International Festival Brings Foreign Lands to SHU

By Eileen Galian
Staff Reporter

On Thursday, March 20, the Annual International Festival was held in the University Commons. This Festival was from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Senior Naiara Azpri (Bridgeport, CT) said, "It was the most organized international festival that we have had." Azpri also said, "It was culturally enhancing, there were a lot of things to try." This festival gave SHU students a chance to showcase many different cultures and ethnic backgrounds. The festival was represented by about 15 countries. Among the countries that were there, two tents were set up for each nation to have a display table. One tent had Germany, Poland, Spain, Portugal, Albania and Russia. The other tent had Latin American Countries that included El Salvador, Haiti, Puerto Rico, and Mexico. India, Dominican Republic, Jamaica, and Ghana were also represented.

Delgado, from Campus Ministry traveled to El Salvador and Haiti over this past Spring Break, and at the festival they informed many people about what they experienced during that time, including how they built houses for the communities they visited.

Every country had something on display that represented their culture, ranging from ethnic foods to photographs to styles of clothing. Azpri, who is from Spain, wore a servillanas dress. Students were able to expand their horizons and even do some arts and crafts at some of the countries tables. Polish dancers from the White Eagle Society performed throughout the day. Junior Diana Maqueira (Englewood Cliffs, NJ) said, "I thought that the festival was a lot of fun; the tables that were there were done up really well with food and music. However I was upset that Cuba was not represented."

The University Commons was transformed into various countries for the International Festival.

Tina Shah, Coordinator of International and Multicultural Affairs, said, "The festival went well; it was smaller than it used to be but this year the students put a lot of hard work into it. I was pleased."

This festival helped provide students with the knowledge and awareness of other cultures and also helps aid in making SHU a more diverse student body.

NEASC Visits Campus for Reaccreditation

By Maureen Daley & Marisa Jerardi
Staff Reporter

NEASC, the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, visited Sacred Heart University this past week. NEASC is the nation's oldest regional accrediting association whose mission is the establishment and maintenance of high standards for all levels of education.

The Preamble of the Standards for Accreditation states, "The New England Association of Schools and Colleges, Inc., one of six accrediting bodies in the United States, is a voluntary, non-profit, self-governing organization having as its primary purpose the accreditation of educational institutions. Through its evaluation activities, carried out by five commissions, the Association provides public assurance about the educational quality of those schools and colleges that seek or wish to maintain membership, which is synonymous with accreditation."

Dr. Michelle Loris and Dr. Angela DiPace co-chaired the Steering Committee of Sacred Heart University that prepared for the NEASC Accreditation review. The Committee consisted of about 14 faculty and staff members who in turn organized into 11 Task Forces, each focused on a standard for accreditation.

"This is how the process works: every ten years the University comes up for review. NEASC notifies us that we are due for an accreditation. The notification is made approximately two years before the actual accreditation visit in order to give the University two years to conduct its Self Study. The Self Study requires the institution to reflect upon and evaluate itself according to the 11 standards and the specific criteria of each standard. During the Self Study the University must address: where it was ten years ago, where it is now, what are its strengths, what must it do to be even more effective, and what plans does it have to become even more effective as it continually strives for excellence. The completion of this rather rigorous examination culminates in a 100 page report," stated Dr. Loris.

The 11 standards used to measure a University's educational effectiveness include Mission, Planning, Governance, Programs and Instruction, Faculty, Student Services, Library and IT, Physical Resources, Finances, Public Disclosure and Integrity.

Sacred Heart began its Self Study in August 2001 when Task Forces of the Steering Committee gathered data and information, and then evaluated the data against the criteria set forth in each standard, Dr. Loris explained. "We are self studying ourselves against the standards and what we've done with the standards over ten years," stated University President, Dr. Anthony Camara. In February, the completed report was sent to the NEASC visiting team.

The visiting team is comprised of members from NEASC schools. "Students can appreciate the process because they know that peer/colleague review is one of the best ways to improve," stated Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dr. Thomas Forget. SHU's team this year was made up of members from Boston College, Holy Cross, Middlebury College and other recognized colleges and universities. "Sacred Heart University can take some pride in the institutions that NEASC has appointed as its peers," said Dr. Loris.

According to the NEASC website, the accreditation process which they have developed over the years is a major vehicle that can and should be used to bring about educational improvement. The Preamble also states, "The Commission expects affiliated institutions to work toward improving their quality, increasing their effectiveness, and continuously striving toward excellence."

NEASC is thus poised to be a partner in the effort to reform and improve education in the region. The accreditation process is defined as a status granted to an educational institution found to meet or exceed stated criteria of educational quality. It relies on a voluntary, peer review process, engaging educators in hundreds of reviews in any year.

Each process relies on a 12-18 month self study process by the college in regular review

See "NEASC," page 3
Ganim: Guilty as Charged

By Amy Toohey
Staff Reporter

On March 19th, City of Bridgeport Mayor, Joseph P. Ganim, was found guilty by a federal jury and convicted on 16 of 21 counts of federal corruption. The Mayor, who has been in office for five terms since 1991, was convicted of one count each of racketeering, extortion, racketeering conspiracy, and bribery, two counts each of bribery conspiracy, and filing a false tax return; and finally, eight counts of mail fraud. Ganim, who continues to maintain his innocence, faces serving up to 20 years each for the individual charges of racketeering, extortion and racketeering conspiracy.

The prosecuting U.S. government had over 100 record-ings, dozens of witnesses and thousands of documents that led to the demise of Mayor Ganim. The evidence against the defense attempted to prove that Ganim had sold his support on Bridgeport contracts in exchange for $549,390 in services, goods and benefits. Being the only witness to the defense, Ganim admitted to receiving items such as clothing, fine wines and meals, but referred to the items as gifts and denied that they were taken in exchange for his backing of any official actions. "I am sincerely shocked that the Mayor was convicted of the charges against him. It seems as if politicians, or any person in a position of power, are generally capable of getting him or herself out of trouble. The Ganim name is very prevalent in our community."

I know he has a brother that is the Judge of Probate in Bridgeport, and I believe he has a couple of attorneys in his family. Unfortunately you would not expect Ganim to beat the system per say," said Lauren Hendren, a senior from Stratford, CT. The Democrat was credited with much of the improvements made to Connecticut's largest city and had aspirations of running for the Governor's office in the future. "Bridgeport, and its surrounding communities in Fairfield County, really seemed to be rallying around the growth of the city."

Mayor Ganim definitely was a strong visionary for the development of Bridgeport. Throughout his terms we have gained Harbor Yard, The Arena and are looking into the possibilities of building a casino. It disappoints me that Ganim took advantage of his position of power because he brought so much promise to Bridgeport," added Hendren.

Any hope of being vindicated at the end of the trial was diminished for Ganim this past Wednesday. Although he was convicted, he will remain a free man on bail and eligible to remain in office until his sentencing, which is set to take place July 1.

The City Council President has stated, despite definite con-
formation from Ganim, that the Mayor will be leaving office shortly. Public opinion seems to lean towards Ganim's resignation, and in turn Council Chief, John Fabrizi, would become interim mayor if Ganim steps down.

In a recent public statement Ganim announced, "I recognize my obligation to the people of the city of Bridgeport and I do not wish to strain that obligation any more than it already has been during this difficult time."

If he resists resignation, business and political leaders are planning to influence his deci-
sion. "If that does not happen, we intend to play a role to build public pressure to convince him that's the right thing to do," said Paul Timpanelli, President of The Bridgeport Regional Business Council in an article published by the Associated Press.

"I feel that Mayor Ganim should focus his remaining time as a free man with his family and friends. Besides, I don't believe that people would support any of his decisions made, and would be highly suspicious of any action he makes. It looks as if Bridgeport is going to have to work diligently at rebuilding their government and gaining trust from its citi-
zens. The process could take a long time and they should start as soon as possible," said Christina Domenecch, a senior from The Bronx, NY.

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Selfless Delegation Travels to El Salvador

By Michael Burns
Staff Reporter

Spring break for Sacred Heart students, or any college student for that matter, is usually a time for people to reap the benefits of fun in the sun and bask in their homework-less freedom. It is a time when students typically find ways to self serve as much as possible, whether it be on the beach or at the bars. However, this past spring break, a delegation of eighteen Sacred Heart students traveled to El Salvador for much less selfish reasons. The delegation supervised by Dr. Anthony Neu, from the education department, Michael Moylan, Director of Student Union, and Katrina Coakley, the Director of Resident Life, was faced with the task of servicing the El Salvadorian community of La Gracia and easing some of their hard living conditions. The main focus of the group was to build a concrete and cinderblock containment wall to prevent damage from mudslides during the rainy season, a big problem for the locals who have small shacks for houses.

The work proved to be no picnic for the delegates, but it was indeed self satisfying as stated by junior Anthony Franciosa from The Bronx, NY. "Although the labor is physically demanding, the personal satisfaction you get from knowing you're giving something back to the community is immeasurable," says Franciosa. The group also helped to clear two separate fields filled with cactus and shrubs to construct soccer fields for the local children to play at.

The delegation stayed at a Catholic church in the area, where they slept on cots. There they had the privilege of viewing a flute concert and a showing of their local dance, put on by the kids from the surrounding community. They also attended a Quincinero, which is somewhat the equivalent of a sweet fifteen, which was held within the church on a Sunday. "It was so elaborate and beautiful, that it was more like a wedding," says Kyle St. George, a sophomore at SHU.

The local children also challenged the delegation to a soccer match, where the El Salvadorians outshined the Sacred Heart students and were victorious. The delegation also had the unique opportunity to visit the Pacific Ocean. They rented a bus and brought many of children from the community to the ocean along with them, some of which had never seen it before. That same day group visited the official University of Central America, where they visited the location where several United States Jesuit priests were assassinated in the early 1980's. "It was a disturbing experience. There's actually a museum located directly below where the assassination occurred," said Franciosa. In the museum they open display the bullet riddled clothing the martyrs were wearing when they were killed also on display are the crime scene photographs.

