SHU Recognizes LGBTQ+ Solidarity Week

BY MICHAEL BARRY
Staff Reporter

From Oct. 16 to Oct. 19, the SHU Gender and Sexuality Alliance (GSA) held a week of awareness, education, and celebration of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Questioning, or LGBTQ+, community.

"I believe that this week is a statement from the Gender and Sexuality Alliance and our allies about wanting to be visible and open while on our private, Catholic campus," said senior Rachel Zacharyczuk, Gender and Sexuality Alliance President.

The week’s activities featured guest speakers and performances promoting LGBTQ+ acceptance.

"Each event has a significance that continues a conversation about identity, inclusion, and understanding, that begs people to be respectfully curious. They can be curious about themselves and the differences of people they see around them," said Zacharyczuk.

The events covered a wide range of topics relating to gender identity, information, sexual acceptance, and overall awareness.

On Monday, Oct. 16 in the Martire Theater, the GSA held a "Stonewall" volunteer speaking event. The Stonewall volunteer speakers regularly address high schools, middle schools, colleges and universities, teacher’s groups, police departments, mental health facilities, religious groups, medical students and professionals, peer counselors, gay-straight alliances, and community organizations. The week’s activities featured guest speakers and performances promoting LGBTQ+ acceptance.

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Are You Autism Aware?
Holds a Walk for Acceptance

BY GRAHAM O’DWYER
Staff Reporter

On Oct. 21, the Are You Autism Aware? club hosted their annual awareness walk at the Pitt Center field. The event was the club’s largest of the semester, drawing hundreds of attendees from various student clubs and organizations.

“This is a really great cause,” said sophomore CJ Weinstein. “It is great to see so many people come out to support such a wonderful cause.”

Autism, which affects one in every 68 children in the United States, is a developmental disability that affects a person’s ability to interact with others.

By holding events like these throughout the year, the club strives to create awareness and promote acceptance of those affected by autism.

“The main goal of the walk is to raise awareness on our campus about the issue that is autism, and acepting others regardless of their differences,” said Club President Juliana Fetherman.

In addition to walking laps around the track, attendees enjoyed music, food, and games on the turf field. Bracelets and t-shirts displaying the club’s message were also available for purchase.

“The walk is probably my favorite event,” said Fetherman. “It always draws the biggest turnout, and that makes me so happy. We fundraise a lot of money: about four Chib’s events or involment, contact Juliana Fetherman at fethermanj@mail.sacredheart.edu.

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Greatest cause.

Whether students have a personal connection with the club’s cause or just want to help spread the message, the club has a diverse membership.

“I love what the club stands for and I truly believe that the message is an extremely powerful one,” said junior and club member Meredith Hallisey. “I joined this club because I thought it was a really good cause and I wanted to help spread the message around campus.”

“The club will be active on campus throughout the rest of the year to continue promoting their message.

“Next semester we are hosting a golf outing, a colloquium and a kickball tournament,” said Fetherman.

For any questions about the club’s events or connection with the club’s cause or just want to represent your Panhellenic organization or involment, contact Juliana Fetherman at fethermanj@mail.sacredheart.edu.

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Greek Life Unites for Panhellenic Pride Week

BY MICHAEL CAMILLERI
Staff Reporter

The Panhellenic Wiffle Ball Tournament held Wednesday, Oct. 18 on the Sacred Heart softball field was just one of many events during Panhellenic Pride Week.

“Panhellenic Pride Week is a time to bring your Panhellenic organization and support the other organizations as well,” said sophomore Nicole Longo and member of Chi Omega. “It’s a great time to show that although I may belong to one organization, I also support the other groups and what they each stand for.”

The sororities that participated in the wiffle ball tournament were Phi Sigma Sigma, Alpha Delta Pi, Kappa Delta, Zeta Tau Alpha, Chi Omega, Delta Zeta, and Theta Phi Alpha.

Though Chi Omega defeated Phi Sigma Sigma in extra innings in the championship game, the event was about more than just friendly competition.

“The wiffle ball tournament was held to raise money and awareness for the Circle of Sisterhood, a Panhellenic philanthropy organization,” Longo said.

Circle of Sisterhood is a nonprofit run by sorority women to raise funds to help women and girls in impoverished areas afford an education. “Standing together as one community, we will give girls and women an equal chance for rewarding lives and livelihoods through schooling, the learning of a trade, or even a college degree,” said the Circle of Sisterhood website.

“I think the closeness comes from sharing the memory of playing in the tournament together,” said Junior Rebecca Rutkiewicz, a member of Chi Omega.

“Being able to recall funny things or cool plays that happened during the night definitely brings the sororities together because of the shared experience.”

“We were able to bond and get a little closer with the girls in our own organization, and also showed how Panhellenic our campus really is,” said junior and Phi Sigma Sigma member Caroline King.

“Everyone that came out had people in the bleachers watching and supporting, and we had our own teammates there to support each other and the other teams of girls.”

The positive aspects of the event were also evident to people who were not involved in the sororities.

“Although I’m not in a sorority, I could see the overwhelming community that they have within Panheli,” said Jack Silcox, secretary of the Interfraternity Council and acting umpire during the tournament. “This representation of sororities was one of positivity as the girls cheered for one another, gave each other hugs, and conversed with one another regardless of the sorority they were in.”

