Military Homecoming on Ice: Teagan Ketchum Surprised by Navy Brother

BY VICTORIA MESCALL
Circulation Manager & Staff Reporter

On Feb. 25 Teagan Ketchum, a Sacred Heart University senior and member of the women’s ice hockey team, was surprised by her older brother, United States Navy Petty Officer Second Class Trevor Ketchum, at her game against Saint Anselm University.

The surprise took place when Teagan was called to center ice for the starting faceoff, and her brother Trevor walked out on the ice to do the puck drop.

“When we first lined up on the blue line, I didn’t even hear my name called,” said Teagan. “One of my teammates, Maddie Bishop, pushed me forward. And that’s when I heard my brother’s name.”

Her brother was returning home from a 14-month deployment.

“She was so happy to see him,” said Teagan. “Her mother had originally led her to believe that Trevor would not be able to make it home until graduation in May. I worked with my mom for a week or so to come up with the plan,” said Trevor. “We kept it a secret that I was coming back early, and all of the family hid outside the rink until the team came out for the line up.”

Trevor hid in the penalty box so that he would not be seen until he was called to do the opening puck drop.

“I was excited to see her, but I was worried that she would tackle me on the ice,” said Trevor. “I didn’t expect her to start crying and calling me names. It was great to finally give her a hug after so long and I know how much she loves her hugs.”

Since the siblings had not seen each other in over a year, the reunion was emotional for the both of them.

“My brother and I have always been close,” said Teagan. “Ever since I was little he took care of me. He is the reason I started to play hockey because I wanted to be just like him. It has been hard to not be able to see or talk to him. To finally be able to hug him was the best feeling.”

Sean Kaschak is the Sacred Heart videographer who captured the emotional homecoming.

“I got a call from the athletics department the day before explaining that Teagan’s brother, Trevor, was going to surprise her, and that all of their video folks were tied up that day,” said Kaschak. “I ran the social media accounts here at SHU and I produce a lot of video content, so I was glad to be at the top of their call list.”

Kaschak said that he grew up watching and playing hockey, so he jokingly told the athletics department that he would only film if they let him do so on skates. The department was happy to oblige, and Kaschak even said that it made the job easier.

“I was honored to get to be a part of that moment as it was,” said Kaschak. “Videos like that get me every time, so it was really cool to be a part of one.”

The two-minute clip was viewed over 41 thousand times via Sacred Heart’s Facebook page, and was featured nationally by various news and sports outlets, including ESPN.

“10 views or one million views, it was such a neat thing to get to do and I get a kick out of watching Teagan’s reaction over and over,” said Kaschak. “I doubt it will ever get old.”

After falling to Saint Anselm in their game on Saturday, the women’s ice hockey team played Franklin Pierce University Sunday, Feb. 26 in the consolation round of the New England Hockey Conference (NEHC) Open Tournament.

To finish out the weekend and the Pioneer’s season, Teagan scored the final shootout goal.

After the game had reached a 4-4 tie and the five-minute overtime remained scoreless, the two teams went into a best-of-three shootout to determine final tournament placement.

In the shootout, Teagan’s goal closed out the season and secured the team’s third place finish in the NEHC Open Tournament.

Teagan said that for her shootout goal, she was more nervous than she had ever been.

“We practice shootouts in our pre-game skates every weekend and I always joke about only having one move,” said Teagan. “But I remember our assistant coach turning to me and saying, ‘pull your move, snap a shot to the right,’ and it worked.”
BY FAYE KENAJIAN
Staff Reporter

On Feb. 28, Stephanie Trelli, Coordinator of Safety and Security Programs at Sacred Heart University, presented to Professor Joanne Kabak’s News Writing and Reporting class what to do on campus in case of the emergency of an active shooter.

Trelli showed the class a video made by Public Safety on how to respond to this emergency situation.

“I think it’s great that time was designated in class to go over these safety skills,” said junior Julia Pencek. “In high school, we used to go over safety skills all the time but since I have been in college, there has not been that many safety procedures seminars or practices. I think it would be a great idea to implicate this seminar in all classes.”

This video included the three steps of what students should do: run, hide, then fight.

“The Department of Public Safety is entrusted with fostering and maintaining a safe and secure environment for the university community to pursue their academic, professional and personal ambitions. Dedicated to supporting the educational mission of the university, we value experiential learning and emphasize conflict resolution in all our interactions with students,” said Sacred Heart University’s website.

The video also detailed where students would get up to date information about the situation. According to it they would send out information to students, have a lock down, and later call off the lockdown when it was all determined to be safe again.

Police officers from surrounding cities and towns would be called to campus, seek out the shooter, and give instructions to people in the area in order to keep them safe.

“Seminars like these really make students feel safe and prepared on campus if something were to happen and it makes me proud to be a part of Sacred Heart to see the community doing such a great job of informing students,” said junior Caroline Desorti.

Currently, there is a Fairfield Police Officer on campus at all times in case a situation was to need immediate attention.

“Because of unfortunate situations that have recently been happening around our country, the first step in the right direction would include being educated and informed in order to have a safer community as a whole,” said junior Marissa Gurtler.

For further information on what to do in an active shooter situation, contact Stephanie Trelli or watch the video online at http://www.sacredheart.edu/offices/services/publicsafety/emergencymanagement/

“Fake News” Colloquium Highlights Key Media Issues

BY BRENDAN CAPUANO
Staff Reporter

Students gathered to listen to Professor Golda’s Media and Democracy class speak about the impact of fake news on society.

On Tuesday, Feb. 28 Sacred Heart University students and faculty organized a colloquium to address the issue of fake news.

Professor Gregory Golda’s Media and Democracy class organized “Media Matrix - Fake News, Real Problem.”

The colloquium was an hour long multi-media production featuring student presentations, lectures, interviews, as well as questions and answers with a panel of Sacred Heart School of Communication and Media Arts (SCMA) faculty.

“The term fake news is being used by powerful individuals to challenge any journalism that holds them accountable,” said Dr. Bill Youman, Assistant Professor and Director of the Media Literacy and Digital Communication Graduate program. “The real purpose of journalism is to do exactly that, hold the powerful accountable to the people, ask the tough questions, investigate areas that the powerful would rather not be investigated.”