"They do this because they don't ever want people to forget atrocities or the sacrifices that made to bring reform to the country," Franciosa added. This tragedy occurred at the height of the El Salvadorian Civil War. On one of the final days of the trip the students traveled to the El Salvadorian capital of San Salvador where they visited the famous Arch Bishop Monsenor Romero's tomb. Monsenor Romero, selflessly dedicated his life to helping the poor and was tragically assassinated in the early 1980's. The visiting of Romero's tomb for most of the delegation was one of the most symbolic experiences of the trip as described by Kyle St. George, "Seeing his tomb and honoring his memory, was the culmination of the many traumatic and life changing experiences we had during our memorable stay with the delightfully hospitable people of El Salvador."

At the end of next month, the delegation is holding a fundraiser to raise money for a day care center in La Gracia. For more information contact Anthony Franciosa.

NEASC visits SHU over the weekend; every 10 years a university must be evaluated for reaccreditation

Continued from page 1

The last part of the process is the follow up activities, which are based on recommendations found in the visiting team's report. The commission reviews the report, renders a decision on the status of accreditation, and establishes priorities for continuous institutional improvement.

The goals of this whole process are school effectiveness, improvement and public assurance. There is a slim chance that a university would not be accredited. If there were a significant decline in a college/university or some sort of disaster, the NEASC would put the school on probation and give them a chance to correct any problems. As Dr. Cervera stated, "it is very, very rare."

The commission standards are high and focus on virtually every aspect of a higher education's operation. Some areas that were addressed this past week were the educational programming and the resources that directly support the educational program. Sacred Heart was also examined on their essential characteristics of the institution such as the social services, financial condition and operations, and the administrative capacity and

SHU Mourns Loss of Library Staff Member

By Katie Fanning
Staff Reporter

The Sacred Heart University family has suffered the recent loss of Brimah Jalloh, a valued member of our library staff. Jalloh age 43, passed away on March 21, 2003. He is survived by his wife Catherine and his two daughters Fatima and Yenya. Jalloh served the University as a Circulation Librarian since he and his family moved from their homeland of Sierra Leone via Hong Kong in 2001. His loss is felt deeply by the University, most especially the Ryan-Matura library staff.

A wake has been scheduled for March 28, 2003 at 4 p.m. at the Rogers-Shields Funeral Home, 821 Cummings Highway, Middletown, MA 02126. Burial will take place on March 29, 2003 at 10 a.m. in the Boston area. Please send words of condolence to Brimah Jalloh at 967 Hancock St., Bridgeport, CT 06605-1912.

As newcomers of the United States, the Jalloh family are struggling with their profound loss and the financial challenges created by medical expenses and funeral costs. Anyone wishing to make a donation may do so through the Office of Mission and Planning via St. Donna Dodge. St. Donna also invites the University to join her in prayer that God may bring comfort to Brimah Jalloh's mourning loved ones.

Contributed photo
SHU Professor Takes on a Project of Peace

By Kristen Kozlara
Contributing Writer

In this very uncertain time in America, with war in full swing and hostilities at an all-time high, it is easy for one to get caught up in it all. It is easy to find ourselves in short supply of hope and faith; the two very things that will successfully carry a person through a time such as this. America has become comparable to an all-you-eat buffet, as we gorge ourselves on everything in our path, good and bad. Our plates are filled with war and terrorism, greed and hate. They have prejudices and misconceptions next to the salad bar and if you’re looking for dessert it’s over by the oil-soaked missiles. President Bush will ring you up and maybe even throw in a free drink on the house. One Sacred Heart Professor however, has an empty plate, but a full heart.

Barbara Oleynick is an alumnus of Sacred Heart University and presently an adjunct instructor of Freshman English and Communication here at SHU. She, with the sponsorship and help of Sacred Heart and many others, has taken on a project of faith and hope, love and peace. She has written a musical based on the events that began on May 13th, 1917, in Fatima, Portugal and lasted for six months.

It is the story of three children, who saw the Virgin Mary in the fields tending to their sheep. She asks if they will offer themselves to God, to throw resulting in chaos. The children are kidnapped and jailed. They will be executed if they do not change their stories and admit it was a lie or reveal was said to them. The children remain silent. The Beautiful Lady, as they call Her, dramatically calls Her, protects them from death. When the children are returned to their village on the 15th of August, She appears and promises a great miracle on Her last visit that all present would be able to see to prove that the children were telling the truth. The miracle, witnessed by nearly 70,000 people, is known as The Day the Sun Danced at Fatima. It is an allogorical event so rare and infrequent that even the notable of scientists cannot explain how the three children knew of its location, time or the date it would occur.

The children of Fatima who are depicted in this dramatic musical are messengers of peace, courage and faith. The burden on them is great and their story is heavy, and now that burden has been passed on to Oleynick and her production to try and capture that faith and love and spread its message to the world. It is a noble and quite possible futile feat for sure, but one that couldn’t possibly come at a more appropriate time.

Rehearsals begin on April 22nd and with a five theater tour in the wings beginning on May 13th, the 92nd anniversary of the event, she is in need of interns to help in the areas of public relations, advertising, marketing, and theater. The final location is our own Edgerton Center where the company will perform for two weekends, September 11-13 and 19-21. Your help and hard work can be done out of the house. The company will appreciate the statement of your feelings about war, however, it can also bring with it academic credits.

For more information, including tour dates, background, soundtrack, etc., go to http://fatimamusical.net. Or to speak directly to someone on staff call: 362-2020 or send an e-mail to boleynick@shu.edu.

Nearly 70,000 people witnessed with Miracle of the Sun. Come relive the event for yourself and see The Miracle of Fatima, a message of hope and peace.

Photo contributed by Barbara Oleynick

Students Express Wartime Opinions

By Katie Fanning
Staff Reporter

The United States of America is at war. We have officially invaded Iraq and are forcibly disarming them of the weapons of mass destruction that they have been harboring within their borders. All day there are reports of the most recent maneuvers, prisoner of war situations, triumphs and casualties. Anywhere you go there is a television or radio broadcasting updates on the Allied progress in the Middle East. There is extreme disdain among the droves of protesters around the world, which meet the opposition of extreme anti-war-pessimism campaigns supporting military invasions of Iraq. It is a time of peril for this planet and people everywhere are anxious to find answers and to express their opinions. Sacred Heart’s student body is no exception.

"Initially I was against the war and I still am in a way, but now that the war is ongoing, I just hope that the conflict can be resolved with the least amount of casualties," was the sentiment of Joe Fontana a junior from Cortland Manor, NY.

"At first I found the war on Iraq to simply be an act of US imperialism, or a manifestation of our unyielding zeal for petroleum, but it when Tony Blair addressed his nation justifying his reasons for committing troops, it became clear that Saddam is in fact a global threat, and moreover a threat to the world’s unwritten understanding that weapons of mass destruction should only be wielded by responsible hands," was the opinion expressed by Jeff Gillot, a junior from Happauge, NY.

"The allied soldiers are in Iraq battling in our defense; if we create a rerun of the Vietnam protest situation it will only break down the bonds of our American spirit. Saddam is clearly and evil force that cannot be reasoned with, so we at this point have no other choice," asserted Jane Knemhozl, a grad student from Long Island, NY.

I am confident that allied forces should be in Iraq. If we were to back down now, we would lose the respect of the international community. I don’t feel that it’s about the oil, there are many deeper concerns. The time for protest is over, what we need now is support," claimed Josh March, a senior from Pound Ridge, NY.

"I feel very uncomfortable watching the news or any war coverage. It’s all about ignorance equaling bliss. I’m just terribly torn on the topic and not entirely ready to come to terms with it. I feel that something had to be done in the Saddam situation, however I tend to question the true motives behind it all. I have family and friends in the armed forces, so I am naturally supportive of them, and even more naturally afraid," shared junior Katharine Casabon from Dudley, MA.

"I am very uncomfortable with the United States’ actions. While I feel something needed to be done about the situation in Iraq I feel that we moved too quickly in declaring war. I’m still shocked how quickly the U.S. began its attack. I feel that the war was rushed into and didn’t think it would begin immediate-ly after the 48-hour deadline," exclaimed Lori Coupe, a junior from Cranston, RI.

"I am certainly anti-war. No one wants to see the horrors of a war. But anti-war protest at this point is purely destructive. It is disrespectful to the soldiers who are dedicated to bringing freedom to Iraq. The aliens are rais-ing Iraq’s flag, not the US flag, and that alone proves our intent. If you want to effect change, you can’t just elect a leader who would make different choices, but saying that the whole war is stupid, which may or may not be so, is like telling the 34 people who died today fighting that they died in vain," said Kim Marcantoni, a junior from Portsmouth RI.

"I am in support of the war. Saddam is a problem we should’ve dealt with a long time ago. These weapons of mass destruction have to be found, and the crimes that Saddam is committing against his own peo-ple must be stopped. The United States has not killed a single civilian, and the United States is doing the right thing," was the feeling of Craig Ahnde, a senior from Long Island, NY.

While student opinions on the war in Iraq vary, support and protest are evident everywhere one may look. As America joins the world in search for answers in a time of confusion, we at Sacred Heart have to our own ways of coping with conflict. Hopefully we will join together in support of another one and in a spirit of comprehension and open mindedness.
Young Dismissal Overturned

By Mark Stanczak
Staff Reporter

Over the past weekend, Associate Professor of Drama Sandra Young was informed via certified letter that President Dr. Cemera had rescinded his decision to not reappoint her for the '04-'05 academic year. The letter, signed by Academic VP Dr. Thomas Forget, stated that Cemera, in conference with Forget and Dean Paolilli of the College of Arts and Sciences, would reinstate Young as a probationary faculty member on tenure track.

