The Connecticut Special Olympics’ 27th annual summer games brought 2,000 athletes and their coaches, hundreds of volunteers and more than 5,000 spectators to campus in June.
University shines through outreach

This past June, Sacred Heart University co-hosted the 27th Connecticut State Special Olympic Games. It was a very proud moment and marked the beginning of a three-year commitment to hosting the Special Olympics.

All of us at the University have a special regard for these Games, especially since our organizations have somewhat similar missions. Since its founding in 1963, Sacred Heart University has sought to provide educational opportunities for many different populations, including those who have been the first in their families to pursue a college education. In 1969, the Special Olympics was founded to provide opportunities and experiences to persons who are mentally challenged. Both the University and the Special Olympics have thrived and grown over the years. Both consistently strive to make the world a more compassionate and understanding place in which to live.

Over the three days that the Olympians competed on campus, the University was transformed into a unique community with a special purpose. Regardless of age, abilities or ethnicity, we all worked together, played together and pulled together to create a very exciting event, which was both inspirational and educational. Even more important, all of us at the University learned new lessons about competition, courage and pure love of life from the Special Olympians.

Hosting the Special Olympics is just one example of Sacred Heart University’s community outreach. As part of our Strategic Plan, we are implementing steps to ensure that community service is an integral part of life at the University. Whether it be tutoring in local schools, working in area soup kitchens or organizing Girl Scout troops, we encourage and assist our students to learn through their involvement in the local community. This involvement extends into the classroom with our Service-Learning program, which incorporates community service into the curriculum. To date, more than 250 students have been involved in 34 Service-Learning courses taught by 21 faculty members.

I personally extend to each of you an early invitation to attend and experience next year’s Special Olympics, which will be held June 6-8, 1997. These three days will provide you with a wonderful opportunity to share some memorable moments with family, friends, students, volunteers and, of course, the Special Olympians.

Anthony J. Cernera, Ph.D.
President
CALENDAR
All events free unless otherwise noted

September


10/Tuesday “The Ethics of Managed Care,” conference co-sponsored by REAPS and St. Vincent's Medical Center, Schine Auditorium, 8 a.m.-noon. Principal speaker: Daniel P. Sulmasy, M.D., Georgetown University School of Medicine. Tickets: $25 includes breakfast. Reservations: 371-7843.

16/Monday “Jesus as Teacher of Judaism,” Frank Brennan Memorial Lecture by Rabbi Jack Bemporad, director of Center for Christian-Jewish Understanding, Mahogany Room, 11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. RSVP: 365-7592.

18/Wednesday “Collecting the Artist,” lecture by A. Harris Stone, Ed.D., professor of education, Gallery of Contemporary Art, 7 p.m. Info: 365-7650.


October


November


SACRED HEART UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE
Summer 1996 • Volume 3, No. 1

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The Connecticut Special Olympics’ 27th annual summer games brought 2,000 athletes and their coaches, hundreds of volunteers and more than 5,000 spectators to campus in June. Richard Freeda’s camera has captured the pageantry and the drama.

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On a May Weekend, Sacred Heart's men and women swept the 1996 Eastern College Athletic Conference lacrosse championships on Campus Field.

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A record number of diplomas - nearly 1,000 - were awarded at the University’s 30th Commencement exercises on a sizzling Sunday in May.

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ON THE COVER
Richard Freeda's rich photographic treatment of the Special Olympics medals.
The Center for Christian-Jewish Understanding raised $250,000 at its first Nostra Aetate Dinner on June 23. At the black-tie event, which attracted more than 300 people to New York's Park Plaza Hotel, Cardinal John O'Connor and Sen. Joseph Lieberman, D-Conn., were recognized for their commitment to dialogue and action on important moral, ethical and religious issues. O'Connor, archbishop of the New York diocese, received the Nostra Aetate Medal for his commitment to Christian-Jewish dialogue and understanding. Lieberman received the Distinguished Service Award for his "outspoken enthusiasm for morality in the media." Co-chairs for the event were: Russ Berrie, CEO of Russ Berrie Co., Oakland, N.J., and chairman of CCJU's Board of Directors; William J. Flynn, chairman of Mutual of America Life Insurance Co., New York; and Jeffrey S. Maurer, president of U.S. Trust Co., New York.
If you haven’t visited the campus lately, you’re going to be in for quite a shock on your next visit. In virtually every corner of the University, new facilities are being constructed to meet the growing needs of students, faculty and staff.

