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SOUTHERN NEWS

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Meeting the new Interim Chief of police

By Destene Savariau
News Editor

As one of the Top 20 safest schools in Connecticut, the university wouldn't have earned that title without the hard work of the University Police Department. However, with the retirement of Chief Joseph Dooley, it needs a chief and a leader to work hard to maintain that title.

Interim Chief Kenneth Rahn is new to the job but not new to our school. He served under the previous chief, Joseph Dooley, for three years as his deputy. Before coming to our school, he served under the Milford Police Department for 25 years. He went through many departments, from a K-9 handler to a detective.

"As I've progressed through my career, I've gotten into administration and I really enjoy this aspect of it, because you have the ability to impact newer officers' careers and help them, you know? Help develop and mentor them," Rahn said.

As Interim Chief of Police, he oversees the totality of operations

in the department. He's responsible for day-to-day operations, overseeing the hiring and training of personnel and keeping equipment and systems up to date.

"I look forward to continuing the vision that Dooley had to make this one of the safest campuses in the state. What we've been trying to do is move things forward a little bit and not really change the direction of what we're doing, but maybe modernize it a bit," Rahn said.

While the word "interim" means to be temporary, for Rahn it means he will be acting as Chief for one year before the state selection process to choose a new one. Nevertheless, he is determined to make every minute he is here count.

He has a set list of goals he is hoping to achieve. A few items on that list were hiring new officers, exploring the option of online reporting, improving the parking system, and improving the health and wellness of officers.

"The biggest goal is to see what we could do by looking at the best practices across the country. Try and

see if there's anything whether procedurally or equipment or security-wise; what is the next thing out there that can really impact this community's safety," Rahn said.

Rahn and his officers have been trying to improve and modernize their safety practices through their increased activity on social media, use of community policing initiatives and the upgrading of equipment to further ensure the safety of students.

"We're currently in the process of changing our camera systems here at the department. We got new body cameras, dash cameras and building cameras. All of which run on one central system now so it's easier to access files and footage," Rahn said.

With these new safety measures put in place, officers like Mykola Gusyev seem to be warming up to Rahn and the changes he brings.

"He's a good guy. I think he's going to make a great chief," Gusyev said.

Sergeant Kim Clare would also agree that Rahn is a good fit for the department.

"I look forward to

working with him. He's been very diligent and I look forward to see what he has in store for the department," Clare said.

As students who put their safety in the hands of the officers on campus, it's essential to know

who is in charge of that safety and who they are as a person. Rahn wants students to know that as a father of four kids, three of whom are in college, he sees students as his kids.

"I really appreciate and see what the college

experience is about, and I look at Southern as if my own kids go here, which one does. So I want to always make sure that we do everything we can for the students here and our experiences at Southern," Rahn said.



Interim Police Chief Kenneth J. Rahn in police station office.

PHOTO | DESTENE SAVARIAU

An inside look at on-campus religious organizations

By Destene Savariau
News Editor

The Muslim Student Association (MSA) is an organization for Muslim and non-Muslim students at the university. According to their page on Owl Connect, their purpose is to provide an environment for the nourishment of the Muslim community on campus while nurturing the connections between Muslim and non-Muslims through education, dialogue and interaction.

"We're trying to be very inclusive this year. So we don't want to send someone away if someone want to learn better. I feel like that's really wrong," said President Sarah Majzoub, a sophomore.

Their goals for the semester are to be more active and invite more members to build a tightknit community. With more members and people who join, the club can build each other up and strengthen the club for future Owls.

"I think Covid had a lot to do with our inactivity. But I think once we build ourselves, they'll want to explore and possibly join," Majzoub said.

The Muslim Student Organization is hoping to hold a lot more events like Jeopardy Nights, Family Feud Nights, Movie Nights and Halaqahs. Halaqahs are discussions that may or may not have to do with Islam.

"One thing I look forward to, is learning

more about Islam and making new Muslim friends," nursing major, Saana Mohammed, a freshman said.

While there are no officially set meetings, the organization is hoping to hold meetings once a month.

The Catholic Campus Ministry; an organization for Catholic students, and those interested in the religion. The main purpose is to foster a community of Catholics. Additionally, they also hope to provide a safe space for students to discuss their faith and provide a community to grow their faith.