Panhellenic Pride Week also consisted of a yoga night, an Instagram contest, table times, and guest speaker Lauren Cook on how being in a sorority positively affected her life after college.

This week of events was organized by Sacred Heart’s Panhellenic Council.

“The Panhellenic Council is the unifying and coordinating body of the sorority community at Sacred Heart University. It is comprised of representatives from each of our seven sororities,” said the Sacred Heart University website. “The Panhellenic Council strives to promote leadership for women, diversity, academic achievement and service through relationships within the Panhellenic and Greek communities and beyond.”
It is the moment that every girl and Anthony dreams of. It is a story that you will tell for the rest of your life. People make videos, take photos, write cards, give toasters and more. It is your wedding day and all the fixings that lead up to this grand event. While this topic may consequently file me into a gushy romantic category, I think it is important to consider all my options when it comes to weddings.

Before the eat is out of the bag, I will just come out and say it, I have a soft spot for love. For surprise dates, and romantic getaways. My heart is warmed by people who care about one another so much that they would do anything for each other. However, don't let this fool you. I am not a fan of romantic movies. I am strictly interested in the real stuff. As a result, my emotions arguably cannot handle proposals. Considering that I have cried in public multiple times having witnessed them, I have standards for when it comes to my own.

Now, I am not trying to sound dramatic, but this moment is important. And as a natural born planner, I have dreamed of the time when I can be surprised. Leading me to a necessary part of my proposal, the surprise. While, this may be easy for many people, I have a special talent of spoiling surprises. Sometimes on purpose, like when I would search my houses as a kid looking for our Christmas presents. Other times, I have walked into a garden somewhere in a picturesque setting in case of rain. My heart is warmed by people who care about one another so much that they would do anything for each other. However, don't let this fool you. I am not a fan of romantic movies. I am strictly interested in the real stuff. As a result, my emotions arguably cannot handle proposals. Considering that I have cried in public multiple times having witnessed them, I have standards for when it comes to my own.

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JP's Diner is the newest dining hall on campus. The new spot is a 50's style diner and had its formal ribbon cutting ceremony on Oct. 16 at 11 a.m.

The diner will be offering employment opportunities to some students, as well as, a new menu that will differ from the menus at Linda's and 63's. The ribbon-cutting ceremony was highly attended, and featured speeches from Addison Chau, the former Student Government President, and Dr. John Petillo.

There were also performances by the "SHU/permit men," the band, and the dance team. "I can't wait for the diner as another option for dining on campus," said sophomore Emily Durvin. "It will provide great variety and I can't wait." The SHU/permit men sang an original song they made up about JP's diner. The dance team had a short routine to 50's music and 50's style moves that the juniors of the team specifically choreographed for this grand opening. They all performed outside in their sequined tops, with big smiles, and got the crowd engaged with smiles and applause.

"In my opinion, I feel that having a diner on campus is going to be such a great addition to Sacred Heart University," said sophomore Emily Miller, a member of the Dance Team. "I am definitely most excited for the milkshakes and mozzarella sticks." The diner will operate from approximately 7 a.m. until 3 a.m., and Linda's will now close at 8 p.m. However, the official hours of the diner are not yet determined.

"Since the diner is so close to the Pitt Center, I definitely see myself going to the diner a lot after practice," said Miller.

Students and staff who attended the grand opening ceremony had a chance to go inside to see the diner for the first time.

"I think it's pretty cool how there is a retro looking diner to give campus a new feel," said senior Chris McCormick. "It was established earlier so I wouldn't have to go over a six-year period, Google has spent a total of $1.1 billion dollars for its "Project Chauffeur," a project dedicated to the development of autonomous vehicles. The idea is very attractive. A world without the stress of actively driving through traffic would definitely be a better one," said senior Chris McCormick. "I wish it was established earlier so I wouldn't have to do fewer things can sometimes not really be worth it. "I think self-driving cars are almost unnecessary and just another thing that'll make humans lazy," said senior Lauren Kelly. "I think it would be cool if there was an off campus for a milkshake, but I will definitely be going there when it is open." The diner is said to fit about 110 people, has grey and red floors, with red and grey booths, tables, and an old-school, 50's style bar that food will be served at. While the diner looks impressive on the outside, some students are worried that it may not be able to hold as many students as they would like it to.

"The diner looks really small from the outside and small inside as well," said senior Stephanie Miller. "I am not sure how people are really going to fit." Some even found the diner's aesthetic to be a little predictable.

"I think it's too small and kind of cheesy, but I will probably check it out. It is most likely going to taste the same as every other diner," said senior Brian Witcomb. The menu was also revealed at the opening, featuring a unique and simple choice of various foods. For example, the diner will be serving various styles of omelettes, Belgian waffles, pancakes, French toast, milkshakes and floats.

They will also be serving some classic diner favorites, such as salads, burgers, signature sandwiches, grilled cheese, choices of sides, mozzarella sticks, chicken fingers, and a three-cheese quesadilla.

"I am really excited that Sacred Heart is expanding their food industry," said senior Michael Raja. "With the new diner there are so many options for food that students can choose from and once it opens I can't wait to try out the breakfast foods."

