OT stepping it up

By Brian Corasaniti
Co-Editor-in-Chief

A group of SHU students work on their laptops. The program will be changed next year.

Laptop program overhauled

By Leann Doyle
Staff Writer

The incoming class of 2001 may face reduced laptop problems with the University’s proposed leasing plan tentatively slated for the fall.

"There will be an initial two year lease where we will charge a tech fee each semester to cover the cost of the lease and some of the services provided here," said Assistant Vice President of Information Technology Mike Trimble. "At no time will students have a computer older than two years," he said.

"At the end of the two year period, we will take the computers back from the sophomores after their finals, turn them into IBM, and get a newer model. During the next two years, there will be a new lease, where the students will be leasing to own their laptop upon graduation. We want students to leave with something that is still functional and useful to them," Trimble said.

With the current program, incoming freshmen are given a laptop that they pay for up front or over their four years at the university. The cost was approximately $2600 for this year’s freshmen.

"What’s wrong with that, in my opinion, is that four years is a long time to maintain a useful [computer] life, especially for a laptop," said Trimble.

Trimble said that compared to desktop computers, laptops suffer more wear and are behind in development.

"If today is the first time desktops come with 750 mega"

See Laptops, page 2

Nursing program marks their 20th anniversary

Special to the Spectrum

University committed to community health, we are proud of the progress the nursing program has made. Our graduates are distinguished by their clinical excellence and their compassion. Our nurses are educated to treat people, not just illnesses.

The event, which will be held in the theater, features a presentation by Kathleen Mahoney at 4:30 p.m. on March 24.

Mahoney will discuss her experiences as a relief worker for Doctors Without Borders, which was the recipient of the

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Leading lecturer speaking this Sunday

Michael Parenti, one of the nations leading progressive thinkers and a popular public speaker, will be at SHU at 7:30 p.m. Sunday in the Schine Auditorium. A reception will follow.

Parenti will discuss the “Politics of News Media.” Parenti is the author of 14 books which has been translated in over eight languages and has taught at numerous colleges and universities in the U.S. and abroad.

For more information, call 371-7810.

Nursing: 20 years and still rolling

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Laptops: Program switching gears in fall

Continued from page 1

Wilderman: SHU mourns

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"Radical in the true sense of the word, [Parenti] digs at the roots which sustain our public consciousness." - LA Times Review
Cernera celebrates the big 5-0

Photo by Brian Comunni

Anthony Cernera, president of Sacred Heart University, cuts his cake at the celebration of his 50th birthday on Tuesday afternoon in the Mahogany Room.

Cernera celebrated his birthday with a dance and open bar on May 21. The event was organized by students to honor his years of service.

Public Safety Releases

Incident report from March 1 to March 13

March 1: 9:13 a.m.-Staff member reported a student had been receiving harassing emails. Public Safety responded and investigated.

2:04 p.m.-Public Safety Officer reported there was a minor motor vehicle accident on Curtis Hall Road; no injuries. Fairfield Police were called and responded.

8:40 p.m.-Student reported he witnessed a vehicle hit another vehicle while it was parked in the North Parking Lot. Public Safety Officer left notes on both vehicles for notification and to have them contact the Public Safety Office.

March 2: 12:44 a.m.-East Hall resident reported she has been receiving harassing telephone calls. Public Safety responded and investigated.

1:45 p.m.-Staff member reported the theft of money from her office desk in the Main Academic Building. Public Safety responded and investigated.

8:30 p.m.-South Hall, fifth floor fire alarm activated by burnt food.

March 3: 2:46 a.m.-Residential Life staff member reported a West Hall resident became verbally abusive towards her. Public Safety responded and investigated.

3:14 a.m.-Residential Life staff member reported someone vandalized a West Hall window in the fourth floor stairwell. Public Safety responded and investigated. Buildings and Grounds notified for repairs.

11:16 a.m.-Staff member reported while exiting an University van, the wind blew the door open into another vehicle parked at East Hall. Public Safety responded and investigated.

1:27 p.m.-South Hall resident reported the theft of his book bag from his room. Public Safety responded and investigated the incident.

8:45 p.m.-Public Safety Officer reported a minor motor vehicle accident in the North Parking Lot; no injuries. Fairfield Police were called and responded.

March 4: 1:04 a.m.-South Hall, fourth floor fire alarm activated by discharged fire extinguisher. Public Safety responded.

1:07 a.m.-Public Safety Officer reported there was a discharged fire extinguisher on the fourth floor in South Hall. Buildings and Grounds notified to clean the chemical.

2:10 a.m.-Public Safety Officer reported there was a fire extinguisher missing from the third floor of South Hall. Public Safety replaced it.

7:57 a.m.-South Hall, fourth floor fire alarm activated by contractors cleaning the dry chemicals from the discharged fire extinguisher.

10:13 a.m.-West Hall, sixth floor fire alarm; no problems found.

March 5: 6:16 a.m.-Public Safety Officer reported there was shaving cream on several of the dorm room doors at West Hall. Buildings and Grounds notified to clean the doors.

March 7: 3:35 p.m.-Staff member reported a West Hall resident vandalized a mailroom door. Public Safety responded and investigated.

March 8: 5:09 p.m.-Jefferson Hill Residential Life staff member reported a resident was trying to enter his apartment and was not allowed. Public Safety responded and investigated.

March 11: 3:27 p.m.-Public Safety Officer reported an East Hall resident was followed on Park Avenue and stopped in the East Hall Parking Lot by a Bridgeport Police Officer. The officer confiscated drug paraphernalia from the vehicle. Residential Life staff member and a Public Safety Officer also confiscated paraphernalia from the vehicle.

3:35 p.m.-Jefferson Hill resident reported there was a gas leak coming from his oven. Public Safety responded and investigated.

