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Move in delayed by financial aid issues

Under staffed financial aid office results in failure to review financial aid packages leaving holds on student accounts

By Jackson LaMar
News Reporter

For most students, financial aid is the determining factor in whether or not they can attend college. However, for students such as art education major, Ewa Urbanowicz, a freshman, the university's financial aid struggles over the summer prevented her from living on campus. "I got the email saying that I was ineligible to move in two days before the move-in day," Urbanowicz said. "Luckily I had somewhere to stay, but think about the students who live out of state."

The Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships, located in the Wintergreen building, is responsible for awarding students their financial aid packages. When asked about the situation, Associate Director, Wanda Cotto,

explained their reasoning. "This summer was unusual— unlike any other summer. We were busier than normal but we were also short staff[ed]," Cotto said. "While that was no fault to the student, we did the best that we could, here in the office, with the staff we had. So everything was delayed this summer."

Due to the fact that the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships failed to award a number of students their financial aid package on time, numerous students were not cleared to move into their dorms. Without their financial aid packages, students were not able to pay their tuition for the semester, and they were considered 'non-compliant.'

Although students were encouraged by faculty to go to the Financial Aid Office students to address their concerns, in order to do so, according to Urbanowicz, she was required to pay

\$5,000 on the spot.

"If I wanted to move in that day, I would have to pay \$5,000 out of pocket," said Urbanowicz.

The issue was out of hand for the office, and even with temporary help, work could not be done in time.

"In the interim, we were able to bring in some assistance to help. It just wasn't in time to get everyone in, in time," Cotto said.

Due to this incident occurring over the summer, the financial aid office is working towards making sure the delay will not happen again.

"We are actually transitioning at the moment," said Cotto. "We have a new director that started in August and we do hope to be able to hire some new people."

The summer brought unusual circumstances to the office, but with the new director, this issue



PHOTO | JACKSON LAMAR

Financial aid office located inside of the Wintergreen Building.

will hopefully be resolved and will not happen again, according to Cotto.

The financial aid office worked closely with The Student Accounts Office this summer in order to extend the due dates for students to pay their bills, while also holding some classes as well.

"While we know that [the financial aid applications were] applied

on time and were awarded late, we came together as a university and tried the best we could give the circumstances that we had," said Cotto.

The financial aid office also worked with the Office of Financial Literacy. Student financial literacy and advising coordinator, Lewis DeLuca, expressed the importance of working with the Financial aid office.

"I need to know what financial aid is doing in order to do my job well when sitting one-on-one with a student" DeLuca said.

This situation displaced many students and caused plenty of inconveniences for families. This is a type of unforeseeable situation where one hopes it will never happen again, but if it does, it will, like it did this fall, make for a huge issue.

LiveSafe app and blue lights together keep campus safer



PHOTO COURTESY | LIVESAFE

Opening page to the LiveSafe app on mobile cellular device.

By Amanda Cavoto
Arts and Entertainment Editor

The LiveSafe app was described by Chief Joseph Dooley as a "walking encyclopedia of all things Southern."

The app was adopted by the university and introduced to the campus in June 2018 and,

according to Southern's website, it "provides students, faculty and staff with a direct connection to campus safety so that everyone can easily communicate all their safety needs. It is an easy-to-use feature help you stay safe every day and enable us to better protect you."

Psychology major Cara Richardson, a sophomore, said the app's feature of SafeWalk, which, according to the Southern website, is a "GPS-tagged monitoring feature to let your friends and family keep you covered until you arrive safely to your destination," can be

useful to all students, but specifically first-years.

"They're still unsure about the campus. They could be traveling and possibly just take a wrong turn. It's definitely a reassurance thing to have in your phone, right in your pocket, wherever you are," Richardson said. Some of the blue

lights around campus, which are emergency telephones located throughout the university and are activated with a push of a button, have been reported broken.

"They're in the process of being repaired. There are approximately 100 of them on campus," Dooley said. "The system office is working on it with IT. It's not exactly clear why they aren't working."

Dooley said although a few blue lights might be removed, he defends the use of them despite newer technology coming out.

"They're in prominent locations, and they do serve a purpose, and hopefully we'll have them all up and running soon," he said.

Despite the blue lights being repaired and remaining throughout the campus, Dooley said he hopes the newer technology of LiveSafe will take over campus communications.

"[The blue lights] are really not used as much. It's an older technology, so I think eventually the

LiveSafe app is really where the future is heading," Dooley said.

Although the number of students actually downloading and utilizing the app is minimal, Dooley and the entire police department are working with different programs on campus to spread the word. He said all the incoming freshmen and transfer students have been given a presentation regarding how to use and get the app.

According to Dooley, a lack of exposure is to blame for why registration for the app is low. Last month, roughly 1,500 students had signed up for the LiveSafe app, according to Dooley. In the past 30 days, there have been 561 new members and, 77 of them signed up in the past seven days alone.

"I thought the jump would be higher," Dooley said. "It was slow."

Dooley said that exposure of the app is all people need to see its value and create a campus-wide download.

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Disability Resource Center not utilizing student note takers

By Tamonda Griffiths
Editor-in-Chief
And Jessica Guerrucci
Managing Editor

Southern's need for student note-takers has been eliminated with the introduction of a new system called Note Taker Express.

The issue with the previous system, said Disability Resource Center director Goldie Adele, is student note-takers were

not providing quality notes. "Our main goal is the student," said Adele. "That's our focus, helping the student out and looking for different technology and resources to help them with regards to the learning process."

According to their website, Note Taker Express is backed by "a talented human note taker" that can get students notes at the turn around rate of their choice, which in this case, Adele said, would be

48 hours.

With the previous note-taking system, Associate Vice President and Dean of Student Affairs Jules Tetreault said two issues were surrounding providing equal access.

"Trying to assure, one, that the student that is receiving the notes is getting high-quality notes because that's an equity issue as well," said Tetreault, "and also that we're able to provide notes for all students, that

have documentation, that deserve it."

According to Tetreault, only 60% of students who needed notes were being serviced, leaving the other 40% without notes or low-quality notes.

That problem would now appear to be solved with Note Taker Express servicing 100% of students, however, concerns still arose on campus surrounding the audio taping of classrooms.



PHOTO | TAMONDA GRIFFITHS

Associate vice president and dean of Student Affairs Jules Tetreault.

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Livesafe

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"The company is really growing. I don't normally advocate for one company but I think they've captured the things we need to help keep the campus safe," said Dooley.

Dooley said that throughout the year there will be more exposure through presentations



PHOTO | AMANDA CAVOTO

Blue light system located outside of a residence hall.

and workshops regarding the LiveSafe app.

Nursing major Katie Gaccione, a junior, said although she saw the email about LiveSafe, she did not really understand how to access it.

"I've heard of it, but I never looked into it or really know what it is or what it's about. I feel like if it was more promoted, I feel like I would use it and other people would as well," said Gaccione.

