



Sacred Heart University

“Pioneers”

**Basketball Guide
1976 - 77**

SERIES RECORDS

	W	L		W	L
Adelphi	6	0	Middlebury	1	0
Alfred	0	1	Merrimack	8	3
American International	4	1	Morse	2	0
Assumption	0	2	Newark State	1	3
Babson	5	1	New Hampshire College	1	0
Bentley	5	7	New Haven	2	3
Boston State	0	4	New York Tech	1	1
Bowdoin	1	0	Nichols	4	1
Brandeis	1	1	Nyack	3	0
Bridgeport	6	5	Pace	8	2
Brooklyn	6	1	Paterson State	2	0
Bryant	1	4	Pratt	4	0
Cal. State — L.A.	0	1	Queens	4	0
Castleton State	1	0	Quinnipiac	1	4
Catholic Univ.	0	1	St. Anselm's	5	1
CCNY	3	0	St. Francis (Me.)	2	0
Central Conn.	2	4	St. Joseph (Me)	1	0
Clark	2	0	St. Leo's	0	1
Clarkson	1	0	St. Michael's	4	4
C. W. Post	3	4	St. Thomas	1	0
Eastern Conn.	2	0	Scottish National	1	0
East Stroudsburg	1	0	Siena	5	3
F.D.U. (Madison)	0	2	Southampton	0	2
Glassboro State	0	1	Southeastern Mass.	2	2
Glenville State	0	1	Southern Conn.	5	3
Gorden	1	0	Stonehill	7	4
Hartford	1	1	Stony Brook	5	0
Hobart	1	0	Trenton State	2	0
Hofstra	1	4	Trinity	1	0
Hunter	1	2	Tufts	2	3
Husson	1	0	Upsala	1	0
Jersey City	6	2	Wagner	2	0
Johns Hopkins	1	0	Waterbury — UConn	2	0
Kings, N.Y.	2	0	Wesleyan	0	1
Kean	1	0	Westfield State	0	1
King's, P.A.	1	3	Western Conn.	3	0
Kings Point	5	0	Western New England	3	1
Lehman	5	0	Wilkes	1	0
Lock Haven	1	0	Windham	2	0
Lowell Tech	2	0	Yeshiva	4	1
Marietta	0	1			
Marist	9	0			
			TOTALS	191	98

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ARCHITECT OF A TRADITION...DON FEELEY

When J. Donald Feeley was named basketball coach and athletic director at Sacred Heart University in 1965, the school didn't even have a nickname.

Now, 12 years later, the Pioneers have made a name for themselves with a winning basketball tradition. And the credit goes to Feeley.

The pressures of recruiting talented student-athletes for a commuter college in the New York metropolitan area, which has seen a basketball revival of its own in recent years, hasn't prevented Feeley from turning out top-notch quintets.

With an enrollment of less than 1,500 and no dorms, Sacred Heart has virtually defied the odds with its string of 11 straight winning seasons.

Five consecutive post-season tournament appearances, a streak broken with last year's 14-12 campaign, is another of Feeley's note-worthy accomplishments.

A native of Westfield, N.J., Feeley has a veteran team this season to challenge another formidable schedule which includes perennial Regional champion Assumption College of Worcester, Mass. for the first time.

Feeley, who played two years at Panzer College before enrolling at the University of Bridgeport where he was a two-year starter and one of the team's leading scorers, has an 11-year record of 191 wins and 98 losses.

During many seasons the Pioneers lacked depth, but Feeley's coaching expertise pulled them through. His ability to mold young players into a cohesive unit has been demonstrated in recent years.

In 1973-74 he started three freshmen and despite nine one-point outings SHU finished with a 13-12 record, before splitting two games in the ECAC tournament at Glassboro, N.J. State College.

The following season, 1974-75, three freshmen and three sophomores divided most of the playing

time as Sacred Heart compiled a 20-8 record and gained its third NCAA New England Regional tournament berth.

Injuries to key personnel depleted the ranks last year to dim the high pre-season expectations.

From November til March Feeley is constantly on the go and this has rubbed off on his players' style of play. A firm believer in running basketball, Feeley's clubs have always ranked near the top in Division II scoring.

Last year's team averaged 88.5 points-per-game, the second highest total in New England and 12th nationally.

Feeley's run-and-gun philosophy is attractive to many scholastic cagers and is one reason why SHU has landed some outstanding players. In the last five years two Pioneer players have gained first team All-American acclaim, Ed Czernota (1971-72) and Ray Vyzas (1972-73).

Feeley was named "Coach of the Year" in District I in 1971-72 by the National Association of Basketball Coaches following a 24-4 season. It was the second time in his coaching career that he had received such an honor. The other time, 1964-65, was during his final year in the scholastic scene at Fairfield's Andrew Warde High School, leading them to a 21-2 record and the semi-finals of the state tournament.

Having built Sacred Heart's basketball program into one of the most formidable in the East, Feeley is working even harder these days to maintain that lofty perch.

DICK PERCUDANI

Sacred Heart was fortunate when Dick Percudani ended his short retirement from basketball.

The multi-talented former Georgetown University cager is in his initial term as SHU's associate coach and basketball consultant.

Percudani has the midas touch and has always been associated with winning basketball programs.



Actively involved in European Basketball circles, the 41-year-old Fairfield, Conn. resident is this country's premier consultant for overseas recruiting.

Responsible for coordinating the Pioneers' scouting and recruiting duties, in addition to his coaching tasks, Percudani is back on the college scene after four highly-successful seasons as head coach at Darien High School.

His Blue Wave cagers made it to their league (FCIAC) playoffs for the first time ever last year and split two outings in the Class "L" tournament to finish at 12-7. Percudani retired at the end of the season.

A teacher in the Darien, Conn. school system, Percudani was the chief assistant at Fairfield University for two years before switching to the scholastic ranks. He helped recruit many of the players on the Stags' first NIT team and led the freshmen to a two-year record of 25-8.

Before coaching at Fairfield, Percudani served as Jack Donoghue's assistant at Power Memorial High School between 1957-64 when Lew Alcindor sparked the school to a 71-game winning streak.

Percudani, a former scholastic star at Power, also coached winning programs at Port Jefferson High school on Long Island two years, capturing the Suffolk County title, and one year at St. Raymond's in the City.

Between 1966-68 he piloted the Milan team to the Italian professional league crown, receiving Coach of the Year laurels.

PETER DiORIO

Peter DiOrio wears many hats at Sacred Heart University, but the one he's most noted for is baseball.

