By Mike Renzulli  
Staff Reporter

By now most students have probably heard something about the upcoming play "Stop Kiss." The play, which is being performed by the SHU players this Friday and Saturday, Nov 15th & 16th at 8:00 p.m. in the Schine, is part of "Fear No People Week," and has been causing much controversy on campus over the past week.

The controversy started when The Connecticut Post published an article on Nov. 1st about the upcoming play with the headline: "SHU Players to perform play with lesbian themes." The article, written by Linda Conner Lambkow, went on to quote members of the faculty, administration and the producer of the play Mary Bowe Koechig fired back with a letter attacking the university. Dr. Cernea, the administration, and those who were quoted in the Nov. 1st article.

The end of the article Keller went on to say, "I honestly wonder what kind of turnout we're going to get, unaware of what was about to come next. On Nov. 6th, in the editorial section of The Connecticut Post, Stratford resident Mary Bowe Koechig fired back with a letter attacking the university, Dr. Cernea, the administration, and those who were quoted in the Nov. 1st article.

"Is Sacred Heart in its heart really a Roman Catholic Institution? If it were then the article would never have been written. The play in question would not be produced on the campus," wrote Koechig. She also states that in light of recent controversy in the Catholic Church centering on priests and pedophilia that, "Our local 'Catholic' bashing of higher education pitches right in and stokes the fires of ridicule," comparing homosexuality with pedophilia.

"If Cernea wants us to continue sending our children and to keep that endowment money coming, perhaps Sacred Heart needs to rediscover it's Catholicism." While much of this editorial letter was filled with these and more strong words, Koechig explains her words by saying, "I know, I know, I just do not understand tolerance and diversity and the political correctness of the modern world.

Koechig's words are in direct opposition to the message of acceptance that the activities of "Fear No People Week" are trying to convey. Ms. Koechig's letter represents one reaction to this play from the community, but the student's reaction has been unanimously in favor of the play.

"They absolutely should be allowed to perform the play. This may be a Catholic school, but there is a Gay-Straight Alliance and there is 'Fear No People Week.' Saying otherwise is saying that being Catholic is being close minded," said Guy S. Vage.

See "Stop Kiss" page 3

Light Up a Child's Christmas This Year

By Jill Tomasz  
Staff Reporter

It's almost that time for the season of giving and receiving - Christmas! Although receiving is what most look forward to, wouldn't it be nice to give to those less fortunate. Well it is still early to get involved and touch the lives of young children.

Sacred Heart University is participating in its fourth year of Operation Christmas Child. Operation Christmas Child is a Christian international project organized by the Samaritan's Purse. Last year more than five million children in over 90 countries were fortunate enough to receive gifts from this project.

"Even though these numbers are impressive, it isn't enough," stated Mindy Misereindino, an assistant professor for the psychology department. This program offers children from the ages of 2 to 14 a sense of joy and hope on Christmas. To some, the gifts collected by Operation Christmas Child may be all these underprivileged children receive. From Nov. 11-15 students, faculty and administration can pick up shoeboxes in the faculty lounge from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. As well you can use your own shoebox. With these shoeboxes you fill with gifts for your child. Once your shoeboxes are filled they are to be submitted back to HC219 no later than Nov. 22 by 1:00 p.m. From there the boxes filled with gifts will be brought to a distribution center and will be shipped out to the children.

There are some guidelines to follow. The gifts must be for children in the age groups of 2 to 4, 5 to 9, and 10 to 14. Chose whether you would like to make a shoebox for a boy or girl and fill the box accordingly. There are to be no war-related toys, fragile or glass items or easily melted candy. Also remember that there is no need to go out and by anything too extravagant. Many of the children need basic essentials. Stuffed animals, yo-yo's, crayons, coloring books, soap and washcloths are just a few ideas.

"Since college students can relate more to the older children, they seem to overlook the older children," stated Misereindino. Participants in this program need to remember that gifts for all age groups are needed, not just for the cute younger children.
SHU Campus Promotes Awareness and Non-Judgemental Treatment to All

By Stephanie Jelacic
Staff Reporter

Sunday, November 10th, marked the beginning of “Fear No People Week” which is an educational opportunity presented by Residential Life to give the SHU community the chance to be exposed to different ethnic and cultural themes. Scott Rausch, hall director for Sacred Heart and co-chair for “Fear No People Week,” said “The week is bursting with programs that emphasize understanding the community and the world around us.”

Some of the upcoming events include topics ranging from discrimination, sexuality, ethnicity and diversity within the workplace. Performed on Monday, the play “Faces Of America” told the story of a few people who came to understand free society was shattered by on-campus hate crime. Written entirely from interviews and workshops held across the country, this play has been presented in almost every state and added to several university curriculums as a cultural training program. Katrina Coakley, Director of Residential Life said, “Faces of America” is the perfect blend of entertainment and education when addressing issues of diversity.”

Another play entitled “Stop Kiss” will be performed November 15th and 16th by SHU students. (For full story, see page 1.) Controversial issues about this play have been brought up in a recent editorial from The Connecticut Post stating that a Catholic University should not be condoning the performance of a play focusing on a lesbian relationship. Scott Rausch believes that “the play is allowing a Sacred Heart organization to present to the students that there are many kinds of people in this world, all different, all different religions, are different colors, and have different sexualities.”

“Fear No People Week” is celebrated each year so that students can see and understand the differences in others, and focus on tolerance and peace rather than alienation and hate, according to Rausch. FLIK will also be participating with “Fear No People Week” by serving diverse foods in the cafeteria throughout the remainder of this week.

Pesce Holds High Expectations for This Year’s SOTUA

By Patrick McMahon
Staff Reporter

On Monday, November 18th the State of the University Address will be given at 6 p.m. in the Theater. Its purpose is to reflect, appreciate and plan. It helps us look at where the university was, how it got to where it is and how it can improve for the better.

Dr. Cornara will deliver a speech about the university’s accomplishments and future plans. After that, Student Government President Tom Pesce will give a speech on behalf of the student body. “I will announce the way that the student government is going to serve the students this year,” explains Pesce. “We are going to find ways around every aspect of the university’s growth. Pesce feels that students need to be informed about the progress of housing, enrollment, student services, and everything about the school. “Our job as a Student Government is to bring information to the student body and to act as a bridge between the students and the administration which allows communication between both sides,” explains Pesce. “The State of the University Address is one way that the student government provides this communication and information to the students.”

After the speeches the university’s cabinet members will be on stage to answer questions, comments, or suggestions from the student body. Issues or concerns about any or all aspects of the university should be brought up and addressed during this open forum following the speeches.

“I feel that we have improved the address from previous years,” says Pesce. “In the past, there were a few remarks made by the student government president, not really saying much about what Student Government had actually done for the students.” Some administrators saw this forum become a gripe session for students in the past, which did not serve much of a purpose except to add hard feelings to negative issues.