Notes

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Last semester, a volatile exchange between a professor and student was captured on a cell phone, which sparked conversations amongst faculty and staff on whether or not students had the right to record their classrooms and their interactions.

In Connecticut, according to Broder and Orland LLC, it is legal to record in-person conversations with the consent of only one party to the conversation. It is also legal in the classroom if the student is present and is a part of the conversation, so despite concerns, the policy does not break any laws.

"The reality, in my thinking and I think in others thinking is we are already doing this," said Tetreault. "We're already recording classes with smart pen, we're already

recording classes through audio recording, we're already providing note-taking, it's just a different avenue of how to."

Tetreault said he understands the concern and thinks it can be discussed, but is not convinced it is not something they should be doing in terms of supporting student success and access to the classroom.

"Our faculty members trust our students and they're out to help them," said Adele. "So, they know the students will benefit from tape recording the class, so it hasn't been an issue."

English professor, Michael Shea said while he has no issue with being recorded in his classes; he thinks having a recording device in the classroom could potentially be problematic to all parties involved.

"With this electronic thing," said Shea, "they're just going to record

the whole class and so, if it's not a lecture-oriented course and you're having a discussion, a lot of the information is gonna be hard to follow."

Shea said he and fellow members of the School of Arts and Sciences were notified of the change on Monday, Aug. 26, a day before classes began.

It would be hard to have open and honest discussions in a classroom Shea said when students are aware, they are being recorded.

"Creates a conflict of who can record and why," said Shea, "because you can't explain to the class, they have a disability because you can't talk about disabilities in public."

Most professors outline in their syllabi their want for students to power down and conceal all electronic devices during class time. It would be "challenging" for a student with a disability not to be readily

identified if they use their cell phone as a recording device, Shea said.

Another concern brought about by the change in policy is the idea of intellectual property.

"So, people might not want to be recorded for the sake of, you know, making sure that their work stays - they're kind of in control of how their work gets out there," said Shea. "That might be an issue for some faculty."

Interim dean of the School of Arts & Sciences Bruce Kalk and Tetreault said they acknowledge intellectual property is a concern for some faculty members, however, Tetreault said he has a slightly different view.

"I don't disregard their concern about intellectual property," said Tetreault, "but the discussion in a classroom, in my view, and it may be different, is not really necessarily intellectual property."

Student government discusses plans for the fall semester

By Essence Boyd
News Editor

Student Government Association held their first meeting of the year touching on their past and future plans for the university.

The meeting was held on Friday Sept. 6 in a new location of Engleman B121. The meeting started off with light commentary and introductions starting with re-elected president Alexis Zhitomi.

As the election process for the class of 2023 representatives has yet to begin, prospective students attended in search of what student government really means.

"It is not always an easy job to do this because sometimes progress is slow, but we have achieved really great things in student government over the years and that is what we aim to do every year," said Zhitomi.

During her speech Zhitomi made sure to make the responsibilities of what came along with holding a position on the board clear reassuring the perspective council just how many students they would potentially represent.

"We represent the entire undergraduate student body so that means there are approximately 7,000 of us," said Zhitomi.

Although the council



PHOTO | IZZY MANZO

Student Government Association members introduce themselves to perspective council members.

is usually composed of 25 elected members, there are currently only 18 positions being filled. Elections take place during the month of September and students who are interested are able to run and fill the vacant spots.

"Yes, it can be overwhelming that just means our voice holds a lot of power and that with certain be we are ready to advocate whatever it is that we are talking about," said Zhitomi.

As an incentive to help students last semester, the idea of turning some of the organizations budget into scholarships was purposed and was revisited during Friday's meeting.

"SGA has a large budget, we're about shy of a million-dollar budget," said Zhitomi. "One of the ideas out of last semester was to take some of that money and create a scholarship out of it."

Although SGA has given out awards prior on its own,

this would be the first time the organization would be giving out awards through the university.

"So, SGA does right now fund several scholarships on its own, whether that's study abroad scholarships, or research scholarships," said Zhitomi.

For the remainder of the meeting, elected SGA members stated what issues their branches would be tackling in the upcoming semester; amongst the topics discussed in the

meeting was campus security.

According to newly elected Vice President of the Board of Student Experience, Katia Bagwell said one of the biggest concerns on campus revealed in the 2017 Campus Climate survey was the lack of campus security.

"We took a Campus Climate survey in 2017 and one of the biggest issues here on campus was that students didn't necessarily feel safe on campus at

night," said Bagwell.

Newly elected Vice President of the Board of Academic Experience Sarah Gossman, said her branch's main goal is to ease the stress academic expenses may inflict upon students.

"We do recognize that students struggle with textbook prices," said Gossman. "I am open to anything, I must look outside my own academic experiences on campus and focus on what other people are affected by."

Office of Admissions appoints new director

By J'Mari Hughes
Copy Editor

This semester, Southern welcomed a new faculty member, Alick Letang, who is filling the role of the director for the Office of Admissions.

The newest addition to Southern staff, is working for the public schooling system for the first time. After spending numerous years in both profit and non-profit private schooling, he said experience the public-

school system has always piqued his interest, and when the opportunity came up, it was like a calling to him.

"I've loved, for years, the foundation and the stance that Southern takes, not only within the community

but basically from the academic preparation that it has for students," he said.

Working in a different school environment, Letang said gives him a different lens for his learning platform.

Letang said he has been in admissions and higher education for "a little over 23 years" - at schools in Mass., R.I. and Va. He said, despite having majored in business finance as an undergraduate, he was driven to getting involved in student recruitment. From his years of experience, he said, he is motivated for learning and exploring opportunities, as well as being a vehicle of change.

"I think that I can hopefully share some of the things that I've learned along the way," said Letang, "as well as open folks' eyes in regard to different ways that we can actually obtain our goals."

As Director of

Admissions, Letang's role is to "help facilitate Southern's growth by looking at recruitment opportunities, getting back into communities and building relationships - from the high school and college platforms."

He said he knows many of Southern's students are from Conn., which he loves, but he wants to be sure to draw in students from other states.

Letang said he can go through course selections with students to find something to fit their schedules, something he said he enjoys because he loves working with students. The ability to work one-on-one with students, he said, has allowed him to grow in the field and reminds him why he works in higher education.

"Oftentimes, as you grow in administration, you have to find time to make sure you leave your door

open so that students can get to you," he said. "It's something I still love doing because, quite frankly, I've walked that path and just having a voice that they can walk through - not having to point them to another office, but being able to give them guidelines, for me, that's where it starts and builds a stronger community."

Letang said he is very engaged in the community and believes in building relationships not only in professionally, but outside of the office too. He said, hopefully he can learn from the institution and vice versa.

Letang said overall, he is happy to be part of the Southern Owl Nation and community. "At Southern, we've got some work to do, but it's one that I'm excited about," he said. "We have a great team and I'm looking forward to building on this relationship."