Not one to sit around and wait for things to happen, the third-year Pioneer mentor believes in making them happen.



The school's head athletic trainer and business manager of all Pioneer athletic programs, not only surprised athletic director J. Donald Feeley but the entire New England-New York Region last Spring.

Taking over a losing baseball program in 1975, DiOrio took the SHU diamondmen from "also-rans" to champions in one year.

Relying upon primarily freshmen and sophomores DiOrio's combine put together a 10-game winning streak at the end of the 1976 season to garner the school's initial berth in the NCAA Division II New England-New York Regional tournament.

With an 18-5 regular season record the Pioneers proceeded to defeat LeMoyné (11-3 in 10 innings), C.W. Post (3-2) and top-seeded pre-tourney favorite University of New Haven

twice (4-2 and 8-6) to win the Regional championship and earn a berth in the College Division World Series at Springfield, Ill.

The cinderella Pioneers lost a heart-breaker to Southeast Missouri, 4-3, before bowing to eventual champion Cal-Poly at Pomona, 12-1, to finish with a 22-7 record. Sacred Heart finished eighth in the final baseball poll, another first under DiOrio.

Runner-up for Regional Coach of the Year honors, DiOrio came to Sacred Heart after eight years at Fairfield University, serving as assistant baseball coach and head athletic trainer.

An outstanding scholastic star in both football and baseball at LaSalle Academy in Providence, R.I., DiOrio's experience and knowledge has proven invaluable to the Pioneers' athletic program.

SACRED HEART UNIVERSITY VARSITY BASKETBALL ROSTER 1976-1977

NUMERICAL

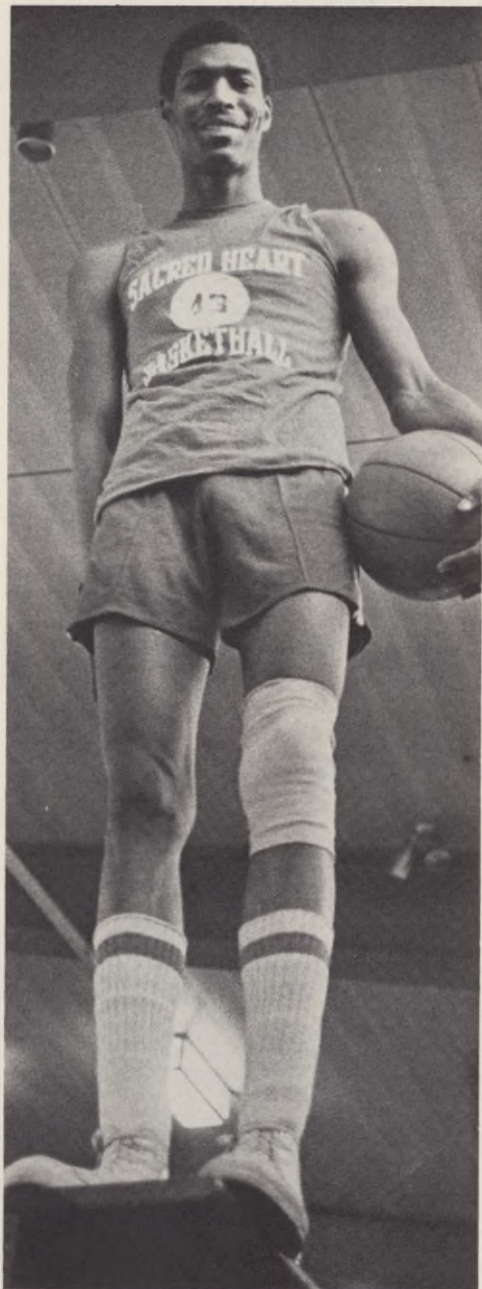
Player	Numbers		Hgt.	W'gt.	Year	Age	High School	Hometown
	H-A	Pos.						
Tony Trimboli	10-11	G	5-11	175	Senior	21	Norwalk	Norwalk, Conn.
Greg Pritchett	12-25	G	6-3	155	Fresh.	18	Brien McMahon	Norwalk, Conn.
Carl Winfree	14-15	G	6-2	170	Senior	21	DeWitt Clinton	Bronx, N.Y.
Hector Olivencia	20-21	F	6-3	195	Junior	20	DeWitt Clinton	Bronx, N.Y.
Bernie Packo	22-5	G	6-0	160	Fresh.	18	Kolbe	Bridgeport, Conn.
Chris Ogiste	32-33	F	6-4	175	Junior	20	Our Saviour	Bronx, N.Y.
Julian Tindall	34-35	F	6-5	195	Senior	22	Jamaica	Jamaica, N.Y.
Augie Brozek	40-13	F	6-2	180	Fresh.	18	Amity	Woodbridge, Conn.
Harry Bridgeforth	42-43	G	5-11	180	Soph.	20	Norwalk	Norwalk, Conn.
Andre Means	44-45	C	6-9	190	Junior	21	Wagner	Staten Island, N.Y.
Kevin Nocchioli	50-51	F	6-3	195	Fresh.	18	Notre Dame	Bridgeport, Conn.
Joe DePasqua	52-41	C	6-7	200	Junior	20	Seymour	Seymour, Conn.
Bob Jenkins	54-55	F	6-3	185	Senior	21	Central	Bridgeport, Conn.

Head Coach: J. Donald Feeley
Associate Coach: Dick Percudani
Trainer: Pete DiOrto

Sports Information Director: Robert F. Baird, Jr.
Manager: Bob Medlock

OUTLOOK

SIX-FOOT-NINE ANDRE MEANS



**"SACRED HEART'S
MEANS TO AN END?"**

Sacred Heart University basketball coach J. Donald Feeley is the eternal optimist. Without saying, it goes with the job.

While he has an inward feeling of confidence about the 1976-77 season, he doesn't want to convey those thoughts. Not yet, anyway.

After last year's 14-12 injury-plagued campaign, he's learned to expect the unexpected. A wait-and-see posture suits his style.

When asked in a pre-season interview for his prediction on the Pioneer campaign, Feeley replied, "if I could predict the future, I'd be at Bridgeport Jai Alai right now."

The Pioneers play a 27-game schedule and Feeley expects to win them all. Realistically he knows the odds of accomplishing that are similar to hitting a trifecta on your first bet.

But his cagers should win plenty of games.

Supporting that claim is the return of the top six scorers from last year, a touted 6-9 transfer, a promising freshman and the return of a player from the injured ranks.

