FEATURED NEWS

OVER 180 STUDENTS WILL BE PARTICIPATING IN THIS YEAR’S ACADEMIC FESTIVAL TAKING PLACE ON APRIL 20.

BY EMILY HELLDORFER Staff Reporter

SACRED HEART UNIVERSITY, held in April and organized by the Committee for Undergraduate Research, is the best students can present their research in more formal settings. Students have been working along with the committee since last year to finesse their research. This year’s festival will be held on April 20, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., in the University Commons. There are over 180 students participating in this year’s festival, making it the biggest turnout in the history of the event.

Steven Michels, Assistant Professor for Teaching and Learning, and chair of the Committee for Undergraduate Research, has been working along with the committee to put the event together.

“We have new categories. The old judging was all about methodology, so we had natural sciences and social sciences, and then everybody else. Which didn’t think I was a very interesting way. Because it’s very difficult to compare research across disciplines,” said Michels.

“I thought it would be more interesting to involve categories of social justice, and we have a committee which will judge these categories.”

There will be awards and prizes given in seven categories. These categories include best writing, best multidisciplinary research or collaboration, most meaningful, best visuals, most creative, most scholarly impact or potential, and campus choice. Additionally, there will be a Dean’s Prize for the best poster or paper from each College and a Provost’s Prize selected from the top College presentations.

The poster session will begin at 1 p.m. with 90 submissions. This session will be followed by panel papers for students presenting their research on freshmen writing. The presentation of awards will be held at 3 p.m.

Junior Melinda Weaver will be presenting interesting information concerning the psychology of compliments.

“The first study was asking people to name the best compliment they have ever received. My group and I categorized them based on personality, skill, appearance, possession, and others. We wanted to see which people valued as important to them based on these topics,” she said.

“The second study was conducting research on freshmen. We had them carry journals recording compliments. Then they would fill out their “life satisfaction” by asking them questions in survey form. We wanted to find out if giving compliments had any correlation with life satisfaction.”

Since the start of the Annual Academic Festival, it has grown exponentially across the Colleges at Sacred Heart.

“When we started the Academic Festival there was less than 130 students participating, which is less than 10 percent of the graduating class,” said Michels. “I think everybody who graduates should present some kind of research, so my ultimate goal is to get over 1,000 students.”

The reason I think undergraduate research is so important is because it’s all about students being able to make original contributions to their discipline, which is really the ultimate goal of why everyone comes to college or Sacred Heart,” Michels said.

On April 3 in San Bruno, California, Nasim Najafi Aghdam allegedly shot three people at YouTube Headquarters. A 36-year-old man was in critical condition, a 32-year-old woman was in serious condition and a 27-year-old woman was in fair condition, said a spokesman for San Francisco General Hospital.

Ismail Aghdam, father of Nasim Aghdam, said his daughter was looking for a job on Monday and did not answer her phone for two days. Mountain View police called Ismail Aghdam on Tuesday morning around 2 a.m. saying she was found in a car sleeping. The police were warned by her father that she may be heading towards YouTube Headquarters because she “hated” the company.

“The Police even interviewed her before the attack as they found her sleeping in a car,” said Sacred Heart Social Work Professor Kenneth Mysogland. “Yet she was not arrested or placed into a psychiatric hospital and was not viewed as a danger to herself or others. In retrospect, we wish more had been done. But the reality is that people can present themselves as stable and influence a professional’s assessment.”

“It was a woman and she was hiring her gun. And I just said, ‘Shooters,’ and everybody started running,” said YouTube employee Dianna Arrington.

“I do question why no one contacted YouTube to advise them of her anger and that she was for sure not in close proximity to the headquarters,” said Mysogland. “This is not to blame but to point out, again, that we need to be vigilant in our efforts to protect ourselves and others when we are concerned about the actions of another person at a particular moment.”

During the incident, the employees at the headquarters were found hiding all throughout the facility while others were dialing for help. Google, the corporate owner of YouTube, said that the security at the site was working with the employees to help evacuate them from the building.

The shooter was found and appeared to have a "self-inflicted gunshot wound," said San Bruno Police Chief Ed Barberini.

“This is not a typical shooting, as women are far less likely to engage in this type of behavior than males,” said Mysogland. "The motive appears clear in that she was upset at the company for allegedly, in her opinion, restricting access to and possibly even censoring her videos on the YouTube website.

"I'm glad I get spam emails from Facebook as I know I'm single and don't need an email to remind me."

"Tweets of the Week" are taken from www.yodelingboyatshu.com and feature notable events.

COFFEE WITH IMAM GAZI
Coffee with Imam Gazi Student Commons, 4 p.m.

DANCE SPRING FINALE
Edgerton Theater, 1 p.m.

SENIORS: CAP and GOWN
Distribution Begins (4/25-4/26)

SHU Bookstore

FAKE NEWS Or Not?
Walmart Yodeling Boy Is the New 2018 Spring Concert

After French Montana canceled his show hours before the doors to the William H. Pitt Center were opened, it became obvious that Sacred Heart University needed to give the student body a boost, and especially the seniors, a make-up performance. After his 45 second Twitter clip of him singing Hank Williams’ "Lovesick Blues" in his local Walmart skyrocketed him to fame, Mason Ramsey booked his next performance at Sacred Heart directly after Coachella.

Tickets can be purchased at www.yodelingboyatschu.com

"Tweets of the Week" are taken from a public forum on Twitter. Tweets are opinions of the individual and do not represent the opinions of Sacred Heart University or The Spectrum News-paper. If you want to see your Tweet in the newspaper, use the hashtag #ShuSpectrum and you may be featured.