PHOTO | J'MARI HUGHES

Newly hired Office of Admissions director Alick Letang in his office.

Looking back: Fall of 1997



All eyes on residence hall

New surveillance cameras were installed in the North Campus residence hall lobby in hopes to stop vandalism. In one incident furniture was overturned and vending machines were pushed over. In other cases, holes were drilled into the walls, doors were left propped open, and fire alarms were falsely pulled. Nicole Laing, a resident advisor, said, "Our main purpose as staff of residence life is to protect students and provide a stable environment for them. The cameras will help us maintain the building. They should be on each floor and the common area."

September

- A bus of students traveled to Washington D.C. to join 50,000 protesters taking part in the National March to show their disapproval for the war in Iraq.
- Crescent Players selected the American tribal love-rock musical, "Hair" for their Oct. production. The play dealt with protests, people unifying, drugs, sex, and self-expression.

October

- An altercation with a hall director lead police to escort two students, Letroy Hundley, who was not a Southern student, and Terrance Willams, a commuter student, off campus. According to Assistant Police Chief Lewis Perry the students threatened and assaulted the officers.
- The Brownell sculpture was left unnoticed by state and university maintenance crews leaving it to deteriorate. The artwork cost \$43,000 to build when it was installed in Aug. of 1985.
- Student leaders hoped for a more inclusive homecoming semiformal by opening it up to commuters.

November

- The Inter-Residence Council posted signs in all residence hall encouraging them to turn people in for numerous false fire alarms for an award of \$1000. Money was offered in fear the alarms would disrupt homecoming events and leave a bad impression on visiting parents.
- On the way to their 37th consecutive winning season, Men's swim team won their third consecutive Bentley Invitational.

December

- School shootings caused safety concerns after shootings in Santee, Calif., and El Cajun, Calif. National news consultant and President of Kenn Venit and Associates, Kenneth Venit, said Southern education students are not prepared for what is happening around the country.

Compiled from the Southern News archives by Jessica Guerrucci, Managing Editor

Tailgate Party kicks off first home game

By Haljit Basuljevic
Contributor

SCSU's Blue Crew brought students together in a celebration of campus spirit by hosting a football tailgate on Thursday, Sept. 5, as a prelude to the home game.

Students were offered a variety of engaging activities and an opportunity to get together to hang out on Jess Dow Field before the main event kicked off. Cornhole, ladder ball and miniature basketball hoops were set up, along with a firetruck parked next to the curb sporting a brick oven on its side.

Andrew Marullo, Coordinator of Campus Recreation and Fitness and advisor of the Blue Crew, said organizing the

Football Tailgate mainly rests mainly has the goal of encouraging students to become more involved with campus events and sparking school spirit.

"We collaborated with the Student Athlete Advisory Committee to kind of get the first home game. That's why we got some food, games, free giveaways, shirts, stuff like that, kind of just to draw a crowd," said Audrey Pancak, a Graduate Intern with the Dept. of Recreation and Fitness.

Marullo also said the Tailgate has been a recurring event for about three or four years. He said himself and other organizations intend for future tailgates to differ in the way the hosts "amp it up" by having

a tailgate event before other sporting events as opposed to solely confining it to football.

"This fall, we're going to be including a new thing called 'Tailgate Tour', which will happen at different athletics home games. Mini tailgates, so we can build up some support for those different sports," said Marullo.

He said the tailgate will continue to be present before all football home games, but promotions for other events and games will come out soon. Throughout the years, he said the number of students attending tailgate events has been consistent, but modifying some key features in the future will hopefully compel more students to

attend.

Pancak said that sports teams have asked to set up tailgate events before games they felt were most important. She added that although football has always been the grand spectacle most students always attend, the purpose of expanding tailgate is so that other sports teams on campus can be equally appreciated and supported.

Newcomers to the tailgate reacted positively, such as biochemistry major Mahmoud Hassan, a freshman, said he liked the event, saying that it "was lot of fun, [and there was a] lot of pizza."

"I just like the whole community coming together - you know what I'm saying - everybody

coming out and having fun," said Hassan, who also said that he would definitely attend the forthcoming tailgates.

As the event started to die down and students drifted towards the stands, the almost endless line for the pizza finally came to an end.

Sal Ajro, owner of Fire Truck Pizza, said, although he initially cut off the line at a certain point, he had kept the shop open past the end time. He said he was expecting 150 to 200 students to line up, the estimate was exceeded that evening.

"I'm prepared for 200, 300 people," said Ajro, who said that he enjoyed the event. "Everybody's happy, right?"

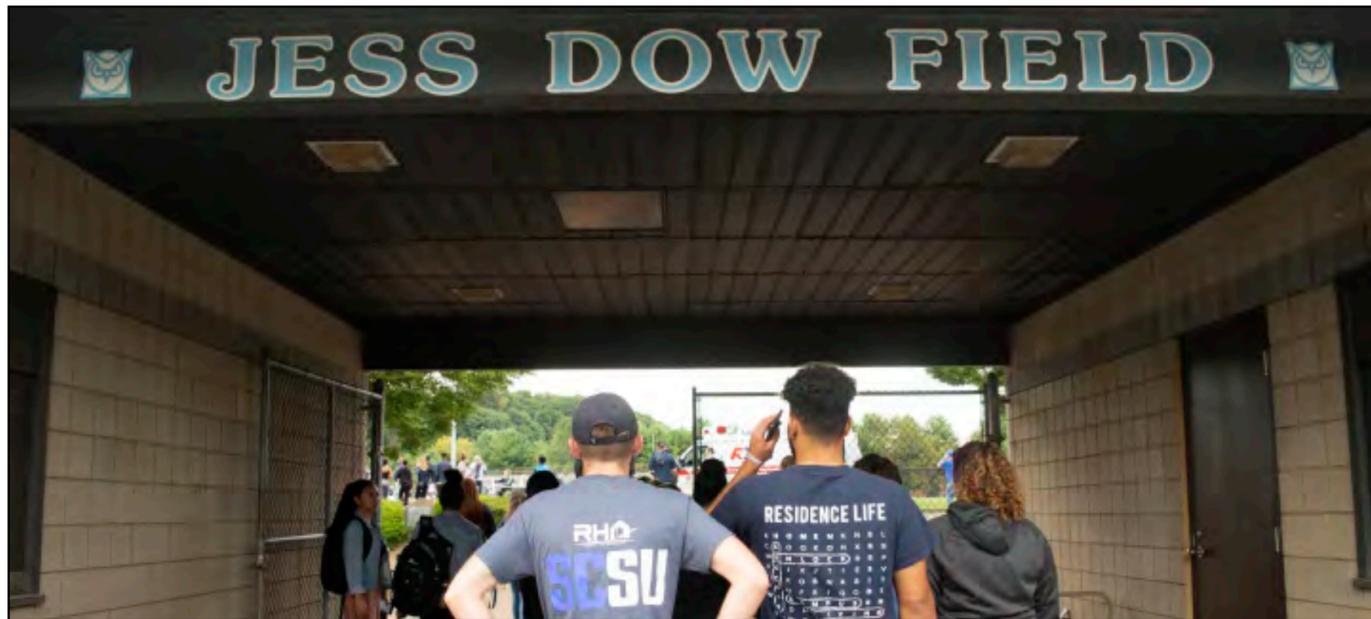


PHOTO: IZZY MANZO

Students in line to enter the Jess Dow Field to watch the Southern versus Gannon football game.