According to Pesce, “In order to have a successful State of the University Address, we first have to have a successful year. We have basically tried to change the students from thinking negatively to thinking positively.” Students who are negative at a question and answer session like this will not get positive feedback,” says a hopeful Pesce. “If you deliver an inspiring energetic, informative speech that you believe in, the audience will be inspired, and believe in that leadership, resulting in positive feedback,” says a hopeful Pesce.

The State of the University Address is where students can go and voice their opinion, and hear what the school is doing and finally see the faces of those who run it. It is a great chance for students to see just what it is they are a part of. “Sometimes we take for granted what we have unless we stop and look where we used to be,” says Pesce. “By doing so, it allows us to see what we have accomplished and take and gain a clearer perspective on how we can better.”
"Stop Kiss" Ready for the SHU Audience

Play to be performed as part of "Fear No People Week"

Continued from page 1

a sophomore from Taunton, MA and President of the class of 2005.

"The Catholic school needs to broaden its horizons and the play is a good way to open their eyes," said Melissa Mezzina, a senior from Honoken, NJ. Kimberley Edwards, a sophomore from Port Chester, NY said, "The school has 'Fear No People Week,' the point of which is to promote diversity. Obviously by the controversy created around 'Stop Kiss' people are fearful of homosexuality. "A point which Mary Bowe Koecher's letter proves.

The administration's reaction to this controversy has been just as favorable as the student's. While Dr. Correa was unavailable for comment, most see this play as a great addition to the teachings that "Fear No People Week" is supposed to convey.

Dean of Students, Larry Wielk said, "While the play is welcome anytime of year. I feel that it should be run as part of 'Fear No People Week' based on what I know about the play."

I don't feel there is anything controversial about it being performed here," Dean Wielk went on to say, "As an educational facility we have a responsibility to provide our students with a forum in which they can learn and grow outside of the classroom."

Dr. Mattei is organizing a community-based research program entitled: The Population Ecology and Conservation of the Limulus Polyphemus (horseshoe crab) which utilizes Connecticut's coastline and Long Island Sound (LIS) for survival and reproduction. Horseshoe crabs play an important ecological role in the food web. A decline in the number of horseshoe crabs will impact other species, particularly shorebirds and sea turtles, a federally listed endangered species that uses the Chesapeake Bay as a summer nursery area. Shorebirds primarily feed on horseshoe crab eggs exposed on the surface, but sufficient surface eggs are available only if horseshoe crabs are spawning at high densities. Therefore, adequate spawning densities must be maintained to ensure availability of horseshoe crab eggs for shorebirds. Sea turtles will also consume adult horseshoe crabs, but their diet depends on relative abundance of the prey species, according to the Ecological Research and Development Group (ERDG) website.

Dr. Mattei explained that the horseshoe crab plays a vital role in the life of anyone who has ever taken medication, which the average American most likely is not aware of. An extract of the horseshoe crab's blood is used by the pharmaceutical industries to ensure that their products such as intravenous drugs, vaccines, and medical devices, are free of bacterial contamination. No other test works as easily or reliably for this purpose, says the ERDG. The horseshoe crab is a very important part of LIS ecosystem, and their numbers are starting to decline throughout its range due to over-harvesting.

Dr. Mattei's Connecticut Wildlife class will participate in this project in the spring semester. They will be going out on the beach at the end of May to tag and measure the crabs when they come onto the beach to spawn. The main research site is Milford Point at the Connecticut Audubon Coastal Center and various sites within the LIS.

Part of Dr. Mattei's conservation program is to educate the public by involving them in her research. If the public has a better understanding of the role the horseshoe crab plays in the LIS ecosystem hopefully the people of the area will help prevent its local extinction.

If anyone has any interest in participating in the program you can get in touch with Dr. Mattei in the Biology Department.

Biological Class Getting "Crabby" Next Semester

By Andrew Oshao

When one hears the words Limulus polyphemus you don't think of a "living fossil" unique to the Atlantic Coast of North America. "That's a Limulus poly-whatcha-ma-call-it?" asks Jared Montano of Old Saybrook. Once people find out that this ancient animal is a horseshoe crab, it's a different story. "Oh yeah, I see 'em at the beach all the time, that long stinger scares the hell out of me," says Montano.

This is one of the many mysteries about horseshoe crabs that many people do not understand," says Jennifer Mattei of the SHU Biology Department. "They use their long tail (called a telson) to right themselves after they have been knocked over by a wave," explains Mattei, "They are completely harmless."

Dr. Mattei is organizing a community-based research program entitled: The Population Ecology and Conservation of the Long Island Sound Horseshoe Crab. Dr. Mattei explained that the purpose of this study is to understand more about the ecol-

"Stop Kiss" is presenting that all people everywhere are different and we should respect those differences, even if they don't quite fall in line with our own beliefs. In response to the controversy created around 'Stop Kiss' the SHU spectrum can see and understand the differences in other, and focus on tolerance and peace rather than alienation and hate. Tolerance and peace, I am pretty sure those concepts aren't immoral or contrary to the teachings of the Catholic Church."

Sarah Keller responded to the editorial in the Post by saying, "This university, since I came here has told me that they were understanding of people. That's why I felt comfortable as a Jew coming to a Catholic university. Because the university promotes diversity it should include all types of people, including homosexuals. I don't think the university should ashamed of it. They should be proud."

Is a Career Important to You?

By Eileen Gulan

Yesterday November 13th there was an Internship / Career fair offered to all Sacred Heart students, organized by the office of Career Development. Over 60 companies from all types of career fields were scheduled to attend the fair; the representatives from each company were looking to recruit Sacred Heart students for internships and job placement.

Ms. Donna Fiorentino, director of Career Development believes that "internships make you more marketable when you graduate." Internships help students explore their options and help in clarifying career goals. They give you the chance to branch out and develop contacts that will benefit you after graduation. Fiorentino believes that "without internships it's hard to be competitive in the career of your choice."

Fiorentino says, "Neither the play nor the contemporary market hiring rate has dropped drastically in the past two years by 40 percent. When asked the question of what is a hot new career, Fiorentino responded a career needed within the federal government. Jobs and careers are two completely different parts of one's life. People take jobs to make money; however having a career is a life long position that you work to earn money by matching the career with your interests and value.

Students asked, so we deliver...

Public Safety Reports

November 11th:

12:05 p.m. - A resident became ill while working out in the Pitt Center. She refused further medical help.
1:24 p.m. - A resident reported her stereo was stolen in the Pitt Center. She refused further medical help.
5:40 p.m. - A fire alarm was activated due to burnt food. The alarm was reset.
6:01 p.m. - A resident from South Hall injured her ankle when she fell from her top bunk in her dorm room.
8:30 p.m. - A fire alarm was activated due to burnt popcorn in South Hall.
9:45 p.m. - A resident from South Hall was experiencing abdominal pains and 911 was called. She was transported to the hospital via ambulance.