Student government also spoke at the opening as well. The student government came up with the name, and they spoke about how it is a tradition that they always come up with the names of the dining halls on campus. "I am excited about this diner," said senior Derek Zarzycki. "I can't wait to get milkshakes. I honestly wish it was here in my earlier years at SHU, but I am happy we have some time with it."
I didn’t know how to start this. And that in itself is the ball game. Being part of a culture that is prone not to talk about it, makes it near impossible to start the conversation. But words matter. And we have to start somewhere.

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. 1 in 4 women and 1 in 7 men have been victims of domestic violence. And every 9 seconds in the United States, a woman gets beaten and abused. I’m not talking about a third world country, that is lacking infrastructure or electricity. I’m talking about the United States. I’m talking about Fairfield County. I’m talking about here. Domestic Violence can be easily overlooked. It is easy to say “that doesn’t happen here.” It’s easy to walk around thinking ‘not on my campus’.

But the truth isn’t easy. The truth is hard. Yes, it happens here. Yes, even at our school. It happens everywhere. From Fairfield County, to Orange County. And admitting that, is the first step in preventing it. Not talking about it, doesn’t stop the problem. Silence begets violence.

Dating violence is domestic violence. And domestic violence happens in college.

The United States Department of Justice defines domestic violence as “a pattern of abusive behavior in any relationship that is used by one partner to gain or maintain power and control over another intimate partner.” This means that any sort of imbalanced or unhealthy relationship can fall into this category. Whether it is side comments about your actions, statements barring you from seeing your friends, or demands that your partner has access to your texts or Snapchat, it is abuse. Black eyes aren’t the only warning signs. It’s not hard to justify why we don’t talk about it. Because all couples fight. Right? It wasn’t weird that she asked for your phone password. It was just funny when he knew what class to wait for you outside of. Until it wasn’t.

Everything is always nice in the beginning. You don’t start off dating someone who put their hands on you. But if you find yourself in that situation, please know it is not your fault. Because it is still assault even if you were violated by someone you were dating. It is still not okay even if you willingly went outside or uterus with them. Yes, that is assault, and no, it is not okay. This isn’t violence like the kind you see on TV. No terrorist cell blew up a building, or senselessly drove a truck into or opened fire into a crowd. This is a different type of violence. It takes place in neighborhoods with money, and those without. It affects men and women of every color, creed, and ethnicity. And it is more often than not a case of domestic violence.

So we need to talk about it. We need to be able to have this conversation - in our classrooms, on our sports fields, and in our homes and residential halls. The victim could be anyone: man, woman or child. But so could the batterer. So we need to hold our friends, teammates, sorority sisters and fraternity brothers, floor mates, and even ourselves accountable.

This October, be aware. If you see something, say something. It is not easy to talk about. But speaking up and saying something, may put you in the position to stop someone from being harmed. You might be the first person to notice something just isn’t right. You might be the voice a victim was waiting to hear. So stop the silence, and help end the violence.

And if you or someone you love has been affected by domestic violence, please call the Bridgeport Center For Family Justice 24 hour hotline at 203-384-9559 to talk.

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Make “Late Night”
Great Again$

SABRINA GARONE
CO-NEWS EDITOR

In a recent episode of “Jimmy Kimmel Live,” Kimmel began his opening monologue stating “we had so much fun stuff planned for you tonight...bachelor in paradise, kids heading back to school, a horrible new pair of Ugg boots that just came out...I even thought, ‘hey, maybe we won’t talk about Trump much tonight.’ But then he opened his mouth and all manner of stupid came out.

Kimmel went on to analyze a Trump press conference for the next 15 minutes. Do we have to keep talking about Trump? Why can’t we talk about the “fun stuff”? It has been almost one year since the 2016 presidential election, and ever since I feel like I have been suffering from extreme political exhaustion. Since President Trump has taken office, the United States has been in a heated political divide, allowing politics to make their way into everything fun. Is there any escape from political commentary?

As a journalism major and co-news editor, I constantly consuming news and politics throughout the day. It’s the last thing I want to be reminded of when I want to relax and watch TV. It’s impossible to turn on the TV without being reminded of politics in some way. I’ve noticed this is especially true when it comes to late night television.

In a recent interview with NBC News, Jimmy Fallon, host of “The Tonight Show,” was asked why he has not made many references to politics on his show. “It’s just not what I do. I think it would be weird for me to start doing it now,” he said. “I really don’t even care that when I’m talking about politics, I’ve got to be honest.” I have to say, I find this statement to be incredibly refreshing. While other late night talk show hosts have used their platforms to push political agendas, Fallon has strived to remain true to what late night television is supposed to be all about: comedy and entertainment.

Going on political diatribes and making anti-Trump jokes is very trendy right now, and great for ratings. While some people may enjoy that, I can’t help but be turned off by it. I don’t like being lectured about the latest events in Washington when I just want to be entertained and have a few laughs. It’s not the political opinions themselves that bother me. It’s the enmity and elitist attitudes of the hosts that feel the need to share them. The fact that they are not afraid to offend half of their audience is troubling to me.

Inspired by Eminem’s anti-Trump freestyle rap at the BET Awards, Seth Meyers actually flipped off Trump supporters on his show, telling them to “go away.” I’m not saying hosts shouldn’t make jokes about the president. I can appreciate a good jab at Trump as much as the next person. It’s when it becomes “preachy” that I get turned off.

