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# SOUTHERN NEWS

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## New club workshops for students creating clubs

By Robby Tierstein  
Contributor

The new club workshops are a unique opportunity for students to start their own clubs with help from the Office of Student Involvement.

Graduate Intern Talia Lent hosted the recent Wednesday workshop. Lent said that she oversaw the second workshop of the semester, which was sponsored by her membership at the Office of Student Involvement. She is the “point of contact” for students that attended the workshop.

“I’m basically being a resource for them, for our office. I’m more than willing to be a mediator between those two parties

and get them together to start the club. My Southern experience owed a lot to student involvement so I’m happy to be here and help other students who want to get involved on campus,” said Lent.

Gianluca Del Mastro, a sophomore, is interested in starting a Japanese film club in which he hosts films at least once a week. He plans to show a variety of films including yakuza, samurai, romance and other genres.

“There are a lot of different subgenres, and they take a lot of different creative takes compared to Western movies,” said Del Mastro. “I would like to show people on campus how creative they can be.”

Del Mastro’s interest in this medium came from a Japanese friend during his sophomore year of high school. His friend greatly introduced him to Japanese culture, including their language. He proceeded to discover Japanese films, including those directed by acclaimed filmmaker Takeshi Kitano, which he described as “very stylish.”

Del Mastro said he plans to “introduce people to this very fascinating medium that isn’t often talked about.”

“It’s very hard to find foreign films in America, especially from the East,” said Del Mastro.

Lauren Klemonski, a sophomore, is planning to start a men’s and women’s

club soccer team. “When I was three years old, my dad came home one day and signed me up for soccer. He was my coach and kind of took me through. I played middle school and high school. I’ve been playing my whole life, it’s a part of who I am now,” said Klemonski.

Klemonski said that she currently has two group chats with people including “about 14 girls” and “12 to 13 boys.” She said she attends these meetings “to start working on the paperwork, the club proposal, the constitution, finding primary contacts for everything and funding.”

Klemonski also said she plans “to build some

new connections and friendships” with her fellow soccer peers. She also is interested in playing soccer matches against other schools.

Michelle Morales, a senior, is a member of the proposed Mexican cultural club. She aims for this club to broaden Mexican culture to a wider audience of students.

“We feel that the population of on campus students is growing to be more Hispanic,” said Morales. “So, we wanted to highlight Hispanic culture, Mexican culture specifically.”

Andreina Barajas Novoa, a junior, is the founder of the Mexican cultural club. She was

inspired to start this organization during her sophomore year from an internship in Washington D.C. at the Mexican Culture Institute.

Barajas Novoa plans to educate students on important facets of her culture, including “Día de Muertos”, or “Day of the Dead”, and the reclaiming of Cinco de Mayo.

“I really enjoyed being in those cultural spaces, so that’s what made me want to establish a Mexican cultural club on campus because I want to see something done at Southern where we can have different celebrations for different Mexican holidays and celebrations throughout the year,” said Barajas Novoa.



PHOTO | ROBBY TIERSTEIN

Graduate Intern Talia Lent, who hosted the workshop.



PHOTO | ROBBY TIERSTEIN

Founder of the proposed Mexican cultural club Andreina Barajas Novoa.

## Faculty of color discuss inequalities in universities

By Destene Savariau  
News Editor

Following the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) department’s grand opening was a panel discussing the book, “We’re Not Okay: Black Faculty Experiences and Higher Education Strategies”.

The panel was hosted by the editors of the book: Dr. Antija Allen and Justin Stewart.

The book and discussion revolved around faculty of color and the challenges they face in higher-education positions.

Throughout the book, there were detailed stories and lived experiences from actual faculty members in workplaces across the country.

At the end of each chapter there were also solutions to help facilitate actionable steps to each issue. The common consensus in the room was appreciation and acknowledgement that solutions were featured. In similar texts a solution is

never talked about, leaving many wondering how to help.

The book also discussed ways to improve diversity in the workplace and on campus for students.