Four-years starters 6-2 Carl Winfree (16.8) and 5-11 Tony Trimboli (20.1) form a high-scoring backcourt which has accounted for nearly 3,200 career points. Junior Hector Olivencia (22.0), a 6-3 forward, will try to improve upon his outstanding sophomore campaign.

The forward position is well fortified with 6-4 junior Christ Ogiste (7.6 ppg.), the team's rebounding leader with 10.7 a game, 6-3 senior Bob Jenkins (9.7 ppg.) and 6-5 Julian Tindall (6.2 ppg.).

Even though Sacred Heart averaged 88.5 points-per-game to rank second in New England and 12th nationally in Division II, it gave away almost as many.

Feeley thinks he's solved the defensive problems with the arrival of 6-foot-9 junior center Andre Means.

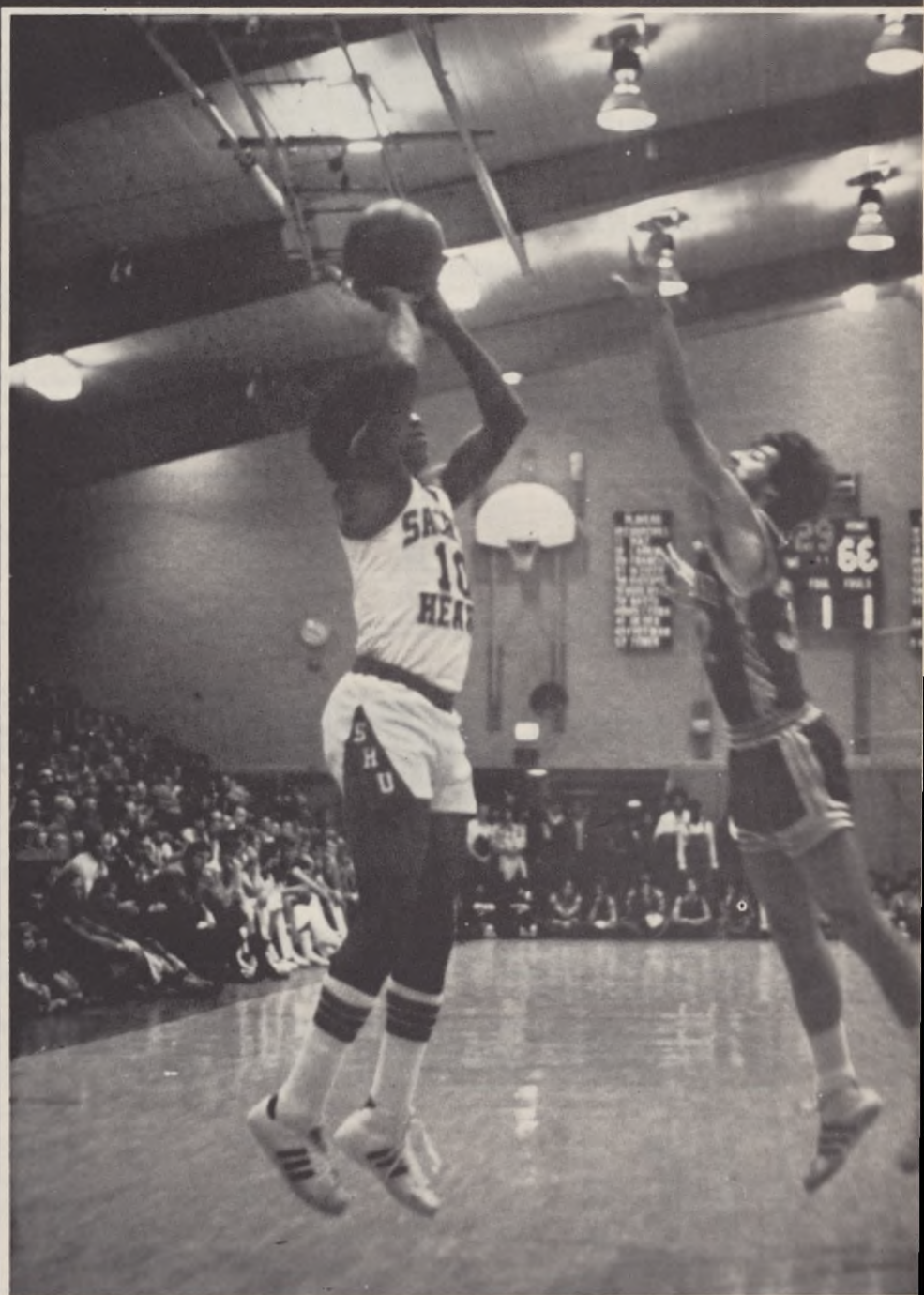
Already being compared with ex-SHU All-American Ed Czernota, Means has an uncanny scoring touch from the outside, but is noted for his shot-blocking and rebounding.

A member of Utah's 1974 National Invitation Tournament championship team before transferring to Sacred Heart, Means gives SHU a dimension it lacked last year—a mobile big man.

Add to this cast 6-3 freshman Greg Pritchett, a two-time All-State cager from Brien McMahon high school in Norwalk, Conn., second only to Calvin Murphy in Norwalk city career scoring, and the return of 6-7 soph Joe DePasqua, who played only three games last year before a series of eye operations sent him to the sidelines, and Feeley has the makings of an outstanding team.

If the multi-talented Pioneers put it all together, Feeley may start making predictions, along with post-season reservations.

PIONEER PROFILES



WINFREE CONNECTS FOR A BUCKET VS. BRIDGEPORT

CARL WINFREE

6-foot-2
170 Pounds
Senior
Guard
Bronx, N.Y.



Carl Winfree is beginning his fourth season as a starting guard for Sacred Heart . . . Enters final term with 1,540 career points, ranking sixth on school's all-time scoring list . . . Has a 20.0 point-per-game average, third best in record book . . . Injuries plagued his performance last season as he slumped to 16.8 ppg. after leading club his first two years with marks of 21.1 and 21.4, respectively . . .

Former DeWitt Clinton high school star led team in scoring eight times last year with high of 51 in double-overtime loss to St. Michael's in SHU Holiday Classic . . . Had 29 vs. St. Mike's in re-match won by Pioneers . . . Pumped in 29 against Merrimack in finals of Merrimack Holiday tourney to gain MVP laurels. He also added eight rebounds and 10 assists in that 103-82 win . . . Marked third consecutive tourney he received MVP acclaim . . .

Selected ECAC Division II "Player of Week" for effort vs. Merrimack and named to ECAC weekly all-star team three times . . . Led SHU with 115 assists and third in rebounding . . . Excellent moves and unstoppable in one-on-one to the hoop . . . Second team All-New England pick . . .