Entertainment should be the place where we can tune in together and forget about reality for a while. For as much as the media talks about the politics place in this country, isn’t this only contributing to it?
Meet Gilly From "Gilly on the Street"

BY STEPHANIE DESANTIS
Staff Reporter

Ever wonder who that guy running around campus with a camera and microphone yelling at students is? That’s Robert Gilmore, the director of Campus Experience at Sacred Heart University.

Gilmore graduated from Sacred Heart in 2007. He then continued his Sacred Heart career and became a graduate assistant in the Student Activities Department. His current position is with undergraduate admissions, and he also runs the Student Ambassador program.

Gilmore is also known around campus for his popular video series, “Gilly on the Street.”

In these videos, he conducts “man-on-the-street interviews.” Gilmore excitingly asks students a variety of questions, mainly pertaining to Sacred Heart or popular trivia questions.

“It was a concept based off of the show ‘Billy on the Street.’ Since everybody calls me Gilly, we put [the name] together, and that’s what we came up with,” said Gilmore.

The video series, “Gilly on the Street,” is inspired by Funny or Die’s “Billy on the Street.” Since everybody calls me Gilly, Gilmore is also known around campus for his popular video series, “Gilly on the Street.”

Gilmore’s videos are often taped at big events occurring on campus, such as Homecoming, Family Weekend, Move-in Weekend, and Graduation.

There are always a large amount of people on campus, which makes finding participants simple.

“Gilly on the Street,” despite it’s popularity, has not been at Sacred Heart for a long period of time, as the first episode aired in May of 2017.

The video series was introduced at the spring “Late Night Breakfast.” The idea was initially thought up by The Marketing and Communications Department.

Because the feedback on the series was both positive and highly talked of, the team went on to create seven more “Gilly on the Street” videos. They plan to continue to make more in the near future.

“Not only are we having fun entertaining students, but we are also showcasing different aspects of the university in a different way,” said Gilmore.

The Student Ambassadors that Gilmore oversees are proud supporters of “Gilly on the Street” as well.

“It’s honestly nothing out of the norm; we expect it from Gilly. He’s a great guy to work for, what you see is what you get,” said junior Jake Masco, a Student Ambassador.

For people that know Gilly, “Gilly on the Street’s” success is no surprise, either.

“I think ‘Gilly on the Street’ is hilarious. I work with him in Admissions, and it’s easy to see that he has an entertaining side to him,” said senior Elizabeth Bouchard, who is also a Student Ambassador. “But, he’s also very serious about his job. Being able to see him have fun with people and mess with them on camera is very funny.”

With “Gilly on the Street” expanding on campus, more and more students want to be featured in these hilarious and eccentric videos.

“There are students who recognize Gilmore on the Street,” said Gilmore. “They come to Admissions events on campus. They plan to continue to make more in the near future.

“Not only are we having fun entertaining students, but we are also showcasing different aspects of the university in a different way,” said Gilmore.

Haily Reatherford, senior at Sacred Heart, has committed her college career to preparing herself for graduate school.

As a Health Science major, with a concentration in Speech-Language Pathology (SLP), she has taken on many responsibilities, including programmer of National Student Speech Language Hearing Association (NSLHA), and president of the Student Academy of Audiology.

Recently, she had the opportunity to go on a university-run service trip to Guatemala, with the speech program. Also in attendance were students involved in occupational therapy and physical therapy.

During this trip, Reatherford had the opportunity to work with a wide range of disabled individuals.

“I was able to have a clinical experience, something I wouldn’t necessarily be able to have until I go to graduate school,” said Reatherford. “I performed many hearing screenings, and fit hearing aids. I also learned more about hearing loss as a whole.”

Reatherford also educated both teachers and parents on healthy communication skills and hearing strategies both in and out of the classroom.

“My favorite part of the trip was going to a school for the deaf, called, Lovista. This translates to, ‘voice of the silent ones.’ I found that day to be special,” said Reatherford.

For me, there was a double-language barrier. Not only did these students not speak English, but they also spoke in Guatemalan sign language.

This allowed Reatherford to build her own communication skills, so that she could talk to these students properly.

“My peers and I had to think outside of our comfort zone to have us there. It really shows how some­thing we take for granted in the United States, could be the difference to others.”

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“There are students who recognize Gilly on the Street,” said Gilmore. “They come to Admissions events on campus. They plan to continue to make more in the near future.

“Not only are we having fun entertaining students, but we are also showcasing different aspects of the university in a different way,” said Gilmore.
Food Review: Freezing Moo

By Nicole D'Andrea
Staff Reporter

Freezing Moo, a new rolled ice cream shop located on the Post Road in Fairfield, allows its customers to enjoy their unique ice cream while lounging on couches, or standing at tables.

Freezing Moo provides rolled ice cream, which is created with condensed milk. The ice cream is then smoothed out to be incredibly thin, and then rolled into tube-shapes. The ice cream can then be topped with many different confections.

As you enter, the first thing in sight is the menu which is written on a chalkboard, and provided on individual laminated papers. The atmosphere makes the customer feel laid back.

The shop is in the corner of a small shopping center, but despite being tucked in the corner, it was alive with customers.

As I looked around I noticed Freezing Moo appealed to people of all ages.