Construction on the $18 million William H. Pitt Health & Recreation Center is in full swing and on schedule. Workers have been busy blasting ledge and hauling away thousands of yards of fill as they prepare to pour foundations. Also under construction and on schedule is a two-story addition to the North Wing of the Academic Center. This will allow for an expanded book store on the first floor and faculty offices on the second. Other key projects include the remodeling of offices in the administration building and the Computer Science labs, while Occupational Therapy/Physical Therapy labs are being added to the Academic Center’s South Wing.

Meanwhile, the University is moving forward with plans for two more additions to the Academic Center to create classrooms, laboratories and other space for OT/PT and Health Sciences. Both have been approved by Fairfield zoning officials.

Dean Golembeski

Campus fire a first

The first fire in Sacred Heart University’s 33-year history caused severe damage to the Park Avenue House in the early-morning hours of July 14. The structure, which houses the University’s counseling, career counseling and health services, was unoccupied. Faulty wiring was said to be the cause of the blaze, which was extinguished by Fairfield firefighters. The departments have been relocated to other campus sites.

Michael Emery, Ed.D., director of public safety, was elected to the board of directors of the Northeast Colleges and Universities Security Association at the organization’s annual conference in June. The term is for three years.

Two new faculty chairs were appointed this summer: Karen Cascini, Ph.D., associate professor of accounting, as chair, Faculty of Financial Studies, Government and Law; and David Curtis, Ph.D., professor of English, as chair, Faculty of Communication Studies.

Nine Sacred Heart University faculty have been awarded tenure: Karen Cascini, Ph.D.; Jack de Graffenried, M.F.A., assistant professor of art; Cynthia Eberhart, Ph.D., assistant professor of nursing; Charlotte Gradie, Ph.D., associate professor of history; Michael Larobina, J.D., assistant professor of management; Lois Libby, Ph.D., associate professor of education; John Roney, Ph.D., associate professor of history; Penny Snetsinger, Ph.D., assistant professor of chemistry; and Constance Young, Ed.D., associate professor of nursing.

Michael Emery, Ed.D., director of the Physical Therapy program, was elected to the executive committee of the Commission for Accreditation of Physical Therapy Education this spring at Alexandria, Va.

Three Sacred Heart faculty shared the President’s Award for best presentation at the London Business Ethics Conference this spring. Frances Grodzinsky, Ph.D., associate professor of computer science; Diana Mrotek, Ph.D., associate professor of management; and John Berkman, Ph.D., assistant professor of religious studies, were honored for their presentation entitled, “The Role of Philosophy in Determining Business and Computer Ethics.”
Lacrosse’s rise at Sacred Heart

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A gathering of champions: One of the team’s four captains, All-America defenseman Doug Steed (Babylon, N.Y.), holds aloft the ECAC championship plaque.
Lacrosse originated centuries ago among the aborigines in North America. The young men and young women of Sacred Heart University play the modern versions of the game exceedingly well.

For proof positive, one need look no further than the weekend of May 10-12 at Campus Field. That Sunday, the Pioneer men captured the Eastern College Athletic Conference title with an 11-8 decision over Bentley — which came on the heels of a 15-14 double-overtime triumph over LIU-Southampton two days earlier. In between, Sacred Heart won the women's ECAC title on Saturday with a 14-12 verdict over Albany.

The regional championships were sweet satisfaction for the respective coaches, Rob Randall and Robin Schwartz. Randall’s men’s team completed its second 13-2 season in the past three years and was ranked fourth in the nation among Division II programs. “They’re a great group of kids and this is a great accomplishment for the program,” Randall said.

