BREAKING NEW GROUND
William Pitt’s record $3 million gift

Ryan-Matura Library Goes High-tech
The Institute for Religious Education and Pastoral Studies has enriched the lives of more than 7,000 people, the laity and religious alike, since its formation at Sacred Heart University five years ago. Its multitude of programs throughout the state have opened up new vistas for priests, nuns, deacons, youth ministers and others.

On March 19, many of those “alumni” were included among the capacity crowd of 200 in the Academic Center’s Mahogany Room to celebrate REAPS’ fifth anniversary.

“As I look back over the last five years, I’m awestruck at the accomplishments REAPS has made,” says Rev. Msgr. Gregory M. Smith, Ed.D., the Institute’s founding director. “No amount of vision, strategic planning or managerial skills could have made REAPS survive and bear fruit. Rather, it was the will of God and the continuous movement of the Spirit that sustained our journey. God wants people to be served and benefited. We in our own way have become agents of the Spirit, helping one another get to heaven. This dinner was a celebration of that fact.”

The scheduled honoree and keynote speaker, Cardinal Godfried Danneels, Archbishop of Mechelen-Brussels, was unable to attend because of open heart surgery. But Elinor R. Ford, Ed.D., international religious consultant and former publisher at William H. Sadlier, Inc., proved a willing and articulate substitute.

Other speakers were University President Anthony J. Cernera, Ph.D., and the Most Rev. Edward M. Egan, J.C.D., Bishop of the Diocese of Bridgeport. Hope Elliott Carter served as dinner chairperson.
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The $18 million William H. Pitt Health and Recreation Center, scheduled for completion in fall 1997, is the largest and most expensive project in University history. Not only that, Mr. Pitt’s $3 million gift established a new level for generosity.

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Nobody anticipated the first 20-victory season for women’s basketball. But it happened because of a fast-paced, three-point-oriented style of play and the region’s coach of the year.

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Rabbi Joseph Ehrenkranz, co-founder and administrative director of the University’s Center for Christian-Jewish Understanding, returned from the Middle East with a feeling of hope.

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An international management course in Hungary can be as enriching for the instructor as it is for the students, as Rawlin “Pete” Fairbaugh, Ed.D., associate professor of management, discovered this spring.

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IBC IN MEMORIAM
The growing season

For everything there is a season, and a time for every activity under heaven.
Ecclesiastes 3:1

Just as nature is welcoming this spring season of new growth, Sacred Heart University is welcoming the many activities that signal long-awaited growth on our main campus.

Three construction projects have already started. Leading the way is the University’s new health and recreation center. After years of planning, we broke ground for this $18 million building on April 24th. It is the largest and most expensive project in University history. More important, this state-of-the-art, multipurpose facility will allow us to integrate our academic and non-academic components. Its classrooms, training rooms and offices will house our athletic department and our programs in physical therapy, occupational therapy and sports medicine. Its athletic and recreational character will provide much-needed facilities and space for our intercollegiate and intramural programs. This building embodies our holistic approach to education and I expect it to become a “center” for the University.

Making the health and recreation center a reality have been the gifts and donations made to the University over the past several years by our many friends and alumni. But it was two very special gifts that helped us achieve the level of funding needed to break ground. The first was a $3 million gift from William H. Pitt, a prominent and respected Stamford realtor and businessman. Mr. Pitt’s generosity and concern for the region’s young people is well known and much admired. His gift was the largest in University history, and in recognition of this, we will name the health and recreation center in his honor.

The second gift was a $1 million donation made possible by Robert J. Matura, who, as you probably know, serves as chairman of the Board of Trustees’ executive committee. His gift was made possible by the Directors’ Giving Program of Fleet Financial Group, Inc. Bob is a director of the Boston-based financial institution. Both Bob and Joel Alvord, Fleet chairman, jointly presented the gift to the University. This is the second major gift Bob has given the University. In 1993, Matura and his wife, Bernadette, contributed an endowed gift of $1 million to the University library. The gift was given in memory of the Maturas’ parents—Robert Joseph and Mary Frances Comerford Matura, and John Aloysius and Mabel Black Ryan. The library was named the Ryan-Matura Library in their honor.

Another important construction project will expand the University’s bookstore to meet the growing needs of our students. The second floor of this two-story expansion also will provide office space for our faculty. Construction has already started on the new wing, which will abut the existing bookstore and double existing space. Those of you who have visited or used the bookstore in recent years recognize that this is a necessary and timely undertaking. Yet another significant project will further expand the University’s kitchen, once again to meet the needs of our growing residential student population.

More changes and improvements to University facilities can be expected in the future. The Board of Trustees is now revising and updating the University’s Master Plan, and once that is completed, we will have a blueprint to guide our future development.

The seeds for our current success were sown back in 1988 when the University set a goal to be among the best Catholic universities in New England. Now, I am proud to share with our alumni and friends that we are on the verge of enjoying the fruits of our long labor.

Anthony J. Cernera, Ph.D.
President
It wasn’t the cover, but ...

Sacred Heart University’s remarkable growth since the dawn of the 1990s was chronicled by Sports Illustrated, the internationally acclaimed magazine with a weekly circulation exceeding five million.

In its April 22 issue, the Time, Inc. publication devoted a portion of its Scorecard section to the University, under the heading, “Addition Is a Plus.”

Wrote Jack McCallum: “... what the Pioneers have achieved lately is as significant as any bowl victory or Final Four appearance. In an era when school administrators are most interested in subtraction, Sacred Heart has in the past six years added 21 intercollegiate sports, including football, men’s and women’s hockey and men’s and women’s tennis, to increase its total to 29.”

McCallum credits President Anthony J. Cernera, Ph.D., with having “seized upon” intercollegiate sports as an instrument to both increase enrollment and transform the institution from a commuter into a residential school. “The strategy,” he writes, “has worked.”

SI cited the University’s 51 percent growth in enrollment, from 1,411 full-time undergraduates in 1990 to today’s 2,129, with about 60 percent living in campus housing. While the athletic budget has increased from $245,000 to approximately $1.2 million over the same period, the rise in cost has been more than offset by the enrollment increase, according to Cernera.

“The next time an administrator is facing hard times,” the feature concludes, “we suggest he put down the scalpel and pick up the telephone. Anthony Cernera will be happy to talk to him.”

Originally, the magazine intended to write about Franklin Pierce College’s similar growth plans for athletics, but its athletic director, Bruce Kirsh, deferred, indicating there was a better story at Sacred Heart. “They’re the model for us,” Kirsh said.

Thank you, Bruce. Thank you, SI.

Who’s Who on campus, 1995 - 96

Twenty-five Sacred Heart University students have been inducted into Who’s Who in American Universities and Colleges for 1995-96. They join an elite group of outstanding national leaders selected from more than 1,800 institutions of higher learning in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and several foreign countries. Selection is based on academic achievement, service to the community, leadership in extracurricular activities and potential for continued success.

Selections to the prestigious annual directory were:

Seniors Derek Banga of Fairfield; Matthew Browning of Stratford; Joanne Coffey of Derry, N.H.; Shelley Donovan of Pittsburgh, Mass.; Karlene Douglas of Bridgeport; Evonne Juliano of Ludlow, Mass.; Claudine Lapierre of Hebron; MaryAnn Matato of Naugatuck; Jonathan McCarthy of Huntington Station, N.Y.; Tracey McIlvill of Smithtown, N.Y.; Ruwani Perera of Nugegoda, Sri Lanka; Caridad Rivera of New Haven; Michael Schmitt of Broad Channel, N.Y.; and Valerie Vancza of Easton.

Juniors Christy Ashley of Carteret, N.J.; Laura Baldino of Branford; John Bender of Belle Harbor, N.Y.; Annette Bosley of Beacon Falls; Tricia DeNitto of Bridgeport; Carrie Flanagan of Rocky Hill; Tooch Hang of Bridgeport; Kristen Lalla of White Plains, N.Y.; Joseph Peddle of Fairfield; and Anthony Todt of Uncasville.

Etc.

Don Cook, director of athletics, was elected to the National Collegiate Athletic Conference Council this winter at the NCAA Convention in Dallas. Cook will represent Region I on the Council, which establishes and directs general policy for the national governing body.

Sophia Gevas, director of The Gallery of Contemporary Art, served as the juror for the Burr Homestead Art Exhibition, sponsored by the Junior League of Fairfield County, this spring.

Barry Herman, Ph.D., assistant professor of education, wrote an op-ed column advocating “A Speak No Evil Day” in the April 2 edition of the New Haven Register.

William B. Kennedy, vice president for public affairs, was elected to a two-year term on the Connecticut Humanities Council. Kennedy has been affiliated with the University, as administrator and faculty member, since 1967.

Judith Lynch, assistant professor of nursing, presented two papers in April at the national meeting of the National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties in Boston. They were entitled, “Using Film Analysis as a Teaching Tool for Graduate Nurse Practitioner Students” and “Integrating Physical Assessment and Pathophysiology in a Graduate Nurse Practitioner Program.”

Susan Mangiero, assistant professor of finance, earned a Certificate of Achievement on completion of the Chartered Financial Analyst’s Continuing Education program.

Linda Strong, Ed.D., a nursing instructor, successively defended her doctoral dissertation at Teachers College, Columbia University on April 10.
Religion's relevance

Rev. Raimundo Panikkar, author, lecturer and religious studies professor, brought his rich background to campus in February to deliver the ninth annual Walter W. Curtis lecture, “Christianity and the World Religions.” Nobody could have done it better. The son of a Hindu Indian father and Roman Catholic Spanish mother, Panikkar holds doctorates in science, philosophy and theology, is the author of more than 40 books and 400 scholarly articles, and has lectured widely throughout Europe and India.

Harnett named provost

David A. Harnett, Ph.D., has been appointed provost and vice president for academic affairs at Sacred Heart University, effective July 1.

He will succeed Thomas J. Trebon, Ph.D., who left last year to become vice president for academic affairs and dean of the college at St. Norbert (Wis.) College. Edward W. Malin, Ph.D., chair of the Faculty of Social and Behavioral Sciences, has been serving as acting provost and vice president.

