

‘Pep Rally’ kicks off Homecoming
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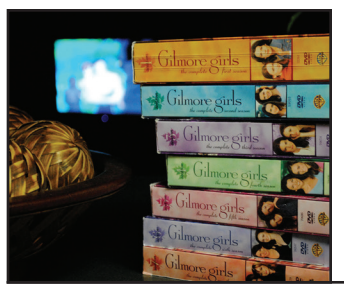

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Southern News

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Owls seize victory from Monroe

By Noah Nunez
General Reporter



PHOTO | WILLIAM GAGNÉ

Defensive line trying to regain possession on Saturday, Oct. 10 on the Jess Dow Field during the Homecoming game against Monroe University.

The Owls stunned and shocked watchers of the football Homecoming game with a last-minute 4th quarter comeback that stole victory from Monroe University’s hands.

The Homecoming game took place on Saturday, Oct. 10 and saw the Owls face off against Monroe in a game that, to Head Coach Joe Loth, was feared going in.

“We know this is a young, talented football team, a lot of good players,” Loth said. “We knew we had to come out and start strong or it was gonna be a ball game. We did not start strong, so it ended up being a ball game.”

The less-than-favorable start Loth is referring to is the score the Owls held by halftime: down by 14 at 14-28.

At that point in the game, running back John Amaning, a graduate, found that the team was stuck dealing with Monroe’s offense that kept them from catching up to their score and tying up the game.

“They want to come out with a lot of effort; they want to show up, so I think they came out here with a lot more effort than we did. It threw the group a little bit, but we came back and beat them,” Amaning said.

This all changed in the second half of the game, when the team got themselves together, tightened up their defense and had the game tied for the majority of the 4th quarter.

This rebooted mindset hit quarterback Brandon Jorgensen, a graduate, who thought that side of the game did not matter and wanted to give everything he and his team had to the second half.

“We came out flat, so that was a big problem we had, but we rebooted in the second half,” Jorgensen said. “We put our energy in the wrong spots, but it doesn’t matter now because we came back in the second half and we won.”

The final touchdown of the game, the one that put the university ahead for the first time in the whole game, was scored by Jorgensen who was extremely proud of not only himself but the effort the team put into getting it done.

“That was awesome to take the lead after being down pretty much the whole game, there’s nothing really like that. I couldn’t get it done without my guys on the frontline, but yeah, that was awesome,” Jorgensen said.

The stress of this being a Homecoming game was not lost on the players as well; it was a blessing but a struggle to see so many people in the stands and have the weight of the event on the players’ shoulders.

“Everyone knew we have a good record of series’ first Homecomings, so guys want to come out here put on our show. It’s a battle that wasn’t easy, but I’m glad we came out with the war,” Loth said.

Overall, the game ended up being a tense but explosive experience in the stands, with viewers celebrating at the last-minute touchdown that ended up being a foul before the real final score that led the Owls to victory.

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PHOTOS | MATEUSZ GAZDZICKI

Running back John Amaning, a graduate, pushing throught Monroe University’s defensive line.



Students, families and alumni packing the stands.



Football players bumping heads after celebratory touchdown.

University unveils tribute to Tim Quill

By Noah Nunez
General Reporter

In remembrance of the late Swimming and Diving Head Coach, Tim Quill, the university unveiled a new sign to be placed under the scoreboard, highlighting his tenure with the Owls.

The event began with the university’s Associate Director of Athletics Ken Sweeten, welcoming those who took the time to show up and remember a coach whose career is impossible to explain in just one three minute speech.

“We’re here to celebrate not only this tremendous occasion but also the career of Tim Quill,” Sweeten said. “Truly a remarkable career, and his legacy has left an indelible mark on Southern Connecticut State University”

Sweeten then introduced the Director of Athletics and Recreation Terrence Jones, to discuss his history and relationship with Quill, reflecting on him now that he is gone.

Jones explained the relationship Quill had with his athletes and the care he put into every single one of them, so they not only had a friendly face greeting them each day but also a kind coach to educate them.

“At the end of the day, every swimmer and diver that was on his team knew that he loved them and that he cared for them and that he really poured into them to see them be good in the pool and in the community,” Jones said.

Looking around the stands and seeing all the athletes that showed up to celebrate the coach, it is clear that the love he had for them carries on even after his passing.

After Jones spoke, university Interim President Sandra Bulmer, went up to the podium to voice what this sign meant for her and the school as a whole.

“Going forward, this scoreboard will not only be a permanent reminder to all of us how much he meant to the swimming and diving teams and to the university. Tim will always be in our hearts, and now he will always have a place on the Southern campus,” Bulmer said.

Following the loss of Quill, his assistant coach, CJ Moran, took over as head coach and has been working with the swimming and diving team since his death.

Moran discussed his history with Quill and just how long he and Quill had been swimming together and what he has learned in that time.

“As an athlete, you sometimes think, ‘why are we doing this?’ But I learned to understand it and appreciate everything he taught me,” Moran said. “He never did anything he didn’t think was in the best interest of a student-athlete, and that’s something I hope to carry on”

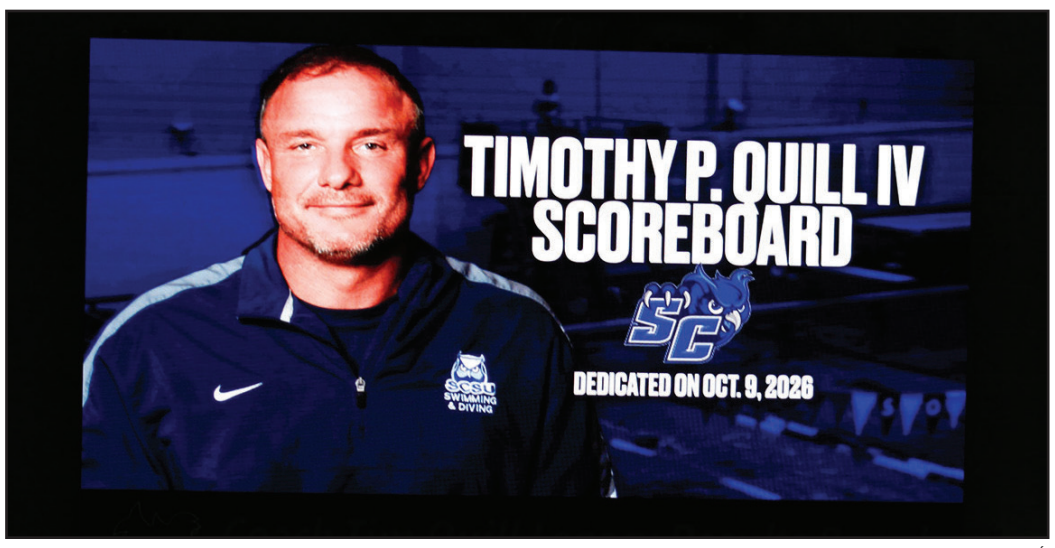

PHOTO | WILLIAM GAGNÉ

New sign in honor of late swim coach Tim Quill in the Hutchinson Natatorium on Friday, Oct. 9.

The event closed off with a letter by Bruce Hutchins, the founder of the university’s swim team in 1960. The letter was read by his daughter, Kim Clark, regarding the validity of Quill from 1999, when he first joined the university.

“He has the credentials, the background, the experience and now he has demonstrated that he can do the job,” the letter said.

From what everyone during the event had said regarding Quill’s time at the university, it is clear he kept those same traits at the forefront of his time with the Owls, and they will continue to live on in all the future athletes.