SEASON	G	FG	FT	PTS.	AVG
1973-74	27	247	76	570	21.1
1974-75	28	251	98	600	21.4
1975-76	22	149	72	370	16.8
TOTALS	77	647	246	1,540	20.0

TONY TRIMBOLI

5-foot-11
175 Pounds
Senior
Guard
Norwalk, Conn.



In three years of varsity basketball Tony Trimboli has never missed a game at Sacred Heart . . . A picture of determination and hustle, Trimboli ranks as one of the region's deadliest shooters from the 20-25 foot range . . . Despite playing with a painful back injury most of last season the sparkplug guard finished strong with a 20.1 scoring average, second highest on the team.

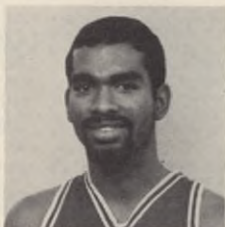
Chosen as the ECAC "Rookie of the Year" in Division II as a freshman, Trimboli hasn't slowed down his offensive pace as he now totals 1,619 points, fifth highest in Pioneer annals . . . His career average is 19.9 . . . Last year's average was a shade below his 20.2 clip in 1974-75 and ranked seventh in New England circles.

While hitting 47 per cent of his field goal tries, Trimboli led team in scoring 10 times with high of 32 vs. Adelphi and 29 vs. Southern Connecticut . . . Named to weekly ECAC team twice last year . . . Selected to all-tourney team in SHU Holiday Classic . . . Exceptional foul shooter with career percentage over 81 . . . Former All-State cager at Norwalk High School . . .

SEASON	G	FG	FT	PTS.	AVG.
1973-74	27	218	94	530	19.6
1974-75	28	220	126	566	20.2
1975-76	26	205	113	523	20.1
TOTALS	81	643	333	1,619	19.9

HECTOR OLIVENCIA

6-foot-3
195 Pounds
Junior
Forward
Bronx, N.Y.



Hector Olivencia did it all for the Pioneers last season . . . Even though he missed four games with injuries, the sharp-shooting forward led Sacred Heart in most statistical categories . . . His 22.0 scoring mark was tops on the team which averaged 88.5 ppg . . . That figure ranked fourth in New England and 37th nationally in Division II.

Former DeWitt Clinton standout, who played center in high school, had the single game high of 40 losing cause to St. Anselm's . . . Tallied 36 vs. A.I.C., 32 vs. Adelphi and 31 vs. Wagner . . . Led team in field goal percentage, hitting 194 of 347 attempts for a .559 mark, the seventh best in the region . . .

Displays an uncanny outside touch and gets good position under the hoop . . . Pulled down 175 rebounds for an 8.3 average . . . Had 14 caroms vs. Pace and 12 vs. St. Mike's in Holiday Classic . . . Selected to all-tourney teams in Merrimack and Holiday Classic . . . Three-time ECAC weekly selection . . . Second team All-New England . . . Honorable Mention Associated Press All-America.

SEASON	G	FG	FT	PTS.	AVG
1974-75	28	221	44	486	17.4
1975-76	21	194	74	462	22.0
TOTALS	49	415	118	948	19.3

CHRIS OGIESTE

6-foot-4
175 Pounds
Junior
Forward
Bronx, N.Y.



Unheralded member of Sacred Heart varsity the past two years is Chris Ogiste . . . He doesn't score many points, but is capable of the big night . . . His contribution to the Pioneers is rebounding and defense . . . Ogiste was a forward on the 1974-75 team which gained an NCAA tourney berth, but played center last year.

The former Our Saviour scholastic cager will move back to forward this season with 6-9 Andre Means in the middle . . . Last year Chris pulled down 278 rebounds for SHU, an average of 10.7 per game . . . In two years he's grabbed 484 missed shots . . . His total last year was sixth best in New England.

Exhibiting tremendous leaping ability, Ogiste also added 7.6 points per game . . . Two-year scoring total is 483 . . . Named to ECAC weekly team for his 11 point, 16 rebound effort vs. Clark and 14 point, 17 rebound mark against Trenton State . . . 18 points against C.W. Post was a career high while he also had 15 vs. Pace, 14 vs. Tufts and 13 vs. Bentley and Central Connecticut.

SEASON	G	FG	FT	PTS.	AVG.
1974-75	28	85	70	240	8.6
1975-76	26	72	54	198	7.6
TOTALS	54	157	124	438	8.1

JULIAN TINDALL

6-foot-4
195 Pounds
Senior
Forward
Jamaica, N.Y.



This is the fourth varsity campaign for forward Julian Tindall . . . 6-foot-4 senior cager was a starter for most of the 1975-76 season, aiding Pioneers with his defensive play . . . Highly-touted scholastic player at Jamaica High School, N.Y. has been plagued by injuries throughout his SHU career.

Playing only six games in 1972-73 season, Tindall enjoyed an outstanding sophomore campaign, coming

through with a 10.7 scoring mark and near the top in team rebounding . . . However, he missed 1974-75 season with knee surgery . . . Made outstanding comeback last year to average 6.2 points and 4.4 rebounds . . .

Came on strong second half of the season . . . Top point production was 19-point effort against Merrimack . . . Also scored 18 against St. Joseph and 14 against C.W. Post and Bridgeport . . . Grabbed nine rebounds against UB . . . Finished with a .491 percentage from floor, third best among regulars . . . Expected to play key role coming off bench . . . Excellent leaping ability and can handle the ball.

Season	G	FG	FT	PTS.	AVG.
1972-73	6	12	4	28	4.5
1973-74	26	128	22	278	10.7
1975-76	23	61	21	143	6.2
TOTALS	55	201	47	449	8.1

BOB JENKINS

6-foot-3
185 Pounds
Senior
Forward
Bridgeport, Conn.



When it comes to intensity on the court, you won't find anyone with more desire and determination than Bob Jenkins . . . Senior forward enters second year of varsity basketball at Sacred Heart after brilliant junior college career at Housatonic Community College in Bridgeport, Conn. . . .

Even though he's only 6-foot-3, Jenkins plays as though he was 6-6 . . . Really gets off the floor and

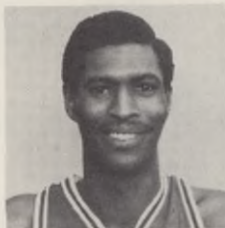
manages to get fine positioning for rebounds . . . After early season injury slowed him down, the ex-Bridgeport Central scholastic star came on strong and finished with 9.7 scoring average . . . Double-figure scorer throughout last half of season . . . High games of 24 against Merrimack (second game) and Central Connecticut . . . Played key role in Merrimack Holiday tourney win with 22-point effort and strong rebounding . . . Had 20 against Wagner, 18 vs. Eastern Connecticut and 16 vs. Bridgeport . . .