“As I have reflected, it is important to have a diverse faculty. If we’re looking at the racial or gender or other categories, it is so important to have students be able to see themselves in their faculty because it affects their whole experience,” Associate Professor of Social Work Steven Hoffler said. “And so having a diverse faculty and staff that students can see themselves in is a big part of what I feel is not only my mission but [I am] kind of committed to making sure that we continue to not only recruit but retain and promote a diverse faculty.”

The panelists opened the discussion to the audience where they were able to ask questions to Allen and Stewart.

They showed statistics from a study done on the university’s student

population in 2020. It said that 59 percent of students were White, 17 percent were Black, 13 percent were Hispanic, and 3 percent were Asian. Then the discussion was passed to the audience on how they think the university should improve diversity in order to create a diverse faculty.

“I think we’re making steps in doing that because we have the DEI team that’s becoming more and more active on campus and I think that’s all positive moves. I think it’s important that not only faculty have people that look like that but good for students as well. When they were talking about teachers that look like you or come from a similar cultural background,” Associate Professor of Nursing Cheryl Green said.

Green said that she thought about teachers that impacted her that looked like her and that no matter the skin color if a teacher is good then they are good teachers.

After the discussion,

the editors left a piece of advice for the audience and those who couldn’t make it to the event.

“Do whatever you can do; whether it’s within your group, whether within your executive leadership, senior leadership; wherever you

can deal with, make sure that you’re able to make life easier for yourself,” Stewart said.

Allen also shared a key takeaway she wanted people to know from her discussion.

“If you are someone who’s going through this,

think about what the people around you can do better. You can be a changemaker, if you can at least get into the ears of the change makers. And if you find yourself in a situation where it is a toxic environment, then it might be best,” Allen said.



PHOTO | DESTENE SAVARIAU

Editors of “We’re Not Okay,” Justin Stewart (left) and Antija Allen (right).

# PHOTOS

## Programs Council holds Fall Fest for students

**Photos and Story By Sarah Shelton**  
Photo Editor

On Oct. 20 Programs Council, also known as ProCon, held a fall fest event for students to grab a few snacks and socialize.

ProCon had a long table to hand out cookies from Moon Rocks Gourmet Cookies, cupcakes and muffins from Sugar Bakery, apple cider and apple cider doughnuts. Across from them was a kettle corn truck handing out free bags to students.

The line kept forming for the table, but some students thought the festival might have "been more." Maybe games? Maybe music? It seemed a little small for an event, nonetheless, students who grabbed snacks seemed happy.

Students, such as music major Lincoln Carroll, a sophomore, and elementary education major Mikayla Allen, a freshman, sat in the ResLife Quad to eat their new snacks, while others went into the Adanti Student Center due to the wind and/or wanting a table.



Students waiting and choosing what cookies they want.



Lyman Orchards Apple Cider sitting on the table.



Music major Lincoln Carroll, a sophomore, and elementary education major Mikayla Allen, a freshman.



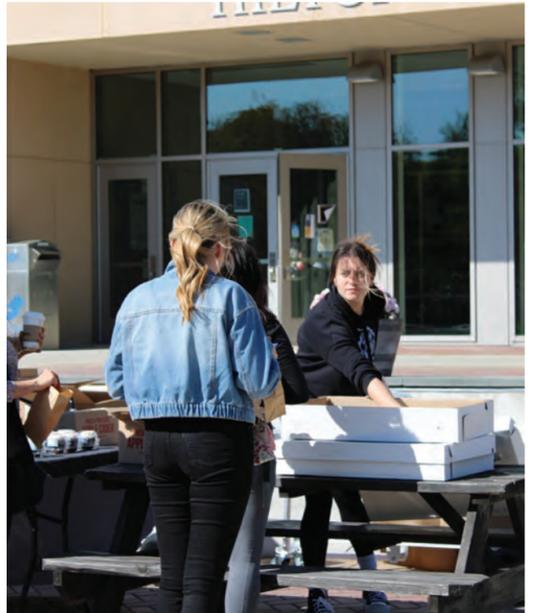
Different cupcakes and muffin options from Sugar Bakery.



