	WIN %	GP	RECORD	WIN %
ADELPHI	12	10-1-1	0.875	15	13-1-1	0.900
AMERICAN INT'L	13	9-4	0.692	16	10-6	0.625
STONEHILL	12	7-4-1	0.625	16	11-4-1	0.719
SAINT ROSE	12	7-5	0.583	15	10-5	0.667
SO. CONNECTICUT	12	6-4-2	0.583	16	7-6-3	0.531
PACE	12	6-5-2	0.538	16	9-5-2	0.625
LE MOYNE	12	6-5-1	0.542	15	8-6-1	0.567
ASSUMPTION	12	6-5-1	0.542	16	8-7-1	0.531
BENTLEY	12	5-5-2	0.500	15	8-5-2	0.600
SO. NEW HAMPSHIRE	12	5-6-1	0.458	16	8-7-1	0.531
MERRIMACK	12	4-5-3	0.458	16	7-6-3	0.531
FRANKLIN PIERCE	12	4-6-2	0.417	14	6-6-2	0.500
SAINT ANSELM	12	3-8-1	0.292	16	5-10-1	0.344
NEW HAVEN	12	2-9-1	0.208	16	5-10-1	0.344
SAINT MICHAEL'S	12	2-10	0.167	15	3-12	0.200

### VOLLEYBALL

	CONFERENCE			OVERALL		
	GP	RECORD	WIN %	GP	RECORD	WIN %
SAINT ANSELM	9	8-1	0.889	22	18-4	0.818
NEW HAVEN	7	6-1	0.857	17	11-6	0.647
LE MOYNE	9	7-2	0.778	22	17-5	0.773
BENTLEY	8	6-2	0.750	22	9-13	0.409
AMERICAN INT'L	8	5-3	0.625	23	18-5	0.783
ADELPHI	8	5-3	0.625	22	14-8	0.636
SAINT ROSE	8	4-4	0.500	20	9-11	0.450
SO. CONNECTICUT	9	4-5	0.444	25	14-11	0.560
PACE	8	3-5	0.375	23	16-7	0.696
STONEHILL	8	3-5	0.375	19	8-11	0.421
SO. NEW HAMPSHIRE	9	3-6	0.333	22	5-17	0.227
FRANKLIN PIERCE	7	2-5	0.286	19	6-13	0.316
ASSUMPTION	8	2-6	0.250	18	5-13	0.278
MERRIMACK	8	2-6	0.250	23	4-19	0.174
SAINT MICHAEL'S	8	1-7	0.125	13	3-10	0.231

### SPORTS CALENDAR

Wednesday - WSOC vs Saint Michael's College (Senior Day) 5 p.m.

Thursday - VB at Franklin Pierce University 7 p.m.

Friday - MSOC vs Southern New Hampshire University (Senior Day) 6 p.m.

Saturday - FH vs Saint Michael's College 11 a.m. / MSWIM & WSWIM vs Alumni Meet 11 a.m. / WSOC at Bentley University 1 p.m. / FB vs Bentley University (Homecoming 2016 Game) 3 p.m.

Sunday - VB vs Daemen College in Old Westbury, N.Y. at 1 p.m. / VB vs New York Institute of Technology in Old Westbury, N.Y. at 3 p.m. /

Monday - No games

Tuesday - WSOC vs NE-10 Playoffs (First Round) TBA / VB at University of Bridgeport

# OPINIONS

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OCTOBER 26, 2016

PAGE 13

## Top ten star-studded couples costumes

By the Southern News staff

1. Morticia and Gomez Adams from the "Adams Family"
2. Lucy and Ricky Ricardo from "I Love Lucy"
3. Sam and Suzy from "Moonrise Kingdom"
4. Maverick and Goose from "Top Gun"
5. Tarzan and Jane from "Tarzan"
6. Wonder Woman and Batman from DC Comics
7. Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump
8. Katniss and Peeta from "The Hunger Games"
9. Mia Wallace and Vincent Vega from "Pulp Fiction"
10. Danny Zuko and Sandy Olssen from "Grease"



PHOTO | CREATIVE COMMONS

Have an opinion about the 2016 presidential election?