Schwartz, coach of the women’s squad since its inception in 1993, built a powerful attack around a pair of All-Americas, senior midfielder Jen Fallon (Stratford) and sophomore attacker Deirdre Hynes (Mahopac, N.Y.). Hynes edged Fallon in scoring, 69 goals to 67, but Fallon had the distinction of earning All-America recognition for the third straight season. “The first couple of years we had a tough time. Now we can finally say we’re a good team,” Schwartz said. D.H.
The Connecticut Special Olympics' 27th annual summer games were a rousing success on campus June 7-9, from the opening ceremonies on Friday evening through the final track and field event on Sunday. The games are scheduled to return to Sacred Heart in 1997 and 1998.

Whether tackling the long jump or tossing a softball or the shot put, Special Olympics athletes exhibit the spirit of the games on campus.

Fairfield athlete Angela Calabro recites the Special Olympic motto, with encouragement from the parade's grand marshal, actress Susan Saint James. "Let me win," said Calabro. "If I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt."

The Flame of Hope, symbol of the summer games, is carried by Matt Klemetz of Westport.
The parade of athletes receives an emphatic "thumbs up" from a participant.

Jessica Tarrant, 12, of Middlebury, riding "Sandman," won the gold medal at the 1-C equitation level. The games' equestrian competition took place at Lion Hill Farm in Easton, home site for the Sacred Heart University team.

Paul Kish of Bristol holds the lead in the grueling 3,000-meters event, but Suffield's Jeffrey Sorrow possessed the wherewithal to win.

Channel 8 anchors Ann Nyberg and Jon Crane provide enthusiastic commentary at the opening ceremonies on Campus Field. More than 2,000 athletes and their coaches from throughout Connecticut took part.
Donations reach new heights

By Susan Murray

The numbers are in and they're good. The Institutional Advancement team raised more than $650,000 through its 1995-96 Annual Fund campaign, a remarkable 69 percent increase in giving since 1991-92. The fund supports two main areas — scholarships and operating expenses (library acquisitions, faculty and the like.)

Critical operating dollars totaled $446,480, reflecting a significant increase of 24 percent over last year. Scholarship support, generated largely from the annual Discovery Dinner and other gifts, garnered $208,000, a 15 percent increase over 1994-95. “Kudos go to everyone who not only surpassed their goals in gifts and pledges but also topped their participation rates,” says Karen Caldaroni, Annual Fund coordinator.

Faculty and staff followed suit with a 12 percent increase in participation, to 56 percent. “These increases underscore the quality those close to the University see here,” says Caldaroni. “It helps friends of the University understand the impact their dollars lend. We are grateful for that support and look forward to demonstrating the value of their investment come fall.”

Advancement appoints three

New beginnings come easily to Laurie Bellico ’88. Whether it’s tackling her MBA or moving into a new home, she embraces each opportunity with vigor. Now she’s trying her hand at a new position as the University’s director of corporate relations. Bellico had served as director of alumni relations since 1989 and, most recently, as director of alumni relations and annual giving.

“I’ve enjoyed working with the alumni, particularly the Alumni Executive Council, and we had a long record of accomplishments. Now I’m looking forward to working with alumni in a different fund-raising capacity,” she says. “Our alumni can open the doors to corporations for scholarships and other kinds of support that will benefit the University.”

Her new responsibilities include garnering support for corporate scholarships, the Discovery Dinner and the Pioneer Open. “While these programs are already winners, the potential for even greater growth is definitely there,” says Bellico. “My role will be to develop partnerships on every level, including finding matching funds for special targets.”

“Let the games begin” could be the mantra for George Schneider, Ph.D. The University’s new director of foundation grants and corporate events has been a war-game aficionado ever since trying his hand at “Gettysburg” in 1960. He’s so involved that he hand paints miniature war figurines. It’s a perfect fit for Schneider who holds a doctorate in American history.

The fit with Sacred Heart is equally compelling. He held a similar post for five years at Manhattan College, where he succeeded in increasing grant awards from $450,000 to more than $1.2 million per year. Similarly, he shepherded the growth of the counterpart to our Discovery Dinner to more than $800,000, nearly triple what it had drawn in the past.