"Anything that Catholic students need or interested students who aren't Catholic are just interested, are free to join us," Campus Minister for Catholic Outreach Brooke Armistead, a junior said.

Armistead is hoping to be a bridge between the church and the university.

"I would be offering students contacts with priests, the religious sisters, opportunities for mass or confession; anything the students need I'm here. I do office hours in here three times a week. So if people want to stop in and get coffee or of our pounds of candy," Armistead said.

To bring in more students, they plan on holding multiple events such as rosary making, retreats and volunteer opportunities

"When we hold events, of course, we usually buy pizza from Sally's," Armistead said.

Catholic Ministry events always have food before or during the event. Such as pizza before adoration, or bible study. The office they are in always has chips and tea during office hours.

"We're literally breaking bread here," history-education major Luke Sawyer, a freshman said.

Hillel is the Jewish student association that fosters a community where individuals at the university come together to experience Judaism's culture, heritage and religion.

"Hillel is the JSA on campus, but it's not exclusive. We do a lot of hanging out and focus more on the cultural side of things rather than the religious side," Vice President Cassie Kryger, a senior said.

Hillel's goal is to bring more Jewish voices into campus, get more involved and have fun.

It hosts regular social and educational events in hopes of continuing to grow as a community like the Muslim Student Association and Catholic Ministry. Such events include Shabbat, "Hang with Hillel" and prayer workshops.

Kryger said, "we're also looking to go apple picking. We're aiming for Lyman Orchards but we'll see. We're also hoping to take a trip to New York. Something interesting Hillel wants students to know is that they always have snacks. You will never come to a Jewish event and leave hungry."



Inside of Interfaith Office in the Adanti Student Center.

PHOTO | SOFIA ROSITANI



Candles, challah (braided bread) and grape juice for Shabbat from Hillel meeting.

PHOTO | DESTENE SAVARIAU

Student expectations on the Fall 2022 semester

By Jaylen Carr
Sports Editor
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Ray Magliozzi, like a lot of students, has a lot he wants to accomplish this semester.

An exercise science major and sophomore defensive end for the university's football team, Magliozzi, said he wants to "have a GPA over 3.5, win a lot of football games, and spend time with my friends and make good memories with them."

The positive mindset was a common theme among students interviewed by students

in the JRN 220 Digital Reporting and Writing class.

As the university returns for the Fall 2022 semester, students have been setting academic goals and expressing hopeful outlooks for what's to come this year. COVID-19 restrictions are beginning to be relaxed - the vaccination requirement has been removed and masks are no longer required - bringing a sense of normalcy back to campus.

Several students said they're looking forward to getting involved on campus, getting on track academically and moving toward their careers after graduation.

"I want to take on new challenges," said political science major Ashley Aguilera, a junior, who noted she has always been shy. "Since the start of this

year, I've been trying to get out of my bubble."

A transfer communication disorders major, Devin Mulvihill, is considering joining Best Buddies or the American Sign Language Club.

"I'm looking forward to meeting new people and making friends," Mulvihill said.

A computer science major, Elijah Mohan, returned to school this year after taking time off to work at Apple.

"Just being back on campus is fun after being out of school for two years," he said.

For some students, academic goals are at the top of the list.

"I expect to start the semester strong and stay disciplined with my homework," said senior business major Cameron Kelly.

Nursing major, Savannah

Craig, a sophomore, wants to avoid procrastinating this semester. She says she plans to always meet her deadlines.

Finance major, Jonathan Parker, a junior, said he is striving to be more organized.

"I expect to be challenged by the amount of work I will have," Parker said.

Therapeutic recreation major China Lewis, a junior, has high expectations for this upcoming semester.

"Just to pass all my classes this year with As," Lewis said. "I'm not even going to say B. I'm going to set my standards high."

A first-year graduate student majoring in speech-language pathology, Nicole Rizzo, has a balance of goals for the upcoming fall semester: "My expectations are to do well academically,



Photo | Jaylen Carr

Ashley Aguilera, a junior, sitting and doing work.

physically and mentally," Rizzo said.

An exercise science major, Anthony Ligi, is also looking for balance. The running back on the university's football team needs to focus on both his school work and athletics.

