PRESENTING PRESIDENT PETILLO

Interim president appointed to lead university after five month search

Brittany Foy
Assistant News Editor

After a five-month nationwide search, the board of trustees came to a unanimous decision to appoint Dr. John J. Petillo as the sixth President of Sacred Heart University.

"Dr. Petillo was selected after an extensive national search," said Jim Morley, university trustee and chairman of the search committee. "It became apparent from our own efforts and the feedback we received from many sources both inside and outside the university that Dr. Petillo was the strongest candidate for the job. No one could equal his expertise and vision."

The decision was announced to the school community on Monday, March 28, via email.

"I am excited about the opportunity," said President Petillo. "It is a great opportunity to facilitate a culture of collegiality and transparency."

Formerly, Petillo was Dean of the John F. Welch College of Business at Sacred Heart and chancellor of Seton Hall University in New Jersey previous to that. Other professional experience includes working as chief executive officer in the medicine and insurance industries. For the past five months, he served as interim president after Dr. Anthony Cemera's resignation in the fall.

"I do think my time as interim president allowed me to listen and hear what members of the university community were saying and how they felt about what needed to be changed preparing us for the future," said Petillo.

Both Petillo and the trustees committee have set expectations based on the new President's record with similar positions. They said they believe his experience will help guide the university in the coming years.

"Not only does Dr. Petillo have an incredible background outside of SHU, he has a strong familiarity with our community from within," said Morley.

Students said they share the board's optimism for Petillo's new position. Although many students said that they would miss former president, Dr. Anthony Cemera, they have confidence in the new president.

"I definitely agree with the board of trustee's decision to appoint Petillo as our new president. He clearly has experience at SHU being that he held the position in Dr. Cemera's absence," said sophomore Maria Tucker.

Senior Dave Gallo said he agreed. "I know a lot of seniors that were upset to see Cemera resign, but he needed to do what was best for him at the time. As for Petillo being named president, I think he was the best choice for the job. He clearly has a background being the President of other schools and can help further SHU with their goals for the future," said Gallo.

Some faculty members said they are pleased with the committee's decision to appoint Petillo as president and have expectations for his new role.

"I am hoping that Dr. Petillo will take our university to the next level in terms of academic reputation and academic rigor. And I am convinced that he will do within the space of a very short time," said Dr. Gary Rose, chairman of the department of government and politics.

Moving forward, Petillo as high hopes for the future.

"I hope that I can demonstrate by my behaviors that servant leadership can be real and effective," said Petillo. "I am hoping that a culture consistent with our mission becomes easily recognizable to people as they work and visit here."

The lights of the Edgerton Center at Sacred Heart University went down and instantly the entire packed auditorium rose from their seats. A shadow of a person came onto the stage and the audience burst into cheers. When the stage lights came up and Lee DeWyze took center stage, camera flashes lit up the room and the decibel level reached new heights.

On March 23, Lee DeWyze, "American Idol" season nine winner, performed at Sacred Heart for adoring fans.

The show opened with DeWyze's opening act Jeff LeBlanc, who is a Sacred Heart alum.

Perhaps it was his ability to relate to the college age audiences that made him such a crowd pleaser. He told the audience that he was "good at writing break-up songs," and even shared that his inspiration for his song "Heal" was about "being broken up with over AOL instant messenger."

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Orion is not the only person who was in DeWyze's corner.

"I watched him on Idol and I voted for him," said freshman Tina Tramontano.

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See DEWYZE on page 8...
Andrew Aleman
Contributing Writer

On Wednesday, March 30th Alex Johnston the CEO of ConnCAN (Connecticut Coalition for Achievement Now) came to Sacred Heart University to talk about the Connecticut's Achievement Gap, which is the largest in the nation.

Dr. Leslie DeNardis, political science professor and board member of Hamden School, said, "Connecticut has the highest achievement gap in the nation. The gap between the poor and the rich is increasing, reaching a critical point."

ConnCAN is an organization that is advocating for reform in Connecticut public schools, through research, and communication. One of the goals is to inform the citizen and the push for policy changes. ConnCAN's mission statement states, "We will not rest until every Connecticut school, regardless of race or class, has access to a good public school."

Dr. DeNardis said that ConnCAN "policy activist efforts have been very steadfast, in bringing general education reforms."

The educational reform movement has been a hot issue in Connecticut and the Nation, for several decades. ConnCAN started in January 2005 and since then they have been focusing on a wide range of issues, from charter schools, to reform of ECS (Educational Cost Sharing) grant.

Junior Athalia Smith said, "I was aware that there was a gap between the poor and the rich. I knew this because I went to New Britain High, the only school in New Britain with a gap between the poor and the rich."

ConnCAN releases School and District reports on over 1,000 public schools from elementary to high school and over 160 school districts in Connecticut. Smith was not surprised when overlooking her school report card on the ConnCan.org website. The report cards issued by ConnCan lists performance gains, overall student performance, student subgroup performance, and the achievement gap along with demographics about the High School.

Sophomore Meaghan Duval, who participates in the Read Aloud program in Bridgeport, said, "I noticed that the children could not remember material learned the previous year after having the same teacher for two years in a Bridgeport elementary school. The problem of the achievement gap is an issue that is brushed under the rug in Connecticut. The achievement gap is out there but people don’t talk about it. The only place where the issues were talked about was in my sociology class at Sacred Heart."

The lack of awareness is one of the issues that ConnCAN is working on through their publications of report cards, and other forms of media such as AP and Honors, the more there would be whites than minorities."

Junior Chinedul Nnodum said, "When I played volleyball, the difference between the high schools in Bridgeport to the rest of Connecticut would be huge, I would be amazed by the great difference. In comparing the high schools, Staples had the best availability of resources, while Bassick High School could not compete educationally with their resources. Upon graduation, and looking at my peers in Bridgeport, they were academically unprepared for the challenge of college."

Through efforts by ConnCAN and cases such as Sheff v. O'Neill, there have been programs established to help with educational gap currently in Connecticut which include busing, magnet schools and regional charter schools.

Senior Kasi Orlowski said, "I went to a vanguard school, Granby Memorial High School, in which the school hosted a program to allow Hartford students to attend High School in Granby."

The Choice Program, a result from the Sheff v. O'Neill case is one of the remedies offered to the Hartford area. The program is open to Hartford students, to allow them attend suburban towns with the purpose of improving academic achievement, reduce racial ethnic and economic isolation.

Are you a cat lover trying to help your feline friends in need? Sacred Heart University is holding a cat food drive that will benefit the Stratford Cat Project.

"The Stratford Cat Project is a wonderful organization that has helped many cats who would have otherwise been put to death, including one of my own," said Debra Danowski, interim chair of the department of media studies.

"They have a small group of dedicated volunteers who work very hard for the welfare of homeless and neglected cats."

The drive began on Thursday, March 24, and will continue until Thursday, April 7.

According to the Stratford Cat Project's website, they were founded in 2001 and are a volunteer organization that help abandoned cats. Their involvement includes rescuing stray cats, and providing veterinary care, food, and shelter for them.

All students and faculty are encouraged to drop off Fritkies, Fancy Feast, Temptation Treats, or any brand of scoop-able cat litter.

"This is our third year we're doing a food drive. The Sacred Heart community has always been generous in their donations and we're hoping that continues this year," said Danowski.

Drop off locations are in the Spectrum office, Administration room 240, and you can also drop the food off at the Cambridge bridge.

"We generally need approximately 1,000 cans of cat food per month, 500 pounds of litter, and we also pay for all vet work for our cats. As you can imagine, it's a struggle each and every day," said Joanne Galante, vice president of the Stratford Cat Project.