November 12th:

4:16 a.m. - An officer looking for a parking decal conducted in West Hall and alcohol was found.
4:45 a.m. - An officer looking for a parking decal conducted in West Hall and alcohol was found.
6:29 a.m. - A resident reported her stereo was stolen in the Pitt Center. She refused further medical help.
6:45 a.m. - A fire alarm was activated due to burnt food. The alarm was reset.
8:33 a.m. - A head injury was treated in the Pitt Center. The resident refused further medical help.
9:15 a.m. - A fire alarm was activated due to burnt popcorn in South Hall.
9:45 a.m. - A resident from South Hall was experiencing abdominal pains and 911 was called. She was transported to the hospital via ambulance.

Students asked, so we deliver...
Where Have All the Smiles Gone?

As most college students digress, cafeteria food is never held in high regard. As a Junior at Sacred Heart University, I have suffered through the same agonizing meal period for a half years. Yes, can I have a roll please? Spicy mustard, American Cheese, and Salami and Pepperoni, to go. No chips or pickle please. Now that was not the way it always was, I have fallen into this lunchtime mantra due to the blatant disgust displayed by some select Flik workers at the grill. Yes, the dreaded, spitful Flik worker who does not want to make you your food, even though it is their job. When is it against cardinal law in a lunch line to order a double cheeseburger with bacon, or anything else for that matter?

It is a known fact that some select Flik workers are not pleased with their detail at the grill, however why are we as paying customers subjected to the scolding and dirty looks when we ask for anything more than a grilled cheese. I recall last week I was standing in line with a good friend of mine who asked for a Steak, Egg, and Cheese, and was literally laughed at. This is not just a chuckle by any stretch, this was a bowled over, knee slapping, breath losing guffaw, that left me and my friend quite stunned.

Another story they should be able to have whatever he or she likes. That is how a business is run; you do not hire people who will only do so much, as long as it is convenient for them. In my opinion, there is an abundance of business that goes on behind that grill and it is not fair to those of us that want a greasy treat.

Most students would agree that when it comes to the grill, they are usually forced to decide between three things without stretching the imagination, under cooked grilled chicken, overcooked cheeseburgers, or never quite good enough steak and cheese.

By Michael Burns

Our Father, Who Art Not at Sacred Heart?

"Rooted in Catholic intellectual tradition...rooted in faith...educated in mind...compassionate in heart." Know where that is from? Quick...how many people know the University Mission Statement? In the midst of all of the chaos that "Shop Kiss" and the editorial that was published by the Connecticut Post on November 6th, 2002, I have had a chance to really sit back and look at our University with a critical eye. Although I am always the first person to stand up and defend SHU to the end, I found it so very hard for me to battle this faithful or not faithful question in my mind. In all honesty, I am completely stuck on the fence with this one.

Being the product of a Roman Catholic middle school and single-sex Roman Catholic High School, I found the choice to transfer to a small private University, such as Sacred Heart, a welcome and easy transition. Yet, upon my arrival here, I have found that there are a number of things that I find the school is lacking. Deeply rooted in my faith, I attended the mass given by the school for the students a multitude of times, yet what I found was instead of a gathering of parishioners that were there to practice their faith, it soon turned into a social gathering of students who wanted to chit-chat and talk about what each had done the night before, who was wearing what, and who was looking hung over.

I am aware that we cannot discriminate against those that practice other faiths, but are there not some lines that we should not cross?

Forgive me for being "old fashioned" and seeming like one of those over the top Catholics that people roll their eyes at, but aren't there some lines that we should not cross?

We are a Catholic school, do I believe that. I just wish it was not such a taboo to be forthcoming about our faiths, but are there not some lines that we should not cross?

By Samantha DeVita

Editor-in-Chief

Babysitter Needed

Twin for years old boys. Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. 11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Safe, Reliable car necessary. (203) 454-5862 Westport

Attention Grad Students & Faculty

Bright 3rd floor in 3-family, 5 rooms. Residential area. Convenient to Route 8, 20 minute commute to school. Non-smoking. $600 month. (203) 393-3695.
Let’s Be Catholic

The Church does teach, though, that the homosexual ACT (homosexual sex) is morally wrong. So many people think that the Church condemns homosexuals, when in reality, the Church teaches that they are to be loved, while homosexual sex is wrong (see the Catechism of the Catholic Church 2357-2359).

We are a Catholic university. This is proudly declared on brochures, the university web site, and, most of all, in our name. But how much Catholicism do we really teach here? Sadly, I hear more about professors teaching that Catholicism, the Bible, or religion in general, is wrong and that faith has no place in the pursuit of knowledge. At a Catholic school there are professors who actively discourage students from practicing their faith?

Thank God these professors are few and we are blessed here with many professors who are faithful to whatever religious tradition they come from. It seems also that we discuss other religions more than we discuss Catholicism. When Catholicism is discussed it is discussed, generally, in what Fr. Benedict Groeschel calls a “spirit of dissent” — that is, with an aim at proving the Faith wrong. I am not saying that we cannot explain other religions or that we should not be challenged to question our beliefs as we learn more and seek to grow. My point is that we should not be discouraged from believing, from having faith, but should be specifically encouraged (not forced) to grow in our respective faiths. As a Catholic school, our duty is to teach, to profess the Catholic faith. We are not obligated to promote any other religion. We must (and do) promote respect of all religions, while holding true to the teachings of the Roman Catholic Church.

Sacred Heart University is a university with extreme potential. Our students are dedicated, intelligent, hard working people, seeking to make a difference in the world. We can make a difference by truly being a Catholic school. Our world says many things to us, and often, we as a university follow the world unquestioningly. We do not have to do this. We must be a light in the darkness. Pope John Paul II calls the youth of the world “the light of the world; the salt of the earth.” We can, at Sacred Heart University, be light to the world and salt to the earth if we will remain true to our Catholic nature, to the teachings of the Catholic Church, and by proclaiming Christ to the whole world.

And what a difference we will make!

By Warren G. Prior
Bethel, P.A.
They're all around you. They live amongst you. The job of a Resident Advisor, or RA, is to keep order in the residential halls, but they are also there to help you with any sort of problem. RA staffs are ready to tackle the ups and downs of college life. RA staffs are in all Sacred Heart campus buildings, including South, West and East Halls, Jefferson Hill, Park Ridge, Taft, Park Royal and Avalon.

This year, RAs arrived at SHU on August 20, and training got underway the next day for 10 days. During training days, the RAs start with icebreaker games, such as the name game and acting as the opposite sex. This puts RAs in other people's shoes and promotes awareness on the feelings of people not similar to them. "Behind Closed Doors" is an activity to train new RAs. Veteran RAs are put into rooms, and act out a certain problem, such as drinking, self-mutilation, or abuse. Jackie Neylon, a junior from Haledon, MA and a first year RA at J-Hill, said this activity was beneficial because "it gave examples of what could be coming."