Shot .563 (98-for-174) from field to lead starters and pulled down 104 rebounds . . . At Central High Jenkins, a 1,000-point career scorer, gained All-MBIAC first team acclaim twice . . . Led Housatonic to NJCAA Region 21 title and berth in national JUCO tourney in Hutchinson, Kansas. . .

SEASON	G	FG	FT	PTS.	AVG.
1975-76	24	98	37	233	9.7

ANDRE MEANS

6-foot-9
190 Pounds
Junior
Center
Staten Island, N.Y.



Andre Means hasn't even played a game for Sacred Heart University, but already is being touted as the best big man to ever don a Pioneer uniform . . . 6-foot-9 junior transfer sat out last season, but is anxious to get back into action . . .

After SHU suffered in the rebounding and defensive departments last year, coach Don Feeley sees Means rectifying that this season . . . While Means is an accomp-

lished shot blocker, he has uncanny marksmanship from outside and is likened to ex-Pioneer All-America Ed Czernota in terms of shooting prowess . . .

Means played two years of scholastic basketball at Wagner High School, Staten Island, leading his team to 18-1 record his senior year. He finished with 15.2 ppg. and 13.2 rebound mark and averaged six rejects a game . . . 170 colleges were interested in talented big-man who gained All-Daily News, New York Post and All-City acclaim, as well as being an honorable mention All-America . . .

Narrowing college choices to Maryland, Providence and Utah, Means chose the latter and played a vital role for Bill Foster's combine which captured NIT championship 1973-74. Andre averaged 9.5 points for Utah, but left school at end of season . . . Andre was ready to call it quits before coach Feeley convinced him to attend Sacred Heart last fall. Pioneer fans will be happy he changed his mind.

GREG PRITCHETT

6-foot-3
155 Pounds
Freshman
Guard
Norwalk, Conn.



Greg Pritchett comes to Sacred Heart University after a star-studded three-year varsity career at Brien McMahon High School, Norwalk, Conn . . . 6-foot-3 guard has an excellent outside jumper and strong moves to the hoop . . . Nicknamed "Silk" by his teammates . . .

Expected to see considerable action for Pioneers as first guard off the bench . . . While at McMahon Pritchett helped coach Ralph King's

Senators post records of 22-3, 16-5 and 21-3 and garner three straight CIAC Class "LL" tournament berths . . .

Averaging 17.3 points-per-game last season, Pritchett gained All-State first team laurels in addition to being named to all-city, all-league and first team Daily News . . . Greg finished his career with 912 points, second best in school's history . . . McMahon compiled a 41-4 league record the past three season.

JOE DePASQUA

6-foot-7
200 Pounds
Junior
Center
Seymour, Conn.



School All-Stater got the okay to resume practice and was ready to play in the 9th annual SHU Holiday Classic . . . That was it for his sophomore season, three games, as he scored 30 points and grabbed 16 rebounds . . . Immediately following the Classic he was back in the hospital and undergoing three additional operations . . .

But when pre-season practice rolled around this year DePasqua was back in action and pronounced fit to play . . . He'll give coach Don Feeley added rebounding punch up front . . . As a frosh DePasqua averaged 5.6 points and five rebounds . . . In his three-year scholastic career "Big Joe" was a 1,000-point scorer and rebounder in leading the Wildcats to three state tourney berths.

Season	G	FG	FT	PTS.	AVG.
1974-75.....	28	70	16	156	5.6
1975-76.....	3	12	6	30	10.0
TOTALS.....	31	82	22	186	6.0

At this time last year it was believed that Joe DePasqua's basketball career had come to an end . . . After starting as a freshman in 1974-75, helping the Pioneers gain their third NCAA New England regional tournament berth, the 6-foot-7 DePasqua underwent two pre-season eye operations . . .

His status was listed as "extremely doubtful" for last season, but miraculously the former Seymour High

WARREN GARY

6-foot-7
210 Pounds
Junior
Center
Queens, N.Y.



This is Warren Gary's third varsity season at Sacred Heart and everyone at SHU is waiting for the talented center to play up to his potential . . . The 6-foot-7, 210-pounder came to SHU after a fine scholastic career at Francis Lewis in New York . . .

During his freshman campaign, 1974-75, Gary played in 26 games, but saw only spot action . . . His best outing was against Pace in a

79-74 overtime win. Gary's four-foot bank shot beat the buzzer and sent the contest into the extra session . . .

A southpaw shooter, Gary has a soft and accurate touch from 15-20 foot range and has improved his rebounding game . . . Appearing in 16 games for 14-12 Pioneers last year, he scored 51 points for a 3.1 average . . . Won't be eligible until Holiday Classic.

Season	G	FG	FT	PTS.	AVG.
1974-75.....	26	23	5	51	1.9
1975-76.....	16	19	13	51	3.1
TOTALS.....	42	42	18	102	2.4



VARSITY BASKETBALL TEAM—Members of the 1976-77 Sacred Heart University varsity basketball team are, left to right, first row—Carl Winfree, Bernie Packo, Greg Pritchett, Harry Bridgeforth and Tony Trimboli; second row—Augie Brozek, Hector Olivencia, Julian Tindall, Chris Ogiste and Kevin Noccioli; and third row—Warren Gary, Bob Jenkins, Andre Means and Joe DePasqua.