Taste of New Haven excites students palate

By Ellie Sherry
Reporter

A Taste of New Haven was an event run by the Programs Council at Southern that allowed students to try new foods from the area.

Computer science major Christopher Caron, a senior, attended the event.

"We run events like this to give students an opportunity to try foods around New Haven before they go and spend money on it," said Caron.

"Also, it gives students the opportunity to eat food outside of what is being given out on campus."

This event offered a wide variety of food from Mexican to Chinese to pizza. The vendors included Pizza Heaven, Archie Moore's Bar and Restaurant, Insomnia Cookies, Salsa Fresca, Ali Baba's Fushion and Hing Wah. According to Caron, these restaurants were chosen by using a polling system.

"My team and I will post a poll on ProCon's social media asking what

vendors or food items would be students like to see at this event," he said, "then from there we would pick from those votes."

The general consensus on favorite foods at the event were provided by Hing Wah and Ali Baba's Fushion.

Caron also said this was one of the most popular events of the year. Since ProCon started the program, it has always had a large turnout of students.

An anthropology major Christie Accurso,

a sophomore, said she was excited to try new foods, but did not know what was going to be there. Accurso said she was ready to try what foods New Haven had to offer.

Communications major Rhema Phillips, a sophomore, said she heard about the event through a friend and really enjoyed trying all the different foods the program had to offer. She said her favorite food there was the chicken and rice and that she would be more willing to try new foods in

the future since attending this event.

However, according to Caron, a downside to an event like this is it can get expensive depending on the quantity of the food and who is providing it.

According to Caron, this is not the only time free food will be offered at ProCon events. He said there will be more opportunities for free food on campus and that ProCon may consider running more events like A Taste of New Haven because it was so popular.



PHOTOS | WILL ALIOU

Students sampling different food that was provided at the Taste of New Haven Event.

Involvement fair encourages inclusion

By **Nina Bartłomiejczyk**
Copy Editor

Owls both old and new flocked to the Academic Quad for the Involvement Fair on Wednesday, Sept. 4, where most of Southern's clubs and organizations had set up tables showcasing what their group consisted of. The event brought prospective members together with the e-boards of these groups to get to know each other.

Tables were set up all the way from Engleman Hall to Earl Hall. The fair also extended towards the library where WSIN Radio was deejaying the event. Every table was diverse, as each club displayed their own posters, props, games and giveaways.

One notably decorated table was that of the LARPing Club, whose table showed not only pictures of the group engaged in Live Action Role Play, di from Dungeons and Dragons and Magic: The Gathering cards spread across the table.

"We're on our second year. We wanted to create a group for people to join where they can get involved in all sorts of nerdy and geeky things," said LARPing Club treasurer Leo Palumberi.

Students took part in all the fair had to offer, from the clubs and their giveaways to the food vendors providing free cookies and kettle-corn. However, the most engaging part of the event for some was the captivating performances that took place near the end by groups like the Steppin' Up Drill Team and F.A.C.E. Models.

President of F.A.C.E. Models Briaua Kline said the group's name stands for 'Fashionable Artistic Creative Elegance,' and that they wanted to perform rather than set up a table because they "wanted to reach as many newcomers as possible."

"I wanted to put something together, just like some of the things we do in F.A.C.E., like the triangle runway, a T and a slow walk," said Kline. "It was kind of like an advertisement for our tryouts."

For some newer organizations, like the Chemistry Honors Society, Gamma Sigma Epsilon, this was a great opportunity to market their arrival to campus.

"[We] just started this honors society chapter this semester and we want to get the word out for [chemistry] majors and minors to join," said Secretary of Gamma Sigma Epsilon Renée Chabot. "[The reception is] better than I thought

originally. There's a lot of people who are interested."

Other clubs at the fair wanted to market their changes made since last semester, like the Muslim Students Association, or MSA, which spread info about their organization and a large poster around their table.

"We wanted to spread the word about how MSA will be this year. Every day we will be facilitating what we hope will be educating discussion, and we want to be more political this semester in terms of the political climate with the refugee crisis," said MSA President Asma Rahimyar.

Many clubs, including MSA, who's membership, according to Rahimyar "has been dwindling," hoped to raise their membership numbers this semester and took the opportunity granted by the club fair to do that.

"We tried to get as many people on board as possible and spread as much news, not just on black culture but in general as well," said Black Student Union Event Coordinator Milton Green, whose group's table was adorned with a poster showing pictures representing the group's beliefs, such as the Black Lives Matter movement and gun control.

Generally, most clubs found the reception to be positive, and the event helped them to find students who were interested in the things they catered to and gave them a place they could find like-minded people.

"We've had a lot of people come looking for a group to play with and this is where they can find that. We have people who are experienced, like myself, and people who are learning, and we help with [teaching them]," Palumberi said.

Some students at the event echoed this sentiment and said they were finding their niches upon talking to the e-boards and members of certain clubs.

Public health major Melissa Howley, a junior, said, "I liked Love Your Melon; I like their cause. I love the fact that they help kids with cancer."

Some also said they enjoyed that the groups not only fed off of the excitement the students felt towards them, but showed interest in the students as well.

"[Crescent Players] were very interested in what I had to say and what I like, which is writing, and they encouraged me to continue writing," said early childhood education major Naima Clark, a freshman.



PHOTOS | IZZY MANZO

Accounting major Rodney Davis, a freshman, signing up for Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity last Wednesday at the Student Involvement Fair on the academic quad.



PHOTO | IZZY MANZO

Psychology major Raianna Grant, a freshman (left) and business management major Keren Alexandre, a freshman, signing up for GEMS Club last Wednesday.

SiR's "Chasing Summer" captures the season

By **Essence Boyd**
News Editor

Singer, songwriter and record producer Sir Darryl Francis, better known as "SiR," debuted his second official album "Chasing Summer" on Aug. 30, and it is definitely a mood.

The 14-track album is not chasing anything as it places you back into those steamy summer days and unforgettable summer nights.

The album includes features from artists such as Smino, Lil Wayne, Jill Scott and the one and only Kendrick Lamar.

"Chasing Summer" is a complete 180 from SiR's previous album "November" as many thought it lacked emotion while displaying a surplus. For instance, in his song "That's Alright" SiR sings, "All her little friends can't stand me, because they know I would trade her love for a Grammy."

Seeing how the majority of his audience is female, there is no surprise that "November" did not do too well on the charts because of its knock on committed relationships.