B&G notified for repairs.

7:37 p.m.-A Student called from the Pitt Center and requested a lockout for a visitor in the soccer clinic. Public Safety responded and investigated.

March 12: 4:19 a.m.-Public Safety Officer witnessed two residence parked in a vehicle in the North Parking Lot. The officer told the residents to return to their respective residences.

March 13: 10:32 a.m.-Staff member reported there was a suspicious male walking around in the back offices of the library. Public Safety responded and investigated.

OT: Kicking it into high gear for next year

Continued from page 1

OT department will be providing activities for students to participate in as well during April. "April 16h from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Occupational Therapy will set up a table in the cafeteria. Test your grip strength, attempt a perceptual game and complete a fine motor activity while trying to balance on a wobbly surface. The activities we will provide can give you some idea of the kinds of challenges our clients face when trying to do the every day activities of their lives," said Bortone.

In layman's terms, Occupational Therapists are, "committed to helping people meet the challenges of everyday life and to do the day-to-day activities that are important to them," according to a press release from the OT department.

The OT department added that, "Occupational therapists work with clients from all age groups, from birth to old age, whose participation in the activities of their daily lives is impeded by, or has been interrupted by disease, disability, trauma, congenital anomalies, or environmental restrictions."

They also said occupational therapists "work to promote health, prevent disability, facilitate satisfaction with one's life, improve meaningful interaction with one's life occupations.

Bortone said that this year's work in getting the OT program off the ground has been a tremendously rewarding experience.

"The administration and faculty have been immensely helpful and supportive of me in getting the occupational therapy program off the ground. The level of commitment I feel from the University's administration and faculty is tremendous and unique in my experience in other educational institutions," said Bortone.

"This past year has been wonderful, exciting, challenging and a lot of work on all levels. Hiring faculty, recruiting students, ordering books for the library, ordering equipment for the laboratories, developing the courses in the curriculum and a thousand other projects, encompass my day," added Bortone.

Once renovations are complete this summer the OT department will include an Independent Living Laboratory, Ergonomics/Assistive Technology Laboratory, Psychological Laboratory, Clinical Sciences Laboratory, Clinical Practice Laboratory and the Assessment Library.

"In addition to the labs, there will be an additional two tutorial classrooms and occupational therapy faculty office suite, all located on the first floor of the SC wing," said Bortone.

"Construction is moving along on the Clinical Practice/Skills and Assessment Laboratory, the Independent Living Laboratory and the Assistive Technology Lab. Construction on the first floor office suite, one of the tutorial classrooms, the Clinical Sciences Lab and the Psychosocial Lab will begin this summer," according to Bortone.

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"This past year has been wonderful, exciting, challenging and a lot of work on all levels. Hiring faculty, recruiting students, ordering books for the library, ordering equipment for the laboratories, developing the courses in the curriculum and a thousand other projects, encompass my day," added Bortone.

Seniors: Graduation coming up real soon

Continued from page 1

are rides, games, swimming and food.

Later that afternoon is a trip to Holiday Hill that includes dancing, open bar, food, and sports activities.

On May 19 there is a champagne brunch where the seniors will hear the yearbook dedication speech and see the premiere of the yearbook video. Then it is time to put on your best formal wear and hopefully have found a date for the Commencement Ball that evening. This event marks the last evening the seniors will be celebrating together as a class, May 20 is the Family Dinner Dance with a buffet, dancing and entertainment. After hearing stories from last year's class, this year should be just as wild.

"Graduation comes with mixed emotions, the joy of graduating, but the loss of friends," said Bill Hardt from West Milford, NJ.

"On one hand it will be fun to hang out during senior week and relive our freshman year, but on the other hand it will be the last time you will ever see some of these people. Once the fun is over, then it's you later," said Steve Dodge from Prospect.

There are many seniors who have planned for their futures already; some who are getting engaged and even some who are still undecided. Whichever path they have chosen, graduation day can still be slightly intimidating. Seniors become people with a degree and a college graduate.

"I can't believe I only have eight weeks left with my roommates. My four years here have been amazing and I am going to really miss it," said Christine Locke, a senior from Charlestown, Mass.

"I can't believe I only have eight weeks left with my roommates. My four years here have been amazing and I am going to really miss it," said Christine Locke, a senior from Charlestown, Mass.
Editorials

It’s about time we got new laptops

Unfortunately for those leaving SHU this year, the Information Technology Department’s wise decision to change the laptop program over to a two year leasing agreement will not affect them. We feel it is about time that the $2,700 dollar paperweights we were forced to purchase be discarded in favor of a leasing program.

Although any new laptop purchased through the program will be obsolete by the time it arrives at the doors (thanks to laptop technology inability to keep pace with desktop computers), it will be a far better machine than the ones many of us have to deal with now.

The major concern that still exists is the price that these machines will fetch. Fees in previous years were astronomical to say the very least. Anyone could have found a much faster machine than the junior and senior’s Texas Instruments for a lot less money at any local retailer, especially if it is a desktop.

The new program is a great step forward in mandating the computer problems that have been a major bone of contention over the last couple years. Hopefully this will just be the first step towards an effective and successful laptop program that has failed to deliver so far.

Hard drugs not something to mess with

Alright, we’re not dumb enough to think a warning against all drug use will have the least bit of influence on you. Just look at page 10 and you’ll see we’re not even against all drug use. But there are a few things we wish to address about hard drug use at SHU we want you to be aware of.

Here’s the deal, we’re all college level adults here. It’s not like we came from a poor educational background that didn’t warn us about the dangers of hard drugs like cocaine, heroin, etc. In this day and age, we’re tempted to say if you’re dumb enough to do hard drugs, you deserve the consequences.