I arrived at Freezing Moo at 2:30 p.m., and a lot of children from local schools were starting to arrive to get their fix of ice cream. Along with those children came parents and grandparents who also were intrigued by the way this ice cream was assembled and served.

The staff was happy to help a first time customer like myself and was friendly to customers he seemed to know from their previous trips to the shop.

I looked through the many options which included unique names such as, "Monkey Business," which includes banana, graham cracker, nutella, chocolate sauce, "Green Giant," which includes green tea, lychee, condensed milk and "Mint To Be," which includes mint, oreo and chocolate sauce.

Out of all of the options, I chose "Mango Mucho," which contains strawberry, mango and condensed milk. I was happy with my decision. It tasted great and there was a lot of ice cream in my cup.

As the customer moves with the staff member down the line, separated by a glass window, the staff member begins by chopping up the ingredients, pouring the condensed milk, and rolling the ice cream. Once your ice cream is rolled, you can select three toppings. I chose more mangos, chocolate chips and coconut shavings.

Freezing Moo stood out to me because of its variety on the menu. If a customer enjoys chocolate, there are options for them and if a customer enjoys more fruity flavors, there is something for them too.

The staff was happy to help a first time customer like myself and was friendly to customers he seemed to know from their previous trips to the shop.

Each cup of ice cream costs $7.50, and if you would like your rolled ice cream in a waffle cone it costs $1.00 extra.

Although the price is more expensive than most other ice cream shops, it was definitely worth it. The flavors of the fresh fruit burst in your mouth and the creaminess of the condensed milk balances out with the chopped up ingredients.

It was truly delicious. After I ordered, I made my way over to the table tops and stood there to enjoy my ice cream. The shop is very spacious, simple, and modern. I ended up eating every bite of the ice cream and toppings.

One thing I wish I did differently was try different toppings such as gummy bears or skittles.

The rolled ice cream was light, so it made it easier to not feel bad about indulging in a sweet treat.

Overall, I would recommend Freezing Moo to all of my friends in Fairfield.

I enjoyed my experience from the second I walked in. I will definitely be making another trip to Freezing Moo soon. The eager staff, relaxed environment, and great taste made my experience a great one. However, maybe next time I will try it in a waffle cone.
The Return of "The Walking Dead"

BY JORDAN NORKUS
A&E Editor

AMC's post-apocalyptic horror television series, "The Walking Dead," is back for its eighth season. The first episode of the new season, which is also the show's 100th episode, aired on Sunday, Oct. 22. The episode starts with members of Alexandria, the Hilltop, and the Kingdom coming together and getting ready to start a war with Negan and the Saviors.

"I was really shocked with the way they gave us the new season eight episode," said sophomore Jake Doble. "I was pleasantly surprised by the amount of action they gave us in just the first episode. I really think they set the tone for the entire season."

Since season six, different communities have been introduced to the series—including Alexandria, the Hilltop, the Kingdom, Negan and the Saviors, and the Scavengers. Although this brought in many new characters, a few main characters of the show were lost. Similar to "Game of Thrones," fans of "The Walking Dead" hope that their favorite characters won't be killed off of the series.

"I think integrating the characters and the new communities on the show was added a new twist in the fight against Negan this season," said junior Sarah Kosha. "I am excited for this new season and where the show is heading in the future. If Daryl dies, we riot."

For some "The Walking Dead" fans, the television series has changed too much since its initial start in 2010. The only reason they're sticking with it is because they need to see how it all ends.

"With the start of the new season, I have to say I am not all that excited. A couple years ago, I had binge-watched up to season six and loved every bit. Since then, however, the show has gone down hill," said senior Mark Boyle. "At this point, I am only watching because I've invested so many hours into the show, already. If anything, I am just hoping this next season will bring back some spark to the show."

Other fans agreed with how the show has negatively changed, but they were left hopeful for the show's future after watching the new episode.

"I believe season eight is going to be all about them fighting for their lives and standing up to their biggest threats," said Doble. "I almost feel like I've been waiting for this moment because in past seasons and episodes, it began to feel a little dry."

The episode was dedicated to American-Canadian filmmaker George A. Romero and stuntman John Bernecker, who both passed away this past July. Romero's films, including "Night of the Living Dead," "Dawn of the Dead" and "The Crazies," served as inspiration for many zombie films and television series. Bernecker was a stuntman for "The Walking Dead" and died on set after he fell 22 feet from a balcony and missed the safety cushion.

Throughout the episode, the leading character, Rick Grimes, is giving the other community members hope before they venture out into war, saying that after everything they've endured and risen above, they will take back tomorrow. In an interview with Indie Wire, executive producer of Scott M. Gimple said how the theme of season eight is "holding on."

"[It's about] circumstance, painful events pushing you to the brink of becoming something you don't want to be," said Gimple. "But the whole reason you're doing this is to extinguish the kind of brutality from the world that you have to perpetuate. It's about holding on to who you are, holding on to your values, holding on to your humanity."

"The Walking Dead" airs Sundays at 9 p.m. on AMC.

Justin Timberlake Takes on Super Bowl LII

BY MELIHA GUTIC
Asst. A&E Editor

On Oct. 22, Justin Timberlake announced right before Sunday Night Football, with the help of his friend Jimmy Fallon, that he would be taking the stage as the Halftime Show performer at Super Bowl LII. The 2018 Super Bowl is taking place on Feb. 4 in Minneapolis, Minn. at U.S. Bank Stadium.