The three administrators listed in the letter were unavailable for comment due to prior engagements with the NEASC accreditation visit.

Young, now in her fourth year at SHU, originally received a letter over Spring Break stating she would not be reappointed the following year. As reported in the Spectrum on March 20, the events surrounding her non-reappointment caused concern among the faculty.

Members of the Department of Language, Literature, and Media Studies, of which Young is a part, met with Cemera Wednesday, March 19, to appeal the decision. Among those faculty members present were Dr. David Curtis, chair of the department, and Dr. Roberta Staples.

"We discussed the process that was used, which, it was acknowledged by all parties, was not appropriate," said Curtis. "That is to say, the department chair was not consulted [before Young's non-reappointment]."

The decision to reappoint Young, "was made, ostensibly, during that meeting," according to Curtis. "The decision was based, as I understood it from Dr. Cemera, on the basis that process wasn't followed."

Despite Young's reappointment, some faculty members feel that certain issues remain unresolved.

"I am tremendously pleased that Young received the follow-up letter. However, no apology was given," commented Staples. something she felt was "necessary."

"I have concerns that the administration does not seem appropriately chagrined about this," mentioned Curtis. "There was no sense that this shouldn't have happened... or that that this will be a forgotten incident."

Voicing a lingering concern, Staples wanted assurance that "something like this does not happen again."

Lambda Looks to Educate on Rape and Sexual Abuse

By Keri Nastri
Staff Reporter

Rape and Sexual Abuse Awareness Week will take place next week, Monday, April 7 to Sunday, April 13. The week is sponsored by the Brothers of Lambda Sigma Phi.

Robert Kirsch, freshman from Bergen, NJ, is a brother of the fraternity and co-coordinator of the week. He said, "I hope that this week opens up the serious issues of rape and sexual abuse to everyone at school. Also, that our events are attended by not only supportive members of Greek life, but the larger Sacred Heart community."

The events for the week are intended to educate students and staff on how to identify potential dangerous situations and how to deal with the issues associated with being sexually violated. On Monday and Tuesday of their week the brothers will be conducting surveys in the Cafeteria. The surveys will ask questions that are about a person's sexual experiences. The purpose of the survey is to make those aware that certain situations, that may seem harmless to one person or persons involved, are considered forms of sexual abuse. The surveys also are a way of developing statistics for Sacred Heart on how many students have been sexually violated in some way.

Also, on Monday the fraternity has invited an outside speaker from the local Center for Women and Families to the Mahogany Room at 6 p.m. The speaker will be giving relative information about the women and families in the local area that are in crisis.

Tuesday there will be an event in the Mahogany Room at 8 p.m. titled, "Do You Like Sex?" This event is co-sponsored with the Sisters of Delta Phi Kappa and RA staff of J-Hill. Kirsch said, "That event is going to be fun for all who attend. It is going to be an informative session in game show format."

Wednesday night at 8 p.m. in the Wrestling Room of the Pitz Center there will be a self-defense class co-sponsored with Kappa Phi. At this event Lieutenant Mike Rinaldi of the Sexual Police will be teaching basic self-defense techniques that are useful to persons of any age, sex, or body type. The other coordinator of the week is junior Nick Battaglia from Pelham, NY. He said, "The self-defense class is perhaps the best part of our week. The skills that are learned there can help anyone if they are put into a potentially dangerous situation."

Friday there will be an educational play titled, "Equiology," co-sponsored with the Social Work Club at 4 p.m. in the Mahogany Room. Also, at 8 p.m. that evening there will be a benefit for the women of A.L.I.V.E. That event will be a night of entertainment in the form of a talent show. Those who participate will donate money to the group that is most talented and entertaining.

The money raised will support the work of the women in A.L.I.V.E. To conclude the week of events, on Sunday at 9 p.m. in South Lot there will be a bonfire/wigil with the women of A.L.I.V.E. At the bonfire the brothers will be sharing various statistics on sexual abuse and rape. Also, those who have overcome and are working to overcome traumatic experiences of sexual violation will be sharing their stories.

Battaglia said, "I came to school not thinking that those issues presented this week were a big problem. But the statistics taught me that this is a problem, not only for colleges or women, but everyone. Our school and those globally, need to be made more aware and knowledgeable of the issues and taught how to protect themselves."

Senior Dinielle Jennings from Levittown, NY said, "The week is usually very informative. It is nice to see a group of guys that care about the welfare of women."

Also, Senior Trisha LaBella from Port Chester, NY said, "This week should be important to everyone on our campus. The skills taught are practical and vital to everyone. Unfortunately, rape and sexual abuse goes on every day, however, with the opportunities offered this week, those incidences can slowly begin to diminish."

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Editorials

Student Speaks Out on War

Dear Editor,

We are at war, and I am still not sure if it is right or not. I have been on the fence about these issues since I first started hearing about the Iraqi/US conflict resurfacing. But yet I feel that I do not have the right to be on the fence.

I feel condemned for not being 100% patriotic. I feel as if when I express any concerns over the choices made by our leaders I am treated as if there is something wrong with me. We are blessed with the fact that we live in a democracy. That democracy gives us the right to question our leaders. It gives us the right to disagree with our leaders and voice our opinions. By utilizing my right to voice my concerns I believe I am being patriotic by exhibiting exactly what this country was created for.

This country’s founding principles enabled us, the people, to have a voice and to freely use it. If I don’t use my voice I am abusing the privileges my country has given me.

That privilege of free speech is something that the Iraqi people don’t have. I would like to believe that that is one of the reasons we are fighting this war: So that they can one day have a voice of their own. So that they can one day question their leaders. I love my country and I am very patriotic. But, I can love my country and still question the decisions of its leaders at the same time.

I would say to my fellow students that before you come down on someone for questioning this war remember this: We have fought hard to keep this country a place where we the people have a voice, where our leaders don’t rule as dictators but as servants to the people and their voice.

“I feel condemned for not being 100% patriotic. I feel as if when I express any concerns over the choices made by our leaders I am treated as if there is something wrong with me.”

If you don’t agree with someone’s point of view, then disagree. But don’t deny them of the right to free speech. Otherwise you are supporting a dictatorial point of view, much like the one of Saddam Hussein.

By Sarah Keller,
Contributing Writer

SHU Heightened Security: Is it Really Worth it?

I know that Sacred Heart is trying to make their students, staff and faculty feel safe during these times of war, but I just felt like I needed to comment on the situation that has been going at the front gate lately.

Every morning when I drive through Sacred Heart’s main entrance I have to swerve around a set of orange cones that herd me to the left. The purpose of these cones is supposedly to make sure that anyone coming onto campus belongs there, whether they are student, faculty, staff or visitor. Usually I do not have a problem swerving around these cones, waving to the guard standing there and going on to find parking in the far corners of North Lot. However, when I return to campus in the afternoon or early evening, I find what appears to be a major traffic jam at the very same entrance. What started as a way to protect our school and make students feel safe has led to mass chaos while trying to get to class. Rather than check every car that comes in, the guards at the front are forced to wave most cars through past the cones to keep the overwhelming flow continuing. However, traffic is still backed up to the Jefferson Street traffic light and halfway to East Hall and many drivers aren’t shy about honking their horn incessantly. In the melee, I am left wondering exactly what help a few orange cones are going to do to stop terrorists bent on attacking Sacred Heart. Furthermore, I also wonder what terrorist would ever think to attack our fair institution. When I see how easy it is to get onto campus and how much trouble these cones are causing, I wonder what the point really is.

I understand that the University’s top priority is to keep the students safe, but enough is enough. I have heard numerous complaints from both students and teachers about the ridiculous struggle that occurs every time they attempt to get onto campus. The other day I was almost late for class because I was waiting in cone-induced traffic. Let me tell you, if terrorists are easily deterred by a backed up traffic light, Sacred Heart’s got the safest campus around. Otherwise, the university isn’t doing anything but causing undue stress and tardiness on anyone passing through their front gates.

By Kathleen Haughey

Comic by Tom Etense ‘93

Is SHU more like Fort Knox now, or are the security measures necessary for our safety?

Tom Ferguson
Copyeditor
Letters/Op-Ed
The Reality Behind The War

In the weeks leading up to the war with Iraq, there were those people who were in favor of military action that decided to keep their silence, yet knowing that in their minds, disarming Iraq with military force was justified and this is the only way it was going to happen. At the same time, there were those who were against war, and took every opportunity they could to open up their collective mouths and express their opinions for the whole world to hear.

Now, as week one of the coined “Operation Iraqi Freedom” ends, the arguments that continue to come out of the mouths of the anti-war protesters continue. Are their points valid, or our their voices drowned out in useless fervor now? Why are we not supporting the men and women that are fighting for the rights we believe in?

A popular argument that is made here is that Iraq has no weapons of mass destruction and that they were destroyed after the first Gulf War. Also, among believers of this, they also favor the idea that Iraq poses no threat to the United States or the neighboring countries of Iraq. Included in this group of people, is former weapons inspector Scott Ritter.

On Sunday in Najaf, the U.S military secured a 100-acre site that is believed to be a weapons factory. Yet, coalition forces have not physically found chemical and biological weapons. These are the facts. The site was surrounded by electrical wire and was also booby-trapped, and was camouflaged, which is an indicator that it produced products for the military. Why else hide anything?

A general, in heading the installation, provided even more military connection, as in accordance with 30 Iraqi soldiers, raised a white flag, and became prisoners of war. The general is cooperating with coalition forces, and providing any information that is being asked of him.