"Our volunteers devote countless hours to taking care of kittens living in their homes, attending two adoptions per month and participating in our fundraising activities," said Galante. "While it is a lot of work, it is most definitely a labor of love."
Food, drinks, and texting are known distractions for drivers on the road. But grabbing a tissue from the conventional box on the floor could be just as dangerous as Amy Davis realized when she almost hit her neighbor’s fence searching on the floor of her car. After this, she developed the idea of the Kiss-U Tissue Tube that fits into the cup holder of a car to save drivers the hassle of finding a tissue when in need.

“It went through a number of functional and decorative changes. It’s completely different now. People were very generous with their thoughts and ideas to help me hone the product so that it can be marketed nationally.” -- Amy Davis, Sacred Heart alumna

“Ed Rollins was an aide to former President Ronald Reagan and will show his accomplishments.”

“Maybe the 2008 election wasn’t as profound as I thought, but it wasn’t a full size,” said Davis.

“I knew I wanted it to be a hard cardboard and needed to be big enough to hold a full size tissue. I think because it is refillable most tissue companies hadn’t come up with anything like it. There was a similar product on the market but it wasn’t a full size,” said Davis.

Davis said that people have been very supportive throughout the process, giving her feedback and suggestions for marketing the product more efficiently.

“It went through a number of functional and decorative changes,” said Davis. “It’s completely different now. People were very generous with their thoughts and ideas to help me hone the product so that it can be marketed nationally.”

For those students who wish to pursue careers in marketing and development, Dr. Weinstein said, “The advice I always gave students was to go see a lawyer and/or a patent attorney if they were serious about their product concept. I suppose few ever did, but I always heard from students who complained ‘someone’ had ripped off their idea because they had seen their product concept in the store or seen an advertisement for it.”

Currently Kiss-U Tissue Tubes can be found in Walgreens nationwide and in Lupe’s Pharmacy in Bridgeport and Fairfield. Davis has also contracted stores in Weston, Westport, and Stamford.

As for the future of Kiss-U, Davis said, “We have another run with Walgreens in September and we’re going to get in to a routine with them to plan out products three times a year with seasonal designs for spring, fall, and winter. I’m working contracts with CVS, 7-11, and have started initial conversations with Target. I’m also working on a Kiss-U wet wipe and Kiss-U mini that will be about 2/3 the size of a full sized tissue.”

Reagan’s presidency highlighted by Ed Rollins

Jordan Haas
Staff Reporter

At 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 5 at Sacred Heart University in the University Commons, Ed Rollins will speak about Ronald Reagan’s presidency. Rollins served as an aide to Reagan during his presidency.

“This forum will be a nice tribute as well as a way for people to learn more about our former President Ronald Reagan by his campaigner and close aide while Reagan was running for office. Ed Rollins was close to Reagan and the information he shares will be informative for anyone who comes to this free event open to the public,” said Dr. Gary Rose, chairman of the political science department.

Ed Rollins has worked with many presidents throughout his career, but is well known for his work with former President Reagan. He works with the Republican Party and will be speaking about the departed Reagan and the contributions this former president made towards the United States.

“I believe that both Democrats and Republicans can come to this remembrance. This is so that all the students will be able to learn about Reagan. He helped end the cold war among many other things, which might have not happened without another president during that time,” said Rose.

Not only has Rollins worked in politics, he was also a boxer and studied in a Catholic seminary. When he discovered and started working within politics, it turned out to be his future career.

“I have heard of Ed Rollins before but I am not sure if I can go to this forum because I have class. I would love to hear what Rollins learned directly from President Reagan since he was close with him. It would be nice to understand more about one of the best United States presidents in my opinion,” said senior Mona Mawloud.

For Sacred Heart students to learn more about Reagan it may be beneficial to attend this forum. As students grow and evolve themselves within politics, attending lectures like these may be beneficial for their career and future voting tactics.

“I do not know much about this event but if I was not on sabbatical and I was free from work then I would attend this event,” said Dr. Steven Michels, associate professor of political science.

After Reagan was elected, Rollins served as his political advisor for a number of years, and this is where Reagan and Rollins became close within their work. This forum is all about Reagan during his presidency and even before that to show his accomplishments.

“During this forum, Ed Rollins is totally focused on his years, as with Reagan and what events unfolded in that time. Rollins was working with Reagan during his campaign and worked along side him for many years after, which will be good for our students and faculty during the question and answer period after he speaks to understand more about Reagan,” said Rose.

This forum is for students and the public due to outside advertisement. Young adults have been very low within the percentage of voters and the change will only be seen in time.

“Maybe the 2008 election wasn’t as profound as many people say with young voter turnout. Obama was such a phenomenon and I don’t know if the euphoria has died down somewhat, but students should attend this if they can because Ed Rollins was and is still involved with major politics and campaigns, which is especially good for political science majors,” said Rose.
Sacred Heart comes together to stomp out MS

Alison Serpico
Staff Reporter

For the past six years, the Sacred Heart University community has come together in support of the prevention of a debilitating disease. Together students, colleagues, friends and families will walk together in a powerful movement for the fight against Multiple Sclerosis.

Created by the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, the walk’s intended purpose is to raise money and awareness for combating the disease. This year’s walk will take place on Apr. 5, at Sherwood Island Park in Westport. Registration starting at 9 a.m. followed by the walk at 10 a.m.

According to the organization’s website, MS is “a chronic, often disabling disease that attacks the central nervous system, which is made up of the brain, spinal cord, and optic nerves,” and produces symptoms such as numbness in the limbs, or in severe cases even paralysis or loss of vision.

“Sacred Hearts for HOPE” is a team that was put together by Leo Katsetos, associate head athletic trainer at Sacred Heart. Over the past six years, the team has raised over 120,000 dollars. This year, their goal is 10,000 dollars.

Katsetos is not only fighting to help others who have MS, but he is fighting the disease himself.

“After I was diagnosed in December of 2003, I joined the MS Society to educate myself and learn more about the disease and in the process found that there were ways that I could make a difference,” he said.

The school community shows support each year by joining Katsetos in the initiative. The Sacred Heart athletic department shows its support by having most of, or at least one representative from each team participate in the event.

“The MS Walk is a great opportunity for our team to support a great cause,” said senior women’s lacrosse player, Elizabeth Drewing. “Especially when it supports someone we know personally through Sacred Heart athletics.”

Greek Life on campus also works to support the cause.

“Theta Phi Alpha participates as one of the many ways of showing our ongoing support for causes that are near and dear to us,” said junior Megan Lynch, president of Theta Phi Alpha.

“We like to help out in any way that we can regardless of our philanthropies. This is a cause that has continued to grow on our campus over the years and we just wouldn’t feel right not supporting all of the people that MS effects every day,” she said.

Katsetos and his team, with the generous support and donations of others, work towards one day finding a cure.

“I didn’t want to just sit back and feel sorry for myself,” said Katsetos. “So many people living with MS are dealing with much worse symptoms then me. I knew the more awareness I could raise may result in more money and bring us closer to finding a cure.”

DONATIONS NEEDED FOR STRATFORD CAT PROJECT

MARCH 24- APRIL 7

Sacred Heart is teaming up with the Stratford Cat Project in their effort to rescue abandoned cats.

Donations of Friskies or Fancy Feast cat food, Temptation Treats, or any brand of scoopable cat litter are appreciated

DROP OFF LOCATIONS @
- ADM 240
- SPECTRUM OFFICE
- CAMBRIDGE LOBBY
A recent article in Newweek magazine assembled a list of the highest paying fields in which college students can major. The list ranged from engineering to information systems, but a liberal arts major could not be found on the list.

The lack of monetary success that a Bachelor of Arts has in the future job market poses the question of whether or not majoring within the liberal arts is a waste of time or not.

Senior Kelly MacGillivray doesn’t seem to mind that her psychology degree doesn’t appear on the list. "Psychology can be used in so many different aspects of work," said MacGillivray. "I am starting grad school right after graduation in May to get my master’s in elementary education and plan on becoming a teacher."