Fake news is a term used to describe news published by outlets that may be entirely false, biased, or incorrect.

More recently, President Donald Trump has been tweeting that news outlets, like The New York Times and CNN, are producing fake or biased news stories.

The event, hosted by junior Faye Kenajian, began by interviewing Professor Joseph Alicastro, Coordinator of News & Broadcasting in the Masters in Communications (MACOMM) program.

Alicastro spoke about his 30-plus years of experience as a journalist working as a producer for NBC News, and how fake news’ role in society has affected the way that people see the news industry.

“The information was new and exciting and I really believe that creating this colloquium and sharing it with students allowed them to learn a lot about this important subject in our society today,” said Kenajian.

Alicastro reflected on how fake news’ definition has changed and how it can be detrimental to today’s society.

“Fake news is discrediting the good journalists doing the hard, legitimate work,” said Alicastro during the colloquium.

Some students also thought it addressed an important issue that will continue to affect current journalists and journalism students in the future.

“I think this colloquium was really important for Sacred Heart students to attend. It really showed the impact that fake news has on our society,” said sophomore Allison Desorti. “It told us how we should educate ourselves and how each of us individually can impact the future of news in our society.”

Students presented videos including a highlight reel from an interview with Professor Richard Fallo, Coordinator of Multimedia Journalism. A video was also presented by senior Christian Colon debunking a fake news meme, which is shared on Facebook.

There was also a presentation which offered tips on how to identify a reliable news source, fact check, and declare a source as fake news.

“I was able to see how much work goes into putting together information together and working as a team to be able to produce a great show,” said Kenajian. “I was the host and everyone was willing to share their information and opinions, and since there were so many different segments really it kept the students involved and interested.”

Youman also spoke about the importance of media literacy and knowing how to identify the flaws in the media and acknowledging the truth.

“I believe media literacy is essential for all citizens and it is increasingly be recognized as a crucial component from elementary to higher education and beyond,” said Youman.

The colloquium is available to watch online at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M4RZ6M7G1zc.

“I was very happy to take part in the SCMA colloquium on fake news because this issue is central to our future as a functioning democracy,” said Youman.

Freshman Charged With Falsifying Rape Accusations

BY NATALIE CIOFFARI
Editor-in-Chief

Last October, Sacred Heart University freshman Nikki Yovino reported that she was allegedly sexually assaulted by two football players at an off campus party.

Yovino recently recanted those statements and was later accused of lying about the rape.

“Something so serious shouldn’t be taken so lightly. When someone says they’ve been raped, we should automatically believe them, we shouldn’t have to then question, ‘hmm could she be lying about this?’” said senior Emily Creighton.

Police reported she made up the story in hopes of gaining the attention and the sympathy of a potential boyfriend.

“I feel like it’s a bit of a ‘cry wolf’ situation. The whole fake news completely de-legitimizes the seriousness of sexual assault on college campuses,” said graduate student Haley Tanella.

As reported by the CT Post, she was charged with “second-degree false reporting of an incident and tampering with or fabricating physical evidence.” She appeared in court on March 3 and pleaded not guilty.

“It is an extremely serious issue and it is not something for either men or women to falsely state. It is not only wrong to make false accusations but also is insulting to the actual victim. Her slander has negatively affected the lives of those involved. She should be held accountable for her actions,” said sophomore Terra Del Vecchio.

Yovino’s lawyer, Mark Sherman, told News 12 Connecticut that there is more to the story that will come out later in court. Yovino could potentially face up to five years in prison.

“Personally I think she should get a prison sentence equivalent to the one those two kids would have gotten, especially since she followed through with the accusation for months,” said senior Luke Schiele.

Although it was reported that the two men were dismissed from the university and lost their football scholarships, Deb Novack, Director of Communications said in a statement, “I can say that some of the early information that was released is inaccurate. Sacred Heart never expelled the two students nor was any student stripped of scholarships because of any allegations.”

CT Post reports that the names of the two Sacred Heart students are being withheld by Hearst Connecticut Media.

Since the accusation, ABC7NY reported that Yovino has dropped out of the university and returned to her home in Long Island, New York.

“It is extremely important to see an event like this take place on this campus as we are all taught from our very first times here if integrity, respect, and understanding. Any situation dealing with these actions are horrible and should be brought to Justice. However, I am confident that our SHU community will be respectful of all parties involved as well as lend a helping hand to those affected,” said junior Cory Robinson.
Do You Sleep With Socks On?

**She Said**

**KELSEY...**

I always want to feel comfortable when I sleep. Then again, who does not want to be cozy and relaxed after a long day of work or classes? Having socks on your feet when you sleep just seems like it would be too uncomfortable to deal with.

Unlike my friend Anthony, I find that sleeping without socks is the better way to go to ensure a relaxing and comfortable night’s rest.

The feeling one may get while wearing socks to bed could almost be equal to one feeling like they are wearing shoes to bed. It makes sense that many times, if an individual is not in flip-flops or sandals, it is normal to put on socks with your shoes.

It’s just human nature that one might associate wearing socks while sleeping with possibly also having shoes on while going to bed or taking a nap.

When someone moves in their bed, many times it is because they do not want to feel constrained or tied up within their covers. You can even save some extra room in your laundry by not wearing socks to bed. That is assuming you put a fresh pair on for the evening...

**He Said**

**ANTHONY...**

I understand this might be a stretch, but we have all been through that situation at least once in our lives, right?

Then you have the prep to get ready, and as soon as you know it you’re running out the door just barely making it on time to class or work.

That whole process can be avoided by just bringing barefoot underneath your covers.

In room temperature it seems perfectly fine to have a bunch of blankets.