"Chasing Summer," on the other hand, seems as though SiR has finally stepped into his skin, and I am here for it.

Amongst the hits of this hazy yet forgiving album is track three, "You Can't Save Me." SiR's passion, the drums and his vocals

make the song great. On "You Can't Save Me," SiR is letting it all out, putting his heart on full display, giving himself the closure he needs to move on.

"I was in the wrong place in the wrong time with the right one." A major recurring theme in the album is timing, and in this track SiR's time ran out.

SiR manages to connect not one, but two sitcoms into "Chasing Summer." The first one being "King of the Hill" in track two, "John Redcorn."

This jazz track has even moodier lyrics and an airy tone continuing the theme of failing relationships while introducing a new one, loneliness. The theme of loneliness is communicated not only in the lyrics but in the title.

As seen in the sitcom, John Redcorn is in love with a married woman who breaks their affair to be fully devoted to her husband. "Guess I shoulda stayed where I belonged, cause once you make it back to your happy home. I'm alone."

"La Lisa," featuring Smino, highlights the thrill and threat of being in love in high school, the number one obstacle seeming to be

the fathers of the women the men are trying to pursue. These hardships can relate to a lot of high schoolers today, which is reflective in its popularity.

"Get a little ratchet, stay over color, your box. Don't tell your daddy, he might go Crayola."

"Fire" is a smooth transition from "John Redcorn" as SiR seems to find a cure to his loneliness, even if it is albeit a temporary one. "We both know this house could never be a home, but ain't you sick of spending all your nights alone?"

SiR is trying to pursue and romance these women at the same time while making sure not to overstep in the process. This smooth and soulful track gives a sense of promise. This warm, cozy and romantic track is simply fire.

Although there were many hits on this album, there were also some songs that did not flow with the album or provoke any type of positive movement for the album's mood.

The main one being track seven, "Lucy's Love." It is the second track on the album centered around a sitcom. CBS sitcom, "I Love

Lucy" was in mind during the production of this track, focusing on the many adventures of the couple.

The track features Southern rapper Lil Wayne who is known for his lazy rapping. However, Wayne proved this stigma as he was almost in slow motion, off-beat and without direction.

The track would have been better without him on it. The message was delivered through the drums and slow tempo, and although the vision for the track was clear, Lil Wayne blurred it.

However, the award-winning track on this album has to be track number one, "Hair Down," which features Compton, Ca., native, Kendrick Lamar.

This track reminds me of driving on a warm, summer day with all the windows down with confidence radiating more than the summer sun. This track has a never-ending bounce, the beat never stopping, rather slowing down and speeding up, much like the summer. With only seconds Kendrick Lamar leaves his mark and the track keeps running, never ending, chasing summer.

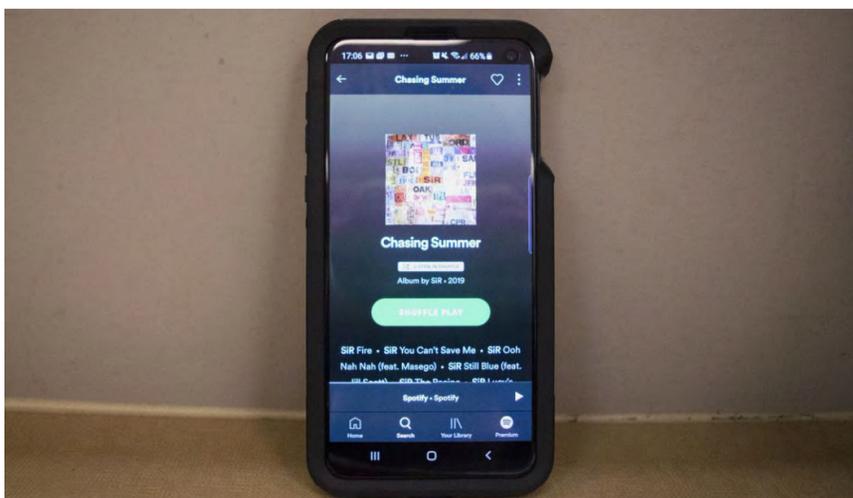


PHOTO ILLUSTRATION | IZZY MANZO

An Android displaying SiR's album "Chasing Summer."

Season and home opener spoiled

Football drops first game to Gannon College but remains optimistic

By Sam Tapper
Sports Writer

As dusk fell over Jess Dow Field Thursday night, the lights were on and the stands were packed; football at Southern was back. However, along with it came the Golden Knights of Gannon University.

The Owls suffered a 14-7 loss to the Golden Knights out of the Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference (PSAC), in a game that featured stellar defense from both teams, as the score was tied at halftime 0-0.

"It was a very impressive show, by our defense," said Owls head coach Tom Godek. "If we keep getting the look of our defense like that and get some things squared away on offense, I think we can have an excellent football team here."

The Owl's defense stood strong every chance they got, but Gannon was able to break through in the third quarter. The Golden Knights

took over on touchdowns with nine minutes remaining in the quarter, and their sophomore quarterback Jimmy Keefe and company got Gannon on the board.

Keefe first threw a 32-yard pass into the endzone for sophomore running back, Melvin Banks, to put their squad up 7-0. The very next drive, Keefe again threw for a touchdown to put the Golden Knights up 14-0.

On the other side of the coin, the Owls' offense was able to put together promising drives on plenty of occasions but could not convert in the red zone. Even in the final seconds, the Owls had the ball on Gannon's goal line with the opportunity to tie or win the game, but ultimately fell short.

Their lone touchdown came on a rush from redshirt senior quarterback Matt Sanzaro, who utilized both his arm and his legs in this game, but ultimately finished the night with

three interceptions.

"A lot of missed opportunities, a lot from me," said Sanzaro. "It's a team game. I think all we can do right now is watch the film, improve on it and practice for Pace next Friday."

Sanzaro's final stat-line was 16 completions on 36 passing attempts with 156 passing yards, as well as 24 rushing yards including his touchdown.

"Like I said, a lot of mental errors," said Sanzaro. "First-game jitters had something to do with it. Like I said, film, got to get better, got to improve for week two."

Though the Owls' offense was not where they wanted it to be, there certainly were things to be excited about, the most notable being the breakout performance of running back, Johnmichael Bivona, a redshirt-freshman out of Trinity Catholic High School in Stamford, Conn.

See Football Page 6



PHOTO | SOUTHERNCTOWLS.COM

Quarterback Matt Sanzaro, a redshirt senior, and running back Kevin Momnolin, a senior, running a play-action play during the season opener on Thursday.



PHOTO | IZZY MANZO

Outside hitter Ariel Letcher, a junior, and middle blocker Erika Benson, a sophomore, during a game on Saturday against Caldwell University.

Volleyball improves to four straight victories

By Sam Tapper
Sports Writer

Part of being defending champions is that will always have a target on your back the following year, and, for the volleyball team, that target got even bigger on Saturday as the Owls improved to 4-0 in the young season.