"This is the harder part, but definitely more rewarding," Neylon said. Actual RA duties depend on their building, such as putting up birthday signs, which benefit students personally, or contacting the maintenance staff to take care of any repairs.

Being an RA is a positive learning experience for college students, and it really gets them involved. RAs have a chance to get connected to their fellow students, while helping them out at the same time. This positive relationship makes it easier to deal with problems. Along with this, they receive stipends that cover room and board. The RA staffs, who work together all year, become a close-knit group who are there to help each other out with major crises.

Hours of work for RAs depends on the staff. For example J-Hill RAs are on duty six nights a month, as well as three weekend nights. In West and South Hall, the freshman dorms, two RAs are on duty every night. All other dorms have one RA Sunday through Wednesday nights, and two from Thursday to Saturday nights. RAs can add more personal touches to their buildings, such as door decorations and bulletin boards. In addition, weekly staff meetings are held to discuss any problems that need to be dealt with. RAs are also required to hold six activities a month for their residents, fulfilling spiritual, physical, intellectual, career, emotional and social aspects.

For larger programs, RAs can team up and work together. But with the fun activities come the more serious ones, like having to do a write-up on people who misbehave.

Dina Lyon, a sophomore from Valley Stream, NY, talks of her first write-up incident. "There was a big fight between two groups of boys. All of a sudden, we heard some yelling. "I didn't think much of it at first, but then I heard screaming, so I ran out, and it's a big brawl... We were up until 5 a.m. writing down details" Dina Lyon

"They're all around you. They live amongst you. The job of a Resident Advisor, or an RA, is to keep order in the residential halls, but they are also there to help you with any sort of problem. RAs are trained at the beginning of each semester and ready to tackle the ups and downs of college life. RA staffs are in all Sacred Heart campus buildings, including South, West and East Halls, Jefferson Hill, Park Ridge, Taft, Park Royal and Avalon." For larger programs, RAs can team up and work together. But with the fun activities come the more serious ones, like having to do a write-up on people who misbehave. Dina Lyon, a sophomore from Valley Stream, NY, talks of her first write-up incident. "There was a big fight between two groups of boys. All of a sudden, we heard some yelling. "I didn't think much of it at first, but then I heard screaming, so I ran out, and it's a big brawl... We were up until 5 a.m. writing down details" Dina Lyon

"Careers are not easy work, however these individuals are prepared to handle anything." By Kara Brady Staff Reporter

Sacred Heart University's Career Development offers many services to students. Their services include assistance in choosing a major for those who are undecided. Career Development helps freshmen and sophomores in guiding them to help decide a major and career path. Self-assessment testing, activities and workshops for resume writing are just glaces into how helpful career services can be for students. Career Development helps students with job placement and helping students to prepare themselves for marketing themselves.

Yesterday, there was an Intership / Career fair offered to all Sacred Heart students. Deanna Fiorentino, director of career development believes that "internships make you more marketable when you graduate." Internships help students explore their options and help in clarifying career goals. They give students the chance to branch out and develop contacts that will benefit you after graduation.

"Without internships its hard to be competitive in the career of your choice," Fiorentino believes. Freshmen, seniors, and everyone in between need to confirm their career choices by getting out in the world and seeing what there is to offer. Graduation is not the time to find out that you picked the wrong career. "Validation is extremely important, if you think you know what it is that you want to do then some good advice is to confirm it early by getting experience in that career field," Fiorentino said.

Seniors should start early on their job search. "You must work hard, and keep a open mind to be successful because the career market is competitive," said Fiorentino. The career market hiring rate has dropped drastically in the past two years by 40 percent. A hot new career, according to Fiorentino, is to work within the federal government.

Jobs and Careers are two completely different things. People take jobs to make money; however having a career is a life-long position that you work to earn money by matching the career with your interests. 'Career Beveiopment

Guides Students

By Eileen Guinan Staff Reporter

"Career Development offers many services to students. Their services include assistance in choosing a major for those who are undecided. Career Development helps freshmen and sophomores in guiding them to help decide a major and career path. Self-assessment testing, activities and workshops for resume writing are just glaces into how helpful career services can be for students. Career Development helps students with job placement and helping students to prepare themselves for marketing themselves. Yesterday, there was an Intership / Career fair offered to all Sacred Heart students. Deanna Fiorentino, director of career development believes that "internships make you more marketable when you graduate." Internships help students explore their options and help in clarifying career goals. They give students the chance to branch out and develop contacts that will benefit you after graduation." career, according to Fiorentino, is to work within the federal government. Jobs and Careers are two completely different things. People take jobs to make money; however having a career is a life-long position that you work to earn money by matching the career with your interests."

"Fun in the "Sun"

By Christina Domenecfa Staff Reporter

"I had a blast. It was so much fun. It was nice having a trip for seniors only. And the best part was winning money," said Jessica Kerpin, a senior from Branford. Kerpin spent most of her night playing the slots.

On Thursday, November 7, the graduating Class of 2003 got to have fun in the sun; Mohegan Sun that is, playing the slots, like Kerpin, and other intriguing casino games.

The elaborate casino offered students games such as blackjack, craps, roulette, poker, and more than 3,000 slot machines. There is even a smoke-free slot area. All of these activities can be found in the Casino of the Sun. The Casino of the Sun features all of the aforementioned amenities and is under the world's largest planetarium dome, which also features a constantly changing display of stars and constellations.

The trip was sponsored by SHU Student Government. For $15, members of the senior class got transportation on a coach bus to and from the casino, a $10 food ticket, admission into an all-you-can-eat buffet, a $10 bet ticket stub, and unlimited drinks while they played.

"I have never had such a blast losing money before in my life," exclaimed Ikel Morah, a senior from New Orleans, LA, with a wide grin on his face. "And the food was [great] too!"

The all-you-can-eat buffet featured such delicacies as mussels, fried shrimp, fried chicken, dirty rice, and mini pizzas. The dessert section had a variety of cakes and pies, ice cream, frozen yogurt, and cookies.

Overall, those who participated in the trip seemed to have enjoyed themselves. Taryn Mahoney, a senior from Glen Head, Long Island stated, "It was fun. A real good time to get out and relax and just enjoy senior year before we have to go out into the real world."

Alice Walker, from East Providence, RI also enjoyed the casino outing. "The trip to the casino was like a class reunion. I was actually able to see people from freshman year that I have not seen due to our busy lives. I had a wonderful time," said Walker.