The problem is, your friends and families don’t deserve the consequences and they will be effected, no doubt about it. The pain and suffering they go through because of the consequences of a drug addict’s behavior is immense and can be tremendous.

So remember when you hit the clubs and someone asks you to go beyond booze, think hard before you decide.

Gun control advocates not looking at real problem

He is the man who has brought you your economic prosperity. He is the man who has delivered peace and tranquility to this nation.

And most of all, when America experiences a school, police, family) shooting, he feels our pain.

So when the NRA’s Executive Vice President went on national TV and remarked that old Bobo exploits gun violence for political gain, naturally the press wondered how any American could feel that way.

Besides the fact that Bill Clinton would vend his own soul, auction Chelsea into slavery, or sell out our national security to the Chinese for political gain, the current NRA vs. Clinton bout brings out an important issue.

What is the best way to reduce gun violence? Over the last year and into the general presidential election in the fall, this question will clobber in our ears.

Whenever there is a significant gun-related tragedy you can turn on the television and see Clinton in near tears pleading for Congress to establish tough gun control legislation.

Presently there are thousands of gun control laws on the federal level. The NRA argues for enforcement of those current laws as key to the problem.

But, under the Clinton Administration, federal prosecution of gun laws has dropped by over 50%, and the lack of enforcement is killing people. The shooting death of a Sheriff’s Deputy in Georgia is a prime example.

The deputy and another officer were gunned down when they tried to arrest a man who was arrested five years ago on an unlicensed handgun charge. If prosecuted federally that criminal would have still been in jail.

Gun Control advocates lobby for trigger locks and the administration actually succeeded in monetarily blackmailing Smith and Wesson last week into this control.

Some also support mandatory safety vaults, smart guns and a national licensing system. For a moment let us just say that Clinton succeeds and every possible gun control measure imaginable is law.

Let us forget for a moment possible constitutional infringements and focus on the question. With billions of federal dollars spent and with prices for guns reaching ridiculous heights, will it really solve the problem?

This feels good legislation supported by the Democrats solves nothing, and the lack of criminal enforcement has been devastating. Is the most exhaustive study to date of the relationship of an armed citizenry and crime rates, John Lott Jr. has argued that states that allow abiding citizens to carry their own concealed guns have dramatically reduced in crime in those areas.

In the Yale Law Professor’s groundbreaking work “More Guns, Less Crime” the liberal gun control lies are ousted.

After all of the debate, Clinton actually had an opportunity this summer to get all his legislation passed but rejected it by way of a technicility. That is one reason why LaPerre made his charge.

If he cares so much why didn’t he sign the bill? Could it possibly mean that he wanted to take advantage of every exploitable act of violence to promote his legacy building agenda? Now the next time our great leader stalks you at your TV set, caring and crying for America’s future... you’ll know better.

The SHU Voices

What is the most important thing that the help desk erased from your hard drive?

Bill Woodruff
Sophomore
Brookfield

“A better question would be what hasn’t the help desk erased from my hard drive.”

Brian Bonnell
Junior
Oxford

“I don’t trust them enough to bring my computer there.”

Jody Fisher
Sophomore
Oakdale, N.Y.

“I haven’t brought my computer there yet, but I have to.”

Gun control advocates not looking at real problem

By Brian P. Merwin

The Spectrum is a student publication. Letters to the editor are encouraged. All submissions are subject to editing for spelling, punctuation, grammar, clarity and length. The Spectrum does not assume copyright for any published material.

The Spectrum is a student-run newspaper of Sacred Heart University, published every Thursday during the academic year.

All mail should be sent to the Spectrum, Sacred Heart University, 3151 Park Ave., Fairfield, CT, 06425-1000.

The advertising deadline is seven days prior to publication. Office Phone numbers are (203) 371-7963 or 7966. Fax number is (203) 371-7228.
Counseling Center urges students to use good judgement

Dear Editor,

In each of our lives there are phone calls that we hope we never recieve. The mere thought that one day we will recieve a call telling us of the death of a family member or close friend fills us with dread.

The members of the Counseling Center Staff are no exceptions.

Aside from hearing the tragic news of our own families and friends that we love, we live in dread that one of you, on our campus, will be the object of such a phone call.

The fact that any one of us could die from an accident is frightening enough, but that some of you may be permanently injured or even die because of choices you are making is of VERY serious concern for us.

Some of you are making choices that are both illegal and dangerous. We are aware that some of you are caught up in the Rave sweep, investigating escatological and other substances, along with alcohol and believing that this is the only way you can have fun.

Others are snorting prescription drugs for recreational purposes and not thinking of the consequences.

It is sad enough that a Trinity College senior died recently from such a choice...please take the time to think about your decisions.

If you are using or know of someone who is, we encourage you to get help immediately.

Counseling Center Staff

Please submit your letters to the Spectrum office on Mondays between the hours of 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. or slip them under the office door. Letters must be typewritten and signed and may be edited. Please indicate title or class and telephone number.

Education, not prohibition should be focus of SHU alcohol policy

Letters/Op-Ed

Dear Editor,

B- I don’t understand our school policy on alcohol. Rather than forbidding kids from drinking, the school should educate kids on how to deal with alcohol.

B- It’s college, of course kids are going to drink. It is not right how school just says we are not to drink and stops there.

B- They should try to enlighten students about using alcohol and the consequences that come along with it.

B- Also, our school policy is hypocritical. For example, kids downloading too many free music files (MP3s).

I- By mankind. Researchers from around the world can share equipment.

I- What is the idea was to make sure that all the vital information wasn’t kept in just one building, but stored in several places throughout the nation.

I- Since then, the Internet has become the greatest information distribution tool ever developed by mankind. Researchers from around the world can share information. Students from all walks of life can boost their education with Internet resources. It is the only way you can have fun.