“Dr. Harnett has a strong commitment to academic excellence,” said President Anthony J. Cernera, Ph.D., noting that the selection was made by a search committee of staff, faculty, students and trustees. More than 80 candidates applied for the position, 20 were strongly considered and 11 interviewed. Harnett was one of two finalists. Harnett comes to Sacred Heart from Rosemont (Pa.) College, where he has been academic dean and a tenured professor of history since 1992. Earlier, he was dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and a tenured professor of European history at the University of San Francisco. He was also vice president and academic dean and professor of history at Bradford (Mass.) College and a founding dean of Nova College/The Center for Undergraduate Studies and professor of the social sciences at Nova University in Florida.

Harnett holds a master's degree in European and Middle Eastern history and a doctorate in modern European social/intellectual history, both from Harvard University. He earned a bachelor's degree in philosophy and history at Georgetown University.

At Harvard, he served as dean of advanced standing and director of special academic programs, secretary of the committee on the Houses and Undergraduate Life, and head tutor on The Standing Committee on Special Concentrations. He was a member of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences. R.W.
One debate team member was detained in Ireland nearly a week with a visa problem. Another never arrived because he was unable to obtain a passport. Despite these and lesser travails, the University’s entry distinguished itself in the 26th World Debating Championships, held in County Cork during the Christmas break.

“My partner and I did get to kiss the Blarney Stone,” smiles team captain Jennifer Ciano, a senior from Billerica, Mass., who is studying to become a paralegal. “But we did it after the majority of our debating was over. We didn’t think we needed the help.”

One hundred teams, representing 30 nations, were entered in the week-long competition, which was conducted in an international, or Oxford, style. It’s a rigorous test that forces competitors to think on their feet. Four teams go head-to-head in each debate, with two two-member teams taking the “government” side and two presenting the “opposition.” Teams are given just 10 minutes to prepare arguments on unfamiliar topics and then are paired just before the debate.

Ciano was teamed with Joshua Cole, a sophomore from Red Hook, N.Y. Joseph Downer, a senior from Norwalk majoring in political science, was paired with Darshan Toolsidass, a junior from Bombay, India, who lives in Bridgeport.

“We came close to making the quarterfinals,” says Downer. “Basically, it comes down to how well-read the individual is.”

Downer had planned to serve as an adjudicator — judging rounds — for the Sacred Heart teams, but found himself substituting for Nathan Prusi, a sophomore from Plainfield, when the latter was unable to secure a passport because of the U.S. government shutdown.

Toolsidass, an Indian citizen, was affected by the budget wrangling in Congress in another way: The closing of the U.S. Consulate offices prevented the computer science major from getting his student visa stamped and joining his teammates on the flight home. He was stranded in the Emerald Isle for nearly a week.

To help speed Toolsidass’ return home, the debate team’s coach, Katherine Kidd, Ph.D., enlisted help from the offices of Connecticut’s U.S. Sen. Christopher Dodd and U.S. Rep. Christopher Shays. Several calls and faxes across the Atlantic later, Toolsidass was prepared to purchase a plane ticket home, only to discover the Blizzard of ’96 had closed the New York airports. He finally arrived home in Bridgeport on Jan. 11, saying, “It’s not nice to have a forced vacation, but despite everything, it was a good time.”

Summed up Ciano: “Debating against some of the best teams in the world brings us to a whole new level of confidence. It’s something you take home with you and use in life.”

Don Harrison

O’Connell to keep us safe

William O’Connell, former director of campus safety at Colgate University, was named director of public safety in February, after a nationwide search. “I’m excited to join an institution that is on the rise and growing. I wanted to be part of that,” he says. O’Connell, who holds a B.S. in criminal justice and a master’s degree in public administration from Northeastern University, has 17 years experience in public safety. Prior to Colgate, he was director of campus safety at Bradford (Mass.) College and director of public safety at Endicott College in Beverly, Mass. He also worked as director of security at Allston Brighton Aid and Health Group in Boston and as a patrol supervisor and police officer at Northeastern.

One key to a safe campus, O’Connell says, “is the visibility of the officers and taking a very pro-active approach.”

Don Harrison

Sacred Heart University Magazine • Spring 1996
For a group of 12 Sacred Heart University students, faculty and staff, the March spring break trip to El Salvador was akin to taking a giant leap back in time. They spent nine days in Tierra Blanca, a remote San Salvador countryside village where there is no indoor plumbing or running water, little electricity and virtually no contact with the outside world. There, they repaired damaged and clogged salt patios called "salineras," which villagers rely on to extract salt from ocean water.

The trip, led by Maria-Teresa Torreira, Ph.D., professor of modern languages, marked the University's first Service-Learning project in a foreign country. Service-Learning is a program that incorporates 10 to 20 hours of related community service within a class curriculum.

"It was an absolutely amazing experience, something I won't ever forget," recalls 21-year-old Greg Botello of Canterbury, a senior majoring in global studies. "Going there has changed my life." He was moved by the fact that though devastatingly poor, the people had a strong sense of family and community and even seemed happy with their lives.

"It was incredible how despite losing everything in the war and having no real material things, the people are so close and supportive of each other and are genuinely hopeful and happy," Botello says. "And they were willing to give us anything they had to make our stay more comfortable."

That wasn't easy. Students and faculty lived like the villagers, in a small cement building without running water. There were no shower facilities; a primitive outhouse — without even a door — served as the sole bathroom.

"At first it was pretty tough because as Americans we're accustomed to having certain things, but after awhile you just get used to it and realize that this is the way most of the world really lives," says junior Shelley Lyford, a global studies major from Chelsea, Vt., who spent the fall semester with host families in El Salvador, Guatemala and Nicaragua. "You can't help but be inspired by the people. They've been through a devastating war, and still they stand strong and hopeful."

The trip's powerful impact hit Heather Young after she returned home. "I work at the Stamford Mall, and after being in such impoverished surroundings, it was hard to get used to all the lights, and the cars and the material things we have," says the 24-year-old history major.

Young, too, was struck by the people's strength and determination. "They are poor, they are hungry, but they have a really great spirit that keeps them going. They have a sense of community that is striking and wonderful, something I will never forget."

Matthew Browning, a 28-year-old nursing student from Stratford, was encouraged by the efforts being made at local clinics to upgrade healthcare and stress prevention, and at least care for basic health problems. "It was nice to see that some community health measures were being taken," says Browning, who helped raise $500 in medical supplies for the village.

Phyllis Machledt, coordinator of the University's Service-Learning program, considered the group's El Salvador stay a valuable lesson. "We learned what it's like to be in a country torn apart by a bitter war, we learned about the role the United States played in that war, but most of all we learned about the courage and dignity of the people and how they endure, despite everything," she says.

For one student, the spring trip represented an opportunity to return home. Edith Castro, a freshman communications major who grew up in San Salvador, said the conditions were as she expected.

"The civil war destroyed everything and most of the people have absolutely nothing," says Castro, who now lives in Bridgeport. "I'm glad I was able to go back there to reach out and help the people of my homeland. It was a very emotional experience."
Volunteerism has its rewards

Sacred Heart University was a multiple winner in the 1996 Higher Education Community Service Awards held April 18 at the State Capitol in Hartford.

Members of the Delta Phi Kappa sorority were presented a Community Service Award for completing more than 600 hours of volunteer work as Girl Scout leaders and tutors in inner-city Bridgeport. Sophomore Colleen McGrath and junior Britta Bengtson received President’s Youth Service Awards, McGrath for leading a Girl Scout troop at Wilbur Cross School in Bridgeport and Bengtson for volunteer projects at Big Brothers/Big Sisters and the Jewish Home for the Elderly. English professor Ralph Corrigan, Ph.D., was given a special award for his work with Habitat for Humanity and other volunteer efforts.

This was the fourth year of the Department of Higher Education’s Community Service Fellowship Program, a state initiative to coordinate and promote volunteerism by college students. © D.H.

To be or not to be Division I? That is the question

Should Sacred Heart University elevate its intercollegiate athletic program to Division I status? A six-month feasibility study, scheduled for completion in late summer, will help determine whether such a change is advantageous.

“The primary reason for undertaking the self-study is to assess whether competition at the Division I level fits in with the continuing implementation of our Strategic Plan and will assist the University in fulfilling its mission as one of the leading Catholic universities in New England,” said President Anthony J. Cernera, Ph.D.

The study is being directed by James Barquinero, vice president for enrollment planning and student affairs, and Director of Athletics Don Cook. Assisting in the process are several internal committees as well as an external 14-member Division I Feasibility Study Committee composed of prominent athletic and business figures.

Christopher McLeod, executive vice president of CUC International, Inc., and a University trustee, is chairing the external group. Other members are: William Bayno ’85, head basketball coach, University of Nevada-Las Vegas; George Bisacca, attorney and athletic director emeritus, Fairfield University; Larry Bossidy Sr., chairman and chief executive, AlliedSignal, Inc.; David Checketts, president and CEO, Madison Square Garden; Frank Deford, author and commentator; Jack Kaiser, athletic director emeritus, St. John’s University; Jerry Kingston, Ph.D., professor of economics, Arizona State University, and chair of the NCAA Academic Requirements Committee; and Richard Lapchick, Ph.D., director of the Center for the Study of Sports in Society, Northeastern University. Other University trustees on the committee are: Patrick Carolan, M.D., William J. Conaty, William Roberti ’69, Robert Scinto ’71 and Paul Timpanelli ’69.

Since the University’s founding in 1963, its athletic teams have competed at the NCAA Division II level. © D.H.

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In November, expectations were comparatively modest. Perhaps a .500 season, perhaps not. As the snows of February began to subside, no women's team in the New England Collegiate Conference was playing better basketball than Sacred Heart University.

In the span of one season, how did the Lady Pioneers transform themselves from conference also-rans into a 20-7 team capable of challenging — and defeating — most of the region's traditional powers? Into a team that produced a 16-4 record within the conference, just one game behind champion Bridgeport?

Into a team that produced a 16-4 record within the conference, just one game behind champion Bridgeport?

"The team's coach, Ed Swanson '89, offered one answer: "The players came back and they created good chemistry. Coaches don't create chemistry. Players do."

Coaches create good coaching, though. For leading Sacred Heart to its finest record in 20 seasons of intercollegiate competition, Swanson was voted Coach of the Year by his peers — both in District I and in the NECC.