"I like his music so I think that it was a good choice for Pepsi to make him the halftime performer. I actually am a girl that watches the show, and watching Justin Timberlake will be the icing on the cake this year," said senior Savannah Lobo.

The Halftime show is sponsored by Pepsi and usually, the cost for production is expensive. There is a lot of thought that goes into the performance. They can cost up to or over ten million dollars.

Last year's performer, Lady Gaga raked in 117.5 million viewers during her 13-minute performance, according to Fox. This had more views than the actual game itself, which had 111.3 million viewers.

Feeling Blue

She came in second for viewers behind Katy Perry, who had 120 million viewers.

"I don't really care for Justin Timberlake; he's not horrible but I'm not a fan. His style of music isn't my favorite. I'm probably still going to watch it though because my family loves football and we end up making an event out of the Super Bowl," said senior Nicole Ferrell.

Timberlake was in the boy band NSYNC, and they had millions of fans until they broke up in 2002. They performed alongside other artists at the Super Bowl XXXV, so he has experience and knows what to expect.

"I'm not a fan of his, but I absolutely loved NSYNC and I am still a fan of theirs. Him individually, not so much," said Ferrell.

Fans on Twitter have been speculating about a NSYNC reunion, and are excited about the idea of it being a possibility.

"I am going to die if NSYNC comes out. I was literally obsessed with them and if they come out, I'm going to freak out. They haven't been together for such a long time and for them to reunite with so many people watching is crazy," said Lobo.

The Super Bowl is a huge event and fans throw parties to celebrate. But there are also those that watch the Super Bowl to just watch the commercials or the Halftime show.

"To be honest, I'm not really a football fan and I don't watch the Super Bowl much. I like Justin Timberlake though, especially his song 'I Can't Stop the Feeling' so I'll definitely be watching his performance," said senior Sam Sood.

Fourteen years ago, Timberlake joined Janet Jackson on stage and during their performance together, the infamous wardrobe malfunction occurred. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) received hundreds of thousands of complaints from viewers who saw it as inappropriate.

So, this will be Timberlake's second time performing at a Super Bowl. I was too young to remember that but hopefully a malfunction this year can be avoided," said Ferrell. Super Bowl LII will be televised on NBC on Feb. 4, 2018.

ARTIST'S CORNER

African Princess
Chantal Benavidez, Senior
The 3rd Annual Guitar Festival

BY MEGHAN RICE
Staff Reporter

The Academic Music Program presented the 3rd Annual Guitar Festival on Wednesday, Oct. 18, in the Edgerton Center for the Performing Arts. It was a night full of musical history and shared talents between musicians, students and local Fairfield residents.

The annual festival is run by Director of Academic Music Programs, Joe Carter.

"I wanted an international theme this year. Last year it was jazz and the year before it was Brazilian music. "

Carter is an internationally acclaimed classical guitarist who has performed in Latin America, Mexico, Canada and New York City. He is the co-founder and president of the New England Guitar Society (NEGS) and has his own studio where he offers guitar lessons and other instrumental lessons.

During the event, Baird performed a brief history of Spanish guitar music; performed a brief history of the Spanish Baroque, Renaissance, music from the Spanish Baroque, Spanish music from the Classical era, Spanish music from the 20th century Spanish music. Pavan began his musical career in Argentina at the age of 12 and went to New York in the 2000s to continue to pursue music. When Pavan is not traveling to perform, he gives private guitar lessons and instructs the Noel Pointer Foundation.

"In past years we've had U.S. jazz great, Gene Bertoncini, plus Brazilian Richard Miller and the husband and wife team of Jason Eimis (U.S.) and Natalia Bernal (Chile)," said Carter.

Because music is constantly changing and evolving, so are the festivals. "I believe people should be exposed to all types of good music," said Carter. "It's per­haps the most recognized instrument in the Western world but we usually only see one aspect of it when it's used in pop music."

Carter teaches History of Jazz and Music of Latin America and the Caribbean, both of which he created for Sacred Heart. Every year Carter encourages his students to attend musical performances hosted at Sacred Heart. "I'm excited to see the new representation of that," said Riccio. "Each of these choirs plays a specific, different role on campus. Everyone that participates in them went through an extra audition."

Many choir members are excited about performing their annual Halloween concert at a new venue. "One difference compared to last year is that we are performing in a new space," said Riccio. "In the past, we performed at United Congregational Church in Bridgeport. But this year we will be at Stratford First Congregational Church. I'm excited to see the new space."

Members of the choir will be dressed in costume. They encourage audience members to dress up, too, because there will be a contest with prizes. The concert will also feature a pipe organ, a silent film, and a reception.

"It is a really fun Halloween season kick off concert and little kids would definitely enjoy it as well. So bring friends and family," said Larson.

Following "Pipescreams" is the Band Program's concert, "Halloween Spooktacular!" This concert will take place on Monday, Oct. 30 at 8 p.m. in the Edgerton Center for the Performing Arts.

"We want to keep the Halloween tradition by playing a selection of exciting and spooky songs," said sophomore band member Lauren Knoak. "The concert is intended to keep the audience on the edge of their seats and provide powerful and sometimes chilling music."