Schneider started his career with the idea of becoming a history professor, but worked in a variety of positions in the health care industry. He also founded a catering business with his wife who shares his entrepreneurial bent.

What happens when a native Californian encounters New England winters? Ask Kelly Zuniga, the University’s director of planned giving since January. “When friends asked me how I was doing on my new job, I counted surviving the winter high on my list,” quips Zuniga with a ready smile.

Record snowfall not withstanding, Zuniga’s transition to the Institutional Advancement team went smoothly. Her two newsletters on planned giving have been well received, and she has been successful in expanding the University’s Board of Regents, an advisory council to the president whose members also serve as community ambassadors.

Zuniga came to Sacred Heart from Claremont (Calif.) University Center and Graduate School where, as director of planned giving, she was instrumental in raising more than $5 million for the Center’s five graduate schools.

Zuniga, who holds a master’s degree in business administration from the University of San Diego, lives in Greenwich with her husband and two children. S.M.
Commencement 1996
Temperatures,
Graduates Soar

By DEAN GOLEMBESKI
Sacred Heart University's 30th Commencement was one for the books — albeit the record books.

The University presented a record 995 degrees this year, of which 620 associate's, bachelor's and master's degree recipients participated in Commencement Day ceremonies May 19 at Campus Field. More than 3,000 friends, family members, faculty, trustees, University administrators and other guests witnessed the exercises on an unseasonably hot, 95-degree spring afternoon.

"This is a great day. A joyful day for all of us who are gathered together on the grounds of this wonderful University," said keynote speaker David E.A. Carson, president and chief executive officer of People's Bank. "For today's graduates, this day of Commencement is a milestone in your lives, a day from which you will measure yourselves."

In addition to running People's Bank, Carson is active in many civic and charitable causes. He is a trustee and former chairman of the board of Connecticut Public Broadcasting and past chairman of the Connecticut Business and Industry Association, a business lobbying organization.

Born near Liverpool, Carson became a U.S. citizen in 1951 and now resides in Bridgeport with his wife, Sara. They have three grown children and two grandchildren. He graduated from the University of Michigan School of Business Administration in 1955.

Cernera also spoke of the importance of family, friends and community in his address to the graduates. "It is my hope that while you were here, you fell in love with learning, with truth, with the willingness to serve, with your friends and companions," Cernera said.

"Nurture those loves. The world needs you to share your gifts and talents — share them, don't hoard them. You will be the better for it; the world will be the better for it," he said.

Also receiving honorary degrees at Commencement were Maryann Furlong, director of The Thomas Merton Center, and health-care pioneer Carmen A. Tortora Sr., founder of the Carolton Chronic and Convalescent Hospital in Fairfield. Both received the degree Doctor of Humane Letters, honoris causa.

Furlong, a resident of Ansonia, has had a distinguished career in social work. In 1987, she was appointed assistant director of the Thomas Merton House of Hospitality, a non-profit day shelter and soup kitchen in Bridgeport that serves breakfast and lunch to 350 people every day. She was named director of the expanded Merton Center in 1993.

Earlier, she was a nurse-case manager at Elizabeth Street Group Home in Derby, nursing assistant instructor at
truth, with the willingness to serve, with your friends and companions."

- Anthony J. Cernera, Ph.D.

Eli Whitney Technical School in Hamden, a home care nurse at Hospice, Inc. in Branford and a pediatric nurse at St. Francis Hospital in Hartford.

Furlong graduated from the University of Connecticut in 1967 with a bachelor’s degree in nursing. She received a certificate of professional studies in substance abuse from UConn in 1990 and a master’s degree in counseling from St. Joseph College in 1990. She and her husband, Thomas, have three adult sons.

Like Carson, Tortora is a well-known area businessman who has been active in civic organizations. For 29 years, he served as general chairman of the local Cancer Crusade for the American Cancer Society. In 1989, he was presented the organization’s Ella T. Grasso Award in recognition of his outstanding contributions to the fight against cancer. He also is a trustee emeritus of the University.