A fellow psychology major, senior Tim Lewis has similar plans after getting his degree, hoping to eventually become a guidance counselor or school psychologist. The education field seems to be a popular choice amongst students with a B.A., suggesting that maybe a student’s choice to study in these fields are for other reasons besides making money.

"Teaching for me is something I have always wanted to do," said MacGillivray. "I know that I will be happy doing it. For people that choose business, math or science I feel like most of the time it’s for the wrong reasons, like money."

While this may be true for some, this doesn’t necessarily mean that all students that major in business or science are only doing so to make money.

Senior business administration major Will Veix gave his reasons for pursuing a degree in the business field. "I’ve always been interested in the corporate business world," said Veix. "I think it just serves as good general knowledge that is useful in life."

The misconception that students pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree are only interested in money seems to have caused a divide between liberal arts students and science and business students.

"I definitely think a divide exists," said Veix. "I feel like they’re two entirely different ways of learning and thinking. I don’t think you don’t approach liberal arts with same mentality as business."

Lewis agrees with the two different subject matters comes two different approaches to learning. "I feel like there is definitely a divide between the two," said Lewis. "In business classes, if something isn’t right, it’s wrong. It’s very black and white as opposed to psychology where there are different approaches for each issue."

"There isn’t really a right answer. It’s more about how you arrive at the answer than anything and I think that results in a different way of thinking from other majors.

Science majors tend to be more highly paid than art majors. According to Raynard Kington, President of Grinnell College in an editorial in the Huffington Post, the role of liberal arts colleges is to spark social change.

"In many respects, a liberal arts college is the ideal environment for cultivating people inclined towards positive social change, as it requires individuals to be keen observers of the ways things are now, curious questioners of why and how things came to be and bold visionaries of what a different, better world could look like in the future," said Kington.

Some students however have a different method of comparing the two.

"The big difference is probably the guy to girl ratio between liberal arts and other majors. My psychology classes consist of mostly girls with a few exceptions," said MacGillivray.

With the success that B.S. degrees are showing in the job market, some wonder if liberal arts majors are a dying breed.

"I don’t think they’re a dying breed. I think they’ve just slowly slowed down," said Lewis. "I feel like [business and science majors] might just be over populated because of the increased interest over the past 10 years or so, but I think there will also be options available to people who graduate with a B.A."
Some students, like junior Eddie Kennedy, are active and passionate about recycling on campus.

Students get active about their passions

Hannah Ackerman
Staff Reporter

"One, two, three, four, we won't take it anymore!"
OK, so maybe not every Sacred Heart University student is standing outside to picket sign for his or her cause. However, many have proven that they have something to say.

You may have heard that the younger generation is both politically and socially unaware. Well, Sacred Heart students are trying to make a difference.

"I know that the majority of Sacred Heart students care," said sophomore Mike Wright. "Just take a look around this campus, at any given time and there Mike Wright. "Just take a look around this campus, at any given time and there will be multiple organizations trying to raise awareness for a variety of causes. Over spring break, Sacred Heart sent around 130 students to do service projects not only nationally but also globally.

Students on campus have made a commitment to an array of different social and political issues.

Seniors Lauren Merriam and Leah Richards dedicate their time to speaking awareness for the homeless and substance abuse. They do this through Habitat for Humanity, said Richards. "I have been able to educate others, advocate for the cause, help fundraising, interact with families and take part in the actual building of homes for families."

Off-campus, senior Amanda Fran­ cini works with AmeriCorps in the Bridgeport school system. She finds it important to empower youth by instill­ ing in them the belief that they can make a difference.

"One of the things our office does is try to create youth leaders. We want them to stand up for the injustices that they encounter not only inside of their schools, but outside as well," said Francini.

Sacred Heart students are speaking out. Whether it's inside or outside the classroom, many have devoted them­selves to raising awareness.

"Sacred Heart students care. It is obvious when you look at all the organiza­tions that are here on campus that focus so much on volunteering and com­ munity service," said Kennedy. "We ab­ solutely care. So many students are in­ volved in the numerous clubs that have been established to fight various social problems."

With so many issues drawing stu­ dents' attentions when it comes to mak­ ing a difference, do students believe they really can make a change?

"I do think that it is possible to change issues larger than myself, because I may not be able to change the world, but I am able to change some­ one's world," said Wright.
For many of us, our lives will change this May. It is the month when students traditionally graduate from college after completing a four-year bloodletting of money, labor, and irreparable time, and then transition onto an unfamiliar path. Unfortunately, the national average of teenagers entering college and completing a bachelor’s degree is only slightly in their favor. To exemplify my point, a Japanese study, which was most recently revealed to the American Heart Association, deemed music, along with laughter, to be a contributor in lowering systolic blood pressure. Without delving too deeply into the study, the group who participated in bimonthly sessions of jokes or music saw results in comparison to the control group who made no such engagements and saw minimal results. As we enter into the hectic spring schedule of finals and exams, think of ways to incorporate music into your everyday routines as a remedy to stress. Turn on the radio and dance in your car. It really doesn’t matter who’s watching, and you’ll be healthier for it.

Entering the real world: Proceed with caution

The real world. I don’t like the phrase, and I can’t imagine students using it on their résumé. It seems inescapable. The real world is a blend of reality and script. There is certainly a wide variety of reasons why many people speak of it as something of a myth because we’ve always been there. Just like the television series, the real world is a blend of reality and script. My friend’s grandmother thinks it’s absurd whenever I complain about my academic struggles. “Just sit quietly and take notes, study a lot and do your homework, you kids don’t know how lucky you have it,” she says in the movie Don’t Know How Lucky You Have It. While mastering the proper footsteps always deemed necessary, the more incessant need for me to tell a story through the connection of movement and music allowed me to escape into an untouchable realm, euphoric to the mind and body as well. Even though I hung up my collection of dilapidated point shoes a few years ago, I still hold strong to my admiration for music and its ability to take me away from the day to day cacophony that sometimes seems inescapable.

While my devotion to music might not be as relatable to most, everyone connects with music on some level. Though song emerges through a bond between the musician and his instrument, the universality of music allows all of us to tap into melodic confessions through rhythm, lyrics and compelling harmonic arrangements. With a variety of music filtering through popular culture today, people can plug in their headphones and find their own meaning in song. And we are encouraged to do so. Even after thousands of years, our primal longing to engage with rhythm still provides a soothing synchronization between the heart and mind.

As a senior doubtless considering the future, I have more time to do so compared with earlier generations, but my sense of duty is only slightly in their favor. I interviewed for a teaching position in Korea. It was an overwhelming time preparing for the future while still functioning in the present. It was easy to forget that my last semester was just as important as any other. It turns out senioritis isn’t an expectable excuse for missing assignments.

My studies this semester require my focus on the ethics surrounding issues like birth control, the writings of St. Augustine, the epistles of Paul and...well you get the point, while my mind has frequently been elsewhere. I wonder about the world outside the confines of Sacred Heart and life apart from the bureaucracy of academia. I’ve known virtually my entire life. My life as a college student, and after I leave with or without diploma in hand, has always been part of the real world. The script certainly changes, and like different seasons of the television show, the location often does as well. So I’ll play my part as the student, the professional, or possibly the college dropout (gasp) on that same grand stage that Shakespeare compared the world to, and take it like I do now...one day at a time.