The defending NE10 champs hosted the SCSU Tri-Match over the weekend to open the year. They picked up wins against Dominican College, Queens College, Assumption College and Caldwell University.

The Owls may have lost their first set of the year, 25-22 to Dominican on Friday, but they have not lost a set since then. The Owls were able to sweep Queens on Friday and then went a

perfect 6-0 on Saturday against Assumption and Caldwell.

"I'm so proud of this group," said head coach Lisa Barbaro. "I couldn't be more proud of the performance I saw this whole weekend. It seems like every single set we've been able to play this weekend we've just gotten stronger."

Despite the 4-0 record, the Owls remain incredibly thin due to injury, and only seven players saw action. Barbaro added that almost half of her team is currently out.

"We're still pretty banged up," said Barbaro. "We're starting to get people back slowly and integrating them into practice, I think we're just going to be stronger as the season goes on."

Among the list of healthy players is graduate

student, Jennifer Dawson, a hitter and defensive specialist, as well as one of two captains on the team. As one of the leaders, Dawson was able to keep her team composed despite falling into some big deficits against Caldwell.

In their third set against the Cougars, the Owls found themselves down 11-3 early. Dawson was vocal on the court and said that it is all about taking it play-by-play.

"It's all about the mindset," said Dawson. "We come in, reset, forget about the points that just happened—nothing you can do, you can't go back, you can only go forward—so we just took steps forward and really pushed our way through."

See Volleyball Page 6

Men's soccer begins new season with tough draw

By Joe Bulwidias
Contributor

On Saturday, the men's soccer team opened their season and faced off against out-of-conference opponent Mercy College Mavericks. The day was perfect with the beautiful sun shining on Jess Dow Field, but the weather could not carry Southern to a victory.

Nor did the weather aid Mercy for a win. Instead, the two teams battled throughout a game that ended in a double overtime tie at 2-2.

The Mavericks, who were at the time ranked 24th in the nation among division two teams and were also opening their season, got on the board first, scoring a goal in the tenth minute

which went unanswered all the way up until halftime.

In the second half, Southern was able to tie the game at one-a-piece from a goal delivered by sophomore forward, Juan Avila in the 53rd minute.

Sophomore goalkeeper Aren Seeger, who ended with nine saves on the day, said the team's focus and mindset helped carry them throughout the game.

"When we were down 1-0 early, our determination to get back into the game tied up," said Seeger. "The determination after that to get the go-ahead goal to give us the lead against one of the top 25 teams in the country."

In the 60th minute of the game, senior forward, Devante Texieria, earned his second assist for the Owls by way of junior

midfielder, Ignasi Perez Cereols for his first goal of the season.

Mercy soon caught up to Southern's one-point lead when they scored another goal in the 80th minute of the game.

The score was tied and both teams were pushing themselves harder and harder as the clock ran down. With the sound of the buzzer and the announcer counting down from ten to zero, the game was over and into sudden death overtime.

The teams went back and forth, struggling to score as the ten minutes of overtime clicked down, leading to double overtime. Despite both team's best efforts, the additional time soon ran out and the game ended as a

See Soccer Page 6



PHOTO | IZZY MANZO

Forward Francisco Roland Martin, a junior, chasing the ball during the season opener on Saturday.

Domestic abuse in the NFL

By Essence Boyd
News Editor

Domestic violence in the NFL is not a new issue, rather, it has become a reoccurring one.

On the field, players puff their chest out and have to prove just how strong they are to intimidate their opponents, but this macho ego should be left on the field and, most importantly, never be taken home.

In most cases, people believe domestic violence to be the physical assault of the abuser's romantic partner, however, as seen in the most recent case regarding Kansas City Chiefs wide receiver Tyreek Hill, this is not always the case. According to the New York Times, Hill was accused by his then-fiancée of hitting his 3-year-old son.

Although there was not enough evidence in this case to convict Hill, there have been numerous incidents within the NFL in which the proper amount of evidence has been presented and no punishment has been given.

After the video emerged of Baltimore Ravens running back Ray Rice assaulting his then fiancée, now wife, in an Atlantic City hotel elevator, Rice was only suspended for two games.

Even though Rice obtained a fine and was suspended for two games due to violating the NFL's personal conduct policy, he was still able to attend training camp and all preseason games.

This begs the question—what would have happened if there had not been a camera in the elevator and the proper amount of evidence was not presented? Would Rice still be allowed to play football? More importantly, how many Ray Rice scenarios are occurring without repercussion due to a lack of evidence?

Even after footage of the Rice attack was released, the media still presented it to the public as an 'alleged attack,' masking the severity of the event and even excusing his behavior because she was antagonizing him.

Let's face it, the system that is in place in America is misogynistic. The amount of respect the system has for women is outweighed by its love for control, politics and sports.

Additionally, the NFL emerged in a country that has come to terms with the fact that, according to domestic shelters, "one in every four women in the U.S. are victims of domestic violence" and that "women account for two out of every three murder victims killed by an intimate partner."

The way the NFL handles situations around domestic violence is a glimpse into the worst of society, and instead of fixing the system in a way to prevent new incidents such as the Ray Rice scandal, it continues to sweep it under the rug in hopes that a hefty fine, community service and a few won games will erase any recollection of just how bad a player may have beaten his wife because of how good he is on the field. The most pathetic part of it all is this distraction plan actually works.

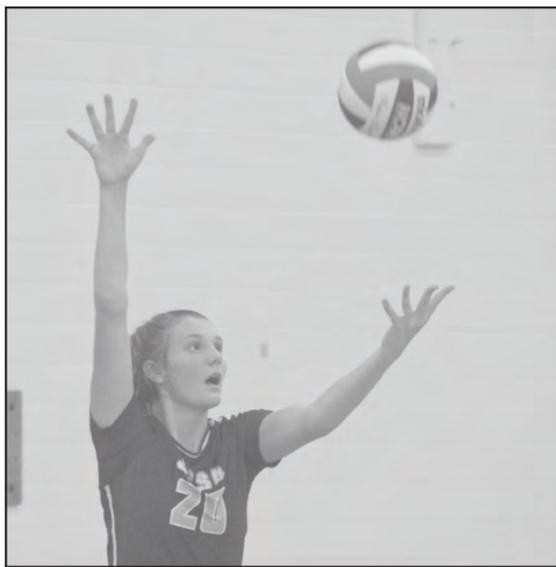


PHOTO | IZZY MANZO

Outside hitter Ella White, a freshman, serves during a game against Caldwell University on Saturday.

Football

Continued from Page 5

Bivona finished the night with 86-yards rushing on 19 carries, his most notable play being a 21-yard rush to set the Owls up for nice field position. Though those numbers may not stand out at first glance, they were enough to lead the team in each of those categories.

Bivona may have surprised a lot of people, mainly because he was not listed on the depth-chart as the starter or the primary backup. Listed ahead of Bivona were Kevin Momnokin, a senior who finished with 13 rushes and 49 yards, and Jordan Knight, a redshirt-sophomore who did not

see any action.