It is believed that 100,000 innocent Iraqis will die in the war. Yet, as of now, there are a small number of civilians that were killed when a mortar hit their bus. In addition, an F-117 stealth fighter killed one Jordanian taxi driver in the first strike. Now, Iraq has claimed 200 civilians have been injured in the bombings, without talking about the credibility of the Iraqi government, 200 injured civilians could and should not be confused with 100,000 innocent Iraqi deaths.

A United States-led war in Iraq will lead to a humanitarian disaster and destruction of the country’s infrastructure. With the thought of thousands of refugees fleeing Iraq into neighboring Jordan, the United Nations quickly set up a tent city to assist those who were fleeing.

As of right now...the tent city is still there, in tact, and is completely vacant of any Iraqi refugees. Keep in mind here, that Wednesday, coalition ships arrived at the Iraqi port of Umm Qasr, carrying the much needed food and medicine that Saddam Hussein has refused his people, and instead sold on the black market.

"According to ABC news, one civilian, in the town of Safwan, whose father and brother were murdered by the Iraqi regime, was brought to tears and asked through a translator, “What took you so long? God be with you and make you victorious.”

Most people argue that the freedoms that we live with are not relegated to "our" way of life, but rather a way of life that should be given to everyone. So, here comes the question, "Who are we to impose our way of life onto others? Do they even want our help?" For a long time leading up to the war, we could only rely on the words of Iraqis, who fled their country. They stated that they are counting the minutes until the United States liberates them. Now, as coalition troops are liberating cities within Iraq, it is clear that the people really did want our help.

According to ABC news, one civilian, in the town of Safwan, whose father and brother were murdered by the Iraqi regime, was brought to tears and asked through a translator, "What took you so long? God be with you and make you victorious." Another civilian by the name of Ali Khemwi stated (in broken English), "Americans very good. Iraq wants to be free." We no longer need to rely on anti-war demonstrators to tell us what the people of Iraq do and don’t want. The words of the Iraqi civilians are a bit more credible than those of their leaders and the protestors, don’t you think?

To all those who ever doubted or questioned the cruelty of Saddam Hussein’s regime, all you need to do is look at how American prisoners of war are being treated right now, as you read this. Think of your brothers, fathers, sons, sisters, mothers, cousins....and then tell me if you can still sit there and say that we are doing the wrong thing when you hear about the horrible nature of Saddam’s world.

While Iraqi prisoners of war (POW’s) are given food to eat, access to the Red Cross, and even operated on by U.S. Army doctors, American prisoners are interrogated, tortured and finally executed with a bullet to their heads.

This type of behavior seems extremely disgusting and grotesque to most Americans; yet it is simply the way of life under the current Iraqi regime. Saddam’s son Uday is no exception. His former press secretary recently said this of Uday to ABC News, "Raping is one of his, let me say, hobbies." This is a country where it is perfectly acceptable for men to throw acid on a woman’s face if he even believes her to have been unfaithful. A country where children play in blood stained streets and pick-marked alleyways, searching for food. Where the people are not worried about who is wearing what, but if they will have enough water to survive the next couple of days, or if the small rationing of food they have will get them through this time.

So now, at a time when most Americans are supporting our troops overseas, some demonstrators continue to speak their opinions here at home. Yet, as we listen to them, we have to remember that what they speak are their opinions and should never be confused with facts. Instead of gallowing through the streets protesting and screaming, for all the troops to see, why not give them support? It seems that now, more than ever, we should come together and forget our needs and thoughts because there are men and women over there that need our support, not our protesting.

By Samantha DeVita
Editor-in-Chief

The SHU Voices

What is the craziest prank you have ever done for April fool's day?

Jeff Aldana
Port Chester, N.Y.
Sophomore

"To get revenge on a friend I poured sour milk over him in the shower."

Jeremy Graham
New Hampshire, N.Y.
Freshman

"I set off a remote control whoopee cushion on my teacher in class."

Mike Giaquinto
Fairfield, C.T.
Sophomore

"Take a special girl on my very own senior mystery trip."

Editorial Policy

The editorial pages are an open forum. 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.

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“Live” With SHU

By Colleen Mitrano and Jennifer Motisi
Staff Reporters

Although the war against Iraq began Wednesday, March 19, the entertainment industry keeps going on as usual. Even with the threat of terrorist attacks to New York City, the many live television shows filmed there went on as scheduled. While many people were anxious about traveling to New York City, the threat looming over the city did not deter the audience of “Live with Regis and Kelly” from attending the taping.

The long running “Live with Regis and Kelly” debuted as a local New York program in April 1983. At that time it was called “The Morning Show,” and only featured Regis Philbin as host.

In 1985, the show’s name was changed to “Live with Regis and Kathie Lee” when Philbin was joined by television personality Kathie Lee Gifford. By 1988, the show became nationally syndicated, and was an instant ratings hit, averaging about four million viewers every weekday morning for the last fifteen years. While the ratings have remained constant, the show has undergone several changes, the most significant being the departure of Gifford in June of 2000.

In November of 2000, actress Kelly Ripa replaced Gifford as co-host, and the show was again renamed to “Live with Regis and Kelly.” Despite these changes, the premise of the show has remained the same. The show opens with the host(s) discussing current events and joking about their personal lives, and goes on to feature celebrity guests from the band Backstreet Boys, celebrities such as Queen Latifah, to the boy band The Backstreet Boys, celebrities such as fans to want to attend a taping of the show.

We had the opportunity to be in the audience of “Live with Regis and Kelly” on March 20. Upon hearing that our country had gone to war, and also that New York City, where “Live with Regis and Kelly” is taped, was such a threat for terrorism, we debated whether or not to go.

After discussing the current situation, we decided it would be safe to go to New York City due to the heightened security. When we arrived in the city, there were police officers stationed on nearly every corner, and ambulances waiting every few blocks in case of a disaster. At 7:30 a.m. we arrived at the ABC studios and got in line, waiting to be brought into the studio. Although the war had just begun the night before, the audience still seemed excited to see the show. Fifteen minutes later the audience coordinator started letting people inside.

We were escorted through metal detectors and onto the set. Though the set appears to be large on camera, in reality it is not much bigger than two large classrooms put together, and seats only 144 people. Once seated, producer Michael Gelman appeared and reminded the audience to applaud and laugh enthusiastically. The show began at 9:00 a.m., when Philbin and guest co-host, actress Lisa Rinna greeted the audience and chatted about current events.

They even made light of the current war situation by joking about how Rinna had toned down her usually revealing outfits for a more conservative look, dubbing her shirt her “war shirt.”

Rinna appeared as co-host for the week while Ripa was on maternity leave after having her third child. Guests for the day included television personality Joan Rivers, gossip columnist Claudia Cohen, and singer Carly Simon.

Rivers and Cohen used their segments to talk about the impending Academy Awards and their predictions for celebrity fashion and which actors would walk away with awards. Simon then came on and performed.

Though the country was at war, the show gave everyone a chance to relax and lighten up. We were able to get our minds off of the current situation for an hour. Overall the show was fun, and Philbin was just as friendly off-camera as he appears to be on camera.

Regis Philbin has been on “Live” since its beginning in 1985 as “The Morning Show.” He has also been on shows such as “Who Wants To Be A Millionaire?” Two SHU students went to a “live” taping of the show March 19 and got to see Philbin up-close and personal.

Being on the show was a great experience, and it reminded us that at times like this life must still go on and people should take one day at a time.

SHU Students Share Pet Peeves

By Jamie Pasculli
Staff Reporter

There are things in this world that just irritate some people to no end. A pet peeve is a complaint that people have about certain habits of other people. It could be the littlest thing that another person does. The smallest most insignificant act can irritate a person greatly. Pet peeves can cause fights between roommates, couples, friends.

Every person has a different pet peeve, and some can be very peculiar. The pet peeves the students of Sacred Heart have include dishonesty and uncleanliness.

Robin Smith, a senior from Palisades Park, NJ can’t stand it when people leave dirty dishes in the sink. “I don’t understand it, why don’t they just take the two minutes to clean them or put them in the dishwasher? I also don’t like it when people don’t clean up after themselves. If you made the mess then you should clean it yourself,” Smith said.

Kristen Cooper, a junior from Malapac, NY can’t deal with people when they lie to her. “Lying is my pet peeve. Why lie when you can just tell the truth? It makes people have better relationships when they’re honest. There is no point to lying, because why would you lie to your friends? They are the people you should trust.”

Albert Tcci, a senior from Boston MA extremely dislikes it when people leave the cap off the toothpaste. “You know how some people don’t put the cap back on the toothpaste after they use it and it gets all over the place and the top of the toothpaste gets crusty and dirty?” “It takes less than a second to put it back on, I don’t understand it,” Tcci explained.

Anna Harris, a freshman from the Bronx, NY has a pet peeve that has to do with the way people act. “My pet peeve is people who are shady. I really hate how some people are so shady one minute, then the next they turn around and act like they are your best friend. There are a lot of people at this school with that problem,” Harris said.

Tayanna Rocourt, a senior from Seafood, NY does not like to find that the toilet paper role in the bathroom is empty.

“When someone doesn’t change the toilet paper role that they finished, it really bothers me. How long could it possibly take to do that? I feel like I am constantly finding that there is no toilet paper left,” Rocourt said.

Rich Suartino from Rye, NY said that when people interrupt him he gets so mad. “I can’t deal with it when people interrupt me when I’m talking, that is one of the rudest things a person can do. “Just let me finish saying what I am saying and then you can talk. Even my own mother does that to me and I get so mad at her,” Suartino said.
Enhancing the College Experience

By Kerry Friel
Features Editor

How did you make the transition from high school to college? Who helped you? What should have been done differently? Students will answer questions like these in discussion sessions during the upcoming weeks. The purpose of the eight discussion panels is to find out how to make the transition into college more fluid for freshmen and how SHU can change to facilitate the suggestions.