Professionally, he founded and served as president of the Warren Institute and later established the Warren Technical Institute, the Warren Employment Agency, the Stenotype School and the Norwalk School of Business. More than 12,000 students completed programs at these schools before beginning their careers in business. Tortora also is past president of the Connecticut Business School Association.

In 1952, he established two nursing homes in Bridgeport. Then in 1954, he founded the Carolton Hospital. Under his direction, the hospital expanded from an original 36 beds to its current 229. Tortora remains president and administrator of Carolton, making him the longest-serving administrator in Connecticut.

Tortora graduated from the Junior College of Connecticut and attended Tufts University and Fordham Law School before serving in the U.S. Army. He and his wife, Agnes, are the parents of 14 children — all of whom are college graduates.

On the Saturday before Commencement, economics professor Lucjan T. Orlowski, Ph.D., spoke about the “pursuit of excellence” to those attending the 30th annual undergraduate awards ceremony, which was held in the gymnasium.

“We cannot search for excellence in our professional and personal lives alone,” Orlowski said.

Edward W. Malin, Ph.D., acting provost and vice president for academic affairs, and members of the faculty presented medals of excellence, certificates of excellence and other top academic awards to more than 40 seniors. Among those recognized during the ceremony were co-valedictorians Trisha L. Urben and Susan Bilden Zinkwich, and salutatorian Diane R. Erickson. Urben and Zinkwich achieved a perfect grade point average of 4.0, while Erickson assembled a 3.97 GPA.
'67
David Layden, of Gillette, Wyo., has served as finance director for the City of Gillette since September, 1980. He recently received certification from the Municipal Treasurers Association and the Association of Government Accountants.

'71
Elaine C. Esposito of Southbury was elected president of the Housatonic Community-Technical College Foundation Inc. Esposito is a Chase Manhattan Bank regional vice president and market manager. Since its founding, the Housatonic Foundation has awarded more than $40,000 in scholarships.

Rev. Dr. Anthony Szilagyi, pastor of First United Church of Christ in Bridgeport for the past 17 years, chaired this year's Hungarian American Festival on June 28 at Captain's Cove in Bridgeport. The festival, which coincided with the Barnum Festival, featured Hungarian and American fare and live entertainment.

'73
Joseph F. Loccisano was awarded a doctorate of education from Temple University in January. He is a school administrator with the York County Area Vocational-Technical School in York, Pa. He lives in Lancaster, Pa.

'77
Wanda M. Toth, CPA, of Leask & Leask, P.C., a certified public accounting firm in Fairfield, was recognized as Accountant Advocate of the Year by the Small Business Administration of Fairfield County. Toth is one of four principals in the firm.

'78
Douglas Kennedy, MBA '82, recently became executive vice president with Fleet Bank N.A. in Glen Rock, N.J. Kennedy, who lives in Mountain Lakes, N.J., served as chairperson of the Alumni Executive Council from 1990-92.

'80
John Cunningham, MBA '85, was appointed controller at Land Tech Remedial Inc., of Monroe. The Bridgeport resident has served the company in several accounting and financial management capacities over the past decade.

Beverly S. Knapp of Ansonia joined the Law Offices of Douglas Shradler in Bridgeport. Knapp specializes in securities and other investment fraud litigation. She received a J.D. degree in 1984 from the University of Connecticut Law School, where she graduated with high honors.

Gary Meno is tax manager with Trigen Energy Corp. in White Plains, N.Y. (See '83)

'83
Nicholas Michael, son of Mario Bartoli and Maria Ferreira Bartoli, '84 was born April 14. The family lives in Trumbull.

Jon Garrity, MBA '90, was promoted to area manager for distribution with BIC in Rockland, Mass. Most recently, Garrity was department manager of distribution with the firm, which he joined in 1989 as a programmer analyst. He began his career with General Electric as a systems analyst in Bridgeport. He lives in Bridgeport with his wife and son.

'84
Maria Ferreira Bartoli, see '83.

Emily Ann, daughter of Laura Krafeik Fetter, MBA '92, and her husband, David, was born May 2. Laura is director of sales and marketing with The Bank of New Haven in Orange. The family resides in Milford.