**Share it with the Southern News!**

Pick a candidate, then write a short letter stating why that is your choice and it may be featured in the Nov. 2 issue.

Submissions must be sent to [SCSU.Southern.News@gmail.com](mailto:SCSU.Southern.News@gmail.com) before Oct. 28.

Please include your name, best form of contact, and your student ID number.

Letters must not include any profanities or obscenities and must be 50 to 75 words in length.

## Here is to hoping that the 2016 election is all a joke

By Jeniece Roman

The truth can hurt; but it can also be hilarious.

Late-night sketch comedy shows have always been a fun break from the sober tone of the harsh reality presented news broadcast and bitter remarks of the dark comedy satirical talk shows that poke fun at politics.

Shows like Saturday Night Live and Madtv, which has since been canceled, were a way to indulge in the mockery of it all. Often slapstick and sometimes stupid, they interpreted important public figures in outrageously eccentric ways.

Saturday Night Live has parodied elections and the candidates running in them since the start of the show in 1975. In the past, election depiction was always hyperbolic and actors were caricatures of the real politicians they portrayed. It was a style of comedy that highlighted the traits of politicians and exaggerating it. In 1980, a sketch was aired that featured Ronald Reagan kissing a photograph of himself and prank calling the Kremlin.

However, there seems to be a shift in the style of the political comedy on SNL, it is darker, satirical and just plain honest.

With the tone of this

election cycle being more negative, grittier and overall more ridiculous, writers at SNL have decided to just go with it. Instead of poking fun at the candidates' nuances and mishaps they simply repeat what has already been said. There is something about putting what politicians say in the context of a comedy sketch that emphasizes the hilarity of the quote.

There is possibly no greater example of this than the SNL sketch about the 2008 interview between Governor Sarah Palin and Katie Couric. Tina Fey gives an excellent delivery of the incoherent string of disjointed phrases Palin utters; a failed attempt to answer a question, much like a confident yet ill-informed Miss USA contestant. The whole thing was made even funnier when writers pointed out that the line was a direct quote from the interview.

It seems that laughing is all that can be done in order to stop us from crying. The harsh reality is that things are so bad that comedy sketch shows are actually realistic and comedians like Jon Stewart, Stephen Colbert, and John Oliver are regarded as bearers of political truth and more reliable in asking probing questions and



PHOTO | CREATIVE COMMONS

Saturday Night Live has been parodying elections since the show's start in 1975.

uncovering truth than many journalists.

But they are not. That's not their job. Just like it is not SNL writers' job to serve as a documentary to the 2016 presidential election. While Kate McKinnon and Alec Baldwin are hilarious in their "roles"

as the presidential candidates, I would much rather see her recount her experience of alien abduction.

It is because it is so brutally honest about the reality of this election cycle, that SNL hits the nail on the head when it comes to the

portrayal of the candidates. In a way, writers are putting a mirror in front of the world.

The writers of SNL do not need clever catch lines, running jokes or hypothetical situations because this whole presidential election is one big joke. From

Hillary Clinton's email scandal and the fact that Donald Trump became the Republican nominee at all, the entire election seems to be one big SNL sketch.

I am half hoping someone will scream, "Live from New York it's Saturday Night!"



A view of West Rock looking over SCSU commuter parking lot A Oct. 20.

## Fall Foliage

By Palmer Piana

Fall has crept its way onto campus. Bright oranges, yellows and reds have been making their rounds.

While some trees have yet to reach their peak, a stormy weekend left many of the bright colored trees barren.

Fall lovers should not get discouraged, however, as according to DEEP website Southern Connecticut's foliage is still reaching its high. Specifically from Oct. 24 to Nov. 6.



Close up of a tree outside of Buley Library.



Students walking to and from class through the center of campus Oct. 20.



Tree changing color outside of Farnham dormitory Oct. 20.



A look at the foliage over the campus foot bridge Oct. 23.



Students walking outside of Connecticut Hall Oct. 20.