The 1995-96 squad was unrivaled for its ability to sustain a fast-paced game for 40 minutes and for its 171 three-pointers — a Sacred Heart record and the most by any NECC team in eight years. They ran and they pressed and they won. Defensively, the Lady Pioneers utilized their tenacity to lead the conference in fewest points allowed per game (61) and in field goal percentage defense (36).

"We understood the team philosophy this year," says senior tri-captain Kim McCullion (Nashua, N.H.), who was a freshman forward on the fine 1992-93 team. "If you looked at the conference standings, we didn't have the leading scorer or the top rebounder. But on a given night, anyone was capable of having a big game."

Sure enough, both current guards, sophomore Chrissie Perkins (Waterford) and junior tri-captain Beth Huber (Southington), as well as sophomore forward Maureen Delaney (Portland, Me.) were capable of generating 20 points on a single evening. Perkins followed up on her NECC Rookie-of-the-Year performance by increasing her scoring average to an even 15 per game, highest on the team. For the second year, she was rewarded with a spot on the conference's all-star second team.

Delaney, whose marksmanship established Sacred Heart three-point records for a season (63) and game (6 vs. Albany on Feb. 10), was next with a 12.6 average. The diminutive Huber, hustle personified, supplied 10.2 points and 139 assists — the second-highest total in the program's history. The two centers, 6-foot-3 senior tri-captain Denise Schatz (Rego Park, N.Y.) and 6-foot freshman Angela Perkins (Londonderry, N.H.), combined to average 16 points and 10 rebounds a game.

In rebounding, any member of the starting five (save for the 5-3 Huber) was apt to be the pacesetter — unless Angela Perkins came off the bench to lead. McCullion, who, now it can be told, stands nearly two inches shorter than her roster height of 5-9, led a balanced group of rebounders with 6.4 per game.

"She was the heart and soul of the team," Swanson says of McCullion. "She wanted to win more than anything. We'll have a lot of trouble replacing her next year."

Almost to a player, none of the Lady Pioneers foresaw the accomplishments of this past winter. Indeed, after successive 12-15 and 11-16 seasons, anything above the .500 mark would have been welcomed. "Honestly," says Delaney, "I thought we would barely make it over .500."

Says Chrissie Perkins: "I knew that Angela Perkins and Jessica Bresnahan..."
(Nashua, N.H.) were great freshmen. But I didn’t think they’d come in so soon and do what they did. I saw us finishing a little over .500.”

Two games — one a defeat — prior to the Christmas break provided signs that the 1995-96 squad was headed for the heights. On Nov. 26, Sacred Heart constructed a startling 20-point lead against St. Anselm, one of the region’s premier programs, en route to a decisive 69-59 victory. The previous year, St. Anselm overwhelmed the Lady Pioneers by 51 points.

Three weeks later, Sacred Heart led Stonehill, then the nation’s fourth ranked team, by 14 points at halftime on its home floor, before succumbing to the Chieftains, 80-74. “I think that game gave the kids the confidence to beat the best,” Swanson says.

During a five-day span in February, Sacred Heart proved that it belonged among the NECC elite. First, the Lady Pioneers settled a long-standing score with Bridgeport by rolling to a 77-57 decision — the team’s record 17th win. That decision ended a nine-game losing streak to the Purple Knights. Delaney erupted for a career-high 26 points that night.

“They seem to know where everyone is on the court. They have good chemistry,” recalled UB guard Sarah Wilfong.

On Feb. 18, Sacred Heart took an even bigger step toward regional recognition by dismantling UMass-Lowell, 75-54. The halftime differential was similarly surprising: 36-20.

“The St. Anselm game was the beginning and this was the culmination,” chortled Huber, who contributed 16 points and nine assists to the first win over Lowell since the 1985-86 season.

For Swanson, who inherited a program that had endured 11 straight losing seasons, this past winter represented the culmination of a six-year restoration project. In many respects, he rated the 1995-96 team’s performance superior to 1992-93, when a senior-dominated squad assembled a 16-13 record, highlighted by a victory over Le Moyne in the NECC playoffs.

“For me, the ’93 team might have been a little more talented, but this year’s team was a little disappointed with 20 wins.”

If the 1995-96 squad had a shortcoming, it might have been the sense of overconfidence entering the conference playoffs. Everything pointed to a Sacred Heart triumph on the final Sunday in February: the homecourt advantage, the home-and-home sweep over Albany during the season. But the Great Danes utilized 51 percent shooting to build a 15-point lead in the second half, then withstood a furious 14-1 spurt that pulled the Lady Pioneers within a single basket in the final moments. Albany prevailed, 74-67.

Chrissie Perkins, who scored 21 points in the disappointing season-ending loss, agrees that overconfidence was a factor. “I think so. ‘It’s going to be another win,’ we thought. If there was a positive side, that game showed us that we can’t come into next season with the attitude anything is going to be easy.”

As all of us learn at some point, nothing worth having comes easily.
Kevin Vulin’s senior year is defined by an impressive array of numbers. Begin with a scoring average of 21.2, which topped the New England Collegiate Conference. Follow with a rebounding average of 11.7, which not only led the conference but ranked fifth nationally among NCAA Division II players.

Nice. Very nice. But now complete the package with 3.83 — his cumulative grade point average. While his performances on the basketball court may earn him a professional tryout, either here or abroad, his prowess as an accounting major may lead to a position with a Big Six accounting firm.

For Vulin, the transformation from infrequent role player (as a freshman and sophomore) to solid starter as a junior into the NECC’s premier player was complete. Across 27 games, he was the conference’s dominant big man and its 1995-96 Player of the Year. A multitude of other honors came his way, too, including ECAC North all-star and the Division II Academic Achievement award. He was the principal reason for the Pioneers’ fifth-place finish (11-9) in the conference — they were picked seventh in the coaches’ pre-season poll — and 13-14 overall record.

“I did it through hard work. Last summer, I practically lived in the weight room,” says the 6-foot-8 center and team captain, whose once angular frame now carries a solid 245 pounds. “I also attribute a lot of what I’ve done to Coach (Dave) Bike. He had confidence in me when I didn’t have confidence in myself.”

To find a Sacred Heart rebounder with better numbers, one must go back to 1977-78, when a 6-9 first-team All-America named Andre Means averaged 16.4. With 1,115 career points (957 accumulated over the last two years), Vulin became the 24th Pioneer with 1,000 or more.

Says Bike: “Kevin is a player who continued to improve every year. No coach can ask for more than that.”

In his senior season, Kevin Vulin towered over NECC opposition. His 21.2 scoring average was the highest of any true Sacred Heart center.
Making a difference

By Susan DiGangi

“We were very impressed to see how far you and the University have come. You have made a difference and it shows …”

Such was the opening of a heartwarming note sent to President Anthony J. Cernera, Ph.D., by William Paul, executive vice president of United Technologies Corp. Paul and his wife, Gloria ’79, MBA ’85, a member of the Board of Regents, are strong supporters of the University’s Annual Fund.

“Gloria made the point that Sacred Heart made a difference in her life by allowing a mother of three to receive a wonderful education and two degrees. She also reminded me of my honorary degree and my Commencement address a couple of years later. Her point was clear; we must participate and contribute more to the success of the University.”

A portion of that success is contingent upon reaching the University’s Annual Fund goals, explains Karen Caldaroni, fund coordinator. “Sacred Heart University is growing and becoming increasingly recognized as a leader. New programs, laboratories, expanded student services, more faculty, and the like, are the outcome of a strong Annual Fund program and an example of the University’s dedication to its students and mission.”

Increasingly, students are presenting at professional conferences and interacting with the area community, largely because of the quality of the educational preparation they receive here. “Corporate response to our Senior Scholars program has been overwhelmingly positive,” says Mary Ann Matthews, who as program coordinator, serves as a liaison networking select seniors with human resource professionals.

More recently, Sacred Heart students with an interest in pharmacological sciences will be admitted into the University of Connecticut’s professional pharmacy program if they meet specified criteria. “Ensuring the resources that will continue to give students the well-rounded education they need comes through realizing our $700,000 Annual Fund by June 30,” says Caldaroni. To date, the fund has garnered $370,000 in cash and pledges.

Don’t miss the boat

Please add your name to our passenger list. Make your Annual Fund gift now. For those of you who have already pledged your support, remember that we must receive your gift on or before June 30 for it to be credited toward this year’s campaign. Thank you.

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Can the Israelis and the Arabs resolve their differences? Will there ever be peace in the Middle East? To both questions, I believe now more than ever the answer is unequivocally “Yes.”

My hope and optimism is based on interviews and discussions I had with key Israeli and Arab leaders while serving as a member of a special delegation from the U.S. Interreligious Committee for Peace in the Middle East. The delegation, whose members included four Christians, three Muslims and two Jews, traveled to Israel and the Palestinian territory in early February to get a first-hand look at the progress being made. My six days there were filled with many pleasant surprises, but also a few disappointments.

Most disappointing to me was that the delegation didn’t get to meet face-to-face with Yasir Arafat, as we had planned to do. Arafat was in Egypt at the time of our visit. Israeli President Shimon Peres also didn’t meet with us personally, but he did appoint key members of his staff to spend time with us. For me, meeting with Peres’ staff was exciting, because his people were candid and honest in the expression of their feelings and opinions, much more so than the head of state could possibly have been.

Based on the discussions we had, six issues need to be resolved before peace and prosperity are restored to the region. These issues involve the futures of Jerusalem, settlers, refugees, water rights, country borders and statehood.

At a meeting with U.S. Ambassador Martin Indyk, he assured us that he was speaking for the U.S. government with regard to Arab-Israeli issues. What absolutely astounded me — something that I had never understood before talking with Indyk and six of the seven Arab leaders we met — was that all parties agree there cannot be a mass movement of Israeli settlements out of the West Bank. Peace cannot be achieved by proposing to move 130,000 people out of their houses. And the issues separating the Israeli and Arab negotiators are smaller than the media would have us believe.

According to what we were told, 80 percent of the settlers live on 10 percent of the disputed territory. There is some discussion as to whether it makes sense to relocate some of the settlers from remote areas to the more densely populated areas that now exist and expand those settlements. There is also some
discussion about limiting the land available for the settlements, ranging from the current 10 percent to as little as 6 percent. It is clear to me that the larger settlements are going to remain and that this issue will be solved. Nobody is saying anymore that all 130,000 settlers must get out. There is also talk of connecting Jericho and Gaza with a major highway, creating a Palestinian corridor. Israel wants to do it, but it would involve acquisition of properties to clear a path.