"Having practice in the mornings so then I can focus on academics during the day leaves me with enough time to get some good sleep at night," Ligi said. "I'm in my fourth year here now, so I'm excited to get the school year going."

Students sip mocktails and paint canvases

Photos
Luke Molwitz
Photographer

Story
Sarah Shelton
Photo Editor

On Saturday Sept. 24, The Office of Residence Life's Weekend Warriors held their first painting event of the semester. Students who attended the event gathered in Farnham Programming Space to "Sip & Paint."

According to OwlConnect, the event

was to "come and create your own canvas design and enjoy mocktails! Good chance to meet new residents and relax!"

While not many students showed up for this weekend event, the students who did created many things, including ghosts for the Halloween season and LGBTQ+ pride flag.

The "mocktails" provided were non-alcoholic sparkling juice which students were able to enjoy with snacks that were already provided in the programming space.



Early childhood education major Miranda Corbin, a senior, and sports medicine major Mekhi Tyson-Slaughter, a freshman, painting.



Special education major Geordie Barron, a junior, with his painted transgender flag.



Public health major Angela Corsino, a junior, painted a ghost for the Halloween season.



One drink option, sparkling white grape.



Communication Disorders major Genevieve Buckridge painting a canvas pink.



Many different paint colors on the table ready for students to use.

The rain can't stop ProCon from LED minigolf

By Ali Fernand
Features Editor

ProCon lit up the basketball court for students on Thursday night. Students were able to play a course of minigolf right in the residential area in front of Wilkinson Hall.

"It's LED minigolf, so it is glow in the dark," said ProCon Night committee member, Katie Kost, a senior.

The courses were lined with lights that glowed many assorted colors: red, purple, green and blue. This took place at 8pm, making the lighting stand out in the night.

Originally, minigolf was supposed to take place in the residential quad. There had been rain earlier in the day that made the quad unsuitable for a golf course.

"We were supposed to have it on the quad, but the rain made us take other measures," said ProCon night committee member, Ramsley Exantus, a senior.

ProCon quickly made the decision to hold the

event on the basketball court just across the street. These decisions need to be made fast, but it has never stopped ProCon.

By the time of the event, the rain had stopped. However, the ground was still wet from the rain that took place earlier in the day.

"We wanted to keep the golf style without dealing with the mud, so we decided the basketball court was the best option," Exantus said.

The basketball court offered a hard floor unaffected by the rain.

"Especially considering the rain, this event is going very well," said Lincoln Carroll, a sophomore.

The change of plans did not affect students' ability to have an enjoyable time. Despite the diversion from original plans, the course was still set up in a way for students to participate.

"It is very well set up, very inspired," said Zachary McCarthy, a freshman. "I can see the effort that went in here. I love the lights."

McCarthy attended the

event with Carroll. They spent the night chatting and keeping score of the game. They took special notice of the lights on the course.

Students are most often attending events spontaneously. Social media promotion and location of the event affect the attendance.

"One of my friends was on Owl Connect and said that I should do this," McCarthy said.

Owl Connect offers students the chance to explore the hundreds of clubs and events on campus. It is a platform for students to find something to do during their free time.

Students are also able to find events just by stepping outside. As the fall weather approaches, there will only be a few more events to attend outside this semester.

"We wanted to do an outdoor event before it gets cold," Kost said. "On average, more people come to outdoor events because they're walking by."

University semesters take place during the fall



PHOTO | LUKE MOLWITZ

Students playing minigolf in the basketball court in front of Wilkinson Hall.

and spring. This makes it difficult to be able to host outdoor events while students are on campus.

ProCon tries to take advantage of the early fall semester and late spring semester. They typically hold two outdoor events during this time of the year.

Even during the cold weather, ProCon puts on

multiple events a week. Their committee is consistently contributing ideas to provide fun events for students on campus.

"One of our other teammates found it on a website and thought it would be a good idea," Kost said.

ProCon hosts a variety of events on campus for students to look forward to.

Even with a busy schedule, students can keep an eye out for events they can attend.

Upcoming events include PB&J Thursdays, Commuters and Coffee and other gameshow events that they hold every week.

"Stay locked into our social media posts," Exantus said.