GAME-BY-GAME RESULTS

Score

106 Pace 68
 76 New Haven 82
 72 Quinnipiac 86
 73 American International 94
 *92 St. Joseph (Me.) 84
 *103 Merrimack 82
 # 98 Clark 75
 # 73 Trenton State 67
 # 97 St. Michael's 104 (2 OT)
 103 Adelphi 98 (OT)
 99 C.W. Post 88
 96 Stony Brook 70
 79 Bentley 104
 70 Tufts 78
 91 Merrimack 102
 94 Marist 93 (OT)
 82 Eastern Conn. 71
 93 Stonehill 76
 83 St. Michael's 72
 101 Southern Conn. 115
 73 Jersey City St. 88
 94 St. Anselm's 102
 85 Wagner 81
 89 New Hampshire 81
 84 Bridgeport 89
 95 Central Conn. 97

*—Merrimack Christmas Tournament
 #—Sacred Heart Holiday Classic

Top Scorer

Olivencia 24
 Olivencia 24
 Winfree 22
 Olivencia 36
 Olivencia 24
 Winfree 29
 Trimboli 22
 Olivencia 14, Ogiste 14
 Winfree 31
 Olivencia 32, Trimboli 32
 Trimboli 23
 Winfree 19, Trimboli 19
 Winfree 16, Trimboli 16
 Trimboli 17
 Trimboli 25
 Trimboli 28
 Winfree 20
 Winfree 24
 Winfree 29
 Trimboli 29
 Olivencia 23
 Olivencia 40
 Olivencia 31
 Trimboli 24
 Olivencia 21
 Trimboli 27

Top Rebounder

Olivencia 14
 Ogiste 9
 Ogiste 13
 Ogiste 11
 Ogiste 12
 Ogiste 13
 Ogiste 16
 Ogiste 17
 Olivencia 12
 Conte 12
 Ogiste 15
 Ogiste 12
 Ogiste 16
 Ogiste 13
 Winfree 9
 Ogiste 13
 Ogiste 12
 Olivencia 8
 Ogiste 13
 Olivencia 9
 Olivencia 9, Jenkins 9
 Ogiste 5
 Tindall 11
 Olivencia 8, Ogiste 8
 Tindall 9, Ogiste 9
 Ogiste 13

HOLIDAY CLASSIC

The tenth annual Sacred Heart University Holiday Classic basketball tournament has a distinct "nutmeg" taste to it. Six of the eight teams hail from Connecticut.

Joining host Sacred Heart, which has won four Classic crowns, are arch-rival University of Bridgeport; Western Connecticut State College of Danbury; Southern Connecticut State College of New Haven; the University of New Haven; Quinnipiac College of Hamden; Tufts University of Medford, Mass.; and St. Anselm's College of Manchester, N.H.

With the exception of newcomers Western Connecticut and St. Anselm's the other teams are no strangers to Classic action.

All games will be played at the SHU gymnasium with opening round action set for Jan. 2. The prestigious event, which has attracted 53 different schools since its inception as a four-team tourney in 1967, continues through Jan. 4.

The Classic was founded and nurtured by J. Donald Feeley, Sacred Heart's basketball coach and athletic director, and is sponsored by the Pioneer Club, the school's booster organization. Thomas Brown is president of the Club.

Sacred Heart won the 1967 crown, beating Bentley, 80-79, in the finals. SHU also won in 1968 and 1970 with victories over Stony Brook by scores of 53-51 and 84-75, respectively. In 1974 the Pioneers erased a 17-point second half deficit to defeat Bridgeport, 85-75, in the title game.

Southern Connecticut won the 1969 event, downing SHU (82-74) for the crown, while Tufts took 1972 laurels with a 96-86 victory over the Pioneers.

Quinnipiac garnered consolation laurels in 1974 while New Haven was a first round loser last year.

In last year's Classic, St. Michael's captured its second title in as many tries with a thrilling 104-97 double-overtime triumph over Sacred Heart. The Purple Knights also won in 1973, besting Worcester Poly, 103-86.

A.I.C. defeated Trenton State, 71-67, for consolation honors last year.

Opening round pairings (Jan. 2) are: Quinnipiac vs. Tufts and Bridgeport vs. New Haven in the afternoon twin-bill and St. Anselm's vs. Southern Connecticut and Sacred Heart vs. Western Connecticut in the evening doubleheader.



Holiday Classic All-Tourney Team—Raymond T. Bogert, president of Citizen's National Bank of Fairfield, which sponsored the most valuable players' award, makes presentation to St. Michael's John Balzuc. Selected to the All-Classic first team were, left to right, Ken Johnson of St. Michael's, Balzuc, Carl Winfree of Sacred Heart and Tony Trimboli of Sacred Heart. Norman Dorsey of American International College was the other first team pick.

1975-76 HIGHLIGHTS

It was March 2, 1976, a time usually reserved for thinking about post-season tournament strategy. But that was not the case for Sacred Heart University's basketball team or its coach, J. Donald Feeley.

The Pioneers had just lost a squeaker to Central Connecticut, 97-95, on a last second basket to bring down the curtain on the 1975-76 season.

Loosening his tie and reclining in his office chair, Feeley slowly began to unwind from a nightmarish season. He muttered, "it was the season which could have been."

That was the last time he thought about what could have been, immediately turning his attention to the future, the 1976-77 campaign which was a mere nine months away.

A combination of many factors and a number of fine teams had taken the starch out of the Pioneer's pre-season expectations of another successful season. While wins and losses usually measure a team's overall success, a 14-12 final record would qualify under that criteria. However, by Feeley's standards it didn't.

Lacking a bonafide center at the season's start was a harbinger of things to come. A series of untimely injuries to key personnel did little to augment the Pioneers' chances of gaining a sixth consecutive post-season tournament invite.

Following a 20-8 NCAA New England Regional tournament season in 1974-75, soph center Ed Irwin didn't return to school. Feeley's problems up front were compounded when 6-7 soph Joe DePasqua underwent pre-season eye surgery and wasn't expected to be back.

DePasqua did return, however, but his campaign was curtailed to three games in the SHU Holiday Classic before three additional operations sidelined him for the balance.

Junior guard Carl Winfree, a 21.3 career scorer in two previous seasons, was hobbled by a nagging leg injury which eventually kept him out of action four games. He managed a sub-par 16.8 average.

Sophomore Hector Olivencia, a 6-3 swingman, was Mr. Consistency for the Pioneers, leading the team with a 22.0 average, .559 field goal percentage and placing second with over eight rebounds a game. But he too was sidelined five games with an assortment of ailments.

Tony Trimboli, Winfree's backcourt mate for three years, experienced back problems but didn't miss a game. Trimboli finished strong to post a 20.1 average, but was below his usual field goal accuracy.

Starting with a 106-68 victory over Pace, the Pioneers ran into New Haven (76-82), Quinnipiac (72-86) and American International (73-94) and were off to an unfamiliar 1-3 start.

Faced with early ouster from any post-season plans, Feeley's troops regrouped and played their finest basketball in winning the Merrimack Holiday tournament with victories over St. Joseph (92-84) of Maine and highly-regarded Merrimack (103-82).

Winfree was brilliant in the championship outing, scoring 29 points, grabbing eight rebounds and dishing out ten assists to cop MVP laurels while Olivencia added 20 points and was named to the All-Tournament team.