A TUNE A DAY KEEPS THE DOCTOR AWAY

Music and I began our partnership at age three when I learned to dance. However, it wasn’t until I felt the wood floor under my toe shoes that I realized just how strong that partnership had become. As a dancer, I was merely a marionette to the rhythms and emotions that vitalize dance as an art. While mastering the proper footsteps always deemed necessary, the more incessant need for me to tell a story through the connection of movement and music allowed me to escape into an untouchable realm, euphoric to the point. My impending departure to the real world that so many people speak of is something of a myth because we’ve always been there. Just like the television series, the real world is a blend of reality and script. I hear the argument often, something along the lines of college being compared to a dreamlike state. My friend’s grandmother thinks it’s absurd whenever I complain about my academic struggles. “Just sit quietly and take notes, study a lot and do your homework, you kids don’t know how lucky you have it,” she says in the movie, Don’t Know How Lucky You Have It. While mastering the proper footsteps always deemed necessary, the more incessant need for me to tell a story through the connection of movement and music allowed me to escape into an untouchable realm, euphoric to the point. My impending departure to the real world that so many people speak of is something of a myth because we’ve always been there. Just like the television series, the real world is a blend of reality and script. I hear the argument often, something along the lines of college being compared to a dreamlike state. My friend’s grandmother thinks it’s absurd whenever I complain about my academic struggles. “Just sit quietly and take notes, study a lot and do your homework, you kids don’t know how lucky you have it,” she says in the movie, Don’t Know How Lucky You Have It.
American Idol winner Lee DeWyze came to Sacred Heart University on March 23 wooing the audience with his heartfelt songs about love and heartbreak.

**ONE-ON-ONE WITH ‘IDOL’S’ LEE DEWYZE**

Lisa Manente  
Staff Reporter

Before Lee DeWyze took the stage in the Edgerton Center at Sacred Heart University, Spectrum got an exclusive interview with the star himself. During a phone interview on March 21, DeWyze told Spectrum about his time on “American Idol,” about writing his own music, and what he has in store for the future.

Before you decided to audition for “American Idol,” had being an artist always been your dream?

I was playing for four years before. The music industry is so hard to get into. I figured I'd take a chance, and get an in.

Besides winning, what was your best memory about being on the show?

The fans. As the show continues you gain more support.

Do you keep in contact with any of your cast mates?

Andrew Garcia, Big Mike a little, but I've been so busy.

What has been your best experience since ‘Idol’?

Making my own album, being able to write and getting it out there. I consider myself a songwriter too.

Why was it so important for you to co-write 10 of the 11 songs on your album?

Mostly I like to feel connected. I connect better when I know where it's coming from.

What genre of music would you most prefer able classify your music as? Did you have any musical influences?

Folk rock pop. Dave Matthews, Ben Harper, just songwriters, and good live singers.

Do the lyrics from the songs that you have written come from real life experiences?

Every song is from an experience. Even before 'Idol,' I wrote about things that I know about.

Did any of the songs you wrote before ‘Idol’ make it onto your album?

A couple melodies and lyrics made the album.

If you could chose one artist to collaborate with whom would it be?

Mumford and Sons. I really feel that kind of music, it's nitty gritty.

What are your plans for the future?

An official tour, a new single. Music is my main driving force.

DeWyze packs Edgerton, has ‘time of his life’ at Sacred Heart

...CONTINUED from page 1.

“'I'm excited. I am a big fan of 'American Idol,'” said junior Mike Twerago.

The first song DeWyze performed was “Earth Stood Still.” The audience knew all the words and sang along and soon a sea of cell phone lights broke out.

The set list continued with about 10 songs and covers including the title single of his current album “Live it up” and a cover of “Hallelujah,” which he earned praise for when he performed it on Idol.

“Hallelujah” was my favorite part of the show,” said Tramontano.

Appropriately for the March snow falling outside, DeWyze performed his song “Brooklyn Bridge,” whose lyrics are, “like looking up on a summer’s day and seeing snowflakes falling down.”

But the cold weather didn't seem to put a damper on the excitement of DeWyze’s fans in the crowd. Consistently through his set fans called out “I love you Lee” to the performer, in which he responded, “I love you too” to almost every one.

During the night DeWyze showed that he not only has musical talent but a relatable personality as well. During his set he had to clarify to the audience that he was drinking a root beer on stage and not an alcoholic drink.

“I really like root beer,” said DeWyze after taking a sip. While performing his new single “Beautiful like you” a string broke on his guitar, which he told the audience was a good thing because it meant, “something was happening.”

During his encore performance DeWyze showed his appreciation for Sacred Heart fans by inviting them all up to the front of the stage. “I’m having the time of my life,” he said.

DeWyze may have had a blast jamming with Sacred Heart students but was the feeling mutual?

“I loved it,” said freshman Kelly Dean. “My favorite song was ‘Sweet Serendipity.’”

Others felt similarly.

“I loved it too. This is not the first time that I have seen him in concert. I saw him on the Idol tour too. I already bought all his music,” said Tramontano.

Before the audience left they got to take home a memory from the show.

As the audience left the Edgerton Center they made sure to get back their tickets to add to their scrapbooks to remember the fun night they had with the “American Idol” star.
After putting countless hours into their pieces of art, student artists hope to land a spot on the gallery walls at Sacred Heart University's annual Student Art Exhibition.

The three-week long event officially began on Sunday March 20, at the Gallery of Contemporary Art. In the opening reception, not only were pieces to be put on display, but awards were given out accordingly.

"Each year the students submit their works to be judged by jurors that the department of graphic design and visual arts choose," said Sophia Gevas, the director of the Gallery of Contemporary Art. "These jurors choose 60 works in any media."

After 250 student submissions, only a few were chosen to hang for display on the walls of the gallery. Apart from the numerous submissions, the pieces vary from paintings, to both current and advanced, illustrations, as well as graphic designs, among others.

"We are given different assignments throughout the year and we are required to do our own research to create original pieces," said junior artist Jessica Geraghty. "Most students take their own pictures to reference and with the skills we learn in the illustration and graphic design classes we use adobe programs such as Illustrator, Photoshop, and Indesign."

Although the event showcases a wide variety of pieces for art enthusiasts, as well as fellow students and faculty members alike, the student artists themselves have already found their favorite pieces, which are currently on display.

"My favorite piece in the show is probably the self portrait I did, 'Heaven Help Me','" said junior artist Kelly Gilleran. "It makes me laugh because I have a bit of a God complex I guess." The work, although small in size, is one of the many pieces, that represent the best work done throughout the past two semesters, in which the artists could receive the first, second, third place honorable recognition awards, which are given out in each category.

"It is definitely an honor to have my artwork showcased each year," said Geraghty. "This year, I won second place in advanced illustration for a piece I worked very hard on."

Even as it may take many hours, days and even months to complete a piece, students not only recognize the time put into the artwork, but question where the inspiration is drawn from to create a piece.

"I pull inspiration from a lot of different sources," said junior Jessica Geraghty.

Black's help came from her mother. According to Forbes Magazine, Black's mother paid Ask Music Factory $2,000 dollars. This was not a waste of money, as their family was able to make $20,000 dollars off of 30 million views on YouTube.

The song takes you through the journey of a week-end, as she talks about the fun she has on Thursday, Fri­day, Saturday, and Sunday.

"The fact that she goes through every day like no one knows the days of the week, and made a song about it, and on top of that is famous, is just plane said said," said sophomore Sara Gentry.

On the "comment" section under the YouTube video one can read: "A lot of people have heard this song because they think its ridiculous and it is not quality work," said Cam­pus Minister Sarah Heineman. I would not be proud of this work as an artist, but it is intriguing that she had someone who believed in her enough to bring that whole production to life."

MTV.com also said, "In addition to the YouTube success, the song is being downloaded on iTunes, which reportedly pays 70 cents per single download, meaning that Black and her team could make upwards of $1 mil­lion."

Black's single "Friday" can be purchased on iTunes, as well as heard on YouTube.

A werewolf living in this quaint town is on a killing spree, murdering several members of the village, including Valerie’s sister. While the townsmen attempt to dis­cover the true identity of the werewolf, more drama ensues when the men go out hunting the beast.

While the town celebrates the death of what they thought was the werewolf, Valerie and Peter sneak off for a romantic scene in the bay. With his crooked smile and captivating hazel eyes, Fernandez steals the heart of movie-goers, as well as Valerie’s.