"This is something that students and teachers can do together and immediately make Sacred Heart the kind of University that creates a welcoming, challenging atmosphere for students," said Dr. Shirley Pavone, psychology professor at SHU.

Dr. Pavone explains that 120 full-time residential juniors and seniors were randomly selected from the registrar’s list. This first group of students will be involved in the pilot study, which will be the foundation for more extensive studies at a later time.

Eight groups of students will meet with professors who do not teach courses of their major to discuss what raised and hindered their college experience at Sacred Heart.

"The committee chose to facilitate groups for students of other majors so that we could avoid bias, and so that students would not feel obligated to or intimidated by a particular professor who may be teaching their classes," Dr. Pavone said.

Some students not involved in the focus groups shared their highlights and pitfalls of SHU.

From the female perspective having enough personal space and smiles in the hallway helps when adjusting to the college lifestyle.

"I enjoyed my room, and my roommate, freshman year, because it was a big corner room with three windows," said junior Kristin Madlisk of Naugatuck.

"I liked the cluster groups. But I think the tour guides and orientation leaders need to follow up on their friendliness," said junior Victoria Primiano of Queens, NY.

From the male perspective, damage bills and clubs are important requirements of "acclimation.

"I was unshocked with the bathrooms in the dorms and the damage bills. I liked Freshman Seminar and WHRT helped me out. I was more acclimated to the school because I met people through helping my show," said senior Steve Giunta of Manchester, NJ.

Eileen Bertsch of Academic Affairs requested about a dozen faculty members read Dr. Richard Light’s book, "Making the Most of College," which, according to Dr. Pavone, "describes the needs of Harvard students and provides a template for the information we would like to know about our students."

Dr. Light received a Ph.D. in statistics from Harvard in 1989 where he is currently a professor of education.

According to an article about Dr. Light’s book by John Lenger, of the Harvard University Gazette staff, Light is "reluctant to use the word ‘customers’ in relation to students, [but] he believes that academia is a large business, and that fun- ning and operating products to the needs of consumers.

This statement refers to the students, the "consumers," giving input on the "products," classes and the college environment.

Dr. Light’s book draws conclusions that are sometimes understandable and sometimes shocking.

According to Lenger’s article, "students learn more within small groups outside of class than they do by studying alone, undermining the notion that such collaboration leads to cheating.

The article also emphasizes that time management skills are essential to develop early in college and that extracurriculars, "do not detract from academic performance, instead, they increase students overall satisfaction which translates to a greater interest and contribute to learning.

Suggestions are made not only to students but also to professors in Dr. Light’s book.

He recommends scheduling classes before meals so students will leave class and continue their discussions over a meal, for example.

Dr. Light also suggests that teachers ask students to write short class evaluations about what they learned in a particular class and what questions they have and that these evaluations would be done anonymously to alleviate any pressure in respect to grades.

The students in 8 groups will talk about what they like and don’t like about SHU in respect to life in residence halls, participation in clubs, diversity of faculty, admission and financial aid policies, instruction, safety, governance, teaching and student/teacher interaction, and in and out of the classroom for approximately two hours.

Some students received letters from the mail center asking for participation, but because the response was not as great as the coordinators of the study had hoped, residential life got involved.

"Regularly," students from residential life have agreed to contact students personally to invite them to the group sessions, Dr. Pavone said.

Because of the random selection process, not all students will have a GPA of 3.5 or more, and that is an important aspect to the focus groups according to Dr. Pavone.

"In fact, having input from those who are not doing well will give us valuable information on how we can help them adjust," Dr. Pavone said.

Students who chose not to "GET INVOLVED!" as the pamphlet pointed out, "may have the opportunity to learn the importance of their college experience at Sacred Heart."

Excessive Exercise

By Diana Lumani
Staff Reporter

Gaining the "Freshman fifteen" has long been a fear of college students, but a recent problem with over-exercising threatens to be just as detrimental to their health.

"There are a lot of girls who look way too thin and don’t need to exercise as much as they do, but they’re pretty obsessed with it," said junior Amanda Walker, from Norwalk.

Walker noted that there has been talk that some students may have an eating disorder.

"Some people do wonder if somebody has an exercising problem," Walker said.

Senior Kristin Mason from Health Services explained that over-exercising has three main components.

When it comes to exercising behaviors, it is important to consider a) the context, b) the motives, c) surrounding issues like control and rigidity.

Mason said that in considering the context of someone’s exercise pattern, the exerciser must be scrutinized. Athletes tend to exercise a great deal more often than the average person. Although many people might consider four-hour exercise routines excessive, such a regime may be necessary to just maintain an athlete’s condition for his or her sport.

"Lance Armstrong, four-time winner of the Tour de France, trains six to eight hours a day, Mason explained.

"Excessive? Some would say so, but this is what Lance must do in order to compete at his level and maintain his condition and trained his body. Marathon runners train for marathons by running many miles."

These people tend to handle different levels and intensities of exercise. One can’t just look at a person and say they are over exercising. What is important is their attitude about or towards exercising," Mason said.

According to Exercise & FitnessCenter.com, the motives of a potential over-exerciser must also be examined. Healthy exercise motives include, but are not limited to, increased energy levels, increased quality of sleep, decreased stress levels, increased strength and muscle composition, and an overall positive mood.

Examples of unhealthy exercise motives are excessive weight loss and obsessive muscle building. Eating disorders often accompany the onset of over-exercise.

These motives for exercise are characterized by an individual in Health’s center deciding to exercise after already reaching a conventionally healthy weight goal, and a dedication to exercise that often stems from business and control orientation. Many of these people don’t work out."

"Positive motives are if people want to feel better," said Mason. "If they care about their health and fitness instead of their appearance, that’s healthy; or health reasons like reducing the risk of diabetes if they already have it in their family."

Control and rigidity issues also distinguish an over-exerciser from a healthy exerciser.

"People who over-exercise tend to keep a very rigid schedule, which we will not sacrifice for anything," Mason said.

"Also, their exercise becomes a means to achieve other issues in their life that they struggle to handle or address."

Michael Tillman, a personal trainer at the campus center, proposed that students can ask that will help them to spot control and rigidity issues.

"Do they feel guilty if a day goes by without they don’t work out?" said Tillman.

"Are they depressed when they don’t exercise? Do they have injuries that don’t seem to heal? Are they reluctant to take time off to heal injuries?"

If inappropriate context, unhealthy motives, and control and rigidity issues apply, there are many ways to go about seeking help.

Student Health and Counseling Services offers each full-time undergraduate student counseling sessions.

Students run on treadmills at the Pitt Center, exercising in a positive manner. Photo by Susan Magnano
Dave Chappelle’s “Blackzilla” Tour Invades SHU

By Erin Demchak
Staff Writer

Usually, SHU students attend a music concert in the spring. This spring students will experience something different, a comedy from Dave Chappelle, who is currently on a national comedy tour called the Blackzilla Tour, entertaining colleges and comedy clubs.

Chappelle, 28, is a popular comedian and actor who started doing stand-up comedy in Washington D.C. He has been in over eleven major feature films including “Undercover Brother”, “Blue Streak”, “The Nutty Professor II: The传说 of Jenkins”, his most memorable, “Half Baked”.

At first, students weren’t happy about not having a concert. Yet, excitement has grown because Dave Chappelle’s fan base is college geared and students are more familiar with him because of his television show.

Kylene Nurge, a senior from Ridgefield Park, NJ, says, “It’s cool that he is coming here because he’s a famous comedian who has been in some good mov-

ies”, Tori Veni, a senior from Babylon, NY, is also excited about Chappelle coming. “I hope he does a skit involving crackhead Tyrone Biggums, a character he plays on his show. It is hilarious.”

“Chappelle’s Show” is a sketch comedy series co-created and produced by Chappelle, which airs Wednesdays at 10:30 PM on Comedy Central.

“Chappelle’s Show” is described by Comedy Central as “Chappelle’s own personal joke book being brought to life with episodes consisting of sketches, man-on-the-street pieces and pop culture parodies which is introduced by Chappelle in a stand-up format in front of a studio audience.”

Chappelle is taking time off from his hit TV show to come entertain SHU students.

Chappelle is coming to the Oakdale Theater on April 25 at 8:00 PM. Tickets are still on sale now.

A Good Point in “View”

By Donna Palumbo
Staff Writer

Last weekend, “View From The Top,” directed by Bruno Baretto, made its debut in movie theaters across the country. The movie tells the story of Donna Jensen, played by Gwyneth Paltrow, a girl from Silver Springs, Nevada who dreamed of a life more exciting than what she was living. After seeing a television interview with the world famous flight attendant, Sally Weston, played by Candice Bergen, Donna decides that she can fulfill her dreams by training to become a flight attendant as well. Along her way, she meets Matt, Buffalo’s character, Ted, an aspiring lawyer, and together they help one another reach their goals.

Paltrow is loveable in her role, as usual, but the movie also owes a debt of gratitude to its wonderfully supporting cast, including Christina Applegate, Kelly Preston, and, of course, yet another brilliant comedic performance by Mike Myers.

Stars Speak Out Against the War

By Guy Savage
Staff Writer

America lives for movie stars. We want to know what they’re wearing, who they’re dating and how much they are making.

Movie stars live under a microscope; they are ridiculed and held to a much higher standard than the average American. So why is it when an intelligent movie star decides to be an activist for something they become blacklisted?

Martin Sheen’s stance on the war in Iraq has gotten the legendary actor in lots of trouble with not only NBC but MasterCard also.