Victories over Clark (98-75) and Trenton State (73-67) improved the record to 5-3 and sent the Pioneers into the finals of their Classic against a rejuvenated St. Michael's team.

After missing a chance to win in regulation and valiantly battling back to tie the score in the first overtime, the Pioneers bowed, 104-97, in the second extra session. Had SHU prevailed it may have turned the season around, but as things turned out the Pioneers were barely able to play over .500 rest of the way.

Three straight losses, on the road at Bentley (79-104) and Tufts (70-78) and home against Merrimack (91-102), brought the record to 8-7 before a four-game win streak generated new hope. In that span Winfree and Trimboli directed the Pioneers to wins over Marist, Eastern Connecticut, Stonehill and St. Michael's.

But losses to Southern Connecticut, Jersey City State and St. Anselm's quickly dashed those hopes. Only Olivencia's uncanny marksmanship from the field kept the home fans excited.

Victories over Wagner and New Hampshire sent the Pioneers into their annual clash with Bridgeport, last year's NCAA New England Regional champs. Despite staying close most of the game a late Purple Knight burst paved the way for an 89-84 victory.

In the finale against Central Connecticut the Pioneers played with desire but without Winfree and Olivencia.

The long and futile season was over.

As the hour grew late, Feeley sprang to his feet, tossed on his trench coat and slipped into the dark of night. But not without saying, "wait until next year."

1975-76 VARSITY BASKETBALL STATISTICS—26 GAMES

<i>Player</i>	<i>G</i>	<i>FGA-FGM</i>	<i>PCT.</i>	<i>FTA-FTM</i>	<i>PCT.</i>	<i>REB-AVG.</i>	<i>ASST.</i>	<i>PTS.</i>	<i>AVG.</i>
Carl Winfree	22	149-321	.464	72-113	.637	109-4.9	115	370	16.81
Tony Trimboli	26	205-435	.471	113-148	.763	73-2.8	94	523	20.11
Hector Olivencia	21	194-347	.559	74-91	.813	175-8.3	40	462	22.00
Chris Ogiste	26	72-206	.349	54-92	.586	278-10.7	30	198	7.61
Warren Gary	16	19-51	.372	13-18	.722	47-2.9	1	51	3.18
Bob Jenkins	24	98-174	.563	37-59	.627	104-4.3	14	233	9.70
Julian Tindall	23	61-124	.491	21-39	.538	102-4.4	11	143	6.21
Gerry Mikalauskas	19	53-103	.514	29-45	.644	39-2.1	8	135	7.10
Steve Conte	22	35-88	.397	19-28	.678	105-4.7	2	89	4.04
Tom Lynch	10	9-19	.473	14-17	.823	20-2.0	0	32	3.20
Joe Jacone	16	10-16	.625	11-18	.611	10-1.6	40	31	1.93
Joe DePasqua	3	12-17	.705	6-8	.750	16-5.3	0	30	10.00
Tim Horan	6	2-6	.333	0-0	.000	3-0.6	1	4	0.66
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SACRED HEART		919-1907	.481	463-676	.684	1081-41.5	357	2301	88.50
OPPONENTS		950-1916	.495	345-517	.667	929-35.7	349	2245	86.34

GAME-BY-GAME SCORING

*Carl Winfree	13	16	22	5	13	29	14	13	31	15	17	20	24	29	17	7	—	—	8	—	370
*Tony Trimboli	20	11	19	8	7	20	22	12	21	32	23	16	19	25	29	18	26	19	24	20	523
*Hector Olivencia	24	24	8	36	24	20	17	14	22	32	21	—	23	18	17	23	40	31	20	21	462
*Chris Ogiste	15	10	5	4	10	3	11	14	7	8	18	10	4	2	0	2	4	5	5	5	198
*Warren Gary	10	0	8	4	1	—	—	—	—	0	4	2	—	—	4	0	0	—	—	—	51
*Bob Jenkins	6	2	8	5	5	22	8	6	0	0	—	—	6	2	12	7	2	20	14	16	233
*Julian Tindall	4	3	—	—	18	9	0	2	5	4	14	7	6	4	0	0	2	8	12	14	143
Gerry Mikalauskas	2	6	—	0	4	—	7	2	—	—	—	10	4	8	11	12	6	—	16	2	135
Steve Conte	10	4	2	9	4	—	—	1	2	12	2	4	0	2	2	6	4	6	—	4	89
Tom Lynch	2	—	—	—	6	—	5	—	—	0	—	—	4	4	6	—	—	—	—	—	32
Joe Jacone	0	—	0	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	5	0	2	0	6	0	0	0	—	31
Tim Horan	0	—	—	—	—	—	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0	—	—	—	—	4
*Joe DePasquia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12	9	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	30
TOTALS	106	76	72	73	92	103	98	73	97	103	99	82	93	83	101	73	94	85	89	84	95
OPPONENTS	68	82	86	94	84	82	75	67	104	98	88	70	104	79	115	88	102	81	79	89	97

* Returning This Season

SACRED HEART HONOR ROLL

In its relatively short history, Sacred Heart University basketball players have received numerous post-season awards. The most prestigious were the All-America selections of 6-9 center Ed Czernota and 6-5 forward Ray Vyzas.

Czernota (1969-72) was first team All-America by the National Association of Basketball Coaches, United Press International and Converse and second team Associated Press in 1971-72. He was a two-time ECAC Division II, UPI All-New England, NABC District I and North-East League selection as well as being chosen "Player of the Year" by all those groups in 1971-72. The New Haven Tap-Off Club named Czernota its "Player of the Year" two straight years. He was the first Pioneer drafted by the pros, picked by the Buffalo Braves (NBA) on sixth round and New York Nets (ABA) on ninth.

Vyzas (1969-73) was first team UPI All-America, while being named on the second team by NABC, AP and Converse. He received first team UPI All-New England, NABC District I and ECAC Division II acclaim his senior year, while garnering the New Haven Tap-Off Club honor as well. Ray performed in the Eastern Basketball League in 1974-75 with the Garden State Colonials.

Sacred Heart career scoring leader Rich Pucciarello was the first Pioneer to gain post-season laurels, being named to the UPI All-New England team in 1969 and 1970. Danny Haines joined Czernota on the ECAC Division II team in 1971. SHU senior guards Tony Trimboli and Carl Winfree have notched many post-season honors. Trimboli was named the ECAC "Rookie of the Year" in Division II during the 1973-74 campaign while Winfree was selected as the Tap-Off Club's "College Division Player of the Year" during 1974-75. Both players were second team UPI All-New England picks as sophomores.