While I was in Gaza, I witnessed something exciting. The last time I was there, I saw only pained and angry faces among the people. This time I saw optimism and hopefulness in their faces. It was very encouraging.

One of the most difficult issues to solve involves the future of Jerusalem. What country, what people will control this city? One innovative suggestion came from Sari Nusseibeh, Ph.D., president of Al-Quds University in Jerusalem and a representative for Palestine in the peace negotiations. Nusseibeh said he sees no reason why Israel shouldn’t have sovereignty over the entire city. He said all that the Palestinians need is a municipal building in East Jerusalem that they could call their capital. I had never heard such a suggestion before.

Another educator proposing a solution was Manuel Hassasian, Ph.D., dean of arts at Bethlehem University and another member of the Palestinian negotiating team. He proposed that the Palestinians make Abu Dis the capital of their territory. Abu Dis is a part of East Jerusalem that Israel excluded when it annexed East Jerusalem. As a result, Hassasian contends, Israel couldn’t possibly argue with such a plan. The Palestinian map includes Abu Dis as part of Jerusalem.

It is clear that no one, Arab or Israeli, wants to divide Jerusalem. All parties agree that citizens and others should be free to move about within the city.

A key issue to the region’s future is water and how to share it among all people. On the Arab side, there is misinformation supporting the claim that Israel hordes and wastes vast amounts of water. For example, many Arabs believe that Israel wastes water to support its rice and cotton crops. Rice, as you may know, requires a great deal of water to grow. But there is not a single rice field in all of Israel. This is a myth perpetuated by some in the Arab community.

It is true, however, that Israel does grow cotton and uses water to support that crop. But the water is recycled from treatment plants and unsuitable for human consumption. Something will have to be done to ensure that people know the truth about Israel’s water consumption. It can be argued that leaking water pipes and the lack of conservation contribute more to the Arabs’ water problems, because in Israel water conservation is part of a greater media campaign.

Another issue that can be solved relates to the refugees. First, all parties must agree on who is a refugee and who is not. Are those displaced by the war of 1948 refugees? Or just those from the '67 war? Any way you look at it, the lives of millions will be affected. The Palestinians we spoke with indicated that not every refugee wants to return to the Palestinian territory. Those not interested are people who found economic security in other regions of the world. The question is whether they will be granted Palestinian citizenship.

The most critical issue involves more than half a million Palestinian refugees living in camps in Lebanon. The hatred of the Lebanese for the refugees is well known, and it is likely that all these refugees would relocate to Palestine if a new nation is established. But where will they live? Some say let the refugees go live wherever they want. But Israel says the refugees would be permitted to return only to the Palestinian territory, not to Israel. Israeli guards against losing the nature of a Jewish state.

As for the other two issues — borders and statehood — I believe solutions will be found. In fact, I believe the easiest issue to settle will be that of statehood. A nation of Palestine will be established.

Six of the seven Arabs we met were optimistic about the future. The lone dissenter was Dr. Hadar Abdul Shefi, who, at nearly 80 years old, was the oldest man elected during the recent elections. But most importantly, he received the most votes and therefore represents a significant voice within the Gaza community. He is an angry man who has developed a great personal hatred for Israel. He is a tremendous obstacle to the peace process. Fueling his hatred are misconceptions that I attempted to explore and discuss with him.

One issue we discussed is the Palestinian Covenant. Within the covenant there is an article that states a goal of the Palestinians is to destroy Israel. Arafat says he will seek to eliminate this article from the covenant, but Dr. Shefi believes it is necessary. The doctor cites the first Zionist convention held in 1896 during which Theodore Herzl stated that a purpose of Zionism was to destroy the Palestinians. This is, of course, not true. But it is one of the most persistent myths among Arabs. I informed Dr. Shefi that in 1896 both Jews and Arabs were considered Palestinians, so why would Herzl want them destroyed. He didn’t want to hear it.

The other Arabs we met with are desperate for peace. They recognize the realities. They not only want a place for the Palestinians to live, they also want foreign investments, a better standard of life and jobs. In a poll taken last year, 58 percent of the Palestinian people favored terrorism as a solution to their problems. After the elections of the delegates to the Palestinian authority, the poll shows a dramatic drop to 20 percent.

The Israelis are also philosophical about peace in the region. Yehuda Avner, the former top adviser to Itzhak Rabin, was very forthcoming. When Rabin was alive, he begged other nations to come to the region and invest in building an infrastructure in Palestine. “Why do you think Rabin sought peace with Arafat,” the adviser asked. Answering his own question, he explained that politicians know how to make demands, and realize they can’t have all that they demand. They seek compromise, while striving to reach at least some of their goals.

Theologians, on the other hand, can’t compromise. There is right and wrong, nothing in between. When Hamas began to preach a Palestinian theology, it became necessary for Israel to create a political reality. The Israeli and Palestinian theologians want it all. They are an anathema to peace. You have to deal with the political realities.
I

Inner-city troops benefit from Sacred Heart students' leadership

Sitting at a small table with a half dozen fourth- and fifth-graders at Wilbur Cross Elementary School in Bridgeport, Sacred Heart University sophomore Colleen McGrath provides instruction on cutting, pasting and designing paper artwork. Her students giggle as they work and then proudly display their finished projects.

McGrath, of Merrimack, N.H., is just one of nearly 30 Sacred Heart University students volunteering their time as troop leaders in an after-school program sponsored by the Girl Scouts of Housatonic Council, Inc. The program helps inner-city girls experience the virtues of scouting, while instilling pride in themselves and their community.

Due to the participation of students from Sacred Heart and...
Fairfield universities, the Girl Scouts of Housatonic Council has nearly tripled the number of troops in Bridgeport — from 14 to 42. “They are troops we could never have gotten off the ground if not for tapping into the colleges,” says Marcia Eigel, a spokes­woman for the council.

Now in its third year, the program reaches out to more than 185 girls at 16 Bridgeport schools. University students volunteer one day a week for a couple of hours during the late afternoon after school.

“One of the main goals of the program is to help increase the girls’ self-esteem and make them feel more empowered,” explains McGrath, 19, who is planning on a teaching career. “I love seeing the look on their faces when we do something they’ve never done before. In the inner-city there just isn’t that much for girls to do; everything seems to focus more on boys. So we try to provide them with a wide range of activities.”

Colleen McGrath and her Wilbur Cross Girl Scouts demonstrate their unity.

“Like the things we do after school, I look forward to it every week,” says 9-year-old Blair Gary, a Wilbur Cross fifth-grader, who participated in a trash removal and cleanup project outside her school as part of the program. About a dozen pupils took part in the cleanup.

“I loved seeing how clean we were able to make the street,” says Blair. “That was a lot of fun and it gave me a really good feeling.”

Ten-year-old Tomika Sewell says she enjoys taking special trips to places like the Beardsley Park Zoo, and earning Girl Scout badges, such as the one she and her troopmates recently completed for “Outdoor Fun In The City.” “We have fun all the time, and learn a lot of things, too,” says Tomika. “I’m happy they started this program.”

The activities can be anything from arts and crafts to basketball clinics, to lessons on traditional scouting skills such as setting up a tent and earning Girl Scout badges, according to Elizabeth Papcsy, Housatonic Council field director.

“We realized that young girls in Bridgeport had virtually nothing to do and no where to go after school, and we wanted to provide them with more recreational opportunities,” says Papcsy. “But what we needed were troop leaders to go into the schools, and the response from Sacred Heart University students has been miraculous. The girls love having college students as troop leaders, and the college students are getting a lot out of the program as well.”

Other Sacred Heart troop leaders agree. “I was in the Girl Scouts since I was very young and I wanted to do something to help girls in the inner-city have the same kind of fun experiences that I did,” says 19-year-old Kirstie Rabitor, a freshman from Webster, Mass., who leads a troop at John Winthrop Elementary School. “These girls really need role models they can look up to, who can provide them with a little guidance. That’s what we try to do.”

For Nadia Kendall, a sophomore from Far Rockaway, N.Y., the opportunity to lead a troop has allowed her to fulfill a long­standing ambition. “My communi­ty didn’t have Girl Scouts, and I’d always wanted to be a scout,” says Kendall, who puts aside her biolo­gy studies once a week to head a troop at Garfield Elementary School.

Volunteerism is an integral part of Kendall’s life. Back home, she donates some of her limited free time at a nursing home and in a veterinarian’s office.

Jennifer Black, a sophomore from Swansea, Mass., who is a troop leader at Barnum School, believes the program “is making a big difference in the girls’ lives. “They always look so happy when we work with them ... and they always want to stay longer.”

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Colleen McGrath and her Wilbur Cross Girl Scouts demonstrate their unity.

Troop leader Nadia Kendall (right) receives a hug from Amarilis Santiago, a fifth grader at Fairfield School in Bridgeport.
After years of preparation and planning, groundbreaking took place April 24 for the $18 million William H. Pitt Health and Recreation Center.

By Dean Golembeski

With apologies to Neil Armstrong: It was one small shovelful for William H. Pitt, one giant leap for the University.

After years of preparation and planning, groundbreaking was held on April 24 for the University's $18 million William H. Pitt Health and Recreation Center. A crowd of more than 500 people was on hand on a sunny, but blustery spring day to watch the first ceremonial shovelfuls of dirt be turned over by Pitt and a group of dignitaries.

Grasping gold-painted shovels along with Pitt were President Anthony J. Cernera, Ph.D., the Most Rev. Edward M. Egan, Bishop of Bridgeport and chairman of the Board of Trustees; Robert J. Matura, president of Treefort Fellows Consultants and chair of the trustees’ Executive Committee; and Robert D. Scinto '71, chairman of R.D. Scinto, Inc. and chair of the trustees’ Buildings and Grounds Committee.

"The construction of the health and recreation center is a cornerstone of our strategic plan to establish Sacred Heart University as a leading Catholic university in New England," Cernera said. "This building will not only offer a full array of athletic and recreational activities, but also it will be the premier facility for our physical therapy, occupational therapy and sports medicine programs."