Asian Culture Society holds stud-tea night 'Ghoul boys' return

By Ali Fernand
Features Editor

Students on campus were offered a space to get work done and enjoy some hot tea. The Asian Culture Society held this event on the third floor of the Adanti Student Center.

"It's a study session for people to come to work and get a quiet space," said Co-President of the Asian Culture Society, Jen Ng, a junior.

The study session was open to all students on campus. They did not need to be a member of the Asian Culture Society to participate.

There were tables and chairs set up for students to work on. The tables were pushed together, so students could socialize as they put a dent in their workload.

"Everyone can bring homework that they want to do and have a chill night," said Secretary of the Asian Culture Society, Pauline

Dianne Markinano, a junior.

The members of the club played soft pop music as students worked on their laptops. Many of the tunes were by Asian artists. This included artists like Niki and Miki Matsubara.

This event was the first event that Asian Culture Society held this semester. They are just beginning to establish themselves on campus.

"The Asian Culture Society is very new," said Ng. "It has existed for less than a year."

Asian students have been putting in effort to get representation on campus. The Asian Culture Society represents every person of any Asian descent.

"It is an offspring of what used to be the Chinese Student Association," said Ng. "It was not inclusive to all Asian countries."

Having a club just to represent Chinese culture excluded those who were of other Asian descent.

The Asian Culture Society

seeks to represent those who were not represented before.

"It's nice to be able to talk to other people and not feel alone," said member of the Asian Culture Society, Eiruelle Pendon a freshman Healthcare Studies student. "I'm glad I can relate to people at Southern."

As a freshman, Pendon has been able to get involved by embracing her culture. She has been able to connect with students that have a similar background to hers.

"Since I come from a predominantly white town, it is nice to see my community come together," Pendon said.

The Asian Culture Society and other cultural organizations on campus have been able to provide students with solidarity. They are encouraged to embrace their culture instead of being made to feel disconnected from it.

"If they don't feel as connected to their culture, as I do sometimes, they have a place to know that you are Asian enough," said Ng. "Being Asian isn't bad."

Their main goal is to create community for Asian students on campus. They do this by holding different events and meetings for both members and non-members.

However, students shouldn't be discouraged from being able to attend

these events.

"We branch out to everyone who is of Asian descent on campus," said Markinano. "You don't even have to be Asian."

The events are open to any student willing to learn more about both their own culture and/or someone else's.

Asian Culture Society is not the only organization that exists for students looking to embrace other cultures. The university hosts many other clubs to represent the variety of cultures of students on campus. The Multicultural Center (MCC) is the host organization for the cultural clubs.

"I really love all of the clubs that are tied to MCC," said Markinano. "Like CSA, OLAS and I can't wait for what our club can do in the future."

The Caribbean Student Association (CSA) and the Organization of Latin American Students (OLAS) are other cultural organizations for students on campus. They have existed longer than the Asian Cultural Society, so they are able to look to look to them for support.

"I'm glad Southern has clubs like the Multicultural Center to represent groups that might not be seen as often," said Pendon. "It's exciting to see a school like this is so Social Justice oriented."



PHOTO | ALI FERNAND

Students and members of ACS studying in the Student Center.

SOUTHERN NEWS

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By Sofia Rositani
Editor-in-Chief

Spooky season has arrived with the return of the "ghoul boys" themselves.

As an avid watcher of the YouTube channel "Watcher," I was so excited to see that they are doing "Ghost Files" which used to be BuzzFeed's "Unsolved Supernatural" series.

Ryan Bergara and Shane Madej left BuzzFeed and created this channel. They explained that working together is a "natural and horrifying decision." The channel, "Watcher," was created in January 2020 and was launched alongside another former BuzzFeed employee, Steven Lim.

"(The company) is a digital media studio that creates television-caliber, unscripted series that aim to bring joy, inspire curiosity and genuinely connect with audience," according to the Watcher website.

"Ghost Files" is like Unsolved but longer, better and funnier. The first episode took place at the Waverly Hills Sanatorium, a haunting building that, for us believers, is full of spirits. This building, built in 1910, was created for those who suffered from Tuberculosis and about 63,000 people passed away in the building, according to the episode.

This first episode was a good one to start the season off with because they had gone to the sanatorium before and for Bergara it was his worst nightmare. The second time around it still is his worst nightmare with Madej in the background taunting the spirits.