NBC executives have actually been talking about firing the star of his hit series “The West Wing” because he has hurt the ratings with his anti-war cries.

MasterCard has also decided to cancel his hilarious commercial featuring him and son Charlie because the ads make the president of the United States is from Texas.”

This comment led to a state wide boycott of Dixie Chick music on radio stations across Texas. The conservative country fan base has now moved away from the Dixie Chicks because of the slap-in-the-face comment.

The question to pose is this: Why are stars so ridiculed for saying how they feel? These people are United States citizens and should have the same rights as the rest of their fellow countrymen.

Just because these stars have a greater influence on mass population than a normal American does not mean they should have their constitutional rights stripped or curtailed.

We are a society based on free speech and free thought, if those rights are infringed upon in any way, we have a right to certain people because of who they are, we are then the most hypocritical nation there is.
Spanish Radio Show Spices Up the Airwaves

By Ryan Broadhin
Staff Writer

As students walk to their classrooms in the morning, they may not hear the music of Eminem or Dave Matthews in the hallways, but the sounds and rhythms of Latin music, Faith Bailey, junior, is the host of the first Spanish radio program, "La Gringa" (the white girl), which runs from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. every Thursday on WHRT, the student-run campus radio station at Sacred Heart University.

Bailey has segments on the Spanish, and Hispanic culture, reading stories and captions, from local Spanish newspapers, and playing a variety of Latin music on her program: merengue, reggaeton, cumbia, salsa, and bachata. "I find Spanish music fascinating, because the music can make anyone dance. The language itself is beautiful, and listening to Latin music enriches my study of the Spanish language," said Bailey.

"I think the radio show is awesome because there are Spanish-speaking communities rising, and people who want to learn Spanish can listen to the program," noted Eduardo Caro, junior from Medellin, Columbia.

Bailey said she usually gets blank stares from students who pass the WHRT radio booth because she plays Latin music. On the second program, airing at the beginning of the semester, Bailey met a girl, who entered the booth to make positive comments about the show. The girl praised Bailey for having a program, which promotes diversity, and dispels the stereotype that Hispanics are the only people who listen to Latin music.

"The regular shows on WHRT play bands from Dave Matthews to 50 Cents. It's great to have something different from the norm. Her show promotes diversity on campus," said Alison Pohorylo, sophomore from Monroe CT, and a WHRT disc jockey.

Sunday Night Fever

By Patrick Scalsi
Staff Writer

Sunday, March 23, 6:55 p.m. I turn on the TV to find out what time the Academy Awards begin and quietly ponder to myself how ABC is going to hold a "Countdown to the Oscars" without the Red Carpet. The event was in fact cancelled earlier in the week due to the war in Iraq, to which I say, "What's more American than watching a famous actress prance around in a dress that costs more than my yearly income?" I lament the loss of this usually milestone event and wonder how the tabloids are going to produce any headlines at all for the next month and a half.

7:51 The Barbara Walters specials are cancelled in favor of the news. Peter Jennings predicts that this will be one of the most negative reactions to seventy-five years and will interrupt the awards another two times before the end of the evening.

8:08 The pre-awards show

"It is very nice to hear Spanish music. It is a change at Sacred Heart University," said Naiaza Azprial, senior from Basque Country, Spain.

"There are a lot of mix reactions about the program, but more positive than negative reactions," said Bailey. She noted how some students murmur words, about praising, as they pass the WHRT radio booth during her program.

"I am very happy to hear about the new radio show. Music is always a vehicle for communication when it is used properly. It can help express your feelings, thoughts, and emotions, something in which Latin American is packed," said Father Gustavo A. Falla, the director of campus ministry.

"Faith is doing an excellent job. I think it's great that she is bringing my culture to SHU's ears," said Lizzie Orellana, junior from Bronx, NY.

Bailey started the Spanish radio program at Sacred Heart University because she is fascinated with the Spanish, and Hispanic culture. She said her first boyfriend was from Puerto Rico, and her fiancé is from the Dominican Republic.

Also, she is completing a minor in Spanish. She developed a penchant for Latin music as a teenager in high school. "I have been listening to this music since I was sixteen," said Bailey.

"We have a large Latin American community. It's good that they have an outlet to express themselves," said Anthony Francisco, junior from Bronx, NY.

"I think it is a great idea. The girl who runs it is also perfect for the job, because she is not herself a Spanish-speaker, but loves the music and communicates that love really well in the show. It's a great opportunity for our students to hear something new and different too," said Pilar Munday, Spanish professor.

9:15 A CGI Mickey Mouse upstages Jennifer Garner as a presenter.

9:35 Sean Connery presents the award for Best Supporting Actress. His showing is more important than who actually won. It was Catherine Zeta-Jones, by the way.

9:59 German filmmakers snub the Oscars, despite winning the Best Foreign Film.

10:19 Michael Moore wins Best Documentary for Bowling for Columbine. Despite being asked to behave appropriately, troublemaker Moore stages an impromptu George Bush-bashing session and he is promptly booted off stage.

10:23 Steve Martin returns to stage and insults Michael Moore to thunderous applause.


10:43 Susan Sarandon presents the year's In Memoriam. Everyone from John Frankenheimer to Richard Harris is given a proper tribute.

10:51 Adrian Brody defies the odds against him and wins Best Actor. He repellent Halle Berry with a brief make-out session onstage. Afterwards, she looks thoroughly disgusted and embarrassed. Five minutes later, Brody is still speaking and receives a standing ovation for his "Peaceful Revolution." speech.

11:02 Eminem wins Best Song over U2 in the Academy's biggest upset since Shakespeare in Love won Best Picture over Saving Private Ryan.

11:05 Peter O'Toole surprises everyone by actually showing up to accept his Honorary Oscar Award. He's almost as cool as Sean Connery, but not nearly as good a dresser.

11:19 Nicole Kidman wins the Best Actress award "by a nose"; even Denzel Washington is entitled to a comical joke every once and a while.

11:31 Now officially in overtime, the Academy pays tribute to past winners...a lot of past winners...in a sparsely attended ceremony.

11:49 Nia Vardalos does not bring home a big, fat Academy Award for Best Original Screenplay, perhaps ending the myth that this past year has brought her.

11:55 Roman Polanski receives the Best Director award for The Pianist. Too bad he can't keep the foot in the country to claim the statistic. Harrison Ford does not seem pleased.

11:56 Michael Douglas receives some coaching from his father Kirk on how to present the Best Picture Award. Kirk, whose own speech is barely discernable, instructs Michael to speak as clearly as possible.

11:57 Chicago becomes the Best Picture of 2002, perhaps the only award given in good taste tonight. The film takes home a total of six awards.

Peter O'Toole: "Having already hugged this baby, as it were, and so there's no uncertainty prior to the opening of an envelope."
Senior Week

Class of 2003

Frequently Asked Questions

Q.) Do I have to buy a Senior Week Package in order to stay in South Hall?
A.) Yes, you do. The Senior Week package includes tickets to all events, a free Class of 2003 Sweatshirt, and the privilege to stay in South Hall during Senior Week. There is an additional Housing fee of $100.

Q.) Do I have to stay in South Hall to participate in Senior Week?
A.) No

Q.) Do I have to buy a package in order to participate in Senior Week?
A.) No, individual tickets will be available for each event for those students who choose not to buy the package.

Q.) What if I have an outside guest or underclassmen as my date for the Commencement Ball, where can they stay that evening?
A.) Your date can stay in South Hall only if they are 21 or older. Guests will only be allowed to stay on this night and must be registered ahead of time.

Q.) Can I drive to an event?
A.) No, for the safety of all students, there will be a mandatory shuttle to and from all events. The working staff of both the University and contracted business will strictly enforce this.

Q.) Does my package include one ticket to the Commencement Ball?
A.) Yes. If you are taking an outside guest or a non-senior, you can buy an additional ticket at a cost of $85.

Q.) Do I have to be eligible for Graduation in May in order to participate in Senior Week?
A.) Yes. This includes students that have graduated in December 2002, May 2003, and August 2003.

Q.) How many tickets do I get from Graduation?
A.) Although the class officers have no control over this, we have learned that each graduate will receive six tickets for outside graduation. This number has been based upon the calculation of the number students graduating divided by the capacity of the event location.

Q.) Where and when do I pick up my cap and gown?
A.) Caps and gowns will be distributed through the Registrar's office on Wednesday, May 14 from 12-7pm.

Q.) What if I want more tickets to the Family Dinner Dance?
A.) Each student is allotted five tickets total for the dinner dance. That is four tickets in addition to the ticket that comes with the Senior Week package. If you want more than four tickets, you can purchase them once individual tickets go on sale.

Q.) Is the day event non-alcoholic?
A.) Yes.

Q.) When can I hand in senior video pictures or video footage?
A.) You may submit them to Kathleen Haughey's mailbox in Hawley Lounge or give them to Denise Tiberio upstairs in Hawley Lounge. All pictures and video footage must be in good taste otherwise they will not be used for the video.
Swinging Forward

THE PIONEER SCHEDULE

Friday, Mar 28
Women's Lacrosse vs Lehigh
Fairfield, CT 4:00 PM

Saturday, Mar 29
Baseball at Quinnipiac
Hamden, CT TBA
Softball at Wagner
Staten Island, NY 1:00 PM
Men's Golf at Towson
Westover, MD All Day
Women's Rowing vs RPI
Shelton, CT TBA
Men's Track at Monmouth Invit
West Long Branch, NJ 9:45 AM
Women's Track at Monmouth Invit
West Long Branch, NJ 9:45
Men's Tennis vs SFNY
Fairfield, CT 12:00 PM
Women's Tennis vs SFNY
Fairfield, CT 12:00 PM
Men's Volleyball at Vassar
Poughkeepsie, NY 2:00 PM
Men's Lacrosse at Villanova
Philadelphia, PA 3:00 PM

Sunday, Mar 30
Baseball at Quinnipiac
Hamden, CT TBA
Softball vs FDU
Fairfield, CT 12:00 PM
Men's Golf at Towson
Westover, MD All Day
Equestrian at Dowling Inv
Stony Brook, NY TBA
Women's Lacrosse vs SFPA
Fairfield, CT 12:00 PM

Monday, Mar 31
Men's Volleyball vs NJIT
Fairfield, CT 7:00 PM

Tuesday, Apr 1
Baseball at UMass
Amherst, MA 3:00 PM
Women's Tennis vs Siena
Fairfield, CT 3:00 PM
Women's Lacrosse at CCSU
New Britain, CT 7:00 PM

Baseball Steals Two

Continued From Page 14

"The pitching and defense was strong all weekend, as a team we only gave up 3 earned runs in 23 innings. The first game we struggled a little bit with scoring runs off their pitcher, but the next couple games we swung the bats better," he added.