Construction of the 143,000-square-foot health and recreation center is
expected to be completed in about 15 months, thus making it available in the fall of 1997. It will be the largest and most expensive facility ever constructed by the University.

Among the crowd gathered at the site for the new building were faculty, students, trustees, friends of the University representatives of the news media, as well as prospective students and their parents participating in Pioneer Day activities.

Pitt, founder of one of Connecticut’s largest and most successful real estate firms that bears his name, was a central figure in the ceremonies — with good reason. He was personally responsible for making the day a reality. Through his foundation, Pitt gave $3 million to Sacred Heart University’s Special Gifts campaign.

The gift, the largest donation in University history, was announced at a packed news conference held Jan. 23 in the Academic Center’s Mahogany Room. During the news conference, Cernera told the festive gathering that “this generous gift by one of the state’s leading citizens has electrified the campus.

“That Mr. Pitt has made such an outstanding gift to the University should come as no surprise to anyone who knows him. We feel deeply honored and gratified to be associated with and to have the support of such a distinguished and caring man.”

In addressing the gathering, Pitt explained his reasons for the gift, praising the University and its students. “This is a gift from the William H. Pitt Foundation, which was started some years ago with the focus of helping young people in the Fairfield County area,” he said. “The foundation’s board of directors selected Sacred Heart because so many of its graduates are children of people who never had the benefit of a college education. This gift supports the University’s tremendous contribution toward a day when anyone who wants a college education can have the opportunity.”

Pitt’s real estate company has been one of the most successful in the state over the past five decades. He started the business in 1949 — in his native Stamford — with a telephone and a $6 desk. Since then, he has sold thousands of homes and other properties in the area. In fact, Pitt was instrumental in establishing Fairfield County as the nation’s “Gold Coast.” His firm helped recruit such internationally respected corporations as American Can, GTE, Schweppes and Xerox to southwestern Connecticut during the 1970s, bringing new-found wealth and opportunity to the state and region. Still the chairman and chief executive officer, Pitt’s billion-dollar company is now comprised of 14 offices and 400 agents and staff.

The real estate executive, who now lives in Greenwich, has taken an active
This gift supports the University's tremendous contribution toward a day when anyone who wants a college education can have the opportunity.

- William Pitt

William H. Pitt Health and Recreation Center

- 2,000-seat basketball arena for intercollegiate play
- Four multi-purpose basketball courts
- Five-lane running track
- Four squash courts
- Two racquetball courts
- Dedicated fitness center, includes weights, circuit and cardiovascular equipment
- Aerobics, wrestling and fencing room
- Hall of Fame
- Physical therapy clinic
- Six physical therapy examination rooms
- Multi-purpose classroom
- Main lobby
- Three men's locker rooms (includes jacuzzi, sauna and steam room)
- Three women's locker rooms (includes jacuzzi, sauna and steam room)
- Athletic Department offices
- Coaches offices, trainer's room and equipment room
- Lounge

An architect's rendering of the lobby.
To be here and feel the enthusiasm of the University's leaders and sense the enthusiasm from the students and others is just a wonderful feeling.

- Joel Alvord

Thanks a million

For the second time in slightly more than two years, Robert J. Matura has demonstrated his benevolence by providing a $1 million gift to Sacred Heart University.

The gift was made possible by the Directors' Giving Program of Fleet Financial Group, Inc. Both Matura, who is a director of the Boston-based financial institution and chairman of the University trustees' executive committee, and Joel Alvord, Fleet chairman, visited the University earlier this year to jointly announce the gift.

"This is truly a wonderful gift from a very special member of the University community who remains deeply committed to our mission," said President Anthony J. Cernera, Ph.D. "Bob Matura's dedication and support of the University is immeasurable and unmatched. It is fair to say that without his advice, hard work and financial support, Sacred Heart University would not be where it is today."

The $1 million endowed gift will be used to finance the construction of the University's $18 million William H. Pitt Health and Recreation Center.

Matura explained that the University's relationship with Fleet began in 1988 when the now-defunct Hartford National Bank loaned the University $500,000. Although Hartford National was eventually acquired by Shawmut National and Shawmut by Fleet, Matura said the resulting banks have always been consistent in their support of the University.

"The man clearly responsible for that is Joel Alvord," Matura said, explaining that Alvord was chairman of Hartford National when the first loan was made and has continued to be chairman of the subsequent banks created through mergers.

"To be here and feel the enthusiasm of the University's leaders and sense the enthusiasm from the students and others is just a wonderful feeling."

Alvord said. "What has happened here is a blueprint that I'm sure many other schools will emulate. I applaud all of you. We're just so pleased to have been a part of this over the years."

In the fall of 1993, Matura and his wife, Bernadette, contributed an endowed gift of $1 million to the University library, in memory of the Maturas' parents — Robert Joseph and Mary Frances Comerford Matura, and John Aloysius and Mabel Black Ryan. The library was named the Ryan-Matura Library in their honor.

Matura, a Stamford resident, is chairman and chief executive officer of Treefort Fellows, P.C., a company serving the textile, apparel and retail industries. The firm provides strategic, operation and financial management consulting services internationally. He has more than 30 years' experience in the apparel manufacturing business.

Matura, who holds a bachelor's degree from Saint Peter's (N.J.) College, received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from Sacred Heart in 1983 — the year that he was named a trustee and his daughter, Allison, graduated from the University.

During that period, Sacred Heart was experiencing declining enrollment and financial difficulties. In 1987, Matura was named to a three-member ad hoc committee of trustees that managed the University while a new president was sought. Matura eventually volunteered to serve as an unpaid chancellor and run the University, while reporting to the ad hoc committee. He helped implement cost-cutting measures, strategic planning and other processes that paved the way for today's growing University.

He also hired Cernera, who had the vision and business acumen to lead Sacred Heart University. ©

Dean Golembeski
What does a former officer of a Fortune 300 company who became a full-time associate professor of management at a growing Connecticut university expect to find when teaching an international management seminar to seniors at The College of Modern Business in Tatabanya, Hungary?

Where? Tatabanya, an economically depressed mining city and provincial capital of 70,000, located 30 miles northwest of Budapest.

There could be all manner of obstacles: poor understanding of the English language, especially the business terms; students ill-prepared in areas of management, behavior, leadership, ethics, finance, accounting and business strategy; inadequate facilities such as poor classrooms, audio-visual equipment and lighting; administrative personnel who might be resentful and uncooperative; and, a lack of personal comforts expected by Americans in daily life.

These thoughts came to mind many times in the 10 months after I made the commitment to teach this seminar and as I sought to convince my wife, who would accompany me; my family, friends and colleagues that this was a viable mission.

We had spent more than three years in Luxembourg, establishing an MBA program for Sacred Heart University that provided a new business education model for that part of Western Europe. The joys and traumas of that experience were known to my wife and me.

Although the Luxembourg environment is one of affluence, multiple nationalities are brought together, resulting in challenges with languages, cultures, behavior, politics and living conditions. Adjusting to a country's systems in an almost utopian society presented unusual challenges that we enjoyed meeting. We accomplished something very beneficial for this small, but powerful, part of the European Union, and the appreciation of the graduates was — and is — very gratifying.

Then, out of the blue, came the opportunity to teach in Hungary, a country with one of the world's most difficult languages. For a short time, Tatabanya was a sister city to Fairfield, Conn., and Sacred Heart's contact with the college began in 1993.

As my two-week assignment approached, all of the aforementioned concerns arose and I wondered: Should I subject my wife and myself (now grandparents of four under three years of age), comfortably ensconced in my duties at the University only six minutes from my home, to the problems we would inevitably encounter in this formerly communist-dominated country struggling to make capitalism work?

Perhaps there was an empathy for the people. Perhaps there was a need to understand how they had survived such severe conditions, from Hitler to communism to capitalism. Perhaps there was a desire to become a better informed business teacher on the home campus. And perhaps there was the desire to assure our children that their 60ish parents still had sand in their shoes. Perhaps it was all of the above and more. Whatever the reasons, we decided it would be another life experience if nothing else and in March we left for Tatabanya.

We came. We saw. THEY conquered.

Many of my concerns were dispelled when we reached The College of Modern Business Studies and met the students. After a few years of English in elementary school, then additional classes in high school and college, they were prepared to deal with most of my business English. Questions were answered, almost always without hesitation and with confidence. They bravely tackled challenges in areas of management, behavior, leadership, ethics and strategy by reading assigned U.S. business articles and by questioning my lecture material.

The facilities were a pleasant surprise. They were as complete and modern as many in the U.S. Classrooms, audio-visual equipment and lighting were more than adequate. And, above all, the administrative personnel led by Dr. Joseph Kandiko, the college's rector, was cooperative almost to a fault. Copies were made, overhead slides prepared and writing instruments for blackboards and easels made readily available. An office and computer was provided for temporary and adjunct instructors.

Actually, the only minor inconveniences were the poor quality of the blackboard chalk and the cigarette smoke in the corridors.

The students were generally prompt and attentive. The combination of my delivery, their ability to cope in English and their desire to learn, made the four-hour classes fly. We enjoyed
each other as I tried to catch misunderstandings and questioned them on my use of certain words. It all worked as they laughed both at and with me.

One of my major challenges was the correct pronunciation of the students’ names. I practiced and my attempts were appreciated. After many humorous tries, I learned to pronounce 20 Hungarian names, all but unknown in the U.S. I consider proper name pronunciation a respectful way of recognizing cultural differences and since my name was a bit difficult for them, we settled on “Dr. Pete.” They loved it.

Two students offered to show us areas outside Tatabanya. They feared we would judge all of Hungary by this particularly depressed city. One took us to Tata, a medieval town seven kilometers away and we finished our tour at his home, where his charming mother served us refreshments. This outing gave us an insight into how the more affluent people in the country live.

Another student took us to a key government office in Budapest to discuss privatization. His father, a minister in the Hungarian government, was unavailable, so he arranged for an assistant to meet with us. She knowledgeably answered all questions. We were also given reading material — in English — to complement our discussion.

This was followed by a visit to Bezell, an advertising agency for Chrysler worldwide. The managing partner was a young woman who efficiently explained Chrysler’s attempt to enter the Hungarian market. The entire operation was sophisticated but not apparently representative of the norm. Later, there was lunch at a Jewish-Hungarian restaurant in Budapest, known primarily to the locals — a delightful experience.