Jodee P. Sotles, MBA '94, was promoted to assistant president at Stamford-based Trenwick America Reinsurance Corp. The Weston resident has been with Trenwick's accounting department since 1986 and was promoted to assistant secretary in March 1993. She was previously associated with Masotti & Masotti, a public accounting firm.

Sam Wilson, an accountant who launched his own firm five years ago, is located in the Wright International Building in Bridgeport. Away from work, he focuses on his two sons.

Lori Yanell married David R. Williams, Aug. 26, 1995. They live in Westport, where Lori is manager of sales for a family business.

'86
Lajeune Hollis was promoted to national sales manager at WNHC radio in North Haven. She lives in New Haven.

Kathy Mulston was promoted to the newly created position of vice president, human resources for Physicians Health Services in Shelton. Mulston, who joined PHS in 1986, is responsible for the company's offices in Connecticut, New York and New Jersey and its subsidiaries. Prior to PHS, she held a similar position with Richardson-Vicks in Wilton.

Christopher Edward, son of Julie Peck-Rzasa and her husband, Edward, was born June 9. The family resides in Derby.

'87
Tom Merritt, MAT, was appointed swim director of the Madison Racquet Club, where he supervises the summer swim program. An All-America swimmer and Connecticut state age-group champion, Merritt served as coach of Trumbull's swim team for seven years. He is a fifth-grade teacher in Bridgeport and assists with the Hopkins Mariners swim team.

'89
Mary C. Rychlik of Greenwich was named sales manager at Contemporary Media Resources in New York City, where she is responsible for sales of alternative media programs. Previously, Rychlik spent three years with Dun & Bradstreet Corp. in Wilton.

Christopher Samperi was married to Debra Prucinsky on Oct. 8, 1995 in St. Catherine of Siena Church, Trumbull. Samperi is sales manager at Toyota of Westport. The couple resides in Monroe.

Tanya Wulff was named manager of Newtown Savings Bank's new branch office at Century Plaza in Monroe. Most recently, Wulff was branch supervisor at Fleet Bank's Monroe office. She has more than 15 years' experience in banking.
Stratford.

Norwalk. The couple resides in Scott Schoonmaker, Shari is a child care coordinator with Lady of Grace Church, Stratford. United Way of Connecticut Infoline, Shari Ann Konn T. Arduini Construction Co. Health Services in Trumbull. Directors. Ferreira is administrator of Bridgeport Symphony’s Board of International in Wilton. Mark is an marketing representative at TSI Services and Daniel is employed by They live in Bridgeport, where Sheri the state Department of Social Holy Rosary Church, Bridgeport, Sheri L. Caselli Bartoli ’87 were married May 4 in Holy Rosary Church, Bridgeport. They live in Bridgeport, where Sheri is an eligibility service worker with the state Department of Social Services and Daniel is employed by T. Arduini Construction Co.

Holly Faulkner and Mark Williams were married May 20, 1995. Holly is a marketing representative at TSI International in Wilton. Mark is an account director at Varco, Inc., Stamford. They live in Fairfield.

Alice Chaves Ferreira of Trumbull was appointed to the Greater Bridgeport Symphony’s Board of Directors. Ferreira is administrator of public relations with Physicians Health Services in Trumbull.

Shari Ann Konn was married to Robert W. Andrade on April 27 in Our Lady of Grace Church, Stratford. Shari is a child care coordinator with United Way of Connecticut Infoline, Norwalk. The couple resides in Stratford.

Scott Schoonmaker, MAT, resigned after seven seasons as the St. Bernard High School boys’ basketball coach in Montville to become dean of students at Old Saybrook High School. He recently completed his sixth-year degree in administration at Sacred Heart University.

Michele M. Cogan married Scan W. Dingwall on Oct. 21, 1995 in St. Augustine Cathedral, Bridgeport. Michele is a financial analyst at Duracell in Bethel. The couple resides in Naugatuck.