"Career Development
Guides Students"
Muslims Begin Month of Fasting

By Diana Lumani
Staff Reporter

In the upcoming season of fasting, Thanksgiving, Christmas and Hanauakah, millions of Americans will be fasting. Ramadan, the month Muslims are called to shun food and water, begins this week. That means passing on the office egg-nog and the classroom cookies. It also means living a sober life as those around them participate an American ritual: the excess at the dinner table and cash register.

"Everyone is pigging out," says Elizabeth Asani, a junior from Bridgeport. "You learn self-restraint, I'll tell you that."

From sunrise to sunset, more than one billion Muslims worldwide will fast, abstain from sexual relations and strive for pure minds and ethical behavior during the holiest holiday in the Islamic calendar. Ramadan, the ninth month of the Muslim calendar, starts and ends with the sighting of the crescent moon.

"It softens your heart. It creates in you a deeper awareness of the poor, those who go hungry day in and day out." Elizabeth Asani

Beginning Wednesday of this week, Muslims will scan the night sky. If nothing is observed, the watch continues the next evening.

That is when students will notice Muslim classmates politely declining holiday noosing.

"I'm sure there are those who might think it's strange: 'Wow, you are doing that the whole day?'," said Catherine Sousa. "On the other hand, others are impressed."

The greater the temptations, though, the greater the spiritual rewards.

"It softens your heart," said Asani. "It creates in you a deeper awareness of the poor, those who go hungry day in and day out. It makes you much more thankful for what God has provided for you."

The Muslim religious year is based on a lunar calendar, so Ramadan doesn't always fall in November. It's during this lunar month that Allah revealed the first verses of the Koran, the Islamic holy book, to the Prophet Mohammed in the sixth century.

Increasingly, Muslims said, their faith is gaining acceptance and interest by fellow Americans.

Though Islamic groups occasionally point to signs of discrimination and misunderstanding, individual Muslims, particularly those who live in the Bridgeport area, report that friends, colleagues and neighbors offer respect, if not admiration, for their pious lifestyle.

"Self-control in any society is different," Asani said. "People look up to you."

More than six million Muslims live in the United States. The majority are born in this country and come from all ethnic backgrounds.

The nation's first mosque was established in the early 1930s in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Now, more than 2,000 dot the American landscape. "It is becoming a part of the fabric of America," Asani said.

"America is a diverse place and welcomes people from all religions and cultural backgrounds," said Mohamed Nimer, a senior from Bronx, NY. People always show up at his mosque to inquire about his religion.

"In America, more than any other country, you have freedom of religion," said Nimer. "You can do so many things that make practicing my faith easier."

There is, though, more of a psychological obstacle to observing Ramadan in a society that doesn't embrace the holy holiday. In countries where Islam is the dominant faith, restaurants close during daylight hours.

"It's definitely more challenging, but it's that much more rewarding," Nimer said. "It requires far more resolve."

Ramadan is about spiritual renewal. Muslims are called to avoid speaking bitterly or behaving unethically. They are expected to read the entire Koran and reflect on its meaning.

"What one tries to do is get close to God," said Nimer. "What one tries to do is get away from the consumerism. The function of fasting is to cultivate remembrance of God."

Each evening of Ramadan, families and communities break the day's fast with a festive meal. Sometimes they attend special prayers at mosques.

At the end of Ramadan, Muslims hold one of their major festivals, Eid al-Fitr, or the Festival of Breaking of the Fast. A special prayer and sermon occur in the morning. A community celebration follows.

Some are not overjoyed to see the sacred month of self-restraint end. Nimer said he always misses the closeness he feels with his community during Ramadan.

"I find it hard on my body and easy on my soul." Mohamed Nimer

Did YOU Know?
The Periodic Table of Elements displays all the known elements. Some of the elements are named after people who discovered them and some have very unique abbreviations. Row Seven of the Table holds element 109, abbreviated "Mt," which is also an abbreviation for the word "mountain." Row Seven also contains elements 114 abbreviated "Uug" and 116 abbreviated "Uuh." In fact, six of the elements in Row Seven begin with a double "u."
“Stars Wars: Episode II” 
Attacking the Shelves

By Patrick Scalsi
Staff Writer

Christopher Lee is popping up seemingly everywhere these days. Despite his getting on in years—he turned 80 in 2002—Lee still finds time to play the villainous characters that have made him famous throughout his extensive career.

In December, he will reprise his role as the devious Saurman in “The Two Towers” and likewise in 2003 for “The Return of the King.” However, for those fans who simply can’t wait at least until the year’s end to satisfy their cravings, one film can help curb their appetites. That film is “Star Wars Episode II: Attack of the Clones” in which Lee plays a rogue Jedi with plans for domination. Lee also engages in the now famous lightsaber duel with former puppet (now computer generated) Yoda. It was a scene that has had Star Wars fans salivating since May.

With both fans and video stores anxiously awaiting “Episode II’s” release date, much talk has begun to surround the latest installment, which focuses on the budding, but forbidden love affair between Anakin (Hayden Christensen) and Padme (Natalie Portman). Comparisons have made to Lucas’ other “middle-act” film, “The Empire Strikes Back,” which is arguably the finest, not to mention darkest, installment of the original trilogy. Yet, the question must be asked, was it at all possible for “Attack of the Clones” to live up to the tradition created by the mesmerizing crowd-pleaser “The Empire Strikes Back”? While “Episode II” is an excellent film in its own right, it’s obviously impossible for Lucas to reach the zenith afforded him by the success of “Empire.” However, such a comparison is unfair, as the films were made more than twenty years apart.

Lucas is now able to work with an enormous budget. “Attack of the Clones” was made for a reported $120 million compared to the mere $18 million allotted for “Empire.” What “Episode II” lacks in story, it makes up for in visual effects, something that “Empire,” with its notorious stop-and-go animation couldn’t have hoped to achieve.

Not unlike “Empire,” though, “Attack of the Clones” was able to reassemble the memorable cast of characters introduced in “Episode I: The Phantom Menace.” Reappearing for “Episode II” are Ewan McGregor, as a maturing Obi Wan, and Samuel L. Jackson—who supposedly requested his purple lightsaber—as Mace Windu. McGregor, along with Lee, are the real stars of the film, representing two generations of prolific actors who truly carry the movie.

Christensen embodies the novice that he portrays and shows his potential to join the ranks of fine actors aside whom he works. “Star Wars: Episode II” may not be the finest film in the Star Wars saga, but it is nonetheless an excellent addition. Anakin and Padme share both the love and the peril that leads to a riveting climax of computer-generated wonder. Not quite as cartoon-like as the somewhat disappointing “Phantom Menace,” “Attack of the Clones” is an experience meant to entrance young and old alike. It hit shelves November 12.

Eminem Takes Us to “8 Mile”

By Danielle Pesce
Staff Writer

At the top of last weekend’s box office, Eminem stars in his first movie titled “8 Mile.” The film came out on Friday, November 8 and is loosely based on the real life of the rapper. It is often complicated for a popular artist to step out of music and star in a movie, but in “8 Mile” Eminem proves that he is almost as skilled in film as he is in song. The movie also stars Kim Basinger who plays Jimmy’s mother, Mehki Phifer as one of his clones and helpful friends and Brittany Murphy as his love interest.