"Life after college looks like a black hole despair that I am not ready to jump into."

"If I was Khloe I would sell Tristan can see the birth of his child on the next season of KUWTK."

"The reason I think undergraduates research is so important is because it's all about students being able to make original contributions to their discipline, which is really the ultimate goal of why everyone comes to college or Sacred Heart," Michels said.

"Life after college looks like a black hole despair that I am not ready to jump into."
Sacred Heart Introduces New Superintendent Program

BY ERIC CASSIDY
Staff Reporter

Sacred Heart University will introduce their new (093) state certification program for educators seeking to become future superintendents of public schools across America. The program will begin in the fall of 2018, making Sacred Heart the only institution in the state providing superintendents of schools (093) certification program.

According to the Sacred Heart University website, this new addition will be placed under the Isabelle Farrington College of Education. Completing this course will earn the students a six-year diploma at the end of their term.

"I think it is great. In our current climate we need to emphasize education in order to continue to improve our communities, and that starts with strong leadership and strong superintendents," said senior Shawn Lee.

The program will be directed by Doctor of Education David G. Title, an assistant professor in the Education Leadership and Literacy Department. He will cover two courses throughout the duration of the program as well as supervise the order of operations within the department. The rest of the staff will be composed of highly reputable school superintendents that will help guide and educate their future students through their coursework.

"This will provide full-time working professionals with outstanding preparation for the superintendent role. We aim to build on the number of highly skilled leaders able to fill the increasing number of vacancies for school superintendents," said David G. Title to the University.

"The University has always done an excellent job with developing new programs that involve well-rounded and experienced professors. I'm happy to see that they are yet again starting up a new program that will better the future of our educational system," said senior Chris Peterman.

The certification program will include 15-18 students who will take part in five courses, each counting for three credits, as well as completing a final capstone. Of the five courses the students will be taking, one of them will be a yearlong internship. The internship will focus on placing the students in real-world scenarios to gain more exposure and practical experience. Candidates will be assigned to several school districts where they will work with current superintendents.

"My sister has had a positive experience with the graduate program for elementary education. Knowing her success, I can strongly say that the future candidates for this certification program will experience wild success," said senior Ryan Borehardt.

The inaugural program will begin this coming August and run until May of 2019. Students who are accepted into the program will attend only Saturday classes to prevent time conflcitions with their potentially full-time employment.

"The program’s goal is to ensure that every candidate acquires the knowledge and skills necessary to be a successful superintendent of schools upon completion," said David G. Title to the University.

In order to be accepted into the certification program, applicants must have a 092 certification, meaning that they must hold a master's degree as well as 18 course credits. Candidates must also have an intermediate administrator position with at least two years of experience and the support of their current Superintendent.

"As great as it is that Sacred Heart keeps wanting to expand their programs, I feel that they should focus more on strengthening the broad subjects and majors that already exist as opposed to spreading themselves too thin," said junior Greg Argenio.

"I think that this is a great opportunity for students who are aspiring to be future educators here at Sacred Heart. This program will be able to give students exposure to something that is significant to the education system," said freshman Tim Beitz.

Game Design Program Ranked as One of the Best in the U.S.

BY SEAN KELLY
Staff Reporter

Sacred Heart University was ranked 43rd by the Princeton Review as one of the best universities in the country for their undergraduate game design program and 20th for their graduate program.

"One strength of our undergraduate program is that game designers get a computer science degree, so that means that when our students go to work for studios the studio knows that they know how to code very well," said Robert McCloud, Ed.D, Associate Professor of Computer Science at Sacred Heart University.

"A lot of programs don’t require computer science education, so our program in essence is a more rigorous program than many others," said McCloud. "Another thing that sets Sacred Heart apart from many other universities is the motion capture lab, which allows students to create and animate their own 3D biped objects.

Undergraduates in Sacred Heart’s game design program follow a computer science curriculum, learning how to digitally create and render 3D objects, generate all the art work involved in game design and how to develop a story.

"I always have been aware of the game design program at Sacred Heart and it’s always blown me away. When I was a freshman I had the privilege of sitting in on Andrew Jackman’s senior project, which consisted of the game that he had recently designed in class," said senior Patrick Mahoney.

"As a long-time gamer, I found it was so interesting that a classmate of mine is making games just like the ones I’ve grown up playing. It’s really cool to go to an amazingly diverse school like Sacred Heart because you’re surrounded by students accelerating in so many fields," said Mahoney.

"Sacred Heart University as a whole has encompassed diversity to the fullest. Nothing makes me more excited than to see success in a program like game design that was so new when I first started here at SHU," said 2016 graduate Thomas Villarino.

The rankings have also attracted other students who are considering getting their masters in game design.

"I think this should not only be celebrated as a success, but rather a unique opportunity," said senior Phill Zeller. "All my life I have been passionate about the game industry and in game design.

"Sacred Heart apart from many other universities is the motion capture lab, which allows students to create and animate their own 3D biped objects."

"Professor McCloud has been instrumental to the success of the game design program," said Shanshan Wang, Assistant Professor of Communications and Media Arts at Sacred Heart.

"We share the same vision in providing students with the most advanced technologies," said Wang. "Our interdisciplinary collaboration combines game design and cinematic narrative using the leading platform for virtual reality, providing students with new forms for creative expression as well as learning and practical opportunities."
Perspectives

Is a Hot Dog a Sandwich?

EVE...

"Is a hot dog a sandwich?" This question has recently been put under the spotlight by millennials and Twitter-users alike who dare to break the conventions upon which their lives have been built.