Hector Olivencia, a junior on this year's team, enjoyed an outstanding sophomore campaign and garnered second team All-New England laurels in addition to receiving AP honorable mention All-America acclaim.

1,000 POINT CLUB

<i>Player</i>	<i>Years</i>	<i>Games</i>	<i>FG</i>	<i>FT</i>	<i>Pts.</i>	<i>Avg.</i>
Rich Pucciarello	1966-70	103	880	452	2,212	21.5
Ed Czernota	1969-72	84	855	365	2,075	24.7
Ray Vyzas	1969-73	93	706	396	1,808	19.4
Dan Haines	1967-71	104	592	465	1,649	15.8
Tony Trimboli	1973-	81	643	333	1,619	19.9
Carl Winfree	1973-	77	647	246	1,540	20.0
Jim Collins	1965-69	96	596	250	1,442	15.1
Bob Gers	1968-72	90	474	458	1,406	15.6

1,000 REBOUND CLUB

<i>Player</i>	<i>Years</i>	<i>Games</i>	<i>Rebounds</i>	<i>Avg.</i>
Ed Czernota	1969-72	84	1,317	15.7
Jim Collins	1965-69	96	1,313	13.7
Ray Vyzas	1969-73	93	1,199	12.9

YEAR BY YEAR RECORDS

<i>Season</i>			<i>Captains</i>	<i>Coach</i>
1965-66	13	8	Dave Riehl	J. Donald Feeley
1966-67	12	12	Pete Jankovsky	J. Donald Feeley
1967-68	16	11	Jim Collins	J. Donald Feeley
1968-69	16	8	Jim Collins Jake Moore	J. Donald Feeley
1969-70	23	5	Rich Pucciarello Bruce Bernhard	J. Donald Feeley
1970-71	22	6	Dan Haines	J. Donald Feeley
1971-72	24	4	Ed Czernota Bob Gers	J. Donald Feeley
1972-73	17	11	Ray Vyzas	J. Donald Feeley
1973-74	14	13	Mark Walsh Kevin Castora	J. Donald Feeley
1974-75	20	8	Mark Walsh Carl Winfree	J. Donald Feeley
1975-76	14	12	Carl Winfree Tony Trimboli	J. Donald Feeley

TEAM RECORDS

MOST POINTS

Season	2,763	(1969-70)
Game	139	vs. Morse College (1966)

MOST FIELD GOALS

Season	1,070	(1969-70)
Game	68	vs. Morse College (1966)

MOST FREE THROWS

Season	644	(1971-72)
Game	41	Brooklyn (1971)

MOST VICTORIES

Season	24	(1971-72)
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MOST LOSSES

Season	13	(1973-74)
Best Won-Lost Pct.	.833	(1971-72) (24-4)
Consecutive Wins	12	(1970-71)
Highest Scoring Average	98.7	(1969-70)

INDIVIDUAL RECORDS

MOST POINTS

Game	Ray Vyzas	50	vs. Brandeis (1972)
Season	Ed Czernota	902	(1971-72)
Career	Rich Pucciarello	2,212	(1966-70)

HIGHEST SCORING AVERAGE

Season	Ed Czernota	32.2	(1971-72)
Career	Ed Czernota	24.7	(1969-72)

MOST FIELD GOALS

Game	Ray Vyzas	21	vs. Brandeis (1972)
Season	Ed Czernota	363	(1971-72)
Career	Rich Pucciarello	880	(1966-70)

MOST FREE THROWS

Game	Ed Czernota	17	vs. St. Anselm's (1972)
Season	Ed Czernota	176	(1971-72)
Career	Dan Haines	465	(1967-71)

MOST REBOUNDS

Game	Ed Czernota	29	vs. Tufts (1972)
Season	Ed Czernota	502	(1971-72)
Career	Ed Czernota	1,317	(1969-72)

MOST ASSISTS

Game	Bill Burke	19	vs. St. Michael's (1972)
Season	Bob Gers	200	(1970-71)
Career	Bob Gers	520	(1968-72)
Highest Field Goal Pct.	Ray Vyzas	.624	(301-482) (1972-73)
Highest Free Throw Pct.	Paul Jakusik	.935	(30- 32) (1972-73)

SACRED HEART UNIVERSITY

VARSITY BASKETBALL SCHEDULE 1976-1977

Date	Opponent	Site	Time
<i>DECEMBER</i>			
1	Pace University	New York, N.Y.	8:00 p.m.
3,4	Colonial Lions Classic	Southampton, N.Y.	
	Sacred Heart vs. C.W. Post		7:00 p.m.
	Southampton vs. King's, PA.		9:00 p.m.
7	Quinnipiac College	Bridgeport, Conn.	7:30 p.m.
9	Tufts University	Bridgeport, Conn.	7:30 p.m.
11	American International	Bridgeport, Conn.	7:30 p.m.
14	University of New Haven	New Haven, Conn.	8:00 p.m.
<i>JANUARY</i>			
2,3,4	Sacred Heart Holiday Classic	Bridgeport, Conn.	
	Tufts vs. Quinnipiac		2:00 p.m.
	Bridgeport vs. New Haven		4:00 p.m.
	Southern Connecticut vs. St. Anselm's		7:00 p.m.
	Sacred Heart vs. Western Connecticut		9:00 p.m.
8	Adelphi University	Garden City, N.Y.	8:15 p.m.
10	Assumption College	Worcester, Mass.	8:00 p.m.
13	C.W. Post College	Bridgeport, Conn.	7:30 p.m.
15	New Hampshire College	Bridgeport, Conn.	7:30 p.m.
19	Bentley College	Bridgeport, Conn.	7:30 p.m.
22	Trenton State College	Trenton, N.J.	3:00 p.m.
26	Marist College	Bridgeport, Conn.	7:30 p.m.
29	St. Michael's College	Winooski, Vt.	7:30 p.m.
<i>FEBRUARY</i>			
2	Southern Connecticut	Bridgeport, Conn.	7:30 p.m.
5	Eastern Connecticut	Willimantic, Conn.	8:00 p.m.
7	New York Tech	Old Westbury, N.Y.	8:00 p.m.
12	Central Connecticut	New Britain, Conn.	8:00 p.m.
14	Jersey City State	Bridgeport, Conn.	7:30 p.m.
18	St. Anselm's College	Manchester, N.H.	8:00 p.m.
19	Merrimack College	North Andover, Mass.	8:00 p.m.
22	Stonhill College	Easton, Mass.	8:00 p.m.
26	University of Bridgeport	Bridgeport, Conn.	8:00 p.m.