When more murders occur, an outsider holy man, Solomon, played by Gary Oldman, comes to town, with knowledge and experience with these enchanted creatures. Missing the mark on a "holy" attitude, Oldman seems to be more of a dictator as he barricades the town, announc­ing the fact that one of the townsmen had to be the were­wolf. With this announcement, the accusations begin. As the werewolf continues to haunt the town full of suspicious people, Valerie discovers a secret she never knew she had— the ability to understand the werewolf while in its animal form. When her secret gets out, Valerie is called a witch and is isolated by her friends and fellow townsmen. For such a shocking secret and harsh punish­ment, the filmmakers downplayed the importance of Val­erie’s secret and the possible reasons for her having such an ability.

However, the plot thickens as the remaining characters, and several of the characters seem as though they could be the big bad wolf.

Not sticking to the exact script of the original story, the characters pulled off the performance as best it could be, especially the two young lovers. With Seyfried’s big, blue eyes, long blonde hair, and snow-white skin, she plays her role just as flawlessly as she looks. Fernandez plays a mysterious, rugged young man perfectly, portray­ing a misunderstood character looking to prove the world wrong.

While the outcome of the movie is fairly unexpected and the love story takes a few unforeseen turn of events, the makers of Twilight turned the classic story of Little Red Riding Hood into an enchanted love story interrupted by a werewolf. The part of the story that held truest to it’s original plot? Valerie’s bright red dress, making Seyfried’s character stand out among the crowd.

Black's sweet 16th birthday" and "Friday" on YouTube on Feb. 10, and now has just under 63 million views. The song was available for purchase on iTunes on March 14.

According to CNN.com Black's name was one of the most popular topics on Twitter for two days.

The Twitter posts and comments under the YouTube video were not complimentary.

Billboard referred to the song as "Straight out of Auto-Tuned hell." Billboard also said that the song is "viral for all the wrong reasons."

Commenting on the tune of the song, senior Ed­ward Warga said, "Anybody who comes up with a song can get famous now, just by having connections. You can be completely superficial artist in this country, all you need is auto tune and an outlet."

You're becoming a way for aspiring musicians to get their music out to the public free of charge.

"I've only seen the video once, it is almost as bad as Justin Bieber," said freshman Vinny Ebenus.

Justin Bieber made his claim to fame when his mother posted videos of him playing the drums and singing on YouTube. With some help from Usher, Bieber found his way to stardom. According to MTV.com, Black would love to work with Bieber.

Black's single "Friday" can be purchased on iTunes, as well as heard on YouTube.
Sophomore Paul Cappadona, the male lead in the theater arts program’s production “Little Shop of Horrors,” is a exception.

“I never realized how much I love it,” said Cappadona.

“When I got here I fell in love with acting,” he said, “but if that doesn’t work I would enjoy going to law school and becoming a lawyer.”

Cappadona is not only a lead in the show, but also helps with set production and advertising.

“If I’m not in class I am there in the theater,” said Cappadona.

“Whatever needs to be done I ask if anyone needs help and I do it.”

Other members of the cast recognize that Cappadona has invested a significant amount of time into the production out of dedication to see it succeed.

“You can really see the massive amount of energy Paul puts into theatre at every moment of the day,” said junior Lynn D’Ambrosi.

“He really loves what he is doing and it shows in his performances.”

This is above what is expected from the cast.

He has given a lot of his time and energy to get this production on its feet in a short time,” said senior Lindsay McGrath.

“If everyone contributed the way Paul does, we’d probably only need a week of rehearsal time.”

Bonding for any team is a significant part of its success. The cast and crew of the production is a cohesive team that Cappadona loves being a part of.

“Sometimes when you are working with people who are strong willed it is good to step back and let them take the lead,” said Cappadona.

“This is something I learned at camp, step back because if this person really needs to get their opinion across it can help them and the entire group.”

His experience working at a summer camp provided him with new ways to team build and work with people and shaped his work ethic.

“Since Paul is playing the lead character, he has to be the rock on which we all stand,” said McGrath. “And he is doing a fabulous job.”

His experiences also prove to be useful in stressful situations.

“Stress is high days before the show and Paul is always there to put a smile on our face and relieve the tension, while performing to perfection and behaving in a professional theatrical way,” said D’Ambrosi.

“Paul is the one to bring us all back to reality.”

Some cast members feel that his attitude and personality has helped them advance their skills.

“Neither one of us read music very well and we both learn by performing and doing the motions, so it helps to have another person just talking it all out, said D’Ambrosi.

“It’s nice to know that while I’m struggling with my music and dancing, Paul can be an ear, to listen and understand.”

Acknowledging his faults and laughing at himself are parts of Cappadona’s personality.

“Paul will be the first to admit that he has two left feet, while I have been dancing my entire life, I’m on the dance team, so you can only imagine us attempting to tango together,” said McGrath.

Others note his humorous nature and ability to make everyone laugh.

“Paul is one humorous experience after another,” said D’Ambrosi.

“He is the person I can always count on to brighten my stressful days. He has such a positive attitude about everything that you can’t help but smile and laugh.”

Those closest to him are inspired by his efforts.

“Not only do I want to make sure I make him look good, but I want to make sure I look good for the sake of the show he is putting so much effort into,” said D’Ambrosi.

“I think a lot of the ensemble and supporting cast look up to the leads with such thoughts, but with Paul, I truly want to work myself up to his level and be the best I can be with him as inspiration.”

Although he is involved in many other activities, theater is held in high regard.

“Paul is my life,” said Cappadona. “I love it every aspect of it.”

Spring brings time for fun in the sun

Meredith McLoone
Staff Reporter

Although Fairfield just recently got hit with snowy weather, signs of spring have started to appear. As the weather gets warmer, students at Sacred Heart University will begin exploring the world outside of their dorm rooms.

“Personally, when it gets nice out I like to take a hike with my dog at the Cascades-Mohegen Trails Open Space over in Fairfield,” said senior Brendyn Sullivan.

The Fairfield Cascades is a 170-acre park with two main trails. The yellow trail follows the perimeter of the space and is 2.5 miles long. The red trail is 1.6 miles long and follows the edges of Lake Mohegen and Mill River.

“It’s a nice place to go for a hike with friends on a nice spring day,” said Sullivan.

Another option for a spring day trip is the Bearsville Zoo, which is located in Bridgeport.

“The zoo is open everyday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and features over 300 animals that represent species in both North and South America. Adult admission is $11.”

“Going to the Bearsville Zoo is the perfect getaway from campus and is an inexpensive way to spend the day,” said senior Leah Richards.

Fairfield Beach is a popular option for those looking to catch some ray on the warmer days.

With many nearby places to grab a quick bite to eat such as Firehouse Deli, Pinkberry, Robeks, and Archie Moores, the beach is among one of Sacred Heart students’ favorite spring spots.

“My favorite time of year is when the weather gets warm enough to head down to the beach with all of my friends and see a bunch of familiar faces,” said senior Alyssa Yerger.

If you are in the mood to go on a mountain hike, Sleeping Giant Mountain is located across the street from Quinnipiac University in Hamden.

The trails up Sleeping Giant are more difficult than the Fairfield Cascades, so get ready with some calories.

Also known as Mount Carmel, the mountain has a high point of 739 feet and the peak features a stone observation tower overlooking the views of the Mill and Quinnipiac Rivers.

“Climbing Sleeping Giant with friends is worth the trip,” said senior Kelsy Shine.

“My favorite part is when we reach the top all tired out and we sit on the top of the mountain with our packed lunches.”

For students looking to get active, the SportsCenter, located in Shelton, features a mini golf course, driving ranges, batting cages, laser tag, bowling, and an indoor arcade.

The SportsCenter is the perfect place to go on a fun date or with a group of friends for some entertainment.

