# Greyhounds stifle Owls' offense on senior day

**By Julian Markese**
**Sports Editor**



PHOTO | JULIAN MARKESE

**Midfielder Abigail Nolan, a senior, with the ball in her stick.**

The lacrosse team lost 12–10 in a tense game on senior day against Assumption University on Saturday, April 11. The eight graduating seniors have won 37 games in their four years, as many as the program had won in its first 15 years.

Assumption came prepared for the Owls' high-powered offense. They slowed the game down and turned it into a defensive stalemate for long stretches. They were physical and fast.

"They out-played us in every phase of the game. You can't win when you're on defense that much," Head Coach Kevin Siedlecki said.

Goalkeeper Caelan Connors, a senior, continued her stellar campaign between the sticks.

After earning some time off during the Owl's' 26–1 victory over American International College, Connors returned to the net against the Greyhounds. She made nine saves on 29 shots for a .429 save percentage.

"Caelan is so consistent. She's the best goalie in the conference," Siedlecki said.

Connors' performance steadied the team. She made the saves she was supposed to and a few that were special.

Despite spending much of the game in their own half, the Owls were able to take their chances on the offensive end and keep the game competitive.

Each time the Greyhounds looked like they were ready to pull away, the Owls clawed back.

Midfielder Abigail Nolan, a senior, was everywhere. She scored three times. One goal to tie the game and two goals that brought the Owls back within one when they desperately needed it.

Attacker Macy Vail, a senior, continued her goal-streak. She has scored in 32 straight games.

She scored once against Assumption, tying the game at three in the second quarter. Vail, clearly a focal point for the Greyhound defense, was swarmed whenever she got the ball.

Midfielder Anna Meserve, a junior, held her own in the draw circle. She was ferocious with the ball on the turf and was a threat to score whenever she carried it.

After a back-and-forth first half, Meserve scored a goal in the third quarter that gave the Owls a 6–5 lead, their only lead save the first five minutes.

The boost of momentum did not last long. Assumption quickly responded. They scored on a penalty shot to tie the game again.

Another penalty on the Owls meant Assumption had the man advantage. Another goal meant momentum was gone.

"Their game plan was to keep it low-scoring," Siedlecki said. "They weren't gonna win that game 16–15."

The Owls came within one goal with two minutes to go when midfielder Allie Welder, a junior, scored her 14th goal of the season to make it 11–10.

Assumption once again spread out and played keep away. They whittled down the game clock to almost nothing, which forced Siedlecki to make the unusual move of pulling Connors out of the net to try to force a change of possession. It was unsuccessful.

Assumption scored again, making the final 12–10.

The team is still in position to make good on the goals they set out for themselves in the before the season.

They will regroup, put Assumption in the rearview before returning to NE10 play on Wednesday, April 15 when they face Bentley University at home.

"Right now, I want to get over it and celebrate the seniors," Siedlecki said.

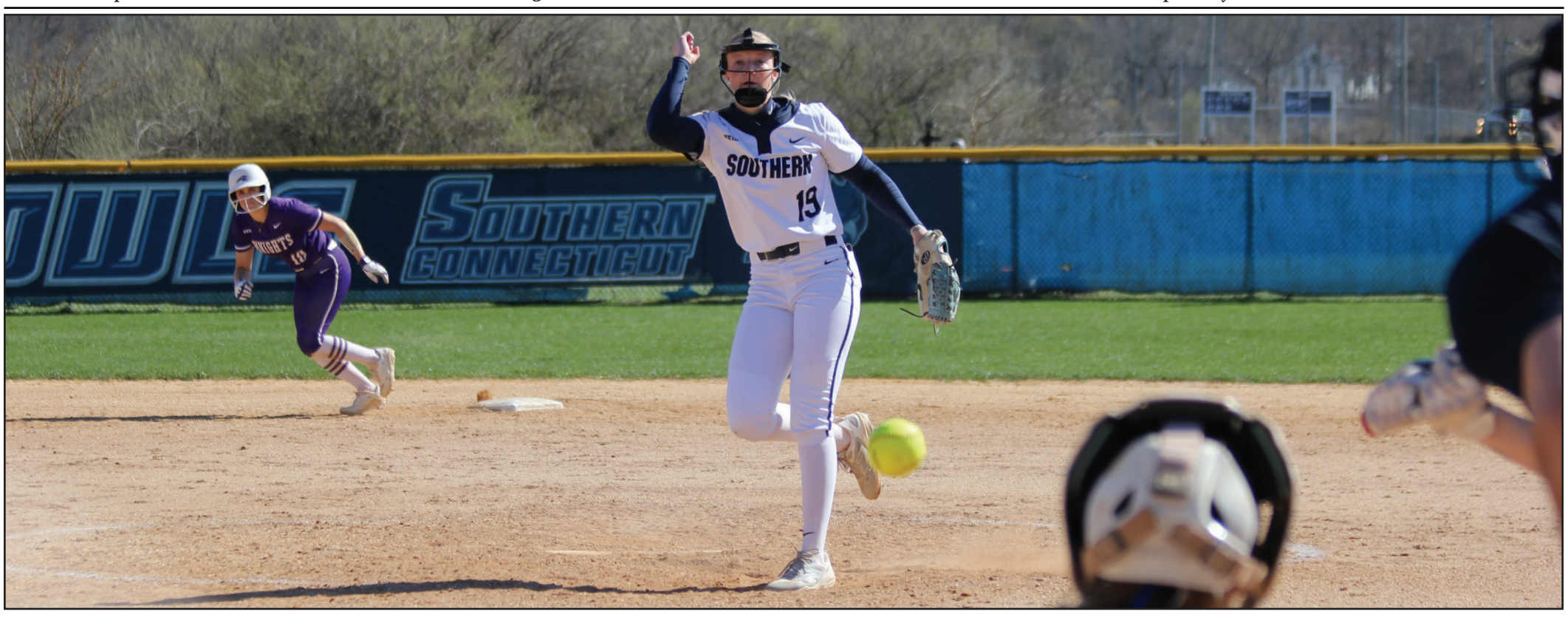

PHOTO | JULIAN MARKESE

**Pitcher Ashley Lewis, a senior, throws a pitch while a runner takes a lead behind her.**

# Owls mercy Saint Michael's College in second game of split double

**By Draven Dabrowski**
**Sports Writer**

The Owls dropped the opener of an NE10 doubleheader to Saint Michael's College, 6–3 after a late seventh-inning rally erased a strong start in the circle.