Different cupcakes and muffin options from Sugar Bakery.



Cookie options from Moon Rocks Gourmet.



Programmer Katie Kost handing out donuts.

## Open mic brings student musicians together

**Photos By Luke Molwitz**  
Photographer

**Story By Sarah Shelton**  
Photo Editor

In collaboration with the Multicultural Center, Southern Dining and the Office of Sustainability, Open Mic Night was brought back on Oct. 20.

Open Mic Night takes place on campus at Dunkin' in the Adanti Student Center after closing hours. Any student who wants to perform just has to Direct Message either

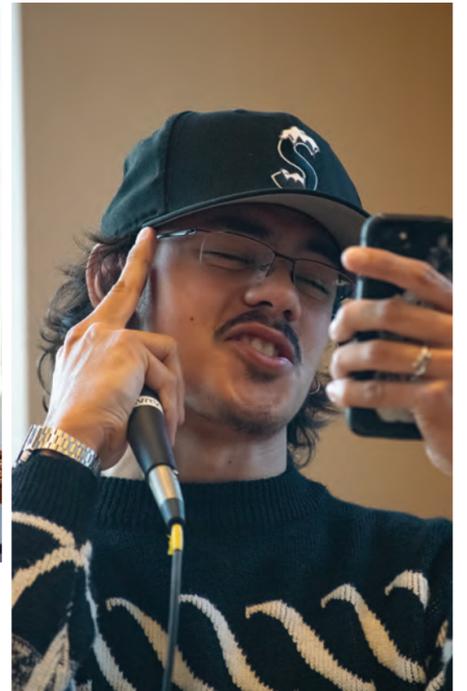
@scsucampusdining or @multicultural\_center on Instagram to get the sign up link once the event is announced.

A few students who are known to perform at these events are Justin Esmer, who has an album on Spotify with the name "Esmer," Celine Boonto and Ben Muniz, known as Cisco.

At Open Mic Night, you can do a variety of things such as singing, instrument playing, poem reading and rapping. Most students who attend these events are the performers themselves and their friends, but some come just for fun.



English major Olivia Navarro, a sophomore, with her guitar.



Computer science major Ben Muniz rapping.



Environmental studies major Shy Jones performing



Hedi Atuaful singing in front of the other performers.



Justin Esmer singing and playing guitar.

## Ghouls and ghosts haunt students in Hickerson Hall

**By Ali Fernand**  
Features Editor  
**Jayley Carr**  
Sports Editor

Spooky music, horror film-inspired costumes and an endless amount of jump scares were prevalent through the dark basement of Hickerson Hall. The residential advisers and leaders of Hickerson Hall hosted their annual “Haunted Hick” to get students into the Halloween spirit.

“Haunted Hickerson is something Hickerson has been doing for years,” Graduate Hall Director of Hickerson Christain Minaya said.

Minaya said that Hickerson Hall always tries to plan events to get students involved on campus around the Halloween season. This includes students who live on campus and those who live off campus. According to Graduate Intern Zaiyah McKenzie-Henderson, this is an annual event at Hickerson. She has been attending it every year since she was a freshman.

“We try to get people on

campus, especially commuters and residential students to get scared at our haunted house,” said Minaya. “It’s free and they can get scared by students that actually live here as well.”

All the actors in the haunted house were students at the university. According to one of the actors, Elisa Tolentino, a fifth year student, they had spent about three weeks preparing for this event. The objective of these student actors was to jump scare those who attended the event. Elisa Tolentino was playing an evil twin alongside her sister Eliana Tolentino. They were dressed in white shirts covered in fake blood and messy braids.

“Everyone always distinguishes us as twins even though I’m two years older,” Elisa Tolentino said.

They were in the section called the “playroom.” This was full of creepy toys and actors dressed as evil children. Elisa Tolentino was not a fan of horror but was convinced to participate by her boyfriend who works at Hickerson Hall. However, Eliana Tolentino is a fan



PHOTO | LUKE MOLWITZ

Actors Kash Patrick-William and Lionell Wilson in the basement of Hickerson Hall on Oct. 21.

of horror, noting that she loves the Trail of Terror that takes place in Wallingford, CT.