"I came in last year; I was behind Eli Parks. I learned a lot from him," said Bivona. "Yesterday, they told me I was going to get the reps when I came in, and I took as much advantage of the opportunity as possible."

Up next, the Owls will travel to Pleasantville, N.Y. as they visit non-conference Pace University. Despite the loss in the opener, the consensus among the coaches and players is that there is optimism going into week two and beyond.

"Hats off to the defense tonight; they played a phenomenal football game and they really held us in it," said Bivona. "It's the small things that we have to fix and next week we're going to come out, fix those and get the [win]."



PHOTO | IZZY MANZO

Midfielder Ignasi Perez Cererols, a junior, dribbles the ball upfield during the teams home opener on Saturday.

Soccer

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"I thought, overall, despite the fact we gave up two goals, I felt that we were fairly solid defensively," said head coach Tom Lang.

"We made a couple of errors and they punished us for it because they're a very good team. They're in the top 25 of the country for a reason."

This first game set the season 2019-2020 in motion, and Lang said the

men will rest up but come back swinging for their next game.

"We need to scout our next opponent and get an idea how they play and get back to basics," said Lang.

The Owls next two games will be played in N.Y., the first being against New York Tech on Sept. 11, and the next against Nyack College two days later. After their brief two-game road trip, the men's soccer team comes back to Jess Dow Field to play NE10 matchup Assumption College on Sept. 17.



PHOTO COURTESY | SOUTHERNCTOWLS.COM

The Owls rushing down field on defense during a home game against Mercy College on Saturday.

Volleyball

Continued from Page 5

Dawson finished the match against the Cougars with nine kills, 13 digs, one ace and one assist. She and the rest of her team got a major boost from a young contributor, freshman outside hitter Ella White.

"I couldn't be more proud of the performance I saw this whole weekend..."

—Head coach Lisa Barbaro

White finished the day with eight kills in 40 total attempts as well as one assist, two digs and two

block assists.

Barbaro noted that White is somebody to keep an eye on.

"I'm really proud of that kid, as she has a huge upside," said Barbaro. "She's actually playing outside of her natural positio. With the injuries we moved her to the right side, so she's not even 100 percent comfortable in that position, but she really showed up. Just a really great job."

White said she was hopeful going into the year that she would have a defined role on the team and is running with the one she has been given early in 2019.

"It's pretty amazing," said White, regarding the opportunity she has been given. "It's a great feeling

that I'm here already and helping out and I'm just grateful to be able to play as a freshman."

Up next, the Owls will travel to Waterbury, Conn. to play in the Post Tournament from Saturday, Sept. 14 to Sunday Sept 15.

They will first face the Felician University Golden Falcons, first followed by Bloomsburg University, the University of Bridgeport and finally, the host team, Post University.

Though their record says they are perfect, perfection is hard to achieve in sports.

For Barbaro, it is about taking it one step at a time.

"We kind of reset every week," said Barbaro. "I try to keep them calm, and we just kind of focus on one day at a time, and I'm always reminding them of that."

Women's soccer focuses on defense early in year

By Joe Bulwidias
Contributor

As the women's soccer season begins the team has strong goals and is dedicated to winning.

With the season opening game on Sept. 6 against The University of Bridgeport, the players and head coach Adam Cohen are pushing themselves towards success.

Cohen has been with the Southern women's soccer team since 2003 and has coached the team to numerous victories since joining.

The women's soccer season is very fast paced. Between September to mid-November, the women play 18 games against various schools in the NE10.

The team must work very hard for their goal of winning the NE10 championship, but their coach is confident in them.

"I think that this team, right now, is a perfect picture of its evolution because you have a great group of upper classman, seniors and grad students," said Cohen. "Some of the players on our team have been student athletes at Southern for 5 years."

One such student athlete is Paula Nunez, a graduate

student studying school counseling who is a native of Basque Country in Spain. Nunez completed her undergraduate degree in Spain and the coaches said she has been on their radar of the coaches at Southern for three years prior to her arrival in The United States.

Nunez is a defender on the team and has been playing soccer since she was very little. Although, Nunez believes she has been playing for so long, there is always room for improvement.

"Well, I'd like to improve [from] last season, personal-wise and also, like, as a team. I would love to help my team as much as I can. I enjoy doing that so much," said Nunez.

Last season, the Owls capped off their season with a record of 9-10 and finished with a record of 8-6 in the NE10 conference games.

The Owls 2018-2019 season ended in the first round of the NE10 tournament, where they faced off against Penman University, ultimately losing 2-1.

With last year's defeat fresh in their minds, the Owls have been pushing themselves during the off season in preparation for

the fall.

"We won all our scrimmages in the spring and our first scrimmages now, so we're off to a really good start," said defender Kelly Lamb, a senior who has played for the team all four years that she has attended Southern.

In recent years, the team has won ten plus games in each of the four previous seasons under the coaching of Cohen. The Owls have won 105 matches in total throughout the 14 seasons he's been coaching.

The team's philosophy seems to be that the best offense is a good defense, and with Nunez and Lamb backing up the defense, the team has been off to a good start.

Most recently, the team started their season beating the defending national champions, Bridgeport University 1-0. They then carried on their success by beating Saint Thomas Aquinas College 2-0 on Sept. 8.

After one more game on the road against NE10 matchup Franklin Pierce on Sept. 14, the team comes home for two consecutive games at Jess Dow Field against Adelphi and Bentley on Sept. 18 and Sept. 21, respectively.



PHOTO | SOUTHERNCTOWLS.COM

Defender Kelly Lamb, a senior, during an away game against Saint Thomas Aquinas on Sunday.



PHOTO | SOUTHERNCTOWLS.COM

Forward Rosella Graniero, a junior, during the teams upset win against nationally ranked Bridgeport University on Sept. 6

OPINIONS

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Night classes versus morning classes, the two sides

By Jacob Waring
Online Editor

Night classes are, at least in my eyes, the ideal time to take classes.

A student would have already hit their groove in terms of classwork as they most likely attended other classes earlier in the day.

If a student happens to work a typical 9–5 job, then a night class would be flexible around a work schedule. A student is most likely taking more than one class and a morning class is awkwardly placed when most jobs typically start. At least with a night class, a student can easily work all day and then come to school after.

Morning classes, on the other hand, are just brutal, especially if someone is not a morning person at all. Waking up at early in the morning to consume knowledge when one's body is still waking up is much harder than trying to stay awake at night. Sure, someone can drink coffee or an energy drink to keep one's body going, but then they are going to crash back into tiredness in the middle of the day. If someone drinks an energy drink before a night class, however, then by the time they crash they will already be in bed.

Eventually, every student procrastinates

to where they need to complete an assignment directly before a class. At least with a night class, they would hypothetically have enough time in the day to complete the assignment.