**What Do Students Do On Their Snow Days?**

""When it snows... we shovel,"" said senior Edward Caperna

""When it snows I like to kick back and relax, light some candles, make some tea and read a nice book,"" said senior Mikaela McGuire

""I’m going to sleep until noon, then eat a Cup O’ Noodles for lunch and dinner,"" said freshman Pat Eknoian

""When it snows we go sledding with air mattresses on the golf course,"" said freshman Emily Spellman

""Seeing how many episodes of ‘The Office’ I can watch in one sitting,"" said senior Allison Gibbons

""Hopefully not getting stuck in a snow bank again,"" said junior Gabrielle Fernandes

The houses with gas heaters are much more lucky since natural gas is extremely cheap. I am fortunate enough to have one of these heating systems, however, I am still a college student. Like most college students, I am, as the hip children say these days, balling on a budget. So heat is pretty limited in my house.

And by pretty limited and mean non-existent. So you could imagine how cold it gets during these harsh winter months.

Nevertheless I trekked on and tried some different pajama methods. The first thing I tried was to go back to my old ways and wear a set of pajamas.

That didn’t help because no matter how cold it was during the night I would still wake up hot and sweaty.

My next step would be to add more blankets, but I move around a lot so I would just end up kicking them off during the night and wake up freezing.

Another method that I realized I could try was wearing a winter hat to bed. I figured most of a person’s body heat comes off of their head so that would keep me nice and warm through the night.

Like I said I move around a lot so I would lose that heat in the middle of the night.

Finally, I came to the idea of sleeping with a pair of socks on. Genius. Let me tell you that this is one of the better discoveries since I started eating Mac N’ Cheese with a spoon.

Socks are highly recommended to sleep in. They keep you warm and don’t fall off during the night if you move around a lot.
Sanctuary or Conflict of Interest?

BY DANIELLE LAPIERRE
Staff Reporter

The city of Bridgeport is currently considering adopting sanctuary city status in a new campaign to protect illegal immigrants.

As reported by The Hartford Courant, this campaign began when a Fairfield resident, Ann McCarthy protested at a Bridgeport rally; McCarthy works at a family resource center in Bridgeport and has seen the stress undocumented families go through.

Aspen Law is a leading publisher that teaches the fundamentals and lessons about law and society. According to Aspen Law, a sanctuary city is defined as a city that attempts to shield and shelter illegal immigrants. They do this by not allowing police to enforce immigration policy or making immigration enforcement a non-priority.

"We are seeing first-hand the crippling anxiety endured by our clients around heightened fears of deportation," said McCarthy to the CT Post.

Bridgeport Mayor Joe Ganim takes on a democratic stance on illegal immigration and believes in protecting illegal immigrants.

The Courant confirms that Ganim has taken a lighter and more optimistic approach to the Donald Trump presidency than other Democrats.

After Donald Trump took office, he passed an executive order that was meant to block federal funding for sanctuary cities.

The Washington Post states that some of the largest sanctuary cities in the United States include San Francisco, Miami and Los Angeles.

Typically in order for an undocumented immigrant to be deported, they would have to be arrested or questioned on an infraction that is irrelevant to their citizenship status. Once they are booked and fingerprinted, their prints are sent to the FBI, which then shares this information with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

The Washington Post states once the organization knows there is an undocumented immigrant involved, ICE will submit a detainee request in order to begin deportation proceedings.

However, responding to these requests is voluntary by the governments and local police forces to enforce these policies. So, in sanctuary cities, responding to these requests is not a priority.

In Donald Trump's new executive order, it would give ICE more power and would allow ICE to begin deportation earlier, even before a trial or any other criminal proceedings conclude, as reported by The Washington Post.

"Personally, I don't like the idea of Bridgeport turning into a sanctuary city due to the fact that it will attract large numbers of illegal immigrants to Bridgeport which will take away from jobs in the area. Especially since GE just moved to Boston and that hurts the surrounding economy," said junior Ryan Hoover.

Despite there being concerns about the economy and high crime rates regarding sanctuary cities, Tom Wong, a political science professor at University of California - San Diego did an analysis of FBI crime data and discovered that "sanctuary" areas actually have lower rates of crime, including homicide, than areas that are not designated sanctuary areas.

"You have illegal immigrants already in the area and a lot of them have not done anything wrong and have been better citizens than registered United States citizens," said Hoover.

However, some students' concerns with Bridgeport becoming a sanctuary city stem from the poverty level in Bridgeport, and how the protection of illegal immigrants could affect that level and the access to help for legal citizens who are in poverty.

"If Bridgeport were to become a sanctuary city, I feel like it would be bad for the citizens who are already in poverty in Bridgeport, especially since illegal immigrants end up in poverty due to the lack of quality jobs," said sophomore Chelsea Sedlar.

According to the Connecticut Post, the poverty level for Bridgeport children rose significantly in a span of one year from 2010-2011. The percentage of Bridgeport children living below the poverty line rose from 31 percent to 40 percent from 2010-2011.

Although the poverty rate varies depending on the amount of children in a family, to live below the poverty line for a family of three is an annual income of $19,000.

"If there could be restrictions on how many people can register in the sanctuary city, then I would be upset to it because it could be a way for these undocumented immigrants to pay taxes and get benefits that they don't currently have while living in Bridgeport," said Hoover.

Trumping Twitter

BY MEAGAN BONNER
Staff Reporter

"There will be people that disagree with how you live your life but they should never dictate how you live your life," said junior Caroline Deorio.

As a recent example of this includes Mack Beggs, a teenager who is transitioning into a male on a High School wrestling team in Texas. He was required by the state law to play on the girl's team and he won.

When taking this to a federal level, recently with the Trump administration, it has been decided that transgender laws are going to be up to the discretion of the states.

"I'm not sure what the policy should be for transgender athletes, but it is important to acknowledge everyone. So, don't think that there is any rule about transgender athletes not being allowed to participate in a sport they love," said Deorio.

Taking this to a federal level, recently with the Trump administration, it has been decided that transgender laws are going to be up to the discretion of the states.

"I'm sure people's opinions on the validity of tweeting policy is dependent upon the view of Trump as a president," said professor Gregory Golda. "Tweeting may not be the issue but if people disagree with his tone, his persona, who is he then they're going to probably have a negative view of the tweeting habit."

President of the United States, Dan Scarnino Jr., Trump's assistant and the director of social media, runs the POTUS account.