The transition from communism to capitalism has been, at best, extremely difficult for most of the population. Under communism, basically, each family had fixed income, expenses, and lifestyle. They knew what to expect and knew how to live at minimum levels. When the communists withdrew in 1989, the new government, primarily socialist, introduced privatization of property and businesses. Thus the start of capitalism: Supply, demand, prices, quality, competition, investment, taxes and inflation all became the new realities of existence.

Farm property was returned to owners who now had to produce competitively priced products for buyers who had choices of products from other farmers and other countries. Farm machinery was outdated and inefficient and there was no money to replace it. Fortunately, much of the food produced was eaten in Hungary, as nearby markets of the Czech Republic, Slovakia and Russia stopped buying crops from other countries. They, too, had to survive on their own in a newly competitive world.

Cost of living increased due to rising costs of standard products as well as availability of western products. Government debt rose as it attempted to provide for retirement and unemployment benefits. This put pressure on the banks for lending, and eventually devaluation took place, another inflationary act worsening conditions.

As a result, money is used primarily for food and simply existing. Standard maintenance of buildings and capital equipment is not visible anywhere except, perhaps, in some of the more prominent government facilities and international hotels and at The College of Modern Business.

Small towns are depressing to visit, the people extremely disheartened. They have few clothes, inadequate housing, high unemployment. Small wonder some press for a return to communism. The decline of living standards from poor to worse in the past few years makes them skeptical of capitalism. They saw 50 years of hard living get harder and they don’t expect conditions to improve in the next few years under capitalism.

This atmosphere surrounding the college and parts of Budapest makes me question the long-term outcome of the teaching I was doing: Did I waste my time trying to impart some capitalistic management education to this dilemma? Will the graduates be able to lead their people to better things? Once educated, will they opt for opportunities in other countries?

The college, just five years old, is supported by the government and businesses in the region that are struggling to succeed. Tuition, high by Hungarian standards, is $500 per semester. Can this combination of resources bring enough strength to create some degree of progress in business education and leadership, which is so desperately needed?

I returned to the U.S. with more questions than I’d taken with me. I only wish more Americans can have an experience like we had and gain the insights afforded us. It might provide better reasons to support, defend and protect the society we enjoy in America. It might give us the confidence needed to deal with crime, poverty and racial strife. These are comparatively resolvable problems and more effort should be expended to “fix” them because, unlike our Hungarian friends, we already have the infrastructure in place.

Will I return to Tatabanya? Yes, in April 1997. I feel I owe it to the students and to the college and the country to help as much as I can. In the interim, I hope to translate this Eastern European experience into some effective classroom instruction and try to inspire with increased vigor the Americanization and globalization of our students’ education.
Racks of CDs line the wall, while nearby glowing video monitors pulsate with changing images and colors as operators tap, tap, tap at their computer keyboards. And while one computer displays reams of information about nystagmus, another is perusing the National Gallery of Art's collection of paintings.

This exciting entrance ramp onto the information superhighway isn't located in some new-fangled computer lab. Instead it can be found in one of the most familiar and useful sites at Sacred Heart University — the Ryan-Matura Library.

"We are undergoing major changes here," says Dorothy M. Kijanka, the University's head librarian since 1984. "Where we were once merely a physical facility, a three-story building housing a book and journal collection, we can now disseminate needed material to people electronically, wherever they might be on campus. We hope that soon we can send it to them at home, at work or in some cases while traveling."

Established with the founding of the University in 1963, the library moved to its current location in 1968 and has been expanding ever since. In Fall 1993, Trustee Robert J. Matura and his wife, Bernadette, contributed an endowed gift of $1 million to the library, which was renamed the Ryan-Matura Library in honor of the Maturas' parents.

It is now regarded as a state-of-the-art facility holding materials in all formats and enabling access to numerous on-line external databases and information networks including the Internet. Staffed by nearly 25 librarians, support personnel and student assistants, the library provides the traditional functions of facilitating research, reference, study, circulation, document delivery and copying. Collections are carefully selected with recommendations from students and faculty strongly encouraged and considered.

The 1995-96 academic year brought significant technological improvements to the Ryan-Matura Library. The goal was to move as much information as possible to on-line access. The card catalog, for example, will disappear in its current form by year-end. Instead, this "directory" of books will be accessible via the campus "wide area network" or WAN.

With the rate of technological change accelerating every day, our challenge as an institution of higher learning is clearly expressed in one of the goals of Sacred Heart University's Five-Year Strategic Plan "to use emerging technology ... to assist in the development of people who are able to respond to an ever-changing world," says President Anthony J. Cernera, Ph.D.

What does this mean for students, faculty and staff? A student researching a topic can save time by accessing that information from his/her mobile computer. A faculty member in revising a syllabus at the last minute based on the library's current holdings
Ryan-Matura goes high-tech

By Hope Lewis

Ryan-Matura Library's computers provide an entrance ramp to the information superhighway.
can do so with ease from any connected location.

And while the card catalog serves as simply a window of introduction to books, collections, etc., the holdings themselves when available in electronic form, underscore the profound benefits of electronic access. At the Ryan-Matura Library, numerous databases are or will soon be made available via the campus network — collections of scholarly journals covering disciplines ranging from the sciences to business to the social sciences, law and education.

Also available electronically are numerous indexes, reference materials and other library resources, as well as access to the holdings of 15,000 other libraries worldwide, encyclopedias and national directories.

The on-line nature of the library is transforming the way the campus community carries out both its short and long-term academic goals. It is not hyperbole to describe this transformation as revolutionary.

But how does all of this technology translate into practical usage?

John Roney, Ph.D., for example, a professor of European history specializing in the Reformation period, uses the Internet to research European libraries and map out travel destinations from his desk at Sacred Heart. Every other summer, Roney travels to Europe — specifically France, Switzerland and Holland — where he isolates rare collections of documents necessary for original scholarly research.

Prior to his use of the Internet, there was much trial and error involved in his finding these esoteric original pieces, in many cases dating back 400 or more years. Not only did this involve considerable frustration but ample time and expense as well.

With the Internet, Roney can access Swiss, French and Dutch databases citing the material he needs and its physical location. In addition, by isolating different key word search mechanisms, he has discovered from his Sacred Heart University office that potentially some of the documentation may reside closer to home — at Yale University in one instance. Clearly, the Internet has given Roney a global reach enabling him to complete research sooner and with maximum cost efficiency.

Meanwhile, Jacqueline Norcel, adjunct professor of education and full-time principal of Tashua Elementary School in Trumbull, utilizes the Internet through the library to develop innovative science-oriented educational programs for grade-school students. As a graduate of the SMARTNET program (the state-funded initiative developed to bolster the teaching of science and math in the lower grades), Norcel is entitled to 45 hours usage per month of the Internet and its integrated facilities. “And I take full advantage of that benefit,” she emphasizes.

Specifically, using her portable computer from her school office, the principal connects to Sacred Heart University and the Internet and accesses up-to-date weather information.

“The weather is a daily scientific topic at Tashua for all of the classes,” explains Norcel. “Thanks to this vital resource, we can obtain accurate current global information stressing the scientific reality of weather and the environment and how it impacts the world population.”

Students, of course, are continually taking advantage of Ryan-Matura’s resources. Kimberly Nugent, a junior and political science major from Albany, N.Y., is also serving as a research assistant to Gary Rose, Ph.D., professor of political science and author. With Nugent’s help, Rose is completing a book advocating the benefits of strong presidential leadership.

“Being an assistant to Professor Rose has provided me a multitude of benefits and experiences,” explains Nugent. “I’m constantly using the PRO-QUEST series to provide quotes, verify facts and research articles and this has also helped me complete my own assignments.”

PRO-QUEST, a collection of more than 800 journals covering topics ranging from international business to numerous disciplines in the social sciences, is available on CD-ROM at Ryan-Matura. Moreover, the vast database has been moved to the campus network so that users and browsers can access this information from any connected workstation.

Nugent, also a resident assistant and vice president of the Cum Laude Society (honors club), sees the research experience she has gained as both beneficial in the short- and long-term.

“Short-term, I now feel comfortable with on-line technology,” she says.

“Long-term, I’ve learned both the satisfactions and frustrations involved in producing original research, and upon completing my degree, I’ll have a range of practical skills to include on my résumé.”

In addition to providing traditional and innovative information services and resources, the library is home to other unique facilities, underscoring its extensive reach to the University community and beyond. One example, the University Learning Center (ULC) combines the best of technology with the intimacy of face-to-face instructional support.

Directed by Jacqueline Rinaldi, adjunct professor of English, the ULC’s five-year mission involves achieving University-wide writing expertise particular to incoming freshmen and students whose native language is not English. To do this, the center uses both highly trained tutors and computer-mediated conferencing, the latter, an electronic mail-based on-line writing lab (OWL) providing basic conversational writing instruction.

In addition, users of the ULC at Ryan-Matura will eventually be able to connect to the vast campus network and the numerous resources. But most significantly, they will receive the best support tool — nearly one-on-one tutorial instruction.

So where does Ryan-Matura go from here? How will it meet the technological challenges described in Sacred Heart University’s strategic plan and still maintain its human and humanistic qualities so essential to University community life?

“I believe the operative word is ‘balance,’” says Kijanka. “We want to be all we can be, technologically or electronically. But most importantly, we want to be here physically, guiding people to the right resources whether they are on-line or hard-bound. I hope the library can always serve that purpose.”

... we can now disseminate needed material to people electronically, wherever they might be on campus.

— Dorothy Kijanka
Head Librarian
'69 Sharon Brennan was presented a Claven Award from Lauralton Hall in Milford. A 1965 Lauralton graduate, she is former chair of the academy’s Board of Trustees. The annual awards, the highest distinction bestowed by the school, honor those who lead outstanding Christian lives and excel in their chosen fields. Brennan, a former director of admissions at Sacred Heart, is director of admissions and enrollment planning at Southern Connecticut State University. Lauralton is a girls college preparatory school founded in 1905 by the Sisters of Mercy.

Dan Devore, a former English as a Second Language teacher at the International Institute of Connecticut, Bridgeport office, is spending a year in Taiwan teaching English for the YMCA.