The Owls responded in the second game with a 10–0 run-rule win in five innings, using a dominant pitching performance and a much-needed offensive breakout to earn the win.

"I think we had a great bounce back from game one to game two," Head Coach Kate Bowen said. "I'm really proud of how we responded."

Picher Ashley Lewis, a senior, delivered a strong performance in the opener, striking out a season-high eight batters while cruising through six innings. She allowed just one unearned run during that stretch, consistently working ahead in counts and keeping hitters off balance.

However, the momentum of being up 3–1 shifted in the seventh inning when Saint Michael's broke through, scoring five runs to take control of the game.

The late rally by the Purple Knights proved to be the difference, as the Owls were unable to recover.

Offensively, the Owls struggled to generate consistent pressure. Despite getting good hits, they were not able to come up with any more runs in the final inning.

The university quickly flipped the script in game two, putting together one of its most complete performances of the season.

Behind a dominant outing from pitcher Giselle DeLutri, a sophomore, the Owls controlled the game from the start.

DeLutri improved to 4–5 on the season after tossing five scoreless innings, allowing just two hits while striking out six.

She set the tone early, attacking hitters and preventing Saint Michael's from finding any rhythm at the plate.

The Owls offense backed her up immediately.

They showed a much more aggressive and confident approach compared to the opener.

The university got going right away in the first inning: a mix of timely hits led to an early 2–0 lead.

The Owls kept the pressure on in the second, taking advantage of Saint Michael's errors before adding more runs with a clutch extra-base hit by right fielder, Cheyenne LaTouche, a sophomore, who recently made the move to right field and has not missed a beat in her new spot.

"She is great. Chey's a great outfielder," Bowen said. "In practice, we always go at different positions, so I wasn't concerned."

The offense broke things open in the third, stringing together hits and capitalizing on another miscue to build a commanding lead.

The game was put out of reach when catcher Sophia Angiolini, a sophomore, launched her first career home run to make it 10–0, a moment she called special.

"It's exciting. It's really exciting when your team is all in for you," Angiolini said.

The breakthrough at the plate highlighted the adjustments the university made between games. They converted on the same chances they had missed in the first game.

The contrast between the two games showed both the challenges and potential of the Owls who demonstrated resilience by responding to a tough loss with a complete performance in the second game.

The Owls will look to build off that momentum as conference play continues.

"This shows great versatility of being able to come back from a loss and being able to constantly pick up the energy. When we're losing or we're down," Delutri said, "we can use that for future games."

# Men win, women finish second at Wilton Wright Invitational

**By Draven Dabrowski**
**Sports Writer**

The university hosted the Wilton Wright Invitational on Friday, April 10 as both the track and field teams competed against other collegiate opponents.

The Owls put together a strong showing in multiple event groups. The men won the invitational, with 279.5 points. The women placed second behind Sacred Heart University, with 165 points.

"The weather is nice. Everyone's out here. It's great to be here," Jalil Peña, a sophomore, said.

Across both meets, the university combined for 37 personal best performances.

Osaretin Osagie, a graduate, won both the 110-meter hurdles and 400-meter hurdles, while Max Musial, a junior, swept the 200-meter and 400-meter events.

The Owls took all five top spots in the 100-meter, with Peña finishing first.

They won both the 4x100 and 4x400 relays. The 4x100 team finished in 41.63 seconds, while the 4x400 group posted a time of 3:22.85.

In the field events, Oliver Guzy, a freshman, took first in the long jump with a mark of 7.22 meters, ranking among the top performers in Division II.

Trevor Dixon, a freshman, won the javelin, while Jayden Brown and Chris Amy, freshmen, each secured victories in the discus and shot put. The Owls continued to rack up points across events.

The women's team matched that success with a strong performance.

Patrice Mansfield, a senior, led the way on the track, winning both the 100-meter hurdles and 400-meter hurdles. Both times were the best in the NE10.

Ella Maclean, a graduate, added another win in the 100-meter dash, while Avery Winters, a senior, claimed first in the 400-meter.

The university's depth showed in the 200-meter, where multiple runners placed inside the top six, including several personal-best performances.

The Owls also found success in the relays, winning both the 4x100 and 4x400 events. The 4x100 team of Mansfield, Maclean, Winters and Amanda Castaldi, a senior, finished in 46.74 seconds while the 4x400 squad crossed in at the 4:08.64 mark.

In the field events, Deja Fitzpatrick-Bell, a sophomore, won the long jump with a personal-best mark that ranks among the top in Division II, while Celine Bozukluian, a senior, recorded a personal-best in the hammer throw to lead the conference.

Bozukluian, who now ranks 36th in Division II in the hammer throw, said the performance is a result of the work she has put in all season.

"I put a lot of work into this, and seeing the results is the best part," Bozukluian said.

Bernardo Mbaya, an assistant coach for the women's team, said Bozukluian's performance was no surprise.

"She's been working really hard, and this is what we expected from her," Mbaya said.