“I go to the SportsCenter when I want to have a fun date with a girl or to practice my golfing skills on the driving range on my own,” said senior Sean Brown.
Clubs attempt grab attention in new ways

Shawnee Zyskowski
Staff Reporter

The daily ritual of deleting email after email is not foreign to students at Sacred Heart University. "I get way too many mass emails," said sophomore Deanna Stocker.

Stocker refers to global emails, which are emails distributed to the entire university on behalf of a club by their advisor. These emails are limited to advertising events only and, unless special permission is warranted, cannot be about meetings.

"All club meetings will be on the 'Today's Events' website located on the Sacred Heart University homepage, if ERFD properly," states the event planning check-list handbook, distributed by the council of clubs and organizations (CCO).

Clubs are allowed to send three emails per event they are advertising -- one a week before the event, one the day before, and one the day of the event.

"The limit to how many emails can be sent out per event is set to regulate the number of emails that students are receiving daily," said Stephanie Valentino, the vice president of CCO. "And to ensure that students are taking the time to read their emails before deleting them."

The overabundance of emails sent to students creates a challenge for clubs, as they now must formulate new techniques to get noticed.

"Let's face it," said junior Lynn D'Ambrosi, who works on the advertising for the theater arts program (TAP), "emails get deleted before they are even opened most of the time.

"TAP tries to get the word out there through other means," she said. According to the CCO handbook the other means available to clubs consist of balloons, with a limit of 15 per club per day, the banner space outside student union, and flyers that can be hung on a designated bulletin board after being stamped with approval.

But clubs are not limited to just these tactics.

"I was minding my own business when I got a knock on my door by Public Safety telling me I'm going to jail," said junior Meghan Kelly, who was one of the many students that took part in last year's "Jail N' Bail" event.

"My roommate had gotten me arrested, and the reason was this year it's going to be bigger and better. There are many advertising options available for those looking to market events.

"We had mobile command centers, mounted patrol officers, motorcycle officers, canine officers, corrections officers, public safety officers," said John Kichinko, public safety officer. The "jail" was set up on the patio behind the main dining hall, and those arrested had to face the panel of judges.

"Something different from last year's Jail N' Bail event," said Kichinko. "We are always encouraging new creative ideas for getting the word out there," said Valentino.

"Getting ready for this event is very stressful," said Kichinko. "Not only did they build our jail for the first event, the university Campus Operations Department has been wonderful by supplying food and beverages for all of the volunteers that work the event," said Kichinko.

"Our little door is always open selling tickets and giving out information about our upcoming events," said D'Ambrosi.

"Best Buddies Connecticut developed a web-site for us that doubles as both a registration site and advertisement," said Latainer.

"We are always encouraging new creative ideas for getting the word out there," said Valentino.

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"There are many advertising options available for those looking to market events."

"Clubs are allowed to use the bulletin boards inside the Charterwells Dining Hall, the banner spaces outside of Student Union, the Display Case in the Main Hallway, the radio station, social networking sites, and bulletin board spaces throughout the hallway," said Valentino.

"Clubs are allowed to be as creative as they want in terms of advertising," she said.

"Some are already using new and imaginative methods."

"To promote the upcoming show, the Improv Troupe performed in the hallways," said D'Ambrosi. "It was amazing."

However, it is advised that creativity should be used with sense.

"If any new ideas seem questionable it is always important that clubs check the Student Activities Office if it is allowed," said Valentino. "Otherwise, we don't want to limit students' creativity and new ideas."

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**Pioneers Prevail**

**Russell throws no hitter, Sidor dominates**

Ryan Hannable  
Asst. Sports Editor

The softball team opened their home portion of the 2011 schedule in style by taking three out of four games over the weekend. The Pioneers swept a doubleheader versus Wagner on Saturday, and split a doubleheader with Sacred Heart on Sunday.

Senior pitcher Jen Russell was the star of the weekend, as she fired a no hitter in game one on Saturday, leading Sacred Heart to a 4-0 victory. She also was the tough luck loser in game one on Sunday when the Pioneers fell 3-2 in eight innings. Over the course of the weekend she tallied 20 strikeouts in the two games.

"Jen's no hitter was awesome. I'm really happy for her and she is a great leader in the pitching circle," said sophomore pitcher Nicole Sidor. Russell was simply outstanding on Saturday. Her only blemish came on a walk in the second inning. She finished the day with eight strikeouts.

The Pioneers got all the offense they would need in the bottom of the first when junior Liz Tsipouras belted a two-run home run. Senior Taylor Froelich added a run in the third when senior Courtney Lee scored on a throwing error. They would get their third run in the fourth inning when senior Shannon McCoy doubled, scoring Sidor.

The Pioneers carried the momentum over to game two as they earned a convincing 7-1 victory. Sidor was the winning pitcher as she dominated the Seahawks. She only allowed one run on five hits and finished with 16 strikeouts. Offensively, Sacred Heart had a well-balanced attack. Junior Alyssa Garza had two RBIs and freshman Annie Darby went 3-3 and also had two RBIs. Freshman Erin McAndrews had a pinch hit two-run double as well for the Pioneers.

Sacred Heart was excited to finally get to play at Pioneer Field and battled the elements to earn the sweep.

"It was really exciting to finally play at home since our first home game was cancelled on Wednesday due to snow. It was absolutely freezing but we were all mentally tough and came prepared for the games," said Sidor.

The Pioneers returned to Pioneer Field the next day to take on Siena for two very competitive games.

Russell returned to the circle a day after her no hitter, and followed up with another solid performance, but it was not enough as the Pioneers fell 3-2 in eight innings.

She went eight innings and gave up three runs on nine hits. She struck out 12. Sacred Heart entered the seventh inning up 2-1, but Siena battled to tie the game at two and force extra innings and then added the winning run in the eighth.

Froelich led the Pioneers offensively as she hit a two-run home run, which were the only runs the Pioneers would get.

Sacred Heart bounced back in game two of the double header and defeated Siena 3-2, in another exciting game.

Sidor earned the win as she pitched four scoreless innings, and finished with five strikeouts. Freshman Taylor Lane closed the game for Pioneers securing the win.

Tsipouras once again had a solid day at the plate as she finished with three hits and added an RBI. Junior Carley Rudloff had two hits as well. Freshman Jade Bowers belted a triple and the scored the eventual winning run in the fifth inning.

"I felt relieved and excited after I scored after my triple to take the lead. It was so exciting playing in my first home games at Sacred Heart, but I was very nervous as well," said Bowers.

Sidor, likes the excitement in playing in close games.

"The closer the game the more exciting it is and the more reason I love playing. They require your utmost focus and skill which is nerve racking but it is what we all work for," said Sidor.

For her efforts over the weekend she earned Akadema/NEC co-pitcher of the Week honors for the second consecutive week. Sidor had two victories and compiled 21 strikeouts.

"Receiving this award was really exciting because I've been working really hard on my different pitches so to be recognized for the hard work I've been putting in feels great," said Sidor. "It also acts like a stepping stone telling me that I'm on the right track and that I'm putting out my best for the team." Sacred Heart returned to the field on Wednesday for a doubleheader with Stony Brook. Results were unavailable as of press time.

The Pioneers return to Pioneer Field this weekend for doubleheaders on Saturday and Sunday taking on Monmouth and Mount St. Mary's.

**SCOREBOARD**

**Saturday, March 26**

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<tr>
<th>M. Lacrosse</th>
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<th>Softball</th>
<th>W. Lacrosse</th>
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<td>SHU - 4</td>
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<td>SHU - 4/8</td>
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<td>Wagner - 0/1</td>
<td>Long Island - 1/9</td>
<td>Doubleheader</td>
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**Sunday, March 27**

The Sacred Heart Pioneers' men's lacrosse team was headed to Quinnipiac's (NY) campus last weekend determined to increase their dwindling record to the .500 mark. However, the St. John's Red Storm had other plans.