So basically, it’s an important question. And in my opinion, it’s an issue that Spectrum at this point cannot ignore.

Before I give you my opinion on the answer to this question, let me begin with something that should settle the debate. In fact, there should not even be a debate because it is so simple to sort about to point out...

The Merriam-Webster dictionary defines "hot dog" as: "a frankfurter with a typically mild flavor that is heated and usually served in a long split roll."

And the Merriam-Webster dictionary defines "sandwich" as: "two or more slices of bread or a split roll having a filling in between."

Bam, problem solved. A hot dog and a sandwich can both be a split roll with contents inside.

Although I feel that this is the end of the argument, I have an entire column left to fill up. So, I’ll further explain myself.

I fully believe that a hot dog is a sandwich. I understand that it’s not an idea we’re comfortable with – and that hot dogs and sandwiches are not similar concepts at first thought for most.

But it comes down to the definition. And based on the definition, a hot dog does indeed qualify as a sandwich.

Now this doesn’t change anything for anyone who disagrees. Just because a hot dog is a sandwich (yes, I settled the debate), it doesn’t mean you have to refer to it as so from now on. You can continue to call a hot dog a “hot dog.” This doesn’t mean the sandwich definition isn’t there; it just means you don’t have to bring it up every time you eat a hot dog.

I, however, will from here on out refer to hot dogs as sandwiches. This idea does – as I mentioned earlier – break the conventions with which we’ve become so comfortable. But it’s the challenging topics like this that our world so desperately needs.

The question of "is a hot dog a sandwich?" is not limited to split rolls and frankfurters. This question is a deeply philosophical one that can speak to much larger topics and debates in our modern society.

By contesting the traditional idea of hot dogs as hot being sandwiches, we are taking a progressive step towards challenging everything we thought we knew. Today, it’s hot dogs. Tomorrow, it’s gender roles and global warming. Asking ourselves “Is a hot dog a sandwich?” is not merely a time-wasting Internet meme. It is an eye-opening conversation starter that our modern global society is begging to begin. This question is a critical step in the right direction for becoming #woke.

If we don’t challenge our societal norms and debate about whether or not we’re living our lives in the right way, then what’s the point to it all? What’s the point to living and being human and attempting to spark change in our world?

Change will not be enacted unless we ask ourselves the uncomfortable, taboo questions that make us think. And it all starts with one question: "Is a hot dog a sandwich?"

ANTHONY...

"Is a hot dog a sandwich?" A classic question, a classic debate, and I’m glad we’ve brought it up.

When you go to a baseball game – be it little league, high school, the major leagues or any level really – you’ll probably find a hot dog stand.

An American classic (inspired by similar variations from Germany or Austria (it’s still debatable where the sausage originated) called the "Frankfurter") the hot dog is a symbol of pastimes, good energy, friends sharing quality moments together and more.

A simple combination of wiener on bun, perhaps with a condiment or five, the hot dog is a staple of American finger food at worst, and an elite member of its ranks at best.

To get down to the business end of this topic, let’s explore the debate of it all. "Is a hot dog a sandwich?" To that, I say no.

For me, the cool thing about the hot dog is that it lives in a league of its own. Hamburgers are definitely in the same class, but the two have different styles; they don’t hang out at lunch. Although a similar concept with being on a set of buns and having condiment potential, burgers are closer to a traditional sandwich in my eyes.

I think the hot dog shouldn’t be considered a sandwich because it looks so much different than every other sandwich out there. A single bun—one so thick—with a tubular meat inside that isn’t sliced thin? The appearance alone is good enough grounds to not have to call a hot dog a sandwich.

Another reason I give the hot dog theinction of not being a sandwich and rather having its very own category is that I like individuality. I appreciate a food item going out there every day and proving itself as a standout.

Yes, the hot dog is basically a sausage on a bun, but that’s the point: it’s on a bun. Sausages get thrown on buns all the time (street fairs, food vendors in ballparks, etc.) but not like a traditional hotdog. Hot dogs enter a bun with swagger. They rest there like an elderly man who’s in good health and has many accomplishments under his belt.

And hot dogs just taste different than any other sausage. Your average sausage has that zesty, mixed-up impression on the palette, whereas the typical hotdog comes with a slightly different texture and a porkier taste. (Guy Fieri should be texting me any minute to fill that copywriter position.)

To be honest, when I go to a sporting event, I’m definitely more of a cheeseburger guy. They might cost me about $12 dollars at a Mets game, but those Pat LaFrieda burgers are just so good.

Even so, I appreciate a good hot dog too; especially from places like Super Duper Weenie in Fairfield. The hot dogs at that place are immaculate. (I recommend some Cincinnati chili action for the best experience.)

Lastly, since I’ve already established the hot dog as a non-sandwich, I’ll share my favorite kinds of hot dogs— as far as combinations of condiments go. My go-to is a hot dog with a thin strip of ketchup and mustard. Chili dogs are my second favorite, and the ones with those saucy red onions are a super close third.

In conclusion, hot dogs are not sandwiches. They are hot dogs, they are great and I hope you don’t call them sandwiches.
The American Meme: Is Going Viral the New American Dream?

BY GINA D'AMICO
Staff Reporter

Imagine saying or doing something funny, but the next thing you know, you’re all over social media having “memes” created about you? Merriam-Webster.com defines a “meme” as “an idea, behavior, style, or usage that spreads from person to person within a culture or an amusing or interesting item (such as a captioned picture or video) or a genre of items that is spread widely online especially through social media.”