"I'm going to write things that have offended people in the past or that are directed towards others," said President Trump.

The account that has been used more is his personal one, where he often tweets early in the morning. He has been known to write things that have offended people in the past or are directed towards others.

"@MeghanMcCain was terrible on @TheFive yesterday. Angry and obnoxious, she will never make it on T.V. @FoxNews can do so much better," said Donald Trump on Sept. 5th 2015 at 4:46 AM.

Some faculty members think that people's opinions about Trump's tweets will reflect how they already think about him.

"I'm sure people's opinions on the validity of tweeting policy is dependent upon the view of Trump as a president," said professor Gregory Golda. "Tweeting may not be the issue but if people disagree with his tone, his persona, who is he then they're going to probably have a negative view of the tweeting habit."

Trump's tweeting from his personal account has been talked about more often now that he is President of the United States.

Jimmy Kimmel, a television host who frequently uses his account to give his personal opinion on popular topics, got some backlash.

"While he has a very difficult job of being President of the United States, he does not make that job easier when he makes decisions and comments like he has during his short stint as the president," said graduate student Donnelly.

Dan Scarnino used his personal account during his run for presidency and some students think that he should be able to continue to use it.

"Seeing that Trump used his personal account for the entirety of his presidential campaign, there is no reason for him to delete it," said junior Estée Deschamps. "Although I personally do not find it appropriate for the President of the United States to give his personal opinion on popular topics, it keeps the population involved in politics and potentially acts as a political strategy."

Transgender Athlete Faces New Issues

BY FAYE KENAJIAN
Staff Reporter

An issue about policy of athletics has arisen for transgender students.

Theolos and universities is if an athlete should compete with their assigned gender or their affirmed gender.

PFLAG.com states that assigned gender is the gender that is assigned to an infant based on his or her visible genitalia, while affirmed gender is the gender someone wishes to be known.

Transathlete.com is an organization that acts as a resource for people to understand the transgender policies in athletics at various levels.

The website states that policies vary by state but they recommend that transgender students in grades K-12 should be allowed to play sports in their affirmed gender.

"There will be people that disagree with how you live your life but they should never dictate how you live your life," said junior Caroline Deorio.

A recent example of this includes Mack Beggs, a teenager who is transitioning into a male on a High School wrestling team in Texas. He was required by the state law to play on the girl's team and he won.

In a statement made by the Portland Press Herald, Beggs' family would prefer for him to wrestle as a boy especially since he's been taking testosterone treatments.

Beggs' family would prefer for him to wrestle as a boy especially since he's been taking testosterone treatments.

As far as college goes, the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), has specific recommendations in transgender policies.

According to transathlete.com, the NCAA does not require gender confirming surgery or legal recognition of a player's transitioned sex in order for transgender players to participate on a team that matches their identity.

"I'm not sure what the policy should be for transgender athletes, but it is important to acknowledge everyone. So, don't think that there is any rule about transgender athletes not being allowed to participate in a sport they love," said Deorio.
The Philosophy of Socks

ALEXA BINKOWITZ

CO-NEWS EDITOR

Last time we spoke over here, I ended up telling a story about a problem I had with Pop-Tarts. Although they completely betrayed me, Pop-Tarts ended up sucking me back into their complicated loyalty system of weakness and free products. However, this time I’ll be discussing something else very important to me that I feel isn’t debated enough, and that’s the issue of fun socks.

If you are initially confused by what I mean, please take a seat and let me explain.

I’m sure deep within your sock drawer, maybe buried underneath the calf-length white Nike socks, or the black ankle socks you wear while contemplating your life on the treadmill, are pairs of socks you would only have the guts to wear with jeans that will definitely cover your ankles or may be with high, yet fashionable boots.

I would like to take this time to advocate for the fun socks that are not appreciated enough because they deserve a voice of expression too.

Those socks, sometimes called “fun socks” by experts, are actually the most important pieces of clothing a person could own.

Personally believe that fun socks are the only way to honestly and positively know a person. At the very least, they’re great conversation starters.

Despite prior belief, socks are actually the windows to the soul. In fact, one afternoon, I was casually browsing the fun sock collection in Target when a woman walked up and stood next to me, definitely deep in thought.

After a few uneventful minutes, she turned to me and asked if I liked the taco socks or the watermelon socks better.

Initially caught off guard by her intimate question, I knew that this was a crucial moment in history, because this woman would be choosing a pair of fun socks that could possibly define her personality to others in the future.

This woman, with no prior knowledge of my life or what I cared about, was on the brink of knowing me on a more personal level because of the choice I was going to make.

With full confidence, I told her I liked the taco socks better because truthfully, I hated watermelons and would never wear a sock that depicted something I didn’t like. Right then and there, a stranger knew a personal secret about me because she asked about my fun sock preferences. It’s really as simple as that.

I guess the point I’m trying to make here is that fun socks are a huge part of humanity that a lot of people ignore.

Will I really pull out my flamingo ankle socks and wear them to an important interview? I absolutely will.

Would I really wear my knee-high squirrel socks to church or to a holiday dinner? Of course I would.

Did I wear my pineapple socks to a Hawaiian themed party feeling like I was straight out of “Moxie”? Yes I did.

So, what I’m trying to say is don’t be afraid to push those boring white socks to the back of the drawer every once in a while.

Leave those sad black socks for a depressing night of watching Rose leaving Jack alone in the water in “Titanic” when he easily could have fit on the door with her.

Life is short and so are some ankle socks, so you won’t even see them if you don’t want to look lame.

Don’t be afraid to make a statement here and there, I promise you won’t regret it.

Everyone Gets A Trophy

HEATHER KELLER

ASST. SPORTS & ASST. ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

During years of playing recreational youth league sports, I had racked up just about every design, size and color of team trophies that were available in my town trophy shop.

At the age of four, I began playing two seasons of soccer a year, which eventually turned into three seasons of sports when I began to play basketball. In seventh grade I finally decided to try softball after years of telling my dad I wouldn’t play because I only wanted to play baseball.

With softball now added to the mix, I had acquired over 25 participation trophies as I prepared to go to high school.