The Band Program has put on this Halloween concert for the past two years. Each concert has a specific theme and features pieces of music relating to the subject.

"Our upcoming concert is our "Halloween Spooktacular!" program," said Director of Bands Keith Johnston.

"This year's theme is 'Sci-Fi and Thrillers' and features the music of Danny Elfman, John Williams, and music from the BBC hit series, 'Doctor Who.'"

Featuring "spine-tingling music and hair-raising fun," the concert band will be performing some Halloween favorites.

"My favorite song for this concert is 'The Machine Awakes' by Steven Bryant," said senior band member Lara DeCastro. "The song, along with the electronic beats and pulses, gives a modern Frankenstein vibe; in the sense that something created by humans—in this case, the band—is coming to life when it should not be alive at all."

Like the Choir Program, members of band also encourage everyone to attend their concert and come in costume to help get into the Halloween spirit.

"The band will be dressed in costume, and we encourage the audience to come dressed up as well," said Johnston.
Four Basketball Games to be Nationally Televised in February

BY JOSEPH SIEGEL
Stuff Writer

In Feb. 2018, the Sacred Heart University men's and women's basketball teams are set to have games nationally televised on ESPN, and ESPNU. The men's team will have two games televised. The first game will be against LIU Brooklyn, on Feb. 1, and the second game will be against Central Connecticut State University, on Feb. 10. The women's team will also have two games televised. These games will be against Mount Saint Mary's, on Feb. 12, and Robert Morris, on Feb. 19.

The men's Northeast Conference (NEC), broke its previous record with a recording of 12 televised games. The men's NEC will also break their previous NEC record, by recording 17 games for the upcoming season.

"The television network works closely with the NEC, Coaches and staff from each team meet with the League Office. The League Office then decides the best matchups to create an intriguing game," said men's basketball head coach, Anthony Latina. The men's basketball team has earned national airline with their past performances. The team ranked 4th in the NEC, with 2,326 points last season. Although they had finished 8-10 in the conference play last year, it can be argued that Sacred Heart will provide good ratings due to their high scoring offense.

"The League thinks we'll be really good this season. Normally, we score a ton of points, as have been known to do so. The same goes for our opponents LIU Brooklyn, and Central Connecticut State," said Latina. "We're a veteran team. Since we have these men, we have high expectations, and we want to achieve success early on. Our goal is to be a contender in our conference." The excitement is continually building up for the anticipation of these games. The team is trying to be a contender in the NEC Tournament for its third consecutive season.

"The goals for this season are to have a 20-win season, make the playoffs, win the NEC, and compete in March Madness," said guard, Sean Hoehn. "We're excited to play these games on national television, but we are not solely motivated on the aspect of being televised. We approach every game the same, [in that] we just want to win and keep building as a team."

The outlook on the televised games for the women's team, is relatively similar to that of the men's team. "The NEC does a great job of letting us play on a national stage, it's definite-ly an exciting time," said Coach, Jessica Mennetti. "The NEC picks the best conference rivalries for the games. We're motivated to be in this situation, at the same time these are games that we need to win."

"Having some games nationally televised, isn't what motivates the women's basketball team. They are more focusing on playing their conference foes. "Conference games play a large part into our success. We are prepared to beat our opponent no matter what the situation holds," said Mennetti. "All of our conference games are suitable, and are very wide open." The team is trying to be as successful as last year, if not, more. After reaching the NEC Semifinal last year, the expectations are even higher for this year. Coming off of a tough loss in finishing last season against St. John's in the Women's National Invitation Tournament, the team is ready to get their season started on a positive note. "We expect to win; we're a young team and we want to grow further. Between now and February we would like to have more chemistry as a team," said its guard, senior, Tykera Carter. "A game is a game, and we're going to be ready for it, televised or not."

The All-Year Atmosphere of Club Sailing

BY OLIVIA MITTLEMAN
Stuff Writer

Their boats may be from 1960, but that doesn't stop the Sacred Heart University club sailing team from competing year-round.

Alumni of Sacred Heart, who enjoyed sailing, wanted to bring the sport to the University's community. Banned off of this passion, they formed the team roughly seven years ago.

Members of the sailing team range from freshmen to seniors, of whom enjoy sailing, wanted to grow further. Between now and February, we would like to have more chemistry as a team," said its guard, senior, Tykera Carter. "A game is a game, and we're going to be ready for it, televised or not." The team is trying to be as successful as last year, if not, more. After reaching the NEC Semifinal last year, the expectations are even higher for this year. Coming off of a tough loss in finishing last season against St. John's in the Women's National Invitation Tournament, the team is ready to get their season started on a positive note. "We expect to win; we're a young team and we want to grow further. Between now and February we would like to have more chemistry as a team," said its guard, senior, Tykera Carter. "A game is a game, and we're going to be ready for it, televised or not."

"I didn't sail before attending Sacred Heart. There's no experience necessary," said sophomore, Nikolas Hermanowycz. "I saw the flyer hanging in the UC and thought, 'hey that's pretty interesting, and it looks like a lot of fun.'" I attended a meeting, and had a blast. I went on from there."