"We came out flat, defense we were really slow on our slides, and we just didn't play well," said sophomore defensive player Pierce Bradley. The Pioneers, now three and five, fell to the Red Storm, 15-7 last Saturday afternoon.

Early on in regulation St. John's grabbed the lead 3-1 and never looked back.

"We were not playing with any intensity and hustle. We made a lot of stupid mistakes that we don't normally make," said sophomore midfielder Tim Sanders.

Sanders contributed with a ground ball, one of the Pioneers only 12, compared to St. John's 27 captured ground balls.

By the end of the first quarter the Pioneers were down 6-3 and still had no answer for the Red Storm's fierce offense.

"Once we were down we never really got back into it. We turned the ball over and gave them a lot of easy opportunities to put the ball into the net," said Sanders.

Bryan Bataldo, the sophomore attack and Mike Mawdsley, the freshman attack, were the two bright spots for the Pioneers.

Bataldo had three shots on goal, two of which were goals, while Mawdsley had six total shots, with three of them finding the back of the net.

"We never gave up, we kept fighting, but we had dug ourselves into a deep hole from that start and it was too much to overcome," said Sanders.

Going into the final quarter the Pioneers trailed St. John's 14-5, with the game all but over. Junior midfielder Aaron Lupo recorded the last goal of the game at the 2:12 mark in the fourth quarter to solidify the games final score of 15-7. Lupo had three shots on goal, but only one of them was able to get past the Red Storm's goalies.

"They just got a lot of shots in front of the net and we can't expect our goalie to make those types of saves, we have to help him out. We didn't really make any runs either, we are a team that normally scores in bunches and we didn't do that today," said Bradley.

The Pioneers are now on a three game slide, losing their previous two to Deaver and Hartford.

However the Pioneers have a chance to regroup and get ready for league play as they take on Wagner College, this Saturday April 2.

The game will be played on Campus Field with a start time slated for 7 p.m.

"We have a full week to prepare for these guys, we have a full week of practice and we just have to work hard. We can do it, we just have to put in the preparations and we will be good to go," said Bradley about the upcoming match against the Seahawks.

The Pioneers will host three straight NEC opponents before they play their last two regular season games at Quinnipiac on April 23, and at Robert Morris on April 30.

"Today was simply a game of being intense. We had no intensity and we haven't had it for a while and our record is the result of that," said Bradley.

Men's lax falls to Red Storm

Jason Trueblood  
Staff Reporter
Men's volleyball snaps losing streak, defeats Stevens Tech

Morgan Mireski

The Sacred Heart men's volleyball team put an end to their five game losing streak after a 3-1 win against the Stevens Ducks.

"We played well, they were a good team and it was a good win," said sophomore Frank Howard. "It was nice to get out of five sets the way we planned." The Pioneers won 25-17, 25-17, 28-30, and 25-17.

"The games we won were easy, but the third set was a really well played match by both teams," said Howard. Sacred Heart had a season high of 14 blocks.

Senior Roger Parent contributed 14 kills and a .490 hitting percentage for Sacred Heart. Overall, Sacred Hearts hitting percentage of .306. Senior Craig Harvey had a stand out 14 balls, which was the match high. Sacred Heart started the game off with a quick five points in the opening set. However as the game advanced, Stevens responded keeping the game close with a score of 13-12.

The Pioneers pulled away 22-17 on freshman Enzo Mackenzie kill. Mackenzie had nine kills overall. The first set ended 25-17.

"We are starting to get into the end of the season so it is nice to head into a week with a win," said Howard.

The second set was close as Stevens made the game 8-8 based off Sacred Heart errors. The Pioneers were quick to recover scoring 11 of the next 13 points.

"We played really well this match and everyone was feeling good about the game overall," said Howard.

The Pioneers took a 10 point lead after an ace from junior Mike Kolmanc, there were eight aces overall in the match.

Sacred Heart had a striking .500 hitting percentage overall. The Ducks had a .393 hitting percentage.

There were 12 more ties before either team showed a two-point lead. The frame ended 29-27 for Stevens Tech and that is our main goal," said Cook.

"We also have short-term goals for each game that will hopefully help us get to our overall goal." Cook has seen many different types of teams in her years here at Sacred Heart. Entering her 12th season here, Coach Cook describes this year's team in three phrases.

"This team is extremely talented, never gives up, and has a drive to win," said Cook.

With the team's talent, drive and never give-up attitude, they hope to capture a different historical fourth straight NEC title.

The team thrives on senior leadership along with the coaching staff. Senior Nicole Messina is a main component of that leadership. Putting the team ahead of herself, Messina looks to help her teammates in anyway possible.

"Being a senior, I've definitely changed my routine to meet the needs of the team. I make sure that I am at every practice and always-giving 110% on and off the field because I want to be a good role model for my younger teammates," said Messina.

"I know that each of our seniors has the same outlook and we have all changed our routine's to be the best leaders we can be. The teams' needs must come first, it's never about individuals and we truly believe that as captains."

With great leadership from both the coaching staff and senior captains, the women's lacrosse team is set on rewriting history.

The Pioneers head to Quinnipiac tomorrow afternoon at 1 p.m. for the step in the journey towards their goal.

PHOTO OF THE WEEK

Senior Jessica Ingrilli passes the ball to her teammate in last weekends game.
**Former Pioneers display their talents for NFL scouts**

**Archer and O’Brien look to get noticed by NFL**

Blake Campbell  
**Staff Reporter**

Silence engulfed the field as each competitor impatiently waited for their opportunity to impress the scouts. In what could have been their last audition for a chance to continue their respective football careers, each athlete reflects on the training and technique required to perform at their highest calibre.

NFL pro days are held annually throughout the country during the months leading up to the NFL draft in April. The nation's top athletes are evaluated on various physical and mental tests in front of NFL scouts with hopes of making a name for themselves.

"It's an opportunity for scouts to evaluate kids that are looking to get into their profession. It's certainly the numbers aspect, but I think they're looking to see how you are as a competitor," said Paul Gorham, head coach of the Sacred Heart football team. Athletes participate in a number of events including, but not limited to, the 40-yard dash, bench press, vertical jump, broad jump, and three-cone drill. They are also examined for exact physical measurements including height, weight, and length of arms and size of hands.

"It's the beginning, you have to have a way in. You're allowed to compete in them if the school is within the state you go to college or in your hometown," said Blake Campbell, a former Sacred Heart running back and Florida native Marco Archer participated in a pro day held at Florida International University in front of scouts from the Carolina Panthers, Oakland Raiders, New York Giants, and San Diego Chargers.

In his senior season with the Pioneers, Archer accumulated a total of 1,265 yards rushing and receiving combined, while scoring 16 touchdowns from his running back position.

"They're looking for a competitor. Someone who can be an asset to their team, who can go out there and play a couple different positions, and can be flexible on the field," said Archer. Archer is one of several former Sacred Heart football players who have been participating in these camps with hopes of continuing their football careers.

"It's a bunch of guys fighting for a job. In a sense, it's a job interview," said Archer. "I trained for two or three months going into the pro day. My mind was set and I got a good night's sleep so I think I did pretty well. The next step is to keep training, keep working hard, and never give up."

NFL scouts are looking for more than just a strong athlete. Participants in these pro days are asked to take the Wonderlic exam, which is a 50-question test that must be completed in 12 minutes to test an athlete's logic.

"Beyond a players physical talents, scouts are looking for how a player interacts with other players, how well spoken a player is and if a player faces any adversity at his pro day, how that player will be affected by that adversity," said Billy O'Brien, a former Sacred Heart football player. O'Brien was an outside linebacker and team captain for the Pioneers. He recorded 49 tackles his senior season. He also recorded four sacks, an interception, and a forced fumble. O'Brien participated in a Pro Day at Central Connecticut State University.