The day after the doubleheader, Sacred Heart and Wagner matched up once again, but the Pioneers emerged victorious to take two out of three from the Seahawks. Junior pitcher Chuck Ristano (Valley Stream, NY) recorded his first career shutout in the 4-0 win as he allowed six hits and struck out 10.

"In game three finally for the first time this season everything clicked. We had a great pitching performance from Ristano, we played good defense and we hit the ball pretty well," said Marotta. "All weekend we had great pitching which put us in every game," he added.

SHU was led offensively by freshman Anthony Diaz, who had three hits in the game. Maiella, Kaloyanides, Schilkowski, and junior outfielder and captain Ed Marotta (Bethpage, NY) each batted in a run for the Pioneers, who are now 5-8 overall and 2-1 in the Northeast Conference.

"In game three finally for the first time this season everything clicked. We had a great pitching performance from Ristano, we played good defense and we hit the ball pretty well," said Marotta. "All weekend we had great pitching which put us in every game," he added.

Sacred Heart is back in action this weekend as they take on Quinnipiac in Hamden, CT for a three-game weekend series.

continued from page 16

Laurie at (Rocky improving a Saturday, Hedden of URI.

things began to change for both teams and veterans after the match on Thursday, when the women faced off against Albany at Albany University on Saturday, March 22, while the men had home court advantage on Monday, March 24, 2003 against Monmouth.

The women brought home a 6-1 win for Sacred Heart winning all but one singles point and also took the doubles point, improving their record to 4-6 at this point in the year. Freshman Laurie Galatie (Morroe, CT) faced off against Violeta Petjevic of Albany and left the court with a 6-6, 7-6 (5), 6-3 win. She then went on to team up with freshman Darcy Shoop (Rockey Hill, CT) to win again at number one doubles, 1-7, against Petjevic and Courtney Michael.

The wins kept coming when Jaliw won at number three singles against Marias Berly, 6-2 and 6-1 and junior Jeanne Sampson (Irvington, CT) matched up against Albany's Krista Babiarz at number four singles winning, 7-5, 6-3.

"The women had a really good win against Albany. We had not won in the past against them and at this match we seemed to play very well," Coach Guastelle said. "They were all very close matches but we found a way to win. We have a young team. At this match we had four starting freshmen along with four returning veterans. This win has given us the confidence to move forward once again. It was definitely a good win for us," Guastelle added.

The winning of each match did not stop there. Freshman Lissa Von Brecht (Wynantskill, NY) won her singles match, 6-4, 6-4 over Alex Berley and senior Tiffany Paul (Tinton Falls, NJ) won against Reba Miller, 6-4, 6-3, giving SHU five of the six singles points. Teaming up for the other doubles win was Kettredge and Giangregorio beating out Albany's Babiarz and Miller 8-3.

The men faced off against Monmouth this past Monday dropping Monmouth with an impressive 6-1 win. Taking all three doubles matches and five of the six singles points, the men, after this game, improved to 7-4 at this point in season.

"I believe both the guys and I are happy with our record so far. I am sure that we all agree that we know we can do better than what we are at and we have the confidence to improve. At this match though, our overall playing was better than what we had been doing," Coach Guastelle said.

Junior Pat Darragh, (Bayport, NY) dominated his singles match over Anthony Manera, 6-1, 6-0 and then went on to team up with junior Jeff Bowers (Naugatuck, CT) to also take the win in their doubles match over Mike Belmome and Mike Kreg of Albany. Wins were also taken in the singles matches by junior Steve George (Lynfield, MA) winning against Chris Doyle, 6-0, 6-2 and Bowers against Mike Belmome, 7-5, 6-4, 6-3. Ryan Darragh faced off against Mike Kreig winning 6-4, 6-4 and sophomore Alex Kantairelis (Worcester, MA) won against Albany's Jamie Furlong, 6-0, 6-0.

Both the men and women will host St. Francis (NY) at 12noon on Saturday, March 29, 2003 at the tennis courts at Sacred Heart University.
Hanks Picks For Sweet Sixteen

Continued From Page 15

Devils, 82-76.

Texas v. Uconn

(South)

Husky-mania is alive and well, but is it strong enough to overcome the Longhorns in their own state? That is asking a lot. It could happen if super-sophomore Ben Gordon and Emeka Okafor play up to their potential. The key in this game will be Okafor. If his shot is off, the Longhorns have been, there isn't a more dangerous low-post player in the nation. T.J. Ford and the depth of Texas will really push the Huskies. Prediction: Okafor and Gordon will be too much for the Longhorns, 74-69.

Uconn.

Maryland v. Michigan St.

(South)

The defending champs proved they are for real again with their impressive win over Xavier. They won a second win over NC Wilmington, but Michigan State is not to be overlooked after they doused Florida (sorry to everyone who thought the Gators were for real). Especially if Maryland forgets how to play defense like they have done a few times during the season. If Chris Hill can stroke the three for the Spartans then this could be interesting. Prediction: Maryland continues on, as Michigan State doesn't get their game going, 64-58.

Oklahoma v. Butler

(East)

Where did Butler come from? A lot of people picked them in the first round to upset Mississippi State (including myself), but to go on and take down Louisville also has placed the glass slipper on their foot. Will they beat Oklahoma and continue on the ride? Probably not, but they will make it interesting. Prediction: Hollis Price will be too much for the Bulldogs to handle, 80-68.

Syracuse v. Auburn

(East)

The Orangeman have the most talented player on the court (and probably nation) and that is always important. Syracuse has looked spot on at times in their first two wins, much of that can be chalked up to inexperience, but have a tremendous amount of talent. Auburn is one of those teams from a power conference (SEC) who had a disappointing year but still got an at-large bid, and they have made the most of it. Marquis Daniels has been their driving force and will need a big game if they want to upset Syracuse. Prediction: Carmelo Anthony and gang get things rolling early and don't look back, 74-58.

SHU Spectrum 14

http://spectrum.sacredheart.edu

March 27, 2003

By Samantha DeVita

Editor-in-Chief

Former Sacred Heart women's basketball player Tara Brady, has reportedly filed a lawsuit against the university, claiming that SHU violated Title IX by discriminating against her because she became pregnant prior to the 2001-02 season. Her claim has been filed with the U.S. District court.

Brady, who gave birth to her son, Sean, in February 2002, according to the Connecticut Post, was redshirted near the end of that season. The two-year basketball veteran spent that season on the bench, and then was informed that her scholarship was to be taken away, but she appealed and according to a recent article in the Connecticut Post, won her scholarship back last May. She then transferred to a Division II school in Pennsylvania (West Chester) and was quoted in the Connecticut Post, stating that she felt that she was not and would not be treated by coach (Ed) Swanson in a fair manner.

She then went on to explain, "I'm doing this because I don't want this to happen to anyone else. It's really not fair. It's a tough situation for anyone to sit in, and I don't want anyone else to have to deal with it in the future. It's wrong. Someone needs to put a stop to it."

"I'm doing this because I don't want this to happen to anyone else... It's wrong. Someone needs to put a stop to it." Tara Brady

Also, according to the recent article, Gene Gumbs, sports information director for the university, will not give any comments on the situation until the university is able to review the lawsuit. The lawsuit states that Swanson told Brady to sit out the 2001-02 season, and go home (to Pennsylvania) because her pregnancy would be a "distraction to the team."

This information (of being red-shirted) came to her, as she was reading a program and she then decided to return home for the spring semester. After that season, Brady was then informed that her scholarship would not be reassigned to her for the 2002-03 school year. As reported in the Connecticut Post, she won her appeal in May to reverse the decision, but was not satisfied with the way she was treated at Sacred Heart, and decided to transfer to West Chester. She was quoted as saying, "(Swanson) wouldn't even talk to me. I had to speak to an intermediary."

The Philadelphia-based Women's Law Project will be representing Brady in the lawsuit, and the executive director, Carol Tracy was also quoted in the article stating, "The relationship with the coach was not one in which she thought that she'd be able to continue there. He seemed to be difficult to work with."

Tracy also went on to explain that they (Brady and Tracy) had tried to settle the claim with the university out of court, but was unsuccessful. The lawsuit, as printed by the Connecticut Post, states that Swanson "interfered with Brady's contractual relations with Sacred Heart and negligently inflicted emotional distress upon her." She claims, and is seeking an order stating that the university breached her scholarship, and was in violation of Title IX.

In addition to this, the lawsuit is also covering the emotional distress that this situation brought on to her, and the fact that male student athletes at Sacred Heart, whom have fathered children, have not had their scholarships revoked in the past. This was the most recent information provided on the pending lawsuit as from the Connecticut Post and the University.

The Baseball team took two out of three from Wagner College and fell to Hartford.