We see a new side of Madej this first episode. Before, going in he would be a jerk and not believe anything but this time around he is not acting this way. Does he have his moments? Sure, but he is more open to it now

and is hoping to get some form of contact with the paranormal this season.

"I am open. I am receptive," Madej said.

Throughout the episode they do get a few noises and voices. The creepiest one being the knocks and hums they got on their recorder. They also do multiple spirit box sessions, each being different from the last, which was really fun to see.

At one point in the investigation, we see the "ghoul boys" go to the body chute. Which is a long, downward slope and underground corridor where the nurses would have to take the dead bodies, so the other patients don't see them. It is as bone chilling as it sounds, and I give kudos to the nurses who had to walk down that each time a patient passed away.

Toward the end of the episode, we see them do an investigation alone. Madej, cool as ever, was able to go through pretty easily, even though he said the sanatorium was one of the scariest places they ever went to. He hid the walkie talkie for Bergara to find. What they don't notice until they edit the video is the shadow figure behind Madej.

Once Bergara goes in you can feel his fear and later his anger when he could not find the walkie talkie. He eventually finds it and his anger dissipates into fear. Luckily, he gets back to them in one piece, and they end it.

Just from this first episode alone I can tell leaving BuzzFeed was the right choice because they got to have creative liberty to do what they want and make longer episodes.

"Our job as investigators is to collect and present questions, possibilities," Bergara said. "Interpretation, however, solely belongs to you. But for our part, Waverly Hills Sanatorium can now be locked away in the Ghost Files."

Volleyball team improves to 10-4 at home

By Ben Martin
Sports Writer

Despite a couple of weeks stretch where the volleyball team was hit with COVID-19 and injuries, losing seven players, they defeated the University of Bridgeport Purple Knights 3-0 on Tuesday, Sept. 20th.

"It has been a rough week with illness and injury, and they really came together strong tonight to get a good win," Owls' head coach, Lisa Barbaro, said. "So practicing and having everybody there has been kind of tough lately."

The shortage of players affected many aspects of the Owls' preparation going into the game against the Purple Knights, including where players were placed in practices.

"COVID affected everything because we did not have enough

girls for every position," Owls' setter and defensive specialist, Taylor Jones said.

The Owls took the first set 25-22, the second one 25-21 and the third 25-16.

Most of the points came from what proved to be a valuable connection between junior Taylor Jones and outside hitter Gabriela Gaibur senior.

The two connected for 11 points with Gaibur scoring the most out of any Owls player.

"I couldn't have done it without my setter," Gaibur said. "Taylor was having a really good game."

Gaibur added that passes overall were on target and were a big key to the win. Jones agreed with Gaibur saying that the team had a lot of good swing passes. Jones also said that the offense was executed well because of the team's great passing.

Jones had an important

role in the passing attack, playing a point guard-like role ending the night with 34 assists.

The Bridgeport game was Jones' second game of the season with over 30 assists, and fourth game in a row with over 15 assists.

"I'm pretty excited because I have been waiting for that and we all played really well," Jones said.

Juniors Sara Enright and Kacey Deecher both posted double digit figures in kills.

Additionally, freshman Aubrey Villena had 20 digs and Deecher, Enright and Gaibur had over 10 digs.

"I'm really happy with how our offense was executed," Jones said. "I thought we had a lot of really good swings and plays we normally struggle with. We did really well tonight."

Gaibur agreed with Jones, adding that the

team had been executing everything they worked on in practice, and for her that led to a sense of pride.

Defeating the Purple Knights was an important win for the Owls, as their next game starts in conference play.

The next game for the Owls is on the road against fellow Northeast 10 Conference team the Le Moyne College Dolphins.

"We play Le Moyne on Saturday," Gaibur said. "We beat them two weeks ago, so I think if we just play our game and execute how we've been playing, then we will do fine."

The Owls defeated the Dolphins last season. According to Barbaro, the team is starting to come together at the right time

"We haven't gone on the road much this season at all, so it's a challenge, but I feel confident and ready," Coach Barbaro said.



PHOTO | LUKE MOLWITZ

Gabriela Gaibur, raises her hand in excitement during the game.