B- As a CSU student living in the residence halls faces university discipline action for downloading too many free music files (MP3s).

B- Blame, though, must be shared. CSU has the obligation to inform students of potential legalities that stem from “misusing” university equipment.

B- Ignorance by a student is not a defense from the law, but equipment.

B- Those who are graduating in the Class of 2001 are quarenteed four tickets. Additional tickets may be obtained.

B- How many Parent Dinner Dance Tickets do I get?

B- Q- How many Parent Dinner Dance Tickets do I get?

B- Q- Can I bring a guest to the Commencement Ball?

B- A- Yes, for a ticket price of $50.

B- Q- Can I drive to the Ball?

B- A- Yes, but buses may be safer.

B- Q- Do I have to live in South Hall?

B- A- No, housing is optional.

B- Q- How do I know where I am staying?

B- A- Yes, for a ticket price of $50.

B- Q- Can I drive to the Ball?

B- A- Yes, but buses may be safer.

B- Q- Do I have to live in South Hall?

B- A- No, housing is optional.

B- Q- How do I know where I am staying?

A- Where is when a person that is 21 years old has a right.

A- If a kid comes back totally wasted the RA brings them to their room to make sure they are “O.K.”, but that person never gets written up.

A- Another thing about this “dry campus” policy is that not right is when a person that is 21 who lives in either West Hall, South Hall, East Hall or Jefferson Hill can still be written up for having alcohol.

A- The government says they are legally allowed to drink, but according to Sacred Heart University they are not even allowed to have alcohol in their rooms.

A- Also, if this school is legitimately a “dry campus,” why is there a bar in the cafeteria?

A- This policy has many flaws. I think this policy needs to be reviewed or dropped altogether.

Paul Lyons
Freshman

Editor's note: This letter was submitted before the SmackDown The Dry Campus contest and is not eligible to win.

Class of 2001 answers your Senior Week FAQs

Q- Do I have to be 21 to participate in Senior Week?

A- Yes, but buses may be safer.

Q- Those who are graduating in the Class of 2001 are quarenteed four tickets. Additional tickets may be obtained.

Q- Can I bring a guest to the Commencement Ball?

A- Yes, for a ticket price of $50.

Q- Can I drive to the Ball?

A- Yes, but buses may be safer.

Q- Do I have to live in South Hall?

A- No, housing is optional.

Q- How do I know where I am staying?

A- Where is when a person that is 21 years old has a right.

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A weekend for our siblings

By Jilly Caruso
Staff Writer

The Seventh Annual Siblings Weekend is coming to Sacred Heart this weekend, March 24-26. SET and the Class of 2003 have worked to comprise a weekend full of activities and events which students and their siblings are encouraged to attend.

According to Karen Manson, who is serving as advisor to the event, Siblings Weekend serves as an opportunity for the brothers and sisters of SHU students to get an idea of what college life is like, and familiarize themselves with the surroundings their sibling has become accustomed to.

"This year, there is a lot of brothers and sisters that go here, perhaps more so than other university that I know of," said Manson.

The theme for the weekend is "Out of this World." Registration starts on Friday afternoon at 3 p.m. Manson says that there are already 117 brothers and sisters signed up for the festivities and by Friday she expects around 150 siblings to participate.

One of the newer events this year include Laser Tag in the Outpost and a Turbo Tom Freak Show that is sure to have kids squirming in their seats. Other activities include the "Galactic Jam" carnival that will be held on the patio that will contain a moon-bounce area and various other games. The only exception is that this year there will be no petting zoo.

Krisy Pacelli, Theme Chair for SET, feels confident about the weekend and believes things will go smoothly.

"Siblings Weekend is special. SHU students can share with their brothers and sisters that go here, perhaps more so than other universities," said Pacelli.

Manson, who is serving as advisor to the Office of Student Events and Programming, feels confident about the weekend and believes things will go smoothly.

Students along with their brothers and sisters at last year's Siblings Weekend. Friday marks the start of this year's events. Friday marks the start of this year's events. Friday marks the start of this year's events. Friday marks the start of this year's events.
Suicide rates high among college students

By Emily Houlihan
Staff Writer

Life can be quite overwhelming at times. So difficult, in fact, that many people feel they simply cannot bear it, and they would rather escape the pain than to face another day.

The American Foundation of Suicide Prevention explains that more than 32,000 people in the United States take their life each year.

Suicidal behaviors occur as a response to a situation that the person views as overwhelming. Such situations include social isolation, death of a loved one, emotional trauma, serious physical illness, growing old, unemployment or financial problems, guilty feelings, and drug or alcohol abuse. Suicidal behaviors can accompany many emotional disturbances, including depression.

The American Foundation of Suicide Prevention facts shows that a person commits suicide about every 15 minutes in the U.S. Over 60 percent of all people who commit suicide suffer from major depression.

The statistics break down into specific categories based on gender and race. Women commit suicide every 90 minutes in the U.S., while white males commit three-quarters of all suicide deaths. Also, young black males aged 15-24 suicide rate has risen by two-thirds over the past 15 years.

What is even more alarming is that suicide affects more college students than any other group. Self-murder is the third leading cause of death among college students.

"It's difficult to track suicide trends among college students, there are so many things that can trigger someone to become potentially suicidal," - Paul Greyson

"Adjustment to college is not always easy," said Karen Scannell, a personal counselor at the Counseling Center.

There are many pressures that students are confronted with during college life. Students must find a way to balance academic, social and emotional issues, which can put great strain on a student.

Sister Anne Louise Nadeau, director of the Personal Counseling Center, believes that often a lack of communication between parents and their children can add to the severity of the stress that accompanies suicide victims.