The feeling of excitement I once had when receiving a trophy had slowly deteriorated and it was now just something I expected when the season’s award banquet was held. Trophies had taken over my room and the ones that I didn’t like to look at anymore strategically found their way to the garbage.

The hunk of cheap plastic and metal held no sentimental value as everyone on the team was called up at the banquet to claim their identical trophy.

The idea behind giving kids trophies is that if we tell them they’re wonderful and special, they’ll develop a sense of fearlessness and then hopefully become more willing to do difficult things.

As a child, I had no sense of purpose built from those numerous trophies. My dedication to play would continue into high school. However, once competition began to intensify and coaches were developing my skills in sports was what the trophy represented.

As for obligatory participation trophies, I do not think they are necessary for those lessons to be learned.

However, this time I’ll be discussing something else very important to me that I feel isn’t debated enough, and that’s the issue of fun socks.

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The editorial page is an open forum. Editorials are the opinions of the individual editors and do not represent the opinions of the whole editorial board. Letters to the editor are encouraged and are due by Sunday at noon for consideration for each Wednesday’s issue. All submissions are subject to editing for spelling, punctuation, and length.

Letters to the editor should be no less than 400 words and should be e-mailed to spectrum@SacredHeart.edu. The Spectrum does not assume copyright right for any published material. We are not responsible for the opinions of the writers voicing in this forum.
Nintendo really making a comeback. "I think creating the system is exactly what Nintendo needs, a change in pace and a new system is exactly what will help," said senior Zack Ramirez. "I absolutely plan on buying this new system. I am an avid user of Nintendo products and plan on getting the complete console. "I absolutely plan on buying this new system. I am an avid user of Nintendo products and plan on getting this device ASAP," said DiFilippo. According to Nintendo.com, the creation of the switch is the company’s hope for a saving’s grace in the industry. Many people are fond of the idea and think it could work, but the question that tends to come up is whether or not the people will be able to use the system the way the company hopes. "The failure that seems to be trendy lately for Nintendo, in my opinion, isn’t necessarily because their systems are poorly made, it’s the games that others who think this new gaming system won’t help the company make a return. "I have no intention on buying this system. I have honestly forgotten about Nintendo for years now and I have no problem continuing playing Xbox or PlayStation, the real gaming consoles," said Mignone.

Early reviews have been positive and the gamers who have the system seem to like the new gaming console. The Nintendo Switch is available online at most major stores, including Best Buy and Target. "I hope that Nintendo continues to grow and expand and live up to all the hype they have produced since the Mario days. I would buy the system if I had the time and money, but definitely an option down the road when the hype is over," said Ramirez.
The Nokia 3310 is Back

BY ANNA FINN
Staff Reporter

The Nokia 3310 was first launched 17 years ago. However, Nokia brought the phone back on March 10 with new features and advanced technology. When it was first released in 2000 the phone had limited features. According to their website, now the phone features month long lasting battery, four color option, Snake the game, 2MP camera with a LED flash, up to 22 hours talk time, and much more.

"It looks very hard to text on and it's a waste of time and money; no one will buy it or switch to it because it is taking a step down from the technology we have on our phones now," said sophomore Bridget Adams.

One major difference that the Nokia 3310 has from all of the phones that are currently on the market is that it will be using 2G connectivity for calling and texting rather than 3G and 4G.

The phone comes in four colors, 'warm red,' yellow, dark blue and grey.

"This phone is not a good idea and is not physically appealing," said sophomore Olivia Mittelman. "Why would I switch to something that will download things slower and also have slower access to my data and applications? We have higher tech phones than that now, I'm not going to downgrade my phone."

Some students think that those who buy it aren't necessarily using it for practical reasons.

"People will maybe buy it as a joke but not actually use it. They won't give up all the functions of a real smart phone that they have now," said sophomore Jake Wilson.

While Nokia revamped the phone by providing a camera, most smartphones today also feature a camera that is of higher quality.

"I just got the iPhone? Plus and the portrait mode on it is unbelievable. I would never give up this phone for the Nokia 3310," said sophomore Olivia Lehane.

According to Nokia.com, the Nokia 3310 is at a starting price of around $52.

"I have two younger siblings and I think the phone is a good idea for kids that are in middle school who aren't responsible enough to have smart phones with touch screens that easily break. Those phones are too expensive for a kid to have," said sophomore Carrie Specieher. "This new Nokia phone is a great price being that it's a simple version of a smart phone but still has similar technology with using the internet and data, it's just not as advanced."

The company has made updates to the phone so it could be sold competitively within the current cell phone market.

"With today's society of everyone wanting to be different, this phone could potentially do well and sell, who knows honestly," said Lehane.

Tell Us Your Story: Allison Wetterauw

BY TESSA KIELBASA
Staff Reporter

Allison Wetterauw is a Resident Hall Director (RHD) at Sacred Heart University for two off-campus dorms, Pioneer Gardens and Oakwood Apartments.

She fell in love with residential life during her time at the Catholic University of America in Washington D.C. Not wanting to leave that part of her life behind, she decided to become an RHD for Sacred Heart.

Wetterauw was a Resident Success Assistant (RSA) during her college years while pursuing her undergraduate degree in media studies and minor in philosophy.

"I loved being an RA. I loved that connection, helping someone and putting on programs," said Wetterauw.

As a Zumba instructor, she put on classes for her residents and continued to build that connection.

Sacred Heart is close to her hometown of Darien, Conn. After graduation, she found the RHD position that would allow her to continue her love for residential life as she pursued her masters in communication through the university.

"I wouldn't say it is an easy job, but it is very rewarding because at the end of the day you get to help students," said Wetterauw.

When she first started her education in media and communication, her dream was to make documentaries. Her capstone project is a documentary on Irish language in America.

"There are a lot of people in America learning it even though no one knows or ever hears of it. There are actually three types of Gaelic," said Wetterauw.

Another major part of Wetterauw's life is her Irish culture. She has been step dancing since she was little and has spent countless hours practicing her steps.

"My parents would drive me an hour and a half to dance with my dance teacher's mood," said Wetterauw.