Eminem plays Jimmy Smith, also referred to by his friends as “B. Rabbit.” Jimmy lives in Detroit and is struggling to become a respected rapper in the eyes of all those around him.

Jimmy struggles to find it in himself to “battle” other rappers at a local hangout in his town. With the difficulty of keeping an eye out for his little sister, dealing with his mother, working to make money, knowing who to trust, and often finding himself in physical fights with those around him, and keeps the audience routing for him throughout the film. Jimmy also mirrors Eminem in some respects but is different enough to show the ability of the singer as an endurable actor. Though often dragging at a few times throughout the movie, it has a fairly good plot with a well-known cast that is definitely entertaining especially for Eminem fans. The film is definitely likeable but probably not as good as the singers new cd.

Eminem delivers a compelling dramatic performance in his first movie role.

Hitchcock and Suspense: An Illustrated Talk

Given By
Richard Allen

Sunday, November 47th
In the Media Studies Studio
@ 7:00pm
"Crazy Train" Leaving the Station?

By Julia Fuhrman
Staff Writer

Today's American family is no longer "The Brady Bunch" but "The Osbornerse." Today's most popular genre of television, the reality show, has moved past "The Real World" and into the world of "The Osbournes." Sharon and her children Kelly and Jack have allowed MTV to come into their home and to share their lives with the rest of the world.

Is the Osbourne family really what they seem? Do they really always curse and scream at each other? On a special edition of "20/20" that aired on November 6, Barbara Walters devoted an entire hour to the Osbourne family. Walter's addressed serious issues such as Sharon's recent battle with colon cancer to less serious issues as the families non-stop cursing.

While the world can expect to see a second season of "The Osbournes" on MTV premiering Tuesday November 26 at 10:30 p.m., it doesn't appear there will be any more seasons to come. "This is definitely the last year, we can't do it anymore," Sharon commented. The Osbourne show has brought the their family more fame than they could have ever imagined.

However, "I wouldn't do it again. Ozzy is hitting the road again. The cameras are here all the time. We have no privacy. When you are sick, you want to be on your own. I can't throw up on my own, and Ozzy can't get drunk on his own," an emotional Sharon commented to Walters. Audiences do not witness this side of the Osbourne family when watching the show.

Curses can be heard in almost every sentence when watching "The Osbournes." This is hysterical to most viewers because it is not usual for parents to be cursing with and directly at their children. "It is how I speak when I work and unfortunately I have brought it home with me."

However, I do not see a big deal with it. My children know when it is appropriate to curse and when it is not," Sharon commented. This is one factor that is very obvious when watching the show. Ozzy, also known as the prince of darkness, got his fame by performing with the band Black Sabbath and for having such a lovable dark side. During their hour interview, Ozzy broke down in tears when he talked about his wife Sharon's cancer. "I am absolutely horrified. It's the worst thing that could ever happen," commented Ozzy. Sharon's children feel that their mother is the reason their family sticks together. "I would not be able to live if my mother was not alive," Kelly commented. Aimee Osbourne is the Osbourne's oldest daughter and chose not to participate in "The Osbournes.""Sitting with Barbara Walters was Aimee's first interview and her first time addressing issues about her family to the public. While talking to Walters, she makes clear that she loves her family very much and that she is ashamed of them. Her mother's illness is devastating to her as well. "I know my mother will get through this. I believe that if my mother dies, my father will not live longer than a year."

"The Osbornes" are unique and very different from any other family. However, there is much more to this family than what their reality show portrays. They care deeply about each other and have been affected greatly, both positively and negatively with the success of their show.

FLIK Patio Gets Rocked

By Collene Mitranro
Staff Writer

Last Saturday, November 9th, Sacred Heart hosted a battle of the bands. Sponsored by WHRT this battle consisted of nine bands from the tri-state area and other bordering states. The bands battled it out for a chance to win $250 dollars.

The nine bands that played which mainly influenced by rock where Koomitza, No Xcuses, Spinning Images, Still Haven, Down Pore, I ble Tyme, Bunji Swagger, and Ullision. The event took place on the FLIK patio. It started at noon and ended at 8:30 p.m.

The nine bands got the chance to each play a thirty-minute set to showcase their talents to the four judges who based their decision on a number scale. After an eight-hour concert the band that ultimately ended up on top was Spinning Images. Spinning Images is a rock band who came all the way to Sacred Heart from Yorktown Heights, New York.

Even though they came out on top the battle also handed out money to the second and third place bands as well. The band that came in second and won $100 dollars was the rock band Down Pore and finally the band that came in third won fifty dollars and was another rock band titled Still Haven.

Both Spinning Images and Down Pore where asked to come back and play on December 5th during Christmas week. Although this event's main attraction was the music, there were also games such as Twister, Ultimate Frisbee, and a raffle for OAR tickets.

Making the Most of Your Memories

By Melissa Munoz
Staff Writer

Do you ever look at a pile of pictures and have no clue what to do with them? You just got back from a special event or vacation and want to make the pictures reflect the memories? Everyone has pictures of their friends and families. Maybe you have them in the envelopes that they came in, or if you even got to it, you have them in a plain photo album that you just had laying around, for special guests you may want to go the extra mile.

Scrapbooks are a great way to keep your pictures looking good and to help you remember your memories. Depending on your project, scrap booking can be time consuming. You can do a theme scrap book about almost anything: a school year, a dance, holidays, sports, anything you want to remember and have fun decorating.

Tania Maselli a senior from Johnston RI is doing a scrap book on her senior year so she is not only including pictures of her friends, but also all that she is involved with like cheerleading and her sorority. "It is a great way to relax, and it is a lot of fun to do. Plus I have something to look back on when I want to remember my senior year." But the fun does not stop with just putting together a scrap book. You can also make a group together and not only can you scrapbook together, but you can also trade your stick-
Cucolo and Reynolds lead by example on and off the mat.

By Jennifer Jensen
Sports Writer

Commitment is without question one of the most important aspects of any facet of life. With all the time and effort that Sacred Heart seniors, Anthony Reynolds (Farmington, CT) and Jason Cucolo (Milford, CT), have put into wrestling, they might as well start admitting they have what it takes to commit most of their life to the sport, all in a positive way.

For both of these individuals, they began wrestling at a time when they were ready to commit fully to success. Reynolds began at the age of six and Cucolo began his freshman year of high school. Reynolds attended Berlin High School and Cucolo attended Darien High School, which are both located in Connecticut. When they were first introduced to wrestling, they immediately made wrestling an integral part of their lifestyle, remaining focused every second of their day so that they could improve their skills and become as successful as physically possible.