"Parents have not spoken of their own difficulties and how they coped during tough times, so their children have nothing to go on," said Nadeau. She also said that our generation is more at risk because of the lack of coping skills.

It is estimated that college students attempt suicide about half as often as the people of their same age group that do not attend school.

"It is difficult to track suicide trends among college students because there are so many things that can trigger someone to become potentially suicidal," said Greyson, director of New York University's Counseling Service. "Problems and stress can surface throughout the year," he said.

According to Greyson, prevention is the key. Many people who attempt suicide talk about it before any dramatic action. Often the ability to talk to a sympathetic, nonjudgmental listener is enough to prevent the person from attempting suicide. The main objective is to never ignore a suicide threat or attempted suicide.

The Counseling Center is open to offer any solutions for students. You can reach the staff at 371-7955.

Recent suicide statistics:

* Currently, there are slightly more than 30,000 suicides annually, with 12 out of every 100,000 Americans killing themselves.

* Among 15-24 year olds, suicide is the third leading cause of death with a suicide rate of 13.1 per 100,000 people.

* More than 90 percent of completed suicides are associated with mental and addictive disorders.

* About 33 percent of all suicides involve alcoholism.

* Over 60 percent of all people who commit suicide suffer from major depression.

* The strongest risk factors for attempted suicide in adults are firearm availability, depression, alcohol and drug abuse and separation or divorce.

* Women commit suicide every 90 minutes in the U.S., but it is estimated that one woman attempts suicide every 78 seconds.

* White males account for 70 percent of all suicides.

* The suicide rate among black males ages 15-24 has risen by over two-thirds in the past 15 years.

LOSE 20 POUNDS IN TWO WEEKS!

Famous U.S. Women's Alpine Ski Team Diet

During the non-snow off season the US Women's Alpine Ski Team members used the "Ski Team" diet to lose 20 pounds in two weeks. That's right - 20 pounds in 14 days! The basis of the diet is chemical food action and was devised by a famous Colorado physician especially for the US Ski Team. Normal energy is maintained (very important) while reducing. You keep "full" - no starvation - because the diet is designed that way. It's a diet that is easy to follow whether you work, travel or stay at home. (For men too!)

This is honestly, a fantastically successful diet. If it weren't, the US Women's Alpine Ski Team wouldn't be permitted to use it! Right? So give yourself the same break the US Ski team gets. Lose weight the scientific, proven way. Even if you've tried all the other diets, you owe it to yourself to try the US Women's Alpine Ski Team Diet. That is, if you really do want to lose 20 pounds in two weeks. Order today! Tear this out as a reminder.

Send only $8.95 - add .50 cents RUSH service to:
MIDWEST ASSOCIATES, 3318 S. Glenstone, Suite 308, Springfield, MO 65804. Don't order unless you expect to lose 20 pounds in two weeks! Because that's what the Ski Team Diet will do.

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Is violence in films really necessary? Sacred Heart faculty attempt to answer

By John Guedes

Contributing Writer

From John Wayne’s six-shooter to the massive destruction that Arnold and Sylvester have caused, violence has been a dominant element in many films. In the wake of such tragedies as Columbine High School and other incidents involving children and violence, we must ask ourselves, “Is violence in films really necessary?” and “Are violent films responsible for the violence in real-life?”

At Sacred Heart, different views favor both sides of that coin, and a common ideology seems unattainable.

The Media Studies Department, although worried about the desensitization that violence causes, looks at the freedom of the filmmaker as a top priority.

“I don’t like the way people blame violence in films for their actions,” said Professor Debbie Danowski. “It’s really about perception and reality. We have to start looking into how people are raised in both society and education.”

Danowski feels that violence in films is sometimes necessary in order to “get the point across, to shock, in a realistic portrayal, or to get attention.”

She also added that in reality, “some of us don’t see that violence in films can make us aware of how awful that violence is.”

“I don’t want to lose the choice of whether or not I want to see a violent movie,” said Danowski. “If you don’t like it, don’t watch it.”

Commentary

Father Michael McLenon, head of Campus Ministry feels differently.

“We live in a ‘no-blame’ society where people try to blame other things for their actions. As people, we need to have a mutual responsibility.” -Father Michael McLenon, Campus Ministry.

He stated that when filmmakers make violence attractive and senseless for entertainment purposes, they are responsible for the results.

He stated, “I am not really surprised when I hear about certain tragedies that have occurred as of late. Young children are very impressionable and they are influenced by violence that is not discouraged or punished.”

Father Michael also feels that there is a big difference between the big screen and a book or newspaper. “The movie screen is much more immediate and compelling. We have to make an effort to dissociate ourselves from it,” he said.

However, Father Michael feels that there can be legitimate reasons for violence in films, and, like Danowski, he also feels that we need to take personal responsibility for our actions.

“If it is presented in a fulfilling and redeeming manner, then violence in films is legitimate,” he said.

He continued, “We live in a ‘no-blame’ society where people try to blame other things for their actions. As people, we need to have a mutual responsibility.”

Valid arguments can be made for both sides, and the issue will probably be debated for years to come. As long as we are aware that it is an issue worth examining, then we are already one step closer to a solution.

Students exhibit their work in Gallery

By Emily M. Houlihan
Staff Writer

This past Sunday, The Gallery of Contemporary Art began exhibiting the work of Sacred Heart students.

Student painters, illustrators, graphic designers and photographers presented their work to both the Sacred Heart community as well as the general public.

The Student Exhibit occurs each spring and allows the students to be recognized and their talents to be publicized.

“This art exhibit is to showcase the outstanding work of our students,” said Ruth Baxter, professor of art.

“It allows the public to see the vision and talents that our students hold,” she continued.