By Katie Atkins

Assistant Sports Writer

Although the Pioneers had a 2-0 lead over Hartford through three innings of their March 18th matchup, the Hawks battled back and took a 4-2 advantage into the eighth inning. Freshman infielder Jason Masiella's (N. Halidon, NJ) infield single loaded the bases for SHU and was followed by a walk drawn by freshman outfielder David Kalyvanides (Reading, MA), which forced in a run.

On the next play, junior first baseman Jamie Schilkowski (Shelton, CT) hit into a double play but managed to bring the tying run home. The Hawks recorded three consecutive singles in the top of the tenth, which resulted in the winning run. Sacred Heart was unable to answer with a run of their own and were struck out in order.

In an NEC doubleheader with Wagner last weekend, the Pioneers dropped the first game 3-1 and won the second 4-2.

"Losing the first game of the series was a wake-up call for us as a team and we knew we had to step it up and take care of business in games 2 and 3," said sophomore outfielder Andrew Cutrone (New Hyde Park, NY). Essentially the first game's outcome was decided by just one pitch, a two-run shot delivered by SHU starter Dan Scott. Despite the loss, Scott pitched a decent game, striking out nine and allowing just four hits.

"The pitching and defense was strong all weekend, as we all only gave up 3 earned runs in 23 innings. The first game we struggled a little bit with scoring runs off their pitcher, but the next couple games we swung the bats better," Eric Bushor

In the second contest, the Pioneers were led by sophomore infielder Greg Delmonico (Brewster, NY) who drove home a pair of runs and junior pitcher Eric Bushor (Uncasville, CT), who allowed four hits while striking out eight.

"In my game I had fairly good control, but the team played well behind me," said Bushor.

See "Baseball Stats"

Page 13

Photo Courtesy Sportline.com

(Top): Chris Rogers and Luke Walton from Arizona celebrate following a close win. (Bottom): Indiana's Ontario Lett keeps the ball away from a Pittsburgh defenders.
Women's Bowling captures sectional title and qualified for the nationals this past week.

By Loren Aversa
Sports Writer

The Sacred Heart Women's bowling team captured their sectional title and qualified for the Intercollegiate Bowling Championships (IBCs) this weekend when they traveled to Downingtown, Pennsylvania.

Some of the teams included St. Peter's College, University of Maryland Eastern Shore, Montevallo, and Fairfield Dickinson University, New Jersey City University, Briarcliffe College, Erie Community College, Morgan State University, Shippensburg University, and University of Delaware.

The team really came together and stepped up to a level that could make us a serious contender at nationals. We rose above the level of our competitors but ultimately we lost.

We have the potential to be one of the best teams in the nation, everyone is very talented and showed it this weekend,” said senior Adrienne Stoddard (Minoa, NY).

In order to qualify for the IBCs you must finish in the top four in your sectional. There are four sections so a total of 16 teams compete at the national tournament. The Sacred Heart Women's bowling team took first in their sectional for the first time ever this weekend as St. Peter's took second, University of Maryland Eastern Shore finished third, and Morehead State held onto fourth.

“This weekend was great. We all had a great time and came together when we needed to.” Our goal was to make nationals but we accomplished more by finishing first,” said sophomore Carolyn Rich (Little Falls, NY). Throughout the tournament, there were eight four-baker game blocks each day for a total of 32 games a day and a total of 64 games for the weekend. A baker block consists of five team members bowling two frames each. Going into the last block, the Sacred Heart Pioneers were only nine pins ahead of St. Peter's but managed to finish with their best block of the weekend, including a tournament-high 64th game of 242 to seal the win.

Due to the solid victory performance of the Sacred Heart Women's bowling team this weekend, they will be attending the IBCs in Tulsa, Oklahoma, which will be held April 22-27.

We are very proud of the whole team! We worked very hard to get this far, and it was very rewarding to win. We earned this opportunity, our spirits are high, and we are looking forward to going to nationals!” said sophomore Nicole Pelokin (Enfield, CT).

Pioneers bowling two frames each. Going into the last block, the Sacred Heart Pioneers were only nine pins ahead of St. Peter's but managed to finish with their best block of the weekend, including a tournament-high 64th game of 242 to seal the win.

Bracketology

Hank gives his picks for the sweet sixteen.

By Hank Gargiulo
Sports Columnist

Let's see, heartbeat, check. Elation, check. Last second buzzer beaters, check. Thrilling overtime games, check. And bloodshot eyes from watching altogether too much television during a four-day span, check. Yup, this year ranks up there amongst the all-time great opening weekends for the Final Four tourny.

What didn't this weekend have? You like double overtime thrillers? How about perennial underdogs Gonzaga taking top ranked Arizona to overtime, twice! Defending national champions Maryland needing a running three pointer as time expires to avoid the upset bid by NC Wilmington. Wisconsin-Milwaukee's near upset of Notre Dame (busting up my bracket ever so nicely in the West, thank you Dylan Page, thank you!) on a missed last second layup by the aforementioned Page.

The only thing to do now is to take a quick look at the Sweet 16, and break it down. Get out your notebook and pay attention for Bracketology 102: Advanced Bracketology

Kentucky vs. Wisconsin (Midwest)

Kentucky is looking like the favorites after absolutely destroying Rick Majerus' Utah squad. Roy Williams is going to need Keith Bogans to keep playing at this level, and if they do, Wisconsin probably won't be able to hang with the Wildcats. But hey, stranger things have happened. Prediction: Wisconsin hangs around for a while, but Kentucky pulls away late, 75-61.

Marquette vs. Pittsburgh (Midwest)

All right, I admit it. I didn't think Pitt could pull it together, especially with the dominating performance in the Big East tourny, but they have made a believer out of me. Brevin Knight and Co. haven't been tested yet, but the Golden Eagles will be up to that challenge, if Dayonne Wade keeps scoring at his current rate. Prediction: This is a tough one to pick, but in the end Pitt will pull through in a low scoring affair, 58-52.

Arizona vs. Notre Dame (West)

Both teams are where they are thanks to a little bit of luck. Arizona survived Gonzaga in double overtime, and Notre Dame needed a missed lay-up at the end of the Wisconsin-Milwaukee game just to get out of the opening round. This game will probably come down to the last second, but Arizona will win through. They have too much talent and depth for the Fighting Irish to cope with in guys like Luke Walton, Salim Stoudamire, Jason Gardner and Channing Frye.

Prediction: Arizona continues on its path, 77-75.

Kansas vs. Duke (West)

This is the match up I am particularly looking forward to. Can Coach K lead his in-experienced Blue Devils over the talented seniors Nick Collison and Kirk Hinrich of Kansas? To put it simply, no. Kansas went to the semis last year, losing to the eventual champions, Maryland, they are not about to go down easily again. Give Duke another year or two and this would be a much better game. Prediction: Kansas uses their experience to overcome the talented Blue See "Sweet Sixteen" Page 14

Women's Bowling Captures Sectionals

 Bracketology 102

Hank gives his picks for the sweet sixteen.

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Sports Columnist

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See "Sweet Sixteen" Page 14
Tennis Bounces Back After Tough Loss

Men and Women's Tennis Bounce Back after being defeated by the University of Rhode Island.

By Jenn Jensen
Assistant Sports Editor

On Thursday, March 20, 2003 The Sacred Heart men and women's tennis teams traveled to the University of Rhode Island where they did not return home with a win. The men lost 7-0 falling to 6-4 on the year while the women also lost, 5-1, dropping them to 3-6 at this point in the season.

From the men's side, senior Marjan Kaljaj (New York, NY) lost to URI's Dustin Pavente, 7-6, 7-6 at number one singles. Also on the men's side, the duo team of junior Ryan Darragh (Bayport, NY) and freshman Peter George (Lynfield, MA) lost 9-7 to Rob Sutphen and Nick Barbera also of URI.

Although the women lost

See “Swinging Forward” Page 13

Pioneers Gain Momentum

The Sacred Heart Women's Lacrosse team grounded the Niagara Purple Eagles 8-4.

By John Antignani
Sports Writer

The Sacred Heart women's lacrosse team looked sharp on Sunday morning, posting an 8-4 victory over Niagara University on Campus Field. The Pioneers outscored the Purple Eagles with a balanced offensive and defensive game plan.

Sacred Heart jumped onto the scoreboard with just three minutes into play. Senior Michelle Bruckner (Carle Place, NY) scored the first of what would be two goals on the day for her, with an assist by sophomore Natalie Smith (Waukegan, NY).

"We finally played as a team. We were extremely focused in our warm-ups. Everyone stepped it up today on both sides of the ball," said Smith.

Sacred Heart controlled the tempo of the second half, with several players finding the back of the net. Junior Christina Macchia (Carle Place, NY) tied the game at 2-2 at 19:28. Sophomore Mary Romano (Baldwin, NY) put the Pioneers ahead for good on a free position goal.

"Balanced scoring, outstanding defense and great team cohesion," said Head Coach Laura Korutz.

Macchia and Bruckner poured it on with their second goals of the game. Smith added the final stroke by scoring with just over four minutes left to play. In goal for Sacred Heart, junior Amy Lavoie earned her second win of the young season. Lavoie suffocated Niagara's offense, as evidenced by repelling 10 Purple Eagle shots.

"The girls made my job that much easier. Mary Romano was unstoppable. I swear, the girl was good overall team effort. We won everywhere," said Lavoie.

"The first half was a little sloppy, in the second half Niagara was unable to handle our pressure defense. We played smarter offensively and showed good overall team effort. We won because we finally played as a team," said Korutz.

"At this point, we've got to bring it to every game," said Assistant Coach Kim Banner.

We're building the momentum to go forward after this game," added Banner.

The Pioneers play host to Stony Brook University March 25th at 3:00 p.m.