She was a competitive Irish step school all throughout middle and high school, and even competed in Ireland, as well as worldwide in step competitions.

Today she continues her love for dancing by teaching an Irish dance class at Sacred Heart.

The group on campus is called the Claddagh Dancers. They compete with traditional steps as well as performing to modern music.

Wetterauw said the group got their name after the Claddagh ring, which features two hands holding a heart, and is popular in Irish culture. Naming the group after the ring connects Irish culture to Sacred Heart through the image of the heart.

Recently, she was able to demonstrate her dancing for the student body at Dancing with Heart. Her partner and herself came in second place.

She has also embraced her Irish culture by representing her community in heritage competitions.

Wetterauw was the 2014 Washington D.C Rose, which gave her the opportunity to go to Ireland and represent the Irish community in D.C.

Most recently she was elected the 2017 Cherry Blossom Princess of Connecticut. This competition is an ambassadorship, as well as a leadership program for women and promotes professional development.

"I'm not a pageant queen. I never use the P word. It's not a beauty pageant," said Wetterauw.

The competition symbolizes how Japan gave cherry blossoms to the United States and in return gave Japan dogwoods. The event demonstrates the friendship between the two countries.

There is a Cherry Blossom Princess for each state and United States territory. The National Conference of State Societies (NCSS) puts on the competition.

According to the NCSS website, the program has been helping women, ages 19 to 24, since 1948. The Cherry Blossom Princess becomes queen randomly by a wheel. The winner also known as the queen then gets to travel to Japan.

"I don't think I'll win, but I am excited," said Wetterauw.
Iota Phi Theta’s “Expressions”  
A Night of Slam Poetry

**By Cindy Sanawong**  
**Staff Reporter**

On Thursday, March 2 in the Schine Auditorium, the brothers of Iota Phi Theta hosted their poetry slam night, “Expressions.”

The fraternity welcomed a variety of performers who either recited their original poetry, performed a song or danced.

According to senior and Iota Chapter Secretary Osaze Perry Porter the event was called “Expressions” so that people could come to this event and express themselves.

“This event is an open mic night for students on campus and Iota is the first fraternity on campus to host a poetry slam night,” said senior and Iota Chapter President Christian Carter. “It’s a pretty laid back environment and it’s a free event.”

The event was also a way for people to have their voices heard on moral issues that are currently happening in today’s society.

“This event is the perfect way to wrap up the Black History Tradition,” said Carter. “It also gives students the perfect opportunity to come out and express themselves.”

Instead of having an admission fee for the event, the brothers accepted charity donations that would go towards one of their philanthropies to stop world hunger.

“The ‘Expressions’ poetry night is a nice event and the Greek Life on campus really has done a terrific job when it comes to hosting events for the university,” said sophomore and Iota Chapter Recruiting Coordinator Mustapha Nuiggi.

Some of the songs that were sung during the event were Anthony Newley and Leslie Bricusse’s “Feeling Good” and Corinne Bailey Rae’s “Put Your Records On.”

Throughout the event, the brothers of Iota Phi Theta underlined the importance of expressing yourself and being the person you want to be.

“What is really special about this event is that it allows students and many others to come out and really express themselves. This is a good event for people to come out and show another side to them,” said Nuiggi. “I hope the outcome of this event will teach more people to always be yourself.”

Dancing With Heart

**By Joseph Durante**  
**Staff Reporter**

On Tuesday, Feb. 28 in the Edgerton Center for the Performing Arts, Sacred Heart University’s Class of 2019 Student Government hosted Dancing with Heart.

Dancing with Heart is an event where students pair up with a faculty or staff member and perform in a dance competition, similar to the American television series, “Dancing with the Stars.”

“It was pretty nerve wracking,” said School of Communication and Media Arts Graduate Assistant Nick Capitelli. “It was a fun experience though. It’s not something I usually get involved in, so it was a fun first for me.”

Nine couples participated in the event: Student Activities Coordinator Julia Romano with junior Cory Robinson, Campus Minister Devon McCormick with senior Michael Lenard, Department of Public Safety Officer Steph Trelli with sophomore Danny Elia, Capitelli with freshman Grace Farley, Fire Safety Officer Frank Novak with sophomore Taryn McCormick, Residence Hall Director of Pioneers Gardens and Oakwood Commons Allison Wetterauw with junior CJ Parvelus, Director of Student Conduct Channing Vidal with junior Manuela Conteras, Student Financial Assistance Graduate Assistant Gregory Diaz with sophomore Brooke McCarthy, and Admissions Counselor Rudy Favard with sophomore Kaitlyn Todaro.

In order to compete, participants had to be invited or nominated by members of the Sacred Heart community.

“I’m actually not sure how I got nominated,” said Diaz. “Whoever did, I cannot thank them enough.”

In preparation for the event, the couples spent weeks choreographing and rehearsing their routines. Some of the performances included a hip hop dance to Ed Sheeran’s “Shape of You” and recreations of “Bop to the Top” and “I Don’t Dance” from the “High School Musical” franchise.

Not only were there a variety of dance styles, but also corresponding costumes. Trelli and Elia put together a 70s disco theme where they dressed in red and white disco attire with wigs and sunglasses. They danced to “Stayin’ Alive” by the Bee Gees and “Thriller” by Michael Jackson.

Dancing with Heart is not a competition about who dances the best and gets the most points. The judges on the panel look for whose performances were the most creative, fun, exciting and entertaining.

“It was a great show,” said sophomore Kalliopi Gatzoflias. “It was wonderful to see my friends and favorite SHU staff have a fun time.”

When the performances were over, the judges announced the winners.

Romano and Robinson won “Best Crowd Pleaser with Creative Stage Presence,” McCormick and Lenard won “Most Swag,” and Vidal and Conteras won “Most Likely to Be in ‘Dancing with the Stars.’”

Diaz and McCarthy won first place and Wetterauw and Parvelus won second.

“The show was awesome,” said sophomore Katelyn Mull. “It was so fun to watch everyone up there having such a great time.”

The event gave both the students and faculty members the opportunity to connect outside of the environment they normally would.