During the opening of each student exhibit, the annual Charles Plohn Art Scholarship is awarded, and students are awarded first place, second place and honorable mention awards within each division.

Tina Serluca, a senior from Waterbury, received first place in the Illustration II division for her watercolor and colored pencil piece entitled “Homeless.”

“People are seeing how I express my emotion,” said Serluca. She continued to say that the art department has such a variety of teachers that a student gets the chance to see different perspectives and ideas, which is very important for students.

Holly Burc, a senior from Johnston, R.I., who won an honorable mention nod for her photography piece “Alterations,” said, “It is a place to show what I have been creating in the past year.”

Burc felt that seeing fellow classmates’ work allows one to see new ideas and concepts. “It peaks your interest and you are pushed to become more creative,” she said.

Junior Jay Perkins, from Easton, felt a great sense of accomplishment from this event. He received the Faculty Choice Award for his “Untitled” fall pen and ink piece.

“The student exhibit is a great way to expose your talent and it also gives you confidence for the future,” said Perkins.

This past Sunday, The Gallery of Contemporary Art began exhibiting the work of Sacred Heart students.

“Virginia Zic, professor of art for Sacred Heart, said, “It allows those participating to express their ideas in visual form and it aids in the understanding of the importance of art and artistic expression.”

“What the art exhibit gives me is respect from my fellow art students as well as recognition from the whole student body. It allows everyone to know there is an Art Department and to show the talents of each student of art,” said William Hernandez, a junior from Brick, N.J.

Assistant to the Director of the Gallery Jeffrey Smith felt that each year students’ artwork grows and changes and develops into a new form.

“It’s a wonderful display of energy and creativity of the students,” said Smith.

The Gallery will be exhibiting students’ artwork until April 4.

Circus comes to Stamford

Special to the Spectrum

For more than 22 years, the famed Big Apple Circus, under its Big Top Tent, has captured the hearts and minds of millions of fans by presenting the finest in live entertainment.

Now for the first time ever, the Big Apple Circus Stage Show tour, sponsored by The Parenting Group, brings the best international circus artistry and Broadway-style theater to the stage of Stamford’s Palace Theater.

One can only imagine the hysterical antics that take place when a classical acting company and a troupe of circus performers are booked into the same theater at the same time.

The Big Apple Circus Stage Show, featuring the signature trademarks of the Big Apple Circus—comedy, rhythm and an instant connection between audience and artist—began its run on Tuesday, is scheduled for eight performances at the Palace Theater. It will continue through Sunday, March 26.

To the delight of all audiences, The Big Apple Stage Show turns into a hilarious tug-of-war as lovers, villains, clowns, aerialists, acrobats and actors do their best to take center of the stage.

Children of all ages will be amazed at this fast-paced, lively, lovable and laughable production that puts the action back into acting.

It features live music, fast-paced staging, outstanding costuming, distinctive lighting and innovative sets that have made The Big Apple Circus one of the world’s preeminent classical circuses.

The Big Apple Circus Stage Show is directed and designed by Broadway Tony-Award-winner Tony Walton, produced by Big Apple Circus founder Paul Binder, conceived by Circus Creative Director Michael Christensen and based on an original concept by Jeff Jenkins and Julie Greenberg.

The production features this impressive array of international circus artists:

From England, the legendary star of circus, television and British pantomime, Norman Barrett, and his unique and rambunctious group of trained parakeets, from Canada, the boisterous physical comedienne Annette Devick, from the U.S., the multi-talented comedian, magician and musician Stephen Ringold and the wonderful comedian of Michael Lane Trautman, and a host of others from Australia, Argentina, the Ukraine and Russia.

Performances are at 7 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, and at 12 noon and 4 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.
Winners at the Annual Student Art Exhibit

**Faculty Choice Award**
Jay Perkins
"Untitled," 1999
Charcoal
First Place (shared)

Emily Caruthers
"Untitled," 1999
Charcoal
First Place (shared)

Meghan Everson
"Girl," 1999
Charcoal & white pencil
Second Place

**Drawing I**

Erik Redin
"Untitled," 2000
Graphite & White Charcoal
First Place (shared)

**Illustration I**

Linsey Pfeifer
"Intensity," 1999

**Sacred Heart Marching Band ends season in Boston**

By Ed Bourget
Staff Writer

The Sacred Heart Marching Band has a successful trip to Boston this past weekend.

They played in the St. Patrick's Day Parade, one of the most famous parades in the country, in South Boston, Mass. on March 19.

The band represented the school at an event that was televised live, and was viewed by over 350,000 people.

Both members of the band and their coordinator are pleased with Sunday's performance because they feel that they have improved a great deal over the years.

The parade was a total success due to the spirit of the band members and the enthusiasm of the Boston community," said Marvin McNeill, coordinator of bands at Sacred Heart.

"The parade in Boston was the best we have ever performed and the crowd helped us play with more enthusiasm," said Kristin Nettles, a soprano/tenor clarinet player from Holbrook, N.Y.

One of McNeill's goals was to expose the band and Sacred Heart University to a greater number of people along the East Coast.

"We want to get the word about Sacred Heart Band, and expand our radius from the University," said McNeill.

He felt that they achieved their goal, which only added to their great road trip.

In recent years, the band has increased in size and talent.

Jon Jackson, a junior clarinet player from Tiverton, R.I., said, "We really performed well on Sunday. I'm really proud of how the band has progressed in the past three years."

The Boston parade committee was so pleased with Sacred Heart's performance that the band was invited to play at this year's Columbus Day Parade.

Sunday's parade ended the season for the marching band.

They will return next fall to play at the football games.