John Flynn of Norwalk was named manager of loan and mortgage services at the Ridgefield Bank. Previously, he served 20 years at New Jersey-based Union Trust where he was vice president of the loan department. Flynn is a member of the Connecticut Mortgage Bankers Association service committee.

'70

'72 Joanna Haines of Newtown joined Business Lenders Inc. as a commercial lending officer for Fairfield County. Haines has 23 years of commercial lending experience with local and national financial institutions. Most recently, she was a vice president and special asset group manager for Chase Manhattan Bank N.A.

'73 Rev. Victor Martin was named to the Institute for Religious Studies and Pastoral Studies’ Board of Directors at Sacred Heart University. Martin has served as pastor of St. Thomas Aquinas Church in Fairfield since December 1994.

'74 Michael R. Nemetz joined St. John the Evangelist School in Watertown...

'75 William Nimons, MBA '82, was appointed director of administrative affairs for the town of Ansonia, where he has lived for 25 years. Nimons was executive vice president and secretary of the former Shelton Savings Bank for more than 24 years. Nimons and his wife, Elaine, are the parents of three children, Michael, Amy and Jeffrey.

'77 Santi M. Polis of Montgomery, Ala., became human resources manager with Jay R. Smith Manufacturing Co. in January. He previously held human resource positions with Sikorsky Aircraft in Connecticut and Alabama.

'78 Deborah Donofrio Briggs was promoted to the project lead position in the Information Technology Department at SNET, New Haven. Briggs lives in Northford.

'79 Ann D. Jevne of Westport was appointed by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants to chair a group charged with developing a practice guide on Planning for Retirees. She is a partner with Schwartz & Hofflich, a Norwalk-based public accounting firm, where she heads the financial planning division. In addition, she is a founder and member of the executive committee of The Financial Dream Team, USA, a national affiliation of financial planners offering services to athletes, performers, creative artists and other celebrities, as well as related industry executives and professionals.

'80 Elaine Hughes, MBA received a 1996 Women of Distinction Award from the Girl Scouts of Housatonic Council at the organization’s luncheon in Stratford.

'81 Joseph F. D’Avanzo, MBA joined Grolier Inc., Danbury, as vice president, finance, for the Publishing Group. Previously, he was U.S. controller for Reader’s Digest Association, New York.

Nancy Sasso (Henry) Janis, MAT ’89, married Fred Janis on Feb. 20 in Las Vegas, Nev. She is a first grade teacher in Naugatuck, where the couple is living.

Joan Maloney, RN, of Fairfield was appointed emergency medical services coordinator for St. Joseph Medical Center in Stamford. Maloney will be the medical center’s liaison to pre-hospital care providers, coordinating disaster planning and fire services activities as well as providing training such as cardiopulmonary resuscitation instruction. Prior to joining St. Joseph, she worked as the EMS coordinator for Park City Hospital in Bridgeport. Maloney is a member of the Sacred Heart University Mu Delta chapter for nursing excellence and leadership.

'82 Helen Mino Grable has become a licensed home-day care provider with Carriage Day Care in West Haven. She is the mother of four daughters: Monica (10), Katherine (7), Michelle (6) and Victoria (3).

'83 William D. LaPorte, a certified public accountant, has opened an accounting practice in Norwalk. His firm offers accounting, tax planning and preparation services for business and individuals. He has more than 11 years experience with both private and public accounting firms. LaPorte is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

Maffucci moves up at Bowater

David G. Maffucci ’72 was appointed senior vice president and chief financial officer with Bowater, Inc. in Greenville, S.C. He joined Bowater in 1977 and progressed through several positions, including assistant controller and, most recently, vice president-treasurer.

Bowater is the nation’s largest producer of newsprint, with five paper mills, eight converting plants and 3.7 million acres of timberlands in the U.S. and Canada.

Maffucci, a certified public accountant, was corporate accounting manager at Pantasote Co., and worked at KPMG Peat Marwick in Stamford prior to joining Bowater. He resides with his wife and their three children in Greer, S.C.

'86 and Joseph W.
Auger ‘88, was born Nov. 17. The family resides in Stratford. (see also ‘88)

Terrence J. Baksay was married to Marcia J. Lucas on Dec. 30 in St. Emery’s Church, Fairfield. They reside in Shelton. Baksay is a professional bass fisherman.

Rev. David Henry Krahel, MARS, MAT ’90, has been appointed chaplain for Catholic Ministry to the Elderly, a Diocese of Bridgeport position in Stamford.

John Byrne assumed the newly created post of director of public safety, health and welfare for the city of Stamford, where he oversees more than 800 employees in the police, fire, health and social services departments and the Smith House Skilled Nursing Facility. He came to the position after four years as deputy chief administrative officer in Bridgeport. Byrne and his wife, Ann Marie, a nurse at St. Vincent’s Medical Center, have two daughters.

Lara Michelle, daughter of Melody Vetro St. Clair and her husband, Brian, was born Christmas morning, 1995. They live in Fairfield.

Christopher Capelle of New Canaan is a free-lance Macintosh computer consultant in Fairfield County.

Robert Crocco, MBA ’93, was married to Helen Pyrih of Philadelphia on Sept. 2 in Bridgeport, Pa. Crocco is financial manager at the National Association for the Specialty Food Trade (NASFT) in New York City. The couple resides in Stamford.

H. Kenneth Elwood married Cynthia Targowski on Oct. 21 in St. James Church, Stratford. They live in Stratford. Elwood is a revenue officer with the IRS, Bridgeport.

Darlene Moyher married Alfred Bruhin III on June 24, 1995. They live in Bridgeport, where Darlene is a legal secretary with Pullman & Comley.

Debra Steel married Carl Thane III on May 13, 1995 in St. Philip Church, Norwalk. Debra is director of financial planning at Zotos in Darien. The couple resides in Norwalk.

What does Bill Bayno ‘85 have in common with some of college basketball’s brightest coaching minds, including his mentor, John Calipari?

More than one might think.

In his maiden season as a Division I head coach, Bayno came up short in the win department at the University of Nevada at Las Vegas. The 1995-96 Runnin’ Rebels’ record stood at 10 wins, 16 losses.

His unceremonious debut was in keeping with that of Villanova’s Steve Lappas, who weathered a 7-21 season in Year One as a head coach at Manhattan. Duke’s Mike Krzyzewski, a man with two NCAA national titles in his portfolio, endured 10-17 and 11-17 seasons before resurrecting the Blue Devils program.

Bayno was on the sidelines, as an assistant coach, for Calipari’s 10-18 coaching debut at Massachusetts in 1988-89. So, he was already familiar with many of the pitfalls confronting a rookie coach.

“One of the ways I tried to keep my sanity during the year at UNLV was to look at the early records of some of the coaches I respected,” Bayno says. “I knew they had it tough in the beginning. I knew I had to look at the big picture. I knew I had to look at the blueprint for what we achieved at UMass.”

Bayno had no grandiose expectations
when he accepted the UNLV coaching position in March 1995. The first Sacred Heart alumnus to become a Division I head coach had a three-year contract worth $300,000 per annum, but little hope for his first season. The once mighty Runnin' Rebels, winners of the 1990 national championship and Final Four participants in three of the previous eight years, had skidded to a 12-16 record in 1994-95 — the program’s first sub-.500 finish since its inaugural season 36 years earlier.

“We won our two exhibition games and then our best two players got hurt. One of them (senior guard Damian Smith) we lost for the year,” Bayno recalls. “I knew we’d be thin when I started, but then we had to dig in and survive and try not to get blown out. I think we were only out of two or three games.”

Against Michigan on Dec. 28, the Rebels were very much in the game, so much so that they upset the Wolverines, 66-64. That victory, achieved before nearly 12,000 people in the Thomas & Mack Center on campus, represented the season’s high point. There were occasions when, as Bayno notes, “I had to have my assistant coaches practice just to have 10 guys on the court.”

A decimated, minimally talented Rebel cast won’t be the case next season. The assistant coach who brought Marcus Camby, Lou Roe, Donita Bright, Harper Williams and other stars to Massachusetts was quick to prove that his recruiting skills were similarly effective as a head coach west of the Mississippi. Even before Bayno had completed his first season at UNLV, basketball insiders rated his first recruiting class among the five best in the nation. Now, that designation seems to have been too low.

“Some of the services say we have the best recruiting class in the country,” Bayno says, citing Keon Clark, a 6-foot-11 junior college transfer, and 6-10 Isaiah Epps from Maine Central Institute as his principal recruits. Clark may be a reincarnation of Camby, according to the coach. Another incoming player, 6-5 Donovan Stewart, honed his skills at Cheshire Academy this winter.

To help rekindle the past, Bayno has enlisted support from several former Runnin’ Rebels, including NBA stars Larry Johnson and Stacey Augmon, to “come back and talk to the kids.” Another reminder of Final Four times, 1977 All-America Glen Gondrezick, is close by as the team’s radio color commentator.

**Intense as Coach and Player**

As a 34-year-old head coach, Bayno is no different than the intense hard-charger who led Sacred Heart to successive NCAA Division II Tournaments in 1984 and 1985. An angular 6-3, he was a fiery individual on the court, a player capable of scoring, passing, rebounding and true-grit defense. Intangibles, perhaps more than statistics, contributed to his receiving a place on the University’s Silver Anniversary Team selected in 1991.

“He used to talk more in the huddle than I did,” says Pioneer Coach Dave Bike, only half-joking. “He was a coach’s son, a smart player with a lot of talent. He definitely wanted to win.”

With Bayno in the lineup, Sacred Heart produced a cumulative two-year record of 51-14, reaching the 1984 NCAA Elite Eight and the 1985 regional finale. As a junior forward, he averaged a complementary 12.9 points and led the squad with an .824 free throw percentage and 77 steals. Shifted to guard, his natural position, as a senior, Bayno increased his scoring to 15.7, second only to Roger Younger’s 18.4, and topped the team with 175 assists and 73 steals. In March 1985, both members of the Younger-Bayno back-court were accorded All-America recognition.

Many of Bayno’s recollections from his undergraduate days, when he served as a Presidential Intern and made the Dean’s List, are rich in basketball lore. “There are so many memories from Sacred Heart. But two games stand out. In my senior year, we beat Bridgeport and Manute Bol to get to the regional final. Nobody thought we’d do it. (The score was extraordinarily low, 47-45.)