Junior Samantha Trott explains how she likes finding memes to share with her friends. “I think memes are hilarious and I am constantly sending them or tagging people in them,” said Trott. “I love when people do that back to me,” said Trott. “But typically, before I go to bed, I’ll scroll through the discover page of my Instagram and I see them there.”

After yodeling in Walmart, 11-year-old Mason Ramsey became famous within days. Social media caused Ramsey’s yodeling video to go viral. People began sharing the video, commenting on it, and making memes out of it. Many of the famous and funny memes people see, hear or send around, such as the “Catch Me Outside Girl” or Kermit the Frog sipping the tea, have skyrocketed making it exponentially funnier.

Sophomore Sean Burke explains how technology and social media play a large role in adding to the popularity of memes. “I’m a big fan of memes because of how they impact social media,” said Burke. “I think it’s awesome how far technology has come and some of the benefits that came along with it.”

“I love Twitter because of how quickly and often a meme can go viral and how much they explode in terms of popularity,” said Burke. “The second someone makes a meme that people think is funny, it spreads like wildfire and hundreds and thousands of other people start making their own individual critiques to the meme, and it just makes it exponentially funnier.”

With the potential for stardom and monetization that comes with being an internet sensation/meme, some people think that this can be considered the new “American Dream.”

Sophomore Erica Condon is not only a big fan of memes, but she believes that they may be one of the new “American Dreams.” “My friends and I are constantly sending each other memes and referencing them in our everyday conversations, we even remake our own versions of them,” said Condon. “Although considering a meme to be an American Dream may sound silly, I think it could be true in our generation. With the rise of social media and the fast-moving technological world, a viral meme could be the start of a huge career.”

Sophomore Bobby Garbuio thinks that the American Dream means more than just becoming a meme star. “I personally love memes because they are very entertaining,” said Garbuio. “However, I would not consider them to be the new “American Dream” because, in my opinion, the “American Dream” is a story of overcoming odds and perseverance by making something out of nothing.”

“With memes, there is usually no work involved however someone just capturing something on a camera that they think is funny or entertaining,” said Garbuio. “Usually people who are famous for memes are in the spotlight for a few minutes and then we forget about it.”

However, junior Caroline King thinks that memes make social media overall better. “I think people make conversations over them occasionally, especially over social media,” said King. “Memes are super fun and I love them. They make me laugh so much and I love when my friends tag me in them. I think they make social media better.”

Some students are looking forward to the freedom and increase in free time after graduation. “What I’m really looking forward to is all that can be done remotely,” said Mahoney. “So really, I’m going to be traveling while preparing for medical school for the next year, and so I’m pretty excited.”

Another student, recent alumna Tyler Beauchesne-Headley, expressed a desire to stay close to Sacred Heart University. “I’ve always been sure of illustrating and designing - I’ve been doing it since I was very young, and it’s what I studied here,” said Beauchesne-Headley. “So obviously, [those are] the kind of jobs I’m looking for.”

While there’s plenty of opportunities in Boston near where I’m from and in New York City, I would prefer something that allows me to stay near the university for the time being,” said Beauchesne-Headley. “I also gave grad school some thought but I’m not going right away.”

There were also seniors who have quite a different outlook on their track now compared to four years ago, including senior Derek Beckett. “From the beginning, I wanted to do graduate school, but I feel like I’m well equipped to enter the business world with my dual majors in finance and business economics,” said Beckett. “I have had some job offers, both of which I turned down in anticipation of a pending offer.”

Graduate students brought other insights into the discussion. “Now that I’ve done, I’m 100 percent focused on getting a position as a cybersecurity analyst, no further school,” said graduate student Ashwin Chelladurai. “I think all graduate students are probably that committed to getting some particular specialized job, unless they are looking to get a PhD.”

“Unlike for undergraduate students, I don’t see that I can continue to develop my knowledge without actually working anywhere,” said Chelladurai. “I mean, that’s what undergraduate students go to grad school for, including me, and I’m about to finish.”

BY MICHAEL NICHOLS
Staff Reporter

This time of the year holds special importance for undergraduate seniors or final trimester graduate students. For these students, it’s nearly the end of their college careers. These students are gearing up for a major transition. It is a culmination in which each student needs to take everything learned over the last few years and assess how to use it to reach his or her next and greatest ambition. This time in a student’s life is a crossroads in this sense.

“Even though graduation is a bit scary, and getting everything in order beforehand is hectic, that’s true of any change of scenery,” said senior Patrick Mahoney. “All in all, I’m pretty excited for the next step in my life. I’m going to graduate with a biology degree on the pre-medical track, so in the next year I’m going to be studying for the MCAT and applying to osteopathic schools.”

Some students are looking for ward to their new careers as medical doctors, others are looking forward to working in the business world. Graduate student Sam Chelladurai described his plans. “I think all graduate students are probably that committed to getting some particular specialized job, unless they are looking to get a PhD.”

“I don’t see that I can continue to develop my knowledge without actually working anywhere,” said Chelladurai. “I mean, that’s what undergraduate students go to grad school for, including me, and I’m about to finish.”

POET’S CORNER

By Samantha Jones, Freshman

Snake Eyes

he leaps in my mind sometimes
still
dick and smooth
a slithering snake
praying
gliding through my thoughts
slipping out of my grasp
just when I think I’ve caught my monster

Oh, my body is still held captive
my body is still yours;

you entered unwanted
without a word
quietly and sneakily

your venom courses through my veins
and stings with each gasping breath
my body is still held captive
my body is still yours;

you entered unwanted
without a word

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All Good Things Must Come to an End

CHRISTINA DIMAURO
FEATURES EDITOR

Sacred Heart gave me the opportunity to meet some amazing individuals, like the friends who can make me laugh until I cry and the Spectrum staff that I have spent the last two years with who can make the most awful Mondays into some of the best.