Photo by Brian Corsentni

Jay Perkins won the Faculty Choice Award in this year's Student Art Exhibit. His work, "Untitled," is done in Fall Pen and Ink, and was completed in his Fantasy Art I class. The exhibit will be in the Gallery until April 4. Gallery hours are Monday-Thursday from 12:7 p.m., and Sunday from 12-4 p.m.

**Graphic Design IV**

Craig P. Balocco
"N.Y.N.J.00," 1999
QuarkXPress/Adobe Photoshop/Adobe Illustrator
First Place

Takumi Hirao
"Tucker's Cafe-Corporate Identity," 1999
Adobe Illustrator
Honorable Mention

**Illustration II**

Tina Serluca
"Homeless," 1999
Watercolor & colored pencil
First Place

Linsey Pfeifer
"Green Ignorant," 1999
Watercolor
Second Place (shared)

Bill Callahan
"Untitled," 1999
Graphite & white pencil
Second Place (shared)

Jill C. Puzzio
"Fireman Holding Baby," 1999
Watercolor & colored pencil
Honorable Mention

**Photography**

Holly Burd
"Alterations," 1999
Photography
Honorable Mention

**Painting I**

Takumi Hirao
"Untitled," 1999
Oil
First Place

**Glee Club performance tomorrow night**

At 7:30 p.m., tomorrow evening, the United States Coast Guard Academy Cadet Glee Club will join the Sacred Heart University Concert Choir in a concert. The performance will take place in the Mahogany Room.

Song selections will include Broadway favorites, sea chanteys and patriotic songs. The concert is free and the public is cordially invited to attend. For further information, contact Barbara Rowe at 371-7735 or 374-8278.

**SHU Player's Spotlight**

The SHU Players will be presenting the stage version of Charles Dickens' "A Tale of Two Cities" at 8 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, and 3 p.m. on Sunday.

The cast enjoyed a successful opening performance on Wednesday, so don't miss your chance to catch the show.

Tickets for the Broadway hit "RENT" are being raffled off this week. Tickets are on sale in the cafeteria during lunch until tomorrow and during performances of "A Tale of Two Cities."

-Compiled by Frances Moore
Enter the Spectrum's
Win 2 tickets to
WWF SmackDown
May 9 at the New Haven Coliseum

Here's how to enter...

We disagree with SHU’s archaic, oppressive dry campus policy and we’re willing to bet that you do to. Simply tell us in a measly 200 words or less why this policy needs to be changed. We’ll pick the best letter and give the writer two free tickets to the May 9 taping of WWF SmackDown at the New Haven Coliseum.

All SHU students and faculty members are welcome to enter. Be sure to sign your name, address and phone number and submit your letter to the Spectrum office, located between the dining hall and the art gallery. You can also e-mail your submission to dudam@sacredheart.edu. All entries due by April 10.

Legal mumbo-jumbo: This contest is not endorsed by Sacred Heart University or the World Wrestling Federation. The Spectrum does not support underage or irresponsible alcohol consumption.
Las Vegas, where bettors are making bets between governors — a half pound of cooked bacon, then proceed directly to the starting line to run a mile. Any athlete who did not eat the bacon, and those who's stomach expunged the pre-race meal, where disqualified. A Hartford team member won the Bacon Mile with enthusiasm. Dymytrow said the event was intended to add a bizarre twist to the meet. 

"It was everything I expected," said Dymytrow. "It provided entertainment that wouldn't ordinarily be provided at a track meet." 

NCAA, Congress take aim at college betting

TMS Campus

If you log on to http://www.ncaatournament.com or you won't wind up on an official NCAA basketball Web site, or even on one that celebrates every debbie, dunk and delirious mascot March Madness has to offer.

No, that web address will route you to a betting site, one that promises "More Money!" and "Free Picks! Free Picks! Free Pick!"

It's just another example of how gambling is intertwined with big-time college sports. It's everywhere, from office pools to hokey bets between governors -- a bushel of Florida oranges for a wheel of Wisconsin cheese -- to Las Vegas, where bettors are drawn to casino TVs like moths to a porch light.

Six weeks after legislation to end college sports gambling (http://www.ncaatournament.com) was introduced in Congress, bettors once again are ready to plop down $75 to $80 million in Nevada on the 63-game tournament that begins Thursday. That's roughly the same amount bet each year on college and professional sports each year.

NCAA officials are troubled by this. They, along with some members of Congress, are calling for a betting ban on all amateur sports.

"We don't endorse gambling of any kind," said Doris Dixon, executive director of federal relations for the NCAA. "We think the legal side of the gambling business fuels the illegal side."

But the NCAA is in a sticky position. It recently signed a $6.2 billion deal with CBS for the TV, Internet and marketing rights to March Madness. And wagering -- legal and illegal -- accounts for part of the tournament's popularity.

"All sorts of people who wouldn't otherwise be interested get drawn into this by what's going on at the office," said Andrew Zimbalist, professor of economics at Smith College and author of "Unpaid Professionals: Commercialism and Conflict in Big-Time College Sports."

"People go get somebody in San Jose to root for a Connecticut team vs. a New York City team? Some people are just interested in the basketball, but the rest are because they've got $5 in a pool."

On its own Web site (http://www.finalfour.net) the NCAA is selling tournament bracket boards for $39.99, touting them as "great for the home or office."

Frank Fahrenkopf Jr., president of the American Gaming Association, said if the NCAA and Congress want to get serious about the issue, they should work harder to educate student-athletes on the issues.

"It's a joke," Fahrenkopf said. "The NCAA is under a lot of pressure right now to try to look good. . . Their whole answer is they're going to point their finger at Nevada and say, 'There's the problem.'"

Congress last moved to restrict gambling on sports in 1992, banning it in all states except Nevada, Oregon and Delaware. Oregon allows betting on the NFL through a lottery. Delaware has not adopted sports betting despite a 1976 public vote approving it.