High school to both Reynolds and Cucolo was very different from college wrestling. "Wrestling in college is made wrestling an integral part of their lifestyle, remaining focused every second of their day so that they could improve their skills and become as successful as physically possible."

Senior co-captains Anthony Reynolds and Jason Cucolo prepare and train year round.

Senior co-captains Anthony Reynolds and Jason Cucolo have made, coupled with their constant respect for discipline and dedication necessary for success.

"We basically sacrifice all our vacations. While the average student might be on spring break we are too, but we are wrestling. We wrestle and go to school and there seems to be no time for a job. While people are out during the nights on the weekends, we work and are taking the work shifts that no one wanted or needed, since we had to fit it into our busy schedules. While the average college student is at a party, we are sleeping or working out to get ready for the upcoming matches," commented the disciplined duo of SHU wrestlers.

When asked if they ever got fed up with the amount of time that they both have to put into wrestling, they commented, "...it is worth it in the end. We do question it, but when we walk into a room and see the mats, we realize that's what you do for it. You do it for the competition, the pride in yourself, and to go where no one has been. You are very privileged to be at that place at that very moment," commented Reynolds. "When you walk into the room, you have a clear mind, there is no worrying, there seems to be no time for that and in any case you only have so much time anyway," Cucolo added.

"You do it for the competition, the pride in yourself, and to go where no one has been." Senior Co-Captain Anthony Reynolds

At the matches the men put all that they can into finishing at the top. "There is no mercy. Whether they are NCAA Champions or any nationally ranked wrestler, you go into every match with the same mind frame, a very positive one at that," commented Reynolds and Cucolo.

For these men they have learned all they wanted to from one phrase: A positive attitude will bring positive results. For these men wrestling is life.

Women’s Soccer Loses Heartbreaker

The Sacred Heart women’s soccer hopes for another conference championship were eliminated this weekend.

By Craig Joly
Sports Writer

On November 8, the Sacred Heart women’s soccer team battled the number one seeded Central Connecticut State University in the first round of the Northeast Conference Tournament. The game remained scoreless until the 66:30 mark, when Blue Devil and Northeast Conference Player of the Year Kelly Shimmin scored on a penalty kick, which followed a Pioneers handball in the goal box.

Junior goalkeeper Leslie Konsig (Millburn, NJ) was beaten on the left side by Shimmin’s penalty kick. The loss caused the Pioneers to finish the season with a record of 10-7-2.

"Well, I have to say that this was the hardest loss for me ever since I came here last year. Central won 1-0 from a penalty kick, how unlucky can you get," said sophomore Nathalie Urbas (Pickering, Ontario).

She added, "We were all heartbroken and we knew exactly how Central felt, because we felt like that last year after winning our semi-final."

"We have the passion for winning in our blood, and it’s not going to go away until another championship." Sophomore Nathalie Urbas

The Sacred Heart was out shot by Central Connecticut by an 11-2 margin, as the Blue Devil’s goalkeeper Sabrina Marianti recorded one save en-route to her fifth shutout and 10th victory of the season. Konsig recorded three saves of her own.

The Blue Devils went on to defeat the Monmouth University Hawks in the finals following a penalty kick shootout by a score of 5-3, because both teams were tied 1-1 after two overtime periods.

Looking forward to next season, Urbas said, "So next year every team, including the defending champs, will have to be ready for our determination and heart, cause we are going to come back stronger than ever. We have the passion for winning in our blood, and it's not going to go away until another championship."

A day before playing Central Connecticut, four members of the Sacred Heart women’s soccer team were named to the All-Northeast Conference first team. Konsig made her third straight appearance on the all-conference squad, including two consecutive on the first team.

Going into the Northeast Conference Tournament, Konsig was 10th in the nation with a 0.54 goals against average. She also had a league leading 10 shutouts.

Joining Konsig on the team were senior Andrea Linder, sophomore Ingrid Olsson (both of Stockholm, Sweden), and junior Paula Pineda (Vigo, Spain).

Linder and Olsson were both on the second team last year, while Pineda joins the first team for the second consecutive year. This season, Linder had one game-winning goal, along with two assists. Olsson totaled 10 points with four goals and two assists.

Pineda, an important factor on offense, entered the playoffs tied for second in the league with 15 scoring with 30 points, which came on 13 goals and four assists. She was also ranked 3rd in points per game with 1.67, as well as goals per game, with 0.72.

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Extreme Athletes at SHU

Students talk about their alternatives to inter-collegiate sports.

By Sarah Keller

Sports Writer

The big sports at SHU are the varsity sports. Football, basketball, track, etc., these are the sports students read about most of the time. However, there are many athletes on campus that are not involved in varsity sports. These athletes have chosen to get involved in sports that are not in the mainstream. But just because these athletes are involved in alternative sports does not mean the better off, or committed than varsity athletes.

John Faherty a junior from Sussex NJ is an extreme athlete; Faherty is a snowboarder. Faherty started snowboarding his junior year of high school "Their is a ski resort ten minutes from my house. I met a friend and me went to work there in high school. Because we worked there we got to ride for free, so my best friend and I began snowboarding. Faherty has never taken a lesson, he has taught himself everything he knows "I learned on my own and although it hurt a lot the first few times, I stuck with it and got better and better each time." According to Faherty snowboarding is physically demanding, "...it takes a lot of leg strength and stamina. It takes a lot to ride down the hill, keep up with friends and to do jumps and tricks." But snowboarding is not only physically challenging, but mentally challenging as well "You have to be able the face a fears of a big jump, a new trick, or to ride down a steep slope. Once you get past the mental block of fear then you are more relaxed to try more tricks and bigger jumps," he explained.

"Being out on the mountain is fun, it's a feeling of relaxation just riding down the hill... it is a blast... trying to go bigger and better then you did last time." He even works an extra job just to continue to snowboard. "I still work at the ski resort so I can go for free. And honestly the season pass is the only reason I'll work there. You have no problem doing a little work so you can go snowboarding whenever I want."

I began to wonder if snowboarding can be dangerous and that is why it is considered an extreme sport. Paul Giordano, a junior from Leonia NJ is another extreme competitor. Giordano began racing cars in 2000 when he bought his first car, an 87 Chevy Monte Carlo SS. He got into the scene through a friend that raced his mustang. "I don't think it's dangerous, it's mostly fun and enjoyable."

Paul Giordano, a junior from Leonia NJ is another extreme competitor. Giordano began racing cars in 2000 when he bought his first race car a 94 Monte Carlo SS. Through that he started watching a lot of track racing. But since drag strips aren't open all the time, according to Giordano, groups of people with the cars started meeting late at night and racing. "I started watching these races with some friends, and it made me want to race my

Basketball

Continued From Page 12

while "Ashley is the natural leader of the crew," says Kelly, "she takes the responsibility on her shoulders." She says, "We all compliment each other nicely." "Brooke, Brooke, and Ashley lead both on and off the court. They deserve to be the leaders of the team," says Quinnivan.