“It was cool to interact with the students outside the office,” said Romano.

Although it’s a competition, Dancing with Heart represents the school’s community.

“There was so much energy on stage that truly embodied Sacred Heart University,” said sophomore Courtney Kramer.
Celebrating the Underdog of Brazilian Music

BY PETER MCCUE
Staff Reporter

On Tuesday, Feb. 28 Sacred Heart University's Academic Music Department celebrated Moacir Santos in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit.

Santos was a Brazilian musician and composer who influenced other musicians like Paulo Moura, Roberto Menescal, Carlos Lyra and Flora Purim.

The event included Director of Academic Music Programs Joe Carter on guitar and Adjunct Professor Ali Ryerson on flute.

Carter and Ryerson performed some of Santos' songs such as "April Child," "Lembre-Se" and "Luanna."

"What always attracted me to his music was the fact that it doesn’t sound like anybody else's. In those eight tunes, there is something in each one of them that is unexpected. He throws something in to change it up," said Carter. "It is almost like he doesn’t want you to fall in a rut."

Carter found Santos to be unique in his compositions because of the surprises in his songs.

"April Child is the most definitive in my opinion. It doesn’t sound like anything else because he uses Brazilian rhythms in such a way that makes it distinctive," said Carter. Santos’s music was meant to be played by 10 to 12 musicians. However, Carter and Ryerson used their musical skills to make it possible for a duo.

"It was great to see how both the guitar and flute were in harmony together," said junior Laura Smith.

Both Carter and Ryerson chose to celebrate Santos because of their shared appreciation of his music. Ryerson learned of Santos from traveling to Brazil and playing with Brazilian musicians. That’s when she fell in love with his music.

"We both love his music and it is underplayed and underperformed," said Ryerson.

"My favorite song was 'Lembre-Se' because the guitar and flute solos were excellent to listen to. I enjoyed the relaxation and soft timbre of the piece," said Smith. "Both instruments had a great accompaniment during the solos."

According to the program, Santos was an orphaned child who lived a life of misery until he turned 14. That is when he credited musical rhythm beginning to become a part of his soul.

In 1965, he recorded his first "masterpiece," "Cocina," which is known as one of the greatest pieces of Brazilian music.

"This show has so many surprises," said Horne. "From the set, the acting, and to the storyline itself."

The set for the production is something that Sacred Heart Theatre Arts Program has never done before. It will be a theatre-in-the-round, where the audience surrounds the entire stage.

"I’m excited for opening night," said Henshaw. "To have them perform in front of an audience for the first time and have everything come together to create a fantastic performance."

Casting for "Spoon River Anthology" opened on Thursday, March 16 at 8 p.m. in the Little Theatre. Additional performances will be held March 17 through March 19 and March 23 through March 26. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday night showings begin at 8 p.m. and Sunday matinees are at 3 p.m.

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Basketball Teams' Season End in NEC Tournament
Women fall in semifinals, men eliminated in quarterfinals

BY JACK SULLIVAN
Staff Reporter

With the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) tournament, also known as March Madness, approaching college basketball, this is the time for teams to survive and advance, or time to go home.

Sacred Heart University’s men’s and women’s basketball teams stand on two different sides of the madness.

The women finished with a 17-14 record. The men finished with a 13-19 record and had their season ended on March 1 in the quarterfinal of the NEC tournament, losing 76-73 to Mount St. Mary’s.

"March is a fun time," said women’s coach Jessica Mannetti. "We don’t bring any records into the playoffs, we just go out there and play."

The women’s season was a tough one because they had a target on their back due to them being ranked number one preseason.

"Every team we played, played their best games against us. We were the team to beat," said Mannetti.

They had their struggles in the beginning of the season with non-conference play. They went 3-8 outside the conference play. Then there was a turning point in their season to get them playing like the good team like they were made out to be.

"I think we struggled in the beginning of the season in non-conference play trying to find ourselves," said senior Hannah Kimmel. "Once we started playing in our conference, we found a way to win and stuck to it."

Mannetti and some players believe that the turning point in the season was starting conference play.

"We really picked it up and we had a lot more confidence in each other and ourselves," said sophomore Katherine Haines. "We had our ups and downs in the season but we stayed pretty consistent."

Ultimately, the team went 13-5 in conference play this season.

On March 5, Sacred Heart defeated Saint Francis Brooklyn 90-69 in the NEC quarterfinal. According to sacredheartpioneers.com, Kimmel posted a double-double with 32 points and 10 rebounds. Haines also posted a double-double as she scored 15 points and grabbed 11 rebounds.

After looking to make a run in the playoffs, the team fell short to Bryant on March 8 to a score of 75-68.

For the men’s basketball team, their season was ended in a close, fought out game with Mount St. Mary’s on March 1. While their season may have come to an end on a loss, the players don’t see it as a disappointing one at all.

"I was pleased with the progress of our team during the year and very pleased with the emergence of some individuals," said men’s head coach Anthony Latina. "We were able to surpass our win total from the year before and qualify for our conference tournament for the third year in a row. I would describe our season as pleased with many areas of our season but not even close to being satisfied because we still have a lot of room for growth."

Latina was happy to see a lot of players step up in an injury filled season. Sophomore Quincy McKnight and junior Joseph Lopez earned First and Third Team All Conference this season.

Another player that stepped up was sophomore Sean Hoehn who played valuable minutes off the bench.

"Being the National SAAC rep for the Northeast Conference means that I represent all the student-athletes of the NEC at the national level," said Donnelly. "It is my job to make sure that I understand the current feelings of student-athletes in our conference, and make sure that I am as educated as possible on the current events in the NCAA."

Donnelly has an important role both on and off the field as student-athletes use him as their voice and he takes his job very seriously.

"I have the responsibility of making sure that I am representing my conference to the best of my ability," said Donnelly.

According to its website, the purpose of the SAAC representatives is "to provide the Northeast Conference with a medium through which its student-athletes’ voices be heard on the regional and national level and to provide Northeast Conference student-athletes a voice in the Conference’s decisions."

Donnelly values the position of acting as the voice for student-athletes.