Also, thank you to the professors who have taught me and given me more knowledge than I had when I was 18. I will be forever grateful to all of these people and everything I have done in the past four years.

So yes, the best part of my life so far is quickly coming to an end, and I’m not sure where I’m headed, but I’m sure I’m going to miss this place. I’ve called home for the past four years.

On May 13th, I will be saying goodbye to one of the most important chapters of my entire life and begin my journey into the next one.
Tell Us Your Story: Christina Magliocco

BY LEAH ZINSKY
Staff Reporter

Sophomore Christina Magliocco will be participating in the Girls Who Invest Online Program.

Do you ever wonder what it’s like to take classes at a different school other than Sacred Heart?

Sophomore Christina Magliocco from Bethany Conn. will be getting that experience this summer, as she was accepted and will be participating in the Girls Who Invest Online Program.

“I’m really excited to start the program because it will set me apart from the other applicants seeking a career within the competitive field that is financial services,” said Magliocco.

The program runs for a year from June 1, 2018 - June 1, 2019. The program provides modeling skills which are required for any skill or career in asset management.

The Girls Who Invest website states that they offer college students the opportunity to participate in a self-study certificate program in partnership with the CFA Institute, the global association of investment professionals that sets the standard for professional excellence.

The 2018 Online Learners program has partnerships through ‘Coursera,’ one of the largest online platforms for higher education, and CFA Institute investment program.

One of the many benefits to this program is gaining free access to finance courses through University of Pennsylvania Wharton’s Business and Financial program. The courses feature some of the world’s best in finance, management, and leadership.

A review from a woman who already completed the course says the online environment is engaging, and always an ongoing community.

There are 17 courses offered overall online, but Magliocco will take six within the first year.

She found out about the application process though an email during fall semester and was the only one out of the entire Sacred Heart community to take the initiative to apply.

“I was shocked that I was only up against myself from the Sacred Heart community, because we got multiple emails to get us to apply,” said Magliocco.

The application was offered to any female finance major that is a freshman or sophomore at Sacred Heart.

Sheila Lillis, associate director of career development and placement within the Jack Welch College of Business, encouraged Magliocco to apply for the position. With a little convincing, Magliocco realized how beneficial the position could be to her.

The Summer Intensive Program includes training in ethics from the CFA Institute, Bloomberg Terminal, presentation skills, and interview preparation. The curriculum also includes site visits with select management firms.

During Magliocco’s senior year of high school, she realized that she wanted to go into the business field. Her cousin worked in the finance field and shared their love of finance with her, which inspired Magliocco to want to be just like them, and that is how her interest in finance began.

Being a member of Sacred Heart’s finance business economy club, as well as the student managed investment fund, impacted Magliocco. Magliocco’s major is finance, along with a double minor in math and business analytics.

The application process included many questionnaires about courses of study and exposure to finance, as well as two letters of recommendation, two essays, and a video introduction.

Upon completion of the courses, Magliocco will receive a ‘resume-worthy’ certificate from the Wharton School of Business, and access to the Girls Who Invest business’s job boards with their partner firms.

“I hope that taking the courses will not only give me exposure to finance classes, but also give me a head start in what to expect when I take my finance classes at Sacred Heart next fall,” said Magliocco.

The program also offers an in-person program where they are housed at a select college and obtain a paid internship while learning.

Magliocco will be busy this summer as she completes this program. She will also be interning at Barnum Financial Group as their Sophomore intern, working with the financial advisory branch.

For more about the program visit http://www.girlswhoinvest.org/students.
Dunkin’ Donuts Announces New Snacks

BY KAYLIN HUEY
Staff Reporter

Do you wait in Dunkin’ Donut’s long drive thru line every morning for your morning fix? Does your regular order consist of a bagel and coffee? If so, you might be in need of change. Have no fear, as Dunkin Donuts has just come out with their new snack menu.

Dunkin’ Donuts is testing out their new snack items at select locations. The snacks include donut fries, Munchkin dippers, waffle-breaded chicken tenders, pretzel bites, ham-and-cheese roll-ups, cookies, and gluten-free brownies, all at a price of $2.

Dunkin’ is awaiting the response of their newly released snacks to see if they will make a run with it. If the snack menu is a success, then these snacks may be at a Dunkin near you soon. This addition of snack foods to their mostly breakfast food menu, makes Dunkin a perfect stop for a mid-day pick me up.

“Having a gluten-free option on the menu would only benefit individuals who are gluten-free. Considering a vast majority of people are gluten-free, if they offer stuff for them, more Dunkin'! I would love to try these snacks if I could ever find them. It will be a great change. Have no fear, as Dunkin Donuts has just come out with their new snack menu. Dunkin’ Donuts is such a huge part of many American’s lives, as their slogan is literally “American runs on Dunkin’.” Dunkin’ states that, “We strive to keep you at your best, and we remain loyal to you, your tastes and your time. That’s what America runs on.”

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“Having a gluten-free option on the menu would only benefit individuals who are gluten-free. Considering a vast majority of people are gluten-free, if they offer stuff for them, they are only benefiting themselves by gaining new customers,” said Ronan.

According to Dunkin’s website, they serve over 3 million customers a day. These customers all have different tastes but they share the same need for fast service and low price items. These new snacks fulfill customers need for instant gratification.