Neither of them has been involved in a haunted house before. This event was their debut as Halloween actors. They both said they were excited for the opportunity to try something new and be involved on campus.

Studio Art Major Noelle Woods, a freshman, was another one of the actors. She said this was her

favorite time of the year because she has always been a fan of horror.

“I love horror in general. The fact that we are doing a haunted house was interesting to me,” said Woods.

Woods said this was an amusing event for the residents and a great way to get students involved. This is one of a few Halloween events that take place on campus.

“It’s just a fun thing for all people that love horror,” said Woods. “It’s a great

thing to get involved in even if you don’t live in the building.”

The run time to get through the haunted house was about two minutes. Though it was quick, everyone had their hands over their mouth as they walked back upstairs. Many of the students exited the basement close to their group of friends. There was not anyone who went through the haunted house alone.

“Everyone was holding onto my jacket. It was legit

pitch black,” attendee and Sports Management Major Nicholas Fournier, a freshman, said.

Fournier specifically liked the Michael Myers character that stood behind the strobe lights in the first room of the house. He said he started to tease his friend group by walking slowly through the house to freak them out. Though this is an annual event for Hickerson Hall, the residential advisers and hall director put efforts in for other types of events on campus. According to the university’s Office of Student Involvement website, Hickerson Hall Council plans events that are designed to encourage residents to get to know each other and meet non-residential students.

Residential Adviser Marisa Howard, a sophomore, said this event would be considered as Hickerson’s social event for this semester. Hickerson hosts social and educational events throughout the semester.

“We wanted to do something that was spooky to get people in the Halloween spirit,” said Howard.

## African art debuts to the public in Buley Library’s Art Gallery

**By Ali Fernand**  
Features Editor

The Buley Art Gallery currently has a collection of ceremonial African art on display.

“These are pieces that are authentic, they go back

to the 1800s,” said gallery director Cort Sierpinski.

Sierpinski has been the director of the gallery for the past five years. He has overseen the displays the university hosts in the art gallery located in the basement of Buley library.

“The art gallery hosts many different exhibits. Last year they had the Dahli exhibit and this year the African art exhibit,” said Studio Art Major Alaina Pierce, a junior.

This gallery hosts pieces that are all from

the continent of Africa. According to Sierpinski, they are mostly from the western part of Africa. This includes countries like Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Mali and Ivory Coast.

These African pieces are a debut to the gallery. This is the first time that they are being displayed.

“These are a lot of pieces that have not been shown in the public before,” said student worker at the gallery Brenda Ruiz, a senior.

Without documentation, it is hard to know exactly where these pieces came from. It can be assumed that these were used in ceremonial contexts.

These cultures celebrated many types of events to celebrate those within their tribes. They would celebrate things like weddings and the coming of age. There were various items they would use for these events.

“There’s African masks,

there’s ceremonial drums,” Sierpinski said.

This collection is unique. These are pieces that are not allowed on the continent anymore. There could be more of these pieces that have existed but would not be known unless they were sent to a different continent.

The pieces are all crafted. There are no paintings or drawings. They are all structures and instruments that were used for practical reasons.

“Each is made out of wood, some are made out of clay,” Ruiz said.

The university has a vast collection of historical art. According to Sierpinski, the African collection has about 300-400 pieces. In total, there are about 1200-1300 pieces being stored in the university.

This is a collection of historical and cultural pieces. Though there is a lot of competition in the area, Pierce feels that the

university’s collection is still worth people’s time.

“I feel like we’re constantly being compared to Yale’s art gallery and yes while ours is smaller, it still has a lot to offer and I feel like we have a stronger African art selection,” Pierce said.

The gallery cycles through its collection for display. It exists for students to learn about different cultures and types of art.

“For art students, it gives them a better understanding of how these processes were done historically,” Sierpinski said.