“When I was a junior, we defeated South Dakota State for the regional title (88-81 in overtime). I hit a couple of big shots, made a couple of key plays. They kept fouling us at the end and I made some free throws.”

Although Bayno had departed with B.S. degree in management in hand, and was beginning his climb up the coaching ladder as a graduate assistant at Seton Hall, he knew where he belonged on the afternoon of March 22, 1986. He was among the crowd of 5,863 in the Springfield Civic Center when Sacred Heart defeated Southeast Missouri State, 93-87, for the NCAA Division II national title.

“We cried that night in Springfield,” he says.

At some point in the not-too-distant future, Bayno would like to double the number of Sacred Heart graduates to coach a national championship team. His friend and former coach, Dave Bike ’69, holds exclusive membership in that club.
Robert Saba married Deborah Medika '90 on Oct. 7 in Christ the King Church, Trumbull. They live in Norwalk, where Bob is a customer service representative at Trans-Lux Corp. and Debbie is an accountant.

Thomas J. Hyde is vice president-treasurer of Extel Communications, Inc. in Fairfield. He lives in Monroe.

David Ives was appointed a full-time constable in the town of Oxford, after working part-time in the position since 1994. Ives, an Oxford resident, was a part-time member of the Seymour Police Department from 1985-1993 and a full-time firefighter at Sikorsky Aircraft in Stratford. For the past 14 years, he has been a volunteer with the Oxford Center Fire Co. and the Oxford Volunteer Ambulance Association.

Lisa Nan Broder, MBA '95, of Bridgeport, is an associate manager with Centerchem, Inc. in Stamford.

Sheila Denton of Pullman & Comley is co-chair of the Women's Leadership Council, the Bridgeport Regional Business Council's newest affiliate. She served on the WLC Executive Committee in 1995, the first year of the affiliate's operation.

Matthew Joseph, son of Joseph DeSantis and his wife, Elaine, was born Sept. 23. DeSantis is national operations manager with Avon Products. The family lives in Norwalk.

Mark Ecke, MAT, is head coach of Cheshire High School's football team, winner of the 1995 Class L state championship. The Rams won a state-record 46 games in a row. Ecke, a Cheshire police officer for five years, served as an assistant coach for seven years before taking the head position last year.

Billie A. Bleeks married Barry Holmes on Sept. 9. Billie was promoted to area sales manager with Future Electronics in San Jose, Calif. They reside in San Carlos, Calif.

John P. DeVito married Sharon Egank in May 1995 in Newport, R.I. DeVito was promoted to manager with Natural Retail Group in sensors for Connecticut.

Del Medico leaves the Arctic circle

Arctic Sports Shop has been a Bridgeport area landmark for a half century, providing athletic equipment and uniforms for countless teams and, yes, employment for professional and college athletics who were between seasons.

Last year, Armand Del Medico '86 sold the business founded by his late uncle, Perry Pilotti, to focus all of his energies on a sports marketing firm. He opened International Sports Associates, Inc., in Fairfield.

"I'd started working at the store when I was 11 years old," says Del Medico, 37. "For me, the most traumatic day after selling the business was my first Saturday off. I had no idea how I'd fill my eight hours."

Now he's filling those hours and more by finding financial opportunities for clients such as Maria Serrao, a woman paralyzed from the knees down since childhood who produces fitness videos for the disabled; professional kick-boxer Kathy Long, and Angel Echevarria, the Colorado Rockies' outfield prospect from Bridgeport. Serrao appeared on the NBC "Today" show and was profiled in People magazine.

"These are second-tier athletes," he says, "but today, there are more opportunities for them to get paid and see the world." D.H.

In Memoriam

John T. Pianowski '69, formerly of Greenwich, who owned Presidential Financial Consulting in Tilton, N.H., died of a heart attack Feb. 25, 1996 at his home in Franklin, N.H. During his career, he was sales manager for Combined Insurance Co. of America, a general agent at Chubb Life of America and a branch manager at Chubb Securities Corp. He is survived by his wife, Lillian, and daughter, Mira.

Suzanne A. Pepin McAuley '71 of Stratford died Dec. 7, 1995 in Bridgeport Hospital. McAuley, 46, was an adjunct faculty member in the Nursing Department at Sacred Heart University. In 1986, she received a Certificate of Merit from the University and later the Distinguished Alumni Award from the Nursing Department. After earning a law degree from the University of Connecticut, she established a private law practice in Milford that represented economically disadvantaged women. She was the author of Child Support in Connecticut, used by the Women's Educational and Legal Fund. Survivors include her husband, Dr. Birur Chandra, and their daughters, Tara and Lillee.

Margaret (Peggy) Brinke Chandra '86 of West Haven died Feb. 6, 1996 at the Hospital of St. Raphael in New Haven after a brief illness. Chandra, 46, was an adjunct faculty member in the Nursing Department at Sacred Heart University. In 1986, she received a Certificate of Merit from the University and later the Distinguished Alumni Award from the Nursing Department. After earning a law degree from the University of Connecticut, she established a private law practice in Milford that represented economically disadvantaged women. She was the author of Child Support in Connecticut, used by the Women's Educational and Legal Fund. Survivors include her husband, Dr. Birur Chandra, and their daughters, Tara and Lillee.
management at Polytechnic University, Hawthorne, N.Y., is a senior programmer analyst with Pitney Bowes, Inc., Stamford. The couple lives in Stratford.

Bernadette Madara, MSN, assistant professor in the Department of Nursing, Southern Connecticut State University, received an Ed.D. degree from Teachers College, Columbia University, in October.

Andrew S. Madison has joined The Options Group in New York City as vice president, legal division.

Francesca Marini married James Romano on Nov. 25 in St. Margaret's Shrine, Bridgeport. They reside in Stratford. Francesca is comptroller at Graphic Associates Inc., Bridgeport.

Katina Angelos married Costa Papademetriou on Sept. 17 in Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, Bridgeport. Katina is an accountant with Philip Morris Capital Corp., Rye Brook, N.Y. They reside in Stamford.

Michael Bennett married Albina Covelluzzi on Oct. 21. He is a social worker at Community Centers Inc., Greenwich. The couple lives in Bridgeport.

Ellen DiMaio married Edward Vanchot on Sept. 23 in St. Joseph Church, Shelton, where they reside. Ellen is a market research project director at Evaluative Criteria Inc., Stamford.

Janet Doubrava, MSN assumed the position of nurse-manager at the Westerly (R.I.) Hospital Emergency Department. An RN, she spent 15 years in the emergency department at Yale-New Haven Hospital, the last five as nurse-manager.

Jennifer Neri married Carl Olimpieri on Sept. 6 in Our Lady of the Assumption Church, Fairfield, where they reside. Jennifer is a Head Start worker at Community Centers Inc., Fairfield. Jennifer has been promoted to desk officer with Save the Children/L.I.S. in Westport, after two years with the organization. He has been with the department for 8 1/2 years. Prior to Easton, he graduated from the New York City Police Academy and worked as an officer for the New York City Housing Police. He is pursuing a master's degree in criminal justice and forensic science at the University of New Haven.

'93

Karen Bell is a police officer with the New Haven Police Department.

Colleen Carroll married Jeffrey Lane on May 6, 1995. They reside in Seymour. Colleen is a data entry clerk-customer service representative with Metropolitan Life Insurance in Fairfield.

Melanie Flavin of Norwalk was promoted to conference program manager at Cowles Event Management, a division of Cowles Business Media in Stamford.

David Iassogna married Kirstin Booth Sept. 29 in St. Lawrence Church, Shelton. They reside in Shelton. Iassogna is employed at People's Bank, Bridgeport.

Oliver Izmir, son of Lynne Jakubauskas, MSN and her husband, Robert Sherman, was born Dec. 13. Lynn is a school nurse with the Department of Defense Dependents Schools in Izmir, Turkey.

Suk Soong Jang, MBA '94 returned to Seoul, South Korea after graduation and is employed at Hanshin Securities Co., LTD., in the international business department.

Cristina Monteiro married Carlos Monteiro, May 20, 1995 in St. Augustine Cathedral, Bridgeport, where they live. Cristina is a personal banker at Lafayette American Bank, Trumbull.

M. Shannon Reilly married Michael Monaco in April 1995. The couple lives in Milford.

Louangtip Vilay has been promoted to desk officer with Save the Children/U.S. in Westport, after two years with the organization. He represents Asia/Middle East Regions for the Indochina Refugee Program, in coordination with World Learning and World Education in Southeast Asia.

'94

Richard Doyle of Stratford is a patrol officer and a criminal investigator with the Easton Police Department. He has been with the department for 8 1/2 years. Prior to Easton, he graduated from the New York City Police Academy and worked as an officer for the New York City Housing Police. He is pursuing a master's degree in criminal justice and forensic science at the University of New Haven.

Audrey Gabler, MSN married John Beauvais June 3, 1995. The couple resides in Fairfield. Audrey is a patient review coordinator at The Stamford Hospital.

Kyle Joseph, son of Deborah Potok Matthews and her husband, Joseph, was born Nov. 11, 1994. Deborah is a tax analyst with IBM Credit Corp. in Stamford. The family lives in Monroe.

'95

John J. Gettings III has joined Michael J. Knight & Co., CPAs of Fairfield. The firm provides a wide range of tax accounting, auditing, personal finance and estate planning, and business advisory services.

Michael A. Gutowski, MBA, is a staff accountant for Aztec East, Inc. in South Norwalk.

Michael Solomita married Diana Cutaia on Sept. 2 in St. Teresa's Church, Trumbull, They live in Norwalk. Solomita works in the accounting department at Daymon Associates, Stamford.

Prize from Parade no masquerade

Debranne Cingari '89 won a prize in Parade magazine's ninth annual photo contest this winter with her black-and-white interpretation (left) of celebrants at a masked ball. There were more than 150,000 entries. The Fairfield-based photographer's work often appears in these pages, including this issue's "Good Scouts" feature.

Moving up ... or moving?

New job? New address? New phone number? Newly married? A new baby? Please share your information by filling out this form and returning it to Alumni Relations Office, Sacred Heart University, 5151 Park Avenue, Fairfield, CT 06432-1000. Thank you.

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