“I think it has potential. I feel like the cookies and brownies would be a hit,” said junior Jack Sullivan.

“Dunkin’ Donuts is such a huge part of many American’s lives, as their slogan is literally “American runs on Dunkin’.” Dunkin’ states that, “We strive to keep you at your best, and we remain loyal to you, your tastes and your time. That’s what America runs on.”

“I think these snacks are great! It makes people want to find these locations and want the waffle breaded chicken fingers of two fingers comes to 290 calories. Are these options offered at Dunkin’ Donuts across the country, with a total of 11,300 in the world. These new snacks are only available in select locations, so customers must travel to try these new tasty snacks. The Trumbull and Bridgeport Dunkin’ Donuts do not have these new snacks on their menu.

“I think these snacks are great! It makes people want to find these locations and want more Dunkin’! I would love to try these snacks if I could ever find them. It will be a great success once people start to learn about them,” said junior Jack Sullivan.

There are around 8,500 Dunkin’ Donuts across the country, with a total of 11,300 in the world. These new snacks are only available in select locations, so customers must travel to try these new tasty snacks. The Trumbull and Bridgeport Dunkin’ Donuts do not have these new snacks on their menu.

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“American runs on Dunkin’.” Dunkin’ states that, “We strive to keep you at your best, and we remain loyal to you, your tastes and your time. That’s what America runs on.”

“But does that bagel or donut fries really keep you at your best?”

The calorie count for five donut fries is 240, the gluten-free brownies are 350 calories, and the waffle breaded chicken fingers of two fingers comes to 290 calories. Are these snacks really what customers want? Some students say they would like to see healthier options offered at Dunkin’.

“I think that Dunkin’ Donut’s would make way more money if they had healthier options near you that sells these products, visit Dunkin’ Donuts website.

DUNKIN’ DONUTS IS INTRODUCING A NUMBER OF NEW MENU ITEMS INCLUDING DONUT FRIES.:

Dunkin-Donuts-Announces-New-Snacks.jpg
**Mean Girls** on Broadway: That’s So Fetch!

**BY JULIA LEONARD**  
Staff Reporter

The musical adaptation of the film “Mean Girls” is here and is taking center stage. With comedian Tina Fey creating the screenplay and starring in the film, “Mean Girls” debuted in 2004. Fey also came back to write the script for the play as well. Cady Heron finds herself in a new jungle when she moves from Africa to Illinois and begins a life as an average girl in high school. She gets involved with the Plastics, or the “cool” girls in school. Regina George is the queen of the Plastics with her sidekicks Gretchen Wiener and Karen Smith. Cady loses her true self during her time with the Plastics but finds herself again.

Now that the movie has been made into a musical there is a switch from on screen to real life. Many of the jokes and lines are incorporated into the play. Students have expressed their interest in seeing the movie come to life.

“I would totally go see the play. I think they should have kept it as a movie but it’ll be funny to watch,” freshman Car-mela Badolato said.

The musical’s first performance was in 2017, but made its Broadway debut on April 8. It stars Ericka Henningsen as Cady, Taylor Louderman as Regina, Ashley Park as Gretchen, and Kate Rockwell as Karen.

“I would like to see it, I think it’s really cool that it’s being made into a play and I think a lot of young women who grew up watching the movie, like me, will absolutely love it,” said senior Tori Gilbert.

“I actually want to see ‘Mean Girls’ on Broadway because it is one of my favorite movies,” said senior Jen Gilmartin.

Some students want to see the Broadway musical but their expectations for it are mixed. The play is different from the movie because it is a musical. Adding songs and dance performances will tell the story in a different way.

“I do not have the highest expectations for it, but I think it will be pretty good. Though, I don’t think it will be like the movie if they are adding in music,” Badolato said.

When it premiered in 2004, the film grossed $292 million dollars. It has become a part of social culture today, especially with millennials.

“I think it’ll do really well. My expectations are set really high for the musical,” said Gilbert.

“I think it’ll be like the movie but there’ll probably be slight differences since it’s a musical but I’m sure it’ll be amazing.”

Some hope that their favorite scenes from the movie will appear on stage as well.

“My favorite scene is when they hand out the candy canes and Gretchen Wiener gets none,” said Gilbert.

“Mean Girls” on Broadway has been getting quite the talk from fans of the movie. The musical is up to date with things such as social media, something the movie did not have at the time of its release.

“My all-time favorite scene has to be the talent show when they all sing Jingle Bell Rock. It’s iconic and I hope it is in the musical,” said Gilmartin.

The show plays at August Wilson Theatre in New York City and ticket prices start at $79.50.
**By Stephanie Doheny**  
Staff Reporter

The house lights dim, the spotlights come on, and in front of you is a beautiful set. You can almost feel the warm sunlight bouncing off of the storefronts.

The band starts to play "In the Heights" and you are transported to the ever-vibrant Washington Heights.

From April 12 to April 15, Sacred Heart University's Theatre Arts Program put on Lin-Manuel Miranda's, "In the Heights." Making its Broadway debut in 2008, the show has since won three Tony Awards, including Best Musical, and has gone on a National tour.

"In the Heights" tells the story of the Hispanic-American neighborhood of Washington Heights in New York City. It takes place over the span of three days, mainly following the lives of Usnavi, Abuela Claudia, Vanessa, Nina Rosario and Benny. These characters and their families are all intertwined, making for a musical story that really hits home.

"The cast is extremely talented, the crew that we have is phenomenal," said Assistant Director of the production, sophomore Hannah Jones. "Everyone just works like a family and like a community to get this done."