Hermanowycz enjoys sailing so much, that he is now president of the club. "I was really the only one able to be president. There was noone else. So I stepped up, and took the job." Unlike Hermanowycz, senior, Renee Flores, did sail prior to coming to Sacred Heart. "I grew up sailing, but didn't sail competitively, until I got to high school," said Flores. "When I came to Sacred Heart, I got an email from club athletics about sailing, so I attended a meeting, and got a really good vibe from the team and their captains. I ended up joining, and I really appreciate the sport."

The sailing team is comprised of two-person boats, which compete in regattas. Regattas test the sailors' speed, agility, and general sailing knowledge. "It's set up like a course," said Flores. "All the teams start at the starting line, and use whatever sailing tactics they can in order to get to the finish line."

Although the team at Sacred Heart is a club team, they frequently compete against Division I schools. "We sail against varsity teams, and Division I teams. Teams such as, Harvard, Yale, and Navy, obviously have much more time, and funding, than we do, but we always go in with a positive attitude," said Flores. "If we do pretty well on a given day, and beat a couple of boats, then we're happy."

The team practices daily from 3:30pm. until 6:30pm. at Captain's Cove, in Bridgeport, Connecticut. At practice, the team works on various aspects of sailing to compete against Division I schools. "We do a lot of drills to polish our skills. This improves movements and abilities that are needed throughout each race," said junior, Rebecca Rutkiewicz. "Our coaches set up race courses for us, and we run many practice races as well. We do this so that we can work on starts, heading up wind, tacking, gybing, down mark roundings."

Unlike most other Sacred Heart club sports, the sailing team shares practice time and coaching staff with Fairfield University. "It works just as smoothly as you hope it would," said Hermanowycz. "Though we compete with them [Fairfield University], we have more of a connection than one would assume."

The team lost a handful of sailors from last year's graduating class. "The main goal for this year is to rebuild the team, and develop better sailing skills," said Rutkiewicz. "The team has many great new sailors, and the goal [for new sailors] is to have them work on skills, and be introduced to the aspects of racing."

Although the team was originally formed to race competitively, they also make sure that they are enjoying their time on the water. "Our team motto is, 'If you've had fun, you've won,'" said Flores.
Sports

Women's Swimming and Diving Back in the Water for the 2017-18 Season

BY JOHN FLANIGAN
Staff Writer

This past weekend, the Sacred Heart women's swimming team opened their season with a dual meet, at Central Connecticut State University. The Pioneers fell 200-137 to CCSU, and 242-105 to St. Bonaventure, in the two day meet.

Although the season didn't start out on the right foot for the team as a whole, the Pioneers were handed some strong performances throughout the meet.

Competing in her first race as a Pioneer, freshman, Margaret Flaherty, placed second in both the 500 and 1,000 meter freestyle.

"I was excited. I was swimming against a girl I had grown up with, so there was definitely excitement that was mixed with nerves," said Flaherty.

According to the Sacred Heart Athletic Communications press release, Flaherty's time in the 1,000 meter freestyle of 10:45:71, was fast enough to set a school record. The record was previously held by Christine DePierro, who had held a time of 10:47:57.

"It's pretty exciting," said Flaherty. "The first thing I did after I broke the record was say, 'oh, okay.' Then I texted my dad and he said, 'you know that is a 13-year-old record you just broke.' It's a lot bigger of a record than I had first thought it would be."

Flaherty wasn't the only Pioneer underclassman to have a successful meet. Sophomore, Lauren Somers, defeated all of her NEC competitions of the weekend, placing second in all of her events.

"I was pretty excited to start the season off like that. It set up some good momentum for the rest of the year," Somers said.

In fact, Somers' performance was good enough for her to be named Co-NEC Swimmer of the Week. Her time of 1:53:59 was three seconds quicker than any other NEC competitor in the 200 meter freestyle.

In the 100 meter freestyle, she turned in a NEC season best time of 52:52. And in the 50 meter freestyle, Somers turned in a top-five NEC performance by touching the wall at 24:66.

"I wasn't thinking that I would start this season off like that. It helps me to set certain goals to keep striving for the rest of the season," Somers said.

The team's roster this season, mainly consists of underclassmen. On a roster of 26 swimmers, eleven women are sophomores, and four, are freshmen.

"I think they [the underclassmen] are doing a very good job so far. Their times were very impressive. It's only going to get better as the season goes along," said the team's head coach, John Spadafina.

After going 9-2 last year, Spadafina made some changes this offseason.

"We added St. Bonaventure, an Atlantic-10 team, early on in our schedule, to give our team a little bit more competition," said Spadafina. We added Central Connecticut, twice. We will swim against them again, later on in the year."

Spadafina also made some changes to the swimmers' training style, in the hopes of better preparing the team for the season.

"Both Molly, my assistant coach, and myself, were able to maneuver and split apart groups in order to simplify things a little bit more for the team, which will enhance their training," Spadafina said.

In spite of the changes made to the team's training, the swimmers have not yet, been faced.

"They've done very well so far, but the best part about it, is that there is room to grow every single day, and every single practice," said Spadafina.
SHELTON, CONN. - SACRED HEART WOMEN'S ICE HOCKEY WERE BLANKED BY SAINT ANSELM 4-0 ON SATURDAY AFTERNOON. PICTURED IS JUNIOR KATIE STUEVE.