For a morning class, a student must either get up extremely early or pull an all-nighter, which are not healthy options for the human. Plus, rushing to finish the assignment will certainly impact the grade given.

I think night classes are better simply because they work better around a work schedule and are better for those who are not morning people.

By J'Mari Hughes
Copy Editor

If someone asked me which I prefer — to take classes in the morning or at night — I would say the answer is simple: morning classes are superior.

Obviously, the answer would differ among various students, but, to me, it is better to get classes out of the way and have the rest of the day to yourself.

For example, ending class at 2 p.m. or 3 p.m. allows a person to have the day to go home and read, do homework, sleep or do whatever college students like to do after class. While

some may not enjoy waking up first thing in the morning, I think it is worth it when class is over before dinner.

In my years at Southern, I have had only three night classes, and not by choice. When I get out of class at 7:30 p.m. I barely have enough time to get home, do homework and eat dinner.

I can understand why students who do not like to wake up early would not want to have class in the morning. They get to sleep in, they can take their time when getting ready for class and they can sit down and eat an actual breakfast, rather than a rushed

granola bar or a cold bagel.

Morning classes work better for me because I like to have my day over with early on and I have time to do whatever I want for the of the day. But, I know that some people do not have the luxury of being able to do that.

On the other hand, night classes may be preferable for those who work in the morning or simply do not want to wake up super early, but all that matters to me is getting the whole rest of the day to myself, which I can have with morning courses.

Overall, morning classes gives me more time in my day to get things done.

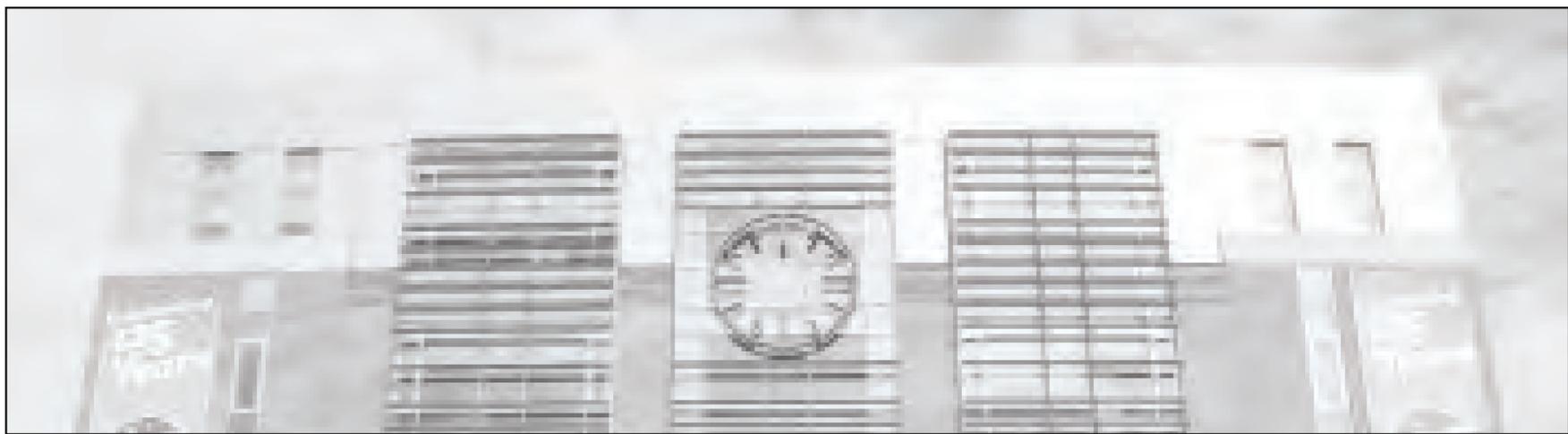


PHOTO | IZZY MANZO

Hilton C. Buley Library, a popular study area for students throughout the school year.

Swapping a pool floatie for a backpack for summer classes

By Jessica Guerrucci
Managing Editor

The sun is shining, everyone is happy they get three months of doing nothing at all, while I'm sitting in front of my computer doing homework.

Summer at Southern was not ideal, but if it meant I could graduate a semester early, that is where I was going to be. I would say the general mindset of students is to look at summer classes negatively. It is summer; it is supposed to be about vacation and relaxing, but to make the best of my situation, I changed that

mindset and saw them as an opportunity to get ahead and graduate early.

I took two summer classes: Writing for the Web and Race in the News. One was online and one was an on-campus hybrid class, so both offered different experiences, but they were similar in some ways; one being that they felt rushed.

It is hard to imagine squeezing a whole semester of learning into one month. There were so many topics covered in these classes, I felt there was not time to go in depth about the material. It seemed like we were just going over the basics and

then moving on, especially in my on-campus class. Since we only met twice a week for two hours, we would sometimes cover three different topics in one class and did not get to learn as much as I would have liked.

As for my online class, it felt less rushed, but we got assignments nearly every day, including weekends. I felt like I had the opportunity to learn more, but it became stressful at times. Another issue was with the class focusing on race. I felt like it would have been a great opportunity for in-class discussion. There are

discussion boards for that purpose but I did not feel like it was the same as physically being in a classroom.

Cost was another factor. Each three-credit summer class was \$1,735 each, so for me to take two of them, it cost me \$3,470. However, I chose to look at it this way: it would cost me less to take the two classes now and graduate early, than pay to stay another semester and only be taking two classes. For some though, I can see this being an issue. If someone is behind or wants to get ahead, summer classes are costly and it makes them less accessible.

One question many people have asked me is why I did not take my classes at community college and pay less money. Being a journalism major, I did not have that opportunity because the class, Race in the News, was so specific to Southern, I could not have taken it elsewhere. If I had considered summer classes earlier, it would have been smart to take one of my general education requirements at community college, but as a junior, it was too late.

However, taking one class at a time was something I liked. Usually, I would have five classes piled on top of

each other and be stressed out, just trying to get all the work done. Instead, I was able to focus on what I was learning and complete my assignments. I found I was able to appreciate what I was learning more.

Summer classes will never be ideal, but in the end, if taking one is going to get a student where they need to be quicker, I would recommend it. There will always be pros and cons to weigh, and some people might want to just relax and shut off their brain the whole summer, but if not, it is a chance to learn something great.

SOUTHERN NEWS

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PHOTO

Involvement Fair brings new opportunities



President Joe Bertolino poses with members of Steppin' Up Drill Team during the Involvement Fair on Wednesday, Sep. 4.



Sociology major Rosangely Santiago, a freshman, poses at the cheerleader's table.



Students walk past club tables outside of Ralph Earl Hall during the Involvement Fair.



Pre-healthcare studies major Jeje Riudin, a freshman, dances during the Involvement Fair.



Business major Sean Wilder and communications major Parris Woods, seniors, dance at the Involvement Fair.



Gifty Asante, Letitia Adumoah, Perpetual Taylor, and Mariam Osman of the African Student Association pose at their table.