The art students on campus are involved in the art displayed on campus. However, they are not the sole audience that is meant to be impacted by the university’s collection. It shows off a culture that has not been displayed before at the university or in public.

“Once you walk in there, you’re walking into a new world,” Ruiz said.

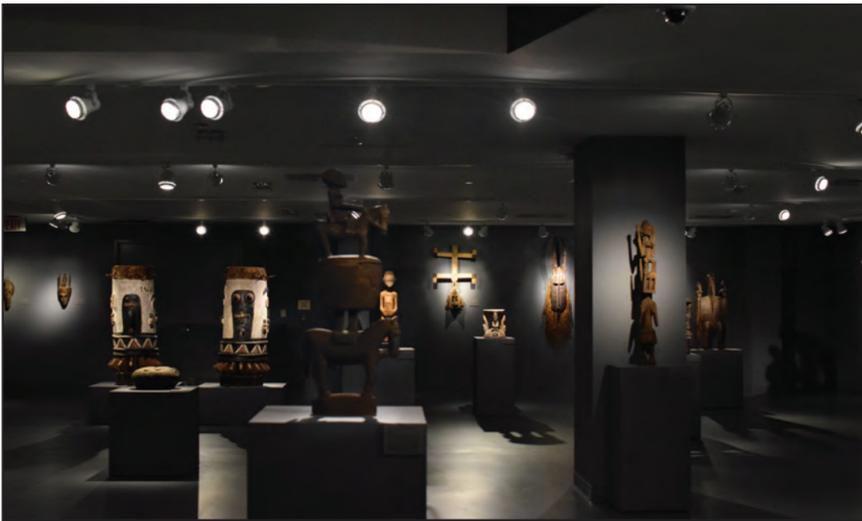


PHOTO | LUKE MOLWITZ

The African art displayed in the Art Gallery located in the basement of Buley Library on Oct 24.

## Italianissimi holds festiccioia to get students involved

**By Destene Savariau**  
News Editor

For any students walking on the third floor of the Student Center, the smell of pizza from Pepe’s filled the air. Following the cheese and margarita pizzas was an assortment of Italian cookies and cannoli.

Italianissimi threw a social event where they ate great food and talked about all things Italian with Italian music playing in the background.

“I think that what makes this event so important is that the Italian community here can come together and share a common interest of their culture and get to learn more about their culture,” President of Italianissimi, Marissa Russo said. “What’s also great is that they also get to meet new people who also share the same culture and it’s just really important, to bring the community together here.”

. Chairperson of the Italian department, Professor Giuseppina Palma, is

determined to get more students to join the club.

“It’s bringing together the Italian community here at Southern and you know this is a way, a place and space for ideas or, sharing about interests,” Palma said.

This is the first event Italianissimi hosted, they plan on doing more in the future.

“Again, this club is a club for activities that go beyond the walls of the universities. It always understood activities to raise fundings for outside entities that were in need. They have brought food to soup kitchens. So, it’s a club that works inside with people who are here but it’s looking outside of the community as a place where it can make a difference,” Professor Palma said.

Communications Major Isabella Tilson, a sophomore, detailed her goals for the event and what she had hoped to achieve.

“I think it’s really important what we’re trying to orchestrate and

have more than the four members that we have so far. I think it’d be good to let it be known for other students at Southern to come join and be a part of the Italian community,” Tilson said.

Most of the students who attended came for the free

pizza. However, one student came to learn more about the culture they share with their family.

“Well, I’m looking more into learning about different cultures, especially Italian culture because I do have Italian heritage in my family and

I think it’d be good to learn about something that I am a part of. I think it’s good to really educate yourself on different parts of the world,” Early Childhood Major Sara Desing, a sophomore said.

Psychology Major Crystal Russo, a freshman, was

not too enthusiastic about coming at first but was glad they came to partake in the festivities in the end.

“I came because my sister forced me to come, but I’m glad I came. There was good food, people and ambiance, and that’s what made it fun,” Russo said.

### SOUTHERN NEWS

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## Frassinelli reflects on 28 year career

**By Avery Martin  
Contributor**

Kelley Frassinelli has been the head coach of field hockey for over 25 years. This momentous accomplishment has made her recognized in her sport and by the university.