And as she said, their hard work really did pay off. You could tell the audience was mesmerized by what was going on. The actors and actresses had such amazing voices. The dancers were phenomenal. You could almost feel their movements in your soul. Everyone's performances were very moving.

"I thought it was fun and vibrant. It was a different kind of show," said senior Hayley Lopreto. "I liked how it explored different cultures. I thought that all the roles, the people who played them, were cast perfectly. They made the show even better." Often times, I've heard it said amongst students that Sacred Heart is their home—that it is part of their family. For those of you who saw the show, I hope you can still hear that final note ringing in your ears, because I know it hasn't left mine... "We're Home."

"It’s very interesting because this was something that I've never done," said Co-Producer of the production, sophomore Justin Weigel. "Lin-Manuel Miranda, who wrote the show, has a big Puerto Rico fundraiser, a big relief effort, and we figured why not help? It'll tie in perfectly with the show. We're so close to meeting our goal and just so happy we get to help."

After the closing performance, it was announced at the show’s post- musical celebration that after combining a portion of the ticket sales with the donations that were raised via social media and fundraisers on campus, the Theatre Arts Program significantly exceeded their goal of $10,000.

The event will not only feature various dance styles by Sacred Heart student artists, musicians, poets and more. Some of the music styles include afrobeats, which is a combination of West African musical styles and American R&B and jazz influences, soca music, which originated from the kaiso and calypso styles, reggae, and many more. The event will not only feature various dance styles by different groups in Dance Program, but also singers, rappers and spoken word artists. Performers from Bridport University, Fairfield University and Southern Connecticut State University were also invited to perform at the event.

"In the Heights" is set in the University Commons Auditorium so that the dancers and other performers can interact with audience members. There may also even be a chance that the encore will call up people for a dance battle.

Sometimes, I’ve heard it said amongst students that Sacred Heart is their home—that it is part of their family. For those of you who saw the show, I hope you can still hear that final note ringing in your ears, because I know it hasn’t left mine... "We’re Home."

**By Justin Lowe**  
Staff Reporter

On Thursday, April 19 in the University Commons Auditorium, Sacred Heart University’s Dance Program will be presenting their latest event, SHU SLAM: Urban Arts Showcase.

According to the Edgerton Center for the Performing Arts website, the SHU SLAM event was created to honor and enhance the diversity experience within the Dance Program, as well as to foster a sense of community with other Sacred Heart student artists, musicians, poets and more.

"The event wanted to create a sense of atmosphere where people can showcase their talents," said Director of Dance Kari Williams. "But not like a talent show."

SHU SLAM is a showcase of a variety of methods and styles of dance.

Some of the music styles include afrobeats, which is a combination of West African musical styles and American R&B and jazz influences, soca music, which originated from the kaiso and calypso styles, reggae, and many more.

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"In the Heights:"  
A Review of the Theatre Arts Program’s Spring Musical  
BY STEPHANIE DOHENY  
Staff Reporter

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The event will not only feature various dance styles by different groups in Dance Program, but also singers, rappers and spoken word artists. Performers from Bridport University, Fairfield University and Southern Connecticut State University were also invited to perform at the event.

Most of the Dance Program’s performances are located in the Edgerton Center for the Performing Arts. SHU SLAM is set in the University Commons Auditorium so that the dancers and other performers can interact with audience members. There may also even be a chance that the encore will call up people for a dance battle.

Those who put the event together want to make a fun, comfortable environment where everyone can not only come together and celebrate the urban arts, but also learn about different cultures and ethnicities.

When the event is over, there will be an after party for dancers, performers and audience members to mingle and keep the celebration going.

Tickets for SHU SLAM are $10 for general admission, which includes the after party. The event is free for Sacred Heart students, with a $5 admission fee for the after party.

"It's raw, unfiltered, real deal fun," said Co-Coordinator of SHU SLAM, senior Shantel Morris. "You should have an open mind because there's going to be so many different things being thrown at you."
The Sacred Heart University dance team competed in the 2018 National Cheer Association and National Dance Association Collegiate Cheer and Dance Championship in Daytona, Fla. They finished in eighth place.

BY JOHN KAYWOOD
Staff Reporter

The Sacred Heart University dance team participated in the 2018 National Cheer Association (NCA) & National Dance Association (NDA) Collegiate Cheer and Dance Championship in Daytona, Fla. The event took place from April 5-7, and the team finished eighth.

The eighth-place finish in the finals came after a performance in the sudden elimination Challenge Cup. This was the third time in a row that the Pioneers won the Challenge Cup to get into the finals.

Coach Deirdre Eller-Hennessey, who is in her 19th year at Sacred Heart, began the tradition of participating in Daytona based competition. Eller-Hennessey had full confidence in her group to get the job done.

“My three captains were just unbelievable, from the start of preseason to football then to basketball and all the way through the competition,” said Eller-Hennessey. “They were supportive, encouraging and just had the focus of a team mentality.”

The leadership by the three captains and rest of the veterans leaders played a pivotal role. The team traveled with 26 dancers to Daytona, 13 of whom had never participated in the event. The stress and anxiety of the Challenge Cup and overall tournament itself can be a bit daunting for the newcomers.

“It was difficult not going straight through to finals but we had strong confidence going into Challenge Cup,” said senior captain Monique Cote. “As captains, it is our job to lead the team in the right direction, no matter what the situation is.”