Jordan Davis sets new record in javelin throw

By Matt Cain
Contributor
Jaylen Carr
Sports Editor

Jordan Davis set a new javelin record while being placed 1st in men's javelin this past spring during the NCCA Division II National Championship in Allendale, Michigan.

Davis is a Wallingford, Connecticut standout athlete that continues to shine on the big stage. This past spring, Jordan became a Division II National Champion for Track and Field.

During nationals back in May 2022, the 5'11 sophomore placed 1st in the men's javelin throw with a result of 72.54 meters which is also a new record.

Davis said he cherished winning the National Championship.

Davis also became the university's first male student-athlete to win an outdoor national title since Dan Bourque in 1998. With this win, Davis helped the university get back to winning an outdoor national championship. Davis said he cherished winning the

National Championship.

"Winning a national championship was something I dreamt about growing up," Davis said.

Davis is no stranger to winning. He came from a winning culture on his high school football team at Mark T. Sheehan High School. Davis also won the Northeast 10 (NE10) outdoor conference championship in 2021 and

2022 here on campus.

During Davis's high school years, he was an All-State selection and Walter Camp first team pick.

Once Davis came to campus his mindset changed from being the top star to being a player on the roster.

"Coming into college was humbling. I went from that guy to just filling in a spot," Davis said.

Davis said he goes day-in and day-out working hard, practicing extra and getting extra reps in. According to Davis, he wants to participate in javelin for Team USA one day.

Davis has made an impact on all the people he has encountered.

One of them is Davis javelin coach, Danial Labba. Labba has put full effort into making him the best athlete.

"He is a silent leader and takes time in his training. I am super proud of what he has done," Labba said.

Davis has significantly impacted both sports he is involved in on campus.

Davis is the university's record holder in javelin and was the Northeast Championship 10 Conference Outdoor Men's

Filed Rookie of the Year in 2021. During his rookie year he won the NE10 Outdoor Field Rookie of the Week twice in 2021.

Davis is not only part of the Track and Field team, but he is also a running back on the football team.

Davis is the second leading rusher on the team with 82 total yards so far this season.

Also, Davis has 89 total scrimmage yards which includes his rushing and receiving yards. As the second string running back Davis gets to see the field.

Offensive coordinator Christopher Bergetski said, "Davis struggled in his first year on the football team because he had a challenging time staying focused."

According to Bergetski, the way he carries himself on the football field is different compared to past years.

Bergetski said that he commends Davis for this play and hard work thus far this football season.

"He is very coachable; he brings energy and knows the playbook. He is always playing and practicing like he has something to prove, that is why he is going to be great," Bergetski said.



PHOTO | SCSU.OWLS.COM

Jordan Davis, a sophomore and dual sport athlete, participating in the javelin throw.

Women's soccer ties for second game in a row

By Ben Martin
Sports Writer

Although they led until the final five minutes of the game, the Owls ended a tough fought game against the Adelphi University Panthers 1-1 on Wednesday.

The Owls played well for most of the game. The ending of the game taught them an important lesson: play hard until the final whistle.

"Don't stop until the end," goalie

Abby Allen graduate student, said. "You have 90 minutes. Play all 90 minutes until the very end and keep pushing," Allen said.

Allen stated that she

believed the whole game was good, but they had to pick it up at the end of the game.

Owls' head coach Adam Cohen saw more lessons to take from the game along with the perseverance and the importance of finishing the game that Allen saw.

"We are going to have to take some of the lessons we learned here attacking and defensively to help us be better for the next game," Cohen said.

They scored a goal and played good defense.

"The players are this competitive, you really want to win and you're winning late in the game, so it's emotional for them right now"

Cohen said. "I think when they get a little bit of time, they catch their breath, they're going to be really proud of their effort. Not just the effort, but the execution in some of the things that we were trying to do."

Owls' Katilyn D'amico senior, midfielder scored her second goal of the season. That goal tied her with forward Kelsey Burr, graduate student and forward Kylee Slavik sophomore for the team led in goals.

D'amico, tapping in that goal, bumped Rosado to second on the Owls with her third assist.

To read more go to the southernnews.com



PHOTO | LUKE MOLWITZ

Student soccer player runs to get the ball with the opposing team.