"It mocked the NFL combine almost to a T. There was no lag time between drills, no talking when other players were testing and the scouts were paying very close attention," said O'Brien. After a successful career at Sacred Heart, O'Brien will continue training and attending pro days in hopes of achieving his goal of making it to a professional league.

"I performed as well as I knew I could and I'm very happy with my results. The next step for me will be attending an NFL combine in Atlanta," said O'Brien. "It will be a good opportunity to get more exposure with 32 NFL scouts present, one representing each team and other leagues such as the CFL and UFL as well."

After attending a pro day, athletes are to continue training in hopes of a call back with an invitation to a team's camp. Like with any other job interview, a pro day is just step one in the process of landing the job.

"It's great to pedal your warres and get out there and try and prove yourself to somebody, but now everybody has to like you. You've done what you can to that point," said Gorham.

"Did you impress somebody? If you did, you get another shot, which is actually getting to a camp. If you get into a camp and you continue to impress, then you get a chance to make the team."

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**Drewhig finds balance from clinical to turf**

Kelly Welsh  
**Staff Reporter**

Both a driven athlete and accomplished scholar, senior Elizabeth Drewhig tells how she managed to complete Sacred Heart's rigorous nursing program and play four years of Division I women's lacrosse.

"We have had nursing majors in the past, but those individuals have not been able to follow through with lacrosse for their four years at Sacred Heart University," said coach Laura Cook.

"I give Liz a lot of credit but knowing the type of person she is and her work ethic it is not surprising that she is not only able to juggle her academic workload while playing a Division I sport, but be extremely successful in both."

Some days Drewhig wakes up at 5:30 a.m. and does not return home until 8:30 p.m.

"I also worked some night shifts this semester from 7 p.m. to 7:30 a.m. This was difficult because I obviously did not get any sleep, but still would have class and practice the next day following my night shift," said Drewhig. Since Drewhig has had clinical since sophomore year, this hectic schedule has become easier to deal with throughout her academic and athletic careers.

"I have grown accustomed to the early mornings and long days. I know what to expect and how to prepare," said Drewhig. "Time management is what ultimately allowed me to be able to do everything that I wanted to do in college."

Drewhig complimented her professors and coaches in saying that "the coaches understand and promote that academics come first."

The nursing program has been fantastic in accommodating me and working with me in scheduling clinical times and locations that helped me out even the slightest bit," said Drewhig.

Other nursing students give Drewhig credits for persevering and accomplishing her goals.

"Our work load was very demanding for the past four years. Whether it was attending classes, lab hours, clinical, group projects, individual projects, assignments or studying the work that never ended," said senior Shauna Sullivan. Studying for classes and making practices put a tremendous amount of pressure and responsibility on Drewhig.

"There were definitely times I was so stressed and tired I did not know what to do with myself, but that is a part of life and you get through it," said Drewhig.

Drewhig has an exceptional work ethic that enabled her to handle her busy class and practice schedules.

"Every now and again she does miss practice to study due to a nursing class or a clinical but she is a hard worker and puts 110 percent in every aspect of her life," said Cook.

"Other nursing students Sullivan and senior Jessica Vlasak see Drewhig in the same light. "I give Liz a lot of credit and have a lot of respect for all her accomplishments," said Vlasak. "She is an exceptional student-athlete, one of the few who has been able to manage a heavy workload and challenges of both lacrosse and nursing."

Sullivan stressed the difficulties that come with the nursing program.

"It is tiring to attend clinical for 12 hour shifts to come home to study and do more homework, and then attend a practice. I think that you build up your stamina when this is the lifestyle you become used to and you are able to pull through," said Sullivan. "Liz did a great job at managing both nursing and lacrosse, she should be very proud of herself I know we all are."

Drewhig made recommendations for prospective students that desire to enter the nursing field and be a division one athlete.

"Stay organized and ahead of the game. I always looked a semester ahead to see where lacrosse panned out and which days I had available for clinical," said Drewhig. "By keeping open communication with my professors, clinical instructors and coaches, I was able to successfully do two things I love."

Drewhig's coaches worked extremely hard to accommodate her schedule all four years, because they desired to have such a driven individual on their team.

"The coaches were extremely understanding about my hectic schedule. They were very flexible with me in the sense that some days my schedule would change and I could not make it to practice that day," said Drewhig.

Being a captain for the women's lacrosse team, Drewhig further shows her leadership qualities. Being driven, persistent and focused enabled her to be seen as a model figure on the lacrosse field and in the classroom.

"Her work ethic is second to none. She is a player that always puts the team first and never worries about personal achievements," said Cook.
BASEBALL STRUGGLES WITH LONG ISLAND

Eddie Cacioppo
Staff Reporter

The Sacred Heart Pioneers struggled last weekend in a four game series with the Long Island University Blackbirds. The Pioneers men’s baseball team lost back to back on Saturday afternoons doubleheader, 6-3 and 3-0, and split Sunday’s series.

The single win was in part due to the efforts of freshman pitcher Nick Leiningen.

Leiningen pitched his first complete career game which garnered him his first career victory in a 4-1 game one. However, the Pioneers dropped 9-8 in Sunday’s second game.

Last weeks chilly Saturday marked the start of the Pioneers double header with Long Island. The Blackhawks jumped out to a 3-0 early lead yet the persistent Pioneers rallied for three in the bottom of the second inning. Sophomore Dave Boisture was able to drive in two runs with a pinch-hit double to the right field wall. Thanks to an on-field error Boisture was able to cross home plate, cutting the Blackhawks lead to 4-3.

“Almost every run we scored in this series,” said senior infielder Chris Whitemore. “We just didn’t execute offensively in important situations all weekend.”

Long Island answered back with a run in the eighth inning on an RBI single from Albert Faz. The Blackbirds were able to capture another run early in the ninth from a double steal. Tyler Jones attempted to steal second and was quickly picked off. However, this allowed Sam Sciamarelli to score off of his steal from second base, leading Long Island to a 6-3 victory.

“Our defense was sloppy at times,” said freshman outfielder Conor McEvoy. “It’s hard to win when you give away too many extra bases and runs.”

The Blackbirds started off game two similar to game one, scoring all three of their runs in the first inning, on a two-run single and an RBI ground out. Despite a 3-3 performance by graduate student JJ Edwards, the Pioneers were unable to score off of Long Island’s starter Matt McCormick, who tossed six scoreless innings for the shutout, allowing just five hits. The Pioneers offense couldn’t capitalize and were held back due to key injuries.

“The team had a few key injuries,” said senior catcher Greg DePalma. “Steve Aramco and John Hermanson, who threw three shut-out innings out of the bullpen with three strikeouts, with just one hit allowed.

In game two, The Pioneers opened the scoring in the first when Tedesco came home on a double play by JJ Edwards. Long Island came back with three runs in the second on four straight two-out hits, including an RBI single by Leonello and a two-run single by Sam Sciamarelli. McEvoy cut the deficit to 3-2 with a two-out RBI single to center field in the bottom of the second.

Sacred Heart tied the game in the fourth, taking advantage of a bases-loaded two-out error when the Blackbird’s first baseman misplayed a ground ball from Dan Perez, allowing two runs to score. Schifano followed with an RBI single deep into center field to give the Pioneers a 4-1 lead.

“Basically we just have to get ready for Iona Tuesday and then need to have a big weekend, the seasons on the line,” said senior MJ Schifano.

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The Pioneers offense couldn’t capitalize and were held back due to key injuries.

“We have a huge hole to climb out of for our playoff lives this weekend to have a realistic chance,” said Armato. The Pioneers are back in action this weekend as they hit the road for a four game series with inner state rival, the Quinnipiac Bobcats.

This article was contributed to by Sports Editor Dan Graziano.

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Sophomore John Murphy throws out a runner at first base in last weekend's game against Long Island.