Helping Brooke Kelly at the forwards positions will be junior Katie Maler (Waterford, Ireland) and sophomore Colleen Duggan (Newington, CT) whom the older girls "expect big things from," according to Kelly.

Rutnik was a defensive stronghold at center last year as well as adding 9.6 points and 5.6 rebounds per game. Her and Rachel Andreas (Hanover, PA) will look to dominate opposing players in the paint this season.

Durner will play a key role in the backcourt along with sophomores Allie Broniowski (Bridgeport, PA), and junior Ashley Kohl. Coming off the bench at the guards positions will be junior Shannon Quinlivan, sophomore Ashleigh Bekpo (Gulfport, CT) and Colleen White (Richboro, PA), along with freshman Nicolle Rubino (Port Jefferson, NY).

After nearly a month of preseason, the girls are "anxious to play another team," says Swanson. "It's been a long pre-season but with only a short time left, we're starting to get excited to play another team," says Kelly.

After weeks of practices and scrimmages, the girls will finally get the chance to play a real game when they travel to Amherst, MA to take on UMass on Friday, Nov. 22nd in their season opening contest.

Sports Schedule

Friday, Nov 15

Men's Ice Hockey vs. UConn
Bridgeport, CT
5:00 PM Listen

Saturday, Nov 16

Football

Winning season as a team," said of the win over Siena, "we are guaranteed a third straight winning season because of his game-winning overtime field goal against Wagner. He now heads the league with ten field goals and tied for the conference lead with 48 points.

Hubbard, who collected 13 tackles (eight solo), a forced fumble, a pass deflection and a blocked punt, became the fourth Pioneer this season to achieve Defensive Player of the Week status. "With the win over Siena, we are guaranteed a third straight winning season as a team," said Hubbard. The Pioneers wrap up their regular season against Iona on Saturday on Campus Field at 12:30 p.m.

SPORTS SCHEDULE

Men's Ice Hockey vs UConn
Bridgeport, CT
5:00 PM Listen

Fairfield, CT 12:30 PM Listen
Binghamton, NY All Day
Van Cortlandt Park TBA
Cambridge, MA
Van Cortlandt Park All Day
Storrs, CT 7:30 PM

Soccer

Newly appointed head coach Craig Capurso (Brooklyn, CT) will have the task of filling the void left by senior captain Joe Odain. Capurso has pledged to "help the team improve by every minute of the game." The team hopes to improve the record of 4-1-2 that they started with.

The worst thing to do is go into a sequence. "If you're stubborn, you can get seriously injured, injure someone else, or even die. It takes a lot to be a racer, more than just having a fast car." Because of this he does not feel racing is for everyone. "I suggest that if someone is interested, to do some research and see if they can get. It's not a great lifestyle because it's very dangerous and risky, and it takes a lot to get into it. Can't be worried about your car breaking either, and you have to think about the car and how to fix it."

These are only three examples of many alternative athletes on campus. There are many other SHU students that are involved in alternative or extreme athletics. Although they may go unnoticed on campus they are dedicated athletes. They face just as many challenges as varsity sports and in some cases more, because they face death.
Experience, Talented and Eager

Kelly, Durmer and Rutnik are poised to lead SHU women's basketball in NEC hunt.

By Greg Tomzola
Sports Writer

Their season spans the course of five months and will take them through more than a handful of states, including Wisconsin, but when the regular season ends in March, the women's basketball team wants to be just warming up.

However, March is a long time away so for now the girls will, "focus on the small picture and take it day by day," stated head coach Ed Swanson, now in his 13th year with the team. "If we're playing our best basketball come March, then we'll have an opportunity for a championship," he continued. Once the regular season ends, the Pioneers will have all the "advantage" as the NEC tournament comes to Sacred Heart for the first time.

After a strong season last year in which the team finished third in the NEC, the Pioneers are ranked second in the preseason conference poll. "It's a compliment to us to be picked second," says junior guard Shannon Quintivan (Albany, NY). "We deserve to be ranked there, we expected it," adds junior guard Ashley Kohl (Palmyra, PA).

Losing only one starter from last year, the Pioneers return an experienced squad led by senior tri-captains Brooke Kelly (Medford, NJ), Ashley Durmer (Nashua, NH), and Brooke Rutnik (Albany, NY). "We've had a lot of experience on the court together since freshman year," says Kelly, "we know each other very well and we balance each other out."

Kelly was chosen for the preseason all-conference team and will look to continue her play from last year, averaging 14.2 points and 6.3 rebounds per game. Her performance, along with that of Rutnik, helps lead the girls on the court by example.

In their second to last game of the season, the Pioneers strolled to a 32-3 victory over Siena College on a beautiful Saturday afternoon in the Pitt. The women's team working hard at practice Tuesday afternoon in the Pitt.

SHU Captures Third Consecutive Winning Season

Pioneer Football dominated Siena College defensively and offensively this past Saturday.

By Katie Atkins
Sports Writer

In their second to last game of the season, the Pioneers enjoyed a 32-3 victory over Siena College on a beautiful Saturday afternoon at Campus Field. Sacred Heart, now 6-3, was led by junior quarterback Joe Kroells (Burbank, CA), who finished the game with three touchdowns and threw for a personal best of 254 yards.

"Joe Kroells made some tremendous plays the first half. He had his best performance of the year," says Lacey. "He went 16-19 for 254 yards and had three TD's," said Head Coach Bill Lacey.

In essence, the turning point for the offense came as a result of Charles Cooklin's 28-yard field goal with 4:39 remaining in the first quarter, which was set up by a Kroells fumble. Despite a valiant effort by the SHU defense, Siena was able to squeeze three points onto the visitor's board.

"With the win over Siena, we are guaranteed a third straight winning season as a team," Head Coach Bill Lacey.

The Saints' only points in the second half of the game were a product of senior kicker Tim Redican's (Meriden, CT) 26-yard field goal with 10:51 remaining in the third quarter. Other highlights of the contest include two and a half sacks by senior defensive end Odin Mitchell (Bridgeport, CT), which brings his single-season SHU record-breaking total to 12 and a half sacks. Mitchell is also in prime position to clinch the NEC record for sacks in a single season.

"Marlon Ward (junior wide receiver-Reverse, MA) caught five passes for 120 yards and a pair of TD's. Senior wide receiver Andy Gonzalez (Willimantic, MA) had another great day with four catches for 79 yards and a TD, and also surpassed 1,000 yards for his career," Coach Lacey stated.

The consistently effective Pioneer defense held Siena to just 61 total yards, three first downs, and one completed pass attempt. On the other hand, the Pioneer offense had a solid game, which included 398 total yards, 16 first downs, and 16 completed passes.

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