She has been featured in Sports Illustrated and was inducted into the university's Athletics Hall of Fame. However, Frassinelli's best reward has been hearing from alumni about how she

impacted their lives.

"I will say that to me the biggest recognition is knowing that the alumni are doing so well, staying connected, and value what they got from this program. To me, that is the best recognition and the best way to advertise who we are and what Southern is about," Frassinelli said.

Coming back to coach here has been an honor for Frassinelli, who said

"It is amazing. Being a player here you have certain connections and people you know,

but now I get to be a colleague of those individuals who were mentors to me and helped me a lot."

Frassinelli takes an all-encompassing approach to coaching. Her players say she takes time to check on athletes individually, prioritizes their mental health, gives advice and encourages them to be the best versions of themselves.

It is something Center Midfielder and Biology Major Tori Geaglone, a senior, appreciates. "She knows the potential

that I have and she knows that I am very committed," said Geaglone.

Forward and Nursing Major Brianna Caffrey, a junior, agrees. "She will pull me aside and tell me the little things that I need to work on and focus on as a player," Caffrey said. Geaglone and Caffrey also mention that Frassinelli frequently incorporates life lessons into her coaching.

"Not only is she teaching us how to play, but there are

little life lessons she throws into things. She correlates it back to life. She will say that not only do you have to be on time for practice, but if you have a job you have to be on time for your job too," Caffrey said.

Both Geaglone and Caffrey said that Frassinelli helps the team feel like a family environment.

Geaglone Caffrey said Frassinelli's coaching style is instrumental in their team's successes.

Frassinelli hopes this coaching style

will steer the Owls to the playoffs this year. Frassinelli demonstrates her selfless character when she makes sure to assert that the team's accomplishments are not owed only to her. She said, "I'm also not where I am without the people that surround me."

The field hockey team has six more regular season games Coach Kelley Frassinelli hopes to lead the team to more wins.

## Column: On Getting Into Sports

**By Sarah Shelton  
Photo Editor**



I will be honest, I do not know much about sports. The only sport that stays relevant in my life is Roller Derby: "go Widow Makers!" However, lately, I have been getting into football. I am not the type of girl to sit and enjoy sports on a TV, but seeing it in person is actually really fun.

Growing up I watched my brother play baseball and often went to see the New Britain Rock Cats' games. While they might not be MLB games, I was definitely my brother's biggest fan, even though baseball bored me.

The first game I went to this semester I left after watching the dance team at halftime. We were losing very bad, still at zero points. That game ended with the university only having seven points. They then had a six-game losing streak.

With my new interest, I went to the homecoming game. I did not watch from the start as I was busy playing the carnival games, but when I finally got to the bleachers I saw it was 17-0 and was very excited to finally see a good game going.

Also, I would like to mention that the dance team and cheerleaders did awesome at halftime! It was cool seeing both perform at the same time.

As a busy college student I do not get to go out to the university games. Because of this, I try to keep up with the NFL even if I do not watch the games in full.

The team my brother likes is the Saints. My brother and dad have actually gone to New Orleans a few times to see the games and every year for Christmas I get my brother Saints-related stuff.

So much to a point where my dog steals Saints hats from around the house.

So, I guess we are a Saints household now. So that is really the only one I check, with an occasional glance on the New York Giants.

Recently, I saw the Bengals beat the Saints 30-26; pretty close.

We will see on Oct. 30 what happens next against the Raiders. I hope to see more intense games, like the Saints, at the university instead of these reoccurring landslides of one team beating the other by a large amount.

## Volleyball snaps 3 game losing streak

**By Jaylen Carr  
Sports Editor**

The Owls' volleyball team snaps their three-game losing streak after winning all three sets against Pace University.

Coming into the Oct. 18 matchup against Pace University, the Owls lost three games in a row.

Two of those losses came from Northeast (NE) 10 Conference rivals American International University and the University of New Haven. The Owls came into the

game with a 13-11 record with 12 of those wins coming at home.