Elizabeth L. DeMoura married Richard Jajicilo on April 27 in Our Lady of Fatima Church in Bridgeport. Elizabeth is a medical secretary for David B. Brown, M.D., in Bridgeport. The couple lives in Stratford.

Mary Kate Gentile, MAT, was married to William M. Prezioso, March 2 in The Chapel at the Academy of Our Lady of Mercy-Lauralton Hall, Milford. Mary Kate is a fourth-grade teacher in the Fairfield public school system. They live in Bridgeport.

Tamara Joynes of Milford is a graphic designer for USI Inc., a state-of-the-art cataloger in Branford.

John P. Lichosik, MAT, was a member of the volunteer medical staff at the 100th Boston Marathon, April 15. Lichosik is sports medicine coordinator/athletic trainer of the Moore Center for Rehabilitation in Fairfield and Darien, and the athletic trainer for Fairfield Prep.

J. Riccardo Lopez-Campos, MBA, is budget and reporting director with LPL USA, corporate subsidiary of PRADA Milano in New York City.

Thaddea Barsh, MAT, was awarded a Reiss Teacher’s Fund scholarship by the Darien Board of Education in May. A teacher at Ox Ridge School, Barsh received $1,295 to participate in a special summer program, “The Unpleasantness of the Colonies,” offered at Oxford University to study the British perspective of the American Revolution.

Alison Palmer of New Haven is a J. D. candidate at Quinnipiac College School of Law for 1999.

Randolph A. Rossi, MBA, of Stamford was elected treasurer of R. C. Bigelow, Inc. by the company’s board of directors in May.


Kevin M. Ryan, PC, of Shelton was named assistant principal at Irving A. Robbins Middle School in Farmington. He previously served as a special education teacher and special education department liaison at Fairfield Woods Middle School in Fairfield and coordinator of the Alternative School in Monroe from 1988-90.

Camaraderie and competition

The scores were low and the proceeds were a record high, making the seventh annual Pioneer Open an unqualified success in its debut at the Oak Lane Country Club in Woodbridge.

The team of David D’Addario, Nick Vitti, Athen Crist and Hal Rosnick captured low gross with a 61 score, besting a field of 160 on June 17. The tournament, sponsored by the Sacred Lube and Tom Andrea; Steve Courtney, Pete Dobrydnio, David Lovato and Greg Hutchins, also helping to make the tournament a success were more than 150 companies and individuals, including:


Jeffery Kuroghlian married Tamalee Huckabee on Oct. 21. They reside in Bridgeport. Jeffery is a police officer with the town of Fairfield and Tamalee is an executive secretary at GE Capital Corp. in Stamford.

Shawn W. Szturma, MBA, of Jamaica Plain, Mass., has joined CSC Consulting and Systems Integration in Boston as a staff consultant. Szturma had been a software engineer with Pitney Bowes in Shelton.
Discovery dinner to honor five

Robert J. Matura, whose generosity to Sacred Heart University has resulted in two $1 million gifts in the past three years, will receive the prestigious Bishop Walter W. Curtis Medal of Honor at the University’s eighth annual Discovery Awards Dinner on Saturday, Oct. 19 in the Academic Center.

Discovery Awards will be presented to Steve Wiggins, founder, chairman and CEO of Oxford Health Plans, Inc., Norwalk; Dale F. Frey, chairman of the board and president of General Electric Investment Corp., Stamford; Yue-Sai Kan, principal of Yue-Sai Kan Cosmetics, Ltd., New York City; and the Rev. Msgr. Thomas P. Guinan, retired pastor of St. Michael the Archangel Church, Greenwich.

This past spring, Matura made the second of two $1 million contributions to the University, which he serves as vice-chairman of the Board of Trustees. In 1993 he 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. Matura is president of Treefort Consultants in Stamford.

Donations for the black-tie dinner are $250 a ticket, with proceeds benefiting the Sacred Heart University Scholarship Fund. University trustees James Costello and A. Joan Connor are serving as dinner chairman and vice chairman, respectively.

For reservations and information, contact George Schneider, Ph.D., director of foundation relations and corporate events, at (203) 371-7879. Richard Weizel