Fahrenkopf estimates that $380 billion is bet illegally on sports every year, making Nevada's legal portion less than 1 percent of that. But, as they do on just about every issue, the two sides differ sharply when it comes to the figures.

That ($380 billion) number is fabricated," Dixon said. "We talked to the FBI and they said they have no idea. I've heard Mr. Fahrenkopf say $100 billion, $380 billion, $700 billion. For some reason, he believes the bigger you make the illegal business, the more right it makes what they do."

Gambling on college sports is a particularly hot topic now because there were eight major point-shaving scandals uncovered in the 1990s, as many as in the previous 50 years. The most recent to make headlines came in 1998, when the FBI busted Northwestern University basketball and football players conspiring to fix games.

The book closed on that incident Tuesday when the former cornerback Dwight Brown was sentenced to 30 days in jail for lying twice to a federal grand jury investigating the gambling allegations. He was the last of the 11 defendants to be sentenced in the investigation.

The architect of that scheme was Kevin Pendergast, a former kicker on the Notre Dame football team, who drove to Las Vegas to bet $20,000 on a fixed Northwester game (the lost, wound up serving a short prison sentence, and agreed to speak out against gambling on behalf of the NCAA.

"To have published point spreads adds one more temptation, one more point of pressure on college athletes," Pendergast said at a Capitol Hill press conference last month.

The NCAA forbids its athletes, coaches and athletic department employees from betting on games. But in a study released last year by the University of Michigan, a survey of 750 male and female student-athletes found that 72 percent had gambled in some form during their college years. Eighty percent of those who gambled were male.
**Track teams open with wins**

By Emily Greenough  
Staff Writer

The Sacred Heart men’s and women’s outdoor track and field program opened its season Sunday at home in a dual meet against the University of Hartford. The men’s team dominated Hartford 111-59, and the women’s team won 123-27. The meet was considered an open meet, which means that non-team members could participate. “It’s always nice to open the season with a win,” said head coach Christian Morrison. Junior co-captain Michele Shawah won three events: the 100-meter hurdles, the long jump and the triple jump. “Shawah is amazing,” said Morrison. “She just keeps on breaking her own school records over and over again.”

Sophomore Gaetano Marra lead the men by also winning three events: the high jump, the long jump and the 400-meter run. Marra also tied with SHU sophomore Tony D’Cerbo for first place in the 200-meter run and helped the men’s 4x100-meter relay team take first place. Junior Heather Stockton won both the 800-meter run and the 1500 meter run, while sophomore Patrick Murphy managed a similar double victory in the 110-meter hurdles as 400-meter hurdles.

Other individual winners for Sacred Heart women’s team were freshmen Kendalle Brown in the 200-meter run, junior Luanne Centrella in the 100-meter racewalk and the 4x100-meter relay team of sophomores Heidi Cheever and Jessica Beaulieu.

The same team managed to win the 4x400-meter relay. Cheever also won the 400-meter hurdles while freshman Suzi D’Angelo won the 3,000-meter run for her first collegiate win.

Beaulieu continued her wins by placing first in the high jump, while junior Brandi Blevins won the shot put and junior Carlin Guarneri won the javelin throw.

On the men’s side, junior Chris Eaton won the 5,000-meter steeplechase, senior Nick Dmytrow won the 400-meter run, and senior Brian Williams won the 3,000-meter run.

In the field, junior Mike Benedetto took the victory in the triple jump, while senior Chris McKenna placed first in the javelin throw and sophomore Mike Stanley won the shot put.

The men’s 4x400-meter

See Track, page 11

**Baseball winless after first month**

By Ed Bourget  
Staff Writer

Sacred Heart’s baseball team returned from their spring break with a winless record of 0-8. They also dropped their first conference game of the season to Long Island University 6-2.

The tough start does not have coach Nick Giaquinto pessimistic, and he has high aspirations for his team.

The team has a solid nucleus of upperclassmen to lead the way and some freshmen plan to chip in as well.

The team will rely on their team speed and defensive ability to win ball games.

“We only graduated one senior last year,” said Giaquinto. “We have a total of six seniors and four of them will play a starting position.” The three captains are Shaun Stillwa, Rob Noonan and Brian Brunckhorst.

The team’s weak spot is the ability to hit for power. Some of their losses were due to the inability to score runs with runners in scoring position.

That same problem was the reason the team lost to LIU, said Giaquinto.

“We stranded 13 runners against LIU,” Giaquinto said. “We had the bases loaded three times and failed to score any runs.”

Despite the tough start, the team is preparing for a successful season in the Northeast Athletic Conference.

A combination of good pitching, strong defense, and the ability to come up with the clutch hit will be important to this year’s club.

“We’re not playing well right now,” said Giaquinto. “We expected to do much better than we’ve been playing.”

The team has traveled a lot this season. They have competed in Las Vegas, St. Louis, Columbus Ohio, Indianapolis, and other closer to home locations.

“It has been a challenging season getting used to the new system of rankings. I am just looking forward to nationals,” added Lepore.

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Contributed Photo

SHU pitcher Matt Lemanczyk takes to the mound for the Pioneers this year.

SHU bowling qualifies for tournament again

By Kelly Smith  
Assistant News Editor

The women’s bowling team here at SHU qualified for national competition once again this past weekend. This past weekend the women’s bowling team traveled to Indianapolis for their qualifying tournament. In order to advance to nationals the women had to finish with one of the top four scores. Shawah is amazing,” said coach Becky Kregling.

She just keeps on breaking her own school records over and over again.”

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The men’s 4x400-meter

See Track, page 11

Photo by Luanne Centrella

Nick Dmytrow competes in SHU's opening meet of the season.