The Pioneers edged out Northeast Conference rival Bryant University 8,562-8,550, in the Challenge Cup. The routine was filled with passion and ignited the crowd. It also did not go unnoticed by the judges. “Overall the routine is fun and energetic, and as the judges mentioned in saying, ‘you can tell that you love this dance,’ we were happy to see that our message and love for this dance was portrayed to the audience,” said senior captain Marina Muscarella.

The song that led them to a trophy was “Tie Me” by Kim Viera, a tune from the movie “Pitch Perfect Three.”

The Pioneers had to shoot for perfection on the main stage called the Bandshell, which is an outdoor venue that holds a crowd of 7,000. Due to some setbacks and difficult circumstances, the Pioneers were challenged right up until National Championship week in Daytona.

“Our biggest obstacle as a team this year was the definite amount of injuries we had to deal with throughout the season. We had very few full-team practices, making practices much more difficult,” said senior captain Marissa Gavilan. “We have had multiple concussions, shoulder injuries, bruises, and the list goes on.”

The team did not travel with a trainer to Daytona for the competition, so most of the recovery and pre-routine preparation was done in-house.

Along with the injuries and lack of a training staff, finding the time to rest and re-energize in Daytona was tough to come by as well. “We start each day with hair and makeup around 5:30, and its nonstop from there between practice time and our performances,” said Cote. “We don’t have much time, but that hour or so that we have for some days is the only time we really have to rest physically and mentally.”

The Pioneers had other achievements during the week in addition to their overall placing in the final.

“Coming home with two trophies along with fourth place in the hip-hop category, we knew all the hard work paid off,” said Muscarella.

Many of the Pioneers’ supporters travelled to Daytona and helped fill the stands during competitions and provide support throughout the week.

“We have almost 80 people traveling down with us, be it parents, aunts, uncles, cousins, siblings, grandparents,” said Eller-Hennessey. “It’s become a second family for a lot of people.”

The Sacred Heart X-Men rugby team has spent some of their time doing community service with the Horizons Program. They’ve been assisting elementary school children who are learning how to read.

According to the Horizons Program at Sacred Heart website, the program is a non-profit academic improvement organization that’s dedicated to helping low-income Bridgeport students.

“The Horizons Program was a tremendous opportunity and I feel like I got more out of it than the kids,” said junior John Flanigan. Flanigan said that his biggest takeaway from working with the Horizons Program was the team’s ability to work together on something other than rugby.

“Waking up every Saturday was a bit tough, but leaving there knowing that I made a difference on at least one kid’s life and seeing the kids progress each week made it all worth it,” said Flanigan. “One thing about this team is that we’re more than just a team, we’re a band of brothers.”

Volunteering is important to the team and it’s a belief that’s instilled in the team by head coach Ray Peterson. Giving back to the community by helping children has taught the team that there is more to life than they may realize.

“Community service to me is important because to get involved in that stuff opens your eyes to different communities and different things that are going on that you might not be aware of at that time,” said sophomore Jack Connelly. Along with volunteering, the team also hosted their Ruggerfest fundraiser in the University Commons (UC) auditorium on March 24.

There, they had different types of beer for everyone in attendance to sample and many different raffle prizes. All of the proceeds helped develop, they hope to continue to prove and show in attendance that they are one of the best rugby teams not only on the east coast, but in the entire country, as they continue to add more players.

“Right now as a team, we are trying to prepare them (new players) and ourselves as much as possible so that when the fall comes, we are ready to compete in our new conference,” said Flanigan.

The team will play at Yale University on Wednesday, April 18. After that, they’ll take on the University of Connecticut (UCONN) and the United States Coast Guard Academy (USCGA), on Sunday, April 22.
The night fell a little short for the Pioneers as they lost the match 3-1 on April 7, against Princeton. For five players, it was a special sadness, just happy tears," said senior Josh Ayzenberg. The men's volleyball team had a record of 5-14, going into their last weekend of competition. On April 13 and 14, the Pioneers played the University of Charleston in back to back matches in Virginia.

"They (Charleston) have had some good wins this season, we have to go out there and play our best. We just have to worry about our side of the net," said head coach Gregory Walker. "But they are a beatable team right now, we are able to do it."

The Pioneers won the first game 3-0 and lost 3-2 in the second game. For the team, this season was more than just about volleyball. The men focused just as much off the court, as on the court. "Life is about balance and I think that's what we do well," said Ayzenberg. "We all put out good GPA's and at the same time we were good on the court and in the weight room."

For the seniors especially, volleyball at Sacred Heart helped them in great ways. "It's a great responsibility being a student athlete. There's a certain standard you must perform at. You have to learn balance. It made me ready for the real world," said Costigan.

With some games not being played this year, it hurt the Pioneers. "We need those extra matches that were lost. If we had those, it would make a difference," said Walker.

With the season over, the Pioneers are saying a definite goodbye to three seniors and are welcoming six new members to the team for the class of 2022. With two seniors continuing their academic careers at Sacred Heart, they look to take their fifth year and keep playing.

In the NCAA (National Collegiate Athletic Association), you are allowed four years of eligibility. With two of the seniors possibly returning, that means that they "redshirt-ed" a year. Redshirted means you just take a year off from competition to improve your skills or recover from an injury.

Walker is looking forward to next year, but he is also upset that the seniors are leaving. "Next year we're going to have a good base to move forward. We need to focus on getting more non-conference wins, they are very important," said Walker.

The men reminisced on their times at Sacred Heart before the final games. "It was a great time, and I'm going to miss it. It was a sacrifice at times, but I'm happy with what happened while I was here," said Costigan.
The Sacred Heart University Women's Rugby Team displayed a dominant performance over Molloy, 32-0, on April 8.