Coach Lisa Barbaro was proud of the team's performance against Pace.

"We had a rough week last week," said Barbaro. "It feels really great tonight, to have the team come together."

Outside hitters Gabriela Gaibur and Sara Enright led the team with 10 kills. Gaibur scored 10.5 points for the Owls and had 10 digs.

"Over the past two practices we've been able to correct our mistakes



PHOTO | JAYLEN CARR

The Owls' volleyball team is huddling before the game against Pace University.

and bring the energy back," Gaibur said.

Pace University committed 21 errors, and the Owls only committed 15. The Owls won all three sets to clinch the victory.

In each set it was tightly contested especially in sets one and three. In set one the Owls won 29-27, then in set three 25-21.

Coach Barbaro said she was proud that the team dominated defensively.

The Owls out-blocked Pace 8 to 5.

"We had a lot of positive contributions from a lot of members tonight," said Barbaro.

Setter and Defensive Specialist Taylor Jones recorded 17 assists in the game which pushes her season total to 444.

Jones said, "We served aggressively while we lost a lot of the serves, we had a lot of aces."

The Owls won their 13th home game of the season which pushes their overall record to 14-11.

The volleyball team has always played well at home historically said Jones.

"For our fans, they definitely help a lot," said Gaibur. "We have a lot of family that come and we want to be make them proud."



PHOTO | JAYLEN CARR

Jones (right) is setting the ball during the game.

## Soccer team celebrates 'Julia Alicea Day'

**By Ben Martin  
Sports Writer  
Bradley Robidoux  
Sports Editor**

On senior day a.k.a. "Julia Alicea Day," the women's soccer team captured a 2-0 shutout win for their lone senior on the team.

"It's been a lot of emotions, a lot of really happy emotions," Alicea said. "My team came together and did a lot for me."

Along with feeling honored on her senior day, Alicea felt good about being able to contribute to one of her team's points. Her contribution came toward the end of the first half with the Owls already up 1-0.

The Owls' offense was on fire in the first half. In the first 15 minutes, Graduate Student and Forward Kelsey Burr scored a goal with the help of her teammate, Graduate Student Kaitlyn D'Amico.

Alicea notched an assist in this contest with a pass to Forward Kat Mancinone, a sophomore,

who scored the second goal in the contest.

Burr's goal started with Forward Kylee Slavik, a sophomore, streaking down the sideline all the way to the corner. In the corner, Slavik sent a pass across the middle of the field to Midfielder Kaitlyn D'Amico, a senior, who then passed it to Burr to score.

"I'm really happy," Owls' Goalkeeper Abby Allen, a graduate student, said. "Our team played super well to get two goals early on in the first half really helped secure the win right away."

Along with the goals, Allen continued her dominance adding another shutout to her resume. The shutout came with five saves for Allen to add to extend her season total to 76 and increase her shutout total to seven.

Allen's first save of the afternoon was a big one for the Owls. The Owls were up 1-0 and the Falcons were driving down the sideline. After advancing the ball up the sideline on a series of passes, the falcons



PHOTO | BRADLEY ROBIDOUX

Julia Alicea walks out of the tunnel with her assistant coaches.

threaded the needle on a pass in front of Back Riley Ayer, a junior.

After passing Ayer, a shot came from the side of the box which Allen laid out for and she stretched out her hands and just barely saved it keeping the score 1-0 just over 26 minutes left in the first half.

Although the game was all about Alicea, it was a showing of the Owls'

strengths as a team.

"I think we played really well today as unit," Alicea said. "Everything that we have been working toward as a team is starting to show."

Owls' Head Coach Adam Cohen was happy with what he saw out of his team today; however, he thinks that the Owls have more in them.

"I think we want to keep executing through

midfield and in the final third and get the defending right," Cohen said. Allen believes that the Owls need to fight regardless of what the score is at the time.

"We just need to keep pushing," Alicea said. "Keep playing the way that we did today, and we are going to make it far in the tournament and hopefully even past the NE10s."