"It means a lot," said Donnelly. "I love doing what I do and feel like I have a job many others would want to have."

The fifth-year graduate student considers this position among the most prestigious honors he has received at Sacred Heart.

"Being able to represent the NEC at the National level is what I am most proud of throughout my time as a student-athlete," said Donnelly. "I love being able to say that I represent the student athletes in the NEC."

Donnelly currently serves as a Graduate Assistant in the Office for Alumni Engagement. While he was an undergraduate, he was a Residential Life Assistant.

Donnelly’s dream is to one day become an athletic director at a college or university.

The SAAC has changed ever since Donnelly joined as a representative. He feels proud knowing that he has made an impact on the Sacred Heart campus.

"I certainly hoped I have made an impact in my time here at Sacred Heart," said Donnelly. "I really think that I have helped to change the way the SAAC is looked at."

Donnelly’s input and contributions have paved the way for the future of the SAAC.

"Before myself and other leaders came into SAAC, it was mostly community service," said Donnelly. "Now, in addition to community service, SAAC is tied to many other objectives including athletic events, as well as attendance at games for student athletes."

Donnelly also hopes that the SAAC becomes more familiar to those who may not know what it is.

"I think that SAAC has become more well known around campus, and I am glad that I have had a part in that," said Donnelly.
Club CrossFit Team Participating in “the Cam”

BY RYAN TOUHEY  
Staff Reporter

The Big Red Club CrossFit team at Sacred Heart University participated in “the Cam” Workout of the Day on Tuesday, Feb 28 in the CrossFit gym in Bergoglio Hall. According to Fairfield’s Hamlethub, the team and other CrossFit gyms across Connecticut competed in the challenge either that Tuesday, or on Saturday, Feb. 25.

“The Cam” is actually a 19-minute workout, that we call an AMRAP or, “as many reps as possible” in 19 minutes,” said Channing Vidal, head coach of the Sacred Heart CrossFit team and Director of Student Conduct and Community Standards.

Within that interval, athletes would do 10 different exercises consisting of 19 reps. These exercises include pull-ups, sit-ups, push-ups and box jumps. If the athletes completed the entire workout before time ran out, they would start all over again.

“The Cam” was created in order to raise funds for the Alternating Hemiplegia of Childhood (AHC) Foundation.

According to the Sacred Heart website, the 19 reps and same number of minutes were specifically chosen because AHC causes a defect in the nineteenth chromosome. The disease leads to health problems such as short-term paralysis, stiffness, and unusual eye movements. There’s no cure for AHC and it’s rare.

Fairfield’s Hamlethub reported that “the Cam” workout was named after one year old Cameron Simpson of Trumbull, Conn., who suffers from the disease.

Vidal became aware of this workout through a friend of his named Maura Crossin. Crossin is a victim’s advocate and attorney who typically represents people who are involved in sexual misconduct cases.

She is also the cousin of Simpson’s mother, Corie.

“As a gym, if we can all donate a few bucks and work out and sweat together and everything, all of that is pretty minor compared to what this family has to go through on a day-to-day basis,” said Vidal. “I think a lot of our members face their own challenges in their families.”

Some participants in the challenge feel that people should be grateful to be able to do the things they want to do without anything holding them back.

“You should be aware of people who are less fortunate and might not be able to work out,” said junior Sean Zaremba.

This is the inaugural season for the CrossFit team and “the Cam” workout is the most recent case of Vidal motivating his players to work as hard as they can.

“I personally have never had a coach that has genuinely loved the sport and participated in it,” said freshman Nicole Maseroni. “I’ve had coaches that just did it for the money and they never really played with us.”

Vidal has connected closely with other participants as the season has progressed.

“The man waits up for me every morning at 6:30 a.m. to come work out with me, when sometimes it’s just me,” said junior Nico Treglia. “That’s all I can say about Channing, he’s incredible.”

The team is currently competing in the CrossFit Open.

Softball Team Hoping Senior Class Provides ‘Home Run’ Season

BY NICHOLAS TROIANO  
Staff Reporter

The Sacred Heart University softball team is heading into the 2017 season with high hopes on making it to the Northeastern Conference (NEC) playoffs.

Despite a 13-17 record last season, the team is ready and determined to improve as a group in order to have a winning record this season.

The players are also looking to improve on a conference record of 4-12 from last season.

They are looking to improve their .223 batting average from the year prior.

“Our weakness was hitting, which included a low batting average combined with low quality at bats. During the off season we worked on being more aggressive, not being selfish, and moving runners over,” said head coach Pam London.

The offseason work that the players have done is going to be essential to the success of the season.

“Some of the main issues from last season were that we lacked good team chemistry and didn’t play together as a team the way we wanted to,” said senior Kelyn Fillmore.

“The team is determined to leave all the selfish softball behind them as they move into the 2017 campaign with a new mindset of working together as one collective unit.”

In addition to this, the team looks to build off the strengths of last season, which included leadership and pitching.

“The strengths of our team is the leadership of our seniors. The experiences that they have been through allow them to be able share knowledge with the younger players,” said London.

London added that the experiences from the seniors will allow them to be ready for a NEC playoff run.

Regardless of needing to improve in certain areas, the team has one strong and clear goal in mind.

“Our goal is to improve our record from last season, make it to NEC conference, and to perform up to our potential,” said junior Lauren Delgadillo.

The team backed up their word with their actions as they participated in the Buffalo Wild Wings Classic tourname

ment on Feb. 24 and Feb. 25 in Greenville, S.C.

“We gained a lot of confidence during the tournament which is proving that our hard work is paying off. We need to produce offensively to take the pressure off our pitchers,” said London.

Despite losing in the first game of the tournament, the team did much better than they expected to as they had 43 hits in just four games.

“We went into the tournament wanting to play together and stay positive and we did that. Also we hit much better than we thought we were going to,” said freshman Kathleen Christian.

London and the players are looking forward to building off the hitting success of the tournament in order to reach their potential in the NEC.

“We want to prove to everyone doubting us that we are a strong threat in the NEC," said Fillmore.
Senior, Victoria D'Addario focusing in on achieving her team's goal of a successful season.